

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Harston & Comberton Ward

Report to Haslingfield Parish Council July 2021

Covid Update

Rates of Covid-19 in Cambridgeshire have risen sharply and they continue to rise. At the time of writing, there are 92 cases per 100,000 across Cambridgeshire, which is an 85 increase on last week.

There is particular concern about the rising rates of Covid-19 in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire. Again at the time of writing, there are 216 cases per 100,000 in Cambridge and 101 cases in South Cambridgeshire, with most cases being seen in 18 to 30-year-olds.

Hospital admissions remain fairly low and there has been one death in the past month.

What we are seeing in parts of Cambridgeshire is very similar to the rest of the country, in that the Delta variant, which we know to be much easier to pass on, is accounting for the rise in cases of Covid-19.

There is a big push to promote testing amongst the 18-30 year olds, including people without symptoms, as you are no doubt aware the virus can spread without any symptoms showing.

Alongside testing there is a race against time to ensure as many people as possible take up their first and second doses of vaccine before restrictions are lifted on the 19th July. The lifting of restrictions could further fuel the spread of the virus, exposing people at high risk, to infection.

Cambridge South-West Travel Hub

We understand the plans for the Cambridge South West Travel Hub go before the County Council Planning Committee on 29th July. There is still a possibility the decision will be called in by the minister following that meeting.

Cambourne to Cambridge

The independent audit report on C2C report has now been completed and was included in the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) Board papers. The report has recommended continuing with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) but also flagged a number of strategic issues that still need to be resolved – not least the interaction with East West Rail and access to the city centre, 2 aspects that have long been highlighted as issues by campaigners and ourselves.

The board voted to proceed with the EIA last week with acknowledgement that the strategic issues that could change parts of the design.

Police and Crime Commissioner Survey

The new Police and Crime Commissioner has launched a residents survey and outlined his priorities for his term of office: Community priorities; Crime prevention; Supporting victims and witnesses; Ethical policing; Robust enforcement. The survey can be accessed via <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/>

Summer Holiday Sports Camps

The District Council's popular sports-based holiday camps for children between the ages of 7 and 14 (school year 3 to year 9) restarted in May 2021, and bookings for the summer holidays are now open. Young people are encouraged to try out a variety of different activities and learn new skills in sessions led by fully qualified and DBS approved coaches. The cost for one child for one day is £25; if two children book, or if one child attends more than one day, the cost is £21 per child, per day. Each day's camp runs from 10am to 3:30pm, and children can attend any one or up to all four of the sessions. Both camps are held outdoors and have Covid-secure measures in place. The athletics camp is run at Wilberforce Road Athletics Track, Cambridge; the netball camp is run at Impington Sports Centre, Impington.

There are four available camps:

- Athletics: Monday 26 July 2021 and Tuesday 27 July 2021
- Netball: Wednesday 28 July 2021 and Thursday 29 July 2021

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