

# Parish Report for March - Matt Bradney

## **Full Council**

We had a full council meeting this month. It was a relatively short one compared to the last couple. As usual I got a lot of questions regarding my portfolio.

## **Train Station**

We had some good news about various funding we have received at County. The first is the first step towards a station at Chesterton. This project was successful in the bids to EERA for Regional Funding. The second bit of good news was some funding called Community Infrastructure Fund; it will improve the road and cycling layout around the Station in Cambridge.

## **Concessionary Bus Passes**

There was news this month that the Government are making some changes to the way Concessionary Bus Passes work, prompting fears that it would mean over 60's would not be able to use the Park and Ride etc. It was good to know that the rule changes will not affect Cambridgeshire. The rule changes are based around over 60's using the cheapest option etc.

## **Transport Commission**

The Commission has continued with its public meetings and gathering of evidence. They have heard from a lot of stakeholder groups and will move to some of the other parts of the County to finish this round of meetings. The Commission's website has received over 600 responses to questions the Commission have posed so far and these can be viewed at [www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk](http://www.cambstransportcommission.co.uk).

## **Review of Home to School Transport**

Contrary to David's report the review of the Home to School Transport provision was in train long before the Lib Dem budget proposals were put forward. The review will consider more than just home to school but will look at Special needs transport too.

## **RSS Review**

I chair the panel looking at the review of the Regional Spatial Strategy. This panel was set up to look at new proposals for housing growth from EERA. The general consensus from different parties seems to be 'hang on we are going to really struggle with the current RSS, let alone anymore'. There is one more meeting before the findings of the panel get put through to Cabinet on 5<sup>th</sup> May.

## **THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE KILLED OR INJURED ON ROADS AT RECORD LOW**

Despite the very sad death of Aaron Cooke from Willingham on the B1049 this month, the numbers of deaths on the roads in Cambridgeshire continues to decrease.

Reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured on Cambridgeshire's roads is a top priority for Cambridgeshire County Council and its partners in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership.

In 2008 the number of fatal accidents went down by 24 per cent compared to 2007 figures while the number of crashes involving serious injury dropped by more than 9

per cent - giving a provisional total of 322 accidents involving fatal or serious injuries, a 12 per cent decrease on 2007.

Similarly the number of people killed has fallen from 62 to 47, a decrease of 24 per cent while the number of people seriously injured has fallen by nearly 9 per cent from 356 to 325 – a total decrease of 11 per cent from 418 to 372.

Agencies have been concentrating on providing enforcement, education and physical road safety measures. All members of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Road Safety Partnership work closely together and share expertise and help to reduce casualties on the County's roads.

Cambridgeshire County Council has invested heavily in providing road safety schemes, including major improvements on the A1307, new warning signs and an education campaign. Among the many initiatives, efforts have also been concentrated in the Fenland area as well.

### **Guided Bus**

We announced the casting of the very last beam recently. It was nice to have something positive in the press about the Guideway. We had a bit of to-ing and fro-ing between CCC and Bam Nutall, but the end result was a positive one. We got guarantess from Bam Nutall on the delivery date of the Orchard Park link, which is helpful to say the least .

### **A Three Star council, improving well, with good value for money**

The County Council is making good progress, providing a three star performance overall with services improving well and providing good value for money, according to the Audit Commission.

Inspectors concluded that: "Cambridgeshire County Council is improving well. The Council is improving in many priority areas. Performance remains good in children's services including educational attainment."

"Recycling rates are among the best and are improving. Adult social care has improved, with outcomes for service users now assessed as good with promising prospects for further improvement."

"Comparative performance and improvement as measured by indicators is amongst the best nationally. Use of resources remains strong and value for money is good."

Matt Bradney  
County Councillor  
4 Lyles Road, Cottenham, Cambs, CB24 8QR  
[matthew.bradney@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:matthew.bradney@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)  
t: 01954 204347 m: 07739393137 f:01223 508188