

County Council – 14th December 2021

Chair's Announcements

People

Resignation of the Chair of Council, Councillor Derek Giles

The Chair of Cambridgeshire County Council, Derek Giles, has regrettably resigned from the role due to ill health. Councillor Giles has expressed the great honour of serving as Chair and paid tribute to the support he has received from officers, councillors and the Vice Chair Sebastian Kindersley. He was elected Chair of the Council in May 2021.

Retirement of the Chief Executive, Gillian Beasley, OBE

Gillian Beasley, OBE, Cambridgeshire County Council's Chief Executive since 2015 will be retiring from the Council at the end of December after an illustrious 38- year career in local government. Gillian delayed her original plan to retire last October because of the pandemic.

Gillian is a solicitor by profession and was appointed Chief Executive of Peterborough City Council in 2002 and became joint Chief Executive of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council in 2015. During her career Gillian has advised government on Children's Law, migration impacts, government housing and cohesion and served on a number of bodies and Commissions linked to these issues. She also led on a complex Child Sexual Exploitation case in Peterborough, which helped inform and shape future local government practice.

Gillian received an OBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list in 2009 for services to local government. She holds an honorary doctorate from Anglia Ruskin and is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts.

Retirement of the Executive Director for People and Communities, Wendi Ogle-Welbourn

After a 35-year career in local government, Wendi Ogle-Welbourn, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's Executive Director for People and Communities is set to retire in January 2022. Wendi began her career in Cambridgeshire in 1987 as a Residential Worker and went on to qualify as a Social Worker. After managing all the council's family support and adolescent care services, she left in 2004 to head up Children's Commissioning in Bedfordshire, before being appointed Director of Commissioning at Essex County Council. In 2012 she moved to Peterborough, and in 2017 took on the joint role across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough as the Executive Director of People and Communities.

Acting Executive Director for People and Communities, Charlotte Black

Charlotte Black, currently Director of Adult Social Care, will be acting Executive Director for People and Communities following the retirement of Wendi Ogle-Welbourn for at least 6 months from January 2022. Charlotte has worked in the NHS and managed children's services for seven years and adults' services for eight years. Her career started in public health when she was appointed as an Executive Director of a Health Authority, after which she was appointed into a joint role working across four PCTs and the Local Authority.

Citizen ceremonies

The ceremonies are still being held without dignitaries.

Daphne Heiser

We were informed of the sad passing of Daphne Heiser, at the age of 100. Daphne was member of Cambridge City Council's Twinning Committee and instrumental in establishing the City's links with Alcala de Henares. We send our sincerest condolences to the Heiser family.

11th and 14th November - Remembrance Day | Veterans Day

Due to the pandemic we were not able to commemorate Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day in the same way. The Vice Chair recorded a special video for Armistice Day which encouraged everyone to observe the two minutes silence if they would like to wherever they were working at home or in the office.

The Vice Chair was honoured to be invited to lay a wreath on behalf of the people of Cambridgeshire for Veterans Day at the American Cemetery, Madingley, Cambridge.

22nd November - Annual Peppercorn Lunch

The Vice Chair accompanied by the Chief Executive and senior officers attended the Peppercorn Lunch at the invitation of Marshalls. This annual event records the payment of one peppercorn by the County Council to Marshalls as rent for the Newmarket Road Park & Ride site.

23rd November - Royal Visit

The Vice Chair was honoured to be invited by the Mayor of Cambridge, Councillor Russ McPherson to meet His Royal Highness (HRH) The Prince of Wales when he visited Cambridge Market. HRH then proceeded to Homerton College and then AstraZeneca, where HRH formally unveiled The Discovery Centre, a state-of-the-art research and development facility.

25th November - White Ribbon Flag

The Vice Chair attended New Shire Hall, Alconbury to raise the White Ribbon Flag to recognise the White Ribbon Campaign global movement of men and boys working to end male violence against women and girls; and was accompanied by a one of the County Council's White Ribbon Ambassadors, Ed Groome.

30th November - St Andrew's Day

The Vice Chair attended New Shire Hall, Alconbury to raise the flag for St Andrew's Day.