

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notes of the Cabinet and Parish Councils Liaison Meeting held on:
Tuesday 27th November at 6:30pm

Cabinet:	Bridget Smith Neil Gough Philippa Hart Tumi Hawkins	Hazel Smith Aidan Van de Weyer John Williams
Officers:	Gemma Barron	Head of Sustainable Communities & Wellbeing
Also present:	Rachel Stopard Joe Baker	Chief Executive, Greater Cambridge Partnership Mott MacDonald working with the Greater Cambridge Partnership
Parish Reps:	Lorraine Mooney (Barton) Ray Kemp (Barrington) Joe Baily (Bartlow) Mike Hallett (Bassingbourn-cum-Kneesworth) Les Rolfe (Bourn) John Vickery (Cambourne) Keith Howard (Caxton) Frank Morris (Cottenham) Pete Dee (Duxford) Margaret Stevenson (Elsworth) Peter Deer (Elsworth) Peter Burge (Fowlmere) Geoff Barnes (Foxton) Peter Tye (Foxton) Lesley Sherratt (Granchester) Matt Prince (Great and Little Eversden) Mike Nettleton (Great Shelford) Stephen Bartlett (Great Wilbraham)	Kim Wilde (Hatley) Dick Jones (Hinxtton) William Brown (Hinxtton) Elaine Farrell (Hlston and Impington) Terry Sadler (Ickleton) Stephen Gray (Litlington) Peter Brunning (Little Abington) Richard Smith (Little Abington) Rob Searles (Meldreth) Richard Goddin (Meldreth) Don Wildman (Milton) Louise Peden (Newton) Kieran Cooper (Sawston) Sean Traverse-Healy (Steeple Morden) Will Wright (Swavesey) Dave Sargeant (West Wickham) Arthur Greaves (Whittlesford) Pam Freeman (Whittlesford)
Apologies:	Gamlingay Parish Council	Madingley Parish Council

1. WELCOME

Councillor Bridget Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting as well as highlighting that Cabinet is currently consulting on its new business plan. The business plan outlines the administrations proposed priorities: (a) economic development, (b) homes affordable for everyone to live in and (c) the environment. Councillor Bridget Smith also stated that parish councils are extremely valued and that Cabinet wants to support parishes.

2. COUNCIL TAX AND PRECEPTS

Councillor John Williams, Lead Cabinet Member for Finance, highlighted a few points regarding the Council's part of residents' Council Tax. The Council

- spends approximately £19m per annum on services, excluding housing.
- raises approximately £9m per annum in Council Tax.

- receives no funding from Government.
- is able to raise Council Tax by up to £5 per annum for a Band D property.
- raises the additional £10m from receipts and grants.

It was stated that there will be a £2m to £3m deficit per annum in three years time. Cabinet would like to work with parish councils, who are not currently capped, to ensure that local services can continue to be delivered to local people.

In response to questions it was stated that:

- the majority of New Homes Bonus is allocated to the A14 upgrade and the future of New Homes Bonus is unknown.
- the Council collects approximately £6m per annum in business rates.
- parish councils could take on, or pay to enhance, services such as grass cutting or road sweeping.

3. GREATER CAMBRIDGE PARTNERSHIP

Rachel Stopard, Chief Executive of the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), was introduced as being responsible for the delivery of the City Deal. Rachel introduced Joe Baker of Mott MacDonald who is working with the GCP.

Rachel gave a presentation outlining the GCPs three part strategy: (a) Infrastructure investment, (b) Public transport service improvement and (c) Free up road space. It was stated that the aim is to have a world class public transport system by 2050 and that the GCP is working with the Mayor with regards the proposal for a Cambridge Autonomous Metro (CAM), which would include building a network of routes and tunnelling under Cambridge.

Part of the Cambourne to Cambridge route has recently been consulted on: Madingley Mulch Roundabout to Cambridge. The Cambourne to Madingley Mulch Roundabout part of the route will be consulted upon in the new year with a full business case ready in Autumn 2019 and delivery by 2024.

The South East route and the Greenways project were also mentioned, along with details about work that has been undertaken to compare travel times for bus and car now and in the future, with and without the planned infrastructure improvements, and options regarding a workplace parking levy, parking charges and intelligent charging, for example.

Parish councils raised points in relation to the number of villages that would not directly benefit from the proposals, proposals for bus franchising, the need to ensure that Cambourne is served by CAM and the need to link with proposals regarding Oxford to Cambridge corridor.

4. EAST WEST RAIL

Councillor Aidan Van de Weyer, Deputy Leader of the Council, briefly updated parish councils about the timetable for consultation on the proposed East West Rail link between Oxford and Cambridge.

The Bedford to Cambridge part of the route now has Government Support and £20m has been set aside to look at the next phase. The focus now seems to be less on speed between the two settlements of Oxford and Cambridge and more on enabling growth along the corridor. Cabinet would be supportive of, and suggesting that, the CAMBED proposal be appraised along with other options. Consultation is likely to take place early in 2019.

5. OPEN FORUM

Councillor Neil Gough announced that once a dog waste bin comes to the end of its life the Council will be replacing the dog waste bins with multi-purpose bins that collect both general waste and dog waste. The bins will be labelled as such. The benefits are that the new bins are larger capacity, free standing, cheaper and easier to empty. The change was generally welcomed, however, Councillor Gough agreed to talk to staff about arrangements for conservation areas and areas with specific planning conditions in relation to bin design.

A representative from Great and Little Wilbraham stated that they had tried to engage with the GCPs Greenways project in the hope of joining up two proposed routes that run near to Great Wilbraham, but currently do not go to Great Wilbraham. This was considered a missed opportunity. Councillor Van de Weyer agreed to raise this point with the GCP.

A question was raised in relation to access to Cambourne from the Broadway. It was explained that there will be no vehicular access to and from Cambourne along the Broadway except for buses and bicycles. Access to West Cambourne will be from near Caxton, Sheepfold Lane and hopefully via the Business Park.

A Great Shelford representative stated that they have been working with local Councillors across the Shelfords and Sawston area, as well as Council staff, to try to resolve the parking issues they experience. A request for a Cabinet champion to work with them was made and Councillor Bridget Smith agreed to identify someone to liaise with the group. Many parishes showed an interest in tackling parking issues.

A parish representative asked if Cabinet is supportive of the planned changes to transparency with regard to viability assessments. Cabinet stated that they would support this change.

A parish representative stated that it would be good to see a timeline for all of the planned infrastructure projects because it is difficult to understand the order in which each of the proposals will likely come forward. Councillor Van de Weyer agreed that this would be useful.

It was raised that traffic along the A505 bottlenecks with people travelling through the area. Cabinet stated that this was understood and that it is high on the agenda. A Whittlesford representative stated that the Rural Travel Hub that is proposed for Whittlesford is a good idea and that they hoped this would help the situation. Cabinet stated that they are looking at the Rural Travel Hub pilots because, if successful, they could be fairly cheap and easy to roll-out wider.

A parish representative suggested that the Council should be aiming to slow economic growth rather than accelerate it. It was stated that the Mayor's ambition and promise was to double GDP. The Council also has targets for house building, which need to be met in order to retain a 5-year land supply and ensure that homes are built with the infrastructure they require, in the areas that make most sense.

6. CLOSE

Councillor Bridget Smith thanked everyone for their attendance.

The Meeting ended at 8.00 p.m.
