

**COUNCILLORS' BULLETIN
WEDNESDAY, 8 FEBRUARY
2017**



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

CONTENTS

1. Meetings and events from Thursday 9 February to Friday 24 February 2017

Date	Time	Name	Venue	Contact
Thu 9 Feb	2pm	Cabinet	Swansley Room	Ian Senior (minutes)
Fri 10 Feb				
Mon 13 Feb				
Tue 14 Feb				
Wed 15 Feb	5pm	Environmental Services Portfolio Holder's Meeting	Swansley Room	Patrick Adams
Thu 16 Feb				
Fri 17 Feb				
Mon 20 Feb				
Tue 21 Feb	6pm	Finance & Staffing Portfolio Holder - CANCELLED		
Wed 22 Feb				
Thu 23 Feb	10am	CDRP Board Stakeholder Event	Monkfield Room	Patrick Adams
	2pm	Council	Council Chamber	Patrick Adams
Fri 24 Feb				

INFORMATION FOR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS AND PARISH COUNCILS

2. Neighbourhood Planning Training: Wed 22 Feb 6pm

Neighbourhood Planning expert Andrew Ashcroft is returning to South Cambs to run a bespoke policy-writing workshop. This session is aimed at parishes *already designated as* Neighbourhood Planning Areas who may, in the near future if not already, be at the stage of writing policies.

If this applies to you, the date for your diaries is **Weds 22 February 2017, from 6-8.30pm in the Swansley Room at SCDC.**

Attendees will be asked to have read the following:

- the 'my community' guidance on policy writing - <http://mycommunity.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Writing-planning-policies-v51.pdf>
- the Sutton St Nicholas Plan, which Andrew will use as a mini case study - https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/media/4655608/sutton_submission_ndp.pdf

and each Neighbourhood Planning group will be asked to submit, no later than Weds 1 Feb:

- a schedule of policies you intend to include in your plan (without details/text)
- details of policies where you might be struggling; the draft policy and supporting text that you have assembled at that point.

Contributing this information will make the workshop very relevant to your particular circumstances and give you practical tips for use in developing your own plans.

If you have not already done so, **please book now** along with your neighbourhood planning

colleagues (no maximum number) and please also **submit any policy information** you wish to have reviewed in the session.

Can I also take this opportunity to remind you that we have a Neighbourhood Planning Facebook Group for your use as a forum for information exchange, and where we post pertinent news items:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/925756057520296/>

Please sign up if you think this would be useful to you.

3. **SE Parishes Patch Meeting: Connecting Communities: Wed 8 March 5-7.30pm The Fulbourn Centre**

As promised, we have organised the next South East parishes patch meeting. This meeting will look at 'services for older people' and will be an opportunity to find out about some of the services already in place locally, and for them to showcase what they do. We will be looking at the kinds of services and ideas you might like to see replicated in your local area, how to make this happen and hopefully giving information about setting up, funding, training and support. There will be time allocated to networking, stalls and case studies to take away on the day.

Confirmed speakers and attendees include:

- Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough - warden schemes, visiting schemes and handypersons scheme
- Care Network Cambridgeshire - car schemes, navigators and care schemes
- Jean Newman, Older People's Co-ordinator for Histon & Impington - her role and funding model
- Joy Bray, Parish Councillor for Great Wilbraham - mental health first aid training
- Helen Stepney / Jane Lampshire - activities for older people and Active & Healthy for Life GP referral scheme
- Cambridgeshire County Council - a range of topics including Good Neighbour Schemes, scams and rogue trader prevention, time-banking
- Cambridgeshire Community Foundation - funding opportunities
- Cambridge CVS - support with setting up and running groups, funding, training and governance

If you, your parish council members, or members of your community with a keen interest would like to come, please contact kathryn.hawkes@scambs.gov.uk or call 01954 712932 as soon as possible. Refreshments will be available on the night.

GENERAL INFORMATION

4. **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		
01/02/2017	Cambridge News online	Council tax hike as South Cambridgeshire District Council seeks to plug £2 million budget hole	Link	
01/02/2017	BBC Radio Cambridgeshire	CLlr Edwards interviewed about budget announcement		
01/02/2017	Cambridge Independent	The new road closures? (City Deal)	P1 and 8	
01/02/2017	Cambridge Independent	City Deal vision is a literary fiction - just how will Cambridge change?	P10	
01/02/2017	Cambridge Independent	New bin rounds will save £700,000 over three years	P20	
02/02/2017	Cambridge News	Council tax rise will fund £2m budget hole	P2	
02/02/2017	Cambridge News Online	Black day for Gamlingay' as council approves new homes	Link	
02/02/2017	Star Radio Online	Decisions from South Cambridgeshire District Council Planning Committee	Link	
03/02/2017	Cambridge News online	New £250,000 cycle route great news for Cambridge commuters and family riders, officials say (CLlr Orgee quoted)	Link	
04/02/2017	Cambridge News	Campaigners in push for on-road busway solution (City Deal)	P4	
04/02/2017	Cambridge News	Devolution for country would be a 'step change'	P10	
04/02/2017	Cambridge News	'Black day' for ancient village	P13	
06/02/2017	Cambridge News online	Mystery over how torched cars ended up down blocked-off muddy tracks near Cambridge	Link	
06/02/2017	BBC Radio Cambridgeshire	CLlr Howell interviewed about licensing and SCDC process and policy on drivers with previous convictions		
06/02/2017	BBC Online	BBC Local Live: Cambridgeshire (Taxi Licensing)	Link	
06/02/2017	BBC Look East	CLlr Howell interviewed about licensing and SCDC process and policy on drivers with previous convictions		
06/02/2017	BBC Online	Cambridgeshire taxi drivers' list of convictions revealed	Link	
06/02/2017	Cambridge News online	Council leader to meet with police over hare coursing concerns in South Cambridgeshire	Link	
07/02/2017	BBC Radio Cambridgeshire	CLlr Harford interviewed about Government plans to build more homes		
07/02/2017	Cambridge News	How can the £1 park and ride charge be ditched (City Deal)	P1 and 5	
07/02/2017	Cambridge News online	Residents' anger at six-week delay in fixing 'dangerous' broken drain (CLlr Johnson quoted)	Link	
07/02/2017	Cambridge News online	Cambridge MP calls for standard taxi licensing rules after revelations of drivers with criminal convictions	Link	
08/02/2017	Cambridge News and online	Major changes to bin collections to affect thousands of Cambridgeshire residents	P4 and link	
08/02/2017	Cambridge News	Major changes to waste collection times planned	P4	

08/02/2017	Cambridge news	Anger after 'dangerous' drain is left unrepaired (Cllr Johnson quoted)	P5	
08/02/2017	Cambridge News	MP calls for standard taxi licence rules	P6	

5. 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 2 February: *BBC Online*: [Housebuilder wants “reassessment” of green belt](#)
One of the UK’s largest housebuilders has called for a “critical reassessment” of green belt land to help solve Britain’s housing shortage.

Thursday 2 February: *Guardian*: [Rush to build new homes will increase flooding, experts warn](#)
The rush to build one million new homes in England by 2020 is set to increase flooding by overwhelming drains, according to a coalition of building and flooding professionals.

Thursday 2 February: *Mail*: [Small firms criticise business rates reforms](#)
Shopkeepers have criticised government plans to overhaul the business rates system, which will see about 500,000 small businesses facing bill rises of up to 300 per cent from April due to a revaluation of property prices.

Saturday 4 February: *Times*: [Higher council tax for empty homes to tackle housing crisis](#)
Councils are to be ordered to do more to bring hundreds of thousands of empty back into use.

Sunday 5 February: *Observer*: [Ministers move to “shift blame for local council cuts”](#)
Shadow local government minister Jim McMahon MP said he believes the Local Government Finance Bill is an attempt by the Government to avoid scrutiny of funding shortfalls and to make councils take ownership of unpopular cuts.

Monday 6 February: *BBC online*: [Affordable rent measures promised in housing white paper](#)
The Government has pledged to help people who rent their homes when it unveils its housing white paper tomorrow.

Tuesday 7 February: *Guardian*: [Councils to be told to build thousands more new homes](#)
Councils will be ordered to build thousands more homes, with an emphasis on high-rise blocks and city centre developments, as part of the Government’s new housing strategy.

Tuesday 7 February: *BBC Online*: [Cambridgeshire taxi drivers’ list of convictions revealed](#)
Taxi drivers in Cambridgeshire have convictions for violence, drug offences and fraud, a BBC investigation claims.

Wednesday 10 February: *BBC Online*: [More affordable housing promised in White Paper](#)
The Government’s new housing strategy for England includes plans to force councils to produce an up-to-date plan for housing demand and reduce the time allowed between planning permission and the start of building from three to two years.

6. 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.

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.scambsgov.uk/content/access-information>

OTHER INFORMATION

7. Newly-Published Items on modern.gov



Agendas

- [Cabinet 9 Feb](#)
- [Environmental Services Portfolio Holder 15 Feb](#)

Issues

- [Appointment of Returning Officer for Combined Authority Mayoral Elections](#)
- [Revenues and Benefits Quarterly Performance Report](#)
- [Sizes and Terms of Reference and appointments to committees for 2017/18](#)
- [Annual Joint Scrutiny and Partnerships Review Committee report](#)
- [Major Opposition Group Leader's Annual Report](#)
- [A428 Improvement Scheme](#)

Decisions

- [Planning Committee 1 Feb](#)