

District Councillors' Report to Parish Councils – September 2023

Zero Carbon Community Grant Success

Congratulations to Landbeach Village Hall and Milton Community Centre that have both been successful in their applications for Zero Carbon Community grants. Landbeach Village Hall has been awarded £15,000 towards the installation of solar panels. Milton Community Centre has been awarded £8,321.67 to upgrade to energy efficient lighting throughout the community centre and recreation ground.

Bin collection changes

Bin collections for many residents of South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City will change from the week beginning Monday 18 September 2023. The Council will write to everyone that has a change to their collection in advance.

The changes follow a review of bin rounds which are typically completed by all councils every few years. This takes into account new homes that have been built across the area and ensures bin collection rounds continue to be spread as evenly and efficiently as possible.

The councils are also moving to collect bins over four weekdays, instead of five. This means that, from the week beginning Monday 18 September, household bins will not be collected on a Monday. One benefit of this is that it avoids the disruption to collections that has previously happened after bank holiday Mondays throughout the year as crews catch-up.

Greater Cambridge Shared Waste welcomed its third electric bin lorry in June this year – and more electric vehicles are due to replace older diesel lorries as part of the councils' efforts to decarbonise the fleet. While carbon emissions are cut with electric lorries, the range of batteries means routes must be carefully planned.

With all this considered, bin rounds have been thoroughly reviewed to ensure that all existing collections – and those from newer homes – can be completed efficiently within a new timetable. As a result, there are changes to bin collection arrangements for many South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge residents – whether that is a new bin day, or an adjustment to the order in which their black or blue and green bins are emptied.

The frequency of bin collections will remain fortnightly with bins emptied on alternative weeks.

As is the case now, bins should always be put out ready to be emptied by 6am on the day of collection.

Grants for EV charger at community buildings

A quarter of new cars sold in the UK are now either fully electric or plug-in electric vehicles. They all need charging. South Cambridgeshire District Council's Electric Vehicle Charge Point Grant is helping to support the transition to electric vehicles. Up to £5,000 per project is available, towards the capital costs of purchasing and installing public EV chargers at community buildings and village halls. Applications will be appraised for their deliverability and positive impact with funding allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. To be eligible

for funding, EV chargers must be publicly accessible, and projects should demonstrate that there is likely demand for an EV charger at the chosen location.

Funding for new council homes

The Council has been awarded significant funding to provide 13 additional homes from phase 2 of the Local Authority Housing Fund for refugees. This is in addition to the funding for 40 homes received for in phase 1. In total the council has been granted just over £2.4m. The latest award, together with Council borrowing, will be used to provide 10 homes for refugee families from Afghanistan, plus 3 additional properties which can be used for temporary accommodation to reduce the use of bed and breakfast type accommodation. Under the terms of the funding when the properties are no longer needed for either refugee or temporary housing they will be treated as normal HRA housing (ie added to council stock). The longer-term legacy for this project will be an increase in social housing within the District. The Council must complete the purchases by the end of the financial year and is looking to acquire a mix of new-build properties from developers, and open market properties through estate agents. The Council is working with the Strategic Migration Partnership to understand the housing needs of refugees.

Greater Cambridge Planning Area Teams

When parish councilors have queries about planning the first port of call is the Area Teams. The Area Team Manager for our villages is Jane Rodens, jane.rodens@greatercambridgeplanning.org

The Development Manager is Toby Williams toby.williams@greatercambridgeplanning.org

When contacting either of them with a query please copy us in.

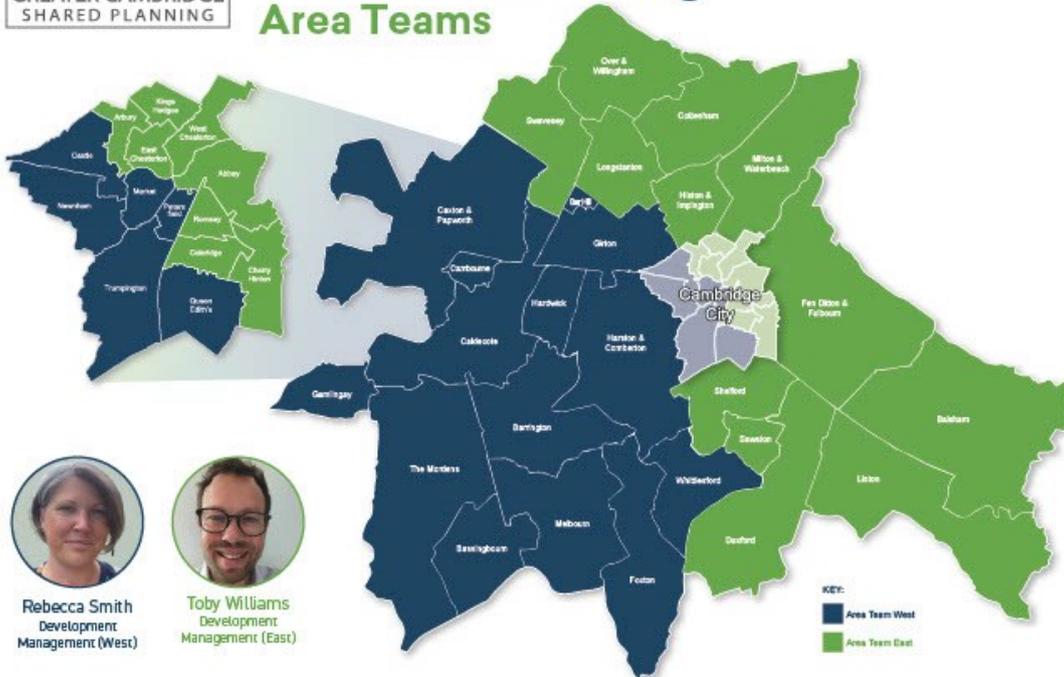
The Planner Service holds 3 or 4 monthly parish planning meetings. This is another opportunity to meet with the area team leaders and discuss issues or ask questions.

Cllrs Judith Rippeth, Paul Bearpark and Anna Bradnam



Greater Cambridge Shared Planning

Area Teams



Rebecca Smith
Development Management (West)



Toby Williams
Development Management (East)

Our Development Management team is responsible for assessing and determining planning applications, pre-application requests and discharges of conditions in Greater Cambridge. Each application is assigned a case officer, and officers work in area teams so they have an in-depth knowledge of their area.

Area Team West

Rebecca Smith
Development Management (West)
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07517 499451

Area Manager (West)
Michael Sexton
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07704 018467

AREAS (WEST)

Cambridge City
Castle, Market, Newnham, Petersfield, Queen Ediths and Trumpington.

South Cambridgeshire
Bar Hill, Barrington, Bassingbourn, Caldecote, Cambourne, Caxton & Papworth, Foxton, Gamlingay, Gorton, Hardwick, Harston & Comberton, Melbourn, The Mordens and Whittlesford.

Area Team East

Toby Williams
Development Management (East)
toby.williams@greatercambridgeplanning.org
07704 072593

Area Manager (East)
Jane Rodens
Jane.Rodens@greatercambridgeplanning.org
07704 018433

AREAS (EAST)

Cambridge City
Abbey, Arbury, Cherry Hinton, Coleridge, East Chesterton, Kings Hedge's, Romsey and West Chesterton.

South Cambridgeshire
Balsham, Cottenham, Duxford, Fen Ditton & Fulbourn, Histon & Impington, Linton, Longstanton, Milton & Waterbeach, Over & Willingham, Sawston, Shelford and Swavesey.