**County Councillor Report for Parishes – October 2022 – Cllr Anna Bradnam**

**Strategy and Resources Committee**

**Cost of living crisis**

The County Council has been working with partners including District Councils and the Fire Authority on the help that needs to be made available to local residents facing huge cost of living challenges in the months ahead.

**Advice and information on a single page**

The Council is collating helpful information and advice on a single webpage. This includes information about schemes the Council is running or administering, as well as schemes run by others. More information will be added as it becomes available.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living>

**Household Support Fund**

The Council is reminding residents about the Household Support Fund to make sure that eligible people of pensionable age claim what they are entitled to. The Council is producing a leaflet on this fund for distribution through faith and community groups and at foodbanks.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund#support-for-pensioners-who-are-struggling-financially-0-0>

**Council budget gap widens**

Rapid inflation is a problem for households and businesses, but also for the Council. It has significantly widened the Council’s budget gap, as well as leaving more residents in need of serious financial help from the Council as energy bills soar and the cost of living continues to rise.

**Adults and Health Committee – NHS Dentistry shortages**

Nine in 10 NHS dental practices across the UK are not accepting new adult patients for treatment under the health service. In a third of the UK's more than 200 council areas, no dentists are taking on adult NHS patients. Eight in 10 NHS practices are not taking on children. Of 45 dental practices in Cambridgeshire with NHS contracts, not a single one was taking on new adult patients. The figures reveal an NHS dental system which is fundamentally broken, with people forced to spend hundreds or even thousands of pounds on private dental care and some even resorting to DIY dentistry.

**Communities, Social Mobility and Inclusion Committee**

**Warm hubs -** Cambridgeshire ACRE is working with South and East Cambridgeshire District Councils on the provision of a network of ‘warm hubs’ to enable people to stay safe and warm over what is likely to be a very challenging winter of fuel and food poverty for many people.

##### Local communities are being encouraged by Cambridgeshire ACRE to consider how they could be part of such a network, and setup support and ongoing support and advice will also be available. Interested organisations are being invited to complete an expression of interest form online and return it to **Cambridgeshire ACRE**. If you would like to know more, contact **Alison Brown,** Head of Business Services, Direct Dial: 01353 865 029, Alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk

**Environment and Green Investment Committee**

**Fens reservoir consultation to launch in autumn**

Consultation on proposals for a new reservoir in the Fens will launch in autumn, when Anglian Water and Cambridge Water’s preferred site will be announced. The project aims to provide significant additional resilience for public water supply, agriculture and the environment across Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex.

<https://wre.org.uk/project/future-fens-the-south-lincolnshire-and-fenland-reservoirs/>

**Climate challenges**

The exceptionally hot, dry weather this summer has presented challenges to the fire service in Cambridgeshire, with extremely busy days in July and August. Soil shrinkage prompted strain on railway lines and caused slow running between Cambridge and Ely in recent weeks.

**Decarbonising community buildings**

Cambridgeshire ACRE has been considering how it can support the county’s 280+ community-run buildings to reduce carbon emissions, improve resilience to climate impacts and encourage and enhance the natural environment.

Cambridgeshire ACRE ran ‘coffee morning’ events on this subject; work with and promote exemplar buildings; ensure those running community buildings are aware of all possible funding streams; and asking those who have led such projects to offer mentoring support to others. If you would like to know more, contact **Alison Brown,** Head of Business Services, Direct Dial: 01353 865 029, Alison.brown@cambsacre.org.uk

**Highways and Transport Committee**

**Greater Cambridge Partnership ‘Public Transport & City Access’ consultation**

The Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly have been considering proposals for a consultation on improved public transport and active travel into and around Cambridge, with a Sustainable Travel Zone including a road user charging scheme. On 28 September they agreed to (a) Note the feedback from the 2021 Making Connections consultation, the focus groups and workshop with Citizens’ Assembly members; and (b) Agree a public consultation on a proposed package of measures to improve public transport services and active travel and introduce a Sustainable Travel Zone comprising a road user charging scheme.

We need a plan that reduces carbon emissions, improves air quality, and makes Cambridgeshire’s roads safer and less congested, while at the same time providing affordable, reliable, and convenient options for travel. It is hard to achieve the right balance for residents all over Cambridgeshire. I strongly encourage residents to read the proposals and respond to the consultation when it opens.

**Stagecoach Bus Service (Service 9, Citi 2, P&R, 19)** have published their “New Sustainable Bus Network for the East” to start from 30 October 2022. Some routes have been cut altogether but others have had drastic timetable reductions. **Service 9** will now only travel along the A10 (hourly at peak times, two-hourly at off-peak times) and will not serve Waterbeach or Milton. However **P&R5** from Drummer St will continue to Landbeach crossroads and Waterbeach Pembroke Avenue, every 15 mins then 20 mins off-peak M-F.

The **Citi 2** will be extended to Milton Tesco and Milton P&R before turning south to Cambridge North Station and heading to Addenbrookes. Services will run every 20 mins in the peak and every 30 mins in the evening.

**Service 19** (Landbeach to The Beehive) remains unchanged with two in and two out a day.

The link is here [East Bus Network | Stagecoach (stagecoachbus.com)](https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/east/east-bus-network) under “Promos and Offers”

I am aware of the irony, given the previous section but this opportunity must be used to re-think and develop a really robust public transport network.

**Milton Road – bus, cycling and walking improvements**

Works are progressing both overnight and during the day and works have now started at the northern end, near Cowley Road. If you have any queries you can email Milestone miltonroad@milestoneinfra.co.uk or call their 24-hour contact centre: 0800 023 4762.

**Local Highways Improvement Scheme**

The current Local Highways Improvement (LHI) process has been reviewed and changes suggested, which will be discussed at the Highways and Transport Committee on Tuesday, 4 October. The existing process is considered complex and often time-consuming, so, following approval at committee in April, a cross-party group of members was set-up, to review and improve the process. They have recommended a new way of working that aims to deliver the programme more efficiently. Some of the suggested improvements include:

* introducing two different categories for applications for either non-complex or complex schemes,
* changes to the funding amounts depending on the category the application will fall into,
* an agreed prioritisation matrix to score and rank non-complex applications and
* switch to using an online application form.

Members of Cambridgeshire County Council’s Highways and Transport Committee will decide whether to approve the improvements at a meeting on 4 October.

The papers for the meeting, including a full list of the proposed changes to the LHI schemes, can be found on the council’s website [here](https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccc_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1922/Committee/62/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx). The meeting will be live streamed on the council’s YouTube channel and can be viewed [here](https://www.youtube.com/user/CambsCountyCouncil).

The application window will be opening on Mon 31 October for the 2023/24 round.

**Cycle Shelter at Walkling Way, Milton**

District Councillor Judith Rippeth has been working hard with Officers to support the application for secure cycle shelters at Walkling Way. Both District Councillor Paul Bearpark and I supported the application, which has been approved.

**Footpaths**

District Cllr Hofman and I are working with County Rights of Way Officers to formalise the informal path from High Ditch Road to Marleigh. This would make a more direct connection between Fen Ditton Community Primary School and the Marleigh Primary Academy, both part of Anglian Learning.

**Aircraft Noise - The Luton Airspace Change Proposal** consultation - on the proposed change in stack location and approach routes- was run by NATS from October 2020 to Feb 2021, so has now closed.

You can see the details and results here: [Changes to London Luton Airport Arrivals - The Civil Aviation Authority and Airspace Change sponsors - Citizen Space](https://consultations.airspacechange.co.uk/london-luton-airport/ad6_luton_arrivals/).

We are in a post-implementation phase during which for 12 months ending May 2023, all complaints will be considered, with a view to changing moderating or cancelling the new system. So it is vital that residents log their complaints during this period. However the website does not indicate how to log complaints post-consultation. There is this contact on their website and I suggest residents email the LLA-NATS Airspace Change Team at AD6@LTN.Aero If you submit a complaint or diary of aircraft noise, please copy to me at anna.bradnam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**Anglian Water – waste water treatment plant relocation**

Anglian Water will be drawing up the Development Consent Order application (DCO) including the Environmental Statement for submission to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in Autumn 2022.

**Water Resources – two new reservoirs**

Anglian Water is working with Cambridge Water to develop proposals for two new reservoirs, one of which will be in the Fens, the other will be in Lincolnshire. Each will the approximate size of Graffham Water. You can see the proposals here

[Investing in two new reservoirs (anglianwater.co.uk)](https://www.anglianwater.co.uk/environment/investing-in-the-future-of-water/two-new-reservoirs) Consultations (one on each reservoir) will start in Autumn 2022. You will be able to contribute when they open.

**Waterbeach waste facility**

As reported last month, preparations are being made at the Amey waste park in advance of major works to reduce odour emissions, to comply with new international legal recommendations. The works will allow district councils to continue to deliver waste for transfer to alternative processing sites and to landfill from August, while the works to reduce odour emissions are done.

**Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority**

Interim staff are beginning to be appointed to various roles in the Combined Authority, and improvement work continues. The timetable for setting the Combined Authority’s budget is being established, and the Combined Authority’s Overview & Scrutiny Committee has been given an informal briefing ahead of its more formal scrutiny of the budget.

Work is being done by the Combined Authority to address further education ‘cold spots’. The Skills Committee is recommending that the Board allocate a budget for this, and start off a capital project to fill the gaps.”

**A10 – and an update on U&C works – Denny End Road**

U&C have started the overnight closures of Denny End Road for preparatory works at the junction of the A10 and Denny End Road. In coming months there will be a number of weeks of full closure. During the closures, temporary traffic lights will be installed at Car Dyke to manage the extra traffic. We will have an update with U&C, when plans have been agreed with County.

**Waterbeach Community Liaison Forum on 16 November, 6pm drop-in** followed by 7pm presentations and Q&A. Waterbeach Baptist Church, Chapel Street.