

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

Please note the meeting can be viewed on YouTube at the following link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GU_0lelWYoA

Date: Thursday 19th December 2019

Time: 10:30am - 1:50pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Shire Hall, Cambridge

Present:

Councillors:

Mac McGuire (Chairman)

Lis Every (Vice-Chairwoman)

David Ambrose Smith

Barbara Ashwood

Anna Bailey

Henry Batchelor

Chris Boden

Anna Bradnam

Simon Bywater

David Connor

Steve Count

Sandra Crawford

Steve Criswell

Kevin Cuffley

Peter Downes

Lorna Dupré

Janet French

Ian Gardener

Derek Giles

Mark Goldsack

John Gowing

Nichola Harrison

Anne Hay

Roger Hickford

Mark Howell

Samantha Hoy

Peter Hudson

Bill Hunt

Linda Jones

Noel Kavanagh

Simon King

Ian Manning

Elisa Meschini

Kevin Reynolds

Claire Richards

Terry Rogers

Tom Sanderson

Josh Schumann

Jocelynn Scutt

Michael Shellens

Mathew Shuter

Amanda Taylor

Simone Taylor

Steve Tierney

Susan van de Ven

David Wells

Joan Whitehead

Graham Wilson

Julie Wisson

Apologies:

Councillors:

Ian Bates

Adela Costello

Ryan Fuller

Lynda Harford

David Jenkins

Sebastian Kindersley

Lina Nieto

Mandy Smith

Peter Topping

John Williams

Tim Wotherspoon

185. MINUTES – 15TH OCTOBER 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th October 2019 were approved, subject to the addition of Councillor T Wotherspoon to the list of apologies, as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

186. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman made a number of announcements, as set out in **Appendix A**.

187. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Schumann declared a non-statutory disclosable interest under the Code of Conduct in Agenda Item 6 (Minute 190), as a trustee of the Viva Arts & Community Group.

Councillor Hunt declared a non-statutory disclosable interest under the Code of Conduct in Agenda Item 12(a) (Minute 196 (a)), as the grandfather of a child at one of the Council's maintained nurseries.

188. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Chairman reported that no questions had been received from members of the public.

189. PETITIONS

The Chairman reported that no petitions had been received from members of the public.

190. ITEM FOR DETERMINATION FROM GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Treasury Management Report – Quarter Two Update 2019-20

It was moved by the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, Councillor Count, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hickford, that the recommendation from the General Purposes Committee, as set out on the Council agenda, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands to:

Approve the Treasury Management Report.

191. PROPOSED REVISIONS TO PART 3 OF THE COUNCIL'S CONSTITUTION

It was moved by the Chairwoman of the Constitution and Ethics Committee, Councillor Every, and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Reynolds, that the recommended amendments to the Constitution, as outlined in Appendix 1 to the report on the Council agenda, be approved. Additional recommended changes proposed in Appendix 2 to the report on the agenda would be referred to Constitution and Ethics Committee for further consideration.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands to:

Approve the amendments to the Constitution, as set out in Appendix 1.

192. DRAFT CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN

It was moved by the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, Councillor Count, and seconded by Councillor Schumann, that the recommendation, as set out in the report on the Council agenda, be approved. While presenting the report, Councillor Count thanked the Project Director, Mobilising Local Energy Investment and her team for their work on producing the strategy, as well as Councillor Manning and the Cambridge University Science and Policy Exchange team for research carried out on the issue.

It was resolved by a show of hands to:

Approve the draft strategy, action plan and Annual Carbon Footprint for public consultation.

193. PROPOSAL TO DELEGATE CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL POWERS TO THE DISTRICT COUNCILS IN RELATION TO ENERGY PERFORMANCE CERTIFICATES AND SUBSTANDARD RENTAL PROPERTIES

It was moved by Councillor Count, and seconded by Councillor Hickford, that the recommendation, as set out in the report on the Council agenda, with the addition of "Cambridge City Council and" after "Delegate to", be approved.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands, subject to Cambridgeshire District Councils accepting the delegation, to:

- a) Repatriate the Energy Performance of Buildings (England and Wales) Regulations 2012 in so far as they relate to Energy Performance Certificates to the Council with immediate effect; and
- b) Delegate to Cambridge City Council and Cambridgeshire District Councils the 2012 Regulations in so far as they relate to Energy Performance Certificates and the Energy Efficiency (Private Rented Property) (England and Wales) Regulations 2015 in full, and to Peterborough City Council for those District Councils who do not wish to accept the delegation.

194. SHIRE HALL SITE: APPLICATION FOR A DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER TO REGISTER A PUBLIC FOOTPATH

It was moved by the Chairman of the Highways and Infrastructure Committee, Councillor Shuter and seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Hunt, that the recommendation, as set out in the report on the Council agenda, be approved.

It was resolved unanimously by a show of hands, subject to Suffolk County Council accepting the delegation, to:

Delegate to Suffolk County Council (SCC) the processing and determination of the application for a Definitive Map Modification Order to register a public footpath at the Shire Hall site.

195. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES

It was moved by the Chairman of Council, Councillor McGuire, and seconded by the Vice-Chairwoman, Councillor Every, and agreed unanimously by show of hands to:

Appoint to the outside bodies set out in the report on the agenda, subject to the appointment of Councillor McGuire to replace Councillor Nieto as a substitute on the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority – Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

196. MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE 10

Two motions had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10.

(a) Motion from Councillor Jocelyne Scutt

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Scutt and seconded by Councillor Richards:

Cambridgeshire County Council notes:

- 1) Maintained nursery schools are some of the highest performing educational institutions in our education system. They offer an inclusive ethos together with experience in early intervention and effective support for children with special education needs and with a disability.
- 2) Importantly, nursery schools can transform lives, particularly for some of the most disadvantaged children in our community. Research shows that good early education is a huge factor in promoting social mobility and improving life chances of the most disadvantaged in our society.
- 3) With more and more children living in poverty, the more and more stark is the vital importance of supporting sustainable nursery school provision in every community, staffed by qualified teachers working alongside qualified support staff.
- 4) Despite their vital role and achievements, however, the future of maintained nursery schools is in jeopardy because the Government has so far failed to guarantee a third of their funding beyond summer 2020.

Cambridgeshire County Council therefore resolves to take the following steps to support Cambridgeshire Nursery Schools so as to maintain them for all Cambridgeshire children:

1. Write to the Prime Minister requesting that he:
 - take immediate steps to sustain Nursery Schools in Cambridgeshire;
 - adopt and publicise a long-term funding system that secures the future of maintained nursery schools.

2. Support maintained nursery schools in County Council area by postponing any decisions to close or restructure provision until details of the funding situation beyond summer 2020 are known.
3. Make the case for the extension of maintained nursery school provision in Cambridgeshire, given the highly effective and transformative role they perform.

Following discussion, the motion on being put to the vote was lost.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrats, Labour and Independents in favour; Conservatives against]

(b) Motion from Councillor Steve Count

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Count and seconded by Councillor Hudson:

This Council acknowledges the role it can play in improving air quality throughout the County.

Having clean air to breathe is the basic building block in creating a healthy environment for everyone. There are “Hot spots” of poor air quality that impact health, particularly respiratory and cardiovascular disease in Cambridgeshire. Improvements in air quality in districts such as Fenland has not been replicated by other Councils elsewhere. These primarily include urban areas, particularly in Cambridge City and transport corridors such as the A14. In Cambridge city junctions such as Milton Road, or where there is a lot of standing traffic and buses e.g. Drummer Street.

A joint approach is needed to deliver improvements in air quality, but it is our firm belief that the policies we propose should be positive and not punitive, promoting behavioural change and technological advancement and not penalising those who are already at a disadvantage due to their economic circumstances or geography.

This Council believes that:

- The best way to improve Air Quality is to incentivise and prioritise positive measures and policies to effect change
- A substantial improvement to Air Quality can be targeted through the actions below
- These recommendations will be well received by the General and commuting Public

This Council further believes that:

- Draconian charging solutions, such as Air Quality Charging and Congestion charging are at best a distraction, from implementing permanent and acceptable solutions.

- These types of additional taxation are not a solution and are not a necessary step at this point in time.
- The introduction of charging solutions, alienate the public we were elected to serve, increase social inequality and fail to follow evidence of good practice elsewhere.

There follows a series of recommendations which are based on the Conservative policy document, on Air Quality,

<http://cllrstevecount.files.wordpress.com/2019/12/conservative-air-quality-policy-final-1.pdf>

Cambridgeshire County Council will improve air quality throughout by:

Increasing green canopy by:

- Working with partners to locate, seek funding and plant at suitable locations, new hedges and trees, as well as technologically advanced “City Trees”, prioritising areas around schools, as well as green walls in appropriate County locations.

Promoting the uptake of low emission vehicles by:

- Consulting on the use of bus lanes for electric vehicles and motorcycles and scooters.
- Accelerate public transport to be early adopters of electric vehicles, by drawing up plans and consulting with stakeholders to deny access to Bus Lanes, with an aspiration to implement from the end of 2021.
- Lobby Cambridge City and other district partners to make available premium green licenses for taxis, and lobby the Traffic Commissioner to refuse non-green bus licenses for those that access Cambridge City centre
- Lobby Cambridge City Council to provide free parking for electric vehicles, in their car parks.

Improving the alternative to the private motor car:

- Working with the Mayor and the Greater Cambridge Partnership to deliver the CAM metro.
- Continuing to expand the transport hub network, where you can leave your car and get on public transport.
- Continuing to improve the cycle way experience, throughout Cambridgeshire.
- Working with partners to sizeably increase the access to railways offer currently available.

Reducing air pollution at source by:

- Lobbying government for improved initiatives and for grants to help us pilot imaginative projects, such as Swaffham Prior heating and St. Ives solar park.
- Making improvements to our own fleet, and encouraging change in those we contract with
- Working with partners to develop plans for last mile delivery.

To incorporate these decisions into the environmental strategy consultation proposals if agreed by Council today.

The following amendment was proposed by Councillor Dupré and seconded by Councillor Jones (additions in bold and deletions in strikethrough):

This Council acknowledges ~~the role it can play in~~ **need for urgent action, working with partners on** improving air quality throughout the County.

Having clean air to breathe is the basic building block in creating a healthy environment for everyone. There are “Hot spots” of poor air quality that impact health, particularly respiratory and cardiovascular disease in Cambridgeshire. Improvements in air quality in districts such as Fenland ~~has not been replicated by other Councils elsewhere~~ **have taken place in recent years, but some areas continue to suffer and are predicted to see a worsening of air quality without intervention.** These primarily include urban areas, particularly in Cambridge City and transport corridors such as the A14. In Cambridge city junctions such as Milton Road, or where there is a lot of standing traffic and buses e.g. Drummer Street.

This Council supports the full evidence-based assessment with other partners and external expert input of ALL options including demand management for passenger and goods vehicles, particularly the progressive reduction of all diesel vehicles in Cambridge and significant urban locations in the county, the assessment of Pollution Charging and Congestion Charging, targeting peak congestion and options that will both fund and assist the delivery of a more reliable and frequent rural as well as urban bus network.

Working with our local partners we can achieve substantial improvements to air quality by bringing forward a package of measures that will offer more people a competitive alternative to travel by private car in the form of public transport, cycling and walking.

In practice interventions to address pollution arising from transport are best considered as part of a broader strategy, which also encompasses carbon emissions, congestion and improving public transport.

~~A joint approach is needed to deliver improvements in air quality, but it is our firm belief that the policies we propose should be positive and not punitive, promoting behavioural change and technological advancement and not penalising those who are already at a disadvantage due to their economic circumstances or geography.~~

This Council believes that:

- The best way to improve Air Quality ~~is to~~ **includes** incentivise **incentivising** and prioritise **prioritising** ~~positive~~ **all effective** measures and policies ~~to~~ **that will effect rapid** change
- A substantial improvement to Air Quality can be targeted through the actions below
- These recommendations will be well received by the General and commuting Public **if the evidence demonstrates a positive impact.**

This Council further believes that:

- **Evidence from the UK and elsewhere demonstrates that a mixture of incentives and disincentives is needed to support use of sustainable modes of travel and the uptake of electric vehicles.**
- ~~Draconian C~~charging solutions, such as Air Quality Charging and Congestion charging are at best a distraction, from implementing permanent and acceptable solutions. **should only be considered if they enable significant improvements to public transport, walking and cycling and if options to travel without a car are available before a charging solution is implemented.**
- ~~— These types of additional taxation are not a solution and are not a necessary step at this point in time.~~
- ~~— The introduction of charging solutions, alienate the public we were elected to serve, increase social inequality and fail to follow evidence of good practice elsewhere.~~

The County Council will continue working with the Greater Cambridge Partnership, and the Combined Authority, on this evidence-based assessment of the best comparable UK and global practice, including the full range of measures researched by the GCP, as it would be wrong to rule out options without detailed evaluation.

~~There follows a series of recommendations which are based on the Conservative policy document, on Air Quality,~~

<http://cllrstevecount.files.wordpress.com/2019/12/conservative-air-quality-policy-final-1.pdf> *(These two lines are deleted)*

Cambridgeshire County Council will improve air quality throughout **the county** by:

Increasing green canopy by:

- Working with partners to locate, seek **further** funding and plant at suitable locations, new hedges and trees, as well as technologically advanced “City Trees” **if evidence demonstrates they are a sound investment,**

prioritising areas around schools, as well as green walls in appropriate County locations.

- **Building on recent initiatives (e.g. major European funding for tree planting in Cambridge city) and wider delivery already under way by all district councils and Local Plans to substantially increase tree numbers, particularly in urban areas.**

Promoting the uptake of low emission vehicles by:

- ~~— Consulting on the use of bus lanes for electric vehicles and motorcycles and scooters.~~
- Accelerate**ing** public transport to be early adopters of electric vehicles, by drawing up plans and consulting with stakeholders to deny access to Bus Lanes **for diesel vehicles**, with an aspiration to implement from the end of 2021.
- **Working alongside Cambridge City and other district partners and local bodies to support their existing schemes, including transitioning to electric and ULEV vehicles for taxis, and the proposed plans for a central Cambridge clean air zone and car-free day trials.**
- ~~Lobby Cambridge City and other district partners to make available premium green licenses for~~ **Lobbying licensing authorities within the county to encourage a switch to electric** taxis, and ~~lobby~~ **lobbying** the Traffic Commissioner to refuse non-green bus licenses for those that access Cambridge City centre
- ~~— Lobby Cambridge City Council to provide free parking for electric vehicles, in their car parks.~~

Improving the alternative to the private motor car, **particularly for peak time journeys:**

- Working with the Mayor and the Greater Cambridge Partnership to deliver **improvements to sustainable travel options including the CAM metro by 2030.**
- ~~Continuing~~ **Increasing the funding and effectiveness of urban and rural bus networks both in the next decade and beyond, and working with the GCP** to expand the transport hub network, where you can leave your car and get on public transport.
- Continuing to **increase cycling** and improve the **inter-urban** cycle way experience, throughout Cambridgeshire.
- Working with partners to sizeably increase ~~the access to railways offer currently available.~~ **usage of rail for journeys in the county and outwards, particularly on the non-London routes.**

Reducing air pollution at source by:

- Lobbying government for improved initiatives and for grants to help ~~us~~ **all councils and the Combined Authority develop full scale and** pilot imaginative projects, **alongside the county's** ~~such as~~ Swaffham Prior heating and St. Ives solar park.
- Making improvements to our own fleet, and encouraging change in those we contract with **and in all council fleets.**
- Working with partners **and building on existing initiatives** to develop plans for **integrated** last mile delivery.

The Council will ~~To~~ incorporate these decisions into the environmental strategy consultation proposals if agreed by Council today.

Following discussion, the amendment on being put to the vote was lost.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrats, Labour and Independents in favour; Conservatives against]

The following motion without notice was moved by Councillor Harrison, and seconded by Councillor Dupré, under Council Procedure Rule 11(d) of the Council's Constitution:

To refer this motion to General Purposes Committee for further consideration and consultation with Greater Cambridge Partnership Board members, stakeholders and the public.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrats, Independents and six Labour in favour; Conservatives and one Labour against]

[Councillor Kavanagh asked to have it recorded in the minutes that he voted against the motion in error, when he intended to vote in favour]

Following discussion, the original motion on being put to the vote was carried.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour; Liberal Democrats, Labour and one Independent against; one Independent abstained]

197. QUESTIONS

(a) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and Overview and Scrutiny Committee (Council Procedure Rule 9.1)

No questions were submitted under Council Procedure Rule 9.1 of the Council's Constitution.

(b) Written Questions (Council Procedure Rule 9.2)

No questions were submitted under Council Procedure Rule 9.2.

Chairman
11th February 2020

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 19TH DECEMBER 2019
CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PEOPLE

Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones

The Council will be remembering Jack Merritt and Saskia Jones, the two University of Cambridge graduates, who died as a result of the terrorist attack in London on Friday 29th November 2019. The Chairman of the Council has written on behalf of the Council to Jack’s parents, as Jack was a Cambridgeshire resident, and to the University of Cambridge and Anglia Ruskin University. The Council’s thoughts are also with those who were injured and the members of the public and the emergency services who prevented further loss of life.

AWARDS

Local Authority Challenge

A Cambridgeshire County Council Team competed in the Local Authority Challenge held on 30 October. The Team was highly commended for its interactions with the press coming in the top three teams, won best team for partnership interactions, and finished in the top five Teams of all 24 entrants.

National Social Worker of the Year Awards

Two social workers from Cambridgeshire have been honoured for their contribution to the profession at the national Social Worker of the Year Awards.

Ella Waughman and Dan Grimes, who both work for Cambridgeshire County Council, were named the winners of the Newly Qualified Adult Social Worker of the Year and Newly Qualified Children’s Social Worker of the Year awards respectively at the prestigious event which took place on 29th November in London.

The awards are organised by The Social Work Awards charity, which aims to improve public awareness and understanding of social work by showing the positive impact of social workers in the wide range of roles they undertake.

International Content Market Awards

The social care recruitment campaign has continued its winning streak by being awarded Gold at the 2019 International Content Marketing Awards.

See the difference, a social care recruitment campaign for Cambridgeshire County Council, resulted in 52 new appointments – 130% ahead of its original four-month target. Judges were wowed by the work, which involved the council working in partnership with marketing agency CPL, and voted it the Best Consumer campaign in a category that included shortlisted entries from companies including Tesco, ASDA and Waitrose. Almost 150 agencies and companies from 23 countries entered the awards, which were held in London on Tuesday 26 November and organised by the Content Marketing Association.

The campaign’s focus was to recruit reablement care workers, a high priority area of recruitment for the council. Reablement workers play a very valuable role in helping people to regain their

independence by supporting in the community and helping them to leave hospital in timely way and become independent again. They help people be where they want to be – in their own homes – and avoid people having to go into a care setting or receive personal care at home. Most importantly they focus on increasing confidence and independence.

As well as winning at the International Content Marketing Awards, See the Difference has also won awards at the Chartered Institute for Public Relations Gold Awards in 2019 and the Unawards 2018.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENT

King's Dyke tender

The latest milestone for the Whittlesey King's Dyke level crossing scheme has been reached and a formal Invitation to Tender issued to six potential contractors. These companies, who scored highest in the initial quality assessments, now have four months to submit their final bids and price for building the scheme. Once the bids are received and evaluated, a final decision will be made at Committee, with a view to the appointed contractor starting construction by the end of 2020.

Work starts on Alconbury Weald Hub

Cambridgeshire County Council's new £18.3m Alconbury Weald Civic HQ building is set to open in Spring 2021. An event to mark the first spade in the ground on site took place immediately after the Commercial and Investment Committee meeting held on site at the Alconbury Weald Enterprise Campus on December 16. This marks the start of work that supports plans to reinvest in excess of £45m back into valued services.

Huntingdon section of A14 now open

On Monday 9th December, a new 12-mile bypass to the south of Huntingdon opened to traffic. The new bypass runs between Ellington and Swavesey and is part of the £1.5 billion project to upgrade 21 miles of the A14 between Cambridge and Huntingdon. The existing A14 between Godmanchester (junction 24) and Spittals (junction 23) has been closed in both directions to enable work to begin on the removal of the Huntingdon viaduct and build new link roads in the town centre. Once this work is completed in 2022, the road between Spittals and Godmanchester will re-open with links into and out of Huntingdon.

MESSAGES

Royal Visits

The Chairman was delighted to welcome Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal on Wednesday 16 October, when Her Royal Highness visited Hotel Chocolat in Huntingdon where she enjoyed a tour of the facility and a taste of one of the UK's premier chocolate brands.

Whilst in Cambridgeshire, The Princess Royal also visited the Museum of Armed Policing based at the old Chatteris Police Station which is celebrating its 10th Anniversary. Princess Anne ended her visit to Cambridgeshire with a visit to Corkers Crisps at Willow Farm in Little Downham near Ely where Her Royal Highness also presented Long Service certificates to members of staff.

On the 29 October the Chairman joined the welcoming party when His Royal Highness the Duke of York visited the new Civil Engineering Building and National Research Facility for Infrastructure Sensing.