

## **District and County Councillor's Report – November 2021**

### **Local Plan Consultation**

Following the publication, by the District Council, of the preferred sites for development, there is now a public consultation on these proposals that is live and runs until December 16<sup>th</sup>. The proposals are to concentrate all major development into existing and forthcoming settlements, such as Waterbeach, Northstowe, Cambourne etc and leave the villages as they are, as villages. The documents can be accessed and commented upon here - <https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan> - if people are broadly in favour of the principle of keeping major development in the existing settlements, please do comment and say so.

### **Enhanced Covid Response Area**

Following the steep increase in positive Covid cases and hospitalisations in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough over recent weeks, central government have designated the county as an 'Enhanced Response Area' which means that we are allowed more funding to support the battle against the virus. It also means that some venues, such as schools, could enforce mask wearing again. So, the message is, the virus hasn't gone away, so please do all continue to act with caution.

### **Watercourse Reinstatement Grant**

There is a grant available from the County Council to help address local flooding issues, specifically where the riparian owner either cannot be identified or is unable to undertake the necessary work themselves. Full details and the application form can found at - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/riparian-watercourse-grant>

### **Food waste collection trial**

South Cambs DC are currently undertaking a food waste collection trial – to see if splitting food waste out from general green waste reaps any tangible benefits. We will share the results of the trial, once they are published.

### **20mp Zones**

The County Council have started the process of reducing the barriers to creating more 20mph zones in Cambridgeshire's villages and towns. Currently the process is quite restrictive, as the criteria for 20mph zones are very rigid and officers tend not to deviate from them. Hopefully we will be able to announce that the County Council are able to relax the criteria somewhat in coming months.

### **New County Council Chief Executive**

The County Council is on the verge of appointing a new Chief Executive. At time of writing the decision I still confidential but I'm sure it will be publicised in local media, so do keep an eye out.

### **Contact Information**

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