

# Southern Fringe Community Forum

7pm, Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2019  
Clay Farm Centre, Trumpington.

## Chair

Debbie Kaye Cambridge City Council

## Lead Councillor

Dan Summerbell Cambridge City Council

## Presenters

Vicky Haywood Cambridge City Council

Sharon Brown Cambridge City Council

Debbie Kaye Cambridge City Council

Jo Clark Countryside Properties

Ben Hunt Countryside Properties

Edward Shortridge WSP

## **Welcome and Introduction**

The Chair welcomed all and introduced the agenda.

**1. Background to the forum and its conclusion** - Debbie Kaye (see presentation)

Debbie Kaye outlined the background, context and history to the Southern Fringe Community Forum and the role it had played in combining existing and new communities. Detail on the changes to the physical and community infrastructure were outlined with a number of new local groups now operating and able to access existing small grants to help with local initiatives. The role of South Area Committee was re-iterated and suggested as one of the places that local issues could be raised with the ending of the Southern Fringe Community Forum. Thanks was given to all those who have contributed and participated in the forum over the last 8 years.

Q: When will the allotments be ready on Clay Farm?

A: The frustration at their delay was understood and the legal process for their handover has been very slow due to the number of parties involved in signing the

agreements. However progress is being made and they are in the final stages prior to opening which is imminent.

Q: How and why was the decision to change the allotments to a bigger, and less manageable, size taken?

A: The variety of size is important to enable a full range of potential cultivators and would be important to the allotments success. We will endeavour to find further detail on this for the post meeting notes. (see post meeting note 1)

Q: The opportunity afforded by the Southern Fringe Community Forum to interact with both developers and Council officials has been very welcome and from a Trumpington Residents Association point of view a real shame that it is ending. Area committees do not offer the same opportunities and are very much official Council meetings rather than equal resident and officer exchange. Could alterations be made to the South Area Committee to encourage further resident involvement and flexibility?

A: This is a really good idea and something that we will be discussing at both officer and Councillor level as part of a review of the Community Forums and Area Committees interaction.

Q: A pathway joining Clay Farm Lane and Green Lane has been started but has now stopped after an apparent dispute over ownership, could this be followed up with view to resolution?

A: Yes. We will look in to this and hope to have some progress within the post meeting notes. (see note 2)

Comment: The ways in which the Community Development Officer work has operated over the last few years has been really valuable.

Comment: The ability to talk informally with those involved at all the differing levels at the drop-in events has been very good and worked well.

## **2. Planning review of the Southern Fringe** – Sharon Brown – (see *presentations attached*).

Q: The bus provision is a continual source of frustration. A requested bus stop to prevent the need to sit on the bus as it goes around Addenbrookes prior to City Centre has never materialised, lack of a Sunday service and the two fares need to access some of the Addenbrookes facilities is awkward and expensive. What pressure can be applied to encourage change?

A: The bus stop issue is a well-known one that on-going discussions with County Council and service providers are considering. The use of the South Area Committee, where the County Council have a presence as well as local politicians could be a first course of action.

Comment: New management at Stagecoach are reviewing their approach at present with apparent acknowledgment that consideration needs to be given to fares, hours and other operational issues. However much of this is hampered by the crippling congestion in the town.

Comment: The Greater Cambridge Partnership has a number of city-wide and local improvements that are intended to address this including the park and ride at junction 11 of the M11. For all the local developments, transport studies have been commissioned which consider the impact including air quality and congestion.

Q: The lack of retail provision is staggering; those units that have been built have been empty so long that they are beginning to look run down, why is this and can incentives be given?

A: The way in which the development was phased for construction, from each end, meant that the local centre was the last area to come forward. It is also a commercial decision for retailers to ensure that the units are viable prior to committing. There is thought to be some interest in the City Council units at present and an up-date on these will be sought. Further retail will form part of the last parcel, which is under construction at present. (See post meeting note 3)

### **3. Community up-date** – Vicky Haywood – (*see presentation attached*)

Q: Some of the developments still have 30mph limits, even around schools, surely this should be lowered?

A: At the time that the city 20mph zones were approved, the southern fringe developments were not built and therefore left out of this restriction and remained at the 30mph statutory speed limit. This however can be rectified and will be looked in to. There is a temporary barrier around Trumpington Meadows primary school to prevent cars using the pavement; a permanent solution is being sought. On other development sites a parent-teacher association set up a speed watch group and this could be considered for the schools in and around Trumpington.

### **4. Development overview** – Jo Clark, Ben Hunt and Edward Shortridge. (*See presentation attached*)

Q: Will the presentations be available after the meeting?

A: Yes they are published on the City Council's [web pages](#).

### **5. Questions from the floor**

Q: For on-going information on the various topics, where is the best place to go?

A: Trumpington Residents Association (TRA), South Area Committee and South Trumpington Parish Council would be the best places. TRA would also welcome further members.

Q: Will the roads be adopted and parking enforcement taken?

A: When the County Council adopt roads in the city, they will enforce any restrictions, until adoption it will be the developer whose obligation it is to enforce. At present, those parts of the developments in South Cambridgeshire will rely on the police to enforce any parking restrictions but efforts are being made to align the two regimes for consistency.

Debbie Kaye thanked all those who attended and presented and closed the meeting.

### **Post meeting notes:**

Note 1 - Allotments: The size of plots at Clay Farm are a similar size to the plots offered on other sites we have recently commissioned. The plot size is approximately 70m<sup>2</sup> which is about a quarter of a standard allotment plot. We have reduced the size of plots to make it easier for new beginners. If tenants feel unable to manage a small plot (70m<sup>2</sup>) then they could request that they wish to have one of the raised beds which are smaller again and designed to make access easier.

Note 2 – Crest pathway: *awaiting response.*

Note 3 – Retail in Hobson Square: Cambridge City Council has terms agreed in respect of Unit 2 to a convenience store operator (national franchise). Terms are close to being agreed in respect of Unit 4, a proposed take-away will be a far eastern cuisine, but not Chinese. The final unit has an A2 use (banks, insurance, and estate agents) allocated through the collaboration agreement, which has had no interest at present, Cheffins continue to market.