

**Notice of Request to Speak**  
**South Cambridgeshire District Council Meeting, 24th November 2022**

I hereby give notice that I wish to speak on behalf of Cambourne Town Council at the South Cambridgeshire District Council Meeting on 24th November 2022. I am a member of Cambourne Town Council and I wish to ask a question on their behalf.

I have provided the required details below:

**(a) The name, address and contact details of the person wishing to speak.**

Name: David Jones

**(b) The name of the organisation, if speaking on their behalf.**

Cambourne Town Council

**(c) Details of the question to be asked or statement to be made.**

At a recent meeting of Cambourne Town Council, we received a presentation from the South Cambridgeshire Investment Partnership (SCIP) on the proposed development of 260 homes on land at Cambourne Business Park. At this meeting we were disappointed to learn that despite repeated requests from numerous local stakeholders, SCIP are not proposing to provide a road connection between the Business Park and West Cambourne as part of their development.

Land at Cambourne Business Park is allocated for residential development as part of the wider development of West Cambourne by Policy SS/8 of the South Cambridgeshire Local Plan. Paragraph 12(g) of this policy requires vehicle access through the Business Park and makes it clear that this access is critical to the integration of West Cambourne into the wider town. In addition, paragraph 3.53 of the supporting text explains that road access through the Business Park is key to the principle of allocating residential development on designated employment land as it is considered that this will serve to better integrate West Cambourne with the rest of the town.

This was understood when the District Council determined MCA's outline planning application for West Cambourne, as whilst land ownership constraints prevented MCA from directly delivering the link road, the planning permission and subsequently approved Design Code secure the delivery of a primary spine road up to the boundary of the Business Park. In fact, the development of West Cambourne was only found to be acceptable on the basis that the opportunity would still exist to secure an access with any future application for the land at the Business Park. The officer's report to planning committee states that "the council would continue to encourage the delivery of an all-vehicular access through the Business Park" (Paragraph 262).

The provision of a road link through the Business Park is therefore not only key to the integration of West Cambourne with the rest of town, but it is fundamental to the principle of allowing residential development on the Business Park. The provision of this link road is also critical to provide safe access for around 2000 children attending Cambourne Village College and Hardwick and Cambourne Primary School. We understand that the Principal of the village college has written to the District Council to raise concerns about this.

During the presentation by SCIP, it was explained that they own the land proposed for residential development, but not the road through the Business Park. It was explained that this is owned by Cambourne Business Park Limited which in turn is owned by South Cambridgeshire District Council, but that despite this there remain certain ownership constraints that would prevent the delivery of the link road. It was unclear exactly what these constraints were and I am pleased to say that we have since received clarification that this is not the case. The land required to deliver the link road is wholly within the control of the District Council but there is a cost attached to the works.

Can Councillor Smith therefore please explain to the people of Cambourne why the integration of their town and the safety of around 2000 of their children is now considered secondary to the wish of the Council to profit from its chosen role as a developer of 260 additional houses on a green space in the centre of our town?

**(d) The councillor to whom a question is to be put.**

Councillor Bridget Smith, Council Leader