

County Councillor Report for Parishes – September 2023 – Cllr Anna Bradnam

Highways

Fen Ditton – queries from Parish Council August:

High Ditch Road white lines. The County Surface Treatment Manager has advised me (02/08/2023) *"I inspected the road following the March email and as per the CCC Code of Practice for the Replacement of Roadmarkings, I marked up the hazard areas alongside the deep ditches and edgelines have now been installed, albeit later than intended, the delay for which I apologise. I'm afraid that as per the CCC Code of Practice, there is no necessity for any further road-markings on this classification of road. We have many C class narrow country roads across Cambridgeshire without any lines that are dark at nights, however, we have proactively marked the perceived hazard areas on High Ditch Road, and the other sections of this road do not meet the hazard requirements and there is no injury accident data on this road which would back any need for further road marking. However, the changing appearance of the edge line could be argued to be a highlight to the attention and judgement of users of the public highway."*

Wooden knee rail outside the school – broken end – having first reported this in May 2023, I have followed this up again with the LHO.

Pavement outside 25 High Ditch Road – I had a site visit 7 August with the Local Highway Officer. He will get a quote for works but is on leave until 29 August.

Church Street / Green End pavement – on the same site visit we examined the areas of footway that need to be surfaced. He was talking about patching. I am hoping to get resurfacing.

New cycle/footpath access to/from Ditton Lane – on the same site visit we considered if the grassed area on the corner of Fison Road that may need to be protected from vehicular incursion by a knee rail.

Waterbeach

Dead tree on East side of A10 between Milton and Waterbeach – reported to the LHO on 1 August 2023

Pothole – A10 junction of A10 and Butt Lane – has been repaired.

Station Car Park (exit onto Clayhithe Road) – I have asked for the verge to be cut back to improve visibility. This is unlikely to be done before September.

Field access opposite 'The Bridge' used as parking – surface potholes and trees overhanging I had previously (2022) asked for details of ownership and am following up for a response. Users are currently advised that this is not a formal car park and they use it at their own risk.

Milton – I have reported a number of deep potholes (again) on Landbeach Road. I note that some of the deep potholes on Cambridge Road and High Street have been repaired, particularly the crazed area outside The White Horse pub, where the children cross to Butt Lane

Butt Lane - footways have been resurfaced 23/24 August - big improvement in surface and safety.

White lining – has been replaced at junctions on Landbeach Road, Humphries Way.

Landbeach PC - I have asked when Green End carriageway from the crossroads to the 30 mph sign will be re-surfaced.

White lining – has been replaced at junction A10/High Street.

Cycle paths – Milton to Landbeach and Milton to Impington – I have asked for 'hedges' and vegetation to be cut back before the start of the new school term, so by Monday 4 September.

Road re-surfacing - Around £5m is being invested into a programme of surface dressing, which will prevent damage and prolong the life of the county's roads, as well as ensuring they continue to be safe for all road users.

Cambridgeshire County Council's highways team have already treated 39 locations across the county, and more than 50 roads are in the process of being completed.

In addition to this surface dressing programme, a countywide programme of road markings, carriageway and footway resurfacing is also being delivered. As well as ongoing work addressing the roads on peat soils across the county.

Find out more about the [locations and types of road surface treatment](#) on our website.

The A14/A10 roundabout is scheduled to be resurfaced in Oct-Dec 2023.

Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant Relocation (CWWTPR)

The Planning Inspectorate (PINs) have recently appointed a lead examiner for the DCO who, having reviewed the submitted documentation, has requested clarification and amendments from the applicant for several areas including Transport, Biodiversity, Landscape and Heritage. The deadline that has been set for Anglian Water to submit this information to PINs is 29th September.

Accordingly, Greater Cambridge Shared Planning will need to review this revised information before reporting to SCDC Cabinet and City Planning and Transport Committee for consideration. It is estimated PINs may require the Local Impact Report by mid to late November. Work on the reports is well underway but will not be finalised until the revised information from AW has been seen; it is hoped the Local Impact Reports will go to City and District Councils in early November, but the timetable will respond to deadlines from PINs.

At the County Council

Anti-racism Charter - Chief Executive, Stephen Moir was a guest speaker at the UNISON Eastern webinar on Monday 14 August, where he discussed the implementation of the Anti-Racism charter. The council signed the Charter in May 2022, becoming the first upper tier local authority to do so.

Could you volunteer with home to school transport?

The Education and Social Care Transport Service has a small team of fantastic volunteer drivers as part of their home to school transport provision. They're hoping to increase the team of volunteer drivers to provide this service to more local families.

What does it involve? - Volunteer drivers collect allocated children/young people from their home, school or other pre-arranged location and deliver them safely to their destination. You will meet a range of children and young people and their families, provide a warm welcome and make each person feel comfortable on their journey.

If you are someone who likes driving and getting out and about and can make our children and young people feel at ease on their journey, then this role is for you. Although you will be working independently, a member of the Passenger Transport Service is at the other end of the phone and there is a network of other volunteers for you to link in with too. You will be fully trained and supported so you feel comfortable and confident in your volunteering.

What do volunteer drivers say? -

"I really enjoy helping youngsters. I can choose the jobs I do, and it fits around my daily life" - Derrick (Volunteer driver)

"After retiring, I wanted something to do to fill my time. I have always enjoyed driving and like socialising. I like working with children and helping them and I can do as many jobs as I can to help" -

Eric (Volunteer driver)

If you would like to find out more or have any questions, please email

ed.engagement@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 07880473917. You can [download a role description, application form and see FAQs](#) on the Cambridgeshire County Council website.

Festival of Stories February 2024

In 2019, Cambridgeshire County Council declared a Climate and Environment Emergency and they set out their ambitions in the [Climate Change and Environment Strategy](#). The strategy describes how we all need to act to support nature to thrive and reduce our carbon emissions to deliver 'a greener, fairer and more caring Cambridgeshire'.

With this in mind, our next Festival of Stories will run from **21-28 February 2024** with a focus on Caring for Our Planet. The aim is to think about the impact we have on the natural environment and enjoy how stories can be used in fun and interactive ways to help us better understand the world we live in and what we can do to make a positive difference. In doing so we'll also be boosting young children's communication, language, and literacy skills.

If you'd like to get involved with our festival in some way, please do contact Helen at helen.wootton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk .

Funded storytellers

We have been able to offer Talking Together in Cambridgeshire funded face-to-face storytelling sessions to families of children aged from birth to five, via our partners, over the last two Festival of Stories. We are going to do this again for our next Festival of Stories.

Here's some information about what our three storytellers will be offering during the festival:

- **Marion Leeper will be running sessions for little ones aged 0-2 and other sessions for little ones aged 3-5:** *Join in with Aiken Drum's Treasure Hunt and explore some creative ideas for turning trash to treasure. Older children will hear the story of the kid who lives in the moon comes down to earth and finds it littered with rubbish. Younger children and their adults will take part in songs and rhymes, and use spoons, ladles and other sound-makers to make recycled music.*
- **Rose Feather will be running sessions for little ones aged 0-2:** *Let's explore the awe and wonder of moths in a night-time themed story session for children 0-2 and their adult. We'll imagine the sun going down and find a garden by smelling jasmine and primrose, turning on fairy lights under a silk scarf cocoon, and enjoy sensory play with white objects and coloured light torches. Expect story sharing, book games and simple craft activities which encourage a curiosity about how we can care for night-time insects.*
- **Ellie Sandall will be running sessions for little ones aged 3-5:** *I will be sharing the story 'Fish' by Brendan Kearney with the children, using dressing up and props to bring the story of Finn and his dog skip to life as they try to catch fish for their dinner, only to catch pieces of rubbish instead! The children will play a fishing game together inspired by the story, hooking various recyclable objects from the 'sea' and learning how to sort them for recycling. The children will then go on to work on a craft activity relating to the theme of recycling.*

In the first instance, our **20 funded storytelling sessions** will be offered on a **first-come, first-served basis**. However, if we receive multiple requests from one area, **we will ask organisations to work together** as we need to ensure the storytelling sessions reach as far as possible around the county.

If you would like to apply to host a funded storyteller at a venue in Cambridgeshire over the Festival of Stories, then please complete our e-form: <https://forms.office.com/e/pGVih5hJuP> .

Please note, applications are welcome from community groups or other organisations who operate on a not-for-profit basis.

More information about our work can be found on our [Talking Together in Cambridgeshire Facebook page](#). If you'd like to speak with us about our work, then please contact Helen at helen.wootton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Waterbeach Independent Library and the Mobile libraries

We are very fortunate to have the Waterbeach Community Independent Library available to us in the centre of Waterbeach. Details here: [Waterbeach Library \(cambridgeshire.gov.uk\)](http://cambridgeshire.gov.uk). Many young people have been able to take part in the Summer Reading Challenge, supported by the Library and the many volunteers who run it. The **Waterbeach Library** is open Mondays: 2:45pm-5:00pm, Wednesdays: 2:45pm-5:00pm and 6:00pm-8:00pm, Fridays: 2:00pm-5:30pm, Saturdays: 10:00am-noon.

For those residents unable to travel to Waterbeach, the **Cambridgeshire Mobile Library** visits **Milton Post Office** on the 2nd Friday 9:15 am - 10:15 am and 4th Friday, 2:25 pm - 3:25 pm

The Rowans on the 2nd Friday 10:20 am - 11:10 am

Milton Community Centre on the 4th Friday 3.30-4.30 pm.

Landbeach crossroads on the 2nd Friday, 11:25 – 12:00.

On the 3rd Tuesday of the month the **Fenland Mobile Library** visits **Fen Ditton Wrights Close** from 10:55 am - 11:15 am and then goes on to **Horningsea Village Hall layby** 11:25 – 12:10 pm.

You can find details on the [mobile library stop near you](#) link below.

They enable potentially isolated people and those in rural areas to stay connected and independent by borrowing books, CDs, magazines and jigsaws, buying stamps and reading glasses and collecting free walking stick ferrules.

The full report, Libraries for Living, and for Living Better is [available to download as a PDF](#) online.

Find a [mobile library stop near you](#) or [visit a library branch](#).

Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund If you haven't already done so, parishes and community groups may wish to apply to this fund. This enables groups and organisations from across Cambridgeshire to apply for funding for projects that will make positive changes in local communities. The CPCF is designed to support local communities - by helping to upgrade and improve community buildings and assets to better meet the needs of the families, households and communities who use them.

All applications must support the Council to achieve its vision, and proposals should support the delivery of at least three ambitions in our [Strategic Framework 2023-2028](#).

[Find out which groups and organisations are eligible to apply](#) on the County Council website.

Details on how to apply are also available on the webpage. It's a two stage process, the first being and expression of interest. All Expressions of Interest must be completed by 24 September 2023.

Have you thought about becoming a foster carer?

I recently attended the Children in Care Awards Ceremony at Burgess Hall, St Ives and met so many of our bright, fun-loving children and young people in care, some who attend the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee that I Chair. I also met and had the opportunity to thank some of the wonderful foster carers who support and love these children and offer them a stable home, for a while or long-term, so they can grow in confidence and follow their dreams.

You can find details about the different type of fostering here.

[Fostering in Cambridgeshire - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

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24 August 2023