

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



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

CONTENTS

1. Meetings and events from Thursday 22 December to Friday 6 January 2017

Date	Time	Name	Venue	Contact
Thu 22 Dec	5pm	Environmental Services Portfolio Holder's Meeting	Swansley Room	Patrick Adams
Fri 23 Dec				
Mon 26 Dec		OFFICE CLOSED		
Tue 27 Dec		OFFICE CLOSED		
Wed 28 Dec				
Thu 29 Dec				
Fri 30 Dec				
Mon 2 Jan		OFFICE CLOSED		
Tue 3 Jan				
Wed 4 Jan				
Thu 5 Jan				
Fri 6 Jan				
Mon 9 Jan				
Tue 10 Jan				
Wed 11 Jan	10:30am	Planning Committee	Council Chamber	Ian Senior
Thu 12 Jan				
Fri 13 Jan				

INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

2. No Weekly Bulletin Next Week

Please note that there will be no Weekly Bulletin published on 28 December 2016. The next Bulletin will be issued on Wednesday 4 January 2017.

Wishing a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all my readers!

3. Community Right to Bid - Assets of Community Value

The following asset/s have entered the interim moratorium ending on Thursday 26th January 2017.

- The Wheatsheaf, 92 Church Street, Gamlingay, Sandy, Beds, SG19 3JJ

4. Northstowe Update and Forum Agenda

Please find attached a round-up of recent activity at Northstowe and the agenda for the next Community Forum on 18 January 2017.

5. Care Network Cambridgeshire Newsletter

Care Network Cambridgeshire exists to help older, isolated and vulnerable people in Cambridgeshire to stay independent and keep in touch with friends and their community.

GENERAL INFORMATION

6. 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		
14/12/2016	Cambridge News and online	£7 road 'hubs' plan (City Deal)	P4 and link	
14/12/2016	Cambridge News	£1 billion will soon vanish (Letter - City Deal)	P18	
14/12/2016	Cambridge Independent online	Hatley church to be given new lease of life	Link	
14/12/2016	Star Radio Online	Hatley church to be given new lease of life	Link	
14/12/2016	Cambridge News online	Estate agent signs in a Cambridgeshire village stay up for weeks, claims resident (Cllr Ellington quoted)	Link	
14/12/2016	Cambridge Independent	Could Foxton transport hub be the answer to congestion?	P6	
15/12/2016	Cambridge Independent	Cambourne High Street junction gets redesign	P18	
15/12/2016	Cambridge News	Cautious welcome for planned transport hubs	P5	
15/12/2016	Cambridge News	Affordable housing in development is praised	P6	
15/12/2016	Cambridge News and online	Cambridge City hope to begin work on Sawston stadium in spring	Link	
15/12/2016	Peterborough Telegraph online	New combined authority holds first meeting since Cambridgeshire and Peterborough devolution agreed	Link	
16/12/2016	Cambridge News	Sign of the times as villages slams agents	P15	
16/12/2016	Cambridge News	Bus firm must reverse cuts (City Deal mentioned - letter)	P18	
16/12/2016	Cambridge News Online	Robots, Radar & Rockets Boost Zettlex Sales	Link	
17/12/2016	Cambridge News	South Cambs: one of the best places to live in the country		
17/12/2016	Cambridge News	Faster rate of making decisions	P8	
17/12/2016	Cambridge News	Busway march hits city today (City Deal)	P10	
17/12/2016	BBC News online	Winchester 'best place to live in UK' (South Cambs mentioned at sixth)	Link	

18/12/2016	BBC Radio Cambridgeshire	Cllr Nick Wright interviewed about Hatley Church transfer		
19/12/2016	Cambridge News	When are the Christmas bin collections in Cambridge and Cambridgeshire?	Link	
19/12/2016	Cambridge News	Protesters march over new Busway plan (City Deal)	P5	
19/12/2016	Biggleswade Today online	'Friendless' church given new lease of life	Link	
19/12/2016	Cambridge News online	Call to improve A505 after 'spate of accidents'	Link	
19/12/2016	Cambridge Independent online	Christmas bin changes in Cambridge and South Cambs	Link	
20/12/2016	Cambridge News	Recycling tips on offer this festive season	P5	
20/12/2016	Cambridge News	Renewed safety calls for A505 after incidents	P10	

7. 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 December: *BBC online*: [More arts funding “should go outside London”](#)
Theatres, galleries and other cultural groups located outside London should get a bigger share of government arts funding, a committee of MPs has said.

Friday 16 December: *Telegraph*: [New homes funding diverted to pay for social care](#)
Councils will no longer get a pay-out for new homes in their area unless they increase their housing stock by more than 0.4% each year.

Friday 16 December: *Telegraph*: [Drop in recycling](#)
The amount of household waste being recycled by British families has fallen for the first time, according to figures from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Saturday 17 December: *BBC Online*: [UK’s best places to live in 2016 \(South Cambs ranked sixth\)](#)
Winchester in Hampshire has been named the UK’s best place to live in 2016, whilst South Cambs is ranked sixth, according to a quality of life study by Halifax which looked at factors including life expectancy, health, employment rates, crime, education and broadband access.

Sunday 18 December: *Times*: [Loyalty oath for all public office holders](#)
All holders of public office, including council workers, will have to swear an oath of allegiance to British values in an attempt to combat extremism.

Monday 19 December: *BBC Online*: [Half of flood spending protects London](#)
Half of all the money to be spent on new flood defences in England will be spent on protecting London and areas around the Thames, according to new research.

Wednesday 21 December: *Mail Online*: [Voters will have to show passport in move to prevent electoral fraud](#)

Voters will have to show their passports or driving licences before casting their ballots under plans to be piloted to curb fraud.

8. 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 WEDNESDAY 14 DECEMBER



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'](#).

9. Provision of 8 Affordable Housing at Pampisford Road Great Abington

The Housing Portfolio Holder **AGREED** to enter into Heads of Terms followed thereafter by a contract to purchase 8 affordable homes on a site at Pampisford Road, Greater Abington.

This decision was first published on Friday 16 December and so the deadline for call-in is Friday 23 December at 5pm. If not called-in the decision can be implemented on the next working day, which is Wednesday 28 December.

10. Strategic Sites Supplementary Planning Documents

The Planning Portfolio Holder agreed

- (a) That a Supplementary Planning Document be prepared jointly with Cambridge City Council for Land North of Cherry Hinton to the broad timetable set out in paragraphs 19-20 of the report from the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development;
- (b) To commence preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents for Waterbeach New Town and Bourn Airfield New Village to the broad timetables set out in paragraphs 21 to 25 of the report; and
- (c) The general process for preparing Supplementary Planning Documents contained in paragraph 13 of the report.

Please note that this decision was first published on Wednesday 14 December and so the deadline for call-in is Wednesday 21 December at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Thursday 22 December.

11. Submitted South Cambridgeshire Local Plan: Bourn Airfield New Village - Policy SS/6

The Planning Portfolio Holder agreed the revised wording of section 7b of Policy SS/6 as reported to Council on the 17 November in the supplementary report entitled 'supplement in response to the Planning Portfolio Holder's recommendation to Council' read as follows, with new text highlighted:

"Provide sStrategic landscaping *within and beyond the Major Development Area Site* to deliver a high quality landscaped setting around the boundary of the settlement to avoid it appearing as part of a ribbon of urban development south of the A428, to maintain the rural nature of the Broadway and ensure separation from Cambourne, and to ensure countryside separation from Caldecote / Highfields and Bourn. *The strategic landscaping along the eastern boundary of the Strategic Site south of the existing employment area will include a substantial and continuous woodland belt, including land within the Major Development Site*".

Please note that this decision was first published on Wednesday 14 December and so the deadline for call-in is Wednesday 21 December at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Thursday 22 December.

12. Local Development Framework - Annual Monitoring Report 2015-2016

The Planning Portfolio Holder:

- (a) Approved the contents of the Annual Monitoring Report 2015-2016 (included as Appendix 2 (website only)) for publication; and
- (b) Delegated any further minor editing changes to the Annual Monitoring Report to the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development where they are technical matters.

Please note that this decision was first published on Wednesday 14 December and so the deadline for call-in is Wednesday 21 December at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Thursday 22 December.

13. Local Development Scheme Update

The Planning Portfolio Holder approved the updated Local Development Scheme attached as Appendix A to the report from the Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development.

Please note that this decision was first published on Wednesday 14 December and so the deadline for call-in is Wednesday 21 December at 5pm. If not called-in this decision can be implemented on Thursday 22 December.

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

14. Newly-Published Items on modern.gov



Agendas

- [Environmental Services Portfolio Holder Meeting 22 Dec](#)

Decisions

- [Planning Portfolio Holder's Meeting 13 Dec](#)
- [Provision of 8 Affordable Houses, Pampisford Road, Great Abington](#)

Plans

- [Forward Plan of Key Decisions](#)

Issues

- [Non Domestic Rates Discretionary Rate Relief Policy](#)
- [Review of procedures for neighbourhood planning](#)
- [Internal Audit Shared Service](#)
- [Action Plan for Housing Delivery](#)
- [Strategic Risk Register](#)
- [Information on Bus Hubs](#)

15. SCDC Starters and Leavers



New Employees at the Council

Name: Rachael Wells
Job title: Environmental Health Officer
Date starting: 4 January 2017

Name: Karen Gingell
Job title: Environmental Health Officer
Date starting: 4 January 2017



Staff who have left

Name: Janis Cirulis

Job title: Refuse / Recycling Operative

Date left: 5 December 2016

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Agenda Item 4 Northstowe Community Update

December 2016

First homes sold

The [Bloor Homes](#) marketing suite opened its doors in November for the official sales launch of Northstowe's first homes. With over 500 pre-registering interest in the properties, Bloor Homes has been inundated with enquiries. The first six plots sold off plan within the first two weeks. More will be released this month and later in January. Construction is also moving apace as houses begin to take shape and road infrastructure starts to be laid.



What's happening on site?

Work on the remaining drainage, sewers systems, bulk filling earthworks and road infrastructure is on track for completion by early next year. Also in 2017 utility works will be completed and work on some of the open spaces will commence.

The Cambridge Archaeological Unit (CAU) has been out in force on the Oakington barracks part of the site. Around 10 hectares of top and sub soil have been stripped back ready for hand excavation and investigation. (Over 75ha will be stripped back in total by 2018). Already evidence has been found of a Roman settlement and dense Iron Age features. Events are planned for Spring to let the local community get a closer, hands on look at the finds being uncovered. [Read more](#)



(Courtesy of CAU)



Planning News

It's been a busy time - Taylor Wimpey had their first parcel approved on 25 November to develop 40 homes adjacent to the school site. [Linden](#) submitted an application for the largest Phase 1 parcel for 271 homes at the beginning of November with [Bovis](#) submitting the [plans](#) for the first of their three parcels towards the end of last month (consultation closes 20 December). Both will be determined over coming weeks. [Taylor Wimpey](#) have planned to share outline plans for their next parcel H11 with Longstanton Parish Council in January and [Barratt Homes](#) are expected to submit plans for the first of their four parcels before Christmas. All are looking to be on site in the first part of next year.

The application for the **Western Park** which includes sports pitches, open space, land for allotments and a community orchard along with associated foot and cycle ways on the Western edge of Phase 1 has now been approved. Once necessary planning conditions are discharged, work will commence.

Planning Committee agreed the revised proposal for affordable housing submitted by Homes & Communities Agency (HCA). In January 2016, Northstowe Phase 2 was announced as one of five pilot **Starter Homes** schemes as part of the Government plans to help increase home ownership in the UK. The new proposal includes 40% Starter Homes – that will be discounted to help first time buyers aged between 23-40 get on the property ladder – and a further 10% Affordable Rented Homes. This agreement allows the Section 106 £73million investment in community facilities for Phase 2 previously agreed in principle in July 2015 to be given the full green light. [Read more](#)

Phase 2 work in progress

Following on from the consultations and feedback received earlier this year, the Design Code has been drafted setting out the design principles behind the town centre, movement, access and connectivity across and between neighbourhoods and the look and feel of homes to be built. Submission of the final code is expected early next year. Alongside this work, the HCA team have commenced work on the Town Centre strategy and plan to carry out public consultations in the New Year. [Read more](#)



Healthy New Towns

Work is underway to weave health and well-being into the fabric of Northstowe. Clare Gibbons, the new Programme Lead has been working alongside partner colleagues from the NHS, the two councils, HCA and others to plan how health and social care can best be delivered to build a healthy new community at Northstowe.

Community News

Cambridge Meridian Academies Trust (CMAT) shared [plans](#) and expected timelines for Northstowe's secondary school due to open in Sept 2019 at a recent meeting for Longstanton parents. Further update meetings to be held in April and June next year.

The Northstowe Community Working Group (NCWG), residents from neighbouring villages who have been meeting to look at ways to help build, shape and integrate the new community as it emerges, have been busy preparing a pack of practical information to welcome new residents. If you would like to join the NCWG, email nutan.patel@scamborough.gov.uk. The Parish Council has also been collecting name suggestions Northstowe's network of new streets and roads.

The **next Community Forum** will be on **18 January, 7 - 9pm** with the informal drop-in session from 6pm at The Pathfinder School on Northstowe Phase 1 site (off Station Rd B1050)

A14 work begins

Many will have seen compounds emerging and preparatory works taking place around the A14 over the last few months but the long awaited main construction work officially got underway on 28 November marked by a [visit](#) by Transport Secretary Chris Grayling. [Find out more](#)

Visit www.Northstowe.com or [register](#) for more news and updates.

For site enquiries, contact Jim Cumberton (Hawk Site Manager) E: jimcumberton@hawk-group.co.uk T: 07547 738032
For community enquiries, contact Nutan Patel (SCDC) E: nutan.patel@scamborough.gov.uk T: 01954 713461



NORTHSTOWE COMMUNITY FORUM & DROP-IN

Wednesday 18 January 2017

The Pathfinder C of E Primary School, Pathfinder Way, Northstowe
(Access Phase 1 site following Northstowe signs off Station Rd, B1050)

DROP-IN 6pm - 6.45pm

Come along for an informal chat with Gallagher Estates, the Homes and Communities Agency, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and the housebuilders who will be available for questions in advance of the full Forum.

FORUM 7pm - 9pm

AGENDA

1. Welcome and apologies

2. Phase 1 Work programme

- Site works update
- Play areas

Andy Lawson - Gallagher Estates

3. Housebuilder planning update

James Stone - South Cambridgeshire District Council

4. Bovis Homes

Tom Wheeler, Mark Imray, John Dale

5. Taylor Wimpey - Parcel H11

Kruti Desai - Terence O'Rourke

6. Phase 2 Work Programme

- Site works - archaeology / land remediation
- S106 approval
- Design Code update
- Town centre strategy

Philip Harker, Dean Harris - Homes and Communities Agency

7. A14 Improvement Project Update

Mike Evans, Bob Pettipher - Highways England

8. Healthy New Town

Claire Gibbons - South Cambridgeshire District Council

9. Welcoming new residents

Nutan Patel - South Cambridgeshire District Council

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All Good News to End the Year

Our 30th Anniversary year is coming to a close in a very good way. During the autumn we learned that we had won the Cambridgeshire County Council tender to deliver the Community Navigators service for another four years. Well done to Nikki and her team for such an excellent service over the last four years.



In addition, we have also secured Big Lottery “Reaching Communities” funding for a further five years to support our work in Fenland and Hunts. Early in the year we added the Healthy Fenland project and since then additional Help at Home projects working from Hinchingsbrooke and Addenbrooke’s Hospitals. This means that we start 2017 with funding largely sorted and comprehensive services being delivered by all three teams – Community Development, Help at Home and Community Navigators.

This does not mean we are complacent or have run out of ideas; we have a whole list of initiatives which we are hoping to implement in the New Year. These include re-installing a Help at Home Coordinator in our office in Ely and developing new and more interesting roles for our volunteers. If you are reading this you might be interested in helping people read letters or do paperwork. Or perhaps you would prefer to develop longer-term relationships with people, befriending them and helping them to re-connect with their communities. Alternatively, you might feel an affinity for people living alone with no family support. If this is you, please let your local coordinator know.

May I take this chance to wish you a joyful Christmas and a peaceful New Year and we look forward to working with you again in 2017.

News From Fenland

To the west of Wisbech residents are very fortunate to have a number of thriving pubs offering good food and a network of lunch clubs in a relatively small area.

All the clubs are very friendly and welcome new members. If you live nearby and would like to get out and meet people and enjoy a good meal why not book a place and visit one or more of these lunch clubs? You can always ask for someone to accompany or meet you the first time. The bleak months auer Christmas are an excellent time to do something different and make new friends. There are also a variety of coffee mornings, auernoon teas, as well as the soup and sandwich lunches at Newton, in local villages.

Community car schemes provide a lifeline for people to make essential journeys like appointments at the surgery or hospital who do not have their own transport or someone who can take them. They also enable elderly, isolated or vulnerable people to get out and about and retain their independence. But it can be difficult for car schemes to match supply of voluntary drivers with demand for journeys all the time. Too many drivers and they can feel that they are not really needed but many schemes face times when they are unable to meet all requests owing to driver illness, work or family commitments or



Please contact me for further details.

Gorefield Lunch Club meets fortnightly on Wednesdays at The Woodman's Cottage (contact Norman on 01945 870387)

Guyhirn Lunch Club meets monthly on Thursdays at Wisbech St Mary Sports & Social Club (contact June on 01945 450212)

Murrow Lunch Club meets monthly on Wednesdays at The Bell (call Mark on 01945 700422)

Parson Drove Lunch Club meets fortnightly on Thursdays at the Butchers Arms (call Janice on 01945 700109)

Working between neighbouring schemes and sharing drivers makes sense and usually works well but is not without problems. Potential passengers need to be made aware that although schemes all operate within the guidelines issued by Cambridgeshire County Council they are independent and may have slightly different rules and charges. If a driver has to come from further afield then the passenger will be required to pay more. However, the great majority of people who rely on local car schemes are extremely grateful for the friendly, helpful and reliable service they receive from co-ordinators and drivers alike.

Sue Beel,
Community Development Officer - Fenland

News From South Cambs

Care Network has been working alongside the National Trust at Wimpole Home Farm

to create a new group for people who have a background in rural life, farming, agriculture or horticulture. The group is aimed at those who may be suffering from memory loss or early stages of dementia.

Participants attend with a relative, friend or carer as a support and the group is also supported by Care Network volunteers, National Trust Volunteers and Staff.

The group have been involved in a wide variety of farm activities including collecting eggs from chickens, tending rabbits, changing bedding for pygmy goats and grooming horses.



Don and Vicki with the pygmy goats

It's not all work and there has been plenty of social time to talk about their experiences over a cup of tea or coffee.

The piloting stage of the group has been a great success with all involved; participants, volunteers, supporters and National Trust team are all keen to continue.

The group meets every other week on a Friday between 2-4 pm and would love to welcome new members. So if you or someone you support is interested contact us on

01954 211919 or email mirella.t@care-network.org.uk or alix.c@care-network.org.uk

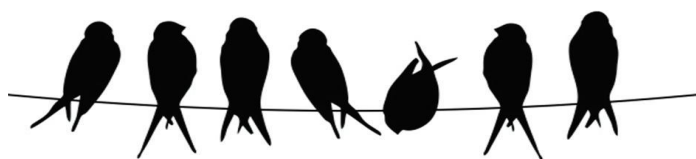
The first meeting for the new year will take place on January 6th 2017.

Sing to Remember! That's what members of a group meeting at Landbeach Baptist Church are doing each Thursday morning.

Sessions start with coffee at 10:45 and the group then gets into voice from 11:00 till 12:00. Although meeting on church premises they are a secular community choir, open to anyone in the earlier stages of memory loss, including those with other progressive illnesses such as Parkinsons or Multiple Sclerosis. Members with dementia-related conditions are asked to bring a carer with them who stays. Donations towards the cost of coffee are encouraged.

The group was set up with the help Community Development for Care Network.

When one member recently had a 90th birthday, the group celebrated together, which of course including singing!



The Alzheimer's Society advises "Singing is not only an enjoyable activity, it can also provide a way for people with dementia, along with their carers, to express themselves and socialise with others in a fun and supportive group. Hidden in the fun are activities which build on the well-known preserved memory for song and music in the brain. Even when many memories are hard to retrieve, music is especially easy to recall."

News From South cont

Oakington and Westwick Neighbours (OWN) is a good neighbour scheme is all about connecting people in the village together. Whether young or old, fit or frail, people can ask for help with one task and/or offer help with another.

Oakington and Westwick Neighbours is a network of volunteers who are offering their skills and time to help with a variety of needs. Whether you can do just one hour a month or more, all offers of help are welcome.

Care Network Community Development have helped support the group set up and recently put the group in touch with a volunteer trainer who delivered an excellent Dementia Friends training session at their November training meeting.



If you are interested in contacting this group take a look at their web page at <https://oakingtonandwestwick.com/about/comment-page-1/> For information about similar groups elsewhere, or to set up a group in your parish, contact Care Network on 01954 211 919, or email alix.c@care-network.org.uk

And if you are interested in having a good neighbour scheme in your village contact Care Network Community Development.

Alix Clark,
Community Development Officer
- South Cambs

News From East

New Activities Planned

It's been a busy few months in East Cambridgeshire with several new activities planned. An Arts and Crau Group started in Burwell with artists and crauers meeting to share ideas and enjoy a cup of coffee. There has been an increase in interest for chair based exercise which we have been able to organise for individual groups and support the set-up of Soham Chair Based Excercise Group. Our indoor bowling set is proving as popular as ever, with the Swallowtails at Wicken planning to purchase their own set.



A new evening language group meeting at Sainsbury's café in Ely on Tuesday evenings 7.30-9p.m. is starting in January and would welcome any new members. In addition keep an eye out for a new singing group aimed at those suffering from memory loss and their carers which is planned to start in Ely auer Christmas.

Whether you would like some additional support for your existing group, would like to start something new or would like further information on any of the above, please give me a ring on 01353 661132.

Kathy Bowles,
Community Development Officer -
East Cambs

Spotlight on a Community

I have been out and about the last few months visiting community groups and as I am travelling around I am always looking for a good picture to add to the collection and putting a spotlight on your community.

Holywell-cum-Needingworth Good Neighbourhood Scheme held an afternoon tea party to celebrate 10 years. I was invited to come along and take part in the celebrations. A fun afternoon was had by all and everyone was talking about the importance of the scheme and here are just a few comments people said:-

'This scheme is my life line',
'The tea parties are lovely',
'They are helping me to keep my independence', 'I feel part of something and I am not forgotten'.



If you would like to find out more information about the scheme please contact the coordinator on 07794 680475.

Please let us know if you would like your community group or scheme to be featured in the next Newsletter, we would love to include photos and quotes as well. If you are interested please send Susan (susan.bate@care-network.org.uk) your community feature.

Susan Bate,
*Community Development Officer
Hunts*

Reaching Communities Evaluation across Huntingdonshire & Fenland.

A total of 181 interviews have been carried out from January 2016 - October 2016. The participants were asked does this group enable you to and the 181 answers for each of the questions are below. All the participants ticked at least one of these and all of these are indicators that they have reduced isolation.

Here are few of the comments that people have said are the main reasons for attending community groups: -

Come to help people, keeps my mind active and it keeps me going.

Enjoy the company, gets me out of my four walls and I can see people.

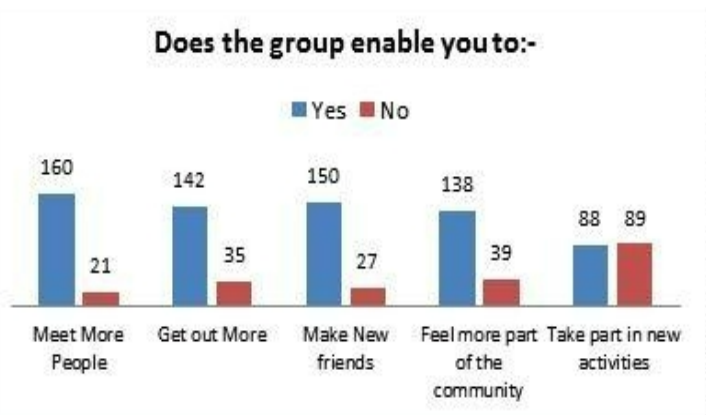
I recently lost my wife after 60 years of marriage. The group has enabled me to restart some social life (at first reluctantly).

So friendly and meet new people all the time. Gets me out from my four walls otherwise I would be stuck inside.

Sometimes I don't want to come but I am pleased when I get here.

To get out of the house, the company and to feel part of the local community.

To meet people and have a chat with, as staying at home is lonely.



Direct Services

What a busy year 2016 has been for Help at Home, and also within our new initiatives at Hinchingsbrooke, with Home Safe and Sound and Addenbrooke's with our new Carefinder service. In addition we launched new joint volunteer training to help bridge the gap between Help at Home and Community Navigator volunteer roles to allow more volunteers to be able to help both services.

Help at Home

Help at Home continues to make a huge difference to hundreds of people across Cambridgeshire, helping people to recover more quickly after a stay in hospital, to avoid unnecessary admissions to hospital or just by being there to support people through an illness or a difficult time. We are so appreciative to all of our volunteers for everything they do to help those who need that help across Cambridgeshire.

By way of appreciation, we present our longest serving volunteers with awards. Here are just a few from this year:

At 94, David Pollock is not only one of our longest serving volunteers, but is also our oldest volunteer! Ruth, Chief Officer here at Care Network presented David with his award and thanked him for all the work he has done supporting people through Help at Home. Star Radio were also there that day to present David with a Random Acts of Christmas award for the voluntary work David does not only with Care Network, but all of the other volunteering he does, including putting on lunches for others where he lives to keep people socially connected. Thank you David!



[The Volunteer] took me to Tesco's and helped me. It was nice to be able to do it myself but have someone with me. He was so helpful. I felt more confident not being on my own. I couldn't praise you enough. What a brilliant service. Thank you.

Direct Services cont

Home Safe & Sound

We are so pleased to be able to offer this service at Hinchingsbrooke. In the initial 6 month period of funding from June – November 2016, the Home Safe & Sound team took home and settled 131 people! All of those taken home, and on a wider scale, everybody the team has spoken to, has been offered the support of the voluntary sector though Help at Home, the Community Navigators and referred onward to other organisations where appropriate, to help them in their recovery and hopefully avoid unnecessary readmissions to hospital. Home Safe and Sound funding was extended to 31st March 2017, and we are currently waiting to hear news on a further funding extension.

She was great. She brought me home in her car. It was so nice coming home from hospital in a normal car - not a taxi or an ambulance. I felt like a normal person not an ill person and I felt cared for.

“She was very helpful. The shopping was a concern - she said one of your volunteers could do it. My husband would have had to go home by taxi which we can't afford as we are pensioners. It's a great service. I can't go out of the house because I have agoraphobia so it was helpful having you there.”

Carefinder

Claire Marsh has had a really great start with Carefinder at Addenbrookes and in the first month helped 5 people source care and leave hospital as soon as they were able.

An example of how Carefinder has helped is Mary. We visited Mary on the Tuesday as we had been told she was now well and ready to be discharged home. She wanted to return home in time for her 101st birthday on the coming Sunday. Claire managed to find 2 suitable options for Mary to consider. When Mary decided which option she wanted to follow, they were able to visit her in hospital and make the arrangements for Mary to return home 2 days later, meaning she was safely settled in with the required support in time for such a fantastic birthday!

It's a very daunting task finding care for your own mother and your service was useful.

There has been so much in the press about the difficulties that self-funding is causing families and their sick relative. It has been a stressful time, and I thank you for helping me through it..

I really want to thank all of our fantastic volunteers and also our amazing team here at Care Network Cambridgeshire, for everything we have been able to do in 2016, to reach and support more and more people in all of these different ways.

Here's to 2017, I'm sure it's going to be a busy one!

Happy Christmas and Have a great New Year.

Lynette Hurren, *Direct Services Manager*

Community Navigators

Following a competitive tender, the team were really delighted to be awarded a contract for Community Navigators for four years.

Information and Advice

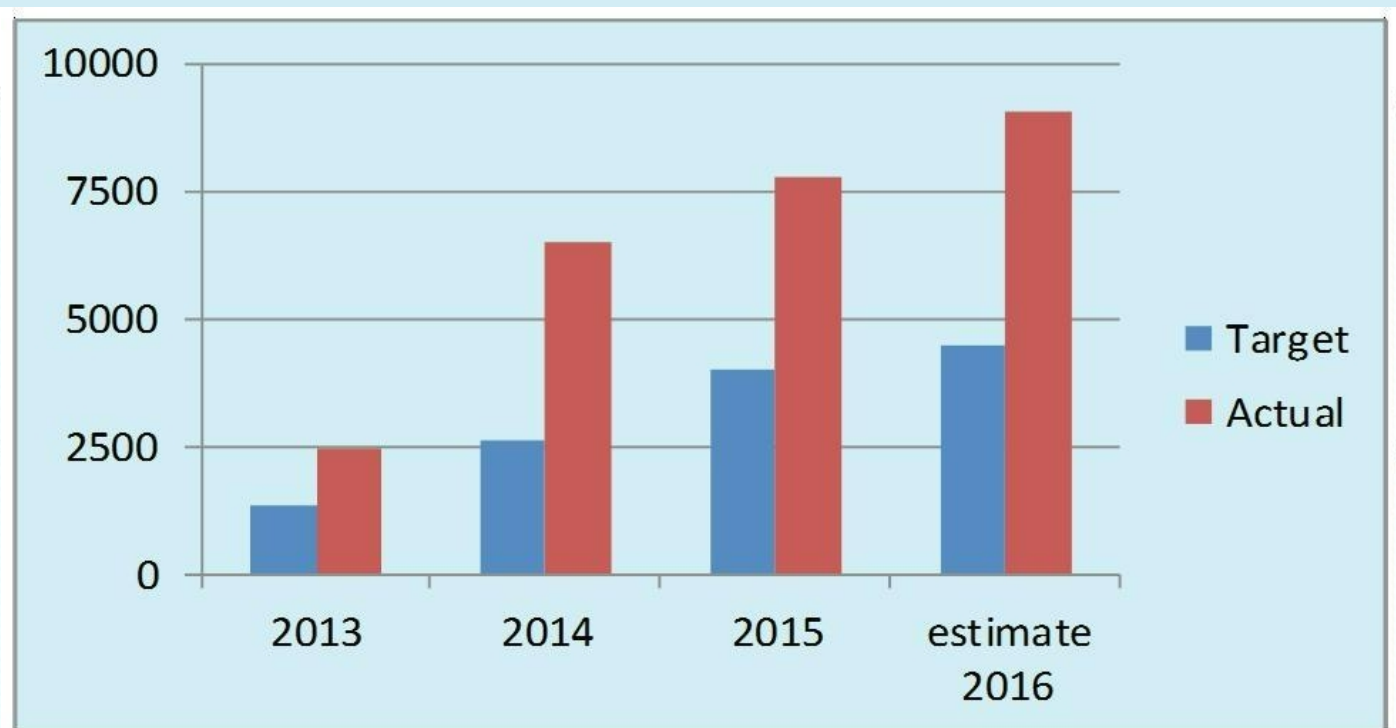
The demand for the service has grown every year. We always need more volunteers who are willing to seek out and pass on suggestions in response to people's queries. There is training and support until you feel confident. Our staff are now trained to level 3 in Information Advice and Guidance. That's the same level as an A-level.

Supporting Adults with Disabilities and Carers

About a fifth of our queries come from adults who are 18 – 65. Now our service officially extends to include adults with physical disabilities, learning disability, sensory challenges, mental health needs, HIV and AIDS as well as older people and adult carers. Please contact us if you have ideas about building closer links with new groups and organisations to reflect this new broader remit.



Community Navigators have continued to exceed their targets in helping clients with information on Services and Activities



Community Navigators cont

Working with the Older People's Teams and Early Help

The new contract introduces a closer working relationship with the Adult Social Care teams that support Older People. We will work together to share ideas of broader support that is available from charities, communities and private providers, to give people more choice about what's important to them. We're also working more closely with the Adult Early Help team, who work with people at a point of crisis, to promote recovery, prevent deterioration and help people adapt to their changing circumstances.



Wellbeing Support



A couple of years ago, we noticed that people with mental health needs were not taking action on the information they asked for. So we set up the Wellbeing pilot service to give support to people with low to moderate anxiety and depression so they can take the steps they needed to benefit from the Navigators service. The evidence of the impact that our brief intervention had for people has been really encouraging and the new contract brings reliable funding to allow us to support people to grow in confidence and to take action on the changes they want to make.

Kate, Wellbeing Coordinator

Volunteers

Thank you to all the volunteers who give their time and skills so generously. As the service has expanded over the past four years we have adapted the opportunities for volunteers to keep pace with the growing demand.

We still have traditional Community Navigators, who seek out information - whatever people ask. As well as the sources we train people in, and the suggestions they get from their coordinators, they go hunting online, or searching through directories and leaflets to ferret out the things people need. They may decide to specialise in a subject dear to them, or focus on their local village. Some people are happy to travel to support people; others want to focus on the members of their local club. Whatever their passion, people love their empathy, perseverance and smiles.

Community Navigators cont

We also have admin volunteers who do the navigator role but from an office base, so they keep information up to date, order leaflets, create letter templates, speak to people on the phone or even write poetry (see excerpts below)!

Supervised by our Wellbeing staff, Wellbeing volunteers work with people with low to moderate anxiety and depression in a strengths based way, providing encouragement and support to enable people to take action. People feel a sense of achievement as they grow in confidence and skills and the volunteers share in their enjoyment.


We have other volunteering options such as Outreach volunteers who help to let people know about the service and Neighbourhood volunteers who act as a contact point.

As well as initial training, volunteers are offered extra sessions to increase their knowledge of subjects such as Falls prevention, Dementia, Mental Health awareness and Carers Champions.


Same high standards

We are delighted to have consistently achieved over 95% customer satisfaction since this measure was introduced at the start of 2014. We feel proud that last quarter 94% of people said they felt more supported and 87% said they felt more positive as a result of the service.


Nikki Soyza, *Community Navigator Manager*



*Our names are Sandy and Pam and we're delighted to help
Care Network, hence we've both become volunteers
It's great to be useful and needed once more
Now we're not working, after being employed for so many years*



*We (Pam and Sandy) have become very good friends
And endeavour to work hard and never slack
Lesley and Sarah keep us topped up with biscuits and cake
Just to make sure we keep coming back*



*So what do we do to help in our volunteer roles?
Well, since Christmas we have been compiling a new A-Z
And listing all the leaflets that are available to the scheme
It was a job that Lesley and Sarah did dread.*

Community Development Stop Press

Welcome to Sarah Heather

We are very pleased to welcome Sarah Heather as our Community Development team manager, following the loss of Lynne McAulay to Cambridge Housing Society.

Sarah comes to us from Mind in Suffolk where she was involved in setting up peer to peer support and therapeutic community groups. Before that she worked for Citizens Advice Bureaux in Newmarket and Haverhill.



She has qualifications in Charity and Social Enterprise Management from Anglia Ruskin University and in Understanding Management from the Open University. She has recently moved to March in Cambridgeshire.

We wish Lynne all the best in her new role and look forward to working with and learning from Sarah.

Annual General Meeting

Our 2016 AGM was held in the elegant Assembly Rooms at Huntingdon Town Hall on Wednesday 12th October 2016 . Over 60 people attended to hear how Care Network has celebrated 30 years of helping the old and vulnerable across the county. The Cambridge Art Salon brought their Tree of Wisdom installation and we displayed some works of art created by our clients as part of our joint Pearls of Wisdom project.



Our speaker, Emily Bradfield (University of Derby, Research Assistant in Creative Art for Health in Older Age) explained how important art is in maintaining cognitive abilities and social interaction and there were art boxes supplied by Kettles Yard for those there to have a go at creating their own piece of art on the day.

Dates for Your Diary

Tues 10th Jan	10:00 – 3:00	Help at Home and Community Navigator Training At Broadway House, Hardwick
Wed 26th Apr	10:00 – 3:00	Help at Home and Community Navigator Training At Broadway House, Hardwick
Mon 19th Jun	afternoon, time to be confirmed	Volunteer Tea at Bishop's Garden, Ely, CB6 1AD.

To contact us about our events or any issues in this Care Network News, please ring our main office on **01954 211919** or email admin@care-network.org.uk. You can also write to us at the address below.



Registered in England at

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Cambridgeshire, CB23 7QJ

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If you'd like to volunteer with us, or suggest a new good neighbour scheme idea, please ring the same number and we'll link you up with our office nearest to you. If you can help us by making a donation, we'd be very grateful!

Cheques to Care Network Cambridgeshire, or log onto www.localgiving.com and type us into their search box. This is an easy way to give on-line.

We look forward to hearing from you, and thank you for your support!

