

County councillor's monthly report for Jul 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 met but it was a pretty inconsequential meeting. Go to <https://wp.me/p7tuu7-1OW> for my take on it. Note the debate about keeping traffic away from schools at school run time and consider how best we can protect children at Buxhall Park primary school from B1049 pollution ...

Committee meetings and other council matters

Adults: there were three key decisions. The first related to the Hauxton Meadows development where there is to be an 'extra-care' home and CCC will contract for adult social care to be delivered. The second was for awarding a contract for a county-wide Mental Health Recovery and Community Inclusion Service (total value about £8million over 3 plus years). The third is to award the contract for a Multidisciplinary Floating Support Service which will work across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (total value a little under \$4million over 3 years). Note the increase of joined up Cambridgeshire and Peterborough working.

Children & Young People, Communities & Partnerships, General Purpose, Health: no key decisions.

Environment & Economy: there were two key decisions. The first involved CCC agreeing to continue to subsidise bus services which had previously been operated by Whippet. This will cost about £300 thousand for this year after which fingers appear to be crossed that the Mayor will pick up the tab. The second related to the Waterbeach planning application and was largely for information but the committee bared its teeth with the request that the two developers 'co-ordinate their delivery plans for the whole site for the benefit of future communities who would be living there.' Later in the meeting Bikeability came up again, it seems to be an annual event, and again the committee did not see fit support this service unless somebody else would pay for it. Go to <https://wp.me/p7tuu7-1OU> for my view on it. Note that subsequent to the committee meeting the Department of Transport has come though with additional funding enabling the Bikeability program to continue unscathed.

Highways & Community Infrastructure: there were no key decisions. However in an agenda item relating to road safety it did note and endorse the potential for Bikeability to be incorporated in the Road Safety Hub. Maybe this committee can better understand this service and take a more enlightened approach to funding it. The committee also noted officer work to look at funding options for highways maintenance and agreed that this should be reported back at the September meeting.

Commercial & Investment: there was one key decision relating to the preparation of a 'Smart Energy Systems Demonstrator Project' bid for submission to Innovate UK by 25th July 2018. It was another secrecy obsessed C&I Com. Go to <https://wp.me/p7tuu7-1OZ> for a related blog post.

Planning: the committee met but there were no decisions related to H&I.

Health & Well Being Board: did not meet

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

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The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority met and to some extent agreed that the GCP could 'unpause' some of its projects because they were consistent with a rapid introduction of the proposed CAM Metro. This project is acquiring totemic status which will be a problem without critical challenge.

The Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel met for its year end/annual meeting and to agree to appoint a new chief constable. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority did not meet.

Consultations relevant to this division (and elsewhere)

Consultation	Purpose	Due date and link
St Neots northern bridge design	to gather residents' views on designs for the new St Neots Northern Foot and Cycle Bridge.	10 Aug 18 https://bit.ly/2LUK56Q

More local matters

I met County officers on site to review options to improve safety at two potential accident sites in Histon & Impington.

I joined County officers and Orchard Park councillors and officers to look at options to improve parking within the community

I hosted an IVC student on a work experience day at Shire Hall. She was able to meet the CEO, to attend two committee meetings and to meet officers, members of all parties and the media.

I attended the second A14 liaison meeting, I chaired the regular A14 action group meeting (twice) and I met members of the A14 action group to develop plans to communicate with the community

I joined the multi-agency meeting to address progress to follow up the Histon Road garage diesel leak issue

I met County officers and Orchard Park councillors to review options to improve bus connections and to generally undertake better maintenance of the Busway and its environs.

I attended two meetings relating to Histon library. The first involved County officers, the Histon Library Friends group and Histon & Impington parish councillors. It appears that the owner and developer of the site and CCC are both committed to the library continuing at its present location

I met County officers and Histon & Impington parish councillors to review plans for the completion of the works at the Junior school and for building Buxhall Farm primary school.

And finally ... it's been a remarkable month weather-wise with just the short respite a couple of weekends ago when the temperature dropped and it rained. Our lawns are looking very dry of course but it's encouraging how few people are taking their hosepipes to them. Notwithstanding the chance of water scarcity I always find it wasteful to think of water companies making our water fit for drinking and then for people to just use it for watering the lawn. But surely this weather should make us think about the future when it will become the norm. We need to factor it into our decisions for the future from the designs of houses, through to the technology we use for generating electricity to the way which we can care for our older and less capable people. It can't be just business as usual.

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Diary (next public meetings)

16 Aug	1000	Economy & Environment Committee	Share Hall, Cambridge
6 Sep	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
6 Sep	1400	Adults Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
11 Sep	1000	*Highways & Community Infrastructure	Shire Hall, Cambridge
11 Sep	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
12 Sep	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Peterborough Town Hall
13 Sep	1400	*Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
14 Sep	1000	*Commercial & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
20 Sep	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
20 Sep	1000	Health & Wellbeing Board	Shire Hall, Cambridge
20 Sep	1400	Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly	Shire Hall, Cambridge
26 Sep	1000	C&P Combined Authority	Guildhall, Cambridge
27 Sep	1000	Communities & Partnership	Shire Hall, Cambridge
11 Oct	1600	Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board	SCDC offices, Cambourne
16 Oct	1030	Full Council	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.