

Meldreth Parish Council September 2020 – District and County Councillors’ Report

Bus services and Addenbrooke’s

No doubt those who use the Stagecoach service are already be aware of fundamental changes that came into force on August 30, with the ‘Busway A’ service between Royston and Cambridge replaced by the 915. The new service runs between Royston and Drummer Street Station Cambridge, including stops at Melbourn High St car park, and Trumpington Park and Ride for a short wait for anyone wishing to change to the ‘Busway A’ service from there to Addenbrooke’s. This means that the journey from Melbourn to Addenbrooke’s is now broken into two. The reason for the change – which has been replicated throughout Cambridgeshire – is the effects of the Covid pandemic upon public transport, both in terms of reduced users and revenue, and a reduced workforce. Stagecoach have told us they are looking at this as a temporary alteration and hope to build back.

Meanwhile, for those bus passengers disembarking at Addenbrooke’s, the bus stop outside of Outpatients had been moved in order to accommodate alternations during the Covid crisis, when an enlarged space for ambulance access to the Emergency Department was needed. The good news is that the bus stop will be restored in the next few weeks.

Cambridgeshire County Council’s mobile libraries resume 21 September

The fleet will be headed by two brand new vehicles. The service will be returning to its regular stops, but unfortunately access to the vehicle is limited to help keep staff safe, so customers will need to choose books in advance.

To order your books in advance:

Please use the usual reservation service <https://cambridgeshire.spydus.co.uk>

The new Select and Collect service which allows you to request a collection of books based on your tastes https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Select_and_Collect

Or by telephone on 0345 045 5225

Choose the mobile library as a pick up point, and order as far in advance as possible to ensure a selection is ready and issued for you to pick up from your stop – ideally a week in advance, but the service will do its best with forms received after this.

If you have any queries contact the team MobileLibraries@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Drainage

Once again, thank you to everyone who has so assiduously reported blocked drains on the Highways Reporting webpage, and especially Pat Gilmore for providing a gold standard oversight. Given that the County no longer provides annual drainage maintenance (it says it no longer has the money to do this), reporting takes on extra importance. Supported by the legwork done by residents and Pat, Highways has been made aware of the urgent need to clear drains around the Elin Way/High Street junction.

Home Start

Home Start has been working very hard to support Meldreth children and families facing a particularly difficult stretch these past few months. They've had to adapt their services to virtual and telephone platforms but, taking stock, feel they've been able to make a fundamental difference. Their service is often described as a lifeline service. They rely on donations and grants to make their service possible.

Brief Covid-19 update for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, 26 August 2020

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Public Health Intelligence team produces regular updates, though while being in the public domain these are not as yet published on their website. Here is the latest report in brief format. More detailed reports are available.

Confirmed Covid-19 cases – overall and in care homes

- **63 new lab-confirmed Covid-19 cases** were detected in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in the latest reporting period, 17-23 August (as at 26 August). This is 9 less than the previous week.
- The cumulative rate of Covid-19 cases per 100,000 population in **Peterborough (782.7) remain statistically significantly higher** than the national rate (504.8); the rates are statistically similar in Fenland (501.7) and Huntingdonshire (532.1) (data at 26 August).
- The **7 day rolling average of confirmed cases** for Cambridgeshire, Peterborough, and each of the Cambridgeshire districts, shows a declining trend in Covid-19 cases since the peaks in late April, and a lower, **more stable trend in recent weeks**. However, confirmed cases have increased in South Cambridgeshire (+1) and Peterborough (+5) in the most recent reporting week.

All cause and Covid-19 deaths – all settings and in care homes

- **4 Covid-19 related deaths** occurred in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in ONS reporting week 33, up from 2 in week 32 (2 Huntingdonshire, 2 Peterborough).
- **All-cause deaths** numbers increased by 19, to a total of 124 deaths, for **Cambridgeshire and Peterborough** in week 33 (plus 19 deaths in Cambridgeshire).
- At a district level, **Cambridge (+8), East Cambridgeshire (+3), Huntingdonshire (+9) and South Cambridgeshire (+10)** had an **increase in all-cause deaths** between the last two reporting weeks.
- **Cambridgeshire has had 2 notifications of a Covid-19 related death in a care home since 10th August**. The last notification for Peterborough was 8th July (data at 25 August).
- The number of **all-cause deaths is above the 2014-18 average in Cambridgeshire and the districts except Fenland**. Numbers in **Peterborough are below the 5 year average** and are similar in Fenland.
- The number of **all-cause deaths in care homes are above the 2014-18 average in Cambridgeshire**. It is below the 5 year average in Peterborough and Fenland, and similar in South Cambridgeshire.

MCCS Update

Thanks to the Food Bank team and Meldreth Primary School staff for making possible the summer food box delivery service for Meldreth families with a children on free school meals. The Food Bank now reverts to usual service – open Tuesday 10-12 and Thursday 2-4, or please ring Anne any time. Donations are extremely welcome and the generosity of Meldreth residents has made it possible to keep the Food Bank going over a substantial period of time.

Screenbank has now delivered a final 20 refurbished computers to Melbourn Village College though keeping an open door to provide any additional support if needed, where possible. It has also provided 19 surplus to requirement computers to Bassingbourn Village College, and is also still working to provide computers to elderly isolated Meldreth residents. Donations of second-hand computers are still VERY welcome as these will be sent on to the new Screenbank project running in Bassingbourn.

Social Support: MCCS Executive team has agreed to pursue the idea of a village walking club, and also to explore recruiting drivers who could volunteer under with Royston and District Community Transport to take elderly and isolated Meldreth residents to the Melbourn Hub, with its many programmes and activities on offer.