

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

NOVEMBER 2019

CLLR SARAH CHEUNG JOHNSON & CLLR ALEX MALYON

UPDATE ON ANGLIAN WATER WORKS RAMPTON ROAD, LONGSTANTON

We have finally received a response to our complaints to Anglian Water about the disruption to residents from the works along School Lane and Rampton Road. Unfortunately, they have also told us that the works will overrun with completion now due 13th December. Residents should be receiving a formal letter about this. Below is their statement which includes details of how to find up to date information about the works and raise complaints. We have encouraged residents to raise complaints directly with Anglian Water as we think complaints to the contractors on site are not being passed on.

Statement from Anglian Water:

*We are very sorry for the extension of our completion date; this has now been put back to 13 December 2019. The delays have been caused by poor weather conditions during construction, finding a gas main in the area of our traffic lights and slow progress whilst we have been drilling.*

*Despite conducting a thorough utility survey before we started our work, we discovered a gas main to be in a different position than advised. As this was very close to our excavation, we immediately contacted the gas board. They told us to stop work until they could come to inspect the main and be onsite while we worked in this section. They told us they would be on site 1 week later (11 October) but didn't come until another 18 October.*

*Regular updates on all matters have been posted on the 'In Your Area' section of the Anglian Water website, link below, as this is the quickest way to pass on any information to the 680 properties affected by our presence. However, a further letter advising of the delay to the completion of our works will be received in the next few days*

*Rampton Road: This week should see the start of the removal of the drill pits along Rampton Road as the drilling should finally be completed over the next 10 days. We will then test each section to make sure it is of sound structure and condition. Once each section passes, we will close each pit and remove the fencing etc.*

*A temporary reinstatement will then be carried out on each section. Once each section has been completed, we then look at the options for a permanent reinstatement of the pits and verges which have been driven over.*

*We are very sorry for the condition the road has been left in. As stated on the last In Your Area update on 28 October (link below) we are now conducting cleans of the road and trying to ensure the verges are topped up, level and not in roadway.*

*We appreciate that in dry conditions the road is ok but its during and after rainfall events that the problems and poor road conditions occur. We have therefore asked our site managers to increase their activities in trying to keep Rampton Road and the junction with Rampton Drift a lot cleaner.*

*The teams working on Rampton Road have also been reminded about not blocking the roads for long periods of time where possible, not parking on kerbs/pathways and to remember what kind of image they are presenting of themselves and Anglian Water.*

*Contacting Anglian Water: Any contact received via their 24-hour call centre is logged against the job. Please let us know via this number of any issues. It has come to light that some matters reported to the team on the ground have not been passed on and we are very sorry about this. We have been made aware of some incidents which we are now looking into and will arrange to contact those customers separately.*

*In the meantime, should you have any further causes for concern please contact Nick Daubney on his mobile 07976294608. Or if the matter is urgent and you can't immediately reach Nick please contact the 24-hour Anglian Water helpline on 03457 145145.*

*In Your Area*

*<https://inyourarea.digdat.co.uk/anglianwater>*

*Simply search for Northstowe and select 'Maintenance and Improvements' from the 'Key' dropdown.*

#### NORTHSTOWE - UPDATE ON PIONEER PARK

You will be aware that the delivery of the formal park on Phase 1 Pioneer Park has been delayed. Work should have begun on this by 350 occupations which we have now far exceeded (currently ~450). Following considerable pressure from SCDC, including the threat of enforcement action and a campaign by Northstowe residents, we are pleased to say that work began on the park on 14<sup>th</sup> October.

We, along with officers at SCDC will continue to put pressure on L&Q to ensure that the park is delivered to the specifications set out in the plans and that corners are not cut. We have seen revised plans which include very small changes. Bespoke benches have been replaced with a very similar spec bench available to order. Small alterations have been made to a climbing frame, but this does not appear to be a significant change. 2 trees will be relocated. Importantly the sunken MUGA remains.

#### NORTHSTOWE PHASE 3 CONSULTATIONS

The final masterplan for Phase 3 can still be viewed via the Northstowe.com website. There is also a link here to provide feedback on the plans. We are expecting Phase 3 outline plans to be submitted in mid-December.

#### NORTHSTOWE - EMERGENCY WORKING HOURS ENDED

We are pleased to report that the emergency hours for Northstowe construction, to allow delivery of the school have now finished. We return to the original hours which are:

Mon - Fri: 8am-6pm

Sat: 9am – 1.30pm

Sun and Bank Holidays: No working

If work is being carried out outside of these hours, then please report this to SCDC enforcement. The most effective way to report is online via the SCDC website <https://www.scams.gov.uk/report/>

#### COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE REVIEW

South Cambs District Council (SCDC) will now be undertaking a Community Governance Review for the Parishes of Longstanton and Oakington and Westwick. The plans for this were approved by the Civics Affair Committee and the process will officially begin on 11<sup>th</sup> November with the publication of the Terms of Reference. These can be found here: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/content/community-governance-reviews>

Below is the timetable for meeting and briefings during Phase 1 of the review and the overall timetable for the review process.

<b>Forthcoming meetings and briefings prior to and during Stage 1 of the review</b>	
(Wednesday 06 November Northstowe Community Forum)  Drop in and main agenda (6-7pm; 7-9pm)	Northstowe Secondary College, Stirling Road, Northstowe, CB24 1DJ
Wednesday 13 November 2019  Wing Wednesday, Drop-in 6pm to 8pm	Community Wing, next to Pathfinder School, Pathfinder Way, Northstowe, CB24 1AA
Saturday 16 November 2019  Oakington Autumn Market, 2pm to 4.30pm	White Horse, 28 Longstanton Road, Oakington,
Saturday 30 November 2019  District Councillor Surgery, 11am to 12noon	Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham, CB24 5LP
Saturday 7 December 2019  Longstanton Village Market, the Village Green, Nelson Crescent, Longstanton CB24 3BS	On the Village Green, Nelson Crescent, CB24 3BT
Monday 9 December 2019	Longstanton Village Hall, 24 High Street, Longstanton, CB24 3BS

Drop-in, 6pm to 7pm	
Wednesday 11 December 2019 Wing Wednesday, Drop-in 6pm to 8pm	Community Wing, next to Pathfinder School, Pathfinder Way, Northstowe, CB24 1AA
Monday 16 December 2019 Drop-in, 6pm to 7pm	The Pavilion Meeting Room, Recreation Ground, Queens Way, Oakington, CB24 3AW
Wednesday 8 January 2020 Wing Wednesday, Drop in, 6pm to 8pm	The Community Wing, next to Pathfinder School, Pathfinder Way, Northstowe, CB24 1AA

<b>Timetable for Community Governance Review of the parishes of Longstanton, Oakington and Westwick</b>	
Terms of Reference are published	11 November 2019
Local briefings and meetings	November/December 2019
Initial submissions are invited	From 11 November 2019 to 15 January 2020
Consideration of submissions received, and draft recommendations prepared for Civic Affairs Committee	Draft recommendations published 3 March 2020
Consultation on the draft recommendations	From 17 March to 15 June 2020
Consideration of submissions received, and final recommendations prepared for Civic Affairs Committee (date TBC)	July/August 2020
Final recommendations are published, concluding the review	September 2020
Council can make a Reorganisation Order	October 2020

## NORTHSTOWE PHASE 1 UPDATES

Following a number of questions from residents we have the following responses from Stephen Sage of L&Q on various Northstowe Phase 1 questions.

- Please confirm the lighting from Northstowe to the Secondary school streetlights will go on shortly.

*The street lighting is all connected to the mains so it should be working. I have chased GTC (the electricity provider) and asked them to make sure that the mains cable from their substation is live. They are currently checking this.*

- Is there any chance of moving the zebra crossing on Stirling way which is in front of people's carports?

*I did take a call from the resident who raised this and explained to him that it is only temporary, and we had no other option but to install it here. We are constructing the next section of footpath in-front of Taylor Wimpey now and will move the crossing point further up when this is complete, which should be at the end of the month. Please note that these are NOT zebra crossings (i.e. they do not have zigzags, studs or flashing beacons), they are pedestrian crossing points. The distinction is important. Pedestrians do not have right of way.*

- What are the plans are for the overgrown areas around Northstowe like the walkthrough from the Primary school to Linden. Timeframes on when these areas will be cleaned up would be helpful.

*I have asked our Contractor who has commenced on the Formal Park to flail this area on the path side and the area between the School and Parcel H3 (Taylor Wimpey). He has said it is too wet now (the flail just clogs up) but looking at the forecast I would hope it can be done next week.*

- Could the pathway between Northstowe development and Longstanton Park and ride be re done (either slightly more permanent) and/or have the weeds cut back a bit we're losing major width on it.

*I will arrange for the weeds to be cut back and for the surface to be re-rolled.*

- It would be good to know when they are going to finish off road surfaces like Pathfinder Way approaching the school. A lot of other areas are half done, whilst I understand there's less sense in doing something too soon, conversely it seems like L&Q are putting a lot of stuff off until basically the end of phase 1 which doesn't make for the best environment for everyone and is less encouraging for new buyers.

*The roads have been split into separate S38 agreements. The splits are based on our expectations of the housebuilding sequencing. We then look to finish the roads/on-road cycleways in each S38 area as the adjacent housebuilding works are completed and the risk to damage has been significantly reduced. These sections of road would then be inspected by CCC, put into Maintenance and then adopted 12 months later (i.e. we would not normally wait until all the housebuilding works have been completed before finishing of sections of the road). CCC have told us however that they will not adopt any of the roads/cycleways/footpaths until all the housebuilding works have been completed! We are disputing this with them at the moment and the outcome of this will to some extent dictate the completion of each S38 area (roads and cycleways).*

- When will you finish tarmacking the pavements around The Green?

*I am not able to provide an exact date but we do not currently intend to complete the surfacing to the footpaths around the grassed area at the Green until the construction works (Community Building/Retail) have been completed as they will be dug up again for service connections and will get damaged during construction.*

- Please can you confirm when bins will be going into the development?

*I am not sure what bins you are referring to? There are bins in the Local Square currently.*

Questions on open spaces:

1. Is it possible to allow access to the sunken MUGA while access is limited to pioneer park to let the grass grow? It is on the corner of the site so it should be possible by just putting the Herris fencing the other side of it?

*Yes, we should be able to provide access to the MUGA sooner than the remainder of the Park (which will be limited due to needing to allow the grass to establish). If we can sensibly and safely allow access to the play equipment we will do so also.*

2. The walkways and 3g pitch are almost completed through the Western Park, including the all-important pedestrian link to Longstanton. Do you have an exact time that access will be able to be granted to residents for different parts? Will access to different assets be phased? (There is an appetite to run a Longstanton/Northstowe joint event and we want to get the date right.)

*The footpaths, STP, MUGA, street lighting and Bowling Green are substantially complete. The NTP at the north end and the Bowling Green have not yet been seeded as we have been caught out by the wet weather over what seems like at least the last four weeks. The area is being inspected weekly and as soon as it is dry enough (which will hopefully be at some point during October, otherwise the temperatures restrict the opportunity) we will seed. Worst case scenario is that they will have to be seeded next Spring. The timber viewing platform installation has been delayed due to manufacture/delivery issues and is now scheduled for installation in late November/early December along with the final section of footpath back out to the Northern Greenway and the services to the Pavilion.*

*The soft landscaping works (trees and shrubs) to the Western Park will be carried out during the 2019/2020 planting season (November 2019 to March 2020). All the trees are bare root, so we have to wait until the Nursery's lift the trees, which in current years have been late November but depends on temperatures.*

*I do not have an answer on timescales for access to the sports facilities. It is my understanding that this is all wrapped up in the on-going discussions with SCDC/Greenbelt with respect to the overall administration of the sports facilities. I do not believe that there has been any conclusion to this yet. The delivery of the Car Park/Pavilion is also a key factor in this.*

3. In addition to question 2, if it is going to be a few months to let the grass grow, would it be possible to put up fencing around the grass and allow access down the path to Longstanton? This is really important as it will really help integrate the two communities, and also allows direct pedestrian access to the Longstanton Play Area.

*The amenity grassed areas will be seeded in Spring 2020. We have discussed your request to open up a route to Magdalene Close at length internally. At the very least, for safety reasons we need to complete the tree and shrub planting (latest by March 2020) as the trees are planted directly adjacent to the footpath routes before considering opening up the footpaths. We will review again at this time but fully appreciate the reasoning behind your request.*

4. The section of the Northern Greenway outside of the front of Pathfinder School is a critical path for pedestrians in Northstowe, to allow those in DWH to access the rest of Northstowe (that runs from the school roundabout to Wellington Road). There is currently a desire line in the long grass where people have been walking. Would it be possible to ask your mowing team to run the mower down that path to neaten it up a bit? This would help the community tremendously and help mitigate some of the issues caused by its delay, and really not cost anything.

Yes.

5. Do we have any further timing information on the Northern Greenway or the associated play areas? We will reintroduce delivery of LEAP 1 and LEAP 2 into the current contract for the Formal Park and intend for these to be completed at the same time as Formal Park. The Northern Greenway still has some Reserved Matters to be closed out (changes to the bridges) so we intend to add these works into the contract for the Waterpark.

*We are working towards a start date of the Waterpark in Spring 2020 with completion by the end of 2020.*

6. Is the Eastern Park still expected to be delivered in 2020?

*Please see above.*

#### NORTHSTOWE PHASE 2A

We have received several queries from residents about the published plans for Northstowe Phase 2a and asked for some clarification from the planning officer, his responses are below. If you want to view or comment on the application, residents can do so via the South Cambs website. Comments can be made until 15<sup>th</sup> November when the consultation period closes.

*1. The approach to phasing and construction is one that has come out of optimising delivery and reducing disturbance. I will talk to the applicants about what can be done but note that the construction method means that there will be limited disturbance as the homes come ready delivered so in terms of noise the construction effects experienced from Phase 1 will not be experienced here. We will obviously ensure that "beeping alarms" are not used. Having visited the factory and one of the Urban Splash developments at Port Loop in Birmingham, this is already done. Houses are craned into position. The construction will also*

*depend on the sales and we (South Cambs) are taking a number as affordable homes that may front load some of the development.*

*2. The proposals are two storeys on the boundary with Rampton Drift where there is a relationship to properties on Rampton Drift. The proposals are three storeys on the stepped in element (it is a staggered approach). Where there is no relationship to a property the proposals are three storeys. This is a design led approach rather than the parameter plans which perhaps envisaged a more continuous and traditional approach to the design. The detail is shown in the Design and Access Statement (Part 3) at page 36 and 39 and included below. We gave this careful thought and discussion at pre-application process and I am aware it was discussed with residents at the consultation and what has come forward is more nuanced and interesting and considers the design more carefully than a traditional design. I would add that the separation is larger than the Design Guide Supplementary Planning Documents and would be c24m from the front of the two-storey property to the garden boundary and c.30m for the three-storey element. It is c.40m from property to property of the 2storey and c.45m for the three storeys. Further there are intervening trees which are to be retained. Considering the approach and further separation from the three-storey element I am comfortable with this relationship.*

*3. Rampton Road will not be used as a construction access for lorries and HGVs. The plan is to get the SAR West connected to the B1050 and operational asap (we are putting pressure on County) and this then will be the access for construction for Phase 2 and 3. The houses delivery route from the factory in Alfreton will be M1 onto A14 and then onto B1050 at Bar Hill junction. I have raised with Homes England and Urban Splash about the need for escorts/wide loads etc as the lorries use a low loader.*

#### INCREASED CONSTRUCTION TRAFFIC THROUGH OAKINGTON

We have had reports of increased heavy construction traffic travelling through Oakington. We know that TAG have been monitoring this and working with our County Councillor to try and arrange for traffic monitoring to be reinstated so we can get some up to date data on the extent of the problem. We believe that there may be three sources for this increased traffic:

1. Northstowe- we have been working with SCDC planning enforcement and the developers to ensure that Northstowe traffic is using approved routes and not travelling via the Willingham. Unfortunately, we fear that in cracking down on traffic through Willingham, contractors may be re-routing through Oakington. We have reiterated to contractors that Oakington is not an approved route. All traffic should be travelling via the B1050 to the A14 to travel South or North. We are also working with the developers L&Q to have CCTV installed on the Phase 1 site so that we can identify traffic that has left the Northstowe Phase 1 site and where this is routing. Homes England have told us that they will have ANPR technology on their Phase 2 and 3 sites so we will again be able to identify where traffic originates.
2. A14 works- we suspect that some of this traffic may be from A14 works, which is not permitted to use Oakington as a transport route. We have raised this with our SCDC A14 liaison officer who has asked the A14 team to remind all contractors of approved routes. We have also passed

traffic survey data collected by TAG to the A14 Highways England Team and they will check whether registrations match vehicles from their sites.

3. Work at the Cottenham gun club- work is being carried out to build up banks at the gun club in Cottenham and waste is being transported on to site by HCV from various sites. We think a significant amount of this traffic may be related to this. We have asked planning and the enforcement team to investigate this work and whether any planning conditions have breached.

#### NORTHSTOWE PHASE 2A

We have received several queries from residents about the published plans for Northstowe Phase 2a and asked for some clarification from the planning officer, his responses are below. If you want to view or comment on the application, residents can do so via the South Cambs website. Comments can be made until 15<sup>th</sup> November when the consultation period closes.

- 1. The approach to phasing and construction is one that has come out of optimising delivery and reducing disturbance. I will talk to the applicants about what can be done but note that the construction method means that there will be limited disturbance as the homes come ready delivered so in terms of noise the construction effects experienced from Phase 1 will not be experienced here. We will obviously ensure that "beeping alarms" are not used. Having visited the factory and one of the Urban Splash developments at Port Loop in Birmingham, this is already done. Houses are craned into position. The construction will also depend on the sales and we (South Cambs) are taking a number as affordable homes that may front load some of the development.*
- 2. The proposals are two storeys on the boundary with Rampton Drift where there is a relationship to properties on Rampton Drift. The proposals are three storeys on the stepped in element (it is a staggered approach). Where there is no relationship to a property the proposals are three storeys. This is a design led approach rather than the parameter plans which perhaps envisaged a more continuous and traditional approach to the design. The detail is shown in the Design and Access Statement (Part 3) at page 36 and 39 and included below. We gave this careful thought and discussion at pre-application process and I am aware it was discussed with residents at the consultation and what has come forward is more nuanced and interesting and considers the design more carefully than a traditional design. I would add that the separation is larger than the Design Guide Supplementary Planning Documents and would be c24m from the front of the two-storey property to the garden boundary and c.30m for the three-storey element. It is c.40m from property to property of the 2storey and c.45m for the three storeys. Further there are intervening trees which are to be retained. Considering the approach and further separation from the three-storey element I am comfortable with this relationship.*
- 3. Rampton Road will not be used as a construction access for lorries and HGVs. The plan is to get the SAR West connected to the B1050 and operational asap (we are putting pressure on County) and this then will be the access for construction for Phase 2 and 3. The houses delivery route from the factory in Alfreton will be M1 onto A14 and then onto B1050 at Bar Hill junction. I have raised with Homes England and Urban Splash about the need for escorts/wide loads etc as the lorries use a low loader.*

## OAKINGTON DRAINS MEETING

We had a productive meeting with Pat Matthews, SCDC Drainage officer, Mike Parsons who is temporarily looking after waterways for South Cambs, Stephen Moore, Oakington Parish Chair and Andrew Dennis, Oakington Flood Mitigation Group to discuss the drains in Oakington.

SCDC agreed to clean out the section of pipe by Holme Close and will be meeting with Homes England to review the CCTV data for the pipe work. We will reconvene when these items have been completed.

## COMMUNITY CHEST FUND

The Community Chest fund supports local groups with projects to promote active and healthy lifestyles, build inclusive communities, and enhance the natural environment – groups can bid for up to £1,000 from the fund towards projects. There is a pot of £49,000 available now.

More information can be found here <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest>

## COUNCILLOR UPDATES

We have started sending out email newsletters and have been posting regular updates on our Facebook group. Details are here:

- Monthly email newsletter - with updates on local news as well as wider district issues which will impact us all. To sign up please go to: [https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/email\\_signup\\_longstanton](https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/email_signup_longstanton) *(Note to help us manage GDPR it is easier for us to host from the LibDems webpage, but we absolutely promise this link will NOT subscribe you to LibDem news)*
- For all the latest news & updates so far please go to: [https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton\\_news](https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton_news)
- For those on social media we have a very active Facebook group covering the whole ward here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/>

## DISTRICT WIDE UPDATES

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### BUS SERVICES

The Combined Authority is launching a survey about bus services on 4 November. Whether you are a regular bus user or not they would like to hear your views on transport services for 2030. They will be interviewing people/passengers on the street and there will be an online survey at

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/FutureBus> - if you would prefer to complete the survey over the phone call 07377 001512.

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### LEVELLING UP

Rather extraordinary to note Government has written to the Mayor confirming the PM's "commitment to levelling up the powers of city region mayors and their combined authorities across the country."

What does this mean for us? It means that the Mayor is being asked to take on a number of extra powers. These include (but are by no means limited to): Local authority duties and functions relating to young persons or young adults being in education, employment or training, Duty for provision of shops and recreation grounds, Strategic planning, Functions of Homes England including powers of land acquisition and disposal, Promotion of road safety, Functions to improve public health – the list goes on and on.

Some issues with this: firstly, devolution was supposed to bring power to the lowest common denominator i.e. us the people. Here the Mayor is being offered a wide range of duties currently run by the County Council. As more and more powers are invested into the hands of one person our local democracy can only wither and disappear. Secondly the County Council is investing huge quantities of public money into a new HQ at Alconbury Weald. Why? It should be clear by now that there is no longer a future for County Councils. And lastly, how is one person – even if they were brilliant and efficient – able to have at their fingertips full control of all of these disparate and complex issues in order to make decisions that up to now have required a full democratic process.

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#### WELLCOME TRUST AT GENOME CAMPUS, HINXTON

South Cambs have backed plans from Wellcome Trust for new jobs and homes for staff at their Genome Campus in Hinxtton

There will be up to 1,500 homes for campus-based staff and more space for employment, conferencing and supporting facilities

More at [www.scambs.gov.uk/new-jobs-and-homes-approved-at-expanded-.../](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/new-jobs-and-homes-approved-at-expanded-.../)

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#### VISION FOR NEW VILLAGE AT BOURN AIFIELD

Councillors have approved a plan for a thriving new village at Bourn Airfield after more than 300 views from a recent public consultation were considered.

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plan, which was adopted last year, allocates land south of the A428 at Bourn Airfield for a new community of around 3,500 homes along with facilities and transport links.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/vision-for-new-village-at-bourn-airfield-agreed/>

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#### 'BIG CONVERSATION'

Bit of a worry, because it's so important and yes – we did write about it last month too – but this is a reminder!. The Clinical Commissioning Group, which commissions our NHS services, is asking for our priorities in a climate of extreme financial pressure. In their words:

"The CCG is responsible for NHS healthcare provision to 980,000 people across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and has around £1.3 billion available each year for this. Although £1.3 billion may sound like a lot of money, this works out at just £1,125 per patient. A single trip to A&E costs the NHS £73, a GP visit comes in at £46, and just one night in a hospital racks up a cost of £1,722 – meaning the CCG

faces big financial challenges in trying to commission all of the region's NHS healthcare at just £1,125 per capita."

You can go on-line to find out more and provide your views – until December 20th.

<https://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughhccg.nhs.uk/get-involved/the-big-conversation/>

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#### CHARGING FOR CARE

Cambridgeshire County Council is once again consulting on proposed new charges for people receiving adult social care services—in some cases the same charges it consulted on two years ago, which service users overwhelmingly rejected. The consultation runs until Sunday 15 December 2019:

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/chargingforcare-yoursay](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/chargingforcare-yoursay)

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#### ROAD SAFETY

In the build up to Road safety Week (18th to 24th November) the police are asking your views on where the road safety black spots are. During the week officers will be out in force targeting these areas and those offenders. Complete the survey here to submit your views:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CKKQ8XH>

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#### INNOVATE & CULTIVATE FUND

The next deadline for applications is 1st February 2020. A pre-application advice session will be held on 10th December. The aim of the fund is to support initiatives that strengthen our communities and reduce pressure on County Council services, thereby giving a return on investment. Council services that are inviting applications are adult social care and children & families services.

The fund is open to voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations based in and outside of Cambridgeshire, and public sector organisations in Cambridgeshire. There are two funding streams: a 'Cultivate' fund for smaller projects that build community support networks and an 'Innovate' fund for bigger, bolder and more innovative initiatives.

We've developed guidance on starting Cultivate Seed Fund Projects that can help people to remain independent and active within their community, encourage volunteering and complement more costly Council services. Projects include Timebanks, Good Neighbour Schemes, Dementia-Friendly Communities and Men's Sheds. Do you want to talk through your ideas before you submit your application? Bookings are now open for our Innovate & Cultivate Fund Advice Session on Tuesday 10th December, 9:30am-12:30pm at the William Collyn Community Centre in Girton. Cambridgeshire Community Foundation can answer questions about applying for the Fund [info@cambscf.org.uk](mailto:info@cambscf.org.uk).

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#### BUSES

A new report from the Campaign for Public Transport has found that funding for buses in England is almost £400m a year lower than it was 10 years ago. The Local Government Association (of which Bridget is a Board member) is lobbying for the need for local authorities to receive adequate funding in order to protect existing bus services and to reinvest in new local services.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these, or any other matters.

**Alex Malyon and Sarah Cheung Johnson**

***District Councillors for Longstanton, Oakington and Northstowe***

Contact details:

Sarah Cheung Johnson: [cldr.cheungjohnson@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.cheungjohnson@scambs.gov.uk)

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