

Greater Cambridge Partnership and the A1307

Responses to the Greater Cambridge Partnership's 'Cambridge South East Transport Study' consultation were originally due by Tuesday 3 April. However, the delivery of over 20,000 consultation leaflets was slightly delayed by adverse weather conditions (the 'beast from the east'), and so the consultation period has been extended to 9 April.

I have attended five of the public exhibitions of the proposals including those at Linton Village Hall, the Abington Institute and Sawston Village College. Over 500 response have already been received together with several hundred written comments made at the public exhibitions.

My advice, when asked for, has been to say: if you agree with something, say so; if you disagree with something, say so; and if you think that something should be amended / improved,, set out the changes / improvements you would like to see.

The Abingtons Litter Pick

This was another activity affected by the 'beast from the east'. However, two days before the planned litter pick, SCDC organised a litter pick along the A1307 from Four Wentways to the Hildersham crossroads, resulting in many bags of litter being collected.

Wintry weather

I am pleased to be able to report that during the week of wintry weather, the so-called 'beast from the east', the District Council's waste and recycling collection teams carried out their collection rounds in full, and no properties were left without a collection.

Great Abington Neighbourhood Plan

The Great Abington Neighbourhood Plan covering the former LSA estate area was submitted to SCDC in late February.

The consultation period on the Plan began on March 5, and runs until 5pm on Monday 16 April, and is on your agenda tonight. The District Council itself can respond to the submission, and its response was considered at the District Council's Planning Portfolio Holder's meeting on 20 March. I attended the meeting and am pleased to say that the District Council's consultation response will show full support for the Plan as submitted.

Agritech Technology Park

Planning application ref S/4099/17/OL for an Agritech Technology Park to the east of Hinxton village went to the March 7 meeting of the SCDC Planning Committee for determination.

The planning application involved land in Hinxton, Pampisford and Whittlesford parishes, and therefore each of these parish councils was allowed to speak at the meeting.

Planning Committee members visited the site on Tuesday 6 March.

Including myself, there were seven public speakers on this item at the Planning Committee meeting. Following the public speakers, the Planning Committee members discussed the application and eventually unanimously agreed to a decision of delegated refusal.

Planning application for 13 dwellings (5 affordable), Linton Road, Great Abington

This was the next item at the District Council's Planning Committee meeting on 7 March, following the Agritech Park planning application.

The Planning Committee had a site visit the day before the Planning Committee meeting. Pennie Zimmern (Vice Chair) spoke on behalf of Great Abington Parish Council in favour of the application, and I also spoke in favour. The application was agreed by a majority decision, and it was interesting that two of the councillors who spoke against this application had not been at the site meeting.

The majority of members placed considerable emphasis on the fact that this application was supported by both the parish council and local member.

Wellcome Genome Campus

The Wellcome Trust held the two community workshops on Saturday 27 January and on Tuesday 30 January at the Genome Campus. The Wellcome Trust subsequently held two follow up community workshops: one on Saturday 17 March and another on Tuesday 20 March, and I was able to attend both sessions.

Wellcome, in their own words, are 'exploring the potential for future development at Hall Farm.' They are 'exploring what future development could look like and how this could best serve the existing research community, companies and staff already operating on site and the surrounding villages, as well as any future users of the Campus

Details of future proposals are still in the process of being worked up but it seems clear that there are two changes since the previous work of about two years ago – the proposal to re-route the A1301 round an expanded campus no longer features, and the previous ideas about 900 to 1,200 new homes associated with development appears to have risen to of the order of 1,500.

Uttlesford Local Plan (2011 – 2033)

The next meeting of the Planning Policy Working Group is scheduled for Tuesday 17 April at 7 pm. with further meetings scheduled for 23 May and 31 May 2018. These meetings are likely to be followed by recommendations to Uttlesford's Cabinet and then Full Council. Hence by the summer we are likely know the full details of the Uttlesford Regulation 19 Local Plan consultation, at which there will be a further opportunity to comment on, support or object to the Uttlesford Local Plan.

Tony Orgee, District Councillor for Little Abington