

District and County Councillor's Report – July 2022

Local Plan Responses

The first draft of South Cambridgeshire District Council's local plan has now been commented upon by landowners, potential housing developers and members of the public. The Local Plan is a hugely important document as it dictates where houses can be built in the district over the next 30 years. The proposals were to concentrate all of the development into existing and forthcoming towns – such as Cambourne, Northstowe, Waterbeach New Town etc.

The consultation was an interesting exercise as it was the first opportunity for the land allocations to be officially challenged. The comments will be digested by the District Council and then a final proposal published – time frame TBC. If you are interested, all of the comments can be viewed on the Greater Cambridge Planning website -

<https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan-first-proposals>

A1307 Upgrades

The next set of upgrades that are being currently implemented on the A1307 is the safer crossing point at the Hildersham junction. This involves putting in a crossing that all non-motorised users (pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders) can use. This has begun already and will be fully completed in the summer.

Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) ran a survey 'Making Connections' in November last year and the results have now been published. Residents in Balsham and surrounding villages submitted a good number of responses which will hopefully help to highlight the need for improved bus services in our area. The full report can be read here - <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/asset-library/City-Access/Making-Connections/GCP-Making-Connections-report-13June22.pdf>

The final decision on these are still pending, but if anyone has strong views one way or the other, please do write into the GCP, who will be making the decision – contactus@greatercambridge.org.uk

Planning Department Reshuffle

The South Cambs planning department has had a slight reshuffle due to staffing issues in the service – the new senior officer that is managing our area is Jane Rodens, who has been with the authority for some time and is very experienced.

LHI Bids

The next round of bids for LHI (Local Highway Improvements) will be opening soon for Parish Councils to bid into, the likely date will be September/October time. If you can think of a small highways project that might benefit the village, please do contact your parish council, as it is they that have to bid for them.

Innovate and Cultivate grant

Councillors Henry Batchelor and Geoff Harvey

The popular Innovate and Cultivate grant, administered by the County Council, has had a rebrand. It is now called Cultivate Cambs. The first round of funding has just been announced and bids are open until September 16th. Full information can be found at -

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/cultivate-cambs-fund>

Odessa Project

There is a new scheme that has been launched called the Odessa project, based in Bourn, which helps Ukranian refugees find jobs in the catering industry -

https://theodessaproject.com/?utm_source=sendinblue&utm_campaign=Business%20newsletter%20-%20TEMPLATE%20FOR%20June%202022&utm_medium=email – if you think anyone you know

may benefit from this, please do pass this on.

Bin Lorry

South Cambs District Council, the council that collects our bins, has invested in a second electric bin lorry to add to the one that they already have within the fleet. The fleet will be powered from a new solar farm next to the depot in Waterbeach, which is being designed to make the waste depot more self-sufficient.

Contact Information

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