

County Councillor Report for Parishes November 2020 - Cllr Anna Bradnam

County – Waste Disposal

The Milton Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) at Butt Lane will remain open during the forthcoming lockdown – but you need to book a 15 minute slot here

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/waste-and-recycling/household-recycling-centres>

The HWRC at Butt Lane is on County Council land currently operated by FCC Environment Ltd as a landfill site. In September the County Environment and Sustainability Committee agreed to decouple the HWRC from the landfill site, as that planning consent will expire in December 2026 and otherwise the HWRC would have to move in 2025 to allow that area to be restored. Three different plans to expand the HWRC, making it split level (to improve safety) will be brought to a public consultation and then come back to committee before a planning application is submitted. Since the site is in the Green Belt, it could be called in by the Secretary of State.

Health - Update

With a national lockdown being brought in on Thursday 5 November we anticipate another month of restrictions. We are advised to wash hands, cover face and make space. If you feel unwell, get a test <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> and stay at home for 10 days. This area is currently at medium risk but the national restrictions from 5 November here <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/new-national-restrictions-from-5-november#stay-at-home> say we must

Stay at home, except

- for childcare or education where this is not provided online
- work, where you cannot work from home
- exercise outdoors or visiting an outdoor public place – with your own household or one person from another household (children under school age are not counted in this)
- any medical reason or to escape harm or domestic abuse
- shopping for food or medicines (as infrequently as possible)
- to visit members of your support bubble, provide care or as a volunteer

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

A10 upgrade – dualling and junctions - Heiroglyphics have appeared all along Milton High Street and at the A10 - Landbeach Road junction. I believe a company has been employed (I don't know by whom) to survey for all underground services, so that any forthcoming works have up-to-date mapping.

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On Wednesday 4 November the Transport & Infrastructure Committee will consider matters including:

- Budgetary and Performance Update
- The Local Transport Plan and the CAM Sub-Strategy looking at the feedback received during the recent consultation. This sets out the vision for CAM against which schemes contributing to the CAM will be considered, and recommend approval of the sub-strategy by the CPCA Board.
- Cambridge South East Transport Better Public Transport and Active Travel Consultation – I attended a site visit earlier this week looking at the proposal to build a new transport hub near the Fourwentways roundabout (Abington, Granta Park) and the proposed route for a transport link with the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. The CPCA will note the Greater Cambridge Partnership consultation and direct the Director of Delivery and Strategy to respond.
- The Cambridge Autonomous Metro Programme Update, including the Northern Route Corridor Options. This currently is considering stations either north or south of Cambourne, with the transport corridor running north of the A428 then running either north of Coton or south of Madingley and joining Madingley Road into Cambridge.

County Highways – Local Highway Officer Nicola Burdon

After seven years, Nicola Burdon, our Local Highway Officer has moved on within the County Council to become a Network Manager. Whilst residents often feel that road repairs ‘never get done’, Nicola has responded immediately to emergencies and dangerous potholes, (A10 and Greenside in Waterbeach, High Street in Fen Ditton) and when the budget ran out, holding our requests and then delivering them when money became available (e.g. Fen Road and Bene’t Close in Milton, High Street pavement in Landbeach). The list of jobs within the five parishes in my Division can seem endless, so multiply that up by the 25 parishes Nicola has covered and you can imagine what a huge job it has been. Bannold Road, Waterbeach is still on the ‘to do’ list! The Council is recruiting now for a new LHO. If there are any issues you need to report please use the online web reporting system: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>

Transport – Buses

The Mayor’s Bus Reform Task Force is considering how best to design and fund a network of bus services. I am appointed to the Taskforce by South Cambs District Council. We had a meeting today at which we were advised that passenger numbers are currently 30% of pre-Covid numbers but operator costs are 95% of pre-Covid costs. Effectively all existing bus networks are only being able to operate by virtue of the Treasury’s Direct Covid Bus Support Grant to commercial operators. Local Transport Authorities have been asked to maintain any subsidy they were previously paying to support uneconomic bus routes.

The Bus Reform Task Force is unable to fulfil its remit at present as the milestones are unattainable, so work on the Outline Business Case has been halted.

Instead, they are looking at projects and technologies which will contribute to **Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)**, including new Ticket Machines that can be rented to commercial operators. These will enable much improved capture of GPS data (to give accurate real time location) and better data relay to RTPI signs, contactless payment and data integrations which could link to train ticketing for seamless journeys. Charmingly – they realise that this sort of map does not display well on mobile phones - so will print paper maps. Demand Responsive Transport is seen to be the solution to our (lack of connected) rural transport problem. Go2 is offering DRT in Sevenoaks <http://www.go2now.co.uk/> and they are exploring this model for Cambridgeshire. Need smart livery, modern, WiFi connected service to attract young people, who are not attracted to /don't use 'Dial-a-Ride style services which are perceived to be for older people.

Transport – Cycling – Chisholm Trail Bridge

The Abbey-Chesterton Bridge is due to be lifted into place overnight 7/8 November. The bridge forms a key link in the Chisholm Trail which is a joint project between the Greater Cambridge Partnership and Cambridgeshire County Council and will be Phase 1 of a new foot and cycle route through the city. Work to site the crane ready for the lift will start from 2 November 2020. The River Cam and adjacent towpath will be closed from 8pm on Sat 7 November to 8am on Sunday 8 November whilst the bridge is lifted into place.

If the weather is bad the work may have to be delayed. The works to prepare for the new underpass of Newmarket Road will be carried out in Spring 2021, with the full trail still to be opened in Autumn 2021.

If you are planning to come along to watch the bridge being lifted in to place please abide by current Covid 19 guidelines and give due regard to social distancing.

Cycling - Cycle path, Ditton Lane, Fen Ditton

In preparation for the work starting on the east side of Ditton Lane, some modest siding-back was done on the west side. This has made the pathway a little wider, under the steep bank, so that when they closed Ditton Lane, cyclists would still be able to travel down the western pathway. The main works are under way and while there are road closures, I am hoping we can get additional works to improve the stability of the western bank.