

Monthly update for parish councils: July 2009

County Council and Cabinet meetings

There was a County Council meeting during July. At this meeting, the first business of the Council was discussed. We talked about Housing Futures money which has been withdrawn by Government. We are all incensed that money promised has been taken away from affordable housing projects in new developments. We had the annual report from the Standards Committee that deals with complaints about councillors and their code of conduct. And the Lib Dems moved a motion on the "Bramley Line" whereby funding should be sought for this railway line as a means of energising the north of the county. was supported by ala parties. Sue asked her first question regarding the safety of children on Orchard Park with respect to the guided bus, and awaits a formal reply.

Later that afternoon, we received a briefing from the Independent Transport Commission about Cambridgeshire's interest in the Government's Transport Innovation Fund (TIF). In summary, the commissioners felt that because Cambridge was an economic "hotspot", then it would be wise to invest in the City and County, to ensure that congestion does not detract from revenue generation. Their suggestion was that money should be sought, and spent on transport infrastructure. Only when congestion went past an "unacceptable" limit, then a congestion charge should be levied. There is an executive summary and full report at www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk. This will be discussed by Cabinet in September and go before Council in October 2009.

Guided bus

The guided bus liaison forum will meet on 6th August in the Meadows Centre 7pm – David will chair.

Histon Neighbourhood Panel

This met in Cottenham on 14th July and discussed various problems in the area, including vandalism in parks and isolated areas, speeding, lorry parking, antisocial behaviour and under-age drinking. The police service would like to be informed about the last day of school terms so that it can plan containing activity appropriately.

Street working

Impington - New Road, Impington Lane	Now complete, apart from white lines.
Oakington - Dry Drayton Road	Complete
Cottenham – Lamb's Lane	Started - will be closed between 4 to 6 weeks.
Oakington – Water Lane	Hedge trimming
Oakington/Longstanton – airport road	resurfacing

Check out www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/transport/roadworks/temporary+road+closures.htm and local papers for current information. We have told the Council about the need for better communications about these works,

South Cambridgeshire Traffic Management Area Joint Committee (AJC)

We met in Cambourne. The local issues were the 20mph limit which was decided to be rolled out in Girton. Its accident record and limited entry points make it the most suitable place to implement this.

We had a petition from Waterbeach for a crossing. This shows the power of a petition with the support of a Parish Council, to get an item into the County Council system for costing.

The cycleway between Cottenham and the A14 via Histon was discussed. Alex Alexander should be visiting PCs with a more up to date plan of how this may be implemented. Also, the possibility of a cycleway between Impington and Milton was also mooted.

Meetings / Planned meetings

NIAB development: B1049 / A14 junction proposals for traffic management (= another lane)
Sue expects to meet Stagecoach at the end of August. There will be a cross-group meeting with representatives from Impington and Histon PCs, to discuss expectations.

Sue Gymer on behalf of County Councillors; Cottenham, Histon and Impington	
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