

Report for Parish Councils - July 2019

A1307

The next public involvement stages of the A1307 LLF (Local Liaison Forum) have started up again, and they are a good opportunity for members of the public to become involved in the process. Please do engage in the process as the changes to the road will be here to stay. https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambridge_south_east/cambridge-south-east-llf/

CEO

The District Council have been without a permanent Chief Executive for the last few months and the recruitment process for a new head of the Council has been running for the last 6 weeks and we are pleased to announce that Liz Watts has been offered, and accepted, the role. She has over 20 years' experience in public and not-for-profit sectors. One of her targets is to increase officer responsiveness, which is fully welcomed by all I'm sure.

Police Stations

The Police and Crime commissioner has been inviting local people to come and hear his plans for a new police station to serve the south of Cambridgeshire located on the outskirts of Milton which provides the best location to meet operational demand. Where we are located the Sawston station will still 'serve' us.

Rail Services

The message from GTR is not to travel on trains between July 13-14 and August Bank Holiday weekend. The tracks between Cambridge and King's Cross need untangling so they envisage lots of bus replacement services.

Planning

The planning department at the District Council is currently running at a high vacancy rate. There is a national shortage of planners, much is being done to recruit more but it's meant that some applications have failed to meet target deadlines and that planning officers haven't been able to come out to site as often as they would like.

Green Initiatives

SCDC and the City Council are investigating the cost of switching its fleet of bin lorries to electric powered version. The current fleet of 50 bin lorries and 18 street sweepers cost around £46,000 each month to refuel. The cost of changing to electric powered vehicles is high and the two councils are looking into how best this might be achieved.

Councillors Geoff Harvey and Henry Batchelor

SCDC are also putting moves in place to go paperless, which should be actioned later this year.

SCDC has also pledged to generate 25% of its income from investments by the end of 2022.