

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 17th May 2011

Time: 10.30 – 15.29

Place: Shire Hall, Cambridge

Present: Councillors: S Austen, J Batchelor, I Bates, N Bell, K Bourke, B Brooks-Gordon, D Brown, F Brown, P Brown, R Butcher, C Carter, K Churchill, J Clark, N Clarke, S Criswell, S Count, M Curtis, P Downes, J Dutton, R Farrer, N Guyatt, S Gymer, G Harper, N Harrison, D Harty, G Heathcock, S Hoy, W Hunt, C Hutton, D J Jenkins, S Johnstone, E Kadić, G Kenney, S Kindersley, S King, V Lucas, I Manning, L McGuire, V McGuire, A Melton, L Nethsingha, L J Oliver, A Orgee, J Palmer, D Pegram, A Pellew, J Powley, P Read, P Reeve, J Reynolds, K Reynolds, T Sadiq, P Sales, S Sedgwick-Jell, C Shepherd, M Shuter, M Smith, T Stone, S Tierney, J Tuck, S van de Ven, R West, F Whelan, S Whitebread, K Wilkins, M Williamson, G Wilson, L Wilson and F Yeulett

159. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor Lucas, seconded by Councillor Melton and resolved:

That Councillor Powley be elected Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

(At this point in the proceedings an amendment was moved by Councillor Downes that Councillor K Reynolds be elected Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next Annual Council meeting. As Councillor Reynolds declined the proposal no further action was taken).

On being put to the vote, Councillor Powley was appointed as Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

[Voting pattern: Conservative, Labour, UKIP and one Independent in favour; Liberal Democrat and one Independent abstained.]

Councillor Powley signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office, took the Chair and thanked the Council for his election.

The Chairman and Councillors Tuck, Whelan and Sadiq thanked the retiring Chairman, Councillor Oliver, for all the work she had undertaken during her term of office. Councillor Oliver responded and paid tribute to all those who had supported her.

160. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL

It was moved by Councillor L W McGuire and seconded by Councillor Churchill:

That Councillor K Reynolds be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County

Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

It was moved by Councillor Whelan and seconded by Councillor Bourke:

That Councillor Nethsingha be appointed Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

On being put to the vote, Councillor K Reynolds was appointed as Vice-Chairman of the County Council for the period to the next annual meeting of Council.

[Voting pattern: Conservative, Labour and UKIP and one Independent in favour of Councillor Powley; Liberal Democrat and one Independent in favour of Councillor Nethsingha.]

Councillor K Reynolds signed the statutory declaration of acceptance of office and thanked the County Council for his appointment.

161. MINUTES 29th MARCH 2011

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 29th March 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

162. REPORT OF THE COUNTY RETURNING OFFICER

Members noted that Councillor P Sales of the Labour Party had been elected in the by-election for the Arbury electoral division held on 5th May 2011.

163. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

164. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following members declared personal interests under Paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct:

Councillor	Minute	Details
J Reynolds	General	Director and Chairman of Renewables East.
F Whelan	176.	Parent of two children at Comberton Village College.
G Wilson	167.	Employee of the Environment Agency.

165. ELECTION OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

It was proposed by Councillor Bates, seconded by Councillor F Brown and resolved:

To appoint Councillor Clarke as Leader of the Council for the period to the annual meeting of Council in 2013.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives, UKIP and one Independent in favour; Liberal Democrat, Labour and Green and one Independent abstained.]

Councillor Clarke thanked members for his appointment, congratulated the

Chairman on his appointment and also thanked Councillor Tuck for her service as the Leader of the Council. He then set out his objectives for the Council.

Councillors Whelan and Sadiq also thanked Councillor Tuck for her service as the Leader of the Council since her appointment in 2008.

166. CABINET MEMBERSHIP AND PORTFOLIOS

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Clarke, moved receipt of a paper listing the names of the members of the Cabinet and their portfolio assignments, as set out in **Appendix B**.

The Leader of the Council agreed to provide an explanation of the meaning of the portfolios after the meeting.

167. COUNTY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

The Chairman advised members that he was exercising his discretion under Section 100B(4) of the Local Government Act to allow discussion of a supplementary report, in order to introduce the new constitutional changes at the start of the municipal year. It had not been possible to publish the supplementary report earlier due to the timescale for the appointment of the new Conservative Group Leader and clarification of the new Cabinet Portfolios. In reaching his decision, he had taken account of the fact that the intention to consider the report had been well publicised in advance of the formal deadline.

It was proposed by Councillor Whelan and seconded by Councillor Sadiq to move to the next item on the agenda.

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

Under Paragraph 4, Rules of Procedure Paragraph 15.5 of the Constitution, 14 members requested a recorded vote on this matter, which is set out in **Appendix C**.

It was proposed by Councillor Clarke and seconded by Councillor L W McGuire to:

- a) Approve the revisions to the Council Constitution as set out in the appendices to the report and the supplementary report.
- b) Note the proposed changes designed to enable an immediate move to Overview and Scrutiny Committees, pending more detailed work to develop overview and scrutiny procedure rules.
- c) Authorise the Scrutiny Management Group, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and Monitoring Officer, to work up detailed operating principles to govern overview and scrutiny arrangements. Any additional constitutional changes to be submitted to a future Council meeting.

The following amendment was proposed by Councillor Johnstone and seconded by Councillor Bates that:

In Appendix 1 to the report circulated with the Council Agenda, remove 'East of England Plan – Regional Spatial Strategy' from the list of plans and strategies to be deleted from the Council's Policy Framework [Section 4.1, Part 2, Article 4 – the Full Council].

The amendment, on being put to the vote, was carried.

[Voting pattern: Conservative, Liberal Democrat, Labour, two Independents, Green in favour: UKIP against]

The following further amendment was proposed by Councillor McGuire and seconded by Councillor Criswell that:

In paragraph 6.03 of Article 6 Overview and Scrutiny Committees the words "*and the two conservative lead members*" be deleted

The amendment, on being put to the vote, was carried unanimously.

Following discussion, the substantive motion as amended on being put to the vote was carried.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrat, Labour, Green, UKIP and one Independent against, Conservative and one Independent in favour, the Chairman and Vice Chairman abstained].

Councillor Whelan wished to place on record the exemplary work undertaken by the Monitoring Officer and Head of Democratic and Members' Services in making the substantial changes to the County Council Constitution at very short notice.

168. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

It was moved by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Powley, seconded by the Vice-Chairman of Council, Councillor K Reynolds and agreed unanimously:

That the recommendations for appointments to Committees set out in the tabled report on blue paper under item 10 be approved, subject to the addition of Councillor Dutton to the conservative vacancy on the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The full details of appointments to Committees are set out in **Appendix D**.

169 APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Clarke, seconded by the Deputy Leader, Councillor L W McGuire, and agreed unanimously:

That the recommendations for appointments to outside organisations set out in the tabled report on yellow paper under item 11 be approved.

The full details of appointments to outside organisations are set out in **Appendix E**.

170. APPROVAL OF CALENDAR OF COUNTY COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was proposed by the Chairman of the Council, Councillor Powley, seconded by the Vice-Chairman of Council, Councillor K Reynolds and resolved unanimously:

That the following calendar of meetings for the County Council be approved:

- 19th July 2011
- 18th October 2011
- 6th December 2011
- 21st February 2012
- 24th February 2012 (provisional)
- 27th March 2012
- 15th May 2012

171. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions were received.

172. PETITIONS

The Council noted that one petition had been received from members of the public, as set out in **Appendix F**. The Chairman thanked the petitioners and advised that the Leader of the Council would respond in writing.

173. ITEM FOR DETERMINATION FROM CABINET

Cambridge City Fringes Joint Committee Order 2009

It was proposed by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Clarke, and seconded by the Cabinet Member for Growth and Planning, Councillor Bates, that the recommendations as set out in minute 357 of the minutes of the Cabinet meeting on 5th April 2011 be approved.

Following discussion, the motion, as detailed below, on being put to the vote, was carried unanimously.

It was resolved:

To endorse the cancellation of the Cambridge City Fringes Joint Committee and ask the Secretary of State to request revocation of the Cambridge City Fringes Joint Committee Order 2009.

The Cabinet Member for Growth and Planning, Councillor Bates agreed to meet with Councillor Harrison to discuss what alternative decision making arrangements would be put in place.

174. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Chairman of the Standards Committee, David Boreham, moved receipt of

the annual report of the Standards Committee.

175. WRITTEN QUESTIONS

No written questions were submitted.

176. ORAL QUESTIONS

Fourteen oral questions were asked under Council Procedure Rule 9.1, as set out in **Appendix G**. In response to these questions, the following items were identified for further action:

- Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor Hutton, agreed to write to Councillor Sales on whether repeated zero uplifts to the block contract over many years had contributed to the closure of Kingswood Park Residential Home and caused financial hardships to the recipients of the grant elsewhere.
- Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Criswell, agreed to write to Councillor Nethsingha, regarding the likely date for the work to rectify the cycle path surface dressing on Grange Road, Cambridge.
- Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Criswell, agreed to write to Councillor Whelan regarding the rationale for the rejection of the speed reduction recommendations for the A603 proposed by the South Cambridgeshire Traffic Management Area Joint Committee.
- The Leader of the Council, Councillor Clarke, agreed to write to Councillor Pellew regarding details of any software licensing fines which had been paid by the Council.
- The Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor Harty, agreed to provide Councillor Graham Wilson with an update on the arrangements for three children who wished to be educated in Godmanchester. He also agreed to provide him with an update on his request for a review of future arrangements.
- The Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Criswell, agreed to update Councillor Bourke on the Council's approach to road maintenance in particular whether patching was a cost effective option.
- The Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor Harty, agreed to meet with Councillor King to discuss the relocation of the musical theatre and business and computing courses from the Isle College in Wisbech to the College of West Anglia in King's Lynn.
- The Cabinet Member for Health and Well-being, Councillor Curtis agreed to provide Councillor Downes with a copy of the letter he had sent to the Right Honourable Michael Gove, Member of Parliament regarding the Government consultation on School Funding Reform.
- The Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor Harty, proposed a meeting with Councillor Downes and the Executive Director: Children and Young People's Services to consider the Council's response to School Funding Reform and to discuss whether a further response was required.
- The Leader of the Council, Councillor Clarke, agreed to write to Councillor Stone regarding the consultation to be undertaken with local communities on spending the additional New Homes Bonus.

177. MINUTES OF CABINET MEETINGS – ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Minutes of the Cabinet meeting of 5th April

The Council noted the minutes of the Cabinet meeting of 5th April, which included items on:

- Network Service Plan 2011
- Highways Policies and Charges
- Early Years Funding Formula Review
- Integrated Resources and Performance Report – February 2011
- Green Infrastructure Strategy Consultation
- Social Work – Working with Families
- Sustainable Transport Fund
- Great Haddon Employment Land Planning Application – County Council Response Start
- Invest to Transform (ITT) Bid for Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Equipment for Library Service Transformation
- Cambridgeshire Guided Busway
- Local Government Shared Services Update
- Cambridgeshire Public Sector Network (CPSN) Framework Contract Award.

Members commented and asked questions of the relevant Cabinet members about some of these items. No matters were raised that required further action.

Chairman

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 17TH MAY 2011
CHAIRMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS****PEOPLE**

Arbury By-Election

The result from the By-Election held on 5th May 2011 for the Arbury Electoral Division was:

Name	Description	Votes Cast
Martin Bonner	Green Party Candidate	411
Amy Sarah Ellis	Liberal Democrat Candidate	1078
Shapour Meftah	Conservative Party Candidate	496
Paul Sales	Labour Party Candidate	1214

The turnout was 47%, total number of votes was 3199, included within the total were 35 rejected ballot papers.

Paul Sales was declared as the duly elected candidate for the Arbury Division and has signed his declaration of acceptance.

Councillor Simon Sedgwick-Jell

Councillor Sedgwick-Jell had a bicycle accident recently resulting in a fractured shoulder.

Kathy Faelber

It is with regret that the Chairman reports the death of Kathy Faelber, a member of the Cambridgeshire Music management team, who was tragically killed in a road accident on Saturday 2nd April. Kathy was responsible for the flagship area academy, the Fenland Music Centre. She was a well known and well loved figure in the local music world who was passionate about her work. As well as the desperate tragedy for her family, Kathy's death is a very great loss to the Music Service and a distressing experience for her colleagues, students and friends.

John Onslow, Acting Executive Director: Environment Services

The Council thanks John Onslow for his contribution and service during his secondment as Acting Executive Director: Environment Services, which finishes in July.

Richard Barnwell, New High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire

The former Mayor of Wisbech, Richard Barnwell, has been installed as the new High Sheriff of Cambridgeshire after a ceremony on 8 April 2011. Outgoing High Sheriff, Nigel Brown, installed Mr Barnwell in the role during the ceremony at St Peter's Church, in Wisbech. Mr Barnwell is a former town, district and county councillor.

AWARDS

The Kick Ash Project

The Kick Ash project has been shortlisted in two categories at the forthcoming MJ Awards. Kick Ash is a partnership approach to tackling the issues of underage smoking and the partners are Trading Standards, Communications, Personal Social & Health Education [PSHE], Schools and the health service. Kick Ash has helped delivered a 5% reduction in smoking rates and this not only has benefits for the individuals concern but obvious savings associated with the costs of providing health care for long term smokers. Kick Ash is shortlisted in both the Children's Services and Public Protection Categories.

Long Service Awards

Colleagues from across the Council, who have worked for the authority for 25 years or more, have been presented with Long Service Awards. A total of 22 colleagues - including teachers, cleaners, librarians and cooks - were presented with their awards by Council Chairman Linda Oliver, accompanied by Adrian Loades, Executive Director: Children and Young People's Services and Claire Bruin, Service Director, Strategy & Commissioning (Adult Social Care). Between them, the 22 have clocked up a total of nearly 600 years - that's an average of over 27 years each.

Legal Eagles

Legal Services has passed its Law Society quality assessment with flying colours. The service has been highly commended for continuing to achieve a very high level of compliance against the Law Society's practice management standard – Lexcel. Everyone in Legal is congratulated on achieving this well deserved recognition of their hard work and dedication in maintaining high standards of service and professionalism.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS

Adult Social Care Services

A survey by the Care Quality Commission has rated the County Council as one of the top performing local authorities in the country for the way it handles first time contact from the public regarding Adult Social Care Services.

Of the 152 authorities surveyed, Cambridgeshire was awarded a range of excellent and good scores with an overall rating which makes it one of the 25 best performing local authority adult social care organisations for the way it responds to 'first-time' callers.

The Care Quality Commission rating is a tribute to all the Council's social care staff, particularly those within Cambridgeshire Direct, who take the initial telephone calls, often from people who are in distress and needing urgent help, support, services or advice.

Adult Learning & Skills

The Ofsted inspection of the Council's Adult Learning & Skills activities found the services provided to be either good or outstanding. The service dealt with almost 13,000 part time or full time learners between 2009 and 2010. A range of courses are provided at centres across Cambridgeshire, including academic and vocational qualifications and training for employees, as well as sports, crafts, creative arts and design.

The report praised the courses, tutors and venues as well as saying: "The county council has fully acknowledged the generous benefits of adult community learning for residents of Cambridgeshire and set a very clear strategic vision for the service. Library learning centres, adult guidance service and apprenticeship schemes are under a single leadership. To ensure its future the county council has advanced plans to establish a trust." Ofsted particularly highlighted the way in which the service had met and targeted the needs of disadvantaged learners.

Abbey College, Ramsey

Congratulations to Abbey College, Ramsey whose successes in pupil results at Key Stage 4 have been recognised by the Department for Education as being amongst the top 100 most improved schools in the Gaining Ground strategy, a Government initiative to support school improvement.

Streetlighting PFI

The street lighting PFI contract with Balfour Beatty has been signed. This is an exciting opportunity for Cambridgeshire to be able to deliver improvements in street lighting by replacing many of the old orange lights with new white lights, which also will reduce the Council's energy use and CO₂ emissions by 50% in the first 5 years.

Cambridgeshire Guided Busway

The Cambridgeshire Guided Busway was handed over to the County Council by the contractor BAM Nuttall Ltd on 21st April 2011. The County Council's framework contractors are now installing an additional junction for the Clay Farm development at Trumpington and upgrading the surface of the maintenance track between Cambridge and Trumpington and between Cambridge and Swavesey. Defect correction work will start shortly. When all of this work is sufficiently advanced bus trial running will start after which the busway will open.

Cycle Cambridge Project

The Cycling England funded Cycle Cambridge project has come to an end after two and a half years of encouraging people to cycle more safely, more often in and around the city.

The programme has been very successful in its aims, seeing a 12% increase in the number of trips made by bike in Cambridge. This now means that 21% of all journeys made in the city are made in this way.

The network of cycling infrastructure has been improved by adding eight new routes and improving a further eight routes. Schemes such as the new lanes on Hills Road Bridge and Gilbert Road, along with routes between Horningsea and Fen Ditton and between Whittlesford, Sawston, and Babraham have given residents, particularly from the necklace villages, a real alternative to using their cars.

Other significant achievements include over 2,500 adults and children receiving Bikeability training during the project, and over 1,500 new cycle parking spaces installed in various locations such as the city centre, schools, and Cambridge Rail Station.

It is hoped this highly successful project will continue with funding from other sources, such as the Local Sustainable Transport Fund.

CABINET MEMBERSHIP AND PORTFOLIOS

POSITION	COUNCILLOR
Leader of the Council	Councillor N Clarke
Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Community Engagement	Councillor L W McGuire
Cabinet Member for Growth and Planning	Councillor I Bates
Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure	Councillor S Criswell
Cabinet Member for Enterprise	Councillor M Shuter
Cabinet Member for Adult Services	Councillor C Hutton
Cabinet Member for Learning	Councillor D Harty
Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services	Councillor D Brown
Cabinet Member for Health and Well-being	Councillor M Curtis
Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance	Councillor L Oliver

COUNTY COUNCIL – 17 MAY 2011

COUNTY COUNCIL CONSTITUTION – MINUTE 167 RECORDED VOTE

COUNCILLOR	Party	For	Against	Abstain	Absent /No Vote	COUNCILLOR	Party	For	Against	Abstain	Absent /No Vote
AUSTEN S	LibD	x				MANNING I	LibD	x			
BATCHELOR J D	LibD	x				MCGUIRE L W	Con		x		
BATES I C	Con		x			McGUIRE V	Con		x		
BELL N	LibD	x				MELTON A	Con		x		
BOURKE K	LibD	x				NETHSINGHA L	LibD	x			
BROOKS-GORDON B	LibD	x				OLIVER L J	Con		x		
BROWN D	Con		x			ORGE E A G	Con		x		
BROWN F	Con		x			PALMER J	Con		x		
BROWN P	Con		x			PEGRAM D R	Con		x		
BUTCHER R	Con		x			PELLEW A	LibD	x			
CARTER C M	Lab	x				POWLEY J A	Con			x	
CHURCHILL K	Con		x			READ P	Con		x		
CLARK J	Con		x			REEVE P	UKIP	x			
CLARKE N	Con		x			REYNOLDS J E	Con		x		
CRISWELL S J	Con		x			REYNOLDS K A	Con			x	
CURTIS M	Con		x			SADIQ T	Lab	x			
DOWNES P J	LibD	x				SALES P	Lab	x			
DUTTON J J	Con		x			SEDGWICK-JELLS	Grn	x			
FARRER R	Con		x			SHEPHERD C	LibD	x			
GUYATT N	Con		x			SHUTER M G	Con		x		
GYMER S	LibD	x				SMITH M	Con		x		
HARPER G F	Con		x			STONE T J	LibD	x			
HARRISON N	Ind	x				TIERNEY S	Con		x		
HARTY D	Con		x			TUCK J M	Con		x		
HEATHCOCK G J	LibD	x				VAN DE VEN S	LibD	x			
HOY S	Con		x			WEST R	Con		x		
HUNT W T I	Con		x			WHELAN F	LibD	x			
HUTTON C	Con		x			WHITEBREAD S	LibD	x			
JENKINS D	LibD	x				WILKINS K	LibD	x			
JOHNSTONE S F	Con		x			WILLIAMSON M	LibD	x			
KADIĆ L	Con		x			WILSON G	LibD	x			
KENNEY G	Con				x	WILSON L J	Ind		x		
KINDERSLEY S G M	LibD	x				YEULETT F H	Con		x		
KING S J E	Con		x								
LUCAS V H	Con		x			TOTAL		26	39	2	1

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2011/12**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES****RESOURCES AND PERFORMANCE (11)**

Cllr J Batchelor	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr F Brown [Chairman]	C	Cllr J Clark	C
Cllr Sir P Brown	C	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr R Farrer	C	Cllr T Orgee	C
Cllr N Guyatt	C	Cllr A Pellew	LD
Cllr G Harper	C	Cllr M Smith	C
Cllr S King [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr P Read	C
Cllr D Jenkins	LD	Cllr C Shepherd	LD
Cllr J Powley	C		
Cllr T Sadiq	L		
Cllr M Williamson	LD		

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (11)

Cllr S Count	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr P Downes	LD	Cllr K Churchill	C
Cllr J Dutton	C	Cllr J Clark	C
Cllr S Gymer	LD	Cllr G Harper	C
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr S Johnstone [Chairman]	C	Cllr C Shepherd	LD
Cllr I Manning	LD	Cllr S Tierney	C
Cllr V McGuire [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr F Whelan	LD
Cllr T Orgee	C		
Cllr S Sedgwick-Jell	G		
Cllr R West	C		

ADULTS WELLBEING AND HEALTH (11)

Cllr S Austen	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr N Guyatt	C	Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD
Cllr G Kenney [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr P Downes	LD
Cllr S King	C	Cllr S Hoy	C
Cllr V McGuire	C	Cllr A Melton	C
Cllr K Reynolds [Chairman]	C	Cllr J Palmer	C
Cllr P Sales	L	Cllr P Read	C
Cllr C Shepherd	LD	Cllr S van de Ven	LD
Cllr M Smith	C	Cllr F Whelan	LD
Cllr K Wilkins	LD		
Cllr F Yeulett	C		

ENTERPRISE, GROWTH AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE (11)

Cllr N Bell	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr R Butcher [Chairman]	C	Cllr K Bourke	LD
Cllr J Clark	C	Cllr J Dutton	C
Cllr R Farrer [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr N Guyatt	C
Cllr B Hunt	C	Cllr D Jenkins	LD
Cllr L Kadic	C	Cllr S Kindersley	LD
Cllr G Kenney	C	Cllr V McGuire	C
Cllr L Nethsingha	LD	Cllr M Smith	C
Cllr P Read	C	Cllr T Stone	LD
Cllr S Whitebread	LD		
Cllr G Wilson	LD		

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES (11)

Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr J Batchelor	LD
Cllr D Jenkins	LD	Cllr Sir P Brown	C
Cllr L Kadic	C	Cllr K Churchill	C
Cllr S King	C	Cllr J Dutton	C
Cllr J E Reynolds	C	Cllr G Harper	C
Cllr T Sadiq	L	Cllr S Kindersley	LD
Cllr M Smith	C	Cllr F Whelan	LD
Cllr S Tierney [Chairman]	C	Cllr K Wilkins	LD
Cllr S van de Ven	LD		
Cllr R West [Vice-Chairman]	C		

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (7)

Cllr R Butcher	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr B Farrer [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr J Clark	C
Cllr S Kindersley	LD	Cllr N Guyatt	C
Cllr A Pellew	LD	Cllr B Hunt	C
Cllr P Read [Chairman]	C	Cllr D Jenkins	LD
Cllr M Smith	C	Cllr L Kadic	C
Cllr T Stone	LD	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (5)

Vice Chairman of the Council		Substitutes:	
Cllr C Carter	L	Cllr G Harper	C
Cllr K Churchill	C	Cllr van de Ven	LD
Cllr P Downes	LD		
Cllr J Powley	C		

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE (7)

Non-Cabinet nominee	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr L Oliver (Chairman)	C	N/A	
Cabinet Nominee (usually relevant Portfolio Holder)	C		
Cabinet Nominee or non-Cabinet nominee	C		
Liberal Democrat Group Leader or Nominee	LD		
Relevant Liberal Democrat Spokesman	LD		
Lib Dem Nominee	LD		

AUDIT AND ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE (7)

Cllr N Guyatt [Vice-Chairman]	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Johnstone	C	Cllr D Jenkins	LD
Cllr L Oliver	C	Cllr V Lucas	C
Cllr J Reynolds	C	Cllr A Melton	C
Cllr T Sadiq	L	Cllr A G Orgee	C
Cllr C Shepherd	LD	Cllr A Pellew	LD
Cllr T Stone [Chairman]	LD	Cllr M Williamson	LD
		Cllr G Wilson	LD

SERVICE APPEALS COMMITTEE (pool of members)

Cllr S Austen	LD	Cllr J Reynolds	C
Cllr K Bourke	LD	Cllr K Reynolds	C
Cllr F Brown	C	Cllr S Tierney	C
Cllr P Downes	LD	Cllr J Tuck	C
Cllr B Hunt	C	Cllr R West	C
Cllr G Kenney	C	Cllr F Whelan	LD
Cllr S King	C	Cllr M Williamson	LD
Cllr V McGuire	C		

STAFF APPEALS COMMITTEE (pool of members)

Cllr J Batchelor	LD	Cllr V McGuire	C
Cllr N Bell	LD	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr K Churchill	C	Cllr A Pellew	LD
Cllr R Farrer	C	Cllr J Reynolds	C
Cllr G Harper	C	Cllr C Shepherd	LD
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr M Smith	C
Cllr B Hunt	C	Cllr S Tierney	C
Cllr S Johnstone	C	Cllr J Tuck	C
Cllr G Kenney	C	Cllr R West	C
Cllr S King	C	Cllr F Whelan	LD

PENSIONS COMMITTEE (3)

Cllr P Downes	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr N Guyatt	C	N/A	
Cllr L Oliver	C		

JOINT COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS TO THE POLICE AUTHORITY (3)

Cllr M McGuire	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr A Melton	C	N/A	
Cllr F Whelan	LD		

JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE FOR CAMBRIDGE FRINGES (4)

Cllr G Kenney	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr T Orgee	C	Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD
Cllr C Shepherd	LD		
Cllr M Smith	C		

JOINT DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE FOR NORTHSTOWE (4)

Cllr D Jenkins	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Johnstone	C	Cllr S Gymer	LD
Cllr P Read	C		
Cllr K Reynolds	C		

JOINT PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR CAMBRIDGE CITY FRINGES (3)

<i>The Council is being asked to consider a recommendation from Cabinet to cancel this Committee. None of the authorities are therefore appointing.</i>			

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHARED SERVICES (3)

Cllr N Clarke	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr L Oliver	C	Cllr R Butcher	C
Cllr F Whelan	LD	Cllr M Curtis	C
		Cllr D Jenkins	LD

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AREA JOINT COMMITTEES

CAMBRIDGE (6)

Cllr K Bourke	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr C Carter	L	Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD
Cllr L Oliver	C	Cllr D Brown	C
Cllr C Shepherd	LD	Cllr I Manning	LD
Cllr S Whitebread	LD	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr K Wilkins	LD	Cllr A Pellew	LD

EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE (5)

Cllr N Bell	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr B Hunt	C	Cllr S Austen	LD
Cllr J Powley	C	Cllr D Brown	C
Cllr P Read	C	Cllr F Brown	C
Cllr M Shuter	C	Cllr J Palmer	C
		Vacancy	C

FENLAND (5)

Cllr R Butcher	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr M Curtis	C	Cllr J Clark	C
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr A Melton	C
Cllr S King	C	Cllr F Yeulett	C
Cllr S Tierney	C		

HUNTINGDONSHIRE (6)

Cllr Sir P Brown	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr P Downes	LD	Cllr S Criswell	C
Cllr C Hutton	C	Cllr V Lucas	C
Cllr L Kadic	C	Cllr R Pegram	C
Cllr V McGuire	C	Cllr K Reynolds	C
Cllr R West	C	Cllr G Wilson	LD

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE (5)

Cllr D Jenkins	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Kindersley	LD	Cllr S Gymer	LD
Cllr L Oliver	C	Cllr G Kenney	C
Cllr M Smith	C	Cllr S Criswell	C
Cllr T Stone	LD	Cllr S van de Ven	LD
		Cllr M Williamson	LD

**CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES: COUNTY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS**

<u>NAME OF BODY</u>	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	REPRESENTATIVE(S)
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Association of Local Councils District Committees: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • East Cambs • Fenland • Hunts • South Cambs 	4	1 to each	Cllr M Shuter (C) Cllr S Count (C) Cllr L Kadic (C) Cllr M Williamson (LD)
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority	3	13	1. Cllr F Brown (C) 2. Cllr P Brown (C) 3. Cllr C Carter (L) 4. Cllr A G Orgee (C) 5. Cllr R Pegram (C) 6. Cllr K Reynolds (C) 7. Cllr M Smith (C) 8. Cllr J Tuck (C) 9. Cllr F Yeulett (C) 10. Cllr N Bell (LD) 11. Cllr S Gymer (LD) 12. Cllr G Heathcock (LD) 13. Cllr L Nethsingha (LD)
<u>Cambridgeshire Police Authority</u> Note: appointments to the Police Authority are made by the Joint Committee on appointments to the Police Authority.	6	7	1. Cllr J Clark (C) 2. Cllr K Churchill (C) 3. Cllr V Lucas (C) 4. Cllr S Johnstone (C) 5. Cllr J Reynolds (C) 6. Cllr J Batchelor (LD) 7. Cllr K Wilkins (LD) 8. Cllr P Sales (L)
County Councils' Network Council	3-4	4	1. Cllr N Clarke (C) 2. Cllr M McGuire (C) 3. Cllr S Johnstone (C) 4. Cllr D Jenkins (LD)
East of England Local Government Association		1	Cllr N Clarke (C)
ESPO Management Committee Purchasing and contracting service for 10 member Authorities Bonus Sub-Committee	4	3	1. Cllr L Oliver (C) 2. Cllr J Reynolds (C) 3. Cllr D Jenkins (LD)
	As required	1	Cllr J Reynolds (C)

NAME OF BODY	MEETINGS PER ANNUM	REPS APPOINTED	REPRESENTATIVE(S)
Local Government Association National representative body of all Local Authorities	3-4	4	1. Cllr N Clarke (C) 2. Cllr M McGuire (C) 3. Cllr S Johnstone (C) 4. Cllr D Jenkins (LD)
<u>LGA Commissions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural • Urban 	4	2	1. Cllr M McGuire (C) 2. Cllr D Brown (C)
Reserve Forces and Cadets Assoc. for East Anglia To raise, recruit and administer the TAVR and Cadet Forces	2	1	Cllr V Lucas (C)

ITEM 14 – PETITIONS

Received before the deadline for speaking and contains over 50 signatures so the Petition Organiser, or their nominee will be able to speak at the meeting.

Text of a petition containing 1,276 signatures presented by Mr Arthur Green and Ms Josephine Marsters.

“As you may be aware there is a proposal to close Kingswood Park care home later this year. After four weeks of consultation a decision will be made on the 3rd May 2011. The residents and their relatives are devastated at the thought of their home closing and the upheaval relocation away from familiar friends and staff will cause.

Kingswood Park is one of the few homes in the local area that cares for residents with dementia as well as elderly people who need day to day help. It also hosts a popular day centre several times a week which is a lifeline, particularly to elderly people living alone. As people are living longer these facilities become increasingly more important to everyone in the community.

Please help by signing our petition or writing to your local councillor or our MP, Stephen Barclay.

Kingswood Park Care Home

I would like to support the residents and their families in their efforts to prevent their much loved home from closure.”

ORAL QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES 9.1

1. Question to the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor C Hutton from Councillor P Sales

My question is quite simply this, it relates to Kingswood House. Could you confirm for me please that the withdrawal of the County Council block contract from Kingswood Park Residential Home is a major factor in the home's closure?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor C Hutton

Thank you very much and welcome Councillor Sales. Whilst you will appreciate that I have been in the post but a short while, it is my understanding that the decision to remove the block contract from NHA in October this year influenced the decision to close the home in conjunction with Sanctuary.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor C Hutton from Councillor P Sales

I note your reply and thank you for that. Do you consider that the repeated zero rating uplifts to the block contract over many years has contributed to the closure of Kingswood Park and cause financial hardship to the recipients of the grant elsewhere?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor C Hutton

I don't have full understanding of the way their finances operate. I will get back to you with a fuller answer once I've had the chance to discuss it.

2. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell from Councillor S Gymer

My question is about civil parking in South Cambridgeshire and it's a request from our Parish Council that met last night. That where as maybe elsewhere revenue gathering may be the reason for parking enforcement, what we really want in our villages is people parking in appropriate places and can we please make that distinction when we go through the process, that people want people to park properly, not necessarily that tickets are being issued. At present we feel the Police are very good in dealing and targeting these things through our local neighbourhood panels and we wouldn't wish to forget that.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell

Yes that is the intention Councillor Gymer and I'll certainly reinforce that, but it's not intended to raise revenue it's intended to actually help parking situations.

3. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell from Councillor L Nethsingha

Last summer following a catalogue of errors by this Council running back to Summer 2009, the surface dressing of Grange Road left the cycle path in a dangerous and

disgraceful mess, with half of the cycle path surface and the other half at a lower level and full of gravel. Last autumn the Cabinet member and senior officers gave assurance and I think Councillor McGuire will be able to confirm this, that the fault had been accepted by the Council's Contractor and that the issue would be resolved when the weather was suitable. The weather has now been ideal for over a month but despite several requests I've had no date for when the work will be done. The exam period in the University is now almost upon us and for hundreds of students who live upon the road that is a very bad time for any work to be done on that road, which means that the Council has missed the chance to rectify that fault in the Spring. Please could Councillor Criswell give me an assurance that the error will be rectified as soon as possible in the early part of the summer but not during the University exam period?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell

I can give Councillor Nethsingha the assurance that I will look into it, but of course I'm not familiar so I can't say further than that Chairman, but I will make enquiries as a matter of urgency.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell from Councillor L Nethsingha

I need to say please could I have a reply within a week or so?

4. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor B Brooks-Gordon

Thank you Chair question for Councillor Clarke by which voting method was he voted, elected?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I can answer that by saying first of all that it is a private matter for our group, as it is for your group but I had the most votes at the end so that's all that matters.

Supplementary Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor B Brooks-Gordon

And would he say that this is a better method than any other?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I can confirm that all elections that get me elected are good methods.

5. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell from Councillor F Whelan

We've heard a lot about localism this afternoon and at the next Cabinet meeting next week we are going to be discussing speed changes on various highways throughout the County. My question is how does localism relate to villages, is it based on what people want or is it based on their ability to pay for things? The reason that I ask this question is that South Cambridgeshire Area Joint Committee spent a lot of time listening to the residents of Barton and Grantchester, myself as the local County Councillor and Francis Burkitt as the District Councillor looking at ways that the A603 could have speed reduction implemented so that it would make it safer for children to cross the road and get to the school. Everybody was in agreement, in fact two of the former Cabinet members agreed, I think it was Councillor Reynolds and Orgee were happy to see localism at work, but as I look at the papers for the Cabinet next week, it appears that all of those recommendations have been completely ignored and the recommendation is that the parishes of Grantchester and Barton will be approached to see if they are happy to pay for the speed reductions.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell

Chairman, I need to familiarise myself further before the Cabinet meeting next week and I will have a fuller answer for Councillor Whelan before then.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell from Councillor F Whelan

That relates in particular to two particular villages Barton and Grantchester but I come back again to what does localism mean? Does it mean listening to what local people want or does it depend on their ability to pay? I represent some villages which have thousands of people living in them, I represent Madingley which has just a few and I represent Childerley which has twelve houses. If it's only the ability of a parish to pay for something that's going to see it implemented it's going to be very difficult throughout the whole of the County because we have very different areas.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell

The only comment I would make is of course our intention is to concentrate our resources, our limited resources on where we can do the most good for the people of Cambridgeshire and safety and local aspiration will obviously feed into that. But if something is a local priority and local councils and communities are prepared to contribute to something or pay for lower speed restriction, obviously that works in our interest and their interests as well, Chairman, that is localism.

6. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor A Pellew

Can you please provide me with details of any fines associated with the software licensing paid by this Council, including the companies involved, the amounts and the dates? I don't expect you to know this off of the top of your head. Additionally could you please provide me with the information on the processes this Council has in place that ensure the County Council is not in breach of its software licensing.

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

Thank you, I don't have the information available I'll get back to you on that one.

Supplementary Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor A Pellew

First of all I appreciate that you don't have it, as I hadn't given you notice unfortunately. But would you agree with me that software used by the County Council should be fully paid and correctly licensed?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I can speak with some authority on this I guess, having owned IT Companies and yes of course software should always be paid for. In fact if we don't pay for it a) we are breaking the law but secondly the greater good is not being served because less revenue comes into the companies they can't reinvest to produce more software that we want. So both from a criminal aspect but also for the better will it needs to be done.

7. Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor G Wilson

In Godmanchester there are nine children who will be starting school for the first time in September and all of these have been allocated places in Huntingdon. There are others who live in Godmanchester who have been allocated places in Godmanchester but there are nine who have been allocated places outside of Godmanchester. I understand from officers that I have spoken to this morning and from the head at Godmanchester Primary that additional places could be provided at the two schools in Godmanchester. So the question for the Cabinet member is can he assure me that funding will be provided to allow those pupils who want to be educated in Godmanchester to be educated in Godmanchester this coming year?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

As I spoke to you this morning and I'll repeat again that six of the children have been now been taken, there are three that are outstanding and we are looking at that and I should have some information in the next couple of days for you.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor G Wilson

This year has caused a lot of consternation for parents in Godmanchester, can you assure me that we'll do it right next time, that we'll have a strategic review? Godmanchester is growing, there are houses being built at the moment and there's another 800 planned for a few years time. Can you undertake a strategic review including me and the Town Council to ensure that places are provided in Godmanchester for Godmanchester's residents?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

I have to take that back and with the Admissions Manager have a look at that and come back to you.

8. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor I Manning

On the back of you talking about making the Council and specifically this meeting run more efficiently, you being a business man that you have already mentioned today several times, I presume you would never make a structural change without having some way of measuring the effectiveness of that structural change, so could you perhaps talk a little bit about how, what targets you've got for measuring the effectiveness of this Council given the changes you have made to the Constitution.

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

One of the obvious measures will be a stopping of repetition, so I'm guessing that if we don't have information items coming forward to this full Council because they have already been dealt with over in the scrutiny process into Cabinet, papers will be a lot thinner and therefore those suffering from ailments including my broken ankle it will be much easier for us, so that's one measure. I would also like to think that this Council could see how long we spend within this Chamber and get back down to national norms. One thing when I did my research is very obvious, that we extend a number of hours longer than most similar Councils and that is largely to do with the discussions and debates that take place about the information only items.

Supplementary Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor I Manning

By your use of the phrase I'm guessing I think the answer to my question was actually no, you haven't got any targets. So would you be willing to either now or take away and come back to Council with some actual specific targets, so we have a way that in maybe in a year's time measuring whether you have actually achieved those targets or not.

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I'm always happy to look at these things and happy to engage with members who have an interest in it.

9. Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor S Kindersley

Council will know that Gamlingay Village College has been placed in special measures following one of the worst OfSTED reports Cambridgeshire has ever seen and indeed it lies in the bottom 5% of English and Welsh schools. There is a very widespread perception and I do highlight the word perception within the community that Gamlingay Village College has been allowed to fall into such a state of failure by the County Council so that the County can achieve its long held ambition to close the last remaining middle school in Cambridgeshire. What steps will Councillor Harty take to reassure, and more importantly convince the community, that this is not the County's ambition and not the reason that the County Council's preferred option for Gamlingay Village College currently is that of closure.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

The consultation continues and will close on the 25th May, it has never been the intention of the County Council just to simply close the Village College. There are a

series of options as you are aware that have been offered. We have through the various meetings that have been held with the school itself in terms of governors and staff and parents had the opportunity, or were given the opportunity to respond and put forward their views, and that meetings have been held at both the first school and the middle school. We have continued to receive letters, as again you will know, and those letters and emails will finally be pulled together as a document which will go to Cabinet sometime in June. I don't wish to prejudge the decision that will be taken, there is a strong community involvement in the discussions that have taken place but I would just stress to you that there is no decision taken. There is no prejudgement at all and until we have all the facts and all the views back from all the parents then we will start to look carefully at the points that are made.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor S Kindersley

Thank you through you Chairman, may I thank Councillor Harty for his very full response and perhaps I could ask him to convey the thanks of the community to both himself for coming to a number of public meetings and also colleagues within the department who have put a great deal of time and effort, more or less appreciated, obviously depending on what your preferred option is, more or less appreciated widely within the community.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

May I just come back and thank him for the comments made because we were both at two meetings where there were some very strong views aired at that meeting and certainly aimed at the officers and I think that is regrettable but I do appreciate your appreciation of the efforts that were made by the officers during that period.

10. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell from Councillor K Bourke.

A couple of years ago this Council committed to resurfacing Mill Road, which is in my ward and also in Councillor Harrison's and the entire section of Mill Road in Councillor Harrison's ward was completely resurfaced and the section of the road in my ward was patched, not just small scale patching, an awful lot of it was patched. Since then the patched areas have begun to disintegrate, I'm aware that there is a lot of additional money being made available this year for roads and I have spoken to Highways Officers who tell me that my side of the bridge is going to be patched again and it seems to me that this approach gets to the bottom of what's wrong with highways and road maintenance that we are paying to patch 50% of this road, it's extremely expensive, I'm not talking about potholes it's 50 metre stretches of it, paying to do the same work twice in a two year period. So would Councillor Criswell please commit to sitting down with officers and me and looking long and hard at the sense of that?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell

I'm certainly happy to discuss that with officers and get back to you Councillor Bourke, yes.

11. Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor S King

This is a matter of grave concern to the people of Wisbech and the surrounding area. It's recently become public knowledge that the Isle College in Wisbech is proposing to move the musical theatre and business and computing courses from the Isle College in Wisbech to the College of West Anglia in Kings Lynn of which the Isle College is part. I'm concerned on two accounts, first of all I understand that the money for the College of West Anglia now is channelled through the County Council and also we have agreed to put a substantial amount of money towards the rebuild of the Isle College in Wisbech and my question follows on from that funding issue. My first question is were we consulted about this change and if we were not, can we make known in the strongest possible terms our grave concerns about this, because this is not partnership working? If we were not consulted, I would like the Cabinet member to make the strongest possible representations further more that this change doesn't go ahead. It's out for consultation at the moment. I have been inundated with protests because it will have a devastating effect on employment in Wisbech, to give you an example if you will bear with me out of 55 vacancies in Wisbech Job Centre no less than 10 of those required this very computing skill that is proposed to be transferred over to Kings Lynn. Now in geographic terms it's not very far, but those of us who come from Wisbech know that we are an area of low educational attainment and also people are very reluctant to make that journey. Can I have a reassurance from the Cabinet member please?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

I am not familiar with the detail on this particular issue and what I would like to do is to talk to you perhaps after the meeting and certainly will take that up further.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor S King

If perhaps Councillor Harty could speak to me tomorrow because I won't be available but thank you for your answer and I look forward to influencing the College.

12. Question to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor P Downes

We've heard many, many times in this Chamber how badly schools in Cambridgeshire are funded and there's a whole lot of reasons why that is the case. The present Government is now carrying out a consultation on School Funding Reform and this is a rationale in principles. So my questions are have you responded to this consultation? You have until 25 of May to do so, if you have, could you just give everybody the broad outline of the main points you have made and if you want any help I'm happy to help you.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

Thank you Councillor Downes, it is useful to have knowledge of the question coming even though it was over lunch. Councillor Curtis will actually give you a complete response on this particular issue.

Reply from the Cabinet Member Councillor M Curtis

One of my final acts as Lead Member after one of our PDG meetings was to actually write to Michael Gove to make the point about Cambridgeshire's school funding and the need for Cambridgeshire's schools to get a better deal, if you want I'll make sure you get a copy of that letter and what went to him.

Supplementary to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor P Downes

That's quite a good point to make and I entirely agree, the key issue is will the new Government allow local authorities to have some final say in the way money is distributed among schools within the local authority. That is from our point of view the key issue and did you make that point to Michael Gove or did you not, or that's an opportunity missed and I think that is the thing we ought to follow up.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty

Can I just also then respond and suggest that it would be useful to have a meeting Councillor Downes, perhaps with the Executive Director just to bring some of these issues together and we can take some further opportunity to respond.

Supplementary to the Cabinet Member for Learning, Councillor David Harty from Councillor P Downes

In spirit of what Councillor Clarke said earlier on, I'm very happy to do so.

13. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor T Stone

In this year's Integrated Plan we had an income item from the New Homes Bonus, that income item in the New Homes Bonus was marked TBA, so the budget balanced without that income from the New Homes Bonus. I'm told that the amounts that this authority will be getting from its late amounts grant, that is the New Homes Bonus, is £789, 300 and that in the June Cabinet meeting the Cabinet will decide what to do with that money. Meanwhile, the Housing Minister has said that this funding from Government is only the start of the process, it is now essential that Councils engage with their local communities to decide how the money is spent so residents feel the direct benefit of growth, rather than extra pressures on local services. Could I ask whoever to outline how that consultation is to take place?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

Thank you Councillor Stone we will certainly look into that and will get back to you with a written answer.

Supplementary Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor T Stone

Only that I do expect that consultation will take place.

14. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor N Harrison

He's made some big claims including today about the benefits of abolishing the Council's £3m annual bus subsidy budget and replacing it with a short-term budget 1/15th the size to be spent on innovative solutions. Could he tell me by what date he expects the people of Cambridgeshire to be able to enjoy standards of bus services to return pre April 2011 standards?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I have no intention of returning the bus standards to pre IPP days we want to see them better than that. The bus subsidy, as you know, is a blunt instrument and we've talked about empty buses running around the Countryside. We've already announced our ambition to set up community transport and we are exploring a number of options building on the work that Councillor McGuire has done already with community transport and we have some ambitions to perhaps look at a franchise system whereby a number of micro businesses could be set up around Cambridgeshire to fill the voids that are developing. That's not just about the £2.7m subsidy, we have to remember that this County spends around £24m a year on transport, if you take into account school children and adult social care needs and all the rest of it, and we think we can use that money smarter, better for reasons that will benefit local people in local areas. To answer the timescale, I am hoping to have a pathfinder project up by the end of this year.

Supplementary Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke from Councillor N Harrison

I think the Leader of the Council has dug himself into an awful hole on this matter because by trying the attack is the best form of defence, as he is claiming it is going to be even better than it was before, he is now digging himself further into it. I would like to ask him whether he understands how unbelievably maddening that is for people who currently cannot get a bus to their work, to the doctor, to school and so on and I suppose, does he understand how maddening that is, because does he understand the need of people for public transport services in this County?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I totally understand that and I've children of my own and one has recently decided that he's not going to take up an offer of employment because getting to work on buses at the moment is just too difficult. So I do fully understand the problem. Can we solve it overnight, probably not? Have we the ambition to solve it, yes we have and it's not all about cuts it's about investing in a different way of providing public services but I do believe in it, yes.

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 17 MAY 2011
RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT COUNCIL**

The minutes of the County Council meeting on 17TH May 2011 included reference to a number of commitments to provide additional information made by Cabinet Portfolio Holders, Committee Chairmen or other relevant Members. The responses to these matters are set out below.

Oral Question Time

1. Future Approaches to resurfacing roads (minute 176 refers)

Action

Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure Councillor Steve Criswell agreed to respond to a request from Councillor Killian Bourke for a meeting to discuss future approaches to resurfacing roads and whether patching was a cost effective approach. (making reference to Mill Road, Cambridge)

Response

Councillor Criswell wrote to Councillor Bourke on 20th May indicating that he had raised his concerns about patching on Mill Road with Mark Kemp, the then Service Director Highways and Access and understood that a meeting had been arranged with the Area Maintenance Engineer, Mike Oakman and suggested this was the best method of discussing a solution.

With regard to a reference made to additional winter damage funding from Government, Area engineers across Cambridgeshire had been asked to identify the roads in most need of repair work, with particular consideration to value for money in reducing future spending. Once this priority list has been drawn up, it would go before Cabinet for approval. (*Note a report went to 14th June Cabinet*)

For more information contact John Onslow.

Email: john.onslow@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

2. Request for Date for the work to rectify the Cycle Path surface on Grange Road, Cambridge (minute 176 refers)

Action

Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Steve Criswell agreed to write to Councillor Lucy Nethsingha regarding a likely date for the work to rectify the Cycle Path surface on Grange Road, Cambridge

Response

Councillor Criswell wrote to Councillor Nethsingha on the 20th May indicating he had raised her concerns about the surfacing work previously undertaken on Grange Road and indicated that he had been assured by the then Director of Highways and Access that engineers were working on a solution and he had asked them to report back to her with what was proposed and when, as soon as possible.

For more information contact John Onslow.

Email: john.onslow@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

3. Rejection of Speed Reduction Recommendations for the A603 proposed by the South Cambridgeshire Area Joint Committee rationale (minute 176 refers)

Action

Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Steve Criswell agreed to write to Councillor Fiona Whelan regarding the rationale for the report to Cabinet on 24th May proposing to reject the speed reduction recommendations for the A603, proposed by the January South Cambridgeshire Traffic Management Area Committee.

Response

Councillor Criswell wrote to Councillor Whelan on the 20th May as follows “You asked for clarification about speed management issues and in particular the report on SCAJC decisions going to Cabinet next week. You will be aware that when we undertake speed limit reviews, we have certain criteria by which we ascertain whether a reduction in the speed limit would be effective and whether any existing road safety problems (accidents, injuries, fatalities) are likely to be solved. In other words, is this the best use of taxpayers' money and our limited resource? Under their terms of reference, AJCs need to take account of these policy criteria when making their decisions. On this occasion, their decision fell outside that policy.

What has changed since the AJC in January, is the change in policy approved by Cabinet in April, which allows a 'localism' approach to be taken by Parish Councils. This is not a cost saving exercise, as intimated in your question, but an enabling process by which communities can accomplish a local priority, rather than it being prevented under the old policy. In essence the villages concerned are not being asked to fund something we would previously have funded, as under the old policy, it could not have gone ahead”.

For more information contact John Onslow.
Email: john.onslow@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

4. Fines - Software Licencing (minute 176 refers)

Action

Councillor Clarke, the Council Leader, agreed to provide a response to Councillor Pellew who had requested details of any fines that had been paid by the Council associated with Software Licensing, including the companies involved, the amounts and the dates.

Response

Councillor Clarke wrote to Councillor Pellew on 23rd May 2011 as follows: “I am replying to your questions to me at last Tuesday's Council meeting about software licences.

Firstly, I repeat what I said then which is that it is vital the Council's software licences are legal and paid for. If we don't pay the suppliers, they can't reinvest funds into further enhancements and developments that are vital for a flourishing economy.

Secondly, the County Council has paid no fines to any supplier for breaches of licence conditions. Council IT staff work with suppliers to ensure the right type and number of licences are purchased and that the Council adheres to the licence conditions.

They also work with services to make sure that unlicensed copies of software are not downloaded or installed when sent by suppliers on a speculative basis. The corporate policy of personal computer (PC) lockdown has greatly assisted in helping to manage that”.

For more information contact: Noelle Godfrey, Head of IT.

Email: noelle.godfrey@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

5. Consultation Response new Homes Bonus Money (minute 176 refers)

Action

Councillor Nick Clarke, Leader of the Council agreed to provide Councillor Tim Stone with a written response regarding how consultation with local communities would be undertaken regarding spending the additional New Homes Bonus money of £789,300.

Response

Nick Dawe Director of Finance replied on 8th July as follows: “Firstly I must apologise for the delay in replying to you. In common with most authorities and as far as I can ascertain the local districts, we did not separately consult locally on the New Homes Bonus. The approach taken by the Authority was to consult on the broad range of its Integrated Planning priorities and choices irrespective of the source of funding that would support these priorities and services.

Consultation as part of the Integrated Plan consisted of;

- formal market research based consultation
- group consultation
- web based consultation for members of the public and staff
- Various forms of general communication

Approaches to consultation are reviewed by Cabinet each year and the Corporate Scrutiny and Overview Committee takes a particular interest in consultation”.

For more information contact: Nick Dawe, LGSS Director of Finance.

Email: nick.dawe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

6. Zero Uplifts to Block Contracts - Closure of Kingswood Park Residential Home (minute 176 refers)

Action

Councillor Catherine Hutton, Cabinet Member for Adult Services agreed to provide Councillor Paul Sales with a written response on whether repeated zero uplifts tot eh block contract over many years had contributed to the closure of Kingswood Park Residential Home and had caused hardships to the recipients of the grant elsewhere.

Response

Councillor Hutton wrote to Councillor Sales on 23rd May 2011 as follows:

The decision to close the Kingswood Park has been made by the Methodist Homes Association (MHA) following the end of their 10 year lease with the owners of the property, Sanctuary Homes Group. The County Council has been informed that this decision is predominantly based on the prohibitive costs of redeveloping the existing buildings to meet the standards expected in the Care Quality Commission's publication "*Essential standards of quality and safety*". Both Sanctuary Housing and the Methodist Homes Association are keen to offer high quality accommodation that ensures residents can live in surroundings that maintain and support their dignity.

The end of the lease arrangement between Sanctuary and MHA coincides with the end of a block contract between the County Council and MHA for a number of rooms within the home. Whilst this contract guaranteed a level of income for MHA, the home also accepts people who fund their own care. The County Council has seen more vacancies in the block purchased rooms over the course of the contract and also understands that the home has less demand from people funding their own care. It is understood that this has been linked to the quality of the accommodation and has meant that the home has become increasingly unviable. It is important to acknowledge that the standard of care provided by the staff and management at Kingswood Park has been highly valued by residents and their families, and recognised by the regulatory body, the Care Quality Commission. The County Council have had no indication that the fee levels paid to MHA for residents funded by the Council have had any impact on the decision to close the home. MHA have consistently stated that the decision is based on the uneconomic cost of refurbishment.

With the confirmation of the decision by MHA to close the home, the main priority for all of the relevant agencies is to work with the residents and their families to find suitable alternative accommodation for them to move to. Staff in Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust have been working closely with MHA, families and advocates to ensure that residents are able to move to a home that can meet their assessed need whilst maintaining their links to the local community and friends at Kingswood Park wherever possible.

Care Managers are working with three homes in March to ensure that any vacancies in these homes are prioritised to current residents of Kingswood Park. Several residents have already moved into other homes in the March area and a dedicated Care Manager will continue to liaise with these homes. Wherever possible the Care Manager responsible for managing the relocation of residents will seek to maintain friendships by working with MHA so that friends can move together or end up in the same home over a short period of time. This will be dependent on when and where vacancies arise and the ability of the homes to meet the needs of each person.

The County Council holds information on the vacancies in residential and nursing homes across Cambridgeshire. This information is updated by the homes each week, because the position with vacancies changes regularly, and will continue to do so over the next five months until the closure of Kingswood Park. Care Managers use this information when working with people who require residential or nursing home care and will continue to do so for people currently living at Kingswood and other people in the March area requiring such services.

The County Council currently purchases day care from Kingswood Park; this will end once the home closes. Officers from the County Council are currently negotiating with a number

of other providers of day care to ensure that alternative day care is made available within the local area. Care Managers from Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust will work with the people attending day care at Kingswood Park, and their relatives, to discuss the options once these are established and plan the move to an alternative by the end of October 2011.

Officers from the County Council have met with senior representatives from the Sanctuary Group who have confirmed that they wish to explore a range of options for the future use of the land at Kingswood Park. The County Council understands that no decisions have been made about the land and that the Sanctuary Group intends to consult with the local community.

The County Council will continue to work with Sanctuary Housing and MHA to ensure that residents are supported and kept informed at every stage of the closure programme.

With respect to other care home providers, only one provider has notified us that they are no longer able to continue to provide services. This is a small provider with just one home, out of county, where we have one person placed to be close to their relatives. An alternative home will be found for this person in the same locality, so that they remain close to their relatives. We are continuing to work closely with our local providers and are exploring different ways to support them, including whether they could take advantage of the preferential rates on energy that the County Council benefits from through the ESPO contract.

For more information contact: Claire Bruin, Service Director, Strategy and Commissioning Adult Social Care (CAS).

Email: claire.bruin@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

7. Updates on issues of Education Provision in respect of Godmanchester (Minute 176 refers)

Action

Councillor Harty, Cabinet Member for Learning agreed to provide Councillor Graham Wilson with an update on the three outstanding children who wished to be educated in Godmanchester as well as undertaking to review future arrangements regarding sufficient school places being provided in Godmanchester for local residents, taking into account future housing growth.

Response

The response sent in the week of 25th June read: "When more applications are received than places are available, the School Admissions Code requires that places are allocated according to the published over-subscription criteria for the school. Both St Anne's Church of England Aided Primary School and Godmanchester Primary School received more applications than there were places available for September 2011 entry.

Following the allocation of Reception places for September 2011 entry, an error was identified in respect of the allocation of places to St Anne's Church of England Aided Primary School, Godmanchester. The error affected children living in Comben Drive and Jarwood Walk, Godmanchester. These two streets had formerly been part of St Anne's catchment area, but in xxx, following the annual consultation on admission arrangements, they were re-designated as being part of Godmanchester Primary School's catchment. Regrettably, this

change was not reflected in the information published to parents. As a consequence, a number of parents living in these two streets applied for places at St Anne's believing themselves to be in the catchment area of the school. Once this error was discovered discussions took place with the school, whose governing body are the admission authority, and it was agreed that a further 6 places would be offered to the children concerned.

These offers have now been made to the families affected. As these places are being accepted we are able to offer places to children on the reserve list of Godmanchester Primary school.

The published guide for parents, which all parents are asked to read before making their application, provides information and advice to parents about making their application and advises parents to express a preference for their catchment school within their preferences.

As it currently stands, we have identified 3 children across the reserve lists of the two schools, who have not received an offer of a place at a Godmanchester school. This results from the fact that their parents expressed a preference for only one of the Godmanchester schools, and in each case this was not for their catchment school. Due to the number of applications received for places at both schools, there were other children who had a higher priority for admission based on the published over-subscription criteria. The children will remain on the reserve list for their parents' preferred school until 31st December 2011. The rank order of the reserve list is determined by the respective school's over-subscription criteria. In the case where more than one child meets the same criterion, their place on the reserve list is determined by a tie-breaker, using straight line distance from their home address to the school. This means that children living in Huntingdon may be ranked higher on the reserve list than the children living in Godmanchester itself, based on the straight line distance.

All parents on the reserve lists for the schools have been informed of their right of appeal.

For more information contact: Sam Surtees, Education Officer (Admissions), CYPS
Email: sam.surtees@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Meetings Agreed To Be Undertaken

- 8. Meeting to discuss the relocation of the Musical Theatre and Business and Computing from the Isle College in Wisbech to the College of West Anglia King's Lynn** (minute 176 refers)

Action

Councillor David Harty, the Cabinet Member for Learning agreed to meet with Councillor Simon King and the Executive Director: Children and Young People's Services (CYPS) at a time convenient to all sides, in order to discuss the above issues.

Response

The meeting date still to be agreed. (At date of this documents' publication 15th July)

9. Meeting to discuss the Council's response to School Funding Reform (minute 176 refers)

Action

Councillor Harty, Cabinet Member for Learning agreed to meet when Councillor Downes and with the Executive Director: CYPS at a time convenient to both sides to consider the Council's response to School Funding Reform and to discuss whether a further response was required.

Related to the above, The Cabinet Member for Health and Well Being Councillor Martin Curtis agreed to provide Councillor Peter Downes with a copy of the letter dated 14th April 2011 he had sent to the Right Honourable Michael Gove, Member of Parliament regarding the Government consultation on School Funding Reform at the time he was Cabinet Member for CYPS. Councillor Downes was sent a copy following the Council meeting.

Response

The Executive Director CYPS, Adrian Loades met with both Councillors Downes and Harty on 25 May to discuss this matter.

10. Meeting to discuss future Arrangements to Replace the Cambridge City Fringe Joint Committee (minute 173 refers)

Action

Councillor Ian Bates, Cabinet Member for Growth and Planning agreed to meet with Councillor Nichola Harrison and the Acting Executive Director: Environment Services at a time convenient to all sides to discuss the alternative decision making arrangements following the disbanding of the Cambridge City Fringes Joint Committee.

Response

A meeting took place in the week of 27th June.

Other Actions

11. Cabinet Portfolios (minute 166 refers)

Action

The Leader agreed to provide an explanation of the portfolios outside of the meeting.

Response

The new portfolio holder titles have been published on the web.