



Lina Joseph  
Cambridgeshire County Councillor  
Hardwick Division

November Report 2018

Dear all,

I hope you find this information useful.

### Cambridge North Station

I attended this month a stakeholder briefing organised by the Greater Cambridge Partnership. The partners involved in this apart from the GCP are: the Combined Authority, Network Rail, Mott MacDonald and Astra Zeneca. They are looking at all the options at the moment. The project still in a very embryonic stage. They have obtained the next tranche of the money £9.6 million. They believe the last phase of the project will happen in 2021. They are looking at innovative ways to bring third party funding for this project. Some of the ideas in the air are to apply the “Beneficiary pays” principle, instead of taxing everyone. Focus on incremental passenger revenue, capturing land value uplift and wider contributions.

One of the items that they will be considering regarding finance will be a “congestion charge/parking levy/ or similar name”. In my opinion, this will affect directly residents in South Cambridge more than any other district. One question I raised is that if they are looking at charging people to drive into the city, they must offer a sustainable transport alternative.

### Greenways



I met with the officers leading on the Greenways. I raised the concerns I have been receiving from the different parishes in my division. The consultation is now closed and once they analyse the information, they will take into consideration all the points raised. It is of their position that public’s perception and ideas do count and they are taking a very good approach and listening to the public. Once of the issues that keeps coming

up is, if we have a safe route that links the school to the village, will we lose the school bus? At the moment the policy says that you would do. I believe that we should have both. I am having meetings with officers in the different departments and will keep you posted.



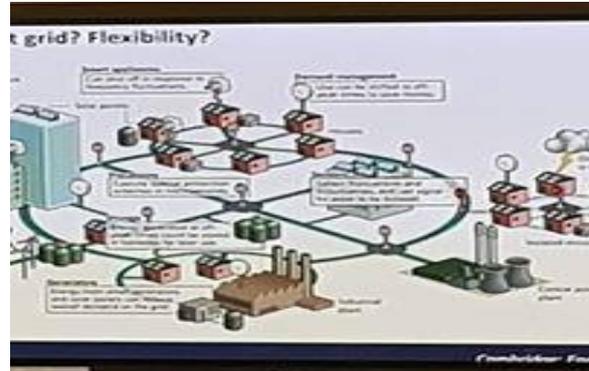
**Remembrance** As much as possible I join the different communities across my 12 parishes. On Sunday, I went to Caldecote. The service was lovely, it was completely packed and everyone was very friendly. It is extremely important to support these type of events, we must not forget what other men and women did in the past for us to enjoy what we have today. Thank you to all the residents and councillors for being so welcoming.



Lina Joseph  
Cambridgehire County Councillor  
Hardwick Division

## Produce and sell energy

Our energy unit is looking at the possibility to be energy self-sufficient and be able to sell the electricity we generate. This is very exciting because as you may already know the grid is at capacity and if we want to continue growing and be more sustainable we need to be disruptive and think out of the box. This is very exciting and I will keep you posted!



## News

Residents of Cambridgehire village Swaffham Prior are one step closer to achieving a low carbon community heat scheme after Councillors gave approval for the project to move to the next stage. The decision by members of Cambridgehire County Council's [Commercial & Investment Committee](#) means the scheme can now progress to the development of a detailed business case.

The Swaffham Prior Community Land Trust (SPCLT) first approached the County Council in 2017 to collaborate and support them with a community heat scheme, which will enable the village to stop relying on oil and move to a renewable heat source for heating and hot water needs. After exploring numerous low carbon heating options, a detailed feasibility study suggested that a district heat network with an energy centre, which has a combination of heat being extracted from groundwater and mains gas, would be the most viable option.

The proposed project still has a lot of work and analysis before any implementation can take place, but aligns with the vision of the councils Corporate Energy Strategy and councillors were in high praise of the innovative project.

Cllr Josh Schumann, Chair of the Commercial & Investment Committee said: "The Committee approved development of the important next stages of this project, which could support the village in moving away from relying on oil and onto a renewable energy through heat extracted from ground water. What excites me is the knowledge that by 2021 the village could own its own heating system and not be vulnerable to fluctuating global prices of oil that the residents are currently tied to.

"Boreholes to test the ground water could be drilled as early as next year, which is a vital next step for the project. We will also need access to homes to identify what is needed in the home to connect to the community heat network. "The project has identified Cambridgehire County Council land in Swaffham Prior as a location for the energy centre and we are very keen to discuss how this helps the village realise its low carbon ambitions and manage their future energy costs."

The proposed project will be retrofitted, one of the first of its kind in the country, and as such will act as a pilot project for both the government and similar villages looking to convert to sustainable heat systems.

The [project team](#) are working alongside the government department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), who have provided valuable advice and grant funding, as well as a letter of support for the progression of the project. This project exemplifies the principles articulated in the government's Clean Growth Strategy. The decarbonisation of properties dependent on oil is seen as an important step towards meeting our commitments under the Climate Change Act.



Lina Joseph  
Cambridgeshire County Councillor  
Hardwick Division

Colleagues at the Cambridgeshire Peterborough Combined Authority are also excited about the prospects of the proposed scheme. James Palmer, Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, approved initial match funding on the understanding that the work can be replicated to benefit other communities within Cambridgeshire keen to take on this new energy journey.

The next step of developing a business case for the project will look at detailed financing options, scheme design and procurement strategy. Engagement and support of the Swaffham Prior community will be key to ensuring the project's success, and the project team have already begun engagement work including a presentation evening with table discussions, as well as a legal focus group with residents in the community. Further community outreach will follow.

“The project is important for the village but it is also of strategic importance to communities that are off the gas grid and are looking for ways to move from oil based heating to a more sustainable, low carbon options that are also therefore less susceptible to price fluctuations and fuel security issues.” Further details about the scheme, in the form of a Frequently Asked Questions document, can be found on the Swaffham Prior Parish Council CLT webpage here: <http://www.swaffham-prior.org.uk/pc/CLT.html>.

### South Cambridge District Council

This week conservatives at South Cambridge have call for the £50,000 that the Liberal Democrats have decided to spend on management consultants to be re-allocated to delivery of front-line services. This money is meant to help the new administration decide “how the council could best focus on delivering its priorities”. Senior management being paid almost double that amount are not being used to this purpose.

### Combined Authority

Loan agreed to bring 88 empty homes in Ely back into use



At Wednesday's meeting the Board also agreed a repayable commercial loan up to a maximum of £24.4 million to bring 88 empty homes in Ely back into use.

The loan will enable the purchase of the Ministry of Defence-owned homes site at Princess of Wales hospital in Ely, where the properties currently sit vacant and are in need of a programme of refurbishment. The loan agreement will be with East Cambs Trading Company (ECTC), the wholly owned trading arm of East Cambridgeshire District Council. The intention is that the District Council will acquire the site and immediately transfer it to the ECTC to commence work.

The site will be redeveloped to provide 92 homes, by dividing four units to eight, then sold back to the market within two years, at which point the loan will be repaid.

The scheme will also develop 15 affordable homes to link in with an existing community land trust (CLT). The CLT, governed by members of the local community, will oversee the affordable homes, ensuring they are made available for people who live and work in the area as affordable rent properties. The scheme will therefore create additional affordable homes without the need for any grant funding by the Combined Authority.



Lina Joseph  
Cambridgeshire County Councillor  
Hardwick Division

## Local issues

### Hardwick:

I attended this month also an extraordinary meeting regarding the greenways project. I raised the concerns with officers. The officers pointed out that if the cycle lane connects the north too, they could potentially lose the school bus. This is something I am investigating.

### Madingley:

It is that time of the year again. LHI bids deadline is in the horizon. Officer dealing with a project from Madingley met with them this week. The Parish Council is looking to close the avenue in order to avoid getting through traffic. My understanding is that the County Council is supportive of this project.

### Kingston:

I attended this week an extraordinary meeting as the Parish Council wanted to discuss officer comments and suggestions. They were concerned with speeding through the village and where thinking on installing a mini roundabout. Mini roundabouts require a lot of lightening and they are not currently a preferred option for safety reasons. Officer suggested to first gather data to know if speeding is a real issue.

### The Eversdens:

This month at their Parish Council they wanted to share with parishes in the proximity that they are paying for the Connection Bus to come to the village for the benefit of young people. Please do share with your residents. The staff do an incredible job and are a great asset for young people in rural communities like ours.

They are also in the process of kicking off the ground the construction of a new village hall. Watch the space.

---

## Local Natural Partnership Board

As you may already know I represent the Council in this outside body. You have over 10 organisations represented and it's always active, trying to push the natural agenda forward and upwards.

Recently we have been able to launch a new website, please take a look at it. This is a very exciting milestone. [www.naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk](http://www.naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk)

## Events

Please take a moment to review the diary and contact me if you have any questions in regards to any of the events listed or if you are aware of any other events that are taking place that are not listed.

All events can also be found on our webpage at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/highway-events/>

## Funding portal

Please do share this link with community groups that wish to find funding pots.

<http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/supportcamb>

## Highways

A reminder that you can report road maintenance issues here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults/>



Lina Joseph  
Cambridgeshire County Councillor  
Hardwick Division

### **Hedges**

If you have an issue with hedges then they would be advised to log their complaint on our website <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults/>

### **Roadworks**

I had calls from residents regarding roadworks. If you would like to know what is happening in your area you can check in this website. [www.roadworks.org](http://www.roadworks.org)

-----  
Just to remind you that the public is very welcome to attend committee meetings and Full Council. You can find all the details [here](#).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Lina

---

**Representing the villages of:** Harlton, Barton, Great and Little Eversden, Caldecote, Kingston, Madingley, Hardwick, Coton, Grantchester and Comberton.

Mobile: 07402351821 E-mail: [Lina.Joseph@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Lina.Joseph@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk) Facebook: [Cllr Lina Joseph](#)