

CAMBOURNE TOWN COUNCIL

District of South Cambridgeshire

Town Clerks Report

Council Meeting 7th November 2023

Below is a short update on activities since the 3rd October 2023. Some elements are covered by separate agenda items.

1. Meeting with Sue Wright Jeavons Wood regarding the reasons for only moving forward with the single Zebra crossing, it was agreed to work together to look at the possibility of having a Crossing Person.
2. Further discussions with Reece Horne, Adoptions Manager, Taylor Wimpey East Anglia and Mills and Reeve (the Councils solicitors) regarding their last areas in Upper Cambourne.
3. Land Transfer Workshop meeting with various other parties regarding the Transfer of the remaining infrastructure land. Work is progressing on the transfers in line with the report to a previous Council meeting the first tranche was completed and the second is on track.
4. Meeting and conversations with members of the fireworks committee and the Head Groundsman regarding the organisation and layout of the event. I supported the committee in ensuring the road closure was in place to allow the event to go ahead.
5. Meeting to discuss the possibility of the County Council installing open Wi-Fi to cover the High Street and Broad Street this was with Lorraine Bates, Connecting Cambridgeshire Project Manager CCC and Katherine Southwood, Business Support Key Projects Team Leader, Economic Development and Investment SCDC.

The principle behind outdoor wifi in towns is to provide coverage in town centres along high streets where there is high footfall. In Cambourne's case, this isn't as straightforward as it doesn't have a classic town centre. I think they reviewed all of the open spaces but realistically we won't be able to afford coverage in all of the spaces. We also require proximity to the Council network (Eastnet) for connection into the network. There is Eastnet connectivity in Sackville House, South Cambs Hall and the primary schools. We could provide CambWifi to the main shopping area to cover Morrisons and surrounding shops and cafes

6. I attended the South Cambs District Council Planning Committee to represent the town Council on the application for the Business Park. The application was deferred to a future meeting at the request of the case officer. This was to allow new information to be reviewed.
7. Meetings and working with Cllr F Panrucker on the running of the Big Squiggle event held at the Cambourne Soul. This was a successful event with a large attendance by residents even though the weather was not good. There was a number of volunteers supporting the event and their support was very much appreciated.
8. Peer review meeting regarding South Cambs District Council. There was a frank discussion regarding the good and bad aspects of their work with the Towns and Parishes in South Cambs. The area that received the most concern was Planning. A number of councils raised concern that the District Council did not consult them on the s106 requirements for developments affecting their villages. There was a consensus that towns and Parishes should be signatories to s106 agreements where they were responsible for the delivery of elements of the s106 agreement.

PS. I apologise if the Office have not responded as quickly to requests, but we have been busy due to the reduced staff level. We have tried to ensure the office has continued as much as normal where the public is concerned.

It is
RECOMMENDED that the report be received.