



Cambridge City Council
West Central Area Committee

Date: Thursday, 11 March 2021

Time: 6.30 pm

Venue: This is a virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

Contact: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk, tel:01223 457000

Agenda

- 1 Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence
- 2 Declarations of Interest
- 3 Minutes (Pages 3 - 12)
- 4 Matters and Actions Arising From the Minutes (Pages 13 - 16)

Items for Discussion

- 5 Open Forum
- 6 City Centre Recovery
- 7 WCAC - Environmental Report (Pages 17 - 40)

Items for Decision

- 8 WCAC Area Committee Grants 2021-22 (Pages 41 - 46)
- 9 West/Central Area Committee Dates 2021/22
 - 17th June 2021
 - 9th September 2021
 - 25th November 2021
 - 10th March 2022

City Councillors: Matthews (Chair), Porrer (Vice-Chair), Bick, Chadwick, Gehring, Hipkin, Martinelli and Payne

County Councillors: Harrison, Nethsingha and Richards

Information for the public

Details how to observe the Committee meeting will be published no later than 24 hours before the meeting.

Members of the public are welcome to view the live stream of this meeting, except during the consideration of exempt or confidential items, by following the link to be published on the Council's website.

Any person who participates in the meeting in accordance with the Council's public speaking time, is deemed to have consented to being recorded and to the use of those images (where participating via video conference) and/or sound recordings for webcast purposes. When speaking, members of the public should not disclose any personal information of any individual as this might infringe the rights of that individual and breach the Data Protection Act.

If members of the public wish to address the committee please contact Democratic Services by 12 noon two working days before the meeting.

Questions can be submitted throughout the meeting to Democratic.Services@cambridge.gov.uk and we will endeavour to respond to questions during the discussion on the relevant agenda item. If we run out of time a response will be provided to members of the public outside of the meeting and published on the relevant Area Committee meeting webpage.

For full information about committee meetings, committee reports, councillors and the democratic process:

- Website: <http://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk>
- Email: democratic.services@cambridge.gov.uk
- Phone: 01223 457000

WEST CENTRAL AREA COMMITTEE

26 November 2020

6.30 - 8.55 pm

Present

Area Committee Members: Councillors Matthews (Chair), Porrer (Vice-Chair), Bick, Chadwick, Gehring, Martinelli, Nethsingha and Richards

Officers:

Head of Streets and Open Spaces: Joel Carré

Community Development Officer: Vicky Haywood

Anti-Social Behaviour Officer: Sarah Steggles

Committee Manager: Thomas Mears

Other Officers in Attendance:

Police Sergeant: Kevin Mišík

Greater Cambridge Partnership: Grant Weller and Richard Preston

FOR THE INFORMATION OF THE COUNCIL

20/21/WAC Welcome, Introduction and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Harrison, Hipkin and Payne.

20/22/WAC Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were made.

20/23/WAC Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2020 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

20/24/WAC Matters and Actions Arising From the Minutes

Councillor Martinelli updated the Committee on cycle theft from the central train station cycle park. Greater Anglia have submitted a revised management plan for tackling cycle crime to the City Council, and Officers are currently working on a response to the revised plan. The Committee agreed to keep this action under review.

At the end of the meeting, Councillor Martinelli provided a brief verbal update to the Committee regarding the Cycle Management Plan report that had been received during the meeting.

Councillor Chadwick provided an update to the Committee on the Castle Mound right of way. Suffolk County Council have voted in favour to make an Order for the right of way up Castle Mound. An Order will be published which will give an opportunity for public comment or objections. Provided this process is successful, the right of way will appear on the Ordinance Survey Map. Councillor Richards added that interested parties were waiting to hear from the town greens. The Committee agreed to keep this action under review.

Councillor Payne provided a written update to the travellers on the McManus Estate, summarised by Councillor Matthews. The landowner decided to relinquish the land, and the City Council were seeking legal guidance on taking the land into Council ownership. Two of the three caravans have moved on. The Crown Court have agreed not to exercise any rights they have to ownership of the land, which means the City Council is now able to begin enforcement proceedings and will issue a notice to ask the remaining caravan to leave. Residents have raised concerns about hygiene around the site from littering and the risk to the school parents who need to use that space to queue while maintaining social distancing.

Councillor Scutt added that the City Council has also made clear that it is intending to enter into discussions with South Cambridgeshire District Council to ensure the travellers will have a space that they can use. The City Council recognise the importance of ensuring that the travellers have a space they can legitimately occupy. The Committee noted to keep this action under review.

Councillor Matthews provided an update to air pollution on Histon Road. It was noted that there are high levels of monitoring of NO₂ and particulates across the city compared to similar areas around the country. Although there is no monitoring on Histon Road, in other areas of the city where emissions are higher, the levels of particulates are within the legal levels. The Officers are reasonably satisfied that there is a good level of monitoring across the city. Councillor Matthews had also been informed that the resident who raised this issue at the last committee meeting brought this item to North Area Committee last week and did not have further questions on the item. The Committee agreed to remove this item as an action.

No further complaints had been received regarding parking and parking enforcement on East Road and the Committee agreed to remove this item as an action.

20/25/WAC Open Forum

No questions were received from members of the public under the Open Forum.

20/26/WAC Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods

Police Sergeant Mišík highlighted the police activity since the Committee last met in September.

A member of the public asked a question about an increase in begging around the Histon Road shopping parade area and if the police were aware of this?

PS Mišík reported that the City Council had funded accommodation in Master's House on Histon Road as part of its response to the Covid-19 crisis to provide accommodation to people in need of housing. There has been an increase in the people engaging in begging in the area. The police are aware of the issue and are in regular contact with the onsite security company and the Council's housing department.

Citing reports from residents of a lockdown party that took place in an Airbnb property on City Road last week, Councillor Martinelli asked how often lockdown parties are reported and the reasons why in such instances the police would not be able to attend?

PS Mišík believed the police were not able to attend the mentioned incident when it occurred as they were busy that evening. However, PS Mišík confirmed that they were able to speak with those involved soon after the event. PS Mišík did not believe that lockdown parties were a regular occurrence in the city.

Councillor Bick thanked PS Mišík for engaging with the King Street and Willow Walk police priority. Councillor Bick asked whether there could be further coordination between the police and the hostel management at Willow Walk prior to an eviction taking place to ensure that this would happen smoothly?

PS Mišík acknowledged there could be a coordinated approach towards tenant evictions from hostels and this could be achieved through improving communication between the police and the hostels and through exploring the use of community protection orders. The police are in regular communication with several hostel providers in the city that attend the fortnightly meeting of the Streetlife Working Group.

Councillor Bick asked whether PS Mišík could provide details on the plans for managing the city centre night time economy under the new tier system due to be introduced?

PS Mišík highlighted several ways the police are preparing to manage the city centre's night time economy under the new tier system including:

- PS Mišík attends a weekly meeting chaired by the Head of Streets and Open Spaces where ongoing issues are discussed.
- PS Mišík's team's deployment plan for December has been finalized.
- A weekly police tactics meeting is held to discuss ongoing issues across the southern district. The Senior Leadership Team pick the priorities for the following week to allow for resourcing from various teams across the city against those priorities. It is likely that the night time economy will be one of those priorities.
- The police are working in partnership with the City Council's Covid Marshalls and Cambac radios.

Councillor Nethsingha asked for feedback on how to mitigate an increase of vehicles delivering goods to homes that cause obstructions to pavements and cycle lanes.

PS Mišík advised to contact the delivery company to address the issue where this is possible.

Councillor Nethsingha followed up by asking if there is capacity to use cameras similarly to the operation of bus lane cameras?

PS Mišík would explore if this is a possibility and will report back.

Action point: Councillor Nethsingha and PS Mišík

Councillor Gehring asked if the night time economy could be replaced by cycle theft as a police priority?

PS Mišík stated that the night time economy posed a significant risk and required policing. PS Mišík also confirmed that cycle crime is policed, and work is ongoing with partners in the background to tackle cycle theft. It was confirmed that bikes are being seized, but highlighted difficulties around returning the bikes to their owners as they are often not reported to the police as stolen, or the frame numbers are not known by the owners.

Councillor Gehring raised concerns of the rise of vigilante groups in retaliation to cycle theft which PS Mišík acknowledged was also a concern for the police.

Action point: PS Mišík to feedback progress of tackling cycle crime at the next Committee meeting.

A member of the public raised the following issue:

Overall solution for Amazon style delivery vans in local areas is to reduce parking in these areas and make some space for deliveries.

Tesco was suggested as a good practice example. This is not the case. Please can the police deal with this location? *(The member of the public shared a Twitter link of Tesco Express on East Road).*

Bus lane cameras - the government is working to enable this - may already be possible. Camcycle may have expert knowledge - please do contact them.

The Committee agreed to maintain the following priorities:

- Anti-social behaviour in King Street/Willow Walk
- Anti-social behaviour in open and green spaces
- Night time economy/alcohol related disorder

20/27/WAC City Centre Recovery

The Head of Environmental Services gave an information update on the City Centre Recovery.

Councillor Bick asked:

Given the current circumstances and how a-boards can force people together should the right to permit a-boards outside shops on pavements be revoked?

The Head of Streets and Open Spaces said the City Council approved a policy that allowed one a-board per premises to be placed on the pavement within certain parameters. It was confirmed that a-boards had not been highlighted as a risk in its Covid-19 risk assessment, provided they had been placed on the pavement in line with the guidance. The right will not be revoked at this time, however, if an a-board is identified as an issue, then action would be taken to resolve this by talking with the business owner on where best to place the a-board with the potential of removing it if required.

With regards to the Market Square redevelopment, does one of the objectives still include a use for the Market Square at night time?

The Head of Streets and Open Spaces confirmed that the Market Square concept design is considering how to maximise the space, including a 7 day a week market with day and night uses.

If the consultation on the King's Parade barrier will take into consideration the location of the barrier?

The Head of Streets and Open Spaces said the consultation is only looking at the legal basis for the barrier and seeking views of the design of the current barrier. Moving the barrier would have implications on the wider traffic network and further planning is required before a decision can be made on the barrier's design and location.

1. A member of the public raised the following issue:

The King's Parade barrier is quite ugly. Can these be redesigned, to look nicer, to allow the cycle gap to be two-way, to reinstate the disabled parking and ideally deliveries. Adding cycle parking would be very sensible also.

The Head of Streets and Open Spaces thanked the member of the public for the questions and comments and asked them to feed their comments into the consultation.

2. A member of the public raised the following issue:

Good to hear encouragement of outdoor seating for cafes etc. Can you undertake to encourage Mill Road traders to do this also? The street is much more pleasant now without the traffic going through, and in many parts of the street there is now space to cone off parts of the road to have outdoor seating, as was done successfully last year near Limoncello in Romsey.

The Head of Street and Open Spaces commented that the Council is currently focused on the city centre recovery and will support other shopping areas once measures are in place for the city centre. The Head of Street and Open Spaces added that the Mill Road trading community could start to develop their own plans and gather support for future development of the area.

Councillor Gehring asked if there would be a full design competition for the King's Parade barrier and if the consultation could commence in January?

The Head of Street and Open Spaces confirmed that due to time constraints, the consultation will look at the legal basis of the barrier, however added the current barrier is still considered to be a temporary structure and a permanent design scheme with consultation is planned for the future.

20/28/WAC Mutual Aid activity

The Community Development Officer provided a briefing on Mutual Aid activity in Cambridge in response to Covid-19. The Committee thanked the officers for the work they had done to support the community since March and noted the following:

Councillor Porrer gave thanks to all the residents and officers for the work that went in to setting up the mutual aid groups, for maintaining those groups and for re-forming the hub again for the second lockdown. Councillor Porrer also reminded those participating in or watching the meeting to refer residents in need to the mutual aid groups and the Cambridge City Council Community Hub (details provided on Cambridge City Council's website). Additionally, donations are welcome at the food banks in the city for unwanted food items.

With reference to free school meals, it is understood that Central Government and the County Council have come to the conclusion that the voucher system should continue as in the past which now obviates the need for the hubs to provide that service, however Councillor Scutt gave thanks for the fact that the hubs were ready to step in to provide that service.

20/29/WAC Walking and cycling consultation and proposals

Richard Preston from the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) provided an update on the Silver Street bus gate scheme.

Councillor Bick asked about the progress of other similar schemes that had previously been proposed.

It was confirmed to the Committee that there are six schemes currently under review. Those schemes were deferred as some stakeholders raised concerns about them during the initial engagement. Following further engagement with those stakeholders and County Councillors, feedback will be provided to the GCP Board for a decision on the future of those schemes.

The GCP is also waiting for the County Council to indicate its expectations on public consultation. In releasing the second round of funding for these measures, Central Government has expressed an expectation for more public consultation prior to the implementation of any scheme.

On the Silver Street scheme, Councillor Nethsingha expressed the need for further consultation on the scheme before a final decision is made on the permanence of the scheme as the traffic flows are not a true representation pre-Covid.

The GCP has been inviting comments throughout the scheme's trial and during the previous formal consultation process and expect that a final opportunity for feedback from stakeholders and members will be given before any recommendations are presented to the GCP Board.

Councillor Scutt commented that each scheme seemed to be taken in isolation, however it is important to note the impact of a scheme not just on the immediate area where it is situated but also on the wider area of the city.

It was confirmed that the GCP is working closely with County Council Officers to align the projects and to take a practical assessment of how the schemes operate together.

Grant Weller joined the meeting and gave an update to the Greenways project.

Councillor Gehring asked whether the Greenways project on Grantchester Road would be located inside the line or outside the line of the hedge?

Councillor Nethsingha believed the route of the cycle path would place it inside the line of the hedge, although there are discussions still ongoing on this scheme and the Barton Greenways scheme regarding how the routes would safely join the road when they enter Newnham Ward.

Councillor Gehring also asked Officers at the GCP to consult relevant City Council Ward members in addition to County Councillor Division members.

The meeting ended at 8.55 pm

CHAIR

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Committee Action Sheet – West/Central Area Committee

Meeting Date: 26/11/20

Updated on: 14/12/20

Agenda item: Cycle theft from central train station cycle park// Minute reference: 19/25/wcac q3

- Action: Councillors Matthews and Martinelli to continue to monitor/be involved with efforts to improve cycle security.
- Progress:
 - Greater Anglia have submitted a revised management plan for tackling cycle crime to the City Council, and Officers are currently working on a response to the revised plan.
 - 23/02/2021 Planning Area Development Manager met with Greater Anglia three times in February to discuss latest Draft Management Plan, visit Cyclepoint and also jointly meet a number of Stakeholders including CamCycle, Cambridgeshire County Council, the CCTV Manager and Brookgate. Matters discussed included management of the facility, signage, thefts, patrols, CCTV coverage, overnight closure and better use of the ground floor cargo bike zone.

He is expecting revised Management Plan from Great Anglia before it can be signed off, to include commitments to continued liaison with partners to assist with better management of the facility. Site inspection showed positive changes; significant number of abandoned and tagged bicycles removed, cycle stands repairs and facility generally clean and in good state of repair. No evidence of rough sleeping or drug use.

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Agenda item: Castle Mound // Minute reference: 20/5/WAC

- Action: Councillor Chadwick to monitor Suffolk County Council progress on determining rights of way and town green status.
- Progress:
 - Suffolk County Council have voted in favour to make an Order for the right of way up Castle Mound. An Order will be published which will give an opportunity for public comment or

objections. Provided this process is successful, the right of way will appear on the Ordinance Survey Map.

- Interested parties were waiting to hear from the town greens.

Open Forum

- Action: Travellers on the McManus Estate-Head of Environmental Services to receive update and report back to Ward Councillors. Also to investigate mitigation measures to avoid repeat same time next year.
- Lead Member: Councillor Payne
- Progress:
 - The landowner decided to relinquish the land, and the City Council were seeking legal guidance on taking the land into Council ownership. Two of the three caravans have moved on. The Crown Court have agreed not to exercise any rights they have to ownership of the land, which means the City Council is now able to begin enforcement proceedings and will issue a notice to ask the remaining caravan to leave. Residents have raised concerns about hygiene around the site from littering and the risk to the school parents who need to use that space to queue while maintaining social distancing.
 - The City Council has also made clear that it is intending to enter into discussions with South Cambridgeshire District Council to ensure the travellers will have a space that they can use. The City Council recognise the importance of ensuring that the travellers have a space they can legitimately occupy.
 - 22/02/2021 - The caravans have now left the site, and an LHI bid has been submitted for planters along the side of the grass to prevent future verge parking. Item to be closed.

Agenda item: Policing and Safer Neighbourhoods: 20/26/WAC

- Action: To explore the possibility of using cameras to tackle obstructions to pavements and cycle lanes caused by vehicles delivering goods to homes.

- Lead Officer: Sarah Steggles/PS Mišík
- Progress:

- Action: To feedback police progress on tackling cycle crime.
- Lead Member: Sarah Steggles/PS Mišík
- Progress:

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Environmental Report



Cambridge West / Central Area

[Covering the wards of Castle, Market and Newnham]

Period of August 2020 to January 2021

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1. Introduction

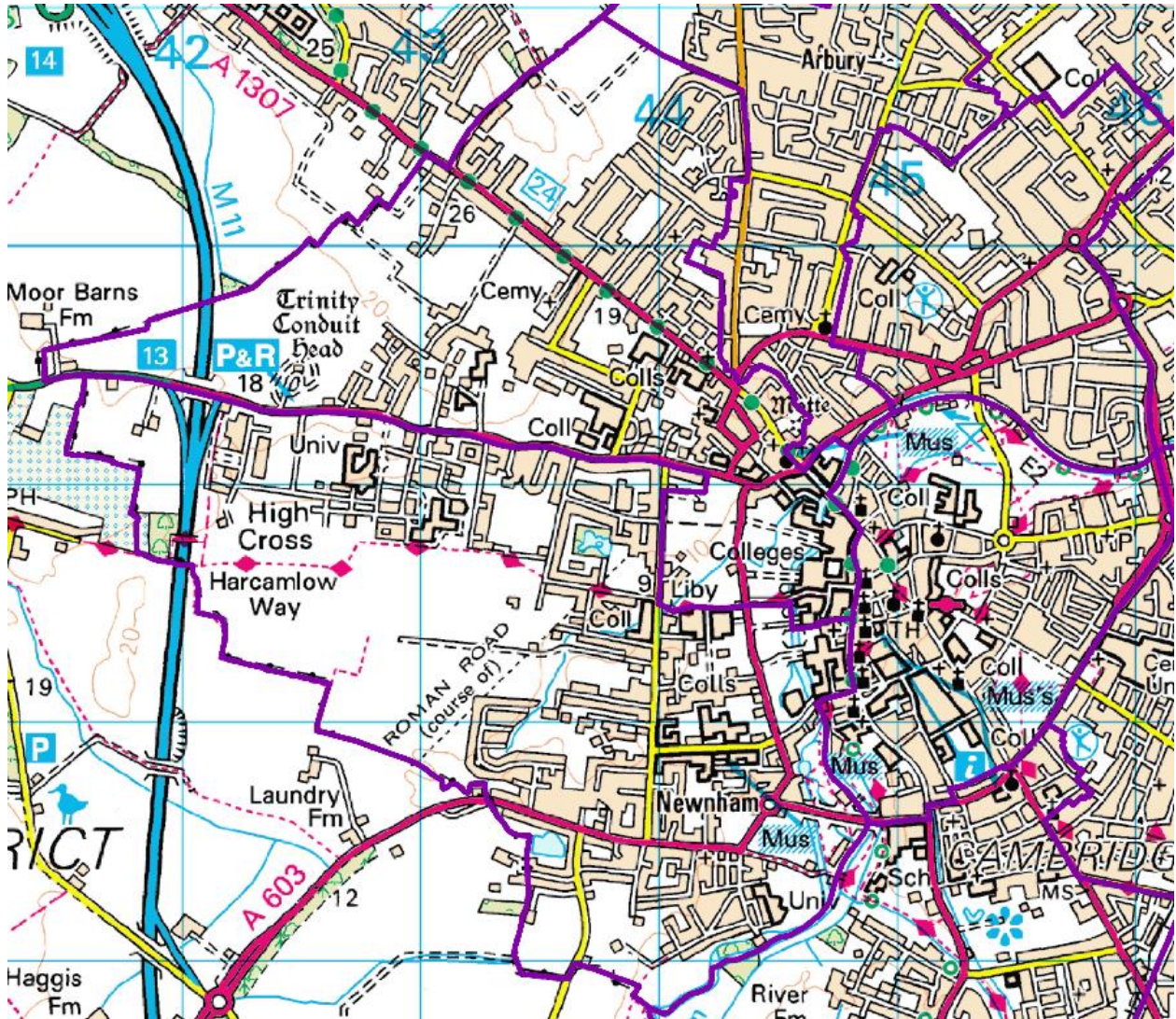
This report provides an overview of the council's Streets and Open Spaces and Environmental Health Service activity in the Area Committee area over the past six months.

This report provides open data on service performance, so that City and County Councillors and their constituents are informed of what service activity is happening in their area; and can engage in and help to shape this activity, including identifying specific local service requests/ issues.

1. Streets and Open Spaces Operations Team:
 - a. Street cleansing and Grounds Maintenance – cleans all residential streets and public land and maintains all grass and shrub beds across the city.
 - b. Community Engagement Team - works with Community Payback and Streets and Open Spaces volunteers to deliver community nominated improvement projects.
 - c. Dog Service – works to deal with dog fouling and stray dogs across the city
 - d. Enforcement Team - investigate and act against instances of environmental crime in public places across the city.
2. Streets and Open Spaces Assets Development Team:
3. Streets and Open Spaces Projects Team
 - a. Projects
 - b. Parks
 - c. Trees
4. Environmental Health:
 - a. Pest control – free treatments for rats, mice, cockroaches, bedbugs and pharaohs ants
 - b. Private sector Housing interventions – complaints and investigations regarding condition of properties
 - c. Other public health interventions – refuse, hoarding, bonfires
 - d. Noise complaints – day time and night time noise complaints ,

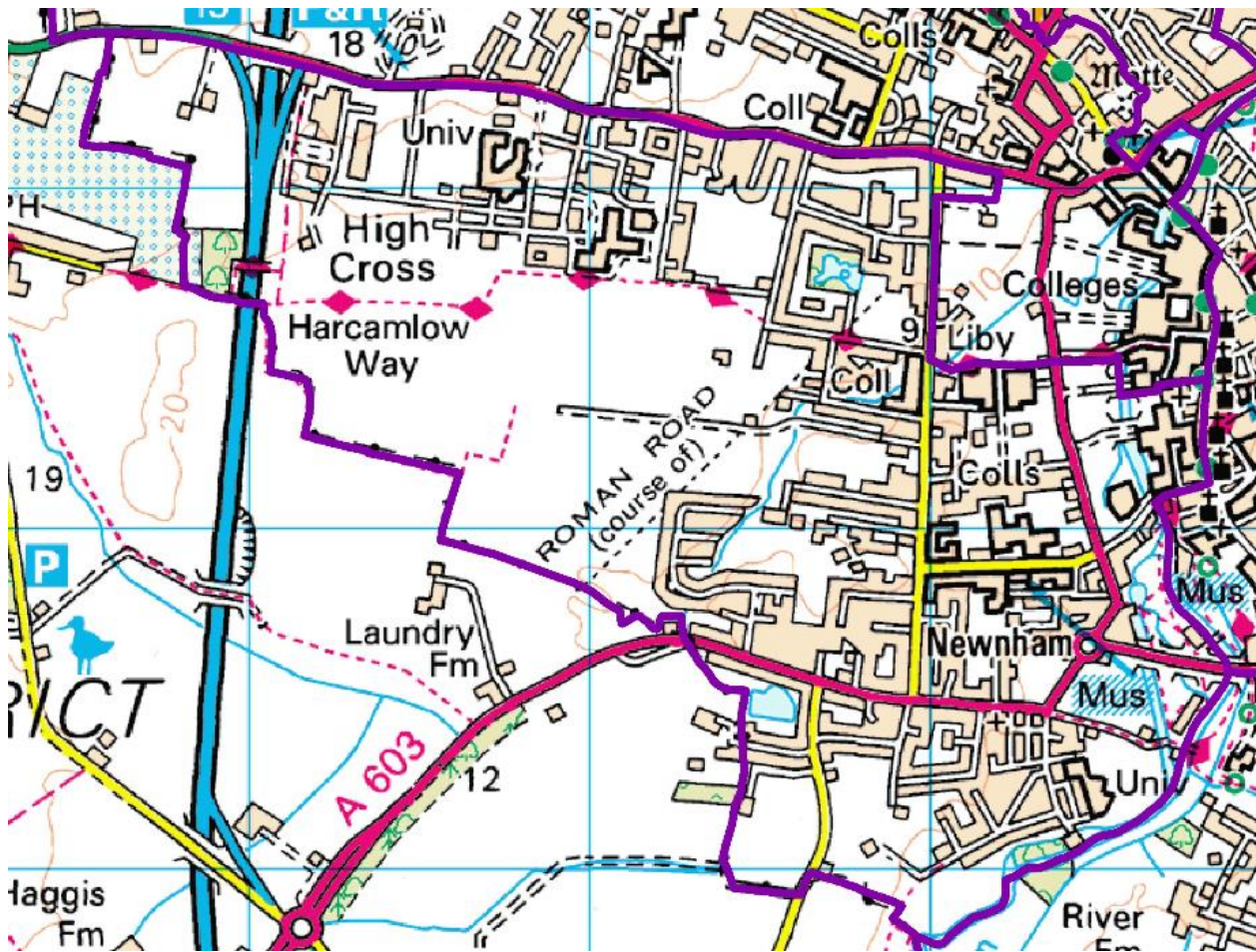
2. West / Central Area Profiles

In this section an update of what teams have been doing in the previous six months is detailed.



Ward Profile: Castle

Map



Enforcement team

Castle Ward –

Despite COVID lockdowns and restrictions members of the public realm enforcement team undertook regular proactive and reactive patrols within the wards.

Proactive patrols still ongoing at the old recycling centres, as of yet no further issues have been reported since the R/Cs were closed for public use.

Given the current national situation officers have had to consider what enforcement action is necessary and proportionate when deciding on the most appropriate course of action to take. This includes taking into consideration current Covid-19 restrictions and what would be in the public interest to pursue.

Officers have also started dealing with untaxed motor vehicles on the highway having been granted devolved powers from the DVLA.

Moving forward officers will begin conducting patrols from 0600 – 1900hrs between April and September. Part of this is due to the increased use of green spaces during the summer.

Castle- 5 vehicles were investigated for being reported as abandoned. All were claimed by their Registered Owners.

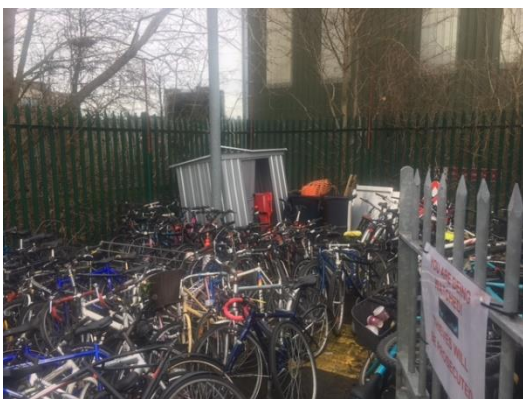


COVID patrols-

During the lockdown and as restrictions were being lifted, general COVID 19 patrols were made within the wards on behalf of the Environmental Health team. This was to ensure companies were not breaking any of the social distancing rules laid down by the Government; any issues were then passed on to the necessary team.

Castle – Abandoned Bikes

Officers approached management seeking permission to remove abandoned bikes within the city, since the city rangers were disbanded and were now the community engagement team. After receiving H/S training from the H/S team we are now the lead officers in the task of removing abandoned bikes. During the month of December 2020 and January 2021 across the area 81 bikes were tagged with the view to remove. During the follow up inspections 12 were no longer on site and 5 had been claimed, 4 need revisiting and 60 were removed and stored at Cowley road.



Castle:

Dog related issues

Regular patrolling of the green open spaces Histon Road Recreation Ground and Histon Road Cemetery (Dogs on leads specified area)

Lexington Close – Warning letter sent to dog owner requesting dogs microchip details be registered on an approved UK database – Warning letter complied with.

Halifax Road – Dog attacked Cat – Dog owner engaged, and advice and education provided.

To contact us regarding a dog issue, please contact Envirocrime@Cambridge.gov.uk.

Community Engagement team

During the month of January 2021, a Clear Shrubbery Ascension Parish Burial ground Huntington Road took place on the 7th 14th and 21st.

All Community Payback works have been suspended since March 2020 and remain so at the present time.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Operations service

Street Cleansing section continue to use Alloy. This system takes reports from online web-forms and turns them into specific jobs for operatives to carry out; using a map-based location to enable operatives to find and complete these tasks a lot quicker than before. The system also allocates the teams daily work meaning less paperwork and a better record of what work has been carried out and when. The Grounds Maintenance side of this system is still being developed.

The Operations teams have been busy during the last few months continuing to carry out scheduled mechanical sweeping all bus routes, main roads and housing footways and carriageways.

The teams have been busy clearing all the leaf fall in the area with the grounds maintenance teams and we have started are winter pruning ready for the bird nesting season. In the coming months we will be getting ready for grass cutting season.

Our cleansing teams have been removing small fly tips and constantly removing cardboard within the areas. We have been sweeping all the main roads and residential areas of detritus and carrying out deep cleaning as we go around the ward.

The Rapid Response and Graffiti Teams have been working closely with the Environmental Crime Team officers for the ward and also washing down the pavements and clearing under/around street furniture within the ward. The areas had become very dirty due to the weather we had and was necessary to wash pavements to remove staining and bring the areas back up to standard.

The cleansing team also remove all cardboard that is left by street life and report to Enforcement any personal belongings within the area, as well as removal of any small volumes of fly tip particularly the items such as pallets and unmarked items where there is no evidence.

They liaise with the then enforcement officers within this area and report evidence we do find within the fly tips so that they can carry out their role in educating the public/residents and prosecuting where necessary.

Our cleansing teams have been removing small fly tips and constantly removing cardboard within the areas.

During the COVID 19 pandemic we have seen an increase in litter and fly tipping our teams in the area are continuing to keep the area clear and have been working during the lockdown as business as usual.



If you would like to report a cleansing or grounds maintenance issue, please contact our Customer Service Centre.

Ward Profile: Market

Map



Enforcement team

Despite COVID lockdowns and restrictions members of the public realm enforcement team undertook regular proactive and reactive patrols within the wards.

Given the current national situation officers have had to consider what enforcement action is necessary and proportionate when deciding on the most appropriate course of action to take. This includes taking into consideration current Covid-19 restrictions and what would be in the public interest to pursue.

Officers have also started dealing with untaxed motor vehicles on the highway having been granted devolved powers from the DVLA.

Moving forward officers will begin conducting patrols from 0600 – 1900hrs between April and September. Part of this is due to the increased use of green spaces during the summer.

Market- Abandoned Vehicles – Two vehicles within the Market ward were either reported abandoned or found during proactive patrols, all have been investigated both were claimed by their registered keepers after they were also contacted via a letter asking them to claim it



At present there are sixty-six companies within the ward on section 47 notices for failing to manage their business waste correctly. In this period there were breaches of section 47 notices relating to six separate companies where FPNs were issued and paid in full.



Lion Yard, New Square, Park Terrace, Regent Street, St Andrews Street, Fitzroy street and Burleigh street have had officers foot patrolling the locations and this has culminated in 32 Fixed Penalty Notices being issued for littering of cigarettes,

One prosecution was successfully heard at court for the offence of littering the suspect was found guilty.

Market Hill, Petty Cury, Sidney Street Fitzroy street and Burleigh street have been subjected to rough sleepers whereby items have been discarded, in total 15. All items have been cleared and where items have been deemed personal, they have been stored for the required 28 days, which to date none have been claimed and all have either been destroyed or recycled.



During the period between August 2020 and January 2021 officers continued to undertake proactive and reactive patrols on the open space's patrols. This includes illegal campers, and dog fouling patrols.

Fly tipping issues were found to be prevalent throughout the ward including recycling centres from householders and businesses. In some cases, evidence was found and the suspects dealt with accordingly, by way of fixed penalty notices.

Domestic household waste found littered at numerous locations within the ward, these have been investigated. FPNs were issued to suspects for domestic waste littering and an additional FPN19s were issued for fly tipping domestic waste.1 prosecution file was completed for an unpaid FPN in relation to the offences mentioned.

Bins on Streets- Acting on complaints from local residents regarding domestic bins being left on the street blocking the public highway, inspections were under taken and warning letters were sent to the householders concerned, no further reports of any issues have arisen since.

Domestic bins were removed from a problematic street within the ward and taken to Cowley road for storage.



COVID patrols-

During the lockdown and as restrictions were being lifted, general COVID 19 patrols were made within the wards on behalf of the Environmental Health team. This was to ensure companies were not breaking any of the social distancing rules laid down by the Government; any issues were then passed on to the necessary team.

General Patrols additional work-

Numerous inspections made throughout the ward into waste found, however those with no evidence were forwarded to the streets and open spaces operatives for clearance.

We continue to work alongside our partners within the ward, mainly Cambs Police in assisting them with known people of interest, as well as any intel that might be useful to both parties. Ongoing working partnerships continue with the colleges and Universities in and other council teams dealing with environmental crime issues within the city. This has proven very effective and has been good for intelligence sharing.

Market- Liaising with COVID marshals within the market ward dispersing Deliveroo drivers that were breaching social distancing rules at the location of Market street.WOA given to disperse. This assistance ongoing.

Market / – Abandoned Bikes

Officers approached management seeking permission to remove abandoned bikes within the city, since the city rangers were disbanded and were now the community engagement team. After receiving H/S training from the H/S team we are now the lead officers in the task of removing abandoned bikes. During the month

of December 2020 and January 2021 across the area 81 bikes were tagged with the view to remove. During the follow up inspections 12 were no longer on site and 5 had been claimed, 4 need revisiting and 60 were removed and stored at Cowley road.



This operation is ongoing.

Dog related issues

Market:

Jesus Green – Reports from member of the public relating to a dog control issue, female knock off bike by a dog, investigations ongoing.

Amblecote House – Fouling problem in communal garden. Warning letter sent to the suspect dog owner.

Melbourne Place – Dog control issue. Reports received of dog off lead on public highway. Warning letter sent to the dog owner.

Christs Pieces – Stray dog contained and picked up by this service. Dog reunited with its owner through correct microchipping.

Regent Street – Stray dog found by a member of the public and taken straight to WGAS. The dog was subsequently claimed by owner.

Regular patrolling of the green open spaces Lammas Land, Paradise Nature Reserve and Sheep's Green.

To contact us regarding a dog issue, please contact Envirocrime@Cambridge.gov.uk.

If you would like to report an environmental crime issue in your ward, please get in contact with your Enforcement Officers, Andy Hine and Steve Phillips.

Community Engagement team



The regular litter picks organised by the Community Engagement team recommenced in August, September, October November and December 2020 and took part on Jesus Green, Midsummer Common and Parkers Pieces.

The team have an ongoing project to renovate the benches at Parkers Piece, during lockdown the work was postponed, but recommenced in August 2020 and continue through September and October 2020, with social distancing measures in place. This activity is helping to improve the benches and green space.



There were also tree watering days between the months of August 2020.

All Community Payback works have been suspended since March 2020 and remain so at the present time.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Operations service

Street Cleansing section continue to use Alloy. This system takes reports from online web-forms and turns them into specific jobs for operatives to carry out; using a map-based location to enable operatives to find and complete these tasks a lot quicker than before. The system also allocates the teams daily work meaning less paperwork and a better record of what work has been carried out and when. The Grounds Maintenance side of this system is still being developed.

The Operations teams have been busy during the last few months continuing to carry out scheduled mechanical sweeping all bus routes, main roads and housing footways and carriageways.

The Rapid Response and Graffiti Teams have been washing down the pavements and clearing under/around street furniture within the city centre. The areas had become very dirty due to the weather we had and was necessary to wash pavements to remove staining and bring the areas back up to standard.

Our cleansing teams have been removing small fly tips and constantly removing cardboard within the areas.

Our Grounds Maintenance team have been out pruning, hoeing, removing leaves and general preparation works to keep our city centre parks maintained throughout the year. From October, operatives started cutting hedges back and some have been reduced in size.

The teams have been busy clearing all the leaf fall in the area with the grounds maintenance teams and we have started are winter pruning ready for the bird nesting season. In the coming months we will be getting ready for grass cutting season.

Our cleansing teams have been removing small fly tips and constantly removing cardboard within the areas. We have been sweeping all the main roads and residential areas of detritus and carrying out deep cleaning as we go around the ward.

During the COVID 19 pandemic we have seen an increase in litter and fly tipping our teams in the area are continuing to keep the area clear and have been working during the lockdown as business as usual.



The cleansing team remove all cardboard that is left by street life and report to Enforcement any personal belongings within the area, as well as removal of any small volumes of fly tip particularly the items such as pallets and unmarked items where there is no evidence.

They liaise with the then enforcement officers within this area and report evidence we do find within the fly tips so that they can carry out their role in educating the public/residents and prosecuting where necessary.

If you would like to report a cleansing or grounds maintenance issue, please contact our Customer Service Centre.

All Community Payback works have been suspended since March 2020 and remain so at the present time.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Ward Profile: Newnham

Map



Enforcement team

Despite COVID lockdowns and restrictions members of the public realm enforcement team undertook regular proactive and reactive patrols within the wards. Proactive patrols still ongoing at the old recycling centres, as of yet no further issues have been reported since the R/Cs were closed for public use.

Given the current national situation officers have had to consider what enforcement action is necessary and proportionate when deciding on the most appropriate course of action to take. This includes taking into consideration current Covid-19 restrictions and what would be in the public interest to pursue.

Officers have also started dealing with untaxed motor vehicles on the highway having been granted devolved powers from the DVLA.

Moving forward officers will begin conducting patrols from 0600 – 1900hrs between April and September. Part of this is due to the increased use of green spaces during the summer.

Newnham – Various mobile patrols were carried out through this period which has incorporated the Covid crisis. This has included monitoring businesses in the area on behalf of the Environmental Health Team to ensure they are being COVID compliant, including updating them on changes in rules and reminding them of the queuing systems in relation the social distancing.

Trade waste issues in relation to a business regarding A Boards and the breaches of the policy as well as the management and storage of their trade waste, as not to block the public highway.

Two FPNs issued for littering offences within the ward, both paid in full.

Newnham Abandoned Vehicles –Reports of 3 abandoned vehicles came in, all vehicles were inspected and deemed worthy of a seven-day notice informing the owners we believed they may be abandoned, and they were also contacted via a letter asking them to claim it. All vehicles were claimed by the registered keepers.

Lammas Land COVID patrols undertaken in the open spaces to monitor groups of people breaching social distancing rules. Advice given to people found to be breaching the rules.

There have investigated a couple of incidents of waste dumped next to the clothing / shoe recycling bin in the car park – ongoing problem area

Regular patrolling of the green open spaces Lammas Land, Paradise Nature Reserve and Sheep's Green.

COVID patrols-

During the lockdown and as restrictions were being lifted, general COVID 19 patrols were made within the wards on behalf of the Environmental Health team. This was to ensure companies were not breaking any of the social distancing rules laid down by the Government; any issues were then passed on to the necessary team.

To contact us regarding a dog issue, please contact Envirocrime@Cambridge.gov.uk.

If you would like to report an environmental crime issue in your ward, please get in contact with your Enforcement Offices, Andy Hine and Steve Phillips.

Community Engagement team



The regular litter picks organised by the Community Engagement team recommenced in August, September, October November and December 2020 and took part on Coe Fen, Mill Pond and Lammas Land.

All Community Payback works have been suspended since March 2020 and remain so at the present time.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Operations service

Street Cleansing section continue to use Alloy. This system takes reports from online web-forms and turns them into specific jobs for operatives to carry out; using a map-based location to enable operatives to find and complete these tasks a lot quicker than before. The system also allocates the teams daily work meaning less paperwork and a better record of what work has been carried out and when. The Grounds Maintenance side of this system is still being developed.

The Operations teams have been busy during the last few months continuing to carry out scheduled mechanical sweeping all bus routes, main roads and housing footways and carriageways.

During the COVID 19 pandemic we have seen an increase in litter and fly tipping our teams in the area are continuing to keep the area clear and have been working during the lockdown as business as usual.



The teams have been busy clearing all the leaf fall in the area with the grounds maintenance teams and we have started are winter pruning ready for the bird nesting season. In the coming months we will be getting ready for grass cutting season.

Our cleansing teams have been removing small fly tips and constantly removing cardboard within the areas. We have been sweeping all the main roads and residential areas of detritus and carrying out deep cleaning as we go around the ward.

The parks team have continued to clear bins, litter and fly tips from our parks and open spaces within the area. Although the paddling pool and swimming pool at Lammas and Sheep's Green were not in use within this period due to Covid-19, the parks have been much busier than usual this time of year. We were finding more picnics, BBQ's and general drinking being held on our open spaces as they are not able to gather at homes or any venues that they may usually frequent. This has also made it difficult for our teams to get around safely to clear all the rubbish that was being left on the ground and emptying overflowing bins.

If you would like to report a cleansing or grounds maintenance issue, please contact our Customer Service Centre.

All Community Payback works have been suspended since March 2020 and remain so at the present time.

If you would like to nominate some work for the Community Payback to undertake or to get involved with volunteering, please get in contact with the Community Engagement Team.

Hedgehog Holes

The Community Engagement Team continues to work with Cambridge Hedgehogs to promote hedgehog holes and highways. The team can assist residents by cutting holes in fences to facilitate hedgehog movement between gardens. To date the team have cut over thirty new hedgehog holes across the city.

Should residents wish to have a hedgehog hole cut they can email the Community Engagement Team at sosvolunteers@cambridge.gov.uk who will make suitable arrangements bearing in mind Covid-19 restrictions.



3. Environmental and Waste Data

Public Realm [West / Central Area]

| Period | Activity | Total number of incidents | Ward | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | | | Castle | Market | Newnham |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Fly tipping | 77 | 15 | 52 | 10 |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | 78 | 35 | 37 | 6 |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Needles | 22 | 1 needle (1 instances) | 114 needles (20 instances) | 3 needles (1 instances) |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | 25 | 9 needles (6 instance) | 53 needles (19 instances) | 0 needles (0 instance) |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Fixed penalty notices | 230 | 12 | 205 | 14 |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | 57 | 8 | 48 | 1 |

Summary of public realm data:

Fly tipping:

Due to COVID lockdown the amount of footfall within the wards was significantly reduce the amount of incidents dealt with remained relatively stable.

Needles:

- Castle: 6 needles were removed from Castle ward a slight rise from the same period last year.
- Market: 53 needles were removed from Market ward a large reduction from the same time last year.

- Newnham: No needles were removed from this ward during the same period last year.

Fixed penalty notices:

Due to COVID lockdown the amount of footfall within the wards was significantly reduce as well as businesses closed, this reflects in the figures shown compared to the figures from the same time period last year.

Private Realm [West / Central Area]

| Period | Activity | Investigations | Treatments Carried out | Informal Action / Written Warnings | Statutory Notices Served | Legal Proceedings |
|----------------------|--|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Feb 2019 to Jul 2020 | Pest Control | NA | 42 | NA | NA | NA |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | | 40 | | | |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Refuse and waste complaints | 1 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | Figures not available | | | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Other public health interventions ² | 1 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | 9 | | | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Noise complaints | 32 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | 41 | | | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2019 to Jan 2020 | Private Sector Housing interventions | 8 | NA | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Aug 2020 to Jan 2021 | | 12 | | | 0 | 0 |
| | | | | | | |

¹ All complaints will generally have at least one such action.

² Other public health complaints includes odour, smoke, bonfires, filthy and verminous

4. Key contacts

| Area | Contact | Telephone Number | Email |
|---|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--|
| Community Engagement | Community Engagement Team | 01223 458084 | sosvolunteers@cambridge.gov.uk |
| Enforcement (Castle) | Andy Hine Steve Phillips | 01223 457730 | jess.toombs@cambridge.gov.uk |
| Enforcement (Market and Newnham) | Andy Hine Steve Phillips | 01223 458579 01223 457638 | andrew.hine@cambridge.gov.uk Steve.phillips@cambridge.gov.uk |
| Streets and Open Spaces Operations / Commercial | Paul Jones | 01223 458282 | paul.jones@cambridge.gov.uk |
| West Area Operations Team Leader | Sarah Phillips | 01223 458282 | sarah.phillips@cambridge.gov.uk |
| Recycling Champions | Birgitta Laurent | 07525 213774 | recycling.champions@scambs.gov.uk |

If you have a question about one of the council's services, you will be able to find a number of answers on our website www.cambridge.gov.uk. If you can't find what you are looking for, or want to discuss something with us, you can contact us on the details above or call 01223 457000.

5. Volunteer schemes

Time Credits

You can earn Time Credits for your time as volunteer. Every hour of involvement with us earns you a 1-hour time credit – which can be spent in places like cinemas, gyms, swimming pools or music venues. The more time you give the more time credits you receive.

Streets and Open Spaces Volunteers:

We're looking for volunteers to make the streets of Cambridge even cleaner, tidier and more pleasant and to spread our motto 'A greener, cleaner city starts with you'. So, whether you're already part of an existing local group and want some additional support or you're an individual who feels strongly about these issues, then get in touch to take part. Our volunteers work to improve their local streets by acting to keep them clean, tidy and looking their best.

With the support of a dedicated Area Ranger you'll be able to:

- Recruit other local people to help you in a project
- Organise events locally to promote cleaner streets: litter picks, ward walks etc.
- Have access to and use specialist equipment for removing graffiti and litter
- Take part in large city-wide events for volunteers
- Provide education to other members of the public
- Get involved with new volunteer roles/projects

As a volunteer you're free to suggest your own ideas and we will do our best to accommodate them. We don't expect you to give huge amounts of time to our projects, as a volunteer, we just hope you can commit some regular time each month to keep the project active and vibrant in the community.

To sign up or find out more visit our webpage <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/streets-and-open-spaces-volunteers> or contact our Community Engagement Team on sosvolunteers@cambridge.gov.uk or 01223 458084

Recycling Champions:

Are you a passionate about recycling? Would you like to meet other people who are also keen to help to promote recycling, minimizing waste and sustainability? Do you enjoy working with the public? If yes, then why not become a recycling champion. The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service is looking for volunteers to help spread the word about recycling within the community. You don't need any experience or previous knowledge, you just need to believe that recycling is important, be friendly and approachable and be willing to convey your enthusiasm about helping the environment to others. Full training will be provided.

Our volunteers do a variety of roles such as:

- Run stalls at various events in the city and south of Cambridge
- Do door knocking around flats, hand out leaflets
- Attend monthly recycling champions meetings
- Do talks to community groups and schools about recycling
- Write articles in newsletters and go on trips to visit various recycling sites to learn about waste management and recycling.

To become a recycling champion please visit our webpage <https://www.cambridge.gov.uk/become-a-recycling-champion>, or contact recycling.champions@scams.gov.uk or telephone 07525 213774.



Item

AREA COMMITTEE COMMUNITY GRANTS

To: West Central Area Committee – 11th March 2021
Report by: Jackie Hanson, Community Funding and Development Manager
 Tel: 01223 - 457867 Email: jackie.hanson@cambridge.gov.uk
Wards affected: Castle, Market, Newnham

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report details applications received to date for 2021-2022 funding for projects in the West Central area and makes recommendations for awards. It also provides information on the eligibility and funding criteria.

2. Recommendations

The West Central Area Committee Councillors are recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider the grant applications received and awards proposed which are detailed in Appendix 1, in line with the Area Committee Community Grants criteria, detailed in paragraph 3.4.
- 2.2 Agree the proposed awards detailed in Appendix 1, summarised in the table below:

| Ref | Organisation | Purpose | Award |
|-----|---|---|--------|
| WC1 | Castle Covid Support Association (via Benson Road Residents' Assoc) | Three public concerts | £950 |
| WC2 | Christ's Pieces Residents' Association | Talk for local residents | £200 |
| WC3 | Eddington Residents' Association | Regular activities for residents and 2 trips for families | £2,190 |

| | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---------------|
| WC4 | Friends of Histon Road Cemetery | Information and activities | £500 |
| WC5 | Friends of Midsummer Common | Community activities and maintenance of community orchard | £900 |
| WC6 | Histon Road Area Residents' Association | Exhibition | £80 |
| WC7 | Mayfield Seniors' Group | Transport for 3 trips and newsletters | £650 |
| WC8 | Oblique Arts | Six creative workshops with exhibition for older people | £1,500 |
| Total | | | £6,970 |

3. Background

3.1 Funding has been devolved to Area Committees for local projects meeting the Community Development, Sports and Arts strategic priorities since 2004. This process is managed by the Grants Team in Community Services who promote the funding and bring applications for consideration to one meeting of each of the area committees annually.

3.2 The 2021-22 grants were publicised via neighbourhood workers, voluntary organisations, in local publications and by posters and publicity leaflets. Recent applicants are also invited to apply. Officers also held a briefing to explain the application process and eligibility criteria and priorities.

3.3 There is a total of £70,000 available across the four area committees for 2021-22 as detailed in the Community Grants report to Environment and Community Scrutiny Committee 28th January 2021. This has been allocated in accordance with the approved population and poverty formula = population + (2x benefit population).

The amount available for each area is as follows:

| Committee | Community Grants % | Total available £ |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| North | 34.41 | 24,087 |
| East | 30.19 | 21,133 |
| South | 25.58 | 17,906 |
| West Central | 9.82 | 6,874 |
| Total | 100 | 70,000 |

3.4 Area Committee Community Grant Priorities and Outcomes

Projects and activities should have a targeted approach and make a difference to people in one of the areas (North, East, South or West Central) by reducing social or economic inequality via one of the following funding priorities:

- sporting activities
- arts and cultural activities
- community development activities
- reducing poverty activities
- legal and/or financial advice (*the Advice Quality Standard (AQS) or equivalent required*)
- employment support
- capacity building of the voluntary sector to achieve the above

3.5 Applications are invited from voluntary organisations, community groups and groupings of local residents that are able to meet basic accountability requirements.

3.6 The maximum any one organisation can apply for is £5,000 per area committee and grants cannot be made retrospectively. Full details of the eligibility criteria are available on request.

3.7 Where no funding is proposed it will be due to one or more of the following not being adequately met:

- grant scheme outcomes and/or priorities
- identifying need
- quality or viability of the project

or

- proposals were the remit of another service/fund or organisation
- organisations did not demonstrate the beneficiaries could not fund the activity themselves, or that reserves could not be used to fund the activity

3.8 All awards are subject to grant agreements and monitoring reports. We consider proportionate requirements dependent on the size of the organisation, project and award.

3.9 Applications made at a later date will be considered on an individual basis. Officers will make decisions on awards up to £5,000 as approved by the Community Services Scrutiny Committee in January 2014.

3.10 In October 2021 any area committee funding remaining will be considered to support any applications received or projects to ensure effective use of the community grant funds available.

4. Appendices

Appendix 1: West Central Area Committee Community Grants – Applications and Recommendations 2021-22

5. Inspection of papers

If you have a query on the report contact:

Jackie Hanson, Community Funding and Development Manager

Tel: 01223 - 457867 Email: jackie.hanson@cambridge.gov.uk

Appendix 1 – West Central Area Committee Community Grants – Applications and Recommendations 2021-22

Beneficiary Key: C – Castle M – Market N – Newnham WC – West Central (E-East, Nth-North, S-South)

| Ref | Organisation | Purpose | Aim/Outcome | Beneficiaries | Budget | Bid | Award |
|-----|---|---|--|-----------------------|---|--------|---------------------------------------|
| WC1 | Castle Covid Support Association (via Benson Rd Residents' Association) | Three public concerts to encourage people to socialise again: publicity & insurance | Reduce social isolation in the community; encourage social interaction with neighbours and friends. | C 250 | Full cost: £1,050 Income: £100 | £950 | £950 |
| WC2 | Christ's Pieces Residents' Association | Annual talk of local interest for residents | Provide a focus for local residents to get together. Help reduce isolation for many of our older members. | M 50 | Full cost: £240 Income: £40 | £200 | £200 |
| WC3 | Eddington Residents' Association | 8 monthly social get-togethers, 8 x monthly community restaurant, 10 monthly film club showings, 6 monthly board games evenings, 2 family trips and cultural events | Combat loneliness and isolation; opportunity to make new friends; create atmosphere of community and friendship. Improve social integration. | C 260 M 20 N 10 | Full cost: £6,815 Income: £3,775 Reserves | £3,040 | £2,190 |
| WC4 | Friends of Histon Road Cemetery | Community activities and information, volunteer support and running of the Friends | Protect and enhance the Cemetery for public benefit and access. Reduce isolation – build the local community especially during COVID-19; used for walks, elderly & families. | C 600 (Nth 1,600) | Full cost: £2,680 Income: £1,000 Reserves | £500 | £500 + £600 North AC |
| WC5 | Friends of Midsummer Common | Community volunteering sessions, events and activities raising awareness of the orchard and increasing biodiversity of the Common | Improve the wellbeing of local people. Provide access to green space. Reduce social isolation and promote community spirit and | C 200 (Nth 20) | Full cost: £1,704 Income: £350 | £1,354 | £900 |

| Ref | Organisation | Purpose | Aim/Outcome | Beneficiaries | Budget | Bid | Award |
|-----|---|---|--|------------------|---|--------|---------------|
| | | | wellbeing. Deter anti-social behaviour. | | | | |
| WC6 | Histon Road Area Residents' Association (HRARA) | One day exhibition "Big Reunion" in March 2022 – about the Histon Road works at St Augustine's Hall, Richmond Road | Residents meet and talk about their memories of Histon Road. Reduce social isolation and anxiety. Interest new residents in the area; bridge the gap between different age groups and social backgrounds through exploration of the history of the area. | C 40 (Nth 60) | Full cost: £800 Income: none | £800 | £80 |
| WC7 | Mayfield Seniors' Group | Three trips for older people and 3 newsletters | Help members visit places they would otherwise have difficulty in reaching, gives the members encouragement to be more proactive and prevent isolation - especially important due to Covid-19 restrictions/lock down periods. | C 64 | Full cost: £695 Income: £0 Reserves | £643 | £650 |
| WC8 | Oblique Arts | Six x 2 hr creative art workshops for older people at the Cambridge Unitarian Church with exhibition at Cambridge Artworks or Kettle's Yard | Increase confidence and self-esteem for those living in social isolation. Opportunities to meet people, develop friendships and support networks for those that cannot afford activities or struggle to access due to health problems. Enhance skills and mental wellbeing through social contact. | C 6 M 4 | Full cost: £1,831 Income: £200 | £1,631 | £1,500 |