

Cambourne Town Council
South Cambridgeshire District Council report: Tuesday 1st August 2023

Councillor Stephen Drew
Councillor Helene Leeming

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This is the third report to the town council in our second year as district councillors since being elected in May 2022.

1. West Cambourne Street Naming

Councillors Drew and Leeming have objected to the current list of proposed street names that the district council is using to assign to new roads in West Cambourne. The list lacks diversity that reflects the population of our town, and is also clearly not balanced by gender.

We have discussed the history of this situation with the town clerk and understand the town council produced a more diverse list when first asked to do so, but that the Post Office rejected a number of ethnically diverse names due to their length and complexity, and also that a number of possible street names linked to females were rejected, but not for reasons of gender. We have asked the town clerk for any emails where the Post Office rejected names the town council put forward. Once we have this we will be approaching the Post Office to ask for their rules regarding street names and for copies of their diversity policy and an impact assessment relating to their naming protocols.

Although not all may pass for other reasons, here is a list of 15 black persons who have connections to Cambridge, primarily through the university, and therefore would be useful additions to the current list. Work will need to be done to find a similar list for people of Asian heritage.

- Olaudah Equiano - black African anti-slavery campaigner who married a woman from Soham and lived there.
- Ignatius Sanco - black African anti-slavery campaigner and composer whose work was published by CUP.
- Alexander Crummell - the first recorded black student to study at Cambridge University.
- George Gurney Nicol - first African graduate of Cambridge University.
- Adetokunbo Ademola - Nigeria's first local chief justice studied at Selwyn College in the 1930s.
- Gloria Carpenter (later Cumper) - first black woman to matriculate at Cambridge University.
- Bolanle Awe - Nigerian historian who attended the Perse School for Girls in the 1950s.
- ER Braithwaite - Guyanese writer and educationalist did graduate studies at Caius College for a master of Physics in 1949.
- Lloyd Best - Trinidadian economist studied at Cambridge University in the 1950s.
- Edward Kamau Braithwaite - Barbadian poet studied at Cambridge University.

- Wole Soyinka - Nigerian playwright was visiting fellow at Churchill College in 1973.
- David Dabydeen - Guyanese novelist, poet and academic studied at Cambridge University in mid 1970s.
- Zadie Smith - writer studied at King's College.
- Thandie Newton - actor studied at Downing College.
- Albert Gordon - Jamaican who was Cambridge's first black pub landlord from 1971.

We are sure that the town council would like to see a more diverse set of street names applied to new roads in our town based on the work previously done.

2. Community Automated External Defibrillators fund and expression of interest form

Organisations in England are being invited to bid for a share of £1 million of government funding to buy defibrillators for community spaces like town halls, local parks or post offices. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) is inviting interested organisations to register expressions of interest for its Community Automated External Defibrillators (AED) Fund, aimed at increasing the number of AEDs in public places. An estimated 1,000 new defibrillators are to be provided by the fund. As part of the grant award, applicants will be asked to demonstrate that defibrillators will be placed in areas where they are most needed, such as places with high footfall, vulnerable people, rural areas, or due to the nature of activity at the site. Examples could include town halls, community centres, local shops, post offices and local parks, to ensure that defibrillators are evenly spread throughout communities. Organisations are encouraged to submit an expression of interest form.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/bids-invited-for-1-million-defibrillator-fund>

https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=MIwnYaiRMUyMH-9N6Jc6HLfy1IJ_IPFFotCZIB4mEYIUQ1VUWU9ISjI4MjNTVzIPWFk1SDQ2SzhRSi4u

3. Volunteering opportunities to support Asylum Seekers at Bar Hill Hotel

South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) is looking for volunteers to help us support families living at the hotel in Bar Hill. We have been working with volunteers in Bar Hill primarily, but we are now asking nearby communities to consider supporting too.

Pool Bike Scheme

We will be providing a pool of 20 bikes (10 adult bikes, 10 children bikes) along with locks, helmets and optional child seats if needed for guests at the hotel to use. We are looking for 2 volunteers per session that can come to the hotel 1 hour in the morning to check out the bikes and 1 hour in the afternoon to check the bikes back in (volunteers can support one session or more, we are very flexible depending on their availability). The volunteers will need to keep a logbook of who signs out which bike, and when bikes are returned the volunteer for that session will be responsible for signing the bike back in. We would also require the volunteer to do a visual check of the bikes to make sure they are fine to use but no knowledge of bikes is required.

Pop-up Shop / Donation Room

We have now been allocated our own space to store donations and set up a clothes shop. We are looking for volunteers who can spare 2 to 3 hours to come to the hotel and help organise the clothes donations as well as run some shop days where hotel guests can get items they require. We are flexible on timings and dates depending on the volunteer availability.

Both schemes are ready to begin once volunteers are available. Please can anyone interested in volunteering for either of the above please get in touch on Duty.Communities@scams.gov.uk, providing their availability and a phone number for us to contact them on.

4. Cambourne Youth Partnership adopted as SCDC Chair's Charity for 2023-2024

This is the press release issued by SCDC following the adoption of CYP as the chair's charity at the recent full council meeting.

Activities and inspiration for teenagers are supported in South Cambridgeshire thanks to District Council's charity of the year

A local grassroots youth organisation has been chosen as charity of the year for the District Council. Cambourne Youth Partnership (CYP) was chosen by Cllr Peter Fane, after he was elected as the new South Cambridgeshire District Council Chair. CYP enables young people to participate in activities they help to develop, including sport, cookery, and community action projects. In addition, young people can access mental health and wellbeing support.

Cllr Fane takes over the Chair role from Cllr Anna Bradnam, who raised more than £1,000 for her chosen charity, Trussell Trust's Cambridge Foodbank, during her time as Chair. CYP runs open access and targeted youth clubs out of its base, called Cambourne Soul, including activities ranging from boxing and gaming to playing pool, pizza making to movie nights, litter picking and wellbeing support. Its youth workers also engage young people in detached sessions in the community and deliver one-to-one sessions for those needing further support. The charity's key aims are to inspire and raise the aspirations of young people in the local community, particularly those who are experiencing disadvantage in various forms including social and economic isolation, and challenging life situations.

Cllr Peter Fane said: "Cambourne Youth Partnership is a wonderful charity carrying out amazing grass roots support with our local 11 to 18-year-olds. I am delighted to be able to help by choosing them as our charity of the year. "We enjoyed hearing representatives from the charity, including young people, address the full council today, to outline their inspirational work and what might be done to help them, including fundraising at any civic events to help deliver their objectives." Nigel Taylor, Chair of Trustees with CYP, said: "We are delighted to have been named as the Chair of the District Council's charity of the year. We look forward to working with Cllr Fane and the rest of the Council in helping to give local young people a voice, and promoting their vital role in the community today and into the future."

CYP works in partnership with Cambourne Town Council and Romsey Mill. Cambourne Town Council provides a significant annual grant to CYP and also owns the Cambourne Soul youth centre, which is the base for many of CYP's activities and open access youth clubs. Romsey Mill has 40 years' experience supporting young people, children and families in and around Cambridgeshire, to help transform lives. Romsey Mill makes a significant financial and practical contribution to the work of and CYP by providing youth workers that are based and work in Cambourne, as well as infrastructure support. CYP is currently developing a new Cambourne Youth Partnership website, which is due to go live soon.

5. Police Engagement Event

The next police engagement event is Tuesday 8th August 7-8pm, and you can obtain your free ticket (and meeting link) at [[South Cambs Community Engagement meeting August 2023 Tickets, Tue, Aug 8, 2023 at 7:00PM](#)]. Previously, these meetings were held on the first Tuesday of the month each quarter, but Cllr Leeming requested some variety so CTC councillors could attend and participate.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/south-cambs-community-engagement-meeting-august-2023-tickets-491855191117>