

County Councillor's Report for Parishes, December 2017 – Anna Bradnam

U&C and Waterbeach Cycling Campaign - I attended a meeting at which aspirations were shared and concerns raised. It's hard for anyone to make progress while the guidance is still awaited.

RLW Exhibition 24-25 Nov

I attended the exhibition by RLW, who are presenting concepts for the Waterbeach New Town site, not just the land in their ownership. I quite like their idea of 'superblocks' – squares of development with only pedestrian access within them. Living here would require a shift in mind-set to a lifestyle much less reliant on the car. I also found their feedback form unnervingly bland, with every question logically eliciting agreement. The developer won't learn much from this, 'motherhood and apple pie' approach, apart from our email addresses. Meanwhile, we await reports...

Joint Parishes Meeting - Waterbeach New Town – the meeting scheduled for 28 November is being re-scheduled as neither the Ely to Cambridge Study (A10 Corridor Study), nor the Supplementary Planning Document being prepared by ARUP are ready. We hope to set a date in December.

...all things rail:

Waterbeach Station – With Cllrs Johnson and Tregoing, I attended the Fenline Users Association AGM and their Station Report meeting and learned that Network Rail are committed to the 8-car lengthening of the station platforms at the existing site by Autumn 2018 even though this will become redundant when the new station is built. Having not found solid ground down to 23 m depth, they will use multiple mini-piles and steel framed construction which can be adjusted if levels change, but this requires extensive access, which still needs to be negotiated.

Waterbeach New Station - They are at GRIP 3, site selection stage now. (Governance for Railway Investment Projects). They are proposing a high tech station with good canopies, better car parking and safe access to all platforms. The initial car park will be accessible from the village and as the development builds out, they will build new car parks to the north, leaving the original as a disabled car park. Long term, more and longer trains will be required, so eventually platforms will accommodate 12-car trains. No date yet.

Cambridge North Station – Brookgate's plans for a hotel were approved by the Joint Development Control Committee but those for the office building were refused, for not allowing enough room between the building and the pre-existing, approved and well-used cycle path towards Moss Bank. The proposal created major conflict between pedestrians and cyclists on the existing path because Brookgate propose building to the edge of the curtilage. Annoyingly, this was expressed as if the cycle path was in the wrong place, rather than that Brookgate have taken no account of it in their designs.

Fen Road Chesterton – since the station opened, residents in Fen Road, Chesterton have been frustrated by the length of time for which the level crossing barriers are down, especially in the morning, just when people want to go to work or take children to school. We have seen evidence of gates being down every 4 or 5 minutes and in theory, down 9 times between 08:00 and 08:20 but more likely down continuously for this 20 minutes. Whilst it seems unacceptable to trap some 500 residents and over 50 employees while the barriers are down, it is hard to see how this can be improved. Cllrs are seeking meetings with

Network Rail. In the meantime, I have been urging officers to re-consider any options for a pedestrian access to the towpath, so at least residents could leave on foot.

Improved train services when Thameslink opens

Govia Thameslink Railway (GTR) have advised us about future timetable changes over the next two years as Thameslink comes into use and connects to Cambridge from May 2018. GTR operate in our area as Great Northern and run the trains into Kings Cross on the King's Lynn – Ely - Cambridge, and Peterborough – Huntingdon-St Neots routes. From May 2018 there will be services from Cambridge to Brighton and Peterborough to Horsham, both serving Gatwick Airport. From 2019 there will be Cambridge to Maidstone East services as well. Details are yet to be finalised around stopping patterns and frequencies.

Highways - The **A10/A14 roundabout** was being re-surfaced overnight, at the end of November – annoyingly, without much in the way of warning road signs or diversion, making for a very convoluted journey home. However, I'm pleased to see the gaping seams between lanes of tarmac are being sealed and the road markings re-painted.

Litter on the River Cam towpath – The Haling Way is a public highway, so a County responsibility; the Conservators are responsible for the waterway, paid for by boaters licences. For many years the Conservators have collected litter semi-voluntarily, whilst mowing on behalf of the County. I am trying to arrange meetings to discuss a proper Agreement with the SCDC/City Shared Waste Service and for collection of the rubbish.

'Be Well Cambridgeshire' - This new Cambridgeshire County Council website provides information to help people be healthier. The website www.bewellcambridgeshire.co.uk provides information and tips for your mental health, active living, a healthy diet, sexual health, alcohol, drugs and smoking. Links to other organisations that provide information also feature on the website as well as local support groups. The first campaign to be promoted is Stay Warm, Stay Well.

Fen Ditton Primary School – was recognised in November, for being a Modeshift STAR, for having demonstrated excellence in supporting cycling, walking and scooting to school. Cambridgeshire County Council's Road Safety Team celebrated the achievements of 10 of the county's schools at Shire Hall, Cambridge, as part of its STARS (School Travel Accreditation & Recognition Scheme). Councillor John Williams and I both attended to congratulate Fen Ditton Primary School.

Milton - I have been seeking estimates for cleaning the War Memorial from reputable stonemasons.

I am seeking confirmation from County Highways regarding the adoption of North Lodge Park Road, and what is standing in the way of its adoption.

Landbeach and Horningsea – no specific requests

Waterbeach – the highways faults reported to me, have already been reported on the County Highway fault reporting system.

Fen Ditton – After the discussion at the last pc meeting, of the proposed double yellow lines at the junction of Horningsea Road and High Ditch Road, the Case Officer and I have received a number of representations from local residents. I will be meeting the officer with the parish council to understand the evolution of the proposals. I understand there are not enough households here to make a resident's parking scheme viable (which some residents had requested.)

AB 27/11/2017