

Monthly report for parish and community councils April 2018

For the Histon and Impington (H&I) county council division of Cambridgeshire which also includes King's Meadow and Orchard Park.

It's been a quiet month because it's the end of the municipal year.

Full Council meeting

There was no meeting during April. The next one will be the council's AGM in May.

Committee meetings and other council matters

Adults: the committee met for a one item agenda and that was taken in private (is there a trend here? See below under the C&ICom). From the published decision statement (no papers, no minutes) it seems to be related to increasing the availability of care beds which would be good news I guess.

Children & Young People, General Purposes, Health, Highways & Community Infrastructure: these committees did not meet.

Commercial & Investment: there was one key decision viz the 'location of new council head-quarters'. Sadly this was taken in private as were the other two substantive items regarding the 'program highlight report' and 'resolutions for the This Land AGM'. [Click here](#) for my thoughts on the meeting itself and [click here](#) for my particular thoughts about the This Land resolutions.

Environment & Economy: there was one key decision viz the Ely southern bypass cost over-run. This is a sad story of councillor interference in project management resulting in this project being rushed. [Click here](#) for my take on what's happened. Those responsible should really own up and take responsibility.

I visited the A14 project operational base and saw the activity at the Great Ouse viaduct.

Communities & Partnerships: there were no key decisions but there were enough items to fill out an agenda and use up a little officer time. This really is a committee we do not need.

Planning: this committee did not meet and hasn't met since Dec 17.

Health & Well Being Board: the Board met but the Chair only turned up 10 minutes before the end, one county councillor left half way through and only 2 district councillors were present. The big item on the agenda was delayed transfers of care which the Chair didn't want discussed in his absence. Performance is now such that a CQC inspection is expected. Bit of a shambles really.

Neither the Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly nor the Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board met.

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority did not meet.

Neither the Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel nor the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority met. Note that neither minutes nor a decision summary from the March meeting of the former have yet been posted.

Consultations relevant to this division

Consultation	Purpose	Due date and link
There are no current consultations!		

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More local matters

I 'chaired' two meetings of the A14 core group. In the second meeting there was a particular focus on the upcoming Highways England consultation evening at the H&I Rec (Thu 10 May 18, 3-8pm)

I met the Orchard Park Community School head in connection with the proposed traffic controls on Ring Fort Road. Subsequently I engaged with officers to enable them to be implemented. [Click here](#) for more information.

I worked with County officers to sort out road signage and traffic signals related to work on Station Road and in the High Street in Histon.

I participated in the Orchard Park big litter pick.

I attended Orchard Park Community Council meeting.

And finally as noted above I visited the A14 operations during the month. Specifically I saw the operational centre and the work on the Great Ouse viaduct. I would have been interested in such an opportunity even if I had not been a councillor because I like seeing how things get done. In my working life I've always been keen to visit the factory, either our own because it's important to know how your product gets made, or the customer's because by so doing you get a better understanding of how you can best serve it. This month's visit was eye-opening from the serried ranks of engineers behind maybe 250 computer screens in the office to the size and scope of the project itself. It does seem to be laying waste to our communities in general, on both sides of the A14 from Girton northbound, and to Histon & Impington specifically because of the loss of the trees but then you meet the engineers whose sole focus is on 'on time, on budget delivery' and you can understand, if not forgive, their singlemindedness. I asked one if there was any difference between the different projects he worked on. 'No' he said 'I just pour concrete'.

Diary (next public meetings)

14 May	1030	Full Council	Shire Hall, Cambridge
16 May	1400	Adults and Wellbeing Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
17 May	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
21 May	1000	Highways & Community Infrastructure	Shire Hall, Cambridge
21 May	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
23 May	1000	Economy & Environment Committee	Share Hall, Cambridge
23 May	1400	*Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
24 May	1000	*Commercial & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
28 May	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
30 May	1000	C&P Combined Authority	FDC offices, March
30 May	1000	Communities & Partnership	Shire Hall, Cambridge
30 May	1000	Health & Wellbeing Board	Shire Hall, Cambridge
13 Jun	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Peterborough Town Hall
14 Jun	1400	Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly	Shire Hall, Cambridge
21 Jun	1400	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	Hinchingbrooke Park
4 Jul	1600	Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board	SCDC offices, Cambourne

*committees of which I am currently a member; these may change. Note that the Council's diary is now online https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccc_live/Meetings.aspx. Shaded dates are reserve.