

Melbourn PC February 2024 County and District Councillor's Report

Station Road repairs

The council will have seen the Traffic Regulation Order road closure application for Station Road surface repair in late April. It is good to see this on the work programme at last. As the council has been made aware, because of the nature of the needed repair, which spans the width of the road, it will be necessary to close the road.

Path to Station upgrade – Melbourn Greenway

We hope to be seeing this project undertaken in March/April. There will need to be a diversion to Meldreth Station via the paths along Station Road. We are working with the Greenway team on the details of the diversion.

A10 off-road path maintenance

Thanks to a communities grant from Bruntwood Sci Tech to the A10 Corridor Cycling Campaign, which was able to engage Herts and Cambs Grounds Maintenance contractor, it has been possible to bring the off-road path to Cambridge to a high standard of maintenance.

Anglian Water meeting 18 March 2PM

We have arranged to meet AW as part of our annual cycle of meetings to discuss general issues of concern to the area. Thank you to Cllr Travis for agreeing to attend.

A10 campaign AGM March 18th, 7:30-8:30PM

This meeting will take place at TTP and is open to the public.

Community Rail Partnership Steering Group March 26th

Melbourn Parish Council is invited to send a CRP representative to this meeting. The CRP AGM will follow in May.

COUNTY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEALTH

Measles advice

Cases of measles are rising in some areas of the country including London and Peterborough. Make sure you and your family are protected by having both doses of the free MMR vaccine. Measles is more than just a rash – it is an infection which spreads very easily and can cause serious complications in some people. Find out more about measles, including symptoms and how you can get vaccinated at [Measles | CPICS](#) Website. Please also be aware there is a significant cohort of 18-25 year olds who also have not had the MMR vaccine.

Survey on 'healthy places'

The County Council Public Health team has launched a survey for residents, seeking their views on the built environment across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This includes the physical structures and spaces where people live, work, play, and socialise. It asks:

- How can we create communities that are healthier, easy to access and more inclusive?
- Tell us what you think about the places where you live, work, travel and socialise in our county.

This survey should take around 10-15 minutes. Your feedback will help us understand the experiences and values of Cambridgeshire residents.

The survey can be completed online at [Healthy Places Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Community Survey \(smartsurvey.co.uk\)](https://smartsurvey.co.uk). A small number of hard copies are being made available at libraries and public-facing council offices. The closing date is Monday 15 April.

The survey responses will be used to inform the draft Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, which will be taken to the Joint Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board & Integrated Care Board in July. This is the meeting point for the council and the NHS, and collaborative work to address health inequalities.

COUNTY COUNCIL CARE OPPORTUNITIES

Childminding careers – grants of £600 to help get started

From the County Council: Are you interested in working in a profession which would enable you to work in your own home and continue to care for your own children, whilst providing quality care for children of working parents? If so, Registered Childminding may be the profession for you.

To help with starting your childminding business the Government are currently offering a grant of £600 towards your set up costs. We hold regular information evenings about childminding which are free to attend. Contact: childminding@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Parents encouraged to apply for support with childcare costs

The Department for Education is reminding eligible working parents of two-year-olds that they will be able to register to access 15 hours free childcare per week from April 2024. The recommended time to register is between mid-January and the end of February. More information on the childcare support available to parents can be found on the Childcare Choices website, where parents can explore the early education entitlements and other government help with childcare costs.

‘Help at Home: Care Micro Enterprises.’

When it comes to support for older people, our area is well provided for by the Melbourn Mobile Warden Scheme and various other offers.

Not every area is so well served. The County Council is working to help kick-start various new community-based initiatives, including care microenterprises. This involves local people setting up a new very small business, as part of a shift toward localized personalised care and support services.

If you would be interested in following this path as a new work opportunity or finding out more perhaps as a resident in need of care, there is helpful information at cambridgeshire.gov.uk, then search ‘Care Micro Enterprise.’ It’s early days but things are taking shape.

New Care Professional website for Cambridgeshire – training and career development

Care professionals make up the biggest proportion of Cambridgeshire’s working population – even more than the NHS.

The County Council is making a big push on supporting career development in the care sector. This includes rolling out the Real Living Wage for its care workers and supporting its providers to pay the Real Living Wage.

It has also now launched a new website for training and career development: The Care Professional Academy, which is supported by Cambridgeshire's Academy for Reaching Excellence (CARE), is a training website for adult social care providers and professionals to access training initiatives, receive benefits for taking part in training and access information from the local authority.

There's lots of information at: [Cambridgeshire.careprofessional.co.uk](https://www.cambridgeshire.careprofessional.co.uk)

DISTRICT COUNCIL PRACTICAL HELP: HOME IMPROVEMENTS

Online Checker for Home Improvement Projects

The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service has launched a user-friendly online checker to help homeowners find out if planning permission is needed for home improvement projects such as dormer windows, fence installations, outbuildings, front porches, flue installations and more.

<https://greatercambridgeplanning.org/planning-applications/check-if-i-need-planningpermission/>

For those thinking about installing solar panels, check out the dedicated webpage for planning permission requirements at <https://greatercambridgeplanning.org/planningapplications/solar-panels/>

If still unclear, please book the free 15-minute advice pre-app session:

<https://greatercambridgeplanning.org/planning-applications/householder-and-smallbusiness-planning-advice/>