

County Council – 13th February 2024

Chair's Announcements

People

County Councillor Mac McGuire

It is with deep regret that the Chair reports the recent death of County Councillor Mac McGuire, who represented the Sawtry, Norman Cross, and Yaxley and Farcet Divisions on behalf of the Conservative party from 1985 to 2023. Councillor McGuire held many prominent positions on the Council including Chair of the Council from 2019 to 2021. The Council's thoughts are with his family and friends at this very sad time.

Former Chief Executive, John Barratt

It is with regret that the Chair reports the recent death of the former Chief Executive of Cambridgeshire County Council, John Barratt. Mr Barratt took on the newly created role in 1973 and served until 1986. The Council's thoughts are with his family and friends at this very sad time.

Former Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner Sir Graham Bright

It is with regret that the Chair reports the recent death of the first Cambridgeshire Police and Crime Commissioner, Sir Graham Bright. Sir Graham served in this role between 2012 and 2016. The Council's thoughts are with his family and friends at this very sad time.

New Pro-Vice Chancellor (Innovation) Appointment – Dr Diarmuid O'Brien

The University Council has appointed Dr Diarmuid O'Brien as the University of Cambridge's new Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Innovation), taking up the role in April 2024.

Messages

Cambridgeshire's Archaeological Collection

The [skeleton of a man who was crucified in Roman-era Cambridgeshire](#) is on display as part of an exhibition at the British Museum, after a loan of the remains was agreed by the county council. The exhibition runs from 1 February to 23 June and explores the reality of daily life for the men, women and children who were part of the Roman Empire. The local find was also the subject of a BBC4 documentary, [The Cambridgeshire Crucifixion](#), which aired last month and is an example of the great work that the Council's Historic Environment Team (HET) undertakes.

Huntingdonshire District Council Chair's Christmas carol service

Councillor Stephen Ferguson attended the Huntingdonshire District Council Carol Service at All Saint's Church, Huntingdon.

Councillor McGuire's funeral

The Vice Chair, Councillor Douglas Dew attended Councillor Mac McGuire's funeral at Huntingdon Crematorium and the wake at the Marriott Huntingdon.

Cambridgeshire Care Provider Conference

The Vice Chair, Councillor Douglas Dew opened the afternoon session of the Cambridgeshire Care Provider Conference at Burgess Hall in St Ives.

Phase 2 Turf Cutting Ceremony at Northstowe Secondary College

The Chair attended Northstowe College and the beginning of its phase 2 work. Phase 2 will introduce a 600-pupil place expansion of the existing secondary school accommodation, a new 400-pupil place Post-16 Centre on the Northstowe Secondary College site, a 630-pupil place primary school, and a new pre-school providing 156 half-day places. Notably, the new Post-16 Centre and Primary School will include additional provisions for children with Special Educational Needs.

Chevin Sermon at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Cambridge

The Chair attended the Mayor of Cambridge, Councillor Jenny Gawthorpe Wood's Chevin Sermon at the Church of the Good Shepherd in Cambridge.

Holocaust Memorial Day Flag at New Shire Hall

The Chair raised the flag to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, accompanied by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, Mrs Julie Spence. The theme for this year's remembrance was the Fragility of Freedom.

Tree Planting at New Shire Hall

There is now a new tree at New Shire Hall, as part of the end of the late Queen's Green Canopy initiative, trees were gifted to each Lieutenancy to mark the Coronation of King Charles III. Cambridgeshire's is now at New Shire Hall, to provide the new town of Alconbury Weald with its first bit of history.

Holocaust Memorial Day Commemorative Service

The Chair attended the Holocaust Memorial Day Commemorative Service at St John's Church, Cathedral Square Peterborough hosted by the Mayor of Peterborough, Councillor Nick Sandford.

Huntingdonshire District Council Holocaust Memorial Day Service

The Chair attended Huntingdonshire District Council's Holocaust Memorial Day Service at Huntingdon Town Hall. As part of the service the Chair along with other dignitaries lit a candle to memorialise the loss of life in the Holocaust and other genocides.

Progress Pride Flag raised at New Shire Hall

The Progress Pride Flag is being flown for the month of February to mark LGBTQ+ History Month, the Chair and Chief Executive Stephen Moir raised the flag at the start of the month to mark this.

Royal Visit by Her Majesty the Queen

The Chair attended the Meadows Community Centre in Cambridge where he was part of the line-up that met Her Majesty the Queen.

Kings Award for Voluntary Service Presentation

The Chair attended Peterborough Cathedral where the Chinese Community in Peterborough were presented their King's Award for Voluntary Service by His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant, Mrs Julie Spence.

Chinese New Year, 10th Anniversary and King's Award for Voluntary Service Celebration

The Vice Chair, Councillor Douglas Dew attended a three part celebration at Peterborough Cathedral hosted by the Chinese Community in Peterborough. This was to celebrate their King's Award for Voluntary Service presentation, the Chinese New Year on 10th February for the Year of the Dragon and the 10th Anniversary of the Community.