

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heathfield, Heydon, Chishills,
Whittlesford

Report for Parish Councils – September 2020.

South Cambs District Council

Again this month I've now included other major items as well as C19.

UK Government Planning Whitepaper

As you will be aware The Government has published the new white paper on planning. Where land is designated as growth or renewal, then permission will be either granted automatically or in principle and therefore will remove District & Parish input. This is a real concern and we will need to closely monitor and lobby accordingly.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907647/MHCLG-Planning-Consultation.pdf

Planning Advisory Service Review

Progress to date

Part of Phase 1 of the review which has focused on the SCDC Planning Committee and Chair's Delegation process has now been completed. Interviews have taken place with the SCDC Chief Executive, Planning lead member, Planning Committee Chair and legal advisors, Planning Committee members, Stephen Kelly plus other senior officers within the planning service who are involved in the management and support of the SCDC Planning Committee. The team also viewed a number of virtual SCDC Planning Committees.

Next steps

To complete Phase 1, we will be having some focus group sessions with parish councils in mid September (15,16,17-most probably 15/16) and communications will be sent out in respect of these shortly. These will be followed up by a questionnaire.

We will be inviting one rep from each parish, which will still give us approx. 25/26 attendees per session potentially. If specific parishes cannot attend their designated session, there will be some scope for moving to another session, provided we keep the numbers across the four sessions reasonably consistent.

After these have taken place, an interim written report will be produced by PAS on Phase 1 of the process.

An initial notification will be sent out to all parishes today highlighting that this process will be taking place within timings etc, to be followed within the next day or so by the formal invitations/appointments. I will ensure that district council members are copied in.

Phase 2

We are now planning Phase 2 which will focus mainly on the review of the City Council Planning Committee but also the JDCC (a more brief overview of the latter). This will start in the second half of October with interviews following the same pattern as those for the SCDC Planning Committee and with residents association focus groups. Appointments will

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be circulated for the interview sessions shortly. The City Chief Executive will be interviewed in September. The final report will then be prepared by PAS at the end of this process.

Planning Delegations

The numbers for the last three months for June, July & August: Total Referrals: 36

Referred to committee 8 = 22%

The numbers are a bit mis-leading as 7 referrals were conditions only from one site in Linton. Conditions are considered to be technical issues and would only be considered for committee if our specialist consultants raised objections, none where. If these are excluded then the referral rate to committee would be 27.5%. Another factor not included is the applications delegated with the agreement of the PC. I will confirm this number.

Call for Sites

The first issue of data & information on the call for sites will be issued soon. The first formal view on sites will be summer 2021 but with sessions between now and then with Parishes on the process and perspectives. All the details of the sites will be published.

Making Appointments at South Cambs

From 15 September 2020 we will start to welcome a small number of essential customer visits at our office again.

We will start by opening for a limited number of days each week, and with shorter opening hours each day. Please do not visit South Cambs Hall without contacting us first.

We are offering appointments between 10am to 3pm on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Once we do reopen for visitors we will be following Government guidelines to ensure the building is Covid-secure for visitors too.

Need to visit us?

Before booking a visit, please consider whether you really need to visit in person. If you can contact us online, please continue to do so. If Zoom, Microsoft Teams, or WhatsApp are convenient for you, let us know.

Please also consider scanning any documentation rather than bringing it in in person, if possible. Where this is not possible, a deposit box will be provided, and your documents will then be returned by post within safe working practices and timescales.

Booking an appointment

To arrange a visit please book an appointment in advance to ensure we can limit the number of customers at one time.

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Complete our online form to book an appointment

When you visit us

- Please wear a face-covering (staff will also wear protective equipment) and keep a 2 metre distance from others.
- Use the marked and signposted entrance to help maintain social distance and use hand sanitiser which will be provided at the main entrance.
- Bring your own pen to use or, if that is not possible, use a pen we provide which you will then be asked to keep.

North East Cambridge

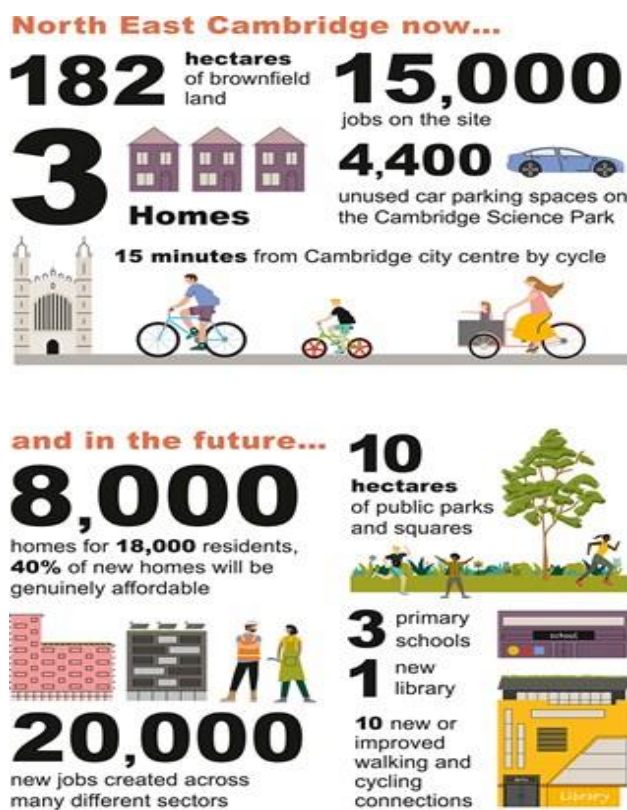
Local Councils have drafted plans for a new city district in North East Cambridge – which could create 8,000 homes and provide space for 20,000 jobs over the next 20-plus years – and they now want to know what residents and businesses think of the draft plans.

The councils' vision is for the area between the A14, the Guided Busway and Cambridge North station to be a walkable and lively mix of homes, workplaces, services, and green spaces that is inclusive and fully integrated with surrounding neighbourhoods.

The plans by the Greater Cambridge Planning Service (a partnership between South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City councils), developed in collaboration with stakeholders and communities, build on case studies from around the world on creating low-carbon, low-car-use districts.

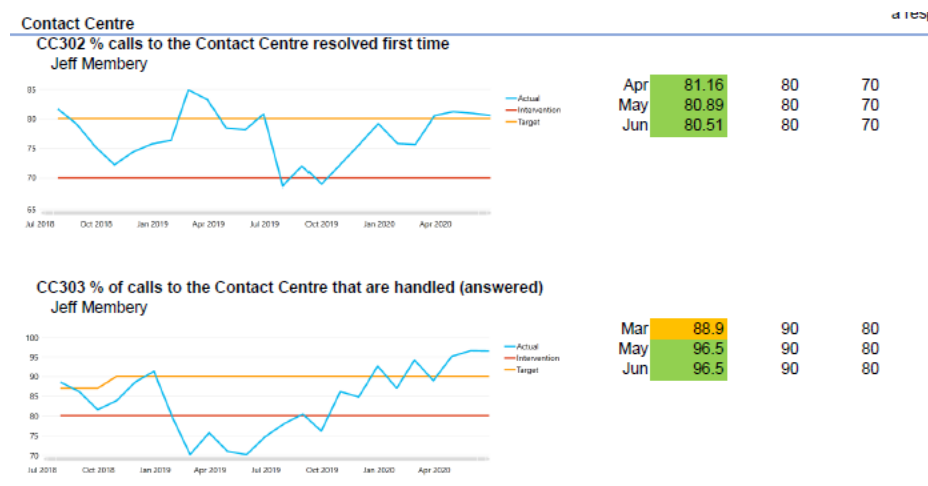
As part of a formal statutory consultation, leaflets are being delivered to 20,000 homes across the local area to gain residents' feedback. The Councils are running online Q&A sessions where residents can find out more about the proposals and ask questions to the team. The draft plan is published online where people can comment.

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KPI Reporting

Hopefully you have noticed some improvement in call response although calls have been lower.



Zero Carbon Community Grants

Reminder groups have until 5pm on Wednesday 30 September to submit their applications for Zero Carbon Communities grant funding. [Guidance and an online application form](#) are available now.

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Duxford Hotel

A 168-bedroom Hampton by Hilton hotel at the Imperial War Museum (IWM), Duxford will have to be re-heard at Planning which will be October as a result of one complainant being unable to speak at the July meeting.

Huawei

The Secretary of State did not call this in and so will proceed to the next phase.

Wellcome

A draft S106 proposed agreement for Hinxton has been proposed including funding for the village hall, a 25year land lease for land adjacent to the hall and access to Campus sports facilities. The covenant on housing are still under discussion.

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Cambridgeshire County Report

Schools Return Plan

I have circulated the return to schools plan from Jonathan Lewis.

<https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk/asset-library/Welcome-Back-to-School.pdf>

This is the guidance on transport.



**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION ABOUT
SCHOOL TRANSPORT
FROM SEPTEMBER 2020**

Ph: 0345 045 5208
edtransport@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/education/transport

Passenger Transport Operations Team
childrenstransport@peterborough.gov.uk
01733 317 455

BOARDING OR LEAVING THE BUS

- Only one person should board the bus at a time
- Pupils should have their bus pass ready to show the driver as they board the bus, and if aged 11+ have their face covering in place
- Pupils should find their seat and remain there, facing forward, for the whole journey
- When arriving at the school or stop, pupils should remain seated and only disembark when instructed.
- Pupils should allow at least a 1 metre space between other pupils where possible
- On arrival at school, students should disembark the bus starting with those seated at the front, with those at the back being last to leave. When loading, those at the back should enter first.

BUS PASSES, ENSURE CORRECT BUS AND STOP ARE USED

- Ensure your child accesses the correct bus and stop, as shown on their bus pass
- Changes to your child's transport may have been implemented this year in response to COVID guidance
- No changes will be made to bus passes, unless there is a genuine reason. To action this, email your request. If this is agreed you will be informed how to get it changed

BEHAVIOUR

- During the current COVID 19 situation for the safety of all those travelling on school transport we need you and your child's co-operation and compliance with these requirements
- Behaviour that does not meet the requirements above or does not meet the standard stated in the Code of Conduct presents a higher level of risk to service users and transport staff
- In cases where we have evidence of deliberate acts of misbehaviour, this could lead to the withdrawal of school transport for your child.
- Please ensure your child understands what is required of them and supervise/instruct them accordingly

C19 Mobile Testing

Mobile testing units are in place across Cambridgeshire this week to make it as easy as possible for people to get tested if they have coronavirus symptoms.

Testing will be carried out at Chapel Road Car Park in Wisbech on Wednesday, 2 September and Sunday, 6 September, as well as at The Hive Leisure Centre, Ely on Thursday, 3 September and Sunday 6 September. A new testing site is also available at One Leisure in

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Huntingdon on Wednesday, 2 September and Friday, 4 September. There may be other test centres in the future. Obviously these are only in areas with rising infection rates.

Solar Panel Offers

Registration opens on solar panels offer for Cambridgeshire residents

Households across Cambridgeshire can now register for the chance to club together to buy and install solar panels at a reduced price. The County Council and District Councils have joined forces with Solar Together as part of the initiative to improve energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions.

Households and small and medium-sized enterprises can now register - for free and without obligation - for the group-buying scheme by visiting the website

www.solartogether.co.uk/cambridgeshire

When they register online for their complete solar PV system, applicants will be asked questions about their house, roof, and electricity usage.

The County Council will then arrange an auction with pre-vetted installers on 6 October. The auction is a reverse auction, meaning the lowest bid wins. The winning bid sets the price for all solar systems and battery systems. All installers are pre-vetted and must comply with certain criteria to guarantee the quality of the offer.

After the auction, applicants will receive a personal recommendation based on their registration details. They then have six weeks to decide if they want to take up the recommendation and proceed with an installation.

Solar panels turn sunlight into electricity. In order to use this energy, the panels mounted on a roof need to be connected to an inverter using cables. The Solar Together offer is for a complete service, including all equipment, survey, installation, monitoring and warranties. Afterwards households or businesses will automatically generate their own electricity from the panels on their roof.

Households that already have solar panels installed can also register to have battery storage added to their existing solar panels to maximise the benefits of their system.

Chairman's Recognition

Individuals, businesses and community groups who have tirelessly supported those in need since the start of lockdown are to be officially recognised as part of a new initiative.

Councillor Mac McGuire, Chairman of Cambridgeshire County Council, recently announced a monthly scheme to highlight the sterling work of those who have helped communities across the county during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The scheme is expected to run for at least six months with all councillors asked to put forward suggestions each month of people in their wards whose efforts since March, are worthy of receiving an official Chairman's Commendation.

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During the first week of every month the council will issue a special certificate and their details will be published in an online roll of honour on the council website.

Full details of each Member's nomination can be seen now on the [council's website](#).

Peter McDonald

Sep 6th 2020.