

County councillor's monthly report for May 2018

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

Full Council meeting

Full Council did not meet during June. In fact it was a pretty quiet month all round for meetings.

Committee meetings and other council matters

The Adults, Children & Young People, Communities & Partnerships, Environment & Economy, General Purpose, Health and Highways & Community Infrastructure committees did not meet. Note that some of these committees don't even meet every other month and then have thin agendas. You wonder if they could not be combined and save a little money and officer time.

I attended the CCC air pollution seminar. This was a Health Com initiative and was, as expected, an eye opener. Sadly few councillors attended but it was a good start and there will be follow up.

Note that in my new role as Lib Dem lead member for Highways & Community Infrastructure I had my first meeting with the senior officers involved. Subsequently I noticed that potholes I'd mentioned in Melvyn Way are now due to be addressed. Maybe a coincidence but nice to see nonetheless. [Click here](#) for more information. This is the committee that looks after libraries so I will be carefully checking that it does not change its stance on Histon library.

Commercial & Investment: there were no key decisions. The committee had to note the retirement of the CCC senior legal officer who was also a director of This Land. The committee agreed to replace him with a councillor but one who is not a member of it. There hasn't been any explanation about he has left but it seems to relate to LGSS Law. He's now got a role at Bristol City Council.

Planning: the committee met but there were no decisions related to H&I. In a rather self-serving action it approved the change of use of the Strikes bowling alley in Ely from 'leisure' to 'non-residential institution' allowing it to be converted into CCC's new archive centre. Note that I visited the site which has only just been taken over by CCC and it's still the shell of a bowling alley.

Health & Well Being Board: did not meet

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority met but the interesting action took place between this and the previous meeting. The scrutiny committee called in the decision at the last meeting which called upon the Greater Cambridge Partnership to 'pause' much of its activity. Unfortunately its meeting was poorly attended because all the Tory members but one declined to attend and there were apparently no substitutes available. The Mayor himself also chose not to attend because the meeting would be inquorate. There's been much subsequent press activity, blogging and letters from Whitehall. [Click here](#) for my take on it all.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly met but its agenda was somewhat decimated by The Mayor's antics. It did however review options for improving cycling and bus times on Milton Road. The Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board did not meet.

The Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel did not meet. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority met for a largely administrative meeting. Note that neither minutes nor a decision summary from the March meeting of the former have yet been posted.

County councillor's monthly report for May 2018

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

Consultations relevant to this division

Consultation	Purpose	Due date and link
Histon road bus, cycle and footpath measures	to seek views about the proposals to improve bus flows, cycle safety and pedestrian access.	2 Jul 18 https://bit.ly/2kLngmg
Histon and Impington primary education consultation	to get feedback on plans to move Histon Infants School to and to develop a new primary school at Buxhall Farm in Histon	7 Jul 18 https://bit.ly/2KGg9qI

More local matters

I visited the Buxhall Farm primary school drop-in session. [Click here](#) for my view.

I joined parish councillors and county and parish officers to scope out the latest successful Local Highways Initiative bid 'Baptist Church 2'.

I visited Histon Infants' School to begin to understand opportunities for its use after the school moves to Buxhall Farm. I later met county officers to test CCC's plans with respect to the site.

I met a local activist to review options for an unused parcel of land in Orchard Park between the busway and the A14.

I joined the second meeting of the Orchard Park community development group set up by the Community Council and the Police to address low level crime and anti-social behaviour.

I met the H&I older people's co-ordinator, a district councillor, a South Cambs officer and an IVC manager to review options for locating the proposed IVC older people's IT drop in service.

I 'chaired' two meetings of the A14 core group and attended the successful first meeting with Highways England, the A14 Integrated Delivery Team and South Cambs District Council. I joined residents in a meeting with Lucy Frazer afterwards. [Click here](#) for an update on these meetings.

And finally ... there's been depressing news about rail services of late but I successfully used Cambridge North station for the first time to go down to London for a couple of meetings. It was an easy start to the day with none of the parking difficulties which you encounter at the main station. It was a fine sunny day and although I arrived in London at Liverpool Street and left via King's Cross I was able to avoid using the tube because my two meetings were an easy walk on the route between them. No only do you get the exercise of course but you've also got the thrill of walking past the sites of London, in this case it was St Paul's and then the law courts, Fleet Street and the Aldwych, and chancing on the opportunity of a little alfresco dining on the way. This week I'll be going to London again and plan to be even more virtuous by cycling to the station; after all it's only 15 minutes max down the guided bus track.

County councillor's monthly report for May 2018

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

Diary (next public meetings)

5 Jul	1600	Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board	SCDC offices, Cambourne
5 Jul	1000	Communities & Partnership	Shire Hall, Cambridge
10 Jul	1000	*Highways & Community Infrastructure	Shire Hall, Cambridge
10 Jul	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
12 Jul	1400	*Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
12 Jul	1000	Economy & Environment Committee	Share Hall, Cambridge
17 Jul	1030	Full Council	Shire Hall, Cambridge
19 Jul	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
19 Jul	1400	Adults Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
20 Jul	1000	*Commercial & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
24 Jul	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
25 Jul	1000	C&P Combined Authority	Guildhall, Cambridge
26 Jul	1000	Health & Wellbeing Board	Shire Hall, Cambridge
30 Jul	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Peterborough Town Hall
20 Sep	1400	Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly	Shire Hall, Cambridge
1 Nov	1400	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	Hinchingbrooke Park

*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.