

CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

Planning Meeting 14th January 2020

CORRESPONDENCE

	FROM	SUBJECT
6.1	Planning Policy Strategy and Economy Team	Greater Cambridge Planning Policy Update
6.2	Daniel Fulton – Fews Land Consortium Ltd.	Proposed changes to planning procedures at South Cambridgeshire District Council.
6.3	Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group	Invitation to comment on Waterbeach Neighbourhood Development Plan
6.4	Cllr Bridget Smith – The Leader, South Cambridgeshire District Council	Items referred to Planning Committee.

Greater Cambridge Planning Policy Update

(Last updated 2 January 2020)

This monthly update covers the Greater Cambridge area. The planning departments for South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council have been combined to form the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning service which serve this area.

This update gives information on:

- Live planning related consultations in Greater Cambridge, comprising South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge, to help you have your say.
- Forthcoming planning related consultations in Greater Cambridge.
- Other key planning news at local, county and national levels.

Information on any consultations that may affect people living or working in Greater Cambridge can be viewed on the South Cambridgeshire District Council [consultations](#) webpage and / or the Cambridge City Council [consultations](#) webpage as relevant to the consultation concerned.

Current Consultations

Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council

Minerals and Waste Local Plan Proposed Submission (Publication) Draft

Cambridgeshire County and Peterborough City Councils are carrying out a consultation on the Proposed Submission Minerals and Waste Local Plan. This includes a suite of proposed policies to guide the determination of planning applications, and which cover detailed matters such as biodiversity, restoration, traffic and highways, and safeguarding relating to waste and minerals.

The consultation runs until 9 January 2020. This is the third round of consultation on the emerging plan and following the consultation the minerals and waste authorities will submit the Proposed Submission Plan, background documents and the representations received to the Secretary of State for Examination.

Further information about this consultation and how you can make comments can be found on the [County Council's website](#).

Forthcoming consultations

Consultations by Greater Cambridge Shared Planning

The consultation on the Issues and Options for the Greater Cambridge Joint Local Plan will start on 13 January 2020 and run until 24 February 2020.

For more information on this consultation see the Local Plan section of this update below.

Network Rail consultation on new railway station for Cambridge South

[Network Rail](#) has announced it is launching a public consultation in early 2020 on proposals for a new railway station for Cambridge South. Public consultation begins on 20 January 2020, and will close on 2 March 2020.

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning News

New Joint Greater Cambridge Local Plan – upcoming Issues and Options Consultation

Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council are working together to prepare a joint Local Plan for the Greater Cambridge area. On Monday 13 January we will be starting the first conversation with our communities on issues for the next Local Plan.

The Greater Cambridge Local Plan – The First Conversation will start the conversation about the kind of place we want Greater Cambridge to be in the future. It will explore the ‘big themes’ – climate change, biodiversity, social inclusion and great places - that will influence how homes, jobs and infrastructure are planned, and where growth might go.

The consultation will start **at 9am on Monday 13 January** and run **until 5pm on Monday 24 February 2020**. This will be an opportunity for everyone who is interested in the Greater Cambridge area to have their say in shaping the future of this area.

A new [Greater Cambridge Local Plan website](#) is being created to help people get involved more easily. This will also mean people can comment on the issues that they are more concerned about. The consultation will go live on 13 January – you will be able to explore all the material, and share your views.

During the consultation we will be taking a pop-up ‘roadshow’ to places around the area including shopping centres, schools, community centres and other places where we can reach out to as many people as possible, making it easy for you to spend a few minutes finding out more and sharing your views. Current list of our events is below, and you will be able to keep up to date on our website.

We will also be holding a ‘Big Debate’ on the evening of 18 February, where we are inviting local groups to share their ideas about what should be in the Local Plan, in a fun, provocative and lively public event. If you are interested in being one of the groups to present, please contact localplan@greatercambridgeplanning.org. Also look out for details about how to book your seat in the audience on the night, when we open the consultation in January.

Pop up Roadshow Events

January

Saturday 25	The Grafton Centre – Escape @ the Campus	10.00am – 12.00pm
Saturday 25	Milton Tesco - Foyer	2.00pm - 4.00pm
Monday 27	Anglia Ruskin University – The Street *STAFF AND STUDENTS ONLY*	12.00pm – 2.00pm
Tuesday 28	Shelford Tesco Express – At front of store	12.00pm – 2.00pm
Wednesday 29	Clay Farm Centre – Ground floor near stairs	9.30am – 11.00am
Wednesday 29	Cambridge Market	1.30pm – 3.00pm
Wednesday 29	Cambridge Central Railway Station – Entrance near M&S	4.00pm – 7.00pm
Thursday 30	Long Road 6 th Form College – Library *STAFF AND STUDENTS ONLY*	12.00pm – 2.00pm
Friday 31	Gamlingay Eco Hub - Reception	10.00am – 12.00pm
Friday 31	Cottenham Community Centre - Café	10.00am – 12.00pm
February		
Saturday 1	Cambourne Morrisons	10.00am – 12.00pm
Saturday 1	Cambridge United FC – In front of the shop	2.00pm - 3.00pm
Monday 3	Cambridge Regional College – The Mall *STAFF AND STUDENTS ONLY*	11.30pm – 1.30pm
Tuesday 4	Granta Park – The Apiary *FOR EMPLOYEES ONLY*	12.00pm – 2.00pm
Tuesday 4	Parkside Pools and Gym – By Reception	4.00pm – 6.00pm
Wednesday 5	Arbury Community Centre - Reception	9.15am – 11.15am
Wednesday 5	Cambridge Science Park – The Trinity Centre, Reception *FOR EMPLOYEES ONLY*	12.00pm – 2.00pm
Thursday 6	Wellcome Genome Campus – Diner in building 2 *FOR EMPLOYEES ONLY*	11.00pm – 1.00pm
Thursday 6	Cambridge North Station – Stairs by the entrance	4.30pm – 7.30pm
Friday 7	Histon Tesco Express – In front of the store	10.00am – 12.00pm
Saturday 8	Bar Hill Tesco – Foyer	10.00 - 11.30 am
Saturday 8	Cambridge Lion Yard – escalator near Jamaica Blue Cafe	2.00pm - 4.00pm

Call for development sites and green space sites consultation

As part of the Councils' consultation on the Greater Cambridge Local Plan – The First Conversation (Issues and Options 2020) between 13 January 2020 and 24 February 2020 (see above), there will be the opportunity to put forward any sites for consideration as part of the next Local Plan for either:

- housing or employment development, or
- green space sites, to help identify opportunities to enhance and expand the network of green spaces within Greater Cambridge.

As part of the development of the new Greater Cambridge Joint Local Plan, in February and March 2019 we carried out a 'call for sites', allowing people to suggest potential sites or broad locations for development. We received a wide range of housing and employment site suggestions ranging from small sites in villages to

freestanding new communities. There is no need to resubmit sites you have already provided to the Councils as part of the Call for Sites 2019.

We have now almost completed the registration of the 500+ sites and are also in the process of mapping the valid sites. The forthcoming issues and options consultation will also ask for any further sites as part of the call for sites process. We expect that all the sites will be publicly available to view following the issues and options consultation. All of these sites will need to be assessed for their planning merit in 2020, and none of them have any planning status in respect of the new Local Plan.

Draft Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)

Consultation on proposals to help make new housing developments as green as possible published by South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council ended at 5pm on Monday 23 September 2019. The representations have been registered and can be viewed through the [online consultation system](#) on the website.

The draft guide to sustainable design and construction will, when adopted, give developers a clear steer on what is expected of them to reduce the environmental impact of developments. This includes setting out the need to minimise carbon emissions, flood risks, pollution and pressure on water sources. This is all aimed at helping to ensure any development enhances the natural environment, leaving it in a better condition than before it took place.

Next stage – We are considering all the comments received during the consultation. A report will be taken to [Cabinet](#) at South Cambridgeshire District Council on 8 January 2020 and [Planning and Transport Scrutiny Committee](#) at Cambridge City Council on 14 January 2020, where Councillors will consider responses to the representations received and decide whether the SPD should be adopted.

Neighbourhood Planning News in South Cambridgeshire

Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan

The [Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan](#) is currently at the examination stage.

South Cambridgeshire District Council appointed an independent examiner, Andrew Ashcroft, to carry out the examination of the [Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan](#).

He has now sent us his final examiner's report which is published on our website. The Examiner concludes that the Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan meets all the necessary legal requirements and should proceed to referendum subject to a series of recommended modifications set out in the report.

We are progressing the Plan towards a referendum.

For the most up to date news on the progress of this Plan please go to the [Cottenham Neighbourhood Plan](#) page on our website.

Histon & Impington Neighbourhood Plan

[Histon & Impington Neighbourhood Plan](#) is currently at the examination stage.

The examiner appointed to examine this Plan is Bob Yuille. In August he sent us a [preliminary set of questions](#) directed at both the Council and Histon & Impington Parish Council to help him understand the Plan. Responses to these questions have been sent to the examiner and are published on the [Histon & Impington page](#) on our website.

Further correspondence sent directly to the examiner regarding the policy on the Jam Factory was published on 21 October; additional correspondence on 26 November 2019 as well as a new letter on 2 December 2019. [Histon & Impington page](#).

The examiner sent some further questions on 24 October for both the Council and the parish council to respond to. The responses from both councils have been sent to the examiner and are published on our website.

A further letter with a question from the examiner for the parish council was received on 13 December 2019.

Fews
Lane
Consortium
Ltd

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RECEIVED

06 JAN 2020

31 December 2019

Cambourne Parish Council
The Hub
High Street
Cambourne
Cambridge
CB23 6GW

Dear Councillors

Proposed changes to planning decision procedures at South Cambridgeshire District Council

A proposal is currently under consideration at the South Cambridge District Council that would change the way decisions are made on whether planning applications are referred for determination by the council's planning committee or are referred by determination by a single officer.

As you will be aware, under the present arrangements, when a parish council or local member requests that a planning application is determined by the planning committee, the chairman of the planning committee makes the final decision as to whether or not the application will go before the committee.

The current scheme of delegation was devised by the district council only two years ago after an extensive, two-month public consultation involving parish councils and local residents had been carried out.

The new proposal is for the district council to adopt the scheme of delegation currently in place at the Cambridge City Council, with whom the district council recently entered into a shared service agreement for planning. Under the terms of proposed scheme, the final authority to decide whether or not applications are determined by the planning committee would shift from the chairman of the planning committee, who is democratically elected and publicly accountable for his decisions, to a single officer; the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development, who the public have no way of holding to account for the decisions taken and the impacts those decisions have upon their villages.

About us

The Fews Lane Consortium is a community action group based in Longstanton that campaigns for sustainable, context-sensitive development within local villages and promotes high-quality decision-making and democratic accountability in local government. The Consortium does not sell any type of services and is funded entirely by contributions from its members and supporters.

Action steps for parish councils

The Consortium is asking parish councillors across South Cambridgeshire to consider placing a motion on their council's next agenda calling on the district council to ensure that local elected leaders are able to call-in planning applications for consideration by the district council's planning committee and that this

power not be transferred to a single officer, who is unaccountable to local residents through the democratic process.

We are also asking that parish councils ask their clerks to write to the leader of the district council, Cllr Bridget Smith, and the vice-chair of the civic affairs committee, Cllr Claire Daunton, to share your views about the importance of local elected officials retaining the ability to have planning applications referred to the district council's planning committee. Cllr Smith can be contacted by email at <cllr:bridgetsmith@scambs.gov.uk> or by post in care of Gamlingay Parish Council, Stocks Lane, Gamlingay, Sandy SG19 3JR, and Cllr Daunton can be contacted by email at <cllr:daunton@scambs.gov.uk>.

Thank you very much for taking action on this issue of great importance to the future of our district's villages.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daniel Fulton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Daniel Fulton
Director



Neighbourhood Plan Clerk: **Belinda Westwood**

The Old Pavilion
Recreation Ground
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Waterbeach
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Tel: 01223 441338
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8th January 2020

Subject: Invitation to Comment on Waterbeach Neighbourhood Development Plan

Dear Statutory Consultee,

You are receiving this letter as you have been registered as an interested party / body to the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish of Waterbeach in Cambridgeshire is preparing a Neighbourhood Development Plan, intended once "made" to stand alongside South Cambridgeshire District Council's Local Plan and inform planning decisions in the Neighbourhood area. The area of the plan is the entire Parish of Waterbeach.

To comply with Regulation 14 of the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, a draft plan has been prepared.

The full draft can be viewed on-line from 13th January 2020 at [Click here to read the Neighbourhood Plan](#) or, at the Parish Office during public opening hours, alternatively by prior arrangement with the Clerk on Tel: 01223 441338.

The draft can also be viewed during public opening hours in Waterbeach Independent Lending Library, which is located at Waterbeach Community Primary School, High Street, Waterbeach. Look out also for a series of local events which will be publicised locally on Notice Boards and Parish Council and Neighbourhood Plan websites.

Representations, which should be received by **22nd February 2020**, preferably online [Click here to make your comments](#) or Emailed to: NPAdmin@waterbeach.org.uk Alternatively, paper copies which are available at both the Parish Office and the in Waterbeach Independent Lending Library during their public opening hours, or at other times in the **Parish office by prior arrangement with the clerk on 01223 441338** these copies can be sent by post for attention of the **Neighbourhood Plan Clerk** at the Parish Council Office, Recreation Ground Waterbeach.

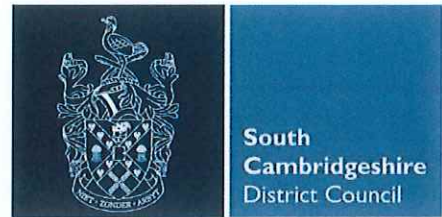
Best Regards,

Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Neighbourhood Plan Clerk
Belinda Westwood

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08 January 2020

Items referred to Planning Committee

Dear Parish Clerk/Parish Meeting Chairman,

We've been contacted by a number of people expressing concerns about possible changes to how we decide which applications are referred to planning committee following a request from a parish council.

What I would like to stress to parish councils is that, in practice, the process for determining which applications go before planning committee would remain the same as they are now. At the moment the Chairman and Vice Chairman of Planning Committee meet with a planning manager every week and consider requests for referral to planning committee.

I have spoken to the Chairman of the committee and he has reassured me that since taking on the role in May 2018 there has not been a situation where agreement has not been reached.

Once the Chairman and officer jointly conclude their deliberations a record is signed by the Chairman and officer confirming the outcome.

As you may be aware, we are looking to change the wording of our constitution in this area. We think this is really important as we were recently challenged on how it could be interpreted.

I understand your concerns and the need for reassurance that elected members will continue to play a similar role as they do now.

To try and give you some reassurance, I am going to recommend that in the unlikely event there is a disagreement between the Chairman of Planning Committee and the Joint Director of Planning and Economic Development on any application, it is

automatically referred to Planning Committee for it to be considered and determined.

I am sorry that you did not hear about these proposed changes from us directly and I hope my letter reassures you.

The constitution review task and finish group will consider this matter in February and subject to their views, I would anticipate it will be referred to planning committee shortly after to make the change.

If you still have any questions or concerns please talk to your District Councillor so they can feed this into the review, or contact me directly.

Finally, just to reassure you that the practice of this Council will remain unchanged.

Kind regards



Cllr Bridget Smith
The Leader, South Cambridgeshire District Council