

# DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

FEBRUARY 2020

CLLR SARAH CHEUNG JOHNSON & CLLR ALEX MALYON

A reminder that information about South Cambs response to coronavirus can be found on the regularly updated coronavirus pages on the SCDC website: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/coronavirus/>

## DRAINAGE

We have had a new drainage officer, Lee Hillam who is taking over from Pat Matthews. Pat is still working with the council but is slowly handing over his considerable knowledge to Lee.

Lee advises the water issues we've seen over the last 5-6 weeks are unusual and water is not draining away in many places across the County as quickly as it has done previously.

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## LONGSTANTON

There has been an issue with a SCDC awarded drain off Station Road past the Guided Busway, which residents alerted us to over the Christmas period. Due to high pressure on the equipment for flooding issues across the County, the contractors South Cambs use were not able to get out there until the end of January. They have found additional issues with the pipe and have since been back a few times.

The team are working on cutting through the tree roots that are now only partially blocking the culvert, this has been hampered by the fact that our contractor ADC have got their equipment stuck in the culvert and have spent almost a day trying to free it with little success and even less progress on the roots. Staff shortages yesterday meant they did not attend site with the SCDC team and I have spoken with their director regarding this issue and about the lack of progress on freeing the pipe and continuing with the root blockage as a priority.

From investigation we have identified that the main cause of this culvert blockage is within the outfall section which is located between the Longstanton and Willingham signposts along Station Road where it crosses the highway diagonally to the open watercourse. I have contacted Cambridgeshire County Council and as such I have been working onsite today with James Broder the County Council Highways inspector for Longstanton with a view to putting in place a solution.

James and myself are not fully aware of the nature of the blockage and as such I had ADC on site to perform a cctv camera inspection inside the culvert, this was not conclusive due to the substantial amount of water in the culvert and the difficulty in holding back the flow into the chamber and as such I have asked the SCDC team to temporarily drain the open watercourse and asked ADC to attend again to assist James and myself by attempting another cctv inspection.

We will update further at the Parish Council meeting.

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## OAKINGTON

We had a very interesting and productive meeting with members of Oakington Parish Council, Andrew Dennis from the Flood Mitigation Group and Lee Hiram on concerns to the Award Drain 171 and a more general update on drainage concerns for Oakington. Lee has added to the work plan to clear the open ditch between The Drift and Longstanton Road. County Officers are working on getting the Gas Contractors to put right damage they have done to the culvert on Longstanton Road, once this is in place we can jet out the section from this Culvert downstream.

## NORTHSTOWE PHASE 3A

Following the consultation carried out last Spring/Summer, Homes England have reviewed the comments received and amended their proposals. We are asking for residents to review these proposals and send in their comments. Comments should be received by 1 March 2021. To comment please visit the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website.

Planning have advised the reason they are consulting is the applicants have reviewed the comments and submissions made to the Council as part of the consultation and has provided a response to these comments with a series of briefing notes for residents, technical supporting information with additional documents and updated information in relation to a number of areas including ecology, drainage, transport, noise, air quality as well as updating the parameter plans.

We encourage Cllrs to review the documents sent to Laura and Libby and which will shortly be posted on social media.

## NORTHSTOWE FORUM UPDATES

Thank you for those who attending our Northstowe Forum online, it was the best attended forum so far.

Topics covered were Greenbelt management, Phase 1, 2 and 3 updates as well as those of the 2 additional developers of Endurance and Digital park which are next to the Bloor homes.

Highlights:

Greenbelt

- All residents will be responsible for the communal management fee £96 per plot. In addition each parcel will have their own internal open space areas which the developers have costed up. The charge will also go up with inflation and does not include VAT. The charge was agreed with the developer during planning. There are a range of flexible payment options, monthly or annual. Paperless billing gives a discount to the charge.
- Each resident will get a plan of Greenbelt Northstowe Phase 1 wide open space as well as their own specific housing parcel.
- Some residents thought they had been paying fees already - if this is the case the conveyancer had taken this and will be in a pot with the developers and this will be passed over to Greenbelt on transfer and taken off the householder's bill.

Phase 1

- Northern Greenway area and LEAP 1 - open space & play area between Wellington Way and Pathfinder Way - all hard landscaping and planting works are largely done. Lit footpath route has been opened up. We had planned to seed this in October but saturated ground prevented this happening. Will proceed in next seeding season, likely April, and then will open up this area for use hopefully early Summer.
- Waterparks and rest of Northern Greenway including LEAP 2, north of Linden showhomes. Hard landscaping completed, planting works have started and to complete at end of March. Seeding as soon as we can in current season, April/May time and open up Waterpark and remainder of the Northern Greenway and LEAP 2 in early summer, subject to grass being established, to public.
- Leisure route footpath between Wellington Road to Kingfisher Pond in March when planting has been completed, following completion of the highway footpath link between David Wilson homes and Barratt, due to start next week and complete end of Feb

We have written a detailed set of notes which we have put at the end of this report as an appendix.

#### INTERIM TOWN COUNCIL

As part of the Community Governance Process an Interim Town Council for Northstowe has been set up and in the interim period is made up of the elected Councillors for Northstowe: Sarah and Alex for District Council and Peter Hudson for County.

We have hired an Interim Town Council clerk, Rosie Hughes, who has decades of experience as a Parish Clerk and currently clerks for Sutton Parish Council. Her email is [interimclerknorthstowe@capalc.org.uk](mailto:interimclerknorthstowe@capalc.org.uk)

We are in the process of agreeing budgets and would like to thank Longstanton Parish Council for the work they put into getting these in place.

SCDC are also running training sessions for those residents who are interested in standing to be a Town Councillor. Details are here: <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/.../establishing-northstowe.../>

As you are aware, the formal Town Council is due to be elected in the next set of local elections in May. Currently the government has indicated these are going ahead but we suspect the impact of Covid may push these back.

#### FREE SCHOOL MEALS

As you may be aware, local LibDem Cllrs ran a crowdfunder to provide local vulnerable school children with free school meals vouchers. Thanks to the generosity of the community we were able to raise a total of £2,620 for 7 schools in the area: Northstowe, Longstanton, Oakington & Westwick, Over and Willingham. £900 of this money was donated from Northstowe Foodies pitch fees from October to December 2020.

Firouz Thompson, a community campaigner, created Northstowe Foodies for food trucks in Northstowe and every month 30-50% of the food truck pitch fees are used to fund worthwhile activities in the community. With the number of pupils given at the time (Oct) by schools themselves, we raised just over £10 per pupil and we purchased Co-op gift vouchers in £5 units. Headteachers have been very grateful for this support.

#### LAPTOPS FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Together with Firouz Thompson, we have been running a local appeal for laptops, following further demand at Hatton Park and Northstowe Pathfinder. (Oakington were approached but had adequate amounts for their pupils).

Through an appeal on social media and to local businesses, they were able to fill the gaps identified at three of our local schools. Martin Bacon Academy, the new special needs school, received seven laptops from the local community, plus a brand new desktop, monitor and printer from construction company MACE.

Firouz also arranged for her workplace Royal Society of Chemistry based at Cambridge Science Park to donate ten preloved laptops, which were shared between Hatton Park Primary School and The Pathfinder CofE Primary School. Hatton Park also received a brand new laptop paid for by Northstowe Foodies. In liaison with Emmanuel Church Northstowe, additional funds were provided for laptops.

Thank you very much to the members of the community who have supported this effort so far!

#### DISTRICT WIDE UPDATES

##### COVID UPDATE

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##### FINANCIAL SUPPORT

To advise there's lots of help to make it possible for you to self-isolate. From £500 if you'll lose earnings, to practical help with things like collecting medicine or walking the dog, or priority supermarket delivery slots. You just have to ask: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/coronavirus/i-need-help/>

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##### RAPID TESTING CENTRE OPENS IN CAMBOURNE

A rapid testing centre will be available at The Hub, High Street, Cambourne, CB23 6GW, between 8am and 8pm, Monday to Saturday. Key workers and people who are unable to work from home, who are showing no symptoms, will be able to book free rapid testing twice a week.

This testing is supplied by NHS Test and Trace and is being offered to people aged 18 and over who are key workers or having to leave home to go to work. The tests are strictly for people who have no symptoms of Covid-19. It enables those who test positive, and their contacts, to self-isolate, which can help drive down the R rate locally and save lives. As many as 1 in 3 people who have coronavirus have no symptoms.

To make the testing as worthwhile as possible, we need people to take a test twice a week. A one-off test will offer little benefit as it can only provide information about likelihood of being infectious at that point in time.

Residents can book their rapid test [via the Cambridgeshire County Council website](#).

For information, other sites across Cambridgeshire (and planned opening dates) are listed below.

- The Hub, High Street, Cambourne, South Cambridgeshire, CB23 6GW - Wednesday 3 February.
- Queen Mary Centre, Queen's Road, Wisbech, Fenland, PE13 2PE – Thursday 4 February.
- Soham Town Rangers Football Club, Julius Martin Lane, Soham, Ely, CB7 5EQ – Friday 5 February.
- The Coneygear Centre, Butts Grove Way, Huntingdon, PE29 1PE – Thursday 11 February.
- The Meadows Community Centre, 1 St Catherine's Road, Arbury, Cambridge, CB4 3XJ – Friday 12 February.

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#### GUIDANCE FOR MANAGING PLAYGROUNDS AND OUTDOOR GYMS

On 27 January, MHCLG updated the guidance for owners and operators of playgrounds and outdoor gyms to enable their use during the national lockdown in England. During the lockdown, playgrounds are primarily open for use by children who do not have access to private outdoor space, like their own garden. Although parents, guardians or carers can take children to a playground for exercise, they must not socialise with other people while there.

Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms/covid-19-guidance-for-managing-playgrounds-and-outdoor-gyms>

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#### NEW YEAR 2022 HONOURS NOMINATIONS

MHCLG is inviting councils across the country to consider making a nomination for the New Year 2022 Honours list. Honours are a great way of recognising the incredible efforts of those who have made a significant achievement or contribution to society that is above and beyond their recognised role. If you know someone who deserves to be recognised, making a nomination is straightforward and can be hugely satisfying if your candidate is successful. The Honours team in MHCLG are available to help guide you through the process. An information pack has been made available to help and nominations can be made using the online form plus two letters of support that can be sent to [Honours@communities.gov.uk](mailto:Honours@communities.gov.uk).

MHCLG is also offering training opportunities to help get the best from the Honours system. Details on the workshops and how to register can be found on the registration page. We would be grateful if you could share this information within your organisation. Members of the public can also nominate

someone for an honour or award at GOV.UK. Please contact [Honours@communities.gov.uk](mailto:Honours@communities.gov.uk) for help, advice or if you encounter any technical difficulties when using the online form.

Form:

[https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=EGgov32c3kOociSi7zmVqInaQK8s455FtorKrLUOUGRUNktJUVdENTVLNU4zSDVCSUE4\\$UhpV1ILMCQIQCN0PWcu](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=EGgov32c3kOociSi7zmVqInaQK8s455FtorKrLUOUGRUNktJUVdENTVLNU4zSDVCSUE4$UhpV1ILMCQIQCN0PWcu)

Information pack: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hSxZEaQyWY\\_NtKIUO4BRZyoZOVa38Drl](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1hSxZEaQyWY_NtKIUO4BRZyoZOVa38Drl)

Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/mhclg-honours-workshop-tickets-116199342361>

Honours overview: <https://www.gov.uk/honours>

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## PLANNING PAS REVIEW

### PAS Review report on Planning Committee

As part of its improvement program, the Shared Planning Service requested a Peer review of its three planning committees by the independent Planning Advisory Service (PAS). The report has now been released and can be found on our website at

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s120312/Appendix%20A%20-%20Peer%20Review%20Final%20Report%202020.pdf>

South Cambs have welcomed the findings of the review, which says members have “a clear understanding of their role” and “good accountability for their decisions”. The review by PAS was commissioned as part of continuing work to further strengthen the South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Planning Service, which it shares with Cambridge City Council.

The report praises the Council for reacting quickly to the Covid-19 pandemic and adopting new guidance, protocols and procedures to enable the Planning Committee to meet virtually. It praises the Committee’s accessibility, saying accessing it is “relatively easy both in its live form and via webcasting”. It adds that the size of the South Cambridgeshire District Council’s Planning Committee appears to strike the right balance of skills and experience and that “the Council has maintained a good focus on public engagement, especially through maintaining the capacity for public and parish councils to speak at Committee.”

In addition, the review also looked carefully at specific processes – including how Parish Councils can provide feedback and make a request for an application to be decided by Committee. This process is covered by the Council’s Scheme of Delegation. The Report says the current scheme, which was adopted last year, is “a much more transparent model”

The PAS report endorses existing plans for the service to provide additional training and support to Parish Councils on planning matters to foster closer working relationship and further improve Parish Councils’ knowledge and understanding of the planning process. It is also supportive of the service’s recently refreshed member development programme as a key way of helping members and officers to explore together the wide-ranging challenges facing South Cambridgeshire.

Nevertheless, there are issues to be improved upon. Building a culture of trust between Councillors and officers, improving report writing, briefings for committee members and providing clear, timely advice from planners and legal officers during meetings are key areas that need to be examined.

A Planning Development Group will be established to take forward the eight recommendations made in the review.

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#### WATERBEACH NEW TOWN NEXT PHASE APPROVED

Proposals for the second half of a new town north of Waterbeach have been supported by South Cambridgeshire District Council's Planning Committee – and will see more than 1,300 affordable homes come forward.

The Committee met on Friday (29 January) and voted to support outline proposals from RLW Estates for up to 4,500 homes. The application covers land between the former Waterbeach airfield and barracks to the west, and the 'Fen Line' railway line which links Cambridge to Ely to the east. 30% of the new homes will be affordable rent or properties that are provided at below market levels - such as shared ownership and intermediate rent.

The development will also deliver a wide range of community facilities including a new secondary school, primary schools, community centres and playing fields. Parks, play areas, allotments and community orchards are also planned, along with natural wildlife habitats and sports pitches.

The plans are associated with significant improvements to public transport, including a relocated, safer Waterbeach Railway Station. Proposals to move the station onto the site were approved by the District Council's Planning Committee in 2018. They will see a two-platform station with platforms long-enough for at least eight carriage trains, with the potential for expansion to accommodate 12 carriages in future. It will result in a new, modern station that existing and future residents will benefit from.

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#### DOUBLING NATURE

##### COUNCIL LAYS OUT STRATEGY TO DOUBLE THE 'NATURE' ON ITS DOORSTEP FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL

A high-level strategy for 'Doubling Nature' in South Cambridgeshire, setting out an approach to increasing wildlife-rich habitats and the tree canopy and improving access to green spaces, has been given the go-ahead by leading Councillors.

Members of the District Council's Cabinet voted to adopt the plan today (Wednesday 3 February). The document complements South Cambridgeshire District Council's Zero Carbon Strategy, which sets out plans to support the aspiration to halve net carbon emissions in the district by 2030 and reduce them to zero by 2050. The two documents chart how the Council will contribute to a green local economic recovery out of the pandemic.

Cllr Pippa Heylings, Chair of South Cambridgeshire District Council's Climate and Environment Advisory Committee, said the global pandemic had highlighted more than ever the value and importance of Nature for our physical and mental wellbeing.

"It has also exposed the terrible inequality that exists because of the number of families who do not have close and easy access to wild, open green spaces. South Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing areas in the country and yet is one of the poorest in terms of biodiversity and has one of the smallest areas of land managed for nature, relative to size. The challenge to balance economic growth with measures to protect and enhance nature has never been more urgent."

The Doubling Nature Strategy sets out the Council's approach to achieving an aim first agreed by the Full Council in July 2019 and will see it working with communities, partners and businesses to protect and enhance the district's natural capital, as well as taking action on its own estate.

The scope of the strategy, drafted by the Council's Development Officer for Climate and Environment in collaboration with officers from the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Natural Environment and Planning Policy teams, the Air Quality Scientific Officer and the Housing Neighbourhood Services Manager, includes:

- giving nature space and help to reverse declines in habitat and species
- providing more areas for people to enjoy nature and benefit their health & wellbeing
- improving the quality of air
- helping to manage water for nature
- creating more resilience to climate change, and
- boosting the economy of the district.

While it directly controls only a tiny area of land in the district, the Council aspires to act as an exemplar to others through its tree planting and nature enhancing measures. It is already undertaking a tree audit to map every tree on communal land on the Council's housing estates and is planting additional trees and identifying opportunities to reseed suitable green spaces with wildflowers.

The strategy sets out how the Council will make the most of its influence as the local planning authority and states its aspiration to achieve 20% biodiversity net gain on all developments in the district. Ensuring that nature is not just protected but significantly enhanced as a result of development will be essential over the coming years, especially given that South Cambridgeshire is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. The strategy explains how the Council is developing guidance to make the most of its current planning policies for nature, commissioning evidence to underpin new policies in the Local Plan, and meanwhile encouraging partners to work with it to achieve gains for nature ahead of policy and legal obligations.

The strategy also sets out how the Council will support and encourage residents and communities to do more for nature including through grants programmes and support for volunteer Tree Wardens.

South Cambridgeshire District Council Leader Cllr Bridget Smith said: "The days when we can just take nature for granted are long gone. The cumulative damage that began with the Industrial Revolution has now reached the point where all of nature is under serious threat and just minimising and mitigating for damage is no longer an option. We now have no choice but to actively find every opportunity we can to protect and enhance what natural assets we have and to double, as an absolute minimum, the land that

is devoted to nature. If we do this right, we will create well managed natural habitats for both nature and humans to enjoy. We will improve air quality and biodiversity and reduce the damage from climate change. In South Cambridgeshire we are determined, through everything we do, to do to create a district where nature come first and thrives as a consequence.”

To read a copy of the Doubling Nature strategy that was adopted at today’s Cabinet meeting visit <https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=7925&x=1>

Starting on Monday 22 February, the Council will be marking Climate and Environment fortnight 2021 with a series of free online webinars featuring guest speakers, activities and information to help people think about how to live more sustainably, reduce carbon emissions and in turn help tackle climate change.

The topics covered will be: Greener businesses - Thursday 25 February; Sustainable farming in Cambridgeshire - Friday 26 February; Greening your older home, tips and inspiration - Tuesday 2 March; Shrinking your carbon footprint webinar - Wednesday 3rd March; Food for our Future workshop - Thursday 4 March. For more details see <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-change/climate-and-environment-fortnight-2021-events/>

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#### WHAT IS THE OXCAM ARC?

The OxCam Arc, also known as The Green Arc, is a geographical construct stretching from Oxford to Cambridge taking in 5 counties, 10 universities and 4 Local Enterprise Partnerships. 3.8 million people live in the Arc participating with 2 million jobs and contributing £111bn to UK plc. Government sees it as a driver for economic growth which will benefit the national economy.

Local authorities of all sizes need money to do things and the argument is that by working together through the Arc we stand a better chance of attracting significant amounts of investment into infrastructure, including green, water and energy infrastructure, economic growth as well as housing to address our huge problems of housing affordability.

The imminent improvements to the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet is an Arc project. Admittedly this work is 10 years overdue but anyone who has seen how dangerous and how congested it is will know that it’s really important. On a much larger scale, East West Rail is an Arc project – at least geographically.

So it is important that we all engage with the Arc because if not we could end up with things being done to us with little opportunity for influencing it. Leader of the Council Bridget Smith leads the work on the Environment work stream and intends to make the greening of the Arc the most significant thing about it. This will mean agreeing to a set of principles for protecting, restoring and enhancing the natural environment. Land returned to wildlife, streams and rivers flowing all year round, clean air and significant biodiversity net gain. We also need low carbon transport accessible for all, greatly reduced car use and ownership and zero carbon homes which are cheap to run. The list is as endless as the ambition is great!

If you want to know more there is a growing library of publications including an Economic Prospectus and an Arc Joint Recovery Strategy. The Arc Universities Group has its own report and website, The RSPB has published The Green Arc and we will soon publish the Environment Principles. The Government is starting work shortly on developing a Spatial Framework for the Arc. This is a project that will last decades and it is up to us to make it positive for Cambridgeshire, for South Cambs and for every individual Parish and – most importantly – for YOU!

#### COUNCILLOR UPDATES

Monthly email newsletter - with updates on local news as well as wider district issues which will impact us all. To sign up please go to: [https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/email\\_signup\\_longstanton](https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/email_signup_longstanton)

(Note to help us manage GDPR it is easier for us to host from the LibDems webpage, but we absolutely promise this link will NOT subscribe you to LibDem news)

For all the latest news & updates so far please go to: [https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton\\_news](https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton_news)

For those on social media we have a very active Facebook group covering the whole ward here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/>

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these, or any other matters.

Alex Malyon and Sarah Cheung Johnson

District Councillors for Longstanton, Oakington and Northstowe

Contact details:

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## Notes from Northstowe Community Forum 20th Jan 2021

We made rough notes of the content from last evenings's very packed Community Forum. Thanks for those who submitted questions, we are sorry if they didn't get answered on the night, we will pick up ones that were submitted and didn't get answered with the relevant people and post updates here.

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### Interim Town Council

If you are interested in joining the Interim Town Council we are running training sessions. This is not a commitment to standing to be a Councillor, just a training and overview session. For more details <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/.../establishing-northstowe.../>

We also met Rosie Hughes who is our Interim Town Clerk - you can contact her on [interimclerknorthstowe@capalc.org.uk](mailto:interimclerknorthstowe@capalc.org.uk) and on Facebook as well here.

### Greenbelt

Greenbelt are the company who will manage the communal and infrastructure open areas, pitches, play parks

- All residents will be responsible for the communal management fee £96 per plot. In addition each parcel will have their own internal open space areas which the developers have costed up. The charge will also go up with inflation and does not include VAT. The charge was agreed with the developer during planning. There are a range of flexible payment options, monthly or annual. Paperless billing gives a discount to the charge.
- Each resident will get a plan of Greenbelt Northstowe Phase 1 wide open space as well as their own specific housing parcel.
- Some residents thought they had been paying fees already - if this is the case the conveyancer had taken this and will be in a pot with the developers and this will be passed over to Greenbelt on transfer and taken off the householder's bill.
- Looking at first tranche of open infrastructure space from L&Q, this will be the sports pitches side of the development - the aim is for March but is fluid with current circumstances.
- Greenbelt will get a fortnightly visit in the spring/summer months and once a month in winter months on site. Have specialists working from Greenbelt for different types of infrastructure, e.g. drains, open water. There will be dedicated customer service team. They want to hear feedback and hear from you directly.
- Written service statement will specify exactly what Greenbelt will cover. Residents will get more information when Greenbelt begin on site.
- Customer care officer [nick.upton@greenbelt.co.uk](mailto:nick.upton@greenbelt.co.uk)

- Is the full cost payable when communal areas are not yet built? No - you will get a site plan - dark green areas will show what residents need to contribute to and light green will show ones that are not. Will be proportionally adjusted.

- Why do housing association residents not contributing? From the start the housing association wouldn't be contributing to the open space but they contribute to their own parcel of housing (e.g. Bloor, Linden etc). For tenants it will be paid for by BPHA

- As more houses go up, do the fees go down? No, the cost has been calculated for the entire developments and all plots contributing. If there are more units over and above the planned number of housing e.g. from 1325 to 1400, they will recalculate. Each fee has been agreed in the covenant of their deed.

- Hatton Road ponds - shown as being managed by Greenbelt but will be managed by others e.g. South Cambs. Waterpark ponds will be managed by Anglian Water. At the moment Greenbelt are due to take on the areas around the Hatton Road ponds. If they are in the future managed by Longstanton Parish Council we will adjust this.

- Food trucks - will Greenbelt consent to the Food Trucks to continue to use the green? Yes, will happily allow this to happen but need to manage the ongoing use of the square and ensure all residents are happy for the service to continue. If square requires extra maintenance and cleaning, we need to review this on an ongoing basis. The food trucks pay for the power out of their fees.

- Greenbelt would like to make links with residents and to help support community events.

- Is what Greenbelt taking on not defined? No, it has been defined.

- Greenbelt won't take over any amenities without first having a thorough handover and properly dealt with. Some remedial work might need to take place and this will be paid for by the developer. There won't be an additional charge to residents

- Can we see what the money is being spent on and access to full accounts? Each site keeps a record of all the contractors invoices, the bill is broken down and very transparent. We vet our contractors and real-time reporting to check schedule and being scored by the site supervisor and their standard of workmanship is maintained throughout the year.

- Greenbelt - Robin Waddle (not Stuart Field on the Facebook Live!)

Sports Pavilion - Rob Dean from South Cambs District Council

- Rob Dean project manager for the Sports Pavilion. The information for this can be seen on the South Cambs website. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/.../northstowe-phase-1-sports.../>

- Starting the design process, the architects Saunders Boston had to look at the spec, we have low rise buildings, sports pitches, Kingfisher pond and allotments. Need to incorporate the carpark area and a priority is the pedestrian and cycle park.

- The site of the Pavilion has to fit into a very defined and small foot print. Carpark has to be hard surfaced but wherever we can have soft landscaping, hedges and grassed areas which can be used by residents for relaxation.
- Low rise building, external walls mixture of cladding bricks, clay blocks and timber effect cladding. Natural timber have insurance issues at the moment.
- High level windows provide natural ventilation and light. The changing areas are at a higher level. Main entrance a full height glazed screen, providing natural light and a focal point. Gable ended section of the building, will be sliding or bi-fold, allowing the club room to be opened up to a terraced area, so that the club room can be extended outside for events or social gatherings.
- Inside the building there are 6 changing rooms, separate male/female toilets, 2 officials changing rooms, a changing places toilet (for disabled people who need more room/assisted use), office/reception, internal storage space, external storage, kitchen, separate servery hatch which will open out to the club room. Club room can fit a badminton court, high level ceiling allows for a reasonable level for badminton.
- Project is constrained by budget and the footprint of the building.
- We are endeavouring to add green elements to the building, we are likely to have solar PV panels, heating from ground source heat pumps and if the budget allows other elements to make the building more sustainable.
- The building has had an initial review from planning officer. Looking forward to submitting a planning permission as soon as possible.
- Cricket facilities? - There is a cricket square in Phase 2, which will be served by the Eastern Sports hub, artificial turf and 8 wickets.
- What pitches will be there? - 1 adult Rugby pitch and 2 full sized football pitches. Junior football and mini football pitch, bowls green, MUGA.
- Does serving hatch also have an outlet to outside without coming in? - Currently as shown it doesn't but that's detail that will have more opportunity to be added and something to consider.
- Toilets and changing rooms will be assigned gender or unisex? - Currently all public toilets can be used by people to their own gender. We felt unisex toilets were not suitable for the community where we could see the pavilion being used for example, at the same time by youth teams and adult teams of different genders.
- Has the ongoing running costs been looked at? Yes - estimates were done on a previous building design, and this will be run again for the ultimate running costs.
- Dog owners can use pitches? Waterpark will be a better alternative for dog walking. Pitches are not for dog walkers they are for sports pitches?

- When will pavilion be open and pitches be available to use? Pavilion needs planning permission and is impacted by Covid, unable to give a specific time for now. We are working very hard to get this delivered as soon as possible.
- Sustainability - trying to make the building as green as possible but have budget constraints
- Building specs - we will have more details online shortly
- Carpark security to prevent anti-social behaviour - no immediate plans for CCTV that are costed, is a consideration to factor into the running costs in due course.

#### Phase 1 update - Stephen Sage

- Northern Greenway area and LEAP 1 - open space & play area between Wellington Way and Pathfinder Way - all hard landscaping and planting works are largely done. Lit footpath route has been opened up. We had planned to seed this in October but saturated ground prevented this happening. Will proceed in next seeding season, likely April, and then will open up this area for use hopefully early Summer.
- Waterparks and rest of Northern Greenway including LEAP 2, north of Linden showhomes. Hard landscaping completed, planting works have started and to complete at end of March. Seeding as soon as we can in current season, April/May time and open up Waterpark and remainder of the Northern Greenway and LEAP 2 in early summer, subject to grass being established, to public.
- Leisure route footpath between Wellington Road to Kingfisher Pond in March when planting has been completed, following completion of the highway footpath link between David Wilson homes and Barratt, due to start next week and complete end of Feb
- Soft landscaping works for Northern Greenway are in progress and looking to be delivered on time.
- Hatton Road ponds landscaping works were to start in 2021, but have had to postpone this due to delays in reserved matters planning permissions and resolution of future ownership, in discussions to transfer ownership to Longstanton Parish Council, will look at completing these works in 2021/2022 planting season assuming these issues are resolved for the summer.
- Main infrastructure works, following completion of David Wilson homes on Eagle Way and Taylor Wimpey, have completed approx 300m constructed footpaths and future cycleways. Another 300m will be delivered in Q1 in Taylor Wimpey on Eagle Way, Bovis on Stirling and David Wilson on Wellington.
- Pioneer Park - quality of concrete blocks - these blocks are new blocks, not recycled, duo block, as specified by Landscape architects and approved by reserved matters. Deterioration of basketball hoops - any defects will be fixed before handing over to Greenbelt.
- Pioneer Park lighting - generally lighting is not provided in play areas to not encourage use in unsociable hours, original plans for lighting. Currently no plans but if this is something the community want we can explore with greenbelt and south cambs

- Carparking around Pioneer park - not aware of this though only on site during the week, if they can contact Stephen directly to discuss further.
- Pedestrian crossing - there is only 1 permanent pedestrian crossing point on Pathfinder Way, we have some indicative crossings but they are not permanent zebra crossings.
- Cycleways - is a work in progress, the cycleways depends on the progress of the housebuilding. There is no pragmatic way to resolve issue of people parking on cyclepaths, and this development has no high separation of the cyclepath. There is currently no through route on cyclepath there will be topped out in red and transferred to County.
- Dog fouling signs - if there is an area that is problematic, we are happy to put up signs, please contact Stephen. We are taking opportunity to ask all dog owners to clean up after their dogs.
- Wind blown debris from housebuilders - please persist in raising these issues to customer officers, L&Q have cleared a lot of debris ourselves - we have written to housebuilders to keep pressure to keep this.
- Mud on roads - difficult to control, we employ a consortium sweeper on behalf of housebuilders on the communal roads, so Pathfinder, Stirling, Links and the housebuilders then supplement the roads for the areas they are looking at. They are all fully aware of the planning conditions which they have to comply with, we have spoken to them previously and will continue to do so.
- Parish Council - ditch from Kingfisher Pond to the watercourse behind after Prentice Close - Stephen wasn't aware he had committed to this, to pick this up with Longstanton parish Council
- Cycleways - times for adopting road, once the housebuilding has completed, topping out of the cycle ways, doesn't make sense when there is no through connectivity, still looking around 2025, 2026 when County is ready to adopt this
- Cambs County Council from Nigel Egger, Highway Development Manager - update shared by Jon London - the county council is aware of these matters and working closely with SCDC and L&Q to see what could be possible in relation to the potential to secure alternative means of access to parts of the Phase 1 site for construction traffic. This work is ongoing. In simple terms, the primary streets for Northstowe would only be completed by L&Q once they are no longer required to be used by construction lorries for access, or where the adjacent development is completed (which will in turn delay the completion of the streets). An update will be provided to Jon as soon as possible.

#### Phase 2b - Homes England, Keep Moat - Nigel Jarvis

- Homes England have chosen Keepmoat as developers for the next parcel of housing on Phase 2 for Northstowe
- Phase 2B sits next to the town centre and adjacent to Rampton Drift
- Keepmoat 7th largest housebuilder, have delivered 13,000 homes with Homes England in the past. Architects are Boon Brown, arc are providing landscape design consultancy and Lucken Beck, are the chartered town planning development consultancy

- Currently in pre-application, public exhibition in Feb/March 2021, submission in Spring 2021, public consultation Spring 2021, planning decision target for Summer 2021, start construction in August 2021 and estimated completion Autumn 2025

- Connectivity through the site, providing strong connections to Rampton Drift, town centre and new schools. Green corridors for pedestrians and cycle paths. A number of greenways bound the parcel.

- Fenways is largely within Oakington Barracks character zone and orderly historic grid, southern edge has influence from Mews Quarter. Largely housing, some opportunity for housing block and potential a commercial opportunity.

- Presentation to be shared when available for more details on this development

#### Digital Park - Leslie Gawn

- Below the busway to the west of the B1050. Working with Homes England and Endurance Estates for a joint co-ordination statement. Where the 3 parcels together green corridors, good connectivity and no overlooking

- Design quality panel feedback was reviewed and resubmission on the revised proposals for Digital Park

- Southern edge building attenuation basin and swales and much better handling of surface water on the site. Quite a lot of technical work on the flood assessment.

- Presentation to be shared when available for more details on this development.

#### Endurance Park - Peter McKeown

- Application was registered in August 2020 and is currently in determination from Council. Have received majority of the consultee comments, generally positive comments from consultees. Some additional ecological answers have been provided. Agreeing access to the site with highways, and making changes on the access to station road.

- Only 4 third party responses received so far. Hopefully to go to committee in April.

- Flooding concerns - attenuation basin will discharge to the existing drainage.

#### Phase 3 update - Homes England

- Large outline planning permissions were submitted last year. Updates and clarifications following this to view on [Northstowe.com](http://Northstowe.com) and on council website.

- Additional documents on Oakington Transport Technical Note and the Oakington Green Separation Note as well as resident response FAQ documents.

- Transport - have modelled some worst case scenario modelling and improvements to the Oakington crossroads. Including Southern Access Road East indicative design explainer

- Flooding - have been in discussion with stakeholders and have updated the flooding strategy and how to mitigate water flooding to Oakington to create a situation better than it is currently. The principles are a much higher approach than policy requires, allowances for climate change, there is attenuation to hold back water for 48 hours.

Planning South Cambs - Andrew Thompson

- James Tipping has left the Council, he was Phase 1 planner - please contact Andrew going forwards.

- Phase 1 - have spoken to Taylor Wimpey and Linden about their drains. A tree officer has been around to look at trees and working with them to get all those problems sorted.

- Concerns about two towns - evolution over time with development of houses and updated methods of construction etc

- Biodiversity net gain reports - will work with developers to bring together the status of this. Not all developers have implemented their bird and bat boxes, we are working with them

- Bowls Green - Bowls England are trying to encourage greater social cohesion, is good for mixing of all young and old players, we are required to have a full range of sports. We will have angling in Phase 2, tennis, netball, skate park, BMX park, full range of sport will be catered for which will come at different points. For full sports strategy please see:  
<http://northstowearchive.com/.../Revised%20sports...>

- Maintenance strategy goes on for 10 years, the Town Council is part of the Steering group at the end of 10 years, Town Council can make a decision on what they will do with this.

- EV charging points - there is space for this in Phase 2

- Drainage for Urban splash, drainage solution has been put in. There are swales and a number of drainage solution. Site has been levelled, no additional soil has been brought onto site.

Community Development Officer - Jon London

- Postbox for Phase 1 - is with Post Office engineering team, their lorry broke, waiting it for to be fixed and then will be able to install, have given an estimated date of first week of Feb

- Northstowe Community Wing - mostly closed. Open to trusted partners who can prove they are using the facility within Covid restrictions.

- Covid - anyone who is at crisis point please contact Beth Cope [contact@northstowe.church](mailto:contact@northstowe.church) for Food Bank vouchers and/or in need

- Next forum dates - 14th April, 14th July, 13th October

- Community Connectors run in between these forums

- Thank you to Michelle Kemp who has been the editor for Northstowe News, she has now stepped down. Working out how we are going to do this going forwards, if anyone wishes to get involved please email Jon on northstowe.community@scambs.gov.uk

**1,698**

People reached

**346**

Engagements

**Boost Post**

11

1 comment

8 shares

**Like**

**Comment**

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