

COUNTY COUNCIL: MINUTES

Date: Tuesday 21st February 2012
Time: 10.30am – 5.25pm
Place: Shire Hall, Cambridge
Present: Councillor J Powley (Chairman)

Councillors: S Austen, J Batchelor, I Bates, N Bell, K Bourke, B Brooks-Gordon, D Brown, F Brown, P Brown, R Butcher, C Carter, N Clarke, S Count, S Criswell, 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 Kadiç, G Kenney, S Kindersley, I Manning, M McGuire, V McGuire, A Melton L Nethsingha, L J Oliver, A Orgee, J Palmer, D Pegram, A Pellew, P Read, P Reeve, J Reynolds, K Reynolds, T Sadiq, 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

Apologies: Councillors K Churchill, J Clark, S King, V Lucas and P Sales

212. MINUTES – 7TH DECEMBER 2011

The minutes of the Council meeting held on 7th December 2011 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

213. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

214. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

Councillor	Minute	Details
Jenkins	217b	Non-executive Director of Cambridgeshire Community Services
Johnstone	217b	Ely Diocesan Board of Education and a parent of children accessing post-16 transport
Sadiq	217b	Governor of Parkside Academy School
Shepherd	217b	Vice-Chairman of Cambridge and District Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Committee
Tierney	217b	FenRATS– Fenland Residents against Turbines
van de Ven	217b	Member of Rail Future, Chairman of Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Rail User Group
Williamson	217b	CAPALC Board Member
Wilson G	217b	Environment Agency employee

On behalf of all members present, the Chairman declared a personal interest in

relation to members' allowances (Minute 217b).

215. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

No questions were received.

216. PETITIONS

No petitions were received.

217. ITEMS FOR DETERMINATION FROM CABINET

a) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Plan, and the Recycling in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (RECAP) Waste Management Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Clarke, and seconded by Councillor Bates, that the recommendations as set out in minute 488 of the minutes of Cabinet meeting of 13th December 2012 be approved, subject to the inclusion of an additional recommendation relating to the timing of the adoption of both documents.

Following brief discussion, Council agreed unanimously to adopt:

- i) the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals Plan (as amended by Planning Inspector J G King) and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Proposals Maps A: Mineral and Transport Zones and B: Waste; and
- ii) the RECAP Waste Management Design Guide SPD; and
- iii) both documents with effect from 22nd February 2012.

b) Council's Integrated Plan and Budget Proposals 2012/13 [including priorities, revenue and capital budget, financing, and council tax and charging]

It was moved by the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke, and seconded by the Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor L McGuire, that the recommendations on the Integrated Plan, as set out in minute 525 of the Cabinet meeting of 31st January 2012, be adopted, subject to the following alterations as agreed by Council:

- Change to Cabinet recommendation 4c to reflect revised guidance in the Localism Act; and
- Addition of 'improving mobility' to Environmental Services Priorities.

The Chairmen of the Council's five overview and scrutiny committees respectively moved the receipt of the reports of the Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Adults, Wellbeing and Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Enterprise, Growth and Community Infrastructure Overview and Scrutiny Committee; Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and Resources and Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Members then debated the Council's Integrated Plan and Budget Proposals 2012/13 and the scrutiny committees' responses.

The Liberal Democrat amendment, detailed in Agenda Item No. 6(b)(i), was proposed by Councillor Bourke and seconded by Councillor Nethsingha. Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor L McGuire, and seconded by Councillor Harty, that the Liberal Democrat amendment be put to the vote without further discussion. Some members voice opposition to this motion, but on being put to the vote, the motion was carried.

[Voting pattern: Conservatives in favour; Labour, Liberal Democrats, Green, UKIP, one Conservative and two Independent against; the Chairman and Vice-Chairman abstained.]

The Liberal Democrat amendment, on being put to the vote, was lost.

[Voting pattern: Liberal Democrats and Green in favour; Conservatives, UKIP and one Independent against; Labour and the Chairman and Vice-Chairman abstained.]

The Labour amendment, attached at **Appendix B**, including additional wording underlined, agreed by the proposer, was proposed by Councillor Sadiq and seconded by Councillor Whitebread. Following discussion, the motion, on being put to the vote, was lost.

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

Following discussion, the substantive motion, as detailed below, on being put to the vote was carried:

That approval be given to:

- a. the Service/Directorate cash limits as set out in Section 3, Table 3.2, page 58 of the Integrated Plan.
- b. a total County Budget Requirement in respect of general expenses applicable to the whole County area of £848,201,000 as set out in Section 3, Table 4.1, page 62 of the Integrated Plan.
- c. a recommended County Precept for Council Tax from District Councils of £240,483,000 (to be received in ten equal instalments in accordance with the fall-back provisions of the Local Authorities (Funds) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 1995), as set out in Section 3, Table 4.1, page 62 of the Integrated Plan.
- d. a Council Tax for each Band of property, based on the number of "Band D" equivalent properties notified to the County Council by the District Councils (222,948), as set out in Section 3, Table 4.2, page 63 of the Integrated Plan:

A	£719.10
B	£838.95
C	£958.80

D	£1,078.65
E	£1,318.35
F	£1,558.05
G	£1,797.75
H	£2,157.30

- e. the Prudential Borrowing, Prudential Indicators as set out in Section 3, Table 7.3, page 71 of the Integrated Plan.
- f. the Treasury Management Strategy as set out in brief in Section 3, page 72 of the and Section 4 of the Integrated Plan.
- g. the report of the LGSS Director of Finance on the levels of reserves and robustness of the estimates as set out in Section 3, page 76 of the Integrated Plan.
- h. Capital Payments in 2012/13 up to £146.7m arising from:
 - i. Commitments from schemes already approved; and
 - ii. The consequences of new starts (for the five years 2011/12 to 2015/16) shown in summary in Section 3, Table 6.3, page 69 of the Integrated Plan.
 - iii. Approving the schedule of charges set out in Section 11.

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

218. MOTIONS SUBMITTED UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10

No motions had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 10.

219. QUESTIONS

a) Oral Questions

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

- In response to a question from Councillor Sir P Brown, the Chairman of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority, Councillor Pegram, agreed to write to Cambridge City Council about their exclusion of fire hydrants from future Section 106 agreements.
- In response to a question from Councillor Gymer, the Deputy Leader, Councillor L McGuire, agreed to check that the County Council's website included details of the meeting of the Independent Remuneration Panel, appointed by the Standards Committee.
- In response to a question from Councillor Sadiq, the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Criswell, agreed to include the Sheltered Schemes Residents Association in the consultation about winter gritting.

- In response to a question from Councillor Pellew, the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Criswell, agreed to investigate the possibility of changing the method of gritting for the combined road and cycleways so that the cycle paths along major roads were more of a priority in future. He also agreed to circulate his response to all Members.
- The Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor Criswell, agreed to write to Richard Kingston, Divisional Maintenance Engineer for Fenland and Huntingdonshire Highways Network, and his team, to thank them for their hard work in making the volunteer gritting programme for the paths a success.

b) Written Questions

Three written questions had been submitted under Council Procedure Rule 9.2, as set out in **Appendix C**.

220. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

It was proposed by the Chairman, Councillor Powley, seconded by the Vice-Chairman, Councillor K Reynolds, and agreed unanimously to changes highlighted in bold to the appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies attached as **Appendix E** to the minutes.

Chairman

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 21ST FEBRUARY 2012
CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

PEOPLE

Former County Councillor Elaine Wheatley

It is with regret that the Chairman reports that former County Councillor Elaine Wheatley died on 14th January 2012. Councillor Wheatley served on the County Council from 1989 to 1993, representing Queen Edith's Electoral Division in Cambridge on behalf of the Conservative Party. She had also been a member of Cambridge City Council from 1976 representing the Petersfield Ward, and from 1978 to 1991 representing the Trumpington Ward.

Robert Day

It is also with regret that the Chairman reports the death of Robert Day. Robert worked as ICT & Training Manager in Libraries, Learning and Culture. The Council's thoughts are very much with his family, friends and close colleagues.

Chris Heaton and Eileen Wheatley, MBE

Congratulations go to Chris Heaton, formerly Head of Planning, Policy and Culture, and Eileen Wheatley, formerly Senior Social Worker, on being awarded an MBE in the Queen's New Year Honours List for services to Libraries, and Children and Young People respectively.

AWARDS

Inspire Mark

Congratulations go to Cambridgeshire Music on the County Council being awarded for the third time running "Inspire Mark" in support of the Striking Together for Gold Project for young percussionists.

SERVICE DEVELOPMENTS

The Busway's millionth passenger

On Thursday 12th January 2012 the Busway achieved one million passengers ahead of its business forecast. Over 200,000 trips a month are being taken on the Busway since its opening on Sunday 7th August 2011.

The millionth passenger, who is a regular user of the Busway received gifts from Stagecoach and Go Whippet to mark the occasion.

CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN ACTIVITIES – DECEMBER 2011 TO FEBRUARY 2012

Chairman's engagements

December 2011

- NHS Cambridgeshire *Let's Engage* event – Arbury Community Centre
- Yuletide winter reception – RAF Mildenhall
- Chairman of St Neots Town Council reception and carol concert – St Neots parish church
- Annual Octavia Hill service – St Peter & St Paul Church, Wisbech
- Rehearsal for Schools' Carol Service – King's College, Cambridge
- Schools' Carol Service – King's College, Cambridge
- High Sheriff Awards – Peterborough
- Mayor of March civic service – St Peter's Church, March
- Fenland District Council Chairman's carol concert – St Leonard's Church, Leverington
- Melbourn Parish Council reception
- Huntingdonshire District Council Chairman's civic service – St Mary's Church, Huntingdon
- Mayor of Huntingdon Town Council's civic carol service – St Mary's Church, Huntingdon
- Anglia Ruskin University dinner
- Luminus Group Christmas carols
- Citizenship ceremony
- Huntingdon Community Radio Christmas Day interview

January 2012

- Hinchingsbrooke School annual presentation evening
- Duke of Edinburgh Gold Awards presentation ceremony – Hinchingsbrooke School
- Holocaust Memorial Day service – St Mary's Church, Huntingdon
- Official opening of new extension – Linton Village College
- Licensing of Rev'd Brenda Stewart, St John the Baptist Church, Keyston
- Presentation of Imperial Service Medal – Cambridge Crown Court
- Five Citizenship ceremonies

February 2012

- Launch of *The Link* and AGM – Commemoration Hall, Huntingdon
- Funeral of former County Councillor Elaine Wheatley - Little St Mary's Church, Cambridge
- Prince of Wales, Prince's Teaching Institute, Headteachers Leadership Programme - Madingley Hall
- Winter Open House – Vice-Commander, RAF Mildenhall
- Long Service Awards – Shire Hall
- Two Citizenship ceremonies

- Anniversary Service of the Fall of Singapore – Ely Cathedral
- County Council meeting
- Chairman of East Cambridgeshire District Council Civic Reception - The Maltings, Ely
- Collation & Welcome of the Ven. Gordon Steele as Archdeacon of Oakham - Peterborough Cathedral
- Official opening of new offices of Adder Technology, Bar Hill

Vice-Chairman's engagements

December 2011

- Announcement of Community Covenant, Cambridge Youth Wind Orchestra – Cambridge Guildhall
- Citizenship ceremony

Labour Amendment to the 2012/13 Integrated Plan

Council Meeting 21st February 2012

Section 1, Page 6

Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

Insert new bullet point after first sentence:

- *Reducing and eventually eliminating persistent deprivation and inequality across the County must be a strategic priority if all sections of society are to have equal access to life's opportunities. Therefore understanding and removing barriers that might prevent people from accessing education, training and jobs is essential to ensuring that the benefits of economic growth are shared equally and fairly by all.*

Section 2, Page 19

Chapter 2: Developing the local economy for the benefit of all

Insert new bullet point after *We will*:

- *analyse the causes of persistent deprivation and large disparities in prosperity and skills across the county and be proactive in removing barriers to opportunity*

Insert after the final bullet point:

Reducing Inequality

There are large sections of our county already identified in this Plan that have not shared in the benefits of economic prosperity that the more affluent parts of our region have enjoyed for many years. Whilst it is natural that those areas that are already economically successful are likely to enjoy continued and growing success, we must also seek to understand and address the reasons why the more deprived areas are falling so far behind. Although strong leadership, investment in transport infrastructure, and greater investment in education and skills, especially apprenticeships, across the whole county will help, it is essential that we prioritise those areas that have specific entrenched problems that may require a more proactive and interventionist approach.

If huge differences in wealth and opportunity are allowed to persist, they will damage social cohesion, hurt the poorest people the most, lead to greater calls on public services and limit Cambridgeshire's ability to achieve its full potential. We must therefore make reducing inequality a priority for the new Economy, Transport and Environment and Children & Young People's Services teams at Shire Hall and also urge the Local Enterprise Partnership to include this as one of its strategic objectives.

Proposed by: Cllr Tariq Sadiq
Seconded by: Cllr Sarah Whitebread

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 21st FEBRUARY 2012
MINUTE 219 – ORAL QUESTIONS**

**1. Question to the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke, from
Councillor S van de Ven**

I was going to ask a question of the Leader and it has to do with, I'm afraid, the democratic process and the role that we all play in this Council. I do feel very discouraged after today about the process we went through and I could skip my question because I'm really very discouraged but it's probably important to ask. So we've gone through months of work on the budget and the Liberal Democrats have taken this process very seriously, we have put our detailed amendment to your budget to a scrutiny committee and I was very surprised after that two hour meeting that there was absolutely nothing in the report. This prompted in my mind the question about the way our scrutiny committees are chaired, not the personal chairing of each committee but the allocation of chairs to our committees and the really critical non-political function of those committees and why we don't have cross party chairs on our scrutiny committees. If that is something that the leader feels is important for the political process, for the creditability of this council that was my question. I filled out the member development questionnaire a little while ago and on one of the boxes I put something like, when it came to scrutiny, I said I didn't quite have faith in scrutiny doing the job that it needs to do. I'm talking about the credibility of scrutiny and after today I would like to ask particularly whether you would consider the fair cross party chairing of our scrutiny committees?

Reply from the Leader of the Council, Councillor N Clarke

I think I got the question at the very end, so what you are really talking about is should Liberal Democrats be chairing scrutiny committees? The answer is regrettably I've not seen anything yet with the exception possibly of one or two, I'm looking at Councillor Downes now, one or two members on your side that are able to act in an apolitical way. Everything you say and do is about party politics and I have to say that is very, very discouraging. In everything you produce and everything you say here and outside, the stampede for the cameras, the stampede for the radio everything is driven by party politics. I'll tell you now, what I see at scrutiny and the scrutiny chairs they are doing an effective job. I've had grillings from Fred's outfit recently and it's not been easy, so there is no lack of credibility in that area and of course you are all on those scrutiny committees and don't tell me for one moment, well you can tell me if you come across a case there where you are not being heard as a scrutiny member, not getting your voice out there or be able to ask questions because of a chairmanship, because I don't believe that to be true for one moment. So the answer is no.

**2. Question to Councillor R Pegram, Chairman of the Fire Authority, from
Councillor Sir P Brown**

The question is would the Chairman care to comment on Cambridge City Council decision not to insist that water hydrants should be included in planning applications in the City? This will be a huge threat to safety and would cause damage to individuals and property. Did the Council consult

with local residents on this, which is a retrograde step and will he do his utmost to persuade Liberal Democrat Councillors to rescind that decision?

Reply from Councillor R Pegram, Chairman of the Fire Authority

As you can gather I am bitterly disappointed with the stance taken by the City Council, in regard to the Section 106 charges that they currently levied against developers for the provision of fire hydrants on new developments. The likely impact of this short-sighted change in policy is a further drain upon the already depleted resources available to the Fire Authority and indeed Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire and Rescue Service. I know of one Fire Authority where the additional burden on the Fire and Rescue Service and indeed the Fire Authority is in excess of £250,000 per annum, as a direct result of their growth programme. I take on board your concerns and I will urge the City Council to rethink this strategy.

Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor T Stone

Not for the first time this is one for Councillor Criswell on protected road verges. I think this is the third time I've brought it here, I think it's about six months. The County as members will remember has stopped protecting its road verges, it is statutory required to protect its road verges, it's not doing it. Councillor Criswell in the past has said, ah yes, well we're considering and talking to the Wildlife Trust about this and it's all very difficult. We're talking about a cost of £26,000 a year to do the job properly can Councillor Criswell tell us where he has got to after all these months?

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

All I can say is that the Wildlife Trust have engaged with us and they are talking to the Parish Councils affected. That's a piece of work that the Wildlife Trust are doing and we await their report back. For the protected verges that are on major roads we are looking at the Atkins contract to see if they can be incorporated in that more efficiently. So there is two strands of work going on and we hope to be still able to do the protected verges but cheaper than they have been done in the past.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor T Stone

I do indeed, two strands of supplementary, if I may. First strand is if we are looking into these things on the principal routes and we've accepted that they are the job of this Council, why haven't we just done it? Secondly the other strand is it's our duty as a Council, not the Wildlife Trust, to organise the protected road verges, protecting our protected road verges. So you just have to wonder what on earth this Council is doing.

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

Chairman, it is also our duty to get best value for the tax payers and if we can do that in a more efficient and cost effective way then I think that's the correct way forward.

3. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor D Jenkins

Councillor Criswell, earlier on, when we were talking about bus subsidies and the like said subsidies are only bad if they don't meet the needs of local people. Now I know some recommendations are coming to Cabinet early next month about subsidised bus routes and I ask him how he will determine whether or not these subsidised routes do meet the needs of local people so that they can make that judgement as to whether they are good or bad. May I remind him that at the scrutiny meeting he did agree that the recent consultation only allowed countywide decisions to be made and didn't give sufficient information for judgements to be made about individual routes?

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

Yes Chairman, the consultation that will be taken locally is where we will judge what the needs of people are and obviously residents and passengers themselves will tell us what their needs are, it won't be up to us to decide what they are needs are. So if they know six months in advance when the subsidy will be withdrawn they can then tell us if that is the route that they would want to take or if there's a preferred route they would rather take, in which case we can try and meet that need.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor D Jenkins

Thank you Councillor Criswell you are implying that there is for the yet more consultation, in order to gather this information about whether or not individual routes do satisfy local needs. I would like you to confirm that that understanding of mine is correct and that will do, just confirm that is correct please.

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

Yes that is correct for the six months preceding the withdrawal of a bus subsidy there will be consultation with passengers, residents in the area served by those buses, so that we establish a very clear picture of where people's travel needs are and that will inform the roll out of Cambridgeshire future transport initiatives.

4. Question to the Cabinet Member for Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Engagement, Councillor M McGuire, from Councillor S Gymer

I'm not sure who this is for? It's about allowances, it's about the consultation. I am aware that if you look on the website the meeting that is planned for the 27th February at Anglia Ruskin University at 6pm is not actually advertised on our website. It was in the press release and who goes to the press quickly?

I don't think it's necessarily just our group that addresses the press, this came out in a press release it didn't come out in stuff to members we get told just before. I really do feel that it is important that we engage with local people, local people were incensed after the last allowances debacle and I'm really pleased that we are able to go back over this again. So I think that it is important that we actually do put that on our website so people know, have we emailed it out to parish clerks to let them know? I don't think we probably have. What level of engagement, again it's the normal Council routine of yes we are engaged but only ask the questions that we want, so that we get the answers we want. So please can we actually put that on our website?

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Engagement, Councillor M McGuire

Chairman, I will try to address the issue I don't want to get into the actual debate, it's nothing to do with me, but it's our Standards Committee together with the Independent Review Panel will be responsible for whatever process they are going through to get information. If there is lack of information on our website, yes as being responsible for communications I will follow that up and ask through the relevant officers that that gets put on and any public meetings are put on the website.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Engagement, Councillor M McGuire, from Councillor S Gymer

It would be very nice if we could actually have the feedback from the allowances standards in a reasonable time and preferably without only half an hour's notice before a press release goes out.

Reply from the Cabinet Member for Deputy Leader and Cabinet member for Community Engagement, Councillor M McGuire

Chairman, it's an Independent Remuneration Panel appointed by our Standards Committee, it is not for me or anybody else to advise them as to what they ought to do about their report. There is a process to go through, it does not involve any member of this Council, we need to stand back from it and let them do their business, and eventually a report will come to this Council.

5. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor T Sadiq

Could the Councillor tell me what lessons have been learnt from the gritting of pavements, in particular during the recent cold spell? What particular things might be implemented that might be different for next year?

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

It's never been our standard policy to grit all pavements, as you know we grit the highway but there are many communities now that have come forward and have said they would like to grit their own pavements. We have certainly been quick to supply them with the machinery to do that and the salt, and

many villages and communities across Cambridgeshire have taken up that option. The reports of that are very good, so that opportunity is still there and we've got very positive feedback from it.

Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor T Sadiq

Thank you very much there were a couple of incidents where the City Council particularly in Cambridge gritted pavements in sheltered housing schemes, or city council pavements but then stopped when we got to the county pavements. The effect of that was that people could move between flats but couldn't actually go anywhere because the county pavements were still iced over. Now that is an issue that probably needs to be thought about and resolved for next year and I would ask that whether the Cabinet member would consult with sheltered schemes associations, there is a Sheltered Schemes Resident's Association whether you would include them in your consultations, to see whether we can work something out with the districts councils in the future that avoids that situation.

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

Yes Chairman, the city and the district councils do assist us with some in the market towns and the city with some gritting. As I did say earlier we are investigating what else we can do within those urban areas, so I am quite happy to make sure we have a conversation that's joined up and if there are any gaps in provision we can help fill in we are certainly pleased to do so.

6. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor I Manning

Given that you voted for the Labour amendment against the rest of your Cabinet does that mean you will be resigning?

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

Chairman, I did vote for the Labour amendment by mistake because my paperwork had already hit the yes button before I got to the no button but it wasn't a whipped decision, Chairman, so I didn't make a fuss at the time. I was free to vote the way I wanted, I would have voted no, Chairman, for the very reasons that other members mentioned but I didn't make a big deal of it at the time.

7. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor A Pellew

First of all I would like to welcome the increased prominence of the gritting of cycle routes in Cambridge and the cycling section of the County Council's website. However, during the recent bad weather a number of cyclists reported to me the problem of snow and slush being cleared from the roads only to still sit on the cycle path next to the highway. One such example was along Milton Road, the key road in north Cambridge. Can I ask Councillor Criswell to investigate the possibility of changing the method of gritting for the

combined road and cycleways so that the cycle paths along major roads are more of a priority in future.

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

I am happy to follow that up Chairman.

**Supplementary Question to the Cabinet Member for Community
Infrastructure, Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor A Pellew**

Just can it be circulated to members?

**9. Question to the Cabinet Member for Community Infrastructure,
Councillor S Criswell, from Councillor P Reeve**

Thank you Chairman, most people would know me as a strong critic of big society and localism, not in principle but in the way it has been put out, the philosophy is brilliant. Could I take this opportunity to really embrace what this Council's done and what this Cabinet has done in terms of localism and the true philosophy behind the agenda. Some of the initiatives that have taken place have been truly remarkable, efficient and timely. My question to you is would you join me in particular in thanking a gentleman called Richard Kingston who is in the Huntingdon highways department who has really gone out of his way to make sure that the volunteer gritting programme for the paths, does work. He has been so efficient that when groups have run out of grit they've found that the grit has been delivered within an hour of requesting it. He's an absolutely marvellous manager for the Highways and really should have a personal endorsement from the Leader, in my opinion and also to thank those volunteers and I'll declare an interest as a passionate local gritter, those volunteers from town councils and communities who really have opened up the pathways, made sure their communities are safe and embrace localism in a way that probably the Government never even appreciated.

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

I am quite happy to convey your thanks to Richard Kingston, I quite agree, him and his team are doing a very good job and I'll certainly do that on behalf of Council.

**COUNTY COUNCIL – 21st FEBRUARY 2012
MINUTE 219 – WRITTEN QUESTIONS UNDER COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 9.2**

Question from Councillor T Sadiq to the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance, Councillor S Count

Could the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance please detail the number of full-time and part-time staff directly employed by Cambridgeshire County Council and the number of agency staff and employees of independent sector providers used by the Council, who are paid less than the National Living Wage of £7.20 per hour (outside London)?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance, Councillor S Count

The Council already pays its employees well above the legal obligation to apply the National Minimum Adult Wage of £6.08 per hour. We pay our employees in accordance with the NJC national pay spine which is agreed through the national employer and our national trade unions.

The National Living Wage, by contrast, has no legal standing or obligation.

Currently, there are 853 employees directly employed by Cambridgeshire County Council, who are paid below the National Living Wage of £7.20 per hour. However, this equates to a much smaller FTE (full time equivalent) of 219.4 as the majority of these employees hold relief or part time contracts.

The Council is not engaging any agency workers at present below £7.20 per hour.

It is not possible to obtain information on the number of employees of independent sector providers, used by the Council, who are paid less than the National Living Wage. Private organisations have no obligation to provide this information to us and equally have a legal duty only to pay the National Minimum Wage and not the National Living Wage.

Question from Councillor S van de Ven to the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, Councillor D Brown

What is the council's strategy for public transport to rural children's centre, bearing in mind the anticipated reduction in rural outreach work and the need to reach those people who need children's centre services most?

Response from the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People's Services, Councillor D Brown

The total budget headline figure for Children's Centres within the Early Intervention Grant is £7,275,206. From this total children's centres have to make a £300,000 in 2012-13 saving. The funding formula developed to distribute the funds for 2012/13 has been developed to ensure the sustainability of the existing portfolio of 40 centres in Cambridgeshire. Funding has been allocated proportionately using the same formula as is used to distribute funding to Locality teams in Enhanced and Preventative Services, using the Index of Multiple Deprivation as the source of data

for demographic profiles. In addition an allowance has been made in the formula for the significant population growth and increase in the number of children under 5 which have taken place in the last two years, and also the projected population increases for the next two years.

Whilst children's centres will have to allow for the reduction in funding in their service planning it is considered that all centres remain viable, whilst also having the scope to ensure that services including rural outreach services, are more clearly targeted to need. Services will be specifically targeted to families in the following groups.

- Very young parents
- Children on the Early Support Programme and their parents
- Children under 5, and their parents/carers, with SEN
- Children accessing free nursery places for 2 year olds, and their parents
- Children under 5, and their parents/carers, with a CAF
- Children under 5, and their parents/carers, subject to a child in need or child protection plan
- Looked after children

All children's centres will additionally provide some universal services including stay and play groups, health services provided by health visitors and midwives, information, guidance and signposting to services.

Each children's centre in the county will ensure that the services which are provided are suited to the reach area population and are accessible to that population. Some services will be delivered within the children's centres, others will continue as now to be offered in outreach facilities, eg community buildings and schools. An element of protection has been factored in to children's centres budgets taking the largest cut in funds in order to provide a longer time to make necessary adjustments to services and find solutions which will ensure that services are accessible.

The planned reductions in funding will not necessitate a specific review of transport arrangements, the focus of children's centres will continue to be to provide local services in venues and locations that are accessible to those that need the support the most.

Question from Councillor S Austen to the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor M Curtis

What plans are being put in place for the Larkfield Day Centre in Ely and for the remaining Clients who access the service?

As it is under used the East Cambridgeshire District Councillors for the Ely North Ward are asking if it can become part of a Barns Area Community Resource as the existing centre is not large enough for all activities. This would give opportunities for the Service users to access activities where appropriate and would help to address social inclusion.”

Response from the Cabinet Member for Adult Services, Councillor M Curtis

Consideration is being given to the future range and nature of services provided from Larkfield Day Centre. Our main priority is the interests of service users from Ely and the surrounding area who access the current service. Their needs are paramount

and may require individual reviews to ensure that any proposed changes or developments understand and take their needs into account. Any proposals for change will be considered and discussed with service users and their families.

Options being considered include the creation of a Community Hub in conjunction with the library service and a move to the library. There are a number of access issues that would need to be resolved for this to be a viable option.

A second option, if available accommodation could not be found in Ely, would be to redesign the current building and include other partners in sharing accommodation using a community hub model.

A third possible option would be to pursue, with partners, the reconfiguration of the site including providing housing on site. This option has worked well in the past in Huntingdon and March.

No decisions have been made and I would welcome further discussions with East Cambridgeshire District Council and Councillor Austen on future options.

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

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

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE (12)

Cllr J Batchelor	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr J Dutton	C	Cllr J Clark	C
Cllr S Gymer	LD	Cllr P Downes	LD
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr G Harper	C
Cllr S Johnstone [Chairman]	C	Cllr C Hutton	C
Cllr G Kenney	C	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr I Manning	LD	Cllr S Tierney	C
Cllr V McGuire [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr F Whelan	LD
Cllr J Palmer	C		
Cllr M Smith	C		
Cllr R West	C		
Cllr L Wilson	I		

ADULTS WELLBEING AND HEALTH (12)

Cllr S Austen	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr N Guyatt	C	Cllr K Bourke	LD
Cllr C Hutton	C	Cllr G Heathcock	LD
Cllr G Kenney [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr S Hoy	C
Cllr S King	C	Cllr A Melton	C
Cllr V McGuire	C	Cllr J Palmer	C
Cllr K Reynolds [Chairman]	C	Cllr P Read	C
Cllr P Sales	L	Cllr K Wilkins	LD
Cllr S Sedgwick-Jell	G		
Cllr C Shepherd	LD		
Cllr F Whelan	LD		
Cllr F Yeulett	C		

ENTERPRISE, GROWTH AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE (12)

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

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES (12)

Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr J Batchelor	LD
Cllr L Kadic	C	Cllr Sir P Brown	C
Cllr S King	C	Cllr J Dutton	C
Cllr A Pellew	LD	Cllr G Harper	C
Cllr P Reeve	UKIP	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr J E Reynolds	C	Cllr R Pegram	C
Cllr T Sadiq	L	Cllr P Sales	L
Cllr M Smith	C	Cllr S van de Ven	LD
Cllr S Tierney [Chairman]	C	Cllr K Wilkins	LD
Cllr R West [Vice-Chairman]	C		
Cllr S Whitebread	LD		

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH: JOINT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE (5)

Cllr G Heathcock	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr G Kenney	C	Cllr K Bourke	LD
Cllr V McGuire	C	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr P Sales	L	Cllr K Reynolds	C
Cllr C Shepherd	LD	Cllr R West	C

COMMITTEES

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (7)

Cllr R Butcher	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr B Farrer [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD
Cllr S Kindersley	LD	Cllr J Clark	C
Cllr P Read [Chairman]	C	Cllr N Guyatt	C
Cllr M Smith	C	Cllr B Hunt	C
Cllr T Stone	LD	Cllr L Kadic	C
Cllr M Williamson	LD	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
		Cllr K Wilkins	LD

STANDARDS COMMITTEE (5)

Vice Chairman of the Council		Substitutes:	
Cllr C Carter	L	Cllr G Harper	C
Cllr G Heathcock	LD	Cllr van de Ven	LD
Cllr V Lucas	C		
Cllr J Powley	C		

APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE (7)

Non-Cabinet nominee	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Count [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 S Count	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr N Guyatt [Vice-Chairman]	C	Cllr K Bourke	LD
Cllr S Johnstone	C	Cllr D Jenkins	LD
Cllr J Reynolds	C	Cllr V Lucas	C
Cllr P Sales	L	Cllr A Melton	C
Cllr C Shepherd	LD	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr T Stone [Chairman]	LD	Cllr A G Orgee	C
		Cllr M Williamson	LD

SERVICE APPEALS COMMITTEE (pool of members)

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

STAFF APPEALS COMMITTEE (pool of members)

Cllr J Batchelor	LD	Cllr L Nethsingha	LD
Cllr N Bell	LD	Cllr L Oliver	C
Cllr B Farrer	C	Cllr A Pellew	LD
Cllr G Harper	C	Cllr J Reynolds	C
Cllr S Hoy	C	Cllr C Shepherd	LD
Cllr B Hunt	C	Cllr M Smith	C
Cllr C Hutton	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
Cllr V McGuire	C		

PENSIONS COMMITTEE (3)

Cllr J Batchelor	LD	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Count	C	N/A	
Cllr N Guyatt	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 R Pegram	C	Cllr J Reynolds	C
Cllr C Shepherd	LD		

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 J Reynolds	C		

JOINT COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT SHARED SERVICES (3)

Cllr N Clarke	C	Substitutes:	
Cllr S Count	C	Cllr R Butcher	C
Cllr L Nethsingha	LD	Cllr M Curtis	C
		Cllr D Jenkins	LD

TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT AREA JOINT COMMITTEES

CAMBRIDGE (6)

Cllr C Carter	L	Substitutes:	
Cllr L Nethsingha	LD	Cllr K Bourke	LD
Cllr N Clarke	C	Cllr B Brooks-Gordon	LD
Cllr C Shepherd	LD	Cllr D Brown	C
Cllr S Whitebread	LD	Cllr I Manning	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	Vacancy	C
		Vacancy	C

FENLAND (5)

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

HUNTINGDONSHIRE (6)

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

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE (5)

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

OUTSIDE BODIES

NAME OF BODY	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 S Hoy (C) 4. Cllr R Pegram (C) 5. Cllr K Reynolds (C) 6. Cllr M Smith (C) 7. Cllr J Tuck (C) 8. Cllr F Yeulett (C) 9. Cllr N Bell (LD) 10. Cllr S Gymer (LD) 11. Cllr G Heathcock (LD) 12. Cllr F Whelan (LD) 13. Cllr P Sales (L)
Cambridgeshire Police Authority 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 S Johnstone (C) 3. Cllr V Lucas (C) 4. Cllr V McGuire 5. Cllr J Reynolds (C) 6. Cllr J Batchelor (LD) 7. Cllr K Wilkins (LD)
County Councils' Network Council	3-4	4	1. Cllr N Clarke (C) 2. Cllr M McGuire (C) 3. Cllr S Johnstone (C) 4. Cllr K Bourke (LD)
East of England Local Government Association		1	Cllr N Clarke (C)
ESPO Management Committee Purchasing and contracting service for 10 member Authorities	4	2	1. Portfolio Holder for Resources and Performance (C) 2. Cllr J Reynolds (C)
<i>Appointments Sub- Committee</i>	Time Limited	1	Cllr J Reynolds (C)
<i>Bonus Sub-Committee</i>	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)
LGA Commissions <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)