

May 2019 Parish Report

Mark Howell: Cambridgeshire County Councillor for Bourn, Greater Cambourne, Little Gransden, Longstowe, Lower Cambourne and Upper Cambourne

Pop-up exhibition on the act of writing coming to Cambridgeshire Libraries

On Friday 26 April, pop-up exhibitions on the origins, means and future of writing will simultaneously launch at Cambridge Central Library and in over 20 partner libraries around the UK

The free exhibition will preview at Cambridge Central Library on Friday 26 April and will remain on display until 30 May. It will then tour across selected Cambridgeshire Libraries until 27 August.

Through images of carved stone inscriptions, medieval manuscripts and early printed works, the family-focused pop-up displays will span five millennia and five continents to deconstruct the act of writing and consider its future in the digital age.

The exhibition will be augmented with material from relevant local and regional archives, accompanying events and an interactive learning trail, enabling visitors of all ages to engage in a nationwide conversation exploring one of humankind's greatest achievements – the act of writing – through the [Living Knowledge Network](#).

Cambridgeshire Libraries is part of the newly launched Living Knowledge Network, an innovative partnership of public libraries based in major cities and towns working in collaboration with the British Library. The Network shares resources, skills and ideas, promoting the enduring values of libraries. As a Network we believe new and innovative ways of working will benefit the millions of people who use public libraries in the UK every day.

Sue Wills, Library Service Manager at Cambridgeshire County Council said: *“We are very proud to be part of the Living Knowledge Network alongside such prestigious partners as this gives us a great opportunity to learn from other parts of the country and share our own experiences in an UK-wide context.*

“We are excited to be welcoming this exhibition in partnership with the British Library in all our libraries, to enable visitors of all ages to engage in a nationwide conversation exploring one of humankind's greatest achievements – the act of writing.”

The following libraries will welcome the exhibition between 30 May and 27 August: Cambourne, Ely, Huntingdon, March, St Ives, St Neots, Wisbech. More

Mark Howell
2, Vinter Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 3RU
01480 831848 / 07816 925843
mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

details about the exhibition and forthcoming tour dates in Cambridgeshire Libraries will be published on <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/libraries> and via social media.

Investment from government for county's roads

The government has announced further funding which will benefit roads in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

The government has announced further funding which will benefit roads in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have received the maximum amount of additional road maintenance funding from the Department for Transport.

This funding means almost £3.1m (£2.5m for Cambridgeshire County Council) has been awarded to both the county and city council in recognition for making the best use of funds available and prioritising the needs of the public.

This year (2019-20), Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have also received funding totalling £990k to help prevent and fix potholes.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Assistant Director of Highways, Richard Lumley said: *"We welcome this funding from the government which will help us keep our roads in good condition.*

"Our roads are important to us and we are listening to people by spending more money on repairing and resurfacing our roads in Cambridgeshire. We will also combine this with our specialist machines, known as the 'dragon patcher' so we continue our battle on potholes."

In order to keep our roads maintained, people need to help us by coming forward and reporting them using our online tool.

Take a step to help protect every child in Cambridgeshire

Public Health experts across Cambridgeshire are encouraging more parents to vaccinate their children to keep them safe from life threatening diseases.

Over 1000 children across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough didn't have their full course of measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccinations last year – which can have long term impacts on people's lives.

This week marks World Immunisation Week (24-30 April 2019), led by The World Health Organisation which promotes the crucial role of vaccines in protecting lives and preventing serious diseases.

Mark Howell

2, Vinter Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 3RU

01480 831848 / 07816 925843

mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

In support of this campaign, Cambridgeshire County Council is launching a local social media awareness campaign #VaccinesWork, encouraging parents/carers to ensure their children are fully up to date with their vaccinations.

Vaccinations are thoroughly tested by health professionals and continually monitored to make sure they are safe and effective for those receiving them.

Local statistics show that the uptake of some childhood vaccinations across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are below the national target of 95%. This includes the pre-school vaccinations given at approximately three years and four months.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Consultant in Public Health, Katie Johnson said: "Vaccinations prevent and protect not only the person vaccinated, but also those around them from life threatening diseases.

"We all want to make sure every child goes on to lead a healthy life. Diseases like measles, mumps and whooping cough haven't gone away and can be passed on to those not protected by vaccines - if we stop vaccination, diseases will return.

"It's never too late to get your child vaccinated –it's safe, effective and available free of charge from local GP surgery."

If your child is starting school in September 2019, make sure they are up to date with their vaccinations. You can:

- Visit the [NHS vaccinations website](#) for information and to make use of the personalised vaccination planner
- Refer to your child's personal child health record (red book) for information on vaccinations, and to check vaccinations are up to date
- Book an appointment with your registered GP for access to childhood vaccines
-

Look out for the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough #VaccinesWork campaign in support of World Immunisation Week.

Increase in applications for primary school places in Cambridgeshire

This year has seen an increase in the total number of applications for primary school places with 6890 applications for reception places at Cambridgeshire schools for September 2019- up from 6763 last year.

Of these, 92.5% (6376) of applicants have been offered their first school preference, 4.3% (296) a place at their second preference school and 0.9% (64) their third preference.

Mark Howell

2, Vinter Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 3RU

01480 831848 / 07816 925843

mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

The number of children offered a place at their parents' first preference school has gone down from nearly 95% last year, mainly due to an increase in the number of applications received from parents naming only one school.

The percentage of children who were not offered a place at one of their preferred schools has gone up from 1 to 2% - again due to applicants not using all three preferences. The 64 children not allocated a place at one of their preferred schools have been offered a place at the next nearest Cambridgeshire school with a place available.

Jonathan Lewis, Service Director for Education, said, *"It is really important that applicants use all three of their preferences when applying for a school place and that they include their catchment school. This will give them the best chance of securing a place at a school close to their home."*

Last year, a total of 6763 applications were received for reception places at Cambridgeshire schools for September 2018 entry. Almost 95% (6404) of applicants were offered their first school preference, 3.6% (246) were offered a place at their second preference school and 0.7% (48) their third preference.

What can parents do if they are not happy about the place their child(ren) has been offered?

Parents are legally entitled to appeal against the admission authority's decision to refuse a place at their preferred school(s). Accepting a place at an alternative school does not affect their child's place on the reserve list for their preferred school(s), or right of appeal.

Free NHS health checks for Cambridgeshire residents

Free NHS health checks are being offered to residents aged 40-74 years to help detect early health issues before they do real damage.

The 20-30 minutes checks, which are funded by Cambridgeshire County Council will include monitoring blood pressure, weight, cholesterol and lifestyle factors that influence health.

By booking a check residents could find out how likely they are to get heart or kidney disease, diabetes or have a stroke in the future and if the likelihood is high, advice on how to reduce this. Those aged over 65 are also told about the signs and symptoms of dementia.

Between April 2017 and March 2018, over 20,500 NHS Health Checks were completed across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, an increase of 14 per cent from the previous year.

Mark Howell
2, Vinter Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 3RU
01480 831848 / 07816 925843
mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Dr Liz Robin, Director of Public Health for Cambridgeshire County Council said: *"This is a great opportunity to find out early if you are at risk of a stroke, diabetes, a heart attack, or many other life threatening conditions.*

"By finding out early, before serious damage is done, you could potentially make lifestyle changes that would massively reduce, or in some cases, eliminate your risk of dying early as a result of these conditions."

Residents aged between 40-74 years who do not currently have a long-term health condition can book a FREE NHS Health Check by visiting

If you're aged between 40-74 years and do not currently have a long-term health condition you should have an NHS Health Check every five years. Call or visit your GP now to get your Free NHS Health Check. For more information about Health Checks, visit: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/bewell/resources-and-campaigns/nhs-health-checks-programme/>

Cambridge motorists will have more phone parking choices

Drivers parking on the streets of Cambridge will be offered more cashless options to pay for their parking.

Cambridgeshire County Council is launching a pioneering "multi-vendor" phone parking service for drivers looking to park in the city's Pay & Display bays, offering three cashless solutions for drivers to choose from at each location.

Cambridge is the first city in the UK to introduce this type of multi-service scheme and the County Council's Parking Service has worked closely with their IT provider 'Conduent' to create a seamless and convenient process for the public.

The new scheme is set to offer a wider range of options whilst minimising confusion for those that already pay to park via a mobile phone. This means drivers will have a variety of options and can choose the phone parking service they prefer.

The current phone parking provider 'RingGo' will continue to be available. The two additional solutions are 'JustPark', which is currently available in the City Council's off-street car parks and 'Mobon', used at the train station's car park.

No changes will be made to the current location numbers, which identify every Pay & Display areas, so drivers who already pay to park by phone can continue to do so. The signs on the pay machines are being changed to reflect the new offer and all three services will use the same location codes.

Mark Howell

2, Vinter Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 3RU

01480 831848 / 07816 925843

mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Phil Hammer, Parking Operations Manager at Cambridgeshire County Council said: "Whilst we encourage the use of alternative modes of transport across Cambridge, we recognise this does not suit all visitors and residents. In these instances, it is only right we make parking as easy as possible.

"Cashless parking gives you more choice, it is more convenient and makes life easier. No more fumbling around for coins or rushing back to your car to top up the meter, you can extend your parking on the go. Once registered, all you'll need is the location number of the street and you can swiftly pay with your card.

"Since its introduction in 2015, cashless parking in Cambridge has grown considerably with more than a quarter of a million sessions booked in the last year alone. Now people have more choice we expect this figure to increase as more drivers will be able to experience parking without coins."

Cash options currently remain available at all sites and more contactless card payment facilities will be rolled out in the future.

Cambridgeshire Household Recycling Centres get the summer treatment

All nine household recycling centres in Cambridgeshire are moving to summer opening hours today.

This means centres will remain open for longer every day for residents to dispose of their household waste. The centres will also be open on Bank holidays, including Easter, operating on Sunday opening hours, so why not hop-over to drop off household bulky items and other recycling waste?

Mark Howell

2, Vinter Close, Papworth Everard, Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB23 3RU

01480 831848 / 07816 925843

mark.howell@cambridgeshire.gov.uk