



CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

A meeting of Cambourne Town was held at The New Cricket Pavilion, Cambourne on Tuesday 18th May 2021 commencing at 19:04pm.

Present:

Cllr J O'Dwyer (Chairman)	Cllr P Hedges
Cllr R Poulton (Vice Chairman)	Cllr Kevin McIntyre
Cllr Nishat Akhter	Cllr Fran Panrucker
Cllr Stephen Drew	Cllr Jeyur Patel
Cllr A Fisher	Cllr Greg Thompson
Cllr P Gavigan	

In attendance: John Vickery, Town Clerk
Ellie Lydon, Committee Clerk

2 residents were in attendance for the meeting.

1. WELCOME BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

As the Chairman of Cambourne Town Council I would like to welcome and thank you for taking the time to attend your Annual Town Meeting this evening!

As many of you are aware, Town and Parish Councils are required to hold meetings at this time of the year for the registered electors in their area, as part of their accountability to the local population. The Town Chairman is required to present a report to this meeting.

The regulations surrounding Annual Town meetings are such that, whilst anyone can attend, participation is limited to registered electors of the Town. So, please state your name and address if you have a question. Obviously, I am willing to exercise some prerogative and common sense.

If a single issue affects a large number, I will ask that the same questions are not raised more than once to ensure all present get a fair chance to raise different issues.

2. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 7th May 2019 ATM/M15 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

3. TOWN COUNCIL REPORT

This is Cambourne Town Council's opportunity to inform you, the residents, about our work over the past year and to thank those people who have supported us. This year, due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the report covers the last two years. It has been a busy period for the Town Council which has continued to receive a lot of support from the Community.

Owing to the need to take into account the social distancing rules and recent

Signed

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guidance on holding face-to-face meetings. I and the Committee Chairs will give a short summary of the reports with the full report being made available on the Councils web site after the meeting.

Councillors

Since the last report Cllr D Maklin and Cllr A Rana left the Council and have been replaced by and Cllr F Panrucker and Cllr S Drew.

All councillors have contributed to the team and aided the Town Council in the performance of its duties and I thank all the Cllrs for their time, skills, experience and knowledge that they bring and give freely for the betterment of Cambourne. In case you may not be aware, Cllrs are unpaid and volunteer their time and services.

The Town Council has continued to take the initiative and be creative in an effort to ensure the residents of Cambourne get the best service possible. This has been a challenge over the last 14 months with the effect of the Covid-19 Pandemic. The Town Council has worked hard to try and ensure the residents were supported where we could have a positive impact. We worked with the County and District Councils to identify those at risk during the lockdowns and with the support of voluntary organisations provided the appropriate help. An example of this was:

Supporting CVTF

Cambourne Town Council worked closely with Cambourne Volunteer Task Force in response to the pandemic, communicating regularly with South Cambs District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. The Town Council produced ID cards for the volunteers that signed up to support CVTF. SCDC provided an initial list of around 400 residents who may have needed support within Cambourne. They also sent weekly updated lists of residents to contact. Around 500 letters were hand delivered to residents with information on how they can be supported with contact information. In the first few months of lockdown the Council received numerous responses from the letter some requiring help and others thanking the Council for the offer. Requests were passed on to the volunteers to help as required. The Town Council staff were on standby for urgent response and purchased items that were required in exceptional circumstances (e.g. clothing, baby essentials, duvets and pillows). The volunteers at CVTF did an amazing job to support residents and the Town Council are extremely grateful for the excellent co-ordination. The Town Council also kept the website and Facebook page up to date with useful links and Government guidance that applied at the time.

Cambourne

There are 4364 houses occupied as of April 2021.

The population of Cambourne currently sits at around 12,053 people, and of the 950 extra houses built in Upper Cambourne, around 8 are left to be occupied. (at the time of writing)

Unsurprisingly, a growing and evolving community generates its own issues. I'd like to take this opportunity to talk about a handful of them:

Action Plan

The Town Council has completed most of the actions in the adopted PARISH/TOWN PLAN Action Plan and is working to complete the remaining actions within its control. The other parts of the Action Plan are being pursued with the relevant authorities or relevant bodies.

Upgrading of the A428

The Town Council has been consulted on the proposals for the upgrading of the A428 between the Black Cat roundabout and Caxton Gibbet. Highways England has submitted the Development Consent Order to the Secretary of State, who will consider the application prior to giving consent.

East West Rail

A number of non-statutory consultations have been carried out by EWR regarding the alignment between Bedford and Cambridge this has been supported by a number of stake holder meetings. During this the Town Council has stressed its desire that a station be located to the north of Cambourne rather than South of the town. To ensure the Town Council has taken the residents wishes into account, the Town Council carried out a questionnaire. The questionnaire had a number of questions which made it clear that the residents wanted the new railway station to be sited to the north of the A428 (69%). The latest non-statutory consultation puts forward 5 routes with the two preferred routes have a station to the north of Cambourne. The variation between the routes is the location of the station on the East Coast Main Line, i.e. North Cambridge or South Cambridge.

Traffic:

As Cambourne grows, so too does the demands on its roads and parking infrastructure. Parking is a perennial issue common to all Town/Parish Councils.

Pedestrian Crossings:

The TC looked at 8 pedestrian crossings sites of which only 3 initially met the safety criteria for the provision of a pedestrian crossing.

The Council is working on the provision of at least 4 permanent zebra crossings. Three are in place, the first near Monkfield Primary School, School Lane, the second at Swansley Lane/School Lane and the third being finished this year at Eastgate/Lancaster Gate junction the fourth crossing is due to be provided at Monkfield Lane/Priory Walk as part of the McCarthy and Stone development.

The Town Council applied to the County Council and managed to get a second £10,000 grant towards the third crossing. Each crossing costs approx' £28,000 and has to meet strict criteria before the County Council will give permission for installation.

20mph Speed limit in Cambourne

The Town Council is working with the County Council on the implementation of a 20mph speed limit in Cambourne. Speed counts were held at various locations and the data has been passed to the County Council so they can prepare a scheme to identify the extent of signage and traffic calming required.

Yellow Lines

The Town Council have carried out consultations on the next phases of yellow line provision requested by Cambourne Residents. Following the consultations, a request has been made for yellow lines on De la Warr Way, Sackville Way, and West end of the High Street (opposite The Hub), Back Lane up to Osier Way, High Street East extension of the yellow lines on Jeavons Lane (near to Jeavons Wood School), Jeavons Lane (from the tennis court down past the turning for Miller Way, Stagwell Road to Sitch Road) and extension of yellow line School Lane adjacent to Monkfield School. The County Council will consider the request and if they agree to the request they will draw up the Traffic Order and carry out a consultation.

Cambourne High Street:

The Town Council remains committed to seeing the implementation of a High St in Cambourne. The Town Council continues to work closely with New-Crest and South Cambs District Council to bring Forward a High Street to Cambourne, that is both functional and practical in today's economic environment, whilst trying to take into account the feedback from the public.

Cambourne Youth Building

The Town Council working with South Cambs District Council has been able to bring forward the funding of the permanent Youth Building. We also managed to get a grant of £237,000 from Cambridgeshire County Council, Community Capital Grant to enable the building to be extended. It is anticipated that construction will begin in July 2021. The building has been pegged out on site giving an indication of the size of the new building.

Please attend our TC meetings to stay abreast of proposed developments.

Staff:

The annual report would not be complete without paying tribute to our hard-working Town Council staff. Who have all worked tirelessly throughout the lockdown period ensuring the safety and support for the Cambourne residents.

John Vickery, who is both our Town Clerk and our Responsible Financial Officer, has led his team to ensure that the decisions of the Council are put into effect.

A special "thanks" must be given to Warren Bourne and his team, who kept the flowers blooming, the pitches in excellent condition and the green spaces maintained.

To **keep** up to date on what's **happening**, visit our **website** –

<http://www.cambourneparishcouncil.gov.uk/>

and **Facebook page** –

<https://www.facebook.com/cambournetowncouncil/>

3

Finance and Policy Committee

This meeting is also chaired by the Town Chairman.

The Committee looks after the following –

- Estimates and budgets of expenditure
- Audit matters

Signed

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- Staff
- Grants
- Lettings & Charges
- Land matters
- Office & Council Accommodation
- Payment of Invoices
- Council Policy

The membership is:

Chairman and Vice Chairman of CTC

Chairmen of the Planning and L&A Committee

2 or 3 further councillors to make a total of 7 members.

Matters of finance and policy are discussed and the budget is closely monitored.

Motions are taken to full council for discussion and voting.

The Town Clerk will outline the financial side of the committees work in his report

Greg Thompson

Chairman - Leisure & Amenities Committee

cllr.thompson@cambourneparishcouncil.gov.uk

Leisure & Amenities Committee Report 2019-21

Premises

Due to Covid-19 all community buildings were closed during the first lockdown from 17th March 2020 – 1st September 2020 and the Second lockdown from 25th December 2020, they have had limited use between the two lockdowns and as we follow the road map out of the second lockdown.

The Blue Space was finally transferred from Cambridgeshire County Council to the Town Council 22nd February 2021.

The Hub has been used as a Covid Testing Centre since 3rd February 2021. Regular bookings in the Hub have agreed to start their classes at a later date or have temporarily moved to use another venue. The Cambourne LFT have carried out 6,404 tests have been carried out there were 32 positive tests and 6366 negative tests this meant that 32 people who were asymptomatic (showing no symptoms) were asked to isolate and not spread the infection, thus breaking the chain of infection. The data from the testing feeds into the national data which is supporting the Government in following the road map out of the latest lockdown

Sports Facilities

The Sport Pitches have been maintained throughout the pandemic and have been opened when possible, in line with the Government Guidance.

Playgrounds

The playgrounds were closed during the first lockdown and were reopened once permitted. They have been well used by all residents. There has been repeated surface damage at the Great Cambourne Park and the groundstaff are informed and carry out regular repairs. The Committee is going to consider alternative safety surfaces to minimise the risk of vandalism.

- **RoSPA Inspection**

The annual RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) inspection was carried out by PlaySafety Limited in April 2020 and April 2021. The reports were received and copied to the ground staff and Committee Chairman. The ground staff have reviewed the latest report and are carrying out the necessary repairs.

There has been rot to some of the posts in Lower Cambourne Play Area which are being replaced under warranty.

- **Graffiti**

Ground staff now actively monitor all playgrounds for graffiti and will remove any instances as a priority activity. Graffiti in playgrounds or elsewhere in Cambourne can be reported to the Town Council office.

Allotments

The allotments at Brace Dein and Crow Hill continue to be well used. There are currently no vacant plots at Crow Hill and no vacant plots at Brace Dein.

Allotment inspections are carried out monthly to ensure that plots are well maintained. Due to Covid-19 there has been an influx of residents who would like an allotment plot and there are now 80 people on the waiting list.

Burial Ground

There have been four burials and a double interment of cremated remains.

Trailer Park

The Trailer Park is currently on a CaSSOA Silver Award and plot holders have agreed to an increase in their annual fee to cover the cost of upgrading the site to Gold Awards Status. There are currently 7 full plots available and two people on the waiting list. All those on the waiting list have been contacted and are completing the Trailer Park Contracts.

Skatepark refurbishment

The Town Council received confirmation of 2 grant applications being approved allowing the skatepark refurbishment project to start. The grant application process was delayed due to the pandemic, with the grant funder prioritising Covid related projects. We are pleased that this project can finally get started with the consultation process taking place back in late 2019.

The skatepark contractor has been informed and have given us a tentative date to start installation works in July 2021 but will aim to start sooner if possible.

The installation works will take around 8 weeks to complete. Once we have a firmer idea of when the skatepark will be ready to open, we will organise a community open day for the skatepark users to attend, representatives from

the grant funders and look to have a professional skateboarder perform a demonstration and teach the young users useful skills.



Community Action

Over the period the Town Council also enabled more residents to be involved in their community:

Litter picking scheme

Since April 2020 we have recruited nearly 50 volunteers in the last year, with around 30 being recruited between March 2021 to date, many of these being children accompanied by parents and some secondary school pupils accumulating voluntary hours towards their DofE award. We now have over 80 volunteer litter pickers signed up to the scheme to help keep Cambourne litter free. With restrictions easing, the Town Council are organising a community litter pick on Saturday 12th June to coincide with the Great British Spring Clean which is held between 28th May and 13th June. The litter pick will start at the Hub



car park from 11am and refreshments will be provided to volunteers for their efforts. Next year we hope to work with Greater Cambridge Shared Waste again to organise the Community Action Day, which consists of skips in the Hub car park allowing people to bring down items to be recycled such as metal, electronic items, bikes, wood etc. At previous events, we have also hosted a 'give or take' stall for good condition items such as furniture,

bikes, household accessories allowing attendees to take items away for free if they like it. Alongside the 'give or take' stall, we also ran a 'clothes swap' with equipment lent to us by Cambridge Carbon Footprint. Clothes were donated in advance and donators were given a voucher to bring along on the day so that they could look through the clothes and take items that they liked. The event is a great way of encouraging residents to recycle and reuse items to promote a more sustainable way of living.

The Town Council also realised that access to alternative sources of hot food would be beneficial, so it maintained the:

Street trading

The Town Council has received a huge interest in the past year from street food vendors and market traders to start trading under the street trading licence in Council car parks. The Council introduced a day pitch fee for those unable to attend on a regular basis. At the Great Cambourne cricket pavilion, residents can indulge in pizza, fish & chips, Mexican food, South African/Jamaican food, churros or grab a coffee and cake in the week. At the Hub community centre a fresh fish van attends regularly as well as retailers selling Greek style food, burgers and salt beef bagels. We regularly have enquiries and applications coming through, so we look forward to supporting more local business and provide more food options for residents to enjoy.



As we came out of the first lockdown in August 2020 we were able to hold a successful:

Food Market

it took place on Bank Holiday Monday 31st August. The event was organised on a smaller scale to ensure attendees could socially distance, and no tables were put out to encourage people to take away their food. The food market was still well attended by public and positive feedback was received, particularly as it was one



of a few events allowed to take place. The next food market will take place on Bank Holiday Monday 31st May at the Great Cambourne Cricket Pavilion to allow attendees to continue socially distancing outdoors when consuming food and drink. The event will take place from 12pm and will be a celebration of the slow transition back to normality.

Cambourne Town FC

The discussions on the merger of the Cambourne football clubs started back in 2019 with a desire to complete the merge by the start of the 2020/21 season. Unfortunately, this was delayed due to the pandemic but has allowed more time for the new club to be formed. The Working Party are in the final stages of



merging Cambourne Eagles, Cambourne FC, Cambourne United, and the Men's team (formerly Cambourne Rovers) to become Cambourne Town FC which will have over 40 teams registered for the start of the 2021/22 season. To launch the new club, the Town Council is supporting the organisation of a tournament which will be held the weekend of 4th & 5th September 2021 at

Cambourne sports pitches.

Fun Fair

No Fun Fair was held in 2020 due to the pandemic. Larry Gray has booked for the Fun Fair to be on the 14th- 17th July 2021 on the Great Cambourne Green subject to the steps set out in the roadmap out of the second Lockdown.

Cllr Patrick Gavigan
Chairman – Planning Committee

Draft Planning Report 2020 and 2021 2020

The Planning Committee had a busy year in 2020, considering the continued economic climate; we have considered a total of 82 applications, several which were considered on more than one occasion.

- 24 Householders covering extensions, conservatories, garage conversions, loft conversions, orangeries, and others.
- 5 Commercial applications were received, including Drive through Coffee Shop, Valeting Service, Secondary School extension from 7 form entry to 9 form entry and bus link between Sterling Way and The Broad Way.
- 26 Discharge of Conditions were received.
- The Committee has also received a total of 3 Non-material amendments, and 3 applications for Lawful Development Certificates, 3 applications for Variation of Conditions, 2 Tree Preservation Order application, 1 for Prior Notification and 6 for Reserved Matters.
- 9 Decision Notices were received.

2021

The Planning Committee under delegated powers over the Covid-19 pandemic considered the following applications remotely feeding back to the Town Clerk to enable the planning responses to be made. Even considering the Covid-19 pandemic it has still be a busy year, we have considered a total of 60 applications, several which were considered on more than one occasion.

- 19 Householders covering extensions, conservatories, garage conversions, loft conversions, orangeries, and others.
- 7 Commercial applications were received, including Sackville House alterations, the demolition of an existing redundant drinking water reservoir and construction of 4 industrial unit's by Caxton Gibbet.
- The Committee has also received a total of 2 Non-material amendments, and 12 applications for Lawful Development Certificates, 3 Tree Preservation Order application, 1 for Prior Notification, 2 for Advertisement Consent, 1 for modification of Planning Obligation, 1 Outline Planning application and 4 Telecommunication Notifications and 3 for Reserved Matters.
- 5 Decision Notices were received.

The Planning Committee also looked into various enforcement issues.

West Cambourne:

The planning consent for the development of West of Cambourne granted in 2017 along with the completed s106 agreement has now been implemented and the first phase infrastructure work has commenced and is due to be completed in summer 2021. The first reserved matters applications for houses have been approved and work has commenced on the first Taylor Wimpey and Bovis Homes sites. It is anticipated that the first occupations will be occurring in early 2022.

Bourn Airfield:

The Planning department at South Cambs District Council approved the outline planning consent March 2021 subject to resolving the s106 agreement.

4. THE FINANCIAL SITUATION: THE FINANCIAL SITUATION 2019 to 2021

John Vickery, Cambourne Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Signed

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To start with it is necessary to explain that the Town Council has no money of its own, only that which it receives from the taxpayers of Cambourne, hiring of facilities, agency work and s106 monies.

Town and Parish Council receives no grant from central government or from the South Cambs District Council (SCDC). The Town Council's money comes purely from the RESIDENTS of Cambourne. Businesses, which pay a nationally determined Uniform Business Rate of which the Town and Parish Council do not get a share.

The Town Council raised a precept of £514,120.00 (2019/20) and £532,290.00 (2020/21) to cover the cost of running the Council and the facilities in Cambourne. In 2020-21 we allowed for an income of £299,529.00. We actually had an income of £193,600.00 from hire of facilities in addition to the precept. The income would have been much lower if we had not received business support funding from the Government and South Cambs District Council.

We also received £237,000.00 as a grant from Cambridge County Council Community Capital Grant.

The Town Council spent £965,199.00 on Cambourne; this included, the Zebra Crossing School Lane, Swansley Lane, planned replacement of Maintenance equipment, re-paying the loan to equip the Sports and Leisure Centre, running and maintaining The Hub, pavilions, MUGA and open spaces and play areas to retain them as valuable assets for the community. The Town Council continues to contribute to the repairs and renewals fund.

The Town Council also provided grant funding over the last two years for the following:

£600 Cambourne Library Summer Reading Challenge,
£100 Cambourne Community Car Scheme,
£300 Camb SAR,
£100 Magpas,
£600 The Cogwheel Trust,
£400 Cambourne Basketball Club,
£250 RELATE and
£680 Cambourne Girlguides.

The Town Council also supported the Fete, Cambourne Fireworks, Light Up Cambourne, Cambourne 10k and fun run and £50,000 for Cambourne Youth Partnership.

The Town Council passed on the final payment of the 950 s106 monies of approx £11,000 for youth development work to Cambourne Youth Partnership.

In January the Town Council set its precept for the financial year 2021-2022 After a difficult consideration of the budget, needed to maintain the quality of service provided with the increasing assets and address the issues caused by closing of the Town Councils facilities for most of the year. The Council also took into account the final funding needed for repairing the Skate Park £5,000

and providing 20mph speed limit £34,000. These two alone equated to £10.05. the Budget includes the construction of the Cambourne Youth Building and finishing the First floor of The Hub.

Cambourne Town Council agreed to raise the Council Tax Average band D property rate by 3.0% to £142.23 for next year an £4.14 increase. The 2021-2022 Precept is £551,700.00.

Finally, Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I have to confirm that all the Council's accounts will again be subject to scrutiny by the Government appointed external auditors, and that all the Council's activities have been subject to the mandatory Internal Audit process.

5. TO RECEIVE COMMUNITY REPORTS: to receive reports from community groups in Cambourne.
Reports have been received from:

- Cambourne Bowls Club
- Cambourne Community Car Scheme
- Cambourne Community Website
- Cambourne Cricket Club
- Cambourne Youth Partnership
- CamCare UK
- Fastbreak Basketball
- Light Up Cambourne
- Wildlife Trust

These are displayed on the wall and will be appended to the minutes.

6. QUESTIONS TO THE TOWN COUNCIL:

Councillor Joe O'Dwyer opened the meeting for the residents to ask questions, the following was asked

Q. Is there a social media page with regular updates on the food vans in Cambourne?

A. The Cambourne Town Council Facebook Page is updated with the locations and times of the regular food vans but this is not every week. The news section of the website is also updated.

The Cambourne Foodies Facebook Page is regularly updated with the food vans who will be at the New Cricket Pavilion.

Cambourne Town Council try not to over promote as they do not want to be seen to be giving one business an unfair advantage over others on the High Street.

Some food vans are not weekly and trade at short notice which makes it harder to publicise.

Q. Members of the public have asked about the replacement of the trim trail equipment next the Eco Park, the maypole and crocodile. When will these be replaced?

A. The Head Groundsman has been looking at how the trim trail can effectively be replaced but has since found out there was a very short warranty. There are cases where there has been more movement which has caused more drying and cracking. The replacement of the trim trail will be going to a future Leisure & Amenities meeting.

In regards to the 'Crocodile'. The Town Clerk has been repeatedly following up with Randall Thorp to find out when it will be replaced but is yet to receive a date.

Q. Have you considered the impact of the removal of the skate park with not a lot of notice?

A. The Town Council have only just been made aware of the date to remove the existing skate park. The Town Chairman suggested himself, the Town Clerk and Jonathan Buwert, Lead Youth Development Worker for CYP discuss the impact of the removal of the facility after the meeting and gather ideas to minimise the impact.

Q. Do the Wildlife Trust check the safety of their trees?

A. The Wildlife Trust have a duty to inspect their trees. If there are particular trees of concern, take a photo and send them in to the Town Council and we can forward them on.

Our Head Groundsman has been carrying out a survey of all the trees owned and managed by the Town Council. He records the location, condition and height etc. He can identify issues and then approach a tree specialist to get a report carried out. It has been proving effective and he has registered around 2000 trees. He is currently on light duties so more trees will be surveyed. We have an estimated number of 4000 trees in Cambourne or it could be close to 6000/7000 eventually.

Q. When will the information boards be replaced?

A. The Town Council are waiting for the new updated map with the agreed street names for West Cambourne. There will be a section for West Cambourne that can overlayed and replaced without needing to get the whole board replaced. There will be 1 noticeboard in Lower Cambourne, 1 in Great Cambourne and 1 in Upper Cambourne.

Q. Why do the current noticeboards not have much information on them?

A. There should only be the recent agendas on the noticeboards at the moment. All of the community group posters have been taken down because they are outdated. Most groups have either not returned to use the facilities or they are in temporary locations.

7.

CONCLUSION:

Councillor Joe O'Dwyer

I would like to thank all of you for coming out tonight to attend the Town Meeting
I hope you have found it informative. Thank you to the Councillors for coming
tonight.
Meeting Closed 19:50



Cambourne Bowls

Report for 2021

The Bowls Club is 'ticking over', we have attracted some new members but this has been largely offset by other members dropping out due to injury or the usual aches and pains associated people of our age group. For the past 2 years (excluding last year when nothing happened) we had entered a team in the Men's Division of the Cambridge Business Houses League. Sadly due to lack of numbers we have had to withdraw from the league for 2021. Hopefully this will only be a temporary situation. I am sure that as the Town continues to attract new residents, our membership will increase allowing us to re-enter local leagues.

We wish to place on record our thanks for the support of the Town Council and to the ground staff for maintaining the green and facilities which as good as any have visited when playing in the league.

Robin Bailey

Bowls Secretary May 2021

Signed

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CAMCARE UK EVENT 8th March 2020 Festival of Colours

CamCare UK organised the Festival of Colours on Sunday 8th March 2020 at new cricket Pavilion. Annual Spring Festival Holi, Festival of Colours was played with high precautionary measures in a sensible manner this year. Packets were made separately and distributed among the people. People allowed to play colours within their own family members only.



CAMCARE UK EVENT 15th February 2020

Cambourne Art Exhibition Cambourne Art Exhibition organised by CamCare UK made a wonderful opportunity and a positive impact on local lives through the Art display and fundraising by canvas auction that supported local charities like Cambourne Timebank and CamCareUK. The first Cambourne Art Exhibition gave the Cambourne artists an opportunity to exhibit their artworks to the local community and network with other artists. It was an inspirational event where 30 canvases were donated by the local artists for a charity auction and the local artists had an opportunity to meet the community where their works were highly appreciated. The event was run by CamCare UK. Vera Evstafieva, Jane Bethel -Lombardi, Ann & Tabeer, Karen Lee, Chantal Annie, Parul Burman, Anuja Naik, Raghav and Kesav had their exhibitions along with many local talents who donated their canvases.



**CAMCARE UK EVENT 15th March 2020 ANNUAL ROBOTICS PRESENTATIONS AND
CERTIFICATIONS CAMBOURNE ELECTRONICS AND ROBOTICS CLUB CERC – CAMCARE
UK**



CAMCARE UK EVENT 6th March 2020 CAM TALKS Where the local heroes of Cambourne share the glorious stories



**CAMCARE UK EVENT 22nd February – FIRST LEGO COMPETITION BRISTOL
CAMBOURNE ELECTRONICS AND ROBOTICS CLUB**

The children of CERC, the regional champion of the Cambridgeshire for the 2nd time in a row, put the town on the national map of the UK in the final competition in Bristol



Signed

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CAMCARE UK EVENT 17th May & 6th June 2020

Cambourne Science Festival The 5th Cambourne Science Festival which was converted to the First Global Cambridge Science Festival (Virtual) witnessed a total of 160 mind blogging science projects from the 160 young budding scientists from UK, India, UAE and US. For their age, we are more than overwhelmed by their standards. Many congratulations to these participants. We all are very proud of all of them. We have received many accolades from all over the world who have witnessed their projects. Their participations have proved that the kids can be the contributor to knowledge rather than a mere consumer of information. Their simple projects to address complex theories and problems will encourage many to start experimenting at home and there will be no lack of ideas for others. We would also like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the support and encouragement given by the parents and teachers to send us such amazing projects from the kids.

We are extremely satisfied with the patience of the children and we think they have set a record of being online with us for 2 days for 12 hours in total from 7 different time zones. More than 250 visitors logged in to witness the projects. We changed it to Global Virtual Science Festival from Cambourne Science Festival as we found that the entries started coming from Asia, Middle- East, Europe, Africa, US and Australia. Dr. Sujit Bhattacharya conducted this session for 12 (8+4) hours for 2 days. MP Anthony Browne, Cllr. Mark Howell, Dr. Christos Papavassiliou - Imperial College London, Dr. Sudhakaran - Genetics Dept, Cambridge and Padmashree awardee Professor Anil Gupta addressed to the children, they encouraged and motivated the young scientists how could they be tomorrow's innovators. Shrobona Bhattacharya, the founder of CamCare UK who started this Science Festival in 2016 said, "CAMCARE UK exists to help the young people to develop skills and the capability to face challenges in their lives and making the best use of the potentials using knowledge and evidence. We have received a great response from all over the world thus we will be running the Science Festival for two days.

**CAMCARE UK EVENT 28th June 2020 Festival of Sarees**

CamCare UK organized the virtual event of the Festival of Sarees 2020 on 28th June. The main purpose was to stay positive in this pandemic time, 72 participants joined from 7 different time zones which made a difference for the community itself. The other purposes were to support the traditional hand-loom workers who face high competition from power-loom industries. The event was organised to support the handmade crafts and hand-loom textiles locally and globally. The resident of Cambourne Suniti Hareen, said, " I loved seeing everyone wearing Sarees and explaining the information about them. Thanks to all our handloom weavers for putting so much effort into making beautiful Sarees. I enjoyed being one of the participants of the lovely event organised by Shrobona and Sujit. Cambourne resident Divya Kumar said, " The Saree festival brought back a lot of memories from my childhood when my mother used to visit the exhibitions of handloom sarees in India which I always admired as a little girl, especially the touch and the smell

Signed

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of the freshly woven fabric. I felt extremely proud to represent one of the many pieces of art that I own. It was a great initiative by Cllr. Shrobona and I support her intention to motivate and encourage our skillful weavers. Participant Dr. Yagna Bhattacharya said, "the amount of pleasures we get wearing a beautiful saree, does a weaver get its right return back?" The event was very cheerful where the girls and ladies dressed up in colourful handloom sarees and explained about 120 sarees about their origin, materials, price range, the purpose of wearing and the stories behind it. Cllr Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya said, "this is the first time I am running a saree festival, because of this pandemic situation I am constantly thinking about different types of the festivals which can fit in the virtual platform, and community and people stay happy and positive"



CAMCARE UK EVENT April 2020

– present, weekly event Come Cook Dine with Me set a "New-Social" where people are having a meal together after their weekly cooking session. As the lockdown started, Cllr. Shrobona Bhattacharya, who started a COVID Outreach Programme where people start cooking together on zoom once in a week and have dinner at the end of the cooking with their families. This is an example of building a "stronger community" in a social distancing scenario. CamCare UK founder Cllr. Bhattacharya said, "This is an exceptional time, we need to stay healthier and positive during the pandemic. Low cost, minimum wastage, nutrition, immunity, well-being are the prime issues for Come Cook Dine with Me. Home cooking ensures us eating fresh, wholesome meals, no hidden chemicals, additives, sugar, salt, and fat. People like Indian food and I am not cooking something fancy but a staple food that Indian families have every day at home. The list of the ingredients is given one week before, thus everyone can buy them in time. I am also showing lots of techniques, secrets, and using the spices in different combinations. We always cook a full meal with three courses, side and drink". People eagerly wait for the next session, there are different reasons that people are joining. Few people are missing the social gathering or feeling lonely due to lockdown or a few want to learn some new skills. Everyone posts the photos of the meal they have cooked at their kitchen that connects the people as all are having the same food but in different places due to social distancing

Please contact Shrobona Bhattacharya shrobona@gmail.com



CAMCARE UK EVENT CERC Goes Virtual during Lockdown 2020 - 2021

Cambourne Electronics and Robotics Club (CERC), an academic project of the local charity CamCare UK, is running its sessions as usual through online during the lockdown period. We conducted the first online batch in March 2020 and the second one will start in October. 2020. We have now gone from local to national with students joining these sessions from all over the UK.

The first online batch consisted of more than 60 students in the Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced batch. The online sessions are conducted for an hour for each batch that lasts for 10-weeks. In each session, the students do hands-on projects involving BBC Micro:bit, various sensors and coding in Makecode and Micro:Python with the mentor, Dr. Sujit Bhattacharya, who has more than 30 years of professional and academic experience in the field of electronics and space. The students are also supplied with assignments to be completed at home related to the topics covered. The students are also encouraged to participate in the Young Scientist project presentation through video and PowerPoint presentation by building their own innovative projects and demonstrate to the group. The course material has now become very interesting and rich which is packed with more multimedia contents covering various aspects of science, technology, engineering, and coding. We are overwhelmed by many positive feedbacks from both parents and students. For more information about the club and joining the new batch please email Cllr. Dr.

Shrobona Bhattacharya at shrobona@gmail.com.

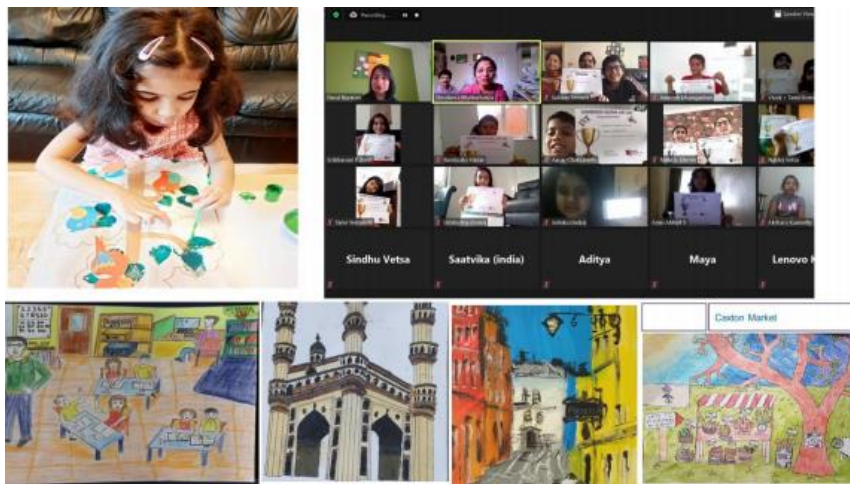


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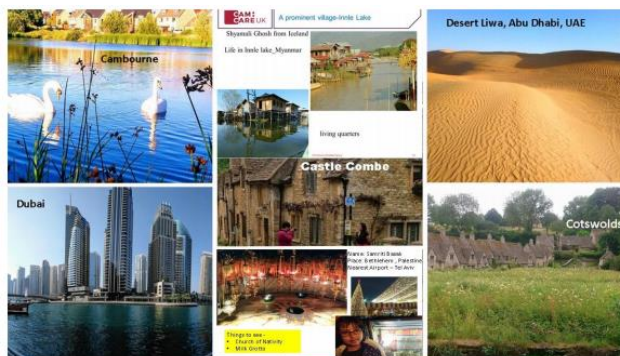
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CAMCARE UK EVENT July 2020

Family Art Day Cambourne observed its 5th Festival of Arts, the Family Art Day 2020 during lockdown where 57 participants submitted their paintings under different age groups and the given themes. Cllr Dr Shrobona Bhattacharya co-hosted the Festival of Arts 2020 with Mrs. Parul Burman, a local artist in Cambourne in Summer holidays during lockdown with 57 young and adult artists. Shrobona did not cancel any of her CamCare UK events in 2020 - just adapted the social distancing rule and changed it accordingly with new circumstances. Cllr Bhattacharya said, "It matters staying positive, safe, and connected with the people in the community for mental wellness during pandemic. We interact and look after each other through various virtual events and activities. People, especially children feel positive and good taking part in creative activities, art is one of them. Shrobona is running several sessions, workshops, events especially for the pandemic time as COVID outreach community activities.



CAMCARE UK EVENT September 2020 Festival of Bucket List Saturday 22nd from 3PM, CamCare UK had an unique event on tourism, specially designed for a lockdown situation. Under these special circumstances, when travel is restricted - travelling through the lenses of the participants, asking various questions, interacting with each other were very positive for the people and community. Cllr Dr. Shrobona Bhattacharya organised Festival of Bucket List 2020 on tourism and said, " Due to restrictions on travel, many people could not explore the new places that generally they do each year and the tourism industry is highly affected, lots of jobs are under threat and we wanted to support the cause. Most of us have the bucket list for visiting different places, cities, beaches, mountains, natures around the world", this year we have visited those places through our participants who took part in the festival and have explained us about those places they have visited in past. Under these pandemic circumstances, when travel is restricted - we all travelled through the lenses of the participants. 30 Participants took part and explained more than 90 places, in the "Festival of Bucket list 2020" and the participants travelled around the world through the lenses of others.



CAMCARE UK EVENT 11th October 2020 "Festival of World Languages and Diversity"

CamCare UK explores ways in which people can do something special that engages them positively in this lockdown. That exactly the participants did in the "Festival of World Languages and Diversity" on 11th October 2020 virtually. Diversity matters, participants learned about different people, different things, different habits, different traditions, different likes, different dislikes of other people and nations in the festival. Councillor Shrobona Bhattacharya, organiser of the festival said, "60 languages are spoken in Cambourne. We put the efforts through CamCare UK to address different ethnic community groups to be heard, acknowledged, and respected. This includes cultural awareness encouraging the community itself. These activities give us and others the opportunities to connect with the people and to learn from each other". 30 languages and cultures presented on 11th October were Sanskrit, British Sign Language, Mandarin, Japanese, Bulgarian, Ukrainian, Spanish, Bengali, Icelandic, Polish, Farsi, Irish, English, Punjabi, Slovenian, New Zealand, Hindi, Gujarati, Rajasthani, Russian, Telugu, Urdu, French, German, Turkish, Tamil, Marathi, Malayalam, French and Assamese. Cllr. Mark Howell taught the participants how to use British Sign language which was a special attraction in the festival. If you would like to join the future CamCare UK festivals and events, please contact shrobona@gmail.com



CAMCARE UK EVENT 15th November 2020 Festival of Lights – DIWALI



CAMCARE UK EVENT March 2021 Festival of Colours –

HOLI Every year the festival of colours in Cambourne brings people together. Friendship and Bonding grow stronger in the community celebrating the festivals. CamCare UK tried to hold a similar festive mood this year in 2021 with an innovative way during Covid lockdown to keep the festivity on. Founder and chair of CamCareUK, Cllr Shrobona Bhattacharya requested the community to pick up the packets of different colours and sweets outside the door of her residence. Instructions and zoom links were sent to play the colours with family members in the backyard or any open space. Music was played for dancing together in the backyard as well on Sunday 28th March in the afternoon. 300 free packets and sweets were collected by the residents of Cambourne and the nearby villages which were supported by a small grant supported by CHS. People across the communities and faiths came and collected the packets and played colours with the children in their gardens



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CAMBOURNE CAR SCHEME

MAY 2020- APRIL 2021

A challenging year for the scheme. Reduced Hospital, GP & other medical appointments compared to previous years & social clubs locked down meant less journeys for our drivers to undertake. Drivers though still conducted essential journeys despite Covid risk to themselves due to close proximity to their passengers in small family cars. Fortunately, we have had some new volunteer drivers join the scheme which also eased the load. A breakdown of journeys undertaken in this last year is shown below:

Hospitals	76
GPs	8
Dentists	9
Opticians	7
Social	11
Covid Tests	4
Vaccinations	33

We are again fully operational for medical appointments for those unable to use public transport. We collect people from their home, escort them to their appointment (taking them to their clinic in wheelchairs where necessary) waiting & then returning them home. Similarly, we do social trips such as to a Club meeting, Meet a friend, Hairdressing appointments or Supermarket shopping. **In all cases the Drivers are volunteers & give their time for free** so the only cost is a basic fee to cover their car expenses based on mileage covered. We also pride ourselves in being polite & courteous at all times & our passengers praise our service & reuse us time & time again.

Eric Cawkill & Paul Belo

CAMBOURNE COMMUNITY WEBSITE

<http://www.cambourne.info/>

The Cambourne Parish Plan was published in June 2017. Residents in their responses on 'communication' mentioned there was a lack of information about local groups, general information and what was happening in Cambourne. They suggested more use of internet sources. At this time a group of residents were investigating whether enough people were interested in embarking on a project to reintroduce the community information website (Cambourne.info) to Cambourne. The website originally created in the early days of Cambourne, by one of the first residents namely, Roger Hume had been 'archived' when Roger passed away in June 2015.

After a series of informal meetings, in July 2017, those interested recognised the need to give structure to the workings of the project and agreed to establish a committee with its own terms of reference. The website was officially launched in September 2017 at the Cambourne Community Fete. The premise of Cambourne.info is still to provide local information and endeavour to create a sense of community for Cambourne residents – this is Roger Hume's legacy.

Our Aim?

The website team aim to:

- provide local information to the residents of Cambourne
- provide a "one stop shop" where residents find information they need to participate in community life
- answer the "How do I?"; "Where do I?"; and "How can I?" type questions as relevant to the locality and the community
- publicise local events
- provide 'news' considered relevant to the community
- provide a directory and list local Cambourne based businesses.

Where are we now?

Little happened to the ongoing development of the website content in 2020 due to the impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. With the country being in lockdown these past 14 months the team did not meet in person, additionally local group meetings and community events were either cancelled or postponed into the future... Only now with easing of the government restrictions across the country are local Cambourne events being added to the website "Events in Cambourne" calendar.

The website team are in the process of reviewing and updating the website content ensuring the website functionality keeps in line with user expectations across the various application platforms. With pandemic restrictions easing the website team plan to meet (in person) early July and then meet on a regular basis to maintain website content.

Currently, the website contains 410 pages of information. The topics and extent covered by the website can be seen in Attachment 1 to the report.

Next...

We are a self-funded 'not for profit' organisation. We are looking to grow our volunteer team this coming year. Thanks go to the continued support of our: (i) volunteer 'content contributors'; and (ii) Website Manager together with his company, SCube Digital Media and its staff. The website is a labour of love and will continue to evolve as the information in Cambourne changes...

Cambourne Community Website Team Email: hello@cambourne.info



Cambourne Cricket Club

"VINCERE DELECTANDO"



2020/21 HIGHLIGHTS

Cambourne Cricket Club is accredited under the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) ClubMark, recognising high standards of organisation and welfare. We are a diverse and inclusive club, welcoming players and participants of all abilities, prioritising junior development and high quality community club cricket at all levels.

We are grateful to the Council for providing excellent quality playing surfaces, especially as the club grows and our demand for pitches has increased.

2020 was, naturally, an unusual season. The Covid-19 pandemic curtailed all cricketing activity until mid-July. However, thanks to significant efforts by the committee, with great assistance from the Town Clerk and Grounds team, we were able to put on significant numbers of games in the second half of the season. This included many intraclub friendly games midweek, which has allowed players from across the club to play together, when they normally might not. This was particularly important as an opportunity to integrate players from the former Hardwick & Caldecote CC team, which we absorbed at the end of the 2019 season, and to welcome new players.

We were also involved in a local programme to encourage young people – particularly those from underrepresented and disadvantaged groups – to try out tapeball cricket as a means to support mental and physical wellbeing after the initial lockdowns. This was in partnership with Cambridgeshire Cricket Board, and funded by a grant from LivingSport and Sport England.

Following on from that, the club has independently partnered with the MindEd Trust, a local mental health charity seeking to combat mental illness, particularly with a view to suicide prevention. This partnership will involve various events, such as a tournament for local schools, with the aim to break some of the stigma around talking about mental health issues – especially important after the prolonged lockdown during the pandemic.

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A fantastic sponsorship deal with Barons BMW Mini has allowed us to furnish the entire club with heavily discounted shirts displaying both the Barons and MindEd Trust logos, which supports the plan to raise visibility for the charity and start conversations in our community about mental health.

Academy section:



Academy for younger players is intended to be as inclusive as possible for both boys and girls, with the intention of founding at least one new girls' team in 2021/22. In 2021 we will be fielding academy teams in the Cambridgeshire Youth Cricket Association U10, U13 and U15 leagues, as well as developing younger players to play open-age cricket. In the 2021 season we expect to have 5-7 players under 16 moving into the open-age league sides.

Even with the pandemic restrictions, in 2020 the club participated in the ECB's national All Stars programme – a set of 8 sessions for 5-8 year olds designed to teach cricketing skills but also social skills like teamwork. We will be offering the programme again in 2021, along with the ECB's new Dynamos Cricket programme for 8-11 year-olds. Both of these programmes were oversubscribed in Cambourne (with 24 AllStars and 20 Dynamos places available), meaning we had to direct children to other courses in the local area. Cambs Cricket also chose Cambourne to host training for volunteers who will be running these courses elsewhere.

We run junior outdoor coaching sessions on Fridays from April to September – where we now cater for children from school year 2 upwards. Covid restrictions permitting, we will also be running winter training sessions at Cambourne Village College.

The Academy continues to be popular. We have over 40 full Academy members, and consistently attract new players throughout the season, with nearly 20 new players registered with the league this year. We will be looking to train and provide more coaching capacity for Academy sessions, as they are approaching the maximum safe capacity for our current cadre of volunteers.

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Cambourne Cricket Club

"VINCERE DELECTANDO"

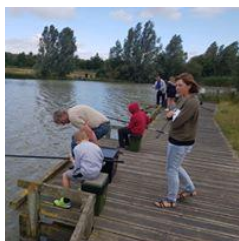


Seniors:

2020 saw significant growth of the club, despite the pandemic. In 2021, we have over 70 full members, of whom around 15 are completely new to the club or returning from stints playing elsewhere. Having also absorbed a team from Hardwick & Caldecote CC at the end of 2019, we now have four open-age teams in the local Saturday leagues. 2020 also saw us enter the Huntingdonshire Sunday league, fielding a mixed side from across the club, focused strongly on developing young and promising players. While the Business House midweek league was paused for 2020, it returns in 2021. Those fixtures will be supplemented by friendly and intraclub midweek games to provide more opportunity for players who can't commit to weekends.

In 2021, the 1st XI will be aiming for promotion from Cambridgeshire Cricket Association's (CCA) Senior division one into the Whiting & Partners Premier League. The 2nd, 3rd and 4th XIs, which are spread throughout the CCA league structure, will look to support that by providing a well-balanced pathway for new players to reach their potential, as well as opportunities for all players to find a team in which they can enjoy playing cricket at a level that suits their ability and ambitions.

As a club we take the transition of younger players into open-age cricket very seriously, encouraging our Academy players to take prominent roles in all open-age teams, and supporting them to grow and mature as cricketers, sportsmen and women and members of the community. This year's first team captain, as well as several other first XI players, have played for Cambourne since junior level, and we regularly see our former Academy players and those who have joined the club from elsewhere putting in match-winning performances at all levels.



Coaching Session 2019

Match winners 2021

Cambourne Fishing Club

Website www.cambournefishingclub.com

Email address cambournefishingclub@hotmail.com

Although it has been a tough year, we have still managed to accrue 133 Members which is on par with previous years and even though the tickets run from January – December we are still selling tickets.

At the moment we are known for our fundraising, coaching youngsters in the hope it will teach them not only a traditional sport, but to respect their local surroundings and wildlife.

Although we were able to allow fishing during lockdown period, we decided to keep the Lake free of fishing due to the high statistics of Covid 19 in Cambourne. This was to safeguard our Members and the general public being as we are located on a public space. Although the big wooden jetty is for Anglers to use, we decided to keep this free so families can still congregate to feed the ducks and sit and enjoy the surroundings. (We are only using big jetty for coaching and Charity Event purposes)

We have started fundraising again. Which we are proud to say we have raised £564 through our Charity Matches, selling some donated items and cash donations from our Members. We are fundraising for Rhean from Cambourne who had to have a brain tumour removed. And Archies Journey who was on ITV news. All details of the boys can be found on our website.

We have been inundated with requests for night fishing and stocking of larger fish, so as our Membership is growing, we are looking to rent, lease or manage another lake to progress further with the Club which we could run like a syndicate lake. Ideally it would be near to Cambourne to cater for demand if you hear of any coming up.

We have also been approached to host large coaching classes i.e., schools, colleges etc. Our reasoning would be Lake Ewart for Matches, and day fishing for our Members. With fundraising and free coaching for non-members etc to get involved.

Signed

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Summary Report on CYP Activities from April 2020 – March 2021

Overview

During the past year we have worked with **57 young people** (not including those engaged with through detached youth work, whose personal details are not recorded). We have had **341 individual encounters** with young people through detached sessions. **10 volunteers** have supported the work, plus **2 young leaders**. The main age range we focus on is from school year 6 up to age 18, but we will often continue support for young people beyond 18; this past year we have worked with young people from **ages 10-22**.



This year, **6 of our volunteers and young leaders** have been working on gaining a **Level 2 Award in Youth Work Practice** through Romsey Mill's training programme. Once they have finished the course, we will have seen **13 Cambourne volunteers and young leaders** achieve this qualification in total.

Furlough

From March until June 2020, the two employed youth workers (Jonathan Buwert and Emma Slater) were furloughed from their Romsey Mill roles as part of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme. In order to provide essential safeguarding support to young people who were deemed most vulnerable and at-risk, Jonathan and Emma volunteered through Cambourne Youth Partnership to keep in contact with 21 young people who demonstrated particular vulnerability. This work was supported by one of our volunteers and involved mainly electronic communication, with some food parcel provision as well.

Youth workers spent time while furloughed, and after coming back to work, undertaking training and development, including in areas such as Food Poverty, Emotional First Aid, Trauma-Informed Practice, Prevent and C-Card.

Restarting

Emma Slater, one of our employed youth workers, went on maternity leave in late September 2020. We were fortunate to be able to replace her from November 2020 by employing Emma Whitbread, who lives in Cambourne and has recently completed a degree in youth work, to work alongside Jonathan Buwert.

After returning to work in July, there were a few keys focusses for the team:

Soul Building

A lot of work was done to the Cambourne Soul building to make it suitable for use. Risk assessments were carried out, with signage, hand hygiene and cleaning schedules evaluated and updated. Several rooms were adapted to remove excess furniture and make the building easier to clean. One of the most significant changes has been to relocate the recording studio into the main building; the previous studio set up wasn't COVID-secure due to a lack of ventilation, and we weren't going to be able to make full use of all of the main building space during the pandemic, so we have set up the studio in the old IT room and are using the outdoor container for extra storage. The studio's use has been limited during the periods of restrictions, however we have still been working on three music projects with young people since last summer, as well as making extensive use of the equipment for social media video editing, and we have more groups keen to use the space as restrictions lift.



Detached Work and One-To-One Support

We have followed the guidelines from the National Youth Agency, which have set out which youth activities have been permitted at different stages throughout the past year. Detached youth work (where youth workers engage with young people away from a building - in the streets and parks) and targeted one-to-one and small group support have been permitted for large parts of this time, and since August 2020 we have focussed on this work. We grew our detached provision from one session per week in August to four sessions per week by December, supported by our volunteers who have gradually increased their involvement since the summer. Our initial support work was



through one-to-one sessions, which have continued since last summer. We previously had one volunteer offering one-to-one support in addition to the employed workers, but now have a second volunteer involved with one-to-one work as well. Since August 2020 we have supported 14 young people through face-to-face and virtual one-to-one sessions. A lot of this work focuses on areas such as mental health support and reducing anti-social behaviour.

Thanks to funding from the Co-op's Local Community Fund, we have been able to purchase printed jackets and new torches for our detached work, increasing our visibility and safety as we work with young people in the community.

Online/Digital Youth Work

Working with young people online has been permitted throughout the pandemic, as there is no direct risk relating to COVID-19 with this work. During August, we partnered with Wysing Arts to deliver 3 creative workshops using Zoom, although the interest and uptake in this was very low. The general picture of young people's engagement in virtual groups, not just locally but across the country, has been surprisingly poor.

In September we restarted one of our youth clubs as a Zoom group and although the attendance has been significantly lower than it had previously been in person, we have continued with this group throughout the year. One particular benefit of this online group is that it provided continuity of support for older young people who had moved away to university; they were still able to join in and benefit from the continuing relationships during such a chaotic year.

We have had a focus on increasing our online presence as a way of engaging with young people and providing support and resources for them. We have launched a new website at

www.cambournesoul.co.uk (with an average of 180 visitors per month) to provide information about our work, and since January we have had a regular programme of content on our Instagram page (reaching 160 followers as of March 2021). Several of the young people who have now come back to face-to-face groups reconnected with us through social media.



Group Support Sessions

In September, youth work was confirmed as an essential service, so we were able to start increasing our face-to-face work with young people in groups and one-to-one sessions targeted at those who were most vulnerable. Since then, we have restarted several groups and launched new

groups, including two football groups and four targeted youth clubs. These groups provide positive activities for young people to engage with, and through informal education we have been able to explore issues such as healthy relationships, education and career progression, sexuality, drugs and alcohol, healthy eating, criminality, racial hatred and gender equality.

One of these groups has undertaken a landscaping and gardening project, led by young people from the group who have skills and experience in these areas. We were awarded funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport in partnership with The National Lottery Community Fund for the project, which transformed the outside of the youth centre building through building a raised bed, re-laying a path and clearing a lot of the overgrown bushes and areas of weeds. We also had several members of the wider community, who had not been involved with us previously, who came along to support the project and have shown interest in ongoing involvement.



School Support

Before lockdown in March 2020, we had been working with three students (one primary aged and two secondary aged), providing weekly alternative education sessions for schools in Cambourne. These sessions stopped in March when the schools closed. We were then able to restart this offer to the schools in September and have been working with one student at Cambourne Village College since then (looking to increase to two in April).

In February 2021 we invited all of the primary schools in Cambourne to refer young people from Year 6 to a targeted transition support group, and had several referrals. This group currently has students from 4 different primary schools attending – two in Cambourne and two from the surrounding area.

Forward Plans

As we look ahead to the next year, we are continuing to rebuild the foundations of the youth work support: we are working to re-engage our existing volunteers, as well as bring new volunteers on board; we are making contact again with many young people with whom we have not worked since March 2020; and we are re-starting some activities which had been running prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, whilst also recognising the need for a different approach for many young people.

Some of our particular focusses include:

- **Ongoing gardening work.** The 6-week landscaping and gardening project has led to an interest from young people in continuing to cultivate the garden which has been created as well as looking at developing new gardening areas, and this is supported by new volunteers who are dedicated to this area of work. The benefits of this outdoor work are vast, including improved mental and physical wellbeing, the building of intergenerational relationships, the development of practical skills and the opportunities for youth work support to be offered alongside the work.
- **Growing social media provision.** As we have increased our engagement with young people via social media, we have become more aware of the opportunities to provide support in this way, particularly where young people may not access in-person activities (possibly due to mental health challenges or concerns around COVID-19). We want to embed the usage of social media within our

programme, providing helpful content, support and engagement opportunities to young people across Cambourne.

- **Restarting open access groups.** Our weekly open access youth clubs had been a big focus of our work previously, but the running of these has been severely restricted in accordance with the guidelines we follow from the National Youth Agency, as well as the size of the youth centre building and its COVID-secure risk assessment. We believe that targeted work with smaller groups of young people is often the best way to provide youth work support and see change for young people, but having open access provision is also important in enabling us to connect with young people from across the community and offering universal support. We want to find safe ways to offer these kinds of youth clubs again with the resources available to us.
- **New personal hygiene project.** We are aware that for some young people within our community, access to sanitary products and toiletries is not always affordable. Having taken inspiration from a local scheme running in Huntingdonshire called Essentials by Sue, we have secured some initial funding, and will be seeking additional funding, to set up a similar provision in Cambourne, whereby young people can access basic personal hygiene products without barriers.
- **Mental health support.** Young people's mental health had been an area of growing concern, even before the additional impact of COVID-19 and a year of lockdowns and restrictions. Supporting mental wellbeing is a natural part of the work that we do as we build positive relationships with young people and work with them across different contexts, but we would like to see a particular focus being given to the gaps in the current mental health provision for young people in Cambourne. We are working on a proposal which would see a new role being created for a young person's mental wellbeing practitioner, working alongside the existing youth work team to provide targeted support across the areas of mental health and wellbeing.
- **Regular provision.** Alongside these specific activities and projects, we plan to continue providing targeted one-to-one and small group support to young people within Cambourne, alternative education opportunities through local schools, detached work in the streets and parks, and universal youth work support across the community.

Fastbreak Basketball

Just wanted to say thank you to Town Council to allow Fastbreak Basketball to use the outdoor Basketball Court in Cambourne during summer 2020. Just after coming out from the first lockdown, we had funding from Living Sports to run Covid-19 secure basketball camps to educate local young players to play basketball safely during the very tough time. We ran camps for three weeks during August 2020 and we hope we have done our part to help physical and mental health of the local residence.

Navid
Coach and the Director of Fastbreak Basketball

Light Up Cambourne

The committee are rejuvenated and energised to reach their fundraising target of £7,000 in order to deliver a full switch on event and light display at the end of this year. 2020's plans obviously had to be scaled back as fundraising stopped in March but we did still have funds for the light display itself which went ahead as usual. Fund-raising resumed in Autumn 2020 with a series of remote events including a Bingo night held on Zoom and video calls to Santa for children. We delivered Afternoon Tea's to households across the town on Sundays in April and recently raised £500 via proceeds from a Garage Sale held earlier this month. We hope to continue the year by holding a mixture of indoor and outdoor - in person - fundraising events from July onwards and November 20th is in the diary for the annual switch on. Thanks as always to the Town Council for all their admin and grounds team support.

Tim Willett – Chairman



**Bedfordshire
Cambridgeshire
Northamptonshire**

Report to Cambourne Town Council covering period Apr 2020 -end Mar 2021

Background

- The Wildlife Trust BCN is a local wildlife conservation charity with its head office in Cambourne
- We manage Cambourne Nature Reserve, and own and manage other reserves nearby

Community engagement in Cambourne

- Rebecca Neal was employed in Nov 2018 with a floating role across the Communities and Wildlife team. Her events programme began in Cambourne in 2019.

Her role is to:

- Deliver events
- Work with community groups
- Work with schools
- Write newsletter articles
- Interact on local social media
- Represent the trust at local events
- Direct people to volunteering opportunities
- Be a point of contact

In Cambourne she also:

- Supports Cambourne Volunteer Rangers who do things like litter-picking and cutting back vegetation on the nature reserve
- Coordinates Cambourne toad patrol (trains and supports volunteers, liaises with local residents, leads patrols)

- The majority of planned events did not happen over the financial year 2020-21
- We offered some small-group family sessions and walks for adults, but uptake was not high and promotion was difficult. Some attendees came from outside the area.
- We developed some self-guided family trails which can be re-used in the future. Uptake of these was also not very high
- We successfully recruited seven new volunteer rangers over the past year. We now have over 10 people who are regular litter-picking and reporting problems.

Future plans for community engagement in Cambourne

- Family sessions will continue every Wednesday morning during school holidays
- One-off walks for adults will continue
- From April 2021, Rebecca Neal's role will change, and will focus on community engagement work on our West Cambs Hundreds nature reserves which are: Cambourne Nature Reserve, Hardwick, Haley, Gamlingay, and Waresley and Gransden Woods
- We are working with Comberton Adult Education in order to provide some FREE small-group short courses with a focus on wellbeing outdoors
- These will be trialed over the summer term and may continue if the next academic year's funding is suitable
- They will include:
 - Wildlife for Beginners for adults

Signed

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- Pre-school sessions for parents/carers with toddlers
- Sessions for new parents/carers of babies under 18 months
- Wildlife strolls for adults

Toad patrol

- There are hundreds of locations around the country where toads (and frogs and newts) cross roads on their spring migration around March
- Toad patrols are groups of volunteers who pick up amphibians and carry them across the road
- The main crossing point in Cambourne is between Filcris and the aerial on Broadway, next to the airfield
- There is also a crossing point near the tennis courts on Monkfield Lane
- This year, the migration coincided with a time when The Wildlife Trust BCN was not running volunteer activities involving groups due to Covid restrictions
- Some existing volunteers still went on patrol, but were not official volunteers
- We will continue next year

Challenges

- Building up a reputation for events in the area has been slow. This will hopefully improve with the free sessions, as Covid restrictions ease, and as staff focus more in this area.

Common issues that have come through to the trust about the reserve include:

- dog poo bags
- litter in general
- dogs not under control
- horses not sticking to bridle ways
- bikes riding too fast (and not sticking to bridle ways)
- Muddy footpaths (this was particularly bad this year due to the wet winter and high footfall). Many people remain unhappy with the situation, which will only be made worse by a growing population
- Tree removal (due to Ash die-back)
- Overgrown paths

Ongoing issues

- Broken fences and benches
- Footpath erosion on Crow Hill
- Trampling and disturbance (people not sticking to paths)

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