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**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE CITY OF ELY COUNCIL HELD AT 7.05 PM ON MONDAY,  
9TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT THE MALTINGS, SHIP LANE, ELY**

**PRESENT:** Mrs T Coulson – Clerk to the Council

Cllr C Phillips, Mayor

Cllr R Trent

Cllr L Fox

Cllr Ní Dhónaill

Cllr R Ward (arrived 7.23 pm)

Cllr R Morgan

Cllr C Whelan

Cllr M Wade

Cllr K Holtzmann

Cllr M Banyard

Cllr W Novick

Cllr R Denness

Cllr R Moss-Eccardt

*County Cllr A Whelan and County Cllr P Coutts*

*2 members of the public 4 applicants for co-option*

**1. APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr Warman. The reason for her absence was accepted.

**2. COUNCILLOR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS**

There were no requests for dispensations.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Cllr Morgan declared an interest in item 16. He left the room whilst this item was being considered. After the meeting Cllr Morgan signed page 249 of the Register of Members Interest Book.

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON THE 29TH JULY 2024 AND MATTERS ARISING**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 29th July 2024 were proposed by Cllr Banyard that they be agreed and signed as a true record. This was seconded by Cllr Denness and unanimously approved. They were signed by the Chairman. Pages 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116 and 2117 refer. There were no matters arising.

**5. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Chairman welcomed the applicants for co-option and their interest in being a councillor and explained how this would be undertaken when item 16 was considered.

**6. QUESTION TIME**

There were no questions raised from the members of the public present.

**7. REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

A written report was received from County Cllrs Coutts and A Whelan. This was presented by Cllr Coutts. A copy of which will be attached to the minutes. Cllr C Whelan in her capacity as a District Councillor gave a short verbal report on matters regarding the District Council. No other District Councillors had anything additional to add.

*County Cllr C Coutts left the meeting at 7.15 pm.*

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MAYOR  
21st October 2024

## **8. MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS & REPORT**

The Mayor had attended and spoke at Pride in Ely; presented prizes at the Classic Car Show on Palace Green; attended Sanctuary Housing's event at High Barns recreational area, attended a charity fund raising concert at St Mary's Church; presented certificates to summer school students from Nigeria and Libya in Littleport; attended the Mayor's Chairty fund raiser in Huntingdon; spoke to the Littleport Rotary about the role of the Mayor. He had, along with Charlotte Cane MP, held discussions with Ely Muslim Association following Friday Prayers and conducted a tour of Ely Cemetery as part of the Heritage Weekend programme.

The Deputy Mayor also attended the discussions with the Ely Muslim Association following Friday Prayers; the Train Operating Companies day with Visit Ely; Ramsey Charity Tea Party; High Sherrif's Garden Party; Fenland District Council's evening reception and attended St Ives Civic Service.

## **9. PLANNING**

Cllr Morgan as the Planning Committee Chairman gave a report on the planning meeting which had been held prior to this meeting. It was agreed that a small Working Group would be formed to consider the consultation regarding the National Planning Policy Framework to draft a response from the Council before the deadline of the 24th September 2024. Cllrs Morgan, Moss-Eccardt and Denness agreed to undertake this.

## **10. INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS**

The following information only items were received and noted:-

Street Naming & Numbering:- 86D St Marys Street, Ely (86C split into two dwellings)

## **11. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

(i) PERSONNEL, FINANCE & GOVERNANCE - Cllr Ní Dhónaill presented a report of a meeting held on the 2nd September 2024, which was unanimously approved. Cllr Ní Dhónaill reported the new Mayoral chain had now been ordered and the Council had been approved as a Disability Confident Employer. The Committee had agreed that only titles within the Standing Orders could be used by councillors and that no other titles were permitted. It was emphasised that action would be taken if this policy was not followed. Cllr Ní Dhónaill proposed the proposal paper regarding the formation of a youth forum, prepared by Cllr Novick be approved in principle. Further details with regards to rules and safeguarding being detailed and approved before the launch in December/January. This was seconded by Cllr Banyard and unanimously agreed. A Working Group would be set up to move this forward. It had also been agreed that the Personnel, Finance and Governance Committee would undertake the paper-lite trial at its next meeting. The change to the Tourism and Town Centre Manager's job title to Tourism and Events Manager – Visit Ely was also agreed. Cllr Ní Dhónaill proposed the adoption of the Co-option Policy which was seconded by Cllr Trent and unanimously agreed. The Chairman signed the Policy. Cllr Ní Dhónaill proposed the recommendations for awards for the grant applications for 2024/25 be approved. This was seconded by Cllr Moss-Eccardt and unanimously approved.

(ii) CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT – Cllr Denness presented a report of a meeting held on the 19th August 2024, which was unanimously approved. A plan for sustainable, permanent planting at the St Mary's flowerbed will be designed by Cllrs Fox, Holtzmann and Trent. The update from the CCTV Working Group was noted. The Clerk had obtained three quotes for air conditioning in the new control room and server room. Cllr Phillips proposed the quote from East Air Conditioning Services Ltd at a cost of £3,875 plus VAT be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Denness and agreed. The Clerk will also check if the existing meter has the capacity for these extra units. The Clerk will make an application to CIL for funding and will also submit the planning application for the installation of these units.

**11. COMMITTEE REPORTS CONTINUED.....**

(iii) **ASSETS** – Cllr Morgan presented a report of a meeting held on the 5th August 2024, which was unanimously approved. The leases for the Scout and Guide Halls at St John’s Road, Ely will be renewed for a further 21 years. The PiPA audit for the Council’s play areas should be received shortly. Tree work will be undertaken on the Local Needs Housing estate at Ramsey Road. The windows at the Maltings have been installed. The Clerk reported that quotes had been obtained for the repair to the tiles on the roofs at Sessions House and the Maltings. These were unanimously approved.

(iv) **TOURISM** – Cllr Banyard presented a report of a meeting held on the 12th August 2024, which was unanimously approved. The update on the service and town centre were noted. Cllr Banyard reported he had spoken to the Cathedral with regard to using empty shop premises as pop up art spaces. In principle, they were in favour of this but at the current time they do not have any premises to accommodate this. The Town Crier Competition will be held on the 12th October, as part of the Apple Day.

**12. REPORTS FROM EXTERNAL MEETINGS**

City of Ely Allotments and Gardens Association – members noted the notes of a meeting held on the 20th June 2024. The Clerk reported that the Association had requested a new soil report before they complete with the transfer of the new allotments.

Ely Trinity Dole – The Chairman reported he had attended a meeting of this organisation today. The process of the merger with the Needham’s Foundation is progressing slowly.

**13. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO INSTALL A PROHIBITION OF WAITING (DOUBLE YELLOW LINES) ON SECTIONS OF LYNN ROAD, ELY**

*The Chairman adjourned the meeting to allow County Cllr A Whelan to give information on this consultation.*

After a full discussion on these proposals the Council was unanimously of the opinion that these proposals would not be suitable for this stretch of road, due to the loss of on-street parking and the impact of new residents from the North of Ely developments on already limited spaces within existing car parks in the city centre. The road is also felt to be too narrow for such a scheme. The Council understands the background to the request. The Council does expect there to be a cycle route from the development to the centre of the City and so would encourage the Planning Authority to work with the Highways Department to find an alternative route for the cycle route.

**14. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON CAMBS COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON ACTIVE TRAVEL HIERARCHY**

Councillors like the ideas within this document, but felt it would be better for councillors to respond as individuals as they have the local knowledge with regard to their elected wards. They would look at the document and respond directly.

**15. TO MAKE COMMENTS ON THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY’S BUS FRANCHISING CONSULTATION**

It was unanimously agreed to refer this consultation to the next Climate and Environment Committee for consideration. They would prepare a draft response from the Council, for consideration by all councillors before the deadline of the 20th November 2024.

## 16. TO CONSIDER WRITTEN APPLICATIONS FOR THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR AND FILL THE EXISTING VACANCY BY CO-OPTION

*The meeting was adjourned to allow applicants to speak.*

Once applicants had given a short speech about themselves the Chairman reconvened the meeting. A vote was undertaken by secret ballot, with one candidate achieving the required 50% + 1 of the votes. The Chairman announced that Mr Satwinder Sandhu had been successfully co-opted to fill the West Ward vacancy.

## 17. FINANCE

Cllr Banyard proposed these all be approved, which was seconded by Cllr Whelan and unanimously approved.

### *Direct debit payments and BACS payments*

ECDC	299.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	2295.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	200.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	524.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	299.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	2295.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	200.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	524.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	499.00	Paid by direct debit
Bidfood Ltd	1614.86	Paid by direct debit
Siemens Financial Services Ltd	452.40	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1690.80	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	380.51	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	64.80	Paid by direct debit
Cybertill Ltd	113.50	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	318.60	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	50.22	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	117.87	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	95.37	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	249.00	Paid by direct debit
ESPO	114.73	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	312.36	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	104.78	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	21.35	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	380.72	Paid by direct debit
TotalEnergies Gas & Power Ltd	9748.57	Paid by direct debit
Barclaycard	783.39	Paid by direct debit
Lex Autolease	772.90	Paid by direct debit
Barclays	132.91	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
Virgin Media	62.40	Paid by direct debit
EE Ltd	102.24	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	65.47	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	65.47	Paid by direct debit
SSE Energy Supply Ltd	79.75	Paid by direct debit

**17. FINANCE CONTINUED .....**

Francotyp Postalia Ltd	250.00	Paid by direct debit
PWLB	9508.08	Paid by direct debit
Greene King Brewing & Retail Ltd	1784.64	Paid by direct debit
FuelGenie	358.32	Paid by direct debit
British Telecommunications	319.25	Paid by direct debit
Westair Reproductions Ltd	545.50	Paid by BACS
H C Electrical	222.07	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	225.77	Paid by BACS
Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd	129.36	Paid by BACS
Eden Farm Hulleys	155.64	Paid by BACS
Konica Minolta Bus Sols Ltd	158.29	Paid by BACS
Splash Pad for Ely	965.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK Ltd	261.85	Paid by BACS
Millennium Pest Control	75.60	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Marketing Ltd	59.20	Paid by BACS
CoolerAid Ltd	42.45	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	36.00	Paid by BACS
Ely City Military Band Ltd	250.00	Paid by BACS
Sign of the Times Ltd	983.22	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	61.57	Paid by BACS
Harper Collins Publishers	49.45	Paid by BACS
Bannold Supplies and Services Ltd	156.00	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage Ltd	234.00	Paid by BACS
LE Enterprices	630.00	Paid by BACS
Human Capital Department	226.80	Paid by BACS
House of Marbles	197.76	Paid by BACS
Ramsey Town Council	40.00	Paid by BACS
E R Copley	75.25	Paid by BACS
John Wiley & Sons Ltd	125.00	Paid by BACS
Two Bad Mice Publishers Ltd	303.58	Paid by BACS
Target Print Ltd	883.00	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	1100.39	Paid by BACS
Fen Farm Supplies	106.84	Paid by BACS
RGP Security Services Ltd	122.10	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	350.00	Paid by BACS
Bannold Supplies and Services Ltd	312.00	Paid by BACS
Shefs	3256.80	Paid by BACS
XL Displays Ltd	198.00	Paid by BACS
OTIS Ltd	1498.80	Paid by BACS
Harper Collins Publishers	84.62	Paid by BACS
House of Marbles	63.36	Paid by BACS
DTP Southfield	628.13	Paid by BACS
Mrs N Booth	433.40	Paid by BACS
E R Copley	49.50	Paid by BACS
John Wiley & Sons Ltd	129.90	Paid by BACS
Deltron Lifts Ltd	7168.32	Paid by BACS
G & G Gallo Enterprises Ltd	1030.19	Paid by BACS
Eden Farm Hulleys	511.63	Paid by BACS
Somersham Town Band	250.00	Paid by BACS

**17. FINANCE CONTINUED .....**

Bannold Supplies and Services Ltd	96.60	Paid by BACS
Vix Technology UK Lt	3010.69	Paid by BACS
Cromwell Museum	101.00	Paid by BACS
Elyi Magazine	175.00	Paid by BACS
S Bradley	350.00	Paid by BACS
Harper Collins Publishers	6.04	Paid by BACS
E R Copley	10.00	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Art	1206.60	Paid by BACS
N J Marketing Ltd	309.36	Paid by BACS
Grocer's Brokers Ltd	27.60	Paid by BACS
Ely Skip Hire Ltd	304.00	Paid by BACS
Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd	733.19	Paid by BACS
We Are Blushed Ltd	204.00	Paid by BACS
ATS Heritage Ltd	234.00	Paid by BACS
Trade UK Ltd	63.16	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	90.00	Paid by BACS
Human Capital Department	226.80	Paid by BACS
Studio Nova Ltd	119.98	Paid by BACS
Thompson Media Partners Ltd	420.00	Paid by BACS
One Stop Promotions Ltd	273.54	Paid by BACS

*The following invoices had been paid prior to the meeting*

P Ashton	62.50	114665
ESPO	123.48	114666
ECDC	454.00	114667
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	296.42	114674

*The following invoices had not been paid prior to the meeting*

CoolerAid Ltd	17.78	114684
Ely Museum	10000.00	Paid by BACS
Mr Hannaford	200.00	114675
City of Ely Allotments & Gardens Assoc	298.50	114676
ECDC	335.68	114677
Anglia Sprayers Ltd	35.84	114678
G & J Peck Ltd	61.00	114679
Two Bad Mice Publications Ltd	472.56	114681
ESPO	127.80	114682
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	113.88	114683
Securitas Security Services (UK) Ltd	64.68	Paid by BACS
City Cycle Centre	47.63	114685

**17. FINANCE CONTINUED .....**

RHS Horticultural Services	249.74	Paid by BACS
We Are Blueshed Ltd	522.00	Paid by BACS
AA Media Ltd	338.14	Paid by BACS
Ellgia Ltd	123.50	Paid by BACS
Cambridge Mobility Ltd	66.00	Paid by BACS
Prestige Fire Safety Ltd	900.00	Paid by BACS
C B Groundworks & Construction Ltd	2626.73	Paid by BACS
Speedy Street Solutions Ltd	5922.00	Paid by BACS
H C Electrical	456.00	Paid by BACS
V Rudkin	331.50	Paid by BACS
Good Evans Art	171.00	Paid by BACS
LE Enterprices	350.00	Paid by BACS
Cybertill Ltd	162.04	Paid by direct debit
Bidfood Ltd	630.85	Paid by direct debit
Francotyp Postalia Ltd	64.00	Paid by direct debit
ECDC	41.42	114686
Cambridgeshire Turf Nurseries	144.00	114687
ECDC	43.78	114686
G & J Peck Ltd	109.97	114688
Mrs S Aldridge	89.60	Paid by BACS
Amazon Payments UK Ltd	128.08	114690
CoolerAid Ltd	49.20	114692
PKF Littlejohn LLP	2520.00	114691

**Payments relating to staff since meeting on the 29th July 2024**

Salaries and wages	£37,884.69
Inland Revenue (tax & NI)	£11,332.13
Pension fund payments	£12,302.53

Councillors noted and approved the bank reconciliations for the periods ending 30th June 2024 and 31st July 2024.

*The meeting closed at 8.28 pm.*

# Cllrs Piers Coutts and Alison Whelan

MONTHLY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2024

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## ADULTS & HEALTH

### Covid vaccination programme

The government has accepted advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation for an autumn COVID-19 vaccination programme this year. All those aged 65 or over, all those in care homes for older people, and those aged six months or over who are in a clinical risk group, will be eligible for vaccination this autumn.

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## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

### 'My Smile' accreditation for Children & Family Centres

All of the County Council's Child & Family Centres and Family Hubs are now 'My Smile' accredited.

The 'My Smile' programme is aimed at reducing oral health inequalities for the most deprived and disadvantaged children in early years. The programme offers training to Child & Family Centre and Family Hub staff by the Oral Health team from Dental Health Care, part of Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust.

There are four steps to the programme, consisting of

- Training in good oral health
- How to share information to families around toothbrushing
- Tooth friendly diets
- Dental visits.

Acquiring a 'My Smile' accreditation shows that the staff at these centres have received the most the up-to-date, evidence-based oral health training. It also shows that their centres promote a 'tooth friendly' environment for children and can confidently promote and advise visiting families on how to support good oral health at home.

### New Director of Education

Sarah Callaghan has joined Cambridgeshire County Council's as its new Service Director for Education. She has come from a similar position in Islington and started in Cambridgeshire on 5 August.

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## ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

### Sunnica

After the decision by the Government to permit the development of the Sunnica solar farm between Burwell and Red Lodge, the four 'host authorities' (Suffolk and Cambridgeshire counties, West Suffolk and East Cambridgeshire districts) submitted a 'pre-action protocol letter'.

This asked the Government to correct an error in the permission, which loaded considerable costs onto the councils for all the work they will need to do on the detail of the permission. The councils expected the Government to correct this, but the response from Government was that this was not an error, and the councils were indeed expected to shoulder the financial burden.

This was the only ground on which the four councils were seeking to challenge the decision, and would not have affected whether the development itself went ahead or not.

Two of the councils—West Suffolk and Cambridgeshire—decided not to proceed any further with the challenge, based on their judgement of the legal advice all four councils had seen, their view that the likelihood of success was low, and the consequent financial risk to local taxpayers.

The remaining two councils—East Cambridgeshire and Suffolk—are claiming that they would have proceeded to apply for judicial review if it had not been for West Suffolk and Cambridgeshire's decision. As all four councils had seen the same legal advice this appears to smack of political opportunism. And of course there is nothing to stop East Cambridgeshire and Suffolk going ahead with a judicial review application on their own.

The Say No To Sunnica action group, who had opened a crowdfunding webpage for their own judicial review, are now saying they are reviewing the situation and taking stock.

### Community energy consultation

The County Council is currently consulting on its proposed Action Plan to support community energy. The draft Action Plan and survey seeking your views on the proposals have been published, and the survey will remain open until Monday 16 September.

**<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/community-energy-project>**

### Waste partnership awards new recycling contract

Local council waste partnership RECAP has awarded its contract for mixed dry recyclables (blue bin waste) to Biffa and Re-Gen after a procurement exercise. The contract was previously held by Thalia who run the waste facility at Waterbeach. The handover took place on 1 September.

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## HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

### Active travel hierarchy consultation

A consultation on the development of an 'Active Travel Hierarchy' was launched on 22 July. This seeks feedback on which routes and public rights of way are considered most important to users, as well as asking residents about their preferences for prioritised maintenance activities.

Some of the feedback was that the consultation was difficult to use and understand. In response, the council has revised the online material to make it easier and extended the consultation to 30 September.

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/active-travel-hierarchy>

### Mill Road (Cambridge) bus gate new consultation

Cambridgeshire County Council has agreed with the claimant to end legal proceedings in relation to the Mill Road Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) challenge. The Council will no longer be defending the case through the courts, and the judge has agreed to quash the decision that was made to approve the traffic regulation order for the scheme.

A new statutory consultation on a proposed Traffic Regulation Order started on Friday 9 August. The Order would close Mill Road bridge to all vehicles, with some exemptions. The consultation runs until midnight on Friday 13 September.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/transport-projects/cycling-pedestrian-improvements/mill-road-bridge-tro>

### Vision Zero and iRAP (International Road Assessment Programme)

An update on the Vision Zero Partnership will be presented to the County Council's Highways & Transport Committee in December. At the same meeting, a report setting out the analysis of the Council's A roads using the iRAP methodology will be considered.

Vision Zero is a road safety partnership including local councils, police, fire, NHS and other relevant organisations. It is committed to preventing all road deaths across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and to significantly reducing the severity of injuries, costs and social impacts resulting from road traffic collisions.

iRAP is a registered charity working with governments, highways authorities, and others to provide the tools and training to make roads safer.

## Government review of transport priorities

The new government is undertaking an internal review of the Department for Transport's capital spend portfolio and will be making recommendations about current and future schemes.

This could have implications for schemes in or around Cambridgeshire, including the A10 from Ely to Cambridge, East West Rail, and the Ely Area Capacity Enhancements around Ely railway junction.

## Highways projects overview

The council wants to use its website more to enable residents to see more up to date information on highways projects. This is very much a work in progress, but some of the larger projects can be seen at

**<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/highway-projects/our-projects-and-programmes>**

## Local Highways Improvement schemes

Local Highways Improvement applications are being scored and will be presented to the Highways & Transport Committee in October for approval.

36 of the 77 schemes added to the programme last year have been delivered, with a further ten ordered. Of the remainder, fourteen are with the contractor for pricing, fifteen are in design and consultation stage.

Five schemes prior to 2023/24 have not yet been completed.

## 20MPH schemes

Scoring of the new and updated applications took place in May and June in preparation for presentation to the Highways & Transport Committee in October. These remain popular, with 65 applications received this year, many of which were re-submissions from the previous year.

Some of the 2023/2024 schemes have been delayed as applicants undertake further informal consultation following feedback from residents, or due to changes to guidance from the Department for Transport, and the amount of time the formal consultation phase is taking to conclude.

## Weeds

The first round of weed treatment, for those communities wishing to have this, is now coming to an end, and the second round will begin in October.

## Winter gritting

Preparations are under way for the 2024 winter, which starts on Friday 1 November, with salt barns being replenished and servicing of gritting vehicles.

### **Meanwhile on the Combined Authority**

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority is consulting on bus franchising. The consultation will run until 20 November. The consultation outlines two options—franchising, and an Enhanced Partnership.

Bus franchising would put routes, timetables and fares in the hands of the local transport authority. An enhanced partnership with bus companies would give local authorities less influence over buses than franchising, but would still allow for multi-operator ticketing and targeted fare discounts.

More details, and residents' chance to have their say, can be found at <https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/news/bus-franchising-consultation-in-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough-goes-live/>

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### **Cllrs Alison Whelan and Piers Coutts**

County Councillors for Ely North and Ely South