

REPORTS FROM LOCAL AUTHORITY REPRESENTATIVES**1. COUNCILLOR TONY ORGEE SCDC****Waste / Recycling collections**

As part of its ways of reducing spending without affecting front-line services, the District Council has joined in sharing certain of its services with Cambridge City Council and Huntingdonshire District Council, for example, legal services are shared across all three councils.

The District Council has set up a shared service with the City Council for Waste / Recycling collections. At present there are roads on the edge of Cambridge where the District Council collects on one side of the road and the City Council on the other. By sharing services coupled with computer analysis of routes, a new set of collection routes is being drawn up. The new routes will result in saving over 10,000 miles of travel per year by the collection vehicles, but will maintain the same collections as at present. The only difference that the public might see is a possible change of collection day. Details of collection days are due to be announced shortly, and the new routing arrangements are expected to be in place by the end of February.

Little Abington planning

On 18 January, I attended a session of the Examination in Public of the District Council's Draft Local Plan. The session focussed on Local Green Spaces, and specific objections to particular designations.

There had been an objection to the designation of the Meadow in the centre of the village surrounded by Cambridge Road, High Street and Church Lane. The Examination in Public first heard from the objector's barrister, then from the District Council's barrister, District Council officers and myself as a local witness supporting the designation'

In coming to a decision on this matter the inspector will visit the site. The decision the Inspector comes to will not be published separately and will not be known until the conclusion of the hearings and the publication of the inspector's report

City Deal update - A1307

A City Deal A1307 meeting was held on 5 January. Each parish council on the A1307 was invited to send a representative, as was Haverhill Town Council, although no one from Haverhill actually attended.

The purpose of the meeting was to set up a Local Liaison Forum (LLF) so that local views could be directly fed into meetings of the City Deal Joint assembly and the City Deal Executive Board. Terms of reference were discussed, a date for the first public meeting was decided (20 February, venue to be decided) and I was proposed as the Chair of this LLF.

City Deal update - transport hubs

A short while before Christmas, one of member of the City Deal Executive Board, Francis Burkitt, asked for suggestions of possible locations of transport hubs. A relatively small number of suggestions were put forward. Shortly after Christmas, Councillor Burkitt announced the sites that had been suggested, including one for Whittlesford. This suggestion was put forward by Little Abington Parish Council. These sites therefore represent the individual views of the respondents rather than an area-wide systematic appraisal of need.

Great Abington planning - for information

I attended the meeting on 11 January considering the Neighbourhood Plan for the former LSA area. I was very encouraged by the positive views of the Cambridgeshire ACRE about the work that had already been carried out.

Earlier in the day, together with the Chair of Great Abington Parish Council, I had attended a meeting of the District Council's Planning Committee for the agenda item on the Strawberry Farm planning application. In the event the matter was deferred because during the debate one of the councillors made some disparaging comments about one of the planning officers; this led to an adjournment and then deferment of the item.

Tony Orgee District Councillor for Little Abington

County Report to Little Abington Parish Council

January 2017

From Councillor Peter Topping 07825876582 peterwwtopping@gmail.com

County and district wide This month sees the start of work on the Ely bypass. Why does this matter to us? It is the sort of big infrastructure work that will help move people round the county more easily. Under the Cambridgeshire Devolution proposals

I attended the Health Committee where we were looking at the Sustainability & Transformation Plan being put together by the health commissioning group. Savings of between 10-12% need to be achieved over the next 5 years, and the committee's role is to scrutinize this work on behalf of residents who access health services. The Chief Exec of Addenbrookes attended and we asked him about how the hospital is improving since being put in special measures 18 months ago.

The Full County Council meeting in December agreed to reverse the decision to reduce gritting routes. This was universally welcomed. The original gritting cuts were part of a package of measures to save money, and avoid putting up the county precept. But clearly the gritting work is a key frontline service.

The county council has to spend a lot of money on adult social care. In the next budget in February, there will be difficult choices between putting up the precept to pay for adult social care, or cutting back on other services to keep the increase as low as possible.

Devolution update I am leading the work to accelerate building affordable houses across the county, especially in South Cambs. These are on sites that already have been assigned, so this isn't about building on new land. We are also trying to find ways of encouraging self-build houses.

City Deal The City Deal has been urged to consider introducing a congestion charge on people driving into Cambridge at peak times. I oppose this because I see it as an unfair tax on residents of South Cambridgeshire whose work takes them into the City. The public transport systems need to be improved first before this could be considered. I am though in favour of an emissions charge on high-polluting vehicles in the historic centre of the City, and places like Addenbrookes which has surprisingly high pollution levels. I will be watching carefully the proposals to introduce a residents parking permit scheme on many of the City streets.

Closer to home

The proposals from the City Deal for the A1307 include some potential modest improvements. I welcome the chance to take the parish council views before putting in a submission to the City Deal.

The Babraham cycleway opens in early February with a celebratory cycle ride.

The last rather sad looking caravan has gone from the collection of nine that were on Thriplow heath before Christmas – the district planning enforcement team visited several times – this is the land on which there is an injunction to make it easier to move trespassers on.

Peter Topping