

## **SOUTH AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL**

**Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2013, Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth, 7:00pm**

### **Panel Members Present**

Cllr Tom Kerby (Chair)	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Allen Alderson	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Lavinia Edwards	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Chris Morris	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Robert Stevens	East Cambridgeshire District Council
Cllr Christine Bryant	Bottisham Parish Council
Cllr Mathew Shuter	Brinkley Parish Council
Cllr Ken Simpson	Burrough Green Parish Council
Cllr Michel Scarff	Burwell Parish Council
Cllr Tim Owen	Dullingham Parish Council
Cllr Peter Taylor	Kirtling and Upend Parish Council
Cllr Lily Whymer	Stetchworth Parish Council
Cllr Mary Smith	Swaffham Bulbeck Parish Council
Cllr Clifford Pettitt	Woodditton Parish Council

### **Others Present**

Shirley Blake	Principal Sustainable Development Officer East Cambridgeshire District Council
Julie Cornwell	Partnerships Officer East Cambridgeshire District Council
Darren Dixon	Head of Community Services East Cambridgeshire District Council
Terry Jordan	Neighbourhood Panel Liaison Officer Cambridgeshire County Council
Inspector Paul Ormerod	Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Natalie Osborne	Sanctuary Housing
Adrian Scaites-Stokes	Democratic Services Officer East Cambridgeshire District Council
Dave White	Partnerships Officer East Cambridgeshire District Council
Sergeant Mark Yeldham	Cambridgeshire Constabulary

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Cllr Steven Aronson	Bottisham Parish Council
Cllr Hazel Williams MBE	Burwell Parish Council
Cllr Keith Owen	Dullingham Parish Council
Cllr Anna Taylor	Stetchworth Parish Council
Cllr Robin Sharp	Woodditton Parish Council
2 members of the public	

### **SNP13/1     Welcome**

The Chairman, Councillor Tom Kerby, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **SNP13/2     Introductions and Apologies**

Apologies were received from County Councillor David Brown and Parish Councillors Maggie Carvalho and Phil Dean.

## **SNP13/3     Election of Chairman**

District Councillor Tom Kerby was nominated and seconded for the position of Chairman for the municipal year. There being no other nominations, Councillor Kerby was duly elected.

## **SNP13/4     Election of Vice-Chairman**

Parish Councillor Michel Scarff was nominated and seconded for the position of Vice-Chairman for the municipal year. There being no other nominations, Councillor Scarff was duly elected.

## **SNP13/5     Chairman's Announcements and Consultation Items**

The Chairman asked Members and Officers to sign the attendance sheet, and members of the public to include their email address and postcode. He also asked that everyone complete the questionnaire, as the feedback was very helpful.

The Chairman highlighted the information on people becoming involved with the Consultee Register and encouraged people to get involved. Individuals or groups could be included and further information could be obtained by contacting James Nairn at the District Council.

The Chairman read out the fire instructions.

## **SNP13/6     Update on East Cambs District Council Actions Since Last Meeting**

The Panel received a table giving an update on the actions undertaken by East Cambs District Council.

<b>Issue No and Description</b>	<b>Further Comments</b>
1. Dog fouling in Ashley	There had only been a small number of incidents but people were asked to report any to the District Council at the time.
2. Westley Waterless/Burrough Green Parish Councils	Both had been contacted but it was a matter for them to decide. No feedback had been received but if they wanted to join then this would require a Community Governance Review, which would have to go out to consultation.

### **SNP13/7      Update on County Council Actions Since Last Meeting**

The Panel received a table giving an update on the actions undertaken by the County Council.

<b>Issue No and Description</b>	<b>Further Comments</b>
1. Redundant yellow signs	The Highways department would arrange to remove them.
2. Brinkley Pavements	The pavements had been inspected with the main areas identified for maintenance.
3. Burrough Green Junction	All parish councils should be aware that the County Council had adopted a policy which put these matters in the hands of the community. It would have to decide whether to dealing with these problems and undertake any necessary consultation and fund it.
4. High Street, Lode	Letters had been sent to the occupiers about driving over grass and paths.
5. Quy Traffic Calming	The Engineering Team were reviewing and assessing the scheme.
6. Malvern Close, Woodditton	Town and parish councils could purchase additional salt bins, which the County Council would top up.
7. Steps, New Cheveley Road, Woodditton	A new handrail had been installed.

In response to a Panel question, the Neighbourhood Panel Liaison Officer would check with the County Council whether, if renewing the scheme in Quy cost too much, the original layout would be put back. Parish Councillor Christine Bryant asked that Bottisham Parish Council be informed, as it had recently bid for funding for its own traffic calming measures which might be negated if this happened.

### **SNP13/8      Update on Sanctuary Housing Actions Since Last Meeting**

There were no actions required since the last meeting, but Natalie Osborne,ousing Officer, gave an update on the impact of the 'under occupation size criteria, also known as the 'bedroom tax'. A lot of tenants wanted to move, because of the changes in the benefits system, and there had already been a number of mutual house exchanges. Staff were assisting the tenants in applying for discretionary benefit to help before people moved.

In response to Panel and public questions, the Sanctuary Housing representative explained that Sanctuary had looked at its policies concerning people who got into rent arrears so discretion could be used to help. However, the tenants had to demonstrate an attempt to pay rent so Sanctuary could work with them. Sanctuary's housing management team was due to double in size which should help the situation.

## SNP13/9 Update on Police Actions Since Last Meeting

The Panel received a table giving an update on the actions undertaken by the Police. Priorities from the last Panel meeting were: 1) shoplifting across the panel area, 2) speeding in various locations and 3) dwelling burglaries.

<b>Issue No and Description</b>	<b>Further Comments</b>
1. Shoplifting	Regular visits had been made to shops to help deter offences. Since the last Panel meeting there had been a further 6 offences committed. 1 person was up for summons, 1 person was suspected of 2 offences, 1 individual was up in court for 4 offences.
2. Speeding	19 speed checks had been made in various locations. Unfortunately the safety speed camera van had not been deployed as it had not been available. Speedwatch had been active. A number of letters had been issued, some drivers had been stopped and talked to and 2 fixed penalty notices had been issued.
3. Dwelling burglaries	This issue had also been adopted at district-level and force-level. Patrols had been directed at villages and the major routes, supported by Traffic Police used the automatic number plate recognition kit. Information had also been shared with neighbouring forces. As a result there had been no burglaries from the end of May.
4. Crime figures	Although only 2 months-worth of figures for this year were available, the figures were under last year's. All crime was down, though dwelling burglaries and the increase in reported anti-social behaviour in Burwell were a concern.
5. Emerging issues	The following were emerging issues that people needed to be aware of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Burglaries of sheds and garages. These appeared to be night-time offences, with garden equipment being stolen.</li><li>• Following reports from the public, drugs had been found at an address in Burwell.</li><li>• There had been a number of reports of a large group of young people being rowdy in Burwell. Officers had been out so see.</li><li>• Quad bikes were causing a problem.</li></ul>

### Responses to Panel and public questions:

The Police did look into the background of why crimes were committed and the offender responsible for the recent shoplifting of food in Burwell had been found to

come from outside the area. The postcode of the location of a reported offence should be passed for checking, so the gazetteer could be checked for accuracy. Information on the number of offences in Kirtling would be sent to the Parish Clerk. The Police would like the full details of vehicles spotted speeding, i.e. make and colour of car and the index number, so mistakes were avoided when issuing letters, but any details would be useful. There was specific legislation concerning scrapping metal which did not cover other things, such as gold. Potential offenders had been identified as using some Newmarket shops to pass on stolen gold. A new Neighbourhood Alert system was coming, which would send messages to parish councils, the District Council and be linked in to the ShapeYourPlace website. The locations of a spate of litter bin fires would be provided for Burwell Parish Council.

### **SNP13/10 Waste Collection and Management**

At the invitation of the Chairman, Dave White, Waste Strategy Team Leader, gave a presentation about the new waste collection service. Early on East Cambridgeshire District Council was one of the best at recycling but had gone backwards and was now recycling less than others who had updated their recycling service. The Department for Communities and Local Government had announced funding to Councils to encourage weekly waste collections. As the District Council already maintained weekly collections it could bid for funds targeted at improving its recycling services. A bid for just under £5million was made, which would be used to change the recycling service. This would mean that the current black boxes would be changed for blue-lidded bins and additional recycling would be done, including plastics, food containers and cartons. The brown sacks would be superceded by the green-lidded bins, which would take cardboard and the other recyclables. There would be no change to the collection service, except for an annual supply of the black sacks and an alternating collection of either the blue-lidded or green-lidded bins each week.

Every property in the district had been surveyed to see if they could accommodate the new service, i.e. the wheeled bins. If they could not then a different service would be provided by supplying clear sacks for recyclables instead.

The Council needed to improve its recycling rates to help meet European targets. If the United Kingdom did not meet those targets it would be liable for a heavy fine and this would be passed down to the offending councils. The new service would be simple to operate and would align closer with neighbouring authorities, giving the opportunities for future potential joint working.

The bid had been successful and the vehicles and bins had been purchased. The Council would be increasing its staff to deal with the introduction of the new service through a programme of raising public awareness.

In response to Panel and public queries, the following replies were given:

Bins would be available for village halls. The bins would only be collected if the lids were shut. This was for health and safety of staff reasons and to help control any pest problems. The figures for waste and recycling were closely monitored, as they had to go to the Government to be audited. They were generated by Amey Cespa, who weighed the waste it received. Unsuitable properties were being double-checked though the new service could be provided to such properties if the householder and the Council agree. The assisted collection scheme would continue for certain people but no individual contact would be made with them initially. The capacity of the bins would be less than the maximum capacity of four brown sacks, but, as the sacks were never totally full, the bins could take more recycling.

### **SNP13/11    Community Infrastructure Levy**

At the invitation of the Chairman, Shirley Blake, Principal Sustainable Development Officer, gave a presentation on how the proceeds from Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) would be used. CIL, introduced by the Council in February 2013, was a levy on new developments and mostly applied to residential properties. The District Council had to produce a list on what it wished to use CIL for and it had identified three priorities: (i) Ely Leisure Centre, (ii) Littleport Secondary School, (iii) Soham Railway Station.

The Government had decided that 15% of CIL money would go to the relevant parish council. It was proposed that this money be transferred over on a 6-monthly basis. The parish council would have wide discretion to spend this money on what it liked, provided it was within the CIL regulations. The parish councils had to report annually to the District Council on its CIL receipts and what it had spent that money on. If the parish council had not spent the money properly or within the 5-year time limit, the District Council could claim that money back. If the parish council did not have any projects of its own to spend the money on it could use it to help the District Council meet the priorities on the CIL list.

In response to Panel and public queries, the following replies were given:

85% of the CIL funds would stay with the District Council and would be targeted at its priorities, which would change over time. This could mean that projects elsewhere in the district would benefit. Such projects could be brought to the Panels for consideration. Section 106 monies would still be generated, though restricted, to use on a whole raft of different things specific to the development of the site. An increase to 25% for parishes could be attained but only following a specific process including creating a Neighbourhood Plan. The different rates used in different areas of the district related to local land values and the potential viability of those locations. The rates would also cover new residential dwellings on agricultural land and within horse studs.

## SNP13/12 Neighbourhood Issues

The following issues were raised by Parish representatives/public:

Ashley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Bottisham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can neighbourhood issues item be further up the agenda (i.e. before the presentations) and focus be on the Parishes.</li> <li>• When is Quy review being carried out and reported back. This could influence Bottisham and their plans so can it be fed back ASAP?</li> <li>• Could other forms of traffic calming be explored?</li> <li>• Difficulty in issuing FPNs outside shops. Due to re-surfacing.</li> <li>• Query on how the Constabulary decide which Parish Council AGM to attend.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECDC</li> <li>• CCC</li> <li>• CCC</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Police</li> </ul>
Brinkley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue of response from Police Force Control Room. Control room not recognising that the issue was in Cambridgeshire (A11 cycling issue that occurred on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> June).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police</li> </ul>
Burwell	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Details of ASB incidents to Burwell Parish Council.</li> <li>• Details of Litter Bin fires on Parish Council properties.</li> <li>• North Street and Newmarket Road – Speeding.</li> <li>• Veolia cover when the ‘normal’ person is away is poor. Litter bins are a particular issue. When reported, Veolia are ‘victimising’ the collector.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Fire Service/ Police</li> <li>• Police/Speed Watch</li> <li>• ECDC</li> </ul>
Burrough Green	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Cheveley	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Dullingham	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Kirtling & Upend	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like information the effectiveness of Speed checks being carried out in their area (i.e. success rates, figures).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police</li> </ul>
Lode	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Reach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Stetchworth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	

Swaffham Bulbeck	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Swaffham Prior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Westley Waterless	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
Woodditton	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>	
General Issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Selling gold effectively for scrap but not coming under the same rules as scrap metal dealers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Police</li> </ul>

### **SNP13/13 Panel Prioritisation**

#### Police Priorities

- Anti-Social Behaviour in Burwell.
- Non-Residential (shed/garage) burglaries.

#### Other Priorities

- Clarification on Quy traffic scheme, timescale for review and outcome.

### **SNP13/14 Forward Agenda**

The order of items on future agendas should be moved around so Neighbourhood issues could be raised earlier in the meeting.

The next Panel meeting would include an item on the Neighbourhood Panel Review.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm.