

Report from HDC Ward Cllr Stephen Cawley

Festival of Huntingdonshire: Collaboration with Town and Parish councils - 19th February

This week the Huntingdonshire Futures Team extended an invitation to Town & Parish Councils to join an online engagement session. This session has been scheduled to allow the Town and Parish Councils an opportunity to provide their thoughts and feedback on HDC's proposals for a Festival of Huntingdonshire.

For this engagement to be worthwhile; the Huntingdonshire Futures Team are understandably looking for a good turnout of representatives from Town and Parish Councils.

Monday, 1 April 2024 - Huntingdon DC 50th Anniversary

Thursday, 25 April 2024 - Huntingdonshire Day

Tuesday, 1 October 2024 - Huntingdonshire DC 40th Anniversary

Electric Vehicles and Charging Infrastructure

Working with Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, the Combined Authority wants local opinions to help plan for more electric vehicle (EV) charging points in the region to help meet demand. The Combined Authority wants to make sure they are planned for in the right way, informed by people's views.

The survey only takes five minutes and can be found here, along with further information: <https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/ev-charging/>.

People have until March 26, 2024.

CA Board Approves Mayor's Precept to Fund Bus Improvements

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Board approved a Mayoral Precept of £36 a year for a Band D property. The annual sum, which equates to £3 per month per household, will be invested in improvements to dozens of bus routes

Garden Waste Subscription Service

Below is a list of the locations provisionally planned for the Saturday freighters Week

- Yaxley – Great Drove
- Stilton – High Street near golf Course
- Sawtry – Caresco
- One Leisure - Ramsey

Week 2

- Hill Rise Car Park St Ives
- One Leisure Outdoor Centre, St Ives
- Burgess Hall St Ives

Week 3

- Eastfield House
- One Leisure - Huntingdon
- Godmanchester Yard
- Riverside Car Park, Huntingdon

Week 4

- Catworth Layby
- Tilbrook Layby
- Paxton Pits
- Riverside Car Park, St Neots
- One Leisure – St Neots

Budget 2024/25

HDC's 2024/2025 budget was presented at a meeting of the Full Council on Wednesday, 21st February and approved for the forthcoming financial year.

The new financial plan sets out how the council will balance its budget and continue to protect vital frontline services despite decreasing government funding, along with rising costs and inflation.

The main headline is that HDC will have a balanced budget that does not spend reserves, but which does see an increase in Council Tax, the introduction of the Green Bin Tax and increases on many charges and fees.

HDC's element of the Council Tax will see Band D Council Tax go up by £5 a year from April 1 2024.

Free business support programme for Huntingdonshire businesses

A new business accelerator to support entrepreneurs and early-stage businesses has been launched by HDC via the UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

This funding has enabled a collaboration between HDC and Deyton Bell, who have been commissioned to deliver a 12-month programme for new and existing businesses. The scheme is now open to entrepreneurs who have an idea to start a business and to those who have already started and are looking to develop and grow.

The programme offers free business support, helping people to develop their ideas, increase business survivability, access experts and peer group support in addition to a range of workshops from understanding finances, operations to marketing skills and more.

<https://hba.deytonbell.com/>

Recent Presentations to Overview & Scrutiny

Flooding Management Update

https://mcusercontent.com/c12c267f6eb236cbf6c4c1a8a/files/9e8fa2e0-8327-afb4-5452-7d1fdb51c08/Flooding_Management_Update.pdf