

**COUNCILLORS' BULLETIN
WEDNESDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER
2016**



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

CONTENTS

1. Meetings and events from Thursday 22 September to Friday 7 October 2016

Date	Time	Name	Venue	Contact
Thu 22 Sep	2pm	Council	Council Chamber	Graham Watts
Fri 23 Sep				
Mon 26 Sep				
Tue 27 Sep				
Wed 28 Sep				
Thu 29 Sep	4pm	Greater Cambridge City Deal Joint Assembly	Council Chamber	Graham Watts
	5pm	Environmental Services Portfolio Holder's Meeting	Swansley Room	Patrick Adams
Fri 30 Sep	9:30am	Audit & Corporate Governance Committee	Swansley Room	Patrick Adams
Mon 3 Oct				
Tue 4 Oct				
Wed 5 Oct	10:30am	Planning Committee	Council Chamber	Ian Senior
Thu 6 Oct				
Fri 7 Oct				

INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

2. A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme: Public Information Exhibitions

Public Information Exhibitions will run from Tuesday 27 September until Monday 24 October.

<http://www.highways.gov.uk/roads/road-projects/a14-cambridge-to-huntingdon-improvement-scheme/>

3. Living Sport Sports Award 2016

Nominations for the **Living Sport Sports Awards** for 2016 are now open. There is an array of awards such as Community Club of the Year, Coach of the Year and Volunteer of the Year which you can nominate for [here](#). You can also find a full list of available awards [here](#).

Nominations will close on the 30th September, a judging panel will then shortlist three nominees for each award who will then be invited to the Sports Awards Evening on Thursday 24th 2016 at the Burgess Hall in St Ives. It is a truly inspirational event and a great chance to celebrate the hard work, dedication and commitment of the various members of our sporting community over the last year.

I would be very grateful if you and your colleagues could consider whether any projects or people from your area should be nominated for an Award. You are particularly well placed to be aware of nominees for Awards such as the Matthew Warn Power of Sport Award, Jonnie Peacock Award or perhaps Workplace of the Year Award.

I hope you will be able to consider nominees for these awards and make the information

available to appropriate contacts. Alternatively please let me know of potential nominees and one of my team will follow up. To find out more about the awards or read about the winners from 2015 see our [website](#).

PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

4. Parish Council Referendum Requirement

The Government launched a technical consultation on the 2017/18 local government financial settlement on 15 September; web-link here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-finance-settlement-2017-to-2018-technical-consultation>

It contains a proposal to introduce a referendum requirement for large parish councils that increase council tax above a, to be determined, threshold. The relevant text is as follows:

"that referendum principles are introduced for town and parish councils whose Band D precept is higher than that of the lowest charging district council for 2016/17 (£75.46), and which have a total precept for 2016/17 of at least £500,000, while taking account of transfers of responsibilities, and that consideration is given to the extension of referendums to all local precepting authorities."

It would appear that no parishes in South Cambs would be caught by this requirement as proposed but parish councils might wish to note that views are being sought on widening this requirement to all parish councils.

The deadline for responding to the consultation is 28 October 2016.

UPCOMING DISTRICT COUNCILLOR TRAINING

Unless otherwise specified, please confirm your availability to attend any of the following briefing or training events by contacting [Patrick Adams](#) on 01954 713408. This will ensure your training records are kept up to date and suitable venue and catering booking can be made. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

5. Social Media Training on Tue 27 September (for officers and councillors)

Book your place on social media training on **Tuesday 27 September**, whether you want to know the basics or are an old hand looking for new ideas.

Training will be delivered in two-hour bitesize sessions, split to offer a social media basics session in the morning, followed by a more advanced user session in the afternoon.

Both workshops will be tailored to the needs, skills and experiences of staff and members via a survey which will be shared in advance of the workshops.

Dates and timings

Both workshop sessions will be held at South Cambridgeshire Hall

Session 1: Beginners guide to social media will run 10am – 12noon

Session 2: Social media for advanced users will run 1pm – 3pm

I'm interested – what do I do next?

Please email darrencaveney@gmail.com to book a place on the course sharing your contact name and email address so that you can take part in the social media survey. Please also specify if you want to take part in session 1 for beginners, session 2 for more advanced users, or both.

6. Visit to Waterbeach Depot - Thu 29 September

A joint visit to the Shared Waste Management Facility at Waterbeach, involving councillors from both Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council, has been arranged for 10am on Thursday 29 September and is expected to last about two hours.

The tour will include an inspection of the Mechanical Biological Treatment, the composting and the recycling facility.

7. Devolution Briefing for District Councillors - Thu 13 October

District Councillors are invited to attend a briefing on Thursday 13 October at 6pm in the Swansley Room on the Government's devolution proposals for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

GENERAL INFORMATION

8. Media Monitoring



Arising from the results of the Member Communication Needs Survey, many members highlighted the fact that residents found out about SCDC matters through the media.

The Council's Communications Team will produce a weekly summary of recent news items to be published in the Bulletin to help keep members informed of recent coverage of SCDC.

Contact the [Communications Team](#) for further information.

Date	Publication	Details		
14/09/2016	Cambridge News	Concessions for residents (letter - City Deal)	P16	
16/09/2016	Cambridge News	Mother overpaid £90k in benefits	P7	

9. Items of Interest from the Local Government Association (LGA)



Items of Interest from the Local Government Association (LGA)

The Local Government Association provides a list of news headlines relevant to its members. Please click the headlines below for more details.

Thursday 15 September: *Mail*: [Public sector sheds a million staff](#)

The number of state employees on salaries paid by the taxpayer has fallen to its lowest level since the 1990s, new ONS figures reveal, the blow falling hardest on local councils.

Friday 16 September: *Independent*: [Cuts to supported housing](#)

Labour and charities have warned that a 1 per cent annual rent cut to providers of supported housing for vulnerable people will lead to increasing homelessness and reduced services.

Saturday 17 September: *BBC Online*: [Food "traffic light" labelling should be mandatory, council say](#)

Food manufacturers should be forced to put “traffic light” nutrition labels on the front of packs, the LGA has said.

Sunday 18 September: *Times*: [Postcode lottery claim over planning system](#)

A report by the Times claims that cuts and rule changes have created a postcode lottery in the planning system, which is making it harder to tackle the housing crisis.

Sunday 18 September: *Guardian*: [Diminishing wildflowers on the verge](#)

Conservators claim roadside verges – deemed the last stronghold of Britain’s diminishing wildflowers – are being mown down by councils because of budgetary pressures and a lack of guidance.

Sunday 18 September: *Guardian*: [Social housing in the UK now at record low](#)

Britain is becoming more segregated due to high house prices, a report reveals, as figures show that the number of new “social rent” homes funded by the Government fell to fewer than 10,000 last year.

Monday 19 September: *Times*: [Town halls look at the contents of bins](#)

Refuse bins have been taken away for analysis by consultants acting on behalf of councils to see who falls to separate rubbish and recycling, it is reported.

Monday 19 September: *BBC Online*: [How do you stop fly-tipping and littering?](#)

A feature fly-tipping across England says the problem is getting worse with councils spending more than £67 million to clean up public land and prosecute anyone they catch.

Tuesday 20 September: *BBC Online*: [Call for public money to protect village from floods](#)

Villages in Oxfordshire hit by flooding last week “can’t cope” with further deluges, according to a parish councillor.

Tuesday 20 September: *I paper*: [Bin collection moves to once every four weeks in bid to encourage recycling](#)

A trial is underway in which bins will only be emptied once a month in a bid to boost levels of recycling.

10. View Planning Applications



To view the list of planning applications that have recently been submitted to the Council, please visit the authority’s on-line [Planning Application Search](#). Once the page has loaded, you can use the [Search option](#) to set your own criteria of parish, area and date range.



The system will provide a range of information on current and decided applications since 1948, including a brief description of the development, reference number, decision and the date of decision. More recent applications show the name and telephone number of the council officer who is dealing with the application.

Search results are presented in a collection of pages, the number of which depends on the number of results your search produces. There are navigation tools to allow you to browse your results.

EXECUTIVE DECISIONS TAKEN SINCE 14 SEPTEMBER 2016



In accordance with the [Access to Information Procedure Rules in Part 4 of the Council's Constitution](#), any executive decision shall be published normally within five days of being made. That record will bear the date on which it is published and will specify that the decision will come into force, and may then be implemented, on the expiry of 5 working days after the publication of the decision, unless called in for review by the Chairman of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee or by any five other councillors.

A list of decisions currently within the call-in period is available [on the Council's website](#).

The call in procedure is set out in full in [Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, 'Scrutiny and Overview Committee Procedure Rules'](#).

11. Elite Athlete Award Scheme 2016

The Environmental Services Portfolio Holder has agreed to award 23 grants under the Elite Athlete Award Scheme, totalling £12,000. The decision was made on the recommendation of the Elite Athletes Award Panel. More details are available from the link below:
<http://scams.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=10136>

The call-in period for this decision expires at 5pm on Friday 23 September. If not called-in the decision can be implemented on Monday 26 September.

12. Position Statement 2016/17: Finance, Performance and Risk (Q1)

Cabinet

NOTED the Council's provisional financial position together with the performance and risk matters and contextual information set out in the report and Appendices A to C.

ENDORSED the suite of key performance indicators and Corporate Plan outcome measures attached at Appendices B1 and B2 of the report.

APPROVED the Strategic Risk Register and matrix set out in Appendices D and E of the report.

This decision was first published on Friday 16 September and so the deadline for call-in is Friday 23 September at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Monday 26 September.

13. Apprenticeships

Cabinet

NOTED the content of the report and the budget and funding implications.

SUPPORTED the Council's participation in the Government's Apprenticeships initiative which commences in April 2017.

REQUESTED that officers give further consideration to the pay scale for apprenticeships and that this be reported back through the Council's budget setting process.

This decision was first published on Friday 16 September and so the deadline for call-in is Friday 23 September at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Monday 26 September.

14. Internal Audit Shared Service

Cabinet **APPROVED** the business case, as set out in the supplement to the agenda, and **DELEGATED** authority to the Executive Director (Corporate Services) to make decisions and to take steps which are necessary, conducive or incidental to the establishment of an Internal Shared Audit Service in accordance with the business case.

This decision was first published on Friday 16 September and so the deadline for call-in is Friday 23 September at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Monday 26 September.

15. Five Year Land Supply Sites and Local Connection Criteria

Cabinet **APPROVED** option one in the report, as below, as a starting point for discussions on the requirement for a local connection criteria on five year land supply sites:

"The first eight affordable homes on each five year land supply site will be occupied by those with a local connection , the occupation of any additional affordable homes, thereafter will be split 50/50 between local connection and on a district-wide basis.

If there are no households in the local community in housing need at the stage of letting or selling a property and a local connection applies, it will be made available to other households in need on a cascade basis looking next at adjoining parishes and then to need in the wider district, in accordance with the normal lettings policy for affordable housing. The number of homes identified for local people within a scheme will always remain for those with a local connection when properties become available to re-let."

This decision was first published on Friday 16 September and so the deadline for call-in is Friday 23 September at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Monday 26 September.

16. Multi-Year Settlements and Efficiency Plans

Cabinet **AGREED** to the submission of an efficiency plan to the Department for Communities and Local Government and **DELEGATED** drafting and approval of the plan to the Executive Director (Corporate Services) as the Council's Section 151 Officer, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder for Finance and Staffing.

This decision was first published on Friday 16 September and so the deadline for call-in is Friday 23 September at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Monday 26 September.

17. Procurement of a Financial Management System

The Finance and Staffing Portfolio Holder

AGREED to ratify the purchase of the replacement FMS from Technology One.

This decision was first published on Wednesday 21 September and so the deadline for call-in is 5pm on Wednesday 28 September. If not called-in the decision can be implemented on

Thursday 29 September.

DECISIONS MADE BY OFFICERS AND REPORTED FOR INFORMATION

Please click on the link below to find details of decisions made by officers under delegated authority:

<https://www.scams.gov.uk/content/access-information>

OTHER INFORMATION

18. Newly-Published Items on modern.gov



Agendas

- [Council 22 September](#)

Decisions

- [Elite Athlete Award Scheme 2016](#)
- [Cabinet 15 September](#)
- [Employment Committee 25 September](#)
- [Procurement of a Financial Management System](#)

Library Items

- [Joint Arrangements \(part of Constitution\)](#)

19. SCDC Starters and Leavers



New Employees at the Council

Name: Tom Davies
Job title: Planning Project Officer
Date started: 19 September 2016



Staff who have moved jobs

Name: Jane Jackson
Old job: Resource Officer
New job: Senior Resource Officer
Date moved: 15 September 2016



Staff who have left/ will be leaving

Name: Paul Vanston
Job title: Head of Waste Resources
Date leaving: 30 September 2016