

## **Report for Parish Councils - March 2020**

### **A1307**

As everyone will have seen, the upgrades to the road are moving forward. The eastbound bus lane and speed limit changes outside of Linton are now implemented, along with the upgraded foot/cycle path next to the road. The work on the installation of traffic lights at the Linton High Street/A1307 junction are underway (with some issues around the temporary traffic lights!) and are due to complete in March.

On a related topic, for those who keep their ear to the ground, you may well have read in local media that the Mayor of the Combined Authority has made a 'power grab' for the Greater Cambridge Partnership money and work (A1307 upgrades included). 'Our' stretch of the A1307, Haverhill to Abington, is safe and isn't changing, but the future of the rest of the project is now up in the air. This is namely a new park & ride site and a high speed bus route. More to follow.

### **Autonomous Metro Consultation**

The Combined Authority is currently running a consultation on the plans to construct an autonomous metro system in Cambridge city and then surrounding towns/villages. The ultimate proposal will run up to Haverhill and beyond, so please do take some interest and engage in this - <https://cam.consultationonline.co.uk/>

### **Police and Crime Commissioner**

Following the resignation of the Police & Crime Commissioner last year, the deputy has been filling in the duties of the role. In May this year we will have (yet another) election for a permanent replacement. Political parties are selecting candidates as we speak, so do keep an eye on this, as policing affects us all in our daily lives, even in rural communities.

### **VE Day Celebrations**

South Cambs is offering up to £1,000, via the community chest grant, for applications for commemorative plaques, books etc to celebrate this landmark. The deadline for applications to receive the money before May 8th is 15<sup>th</sup> March. More information is here - <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest>

### **Health & Wellbeing Strategy**

The County Council is looking for comment on its draft joint Health & Wellbeing strategy with Peterborough. It's relatively arduous but still an important document. If there is any interest, the link is here -

Councillors Henry Batchelor and Geoff Harvey

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/health-and-wellbeing-strategy-consultation>

### **Complaint and Compliments**

South Cambs has launched a new portal which allows customers to raise complaints and track them through to completion. There is now also the facility to upload supporting documentation -

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/feedback/compliments-complaints-and-suggestions/>

### **New Electric Buses**

Stagecoach have purchased 2 electric buses to run in Cambridge using £400,000 of funding from the Greater Cambridge Partnership which South Cambs and the County Council are partners in. They can travel 160 miles on one charge and will be running the Citi 6 route. We are anticipating that this will be the beginning of a much larger electric fleet serving South Cambridgeshire in the near future.

### **South Cambridgeshire District Council Budget**

£5 million has been pledged in South Cambridgeshire to tackle the global climate emergency. The money will go towards improvements linked to the District Council's 'green to the core' priorities. This includes improving the Council's offices to cut carbon emissions and energy bills, providing communities with grants for projects that cut carbon emissions in their areas, making Council houses more energy efficient and helping people cut the amount of food they waste.