

County councillor's monthly report for August 2020

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

August is never a busy month but with Covid still in play it was quieter than usual.

Committee meetings and other council matters

Most committees did not meet. Specifically the Adults, Children & Young People, General Purposes, Highways & Transport, Commercial & Investment, and Environment & Sustainability committees did not meet.

Health: this committee met but there were no key decisions. In its scrutiny role it received an update report on the NHS' recovery planning in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough. The report itself is characterised by an executive summary which says nothing. However the report does say 'Our initial plans assumed a period of 12-18+ months of managing Covid disease alongside a sustainable model for non-Covid healthcare'. That's a pretty sobering assumption and unfortunately consistent with what we currently see with regard to the infection trend.

Unsurprisingly Communities & Partnerships also met. It always does. There were no key decisions and the only item on the agenda of any significance was the endorsement of recommendations of awards made from the Communities Capital Fund

The Planning committee did not meet. It has not met since Oct 19 and its next meeting has been (again and again and again and again) pushed back to Oct 20.

Neither the Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive nor the Assembly met.

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority met and agreed to set up a 'corporate vehicle' to bring forward the Cambridgeshire Autonomous Metro. None of the other Combined Authority committees or boards met.

Neither the Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel nor the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority.

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Health & Wellbeing Board did not meet.

Consultations relevant to this division (and elsewhere)

Consultation	Purpose/object	Due date and link
There are no currently active consultations		

Note that the ongoing consultation regarding the location of the new sewage works is a 'private' consultation being run by Anglian Water. The consultation is at www.cwwtpr.com and ends Monday, 14 Sep 20.

More local matters

I met County and Parish officers to agree projects for phase two of the 'emergency' traffic schemes program. It was decided to put forward a closure of Station Road by the peace memorial.

I joined County and Parish officers and local residents to review plans for improving footpaths approaching the new Primary School. Some trees will need to be removed.

And finally ... I confess to spending more time than I should in front of a computer screen these days and recently too much of that time has been waiting for my computer to do something. I've had my current beast for 5 years now and I've been testing its ability to deal with the sophistication

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of Photoshop and associated software. I've therefore treated myself to a new one and it is pleasantly fast. Counting back I reckon this is my 6th computer. I seem to have bought a new one every five years or so. I bought the first one in around about 1990 and it was based on an Intel 80386 processor. I replaced this with one from Gateway, remember it shipped its computers in 'cow-spotted' boxes, and followed that with number three which I bought from a Cambridge company. After that I bought my first one from Dell and then an HP before this one which is also a Dell but which I bought through Grace Computer Systems. I've also had a couple of laptops. First a Dell Latitude 400 and my current one which is an Acer Ultrabook. I bought the latter just before I stopped travelling a lot for work and nowadays if I do I just take my iPad so it's proven to be a little redundant.

I started my working life in 1970 writing computer programs for big mainframes. I don't know for sure but I'm guessing that my latest PC packs more of a punch than they did.

Diary (next public meetings)

3 Sep	1000	Communities & Partnership	Virtual meeting
10 Sep	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Virtual meeting
10 Sep	1400	Adults Committee	Virtual meeting
10 Sep	1000	Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly	Virtual meeting
11 Sep	1000	*Commercial & Investments Committee	Virtual meeting
15 Sep	1000	Highways & Infrastructure	Virtual meeting
15 Sep	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Virtual meeting
17 Sep	1400	Health Committee	Virtual meeting
17 Sep	1000	Environment & Sustainability Committee	Virtual meeting
22 Sep	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Virtual meeting
30 Sep	1000	C&P Combined Authority	Virtual meeting
1 Oct	1000	Planning Committee	Virtual meeting
1 Oct	1600	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Virtual meeting
13 Oct	1030	Full Council	Virtual meeting
29 Oct	1400	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	Virtual meeting
26 Nov	1000	C&P Health & Wellbeing Board	Virtual meeting

*committees of which I am currently a member; these may change. Note that the Council's diary is online <https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccclive/Meetings.aspx>.