

County councillor's monthly report for October 2019

For the Histon and Impington (H&I) county council division of Cambridgeshire which also includes King's Meadow and Orchard Park.

Full Council meeting

Go to <https://wp.me/p7tuu7-1Tz> for my account of this month's meeting. It was a short meeting; we were out in time for lunch. I proposed a motion to ensure that the Council's budget be developed in line with its Climate Emergency commitments. This was passed unanimously. Later I asked that the Combined Authority also recognise the Climate Emergency. See below for more on this.

Committee meetings and other council matters

Adults: there were two key decisions. One related to a Mental Health and Autism Accommodation Framework for Adults for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This is good in principle but you worry about there being enough money to do what's needed. The other was about the procurement of family carer's services which had been delayed because of the financial issues at the Clinical Commissioning Group.

Children & Young People: there was one key decision whereby the Council 'noted' the intention to go out to tender for the South Fenland Child and Family Centre Services, as part of joint tender exercise with Peterborough City Council.

General Purposes: the committee met; the agenda was again short with no key decisions of note.

Highways & Infrastructure: There were no key decisions. It noted two proposals to improve revenues in the budget viz bus lane enforcement and civil parking enforcement at Park & Ride sites.

Commercial & Investment: the committee met. There was one key (non) decision whereby it approved complying with new rules requiring upfront but refundable payments to be made in connection with energy projects which require a grid connection. It also went into secret session, as it invariably does, to review the Spokes (sic) part of the Cambs 2020 project.

Planning. This committee met but there were no planning applications on the agenda relevant to Histon and Impington. An officer decision to allow the temporary classroom at Histon & Impington Junior School to be used until 31 Aug 20 was noted.

Communities & Partnerships: there were no key decisions. There was a progress update on the CIVIC libraries project of which Histon Library had hoped to be a part. There seems to have been little.

Economy & Environment: There were no key decisions. It noted the same two budget proposals considered by Highways & Infrastructure Committee. It also considered the internal audit report on the Ely Southern Bypass fiasco.

Health: there was one key decision viz to enable by delegation the re-commissioning of the integrated Lifestyle Service as one service working across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive met and, inter alia, signed off the Histon Road bus, cycle and pedestrian improvements project. The Assembly did not meet.

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority, its Overview & Scrutiny (O&S) Committee and the Housing & Communities (H&C) Committee met. At the O&S meeting the Mayor suggested that the Authority would not be declaring a Climate Emergency because he 'hasn't seen the evidence

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for it'. At the H&C meeting approval of a grant of £215,000 from the £100m Affordable Housing Programme was given to enable delivery of five new affordable homes at Whaddon Road, Meldreth.

The Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel met and agreed to note a number of reports. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority did not meet.

Consultations relevant to this division (and elsewhere)

Consultation	Purpose/object	Due date and link
Accommodation and support for young people at risk of homelessness	to make sure that we are funding a range of services that will help young people and which they will want to use,	15 Nov 19 http://bit.ly/31Q0kpH
Proposed changes to the Council's Adult Social Care charging policy	to find out how five proposed changes to the Council's charging policy will affect people currently receiving council services	15 Dec 19 http://bit.ly/2OptjwX
Business Planning 2020/21	to seek resident's views to help plan the budget and understand how the council can support a good quality of life for communities.	8 Dec 19 http://bit.ly/2CjUhP1

More local matters

I met council officers to consider options to improve Station Road at school run time.

I attended meeting with district and parish councillors, South Cambs officers and A14 executives to advance plans for landscaping

I joined with district and parish councillors in meeting representatives of Abbeyville, the enterprise that runs Burdett house, to understand plans for its future

And finally ... October was dominated by the Rugby World cup and given my passion for Welsh rugby I was sure that I'd be excited by Wales success but in the end disappointed. I was not wrong but then I had a reserve option because I was born in South Africa so I could transfer my allegiance and still have a stake in the final. And then I was not disappointed. But that was just one of the highlights of a wonderful tournament and I was also thrilled by the exploits of Japan who beat Ireland and Scotland, by the heroics of the part-timers of Uruguay in beating Fiji and by the humility of Canada and who turned up to support the clean-up operation following Typhoon Hagibis after their final pool game was cancelled.

7 Nov	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
7 Nov	1400	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	Hinchingbrooke Park
12 Nov	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
12 Nov	1000	Highways & Community Infrastructure	Shire Hall, Cambridge
13 Nov	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	HDC office, Huntingdon
14 Nov	1400	Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
14 Nov	1000	Economy & Environment Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
21 Nov	1000	Communities & Partnership	Cambridgeshire Archives, Ely
21 Nov	1400	Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly	Shire Hall, Cambridge
22 Nov	1000	*Commercial & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
26 Nov	1400	Adults Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
26 Nov	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge

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27 Nov	1000	C&P Combined Authority	City Council, Peterborough
28 Nov	1000	Health & Wellbeing Board	Shire Hall, Cambridge
19 Dec	1030	Full Council	Shire Hall, Cambridge

*committees of which I am currently a member; these may change. Note that the Council's diary is online <https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/ccclive/Meetings.aspx>.