

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held in The Fulbourn Centre, Home End, Fulbourn on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**Present:** Councillor Thorn (Chairman), and Councillors Cone, Gaskell, Hinton, Johnson, Newell, Smith and Ward. County & District Councillor Williams, District Councillor Daunton, Messrs Chalfen & Cottee (both gentlemen until Item 110) and the Clerk.

	Action
<p><b>PRECEPT MEETING STARTING AT 6.30PM</b>  <b>There will be a <u>PLANNING MEETING</u> of the Council commencing at <u>7pm</u> prior to Full Council To consider planning applications:</b>  Present: Councillor D Smith (Chairman) and Councillors Cone, Drage, Gaskell, Hinton, Johnson, Newell and Ward.  <u>Permissions:</u> S/24/34/18/FL, Six Bells, 9 High Street;  S/3836/18/FL, 6 Stackyard Court;  S/056/18/FL, 23 Apthorpe Street.  <u>New Applications:</u> S/4557/18/FL, 5 Dogget Lane – Erection of a two storey dwelling (revised details to planning permission S/1650/17/FL). Recommend supports.  S/4732/18/FL, 9A Haggis Gap – Refurbishment of existing detached bungalow to include demolition of existing lean-to structure and construction of new infill extension to front of the property. Recommends supports.</p> <p><b>103 To accept apologies for absence.</b>  Cllrs Dawson, Drage, Lacey and Lockwood.</p> <p><b>104 To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed.</b></p> <p><b><u>Public &amp; Press</u> - You are invited to attend the whole meeting and are welcome to speak at our Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting.</b> There were no questions from the floor.</p> <p><b>105 Cambridge Steiner School.</b>  Mr Joel Chalfen introduced himself as the Chairman of the Steiner School Project. The School is a Local Registered Charity to promote child education. The school is run by teachers and parents and this year marks its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Moving to the village in 2007, 25% of its pupils live in Fulbourn. The Steiner School has strong connections with the village and feel part of the community although its position geographically may have played a part in it not always feeling that way, but Mr Chalfen said the school does want to be seen as a community player.  The Ida Darwin re-development will affect the school when Phase II begins due to the surrounding buildings being demolished so the school wishes to safeguard its position. They are also concerned with highway issues especially the volume of traffic and will seek support from the Parish Council. They are aware of issues involving the S106 Agreement and Mr Chalfen pointed out the school already provide Pre-School facilities and received an Outstanding Ofsted report during 2018. They are keen to be involved with future development of the site. The school provides an alternative education and Mr Chalfen offered to arrange a visit for Parish Councillors to visit the school. This was warmly accepted and the Chairman thanked Mr Chalfen for attending the meeting.</p> <p><b>106 To receive reports from County and District Councillors.</b>  106.1 County Councillor Williams gave a verbal report which is attached.  106.2 District Councillors Williams and Daunton issued a joint report which Cllr Daunton briefly went through.  106.3 District Councillor Cone issued the attached report. All reports accepted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

<p><b>107 To approve the minutes of the last meeting.</b> The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p> <p><b>108 Matters arising from the last meeting.</b></p> <p>108.1 <u>Ida Darwin</u>. Cllr Williams had met SCDC Officers who will be contacting the Parish Council so proceedings may continue as Homes England have capitulated their position. Cllr Thorn said the Parish Council needs to make a decision. £450K being offered to build community facilities is not enough so do we suggest they go ahead and build giving the PC the option to either run it or for a Management Team be appointed to do so. Presently the PC does not have any funds nor anyone to run a new facility. After discussion it was agreed to have this on the February agenda.</p> <p>108.2 <u>Mobile Speed Device</u>. It had been agreed to site this in School Lane; Teasel Way will be next on the list.</p> <p>108.3 <u>LHI</u> (Local Highways Improvement). Cllr Cone completed an application for a second Mobile Speeding Device and advised next week he has a meeting to present a bid on behalf of the Parish Council.</p> <p>108.4 <u>Defibrillator</u>. Cllr Smith continues to investigate a suitable site for the defibrillator in The High Street. BT removed the kiosk 3 days after the December meeting.</p> <p>108.5 <u>Metropolitan Housing</u>. The Parish Council wrote to the Housing Association regarding vandalism and maintenance concerns on the Thomas Road/Hinton Road Estate. This has been acknowledged. The PC will also offer to have a site meeting.</p> <p>108.6 <u>Pavilion Boiler</u>. The Annual Service has been completed.</p>	<p><b>1373</b></p> <p><b>Feb Agenda</b></p> <p><b>DS</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>109 Neighbourhood Plan.</b> Notes from a meeting held on 7/1/19 were issued and accepted.</p> <p><b>110 Child Burial Fees.</b> Following on from the December 2018 meeting when Council agreed to increase cemetery fees Cllr Cone went through the Parish Council’s child burial records over the last decade. He found, thank goodness, that there were very few and proposed that Council does not charge burial fees for a child from the parish up to 16 years old. Proposal seconded by Cllr Newell and agreed by the Council.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>111 Tree works:</b> Tree works, School Lane – Rowan, crown reduce by up to 1m. No comment. Disclaimer: Fulbourn Parish Council Tree Officer and the Parish Council accept no liability for the advice given above.</p>	
<p><b>112 Correspondence.</b></p> <p>112.1 <b>IHMC (Integrated Highways Management Centre)</b> – November 2018 incident report.</p> <p>112.2 <b>CCC</b> – Information regarding availability of Winter Health Packs for the community.</p> <p>112.3 <b>Greater Cambridge Shared Waste</b> – Notification that paper collection bins will be removed from all parishes at the end of January 2019. This will reduce expenditure in terms of collections, fly-tipping management and release staff to maintain services elsewhere.</p> <p>112.4 <b>SCDC</b> – Notes from the Cabinet and Parish Council Liaison Meeting held on 27/11/18.</p> <p>112.5 <b>SCDC</b> – Looking to re-energise SPEP (Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership) in alignment with SCDC’s commitment to become carbon neutral by 2050. They are asking for ideas to help shape the support and funding for future potential projects.</p> <p>112.6 <b>SCDC</b> – Advising it is not necessary to create a new street for the development off Balsham Road although our suggested for “Armistice Close” and the developer’s of “Mawby Drive” have been noted. SCDC need the PC’s comments on, or agreement to the use of Balsham Road for the 14 dwellings. Following discussion Members still supported their recommendation of Armistice Close as the preferred option.</p> <p>112.7 <b>Greater Cambridge Partnership</b> – December 2018 newsletter.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>

112.8 **Clerks & Councils Direct** – January 2019 magazine.

112.9 **Cambridgeshire Constabulary** – Series of Events being held regarding influencing policing in your area as they face the many challenges of modern day policing. Next event at Swavesey Village College on Thursday, 24/1/19 from 7pm – 9pm.

112.10 **CCVS** (Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service) – January 2019 newsletter.

112.11 **CCC** – Views sought on County Council business planning to give them an understanding of what is considered important when setting the Council Tax. Closing date 31/01/2019.

**113 To resolve the accounts for the month.**

HP: Ink supplies.....3.49	Furnleaf: Grass cutting & maintenance.....1,204.00
Townley: Hall hire.....110.00	Barclays: Monthly fees.....20.43
Konica: Photocopier hire.....85.64	B's Travel: Shopper bus.....220.00R
e-on: Pavilion gas.....332.34	Daisy: Telephone line rental.....15.00
HMRC: Tax & NI.....596.67	SP Landscapes: Grass cutting.....2,160.00
BT: Internet services.....184.68	Shelford Heating: Boiler service.....274.80
e-on: Pavilion electricity.....390.55	Halls; Padlocks & Keys.....283.67R
ESPO: Supplies.....52.83	

Cllr Newell proposed accepting the accounts, seconded by Cllr Smith and agreed by Council.

**114 Council Committees.**

Recreation Ground Working Party. Minutes of a meeting held on 8/1/19 were issued and accepted.

**115 To receive items for inclusion on the next Agenda for decision and/or action.**

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Attached reports:

**Item 106.1**

**County Councillor Report to Fulbourn Parish Council**

1. The consultation on the budget plans of the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority was launched on 3 December, over the Christmas period, leaving only 22 working days to respond. Under the Combined Authority's Budget Framework Procedure Rules (contained in the Combined Authority's constitution at Chapter 7, Section 4.3) this is the very minimum period permitted. It is also noteworthy that this minimal consultation is taking place in the midst of considerable turbulence at the Combined Authority. Questions have been asked about the escalating revenue costs of running the Combined Authority, now over £5M per annum and rising, compared to the Mayor's promised figure of £850K. The authority's fourth Chief Financial Officer in 18 months was unexpectedly sacked shortly before the consultation was opened, for challenging the affordability of some of the Combined Authority's many promised schemes. The Combined Authority's finances are very much under the spotlight. And yet the proposals published for consultation are the same as those presented to the Combined Authority Scrutiny Committee and the Combined Authority Board before the unexpected departure of the Chief Financial Officer.

2. Many councils have a huge overspend in special needs funding for children. In Cambridgeshire this is expected to be £8.4M in 2019/20. The Schools Forum has agreed

to move £1.7M into special needs funding from the Dedicated Schools Grant, which would normally go directly to schools — meaning that a typical two-form entry primary school would ‘lose’ £7,500 into funding of support for children with special needs. The overspend is a result of rapidly rising numbers of children with special needs. In Cambridgeshire the number of children attending special schools rose by 20 per cent between 2017 and 2018, with a 13 per cent increase in the number of children with an Education Health & Care Plan. The government recently announced an additional £125M nationally to support council spending on special needs this year, and the same amount next year. The actual national overspend is £536M each year, but every little helps, as they say. However in announcing this spending, the Government said:

“Prior to this announcement, a number of local authorities will have already proposed to move funding from the schools block to the high needs block of the DSG in 2019 to 2020. With additional funding now confirmed for the high needs block, we expect these local authorities will want to review their proposals.”

If that is a thinly veiled demand that Cambridgeshire must stop moving money from the schools block into the high needs block, in return for its share of the £125M, that will be rather less helpful.

3. Cambridgeshire County Council says it is getting on top of potholes! Tell that to the residents of Geoffrey Bishops Avenue for example.

You can report potholes using its online tool at:

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/highwayfaults/](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/highwayfaults/)

Check out the pothole video series to find out how potholes are repaired; it explains the strange markings you might see on our roads – go to:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/pothole-video-series/>

John Williams  
9 January 2019

## **Item 106.2**

### **Report to Fulbourn Parish Council, January 2019**

#### **From District Councillors Claire Daunton and John Williams**

This report will cover: Housing Strategy; Business Plan; Cambridge Northern Fringe development; issues local to Fulbourn.

As usual we present **factual information** which we hope will be of use and interest to parish councillors and to the wider parish community.

#### **1. Housing Strategy, 2018-2022**

South Cambs and the City launched their joint Housing Strategy discussion document

‘Homes for the Future’ in December 2018 with a closing date of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019 for

comments. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/comment-on-homes-for-our-future-the-greater-cambridge-housing-strategy/>

It is a well-written, well-presented document, worth taking time to read through and comment on. It also contains some statistics which will be of use and interest to local communities. Here we pick up on a few key points:

*There are seven priorities:*

increasing the delivery of homes, including affordable housing; diversifying the housing market and accelerating delivery; achieving a high standard of design and quality of new homes and communities; improving housing conditions and making the best use of existing homes; promoting health and well-being through housing; preventing and tackling rough sleeping and homelessness; working with key partners to innovate and maximise resources.

*Some statistics from the document to put these priorities into context:*

Gross household income for South Cambs :£43,700 median; £25,300 lower quartile;  
Of existing households: 35% are on incomes lower than £30,000 and 26% have middle incomes between £30,000 and £50,000

Average house price: South Cambs: £433, 388

Lower quartile price to income ratio, South Cambs: 11.5

Median monthly cost to rent 2-bed house, South Cambs: £893

Local Housing Allowance, 2-bed house £647 for Greater Cambridge

This is a snapshot from the valuable statistical information to be found in one of the annexes to the document, p.51-54.

These and other statistics provide hard evidence of what is generally known: Greater Cambridge is a magnet for jobs and education but increasingly an expensive place to live and a place where housing of all kinds remains in short supply. Working together Cambridge City and South Cambs District Council are developing a local plan to establish the number of homes needed and to assess the housing requirements of groups with specific needs. There will be an emphasis on social and affordable rented homes as part of the wider mix of affordable housing. Attention will be paid to the changing needs of older people; to the demand for housing by essential local workers and to the needs of the travelling community. Use will be made of new community surveys and focus groups to

improve the design and planning of new communities; and there will be choice for those who aspire to design and build their own homes or to consider the purchase of modular homes. There will be an emphasis on good design, designing for quality living: a recognition that a well-designed house and streetscape is a place where people will want to live and create sustainable communities. This is not wishful thinking; it is achievable, but it takes care, vigilance and commitment.

#### *Affordable and Essential Worker Housing*

The majority of affordable homes will be provided by private developers and the Council will be active in working with them to ensure that 40% of all homes on sites of 10 or more will be affordable dwellings of which: 70% social housing for rent; 30% intermediate, with all affordable rented homes to have rents, including service charges, capped at the Local Housing Allowance Rate, with the preference always to be for social rent rather than affordable rent.

Both the City and South Cambs are committed to building new council homes, with a programme for South Cambs to build at least 200 new council homes over 5 years, with ambitions to double this number following the lifting of the borrowing cap.

There will be an emphasis by both Councils on the provision of essential worker (broadly defined) housing, and a possibility of covenants for key local workers. This will go hand in hand with aiming to ensure business growth across the District and attempts to diminish the scale of business bunching so that there is less travelling between work and home, City and villages.

#### *Housing for Older People*

Again, this is an area of concern that is widely recognized: the population is ageing and housing for older people has not kept pace with the ways and the pace at which we age and continue to live. Both City and South Cambs have a number of sheltered housing schemes which already provide a mix of dwellings for those of differing abilities in older age. But new models of older age housing need to be explored, including both extra-care housing and the potential for establishing a retirement village. South Cambs is particularly keen on exploring this latter option. One aim is to have around 7% of homes as specialist

housing for older people, where the size of the development makes this practicable. This could take the form of care-ready type accommodation or extra care.

### *Design and Sustainability*

Both Councils are committed to driving up standards for environmental sustainability including on-site renewable energy and low carbon technologies and developing a joint sustainable design and construction SPD. South Cambs current housing stock is already subject to significant improvements in terms of energy efficiency and work will continue to make best use of new technology and building materials when renovating or updating current housing stock. Good maintenance is essential

Equally, good design means attention to detail and making the best use of contemporary resources and technologies; this includes future-proofing houses for ageing, making sure that houses meet nationally described space standards; that housing developments respect their surroundings.

Attention to the design of housing and the space around housing is particularly important in South Cambs where developments are often within or close to long-established village settlements with a mix of housing styles and sizes, including listed buildings and larger historic fabric considerations. There will be a particular emphasis on design, and efforts to hold developers to account on following through agreed design statements and delivery of quality settlements.

### *Exception Sites and Village development*

The sustainability and quality of village life is a concern. There is a need to tackle traffic congestion by making villages places where people can both live and work, avoiding the need for travel to work where possible. Here it is crucial to work closely with the GPC and Combined Authority on the delivery of a sustainable transport plan. It will be important to sustain home-working by providing housing that allows this to happen and by developing sites for small businesses. This means taking a sensitive, sensible and sustainable approach to exception sites in and near villages whilst having a rigorous approach to green belt encroachment. Housing development officers will need to work closely with village communities and focus groups to work out what is sustainable and what enhances village life and community well being. The provision of Neighbourhood Plans and Village Design Statements will help inform developments, particularly where these are informed by considerations for the future health and sustainability of communities of all ages.

### *Diversifying the Housing Market and Accelerating Delivery*

Both Councils are committed to carrying out further research to identify the need and demand for purpose-built private sector rented housing. They are also committed to working with developers on modular built schemes and to making it possible for more self-build schemes. There will be review of planning and of outstanding planning permissions to ensure that schemes are built out in a timely manner and to the agreed design specifications. Further, there will be an exploration of what role houses of multiple occupation (HMOs) could play locally in providing an affordable housing option for single people. In addition South Cambs will seek opportunities, where viable for its investment arm, Ermine Street Housing, to be an active private sector landlord for new developments in our District, including the potential to deliver and manage HMOs. In all situations the work will be alongside local communities to secure the development they need and want.

### *Poverty, Loneliness and Health Issues*

The document recognizes the close connection between housing, health and economic well-being. Historians of housing have long documented the ways in which improvements to housing have impacted on the health and well-being of the nation, and the situation today is no exception. Both the City and South Cambs have committed to working with partners to help prevent homelessness; and to help shape the county-wide review of housing related support to ensure that Districts can continue to meet their homelessness obligations effectively. South Cambs is committed to publishing a separate Homeless Strategy this year. Both Councils will also work together to tackle the difficulties experienced by people on low incomes working to ensure an effective and affordable supply of homes to rent through the private sector. More recently some market homes provided on our own new developments have been bought back. The use of Bed and Breakfast accommodation will be kept to an absolute minimum. South Cambs is also committed to taking full account of the problems of loneliness and isolation in respect of housing provision, particularly where this affects the elderly and young people on low incomes struggling to find suitable accommodation. Housing officers are trained to deal with these situations, but more can and will be done. Housing and Health providers already work closely together but there is a commitment to strengthen these.



South Cambs District Council is also currently consulting on its Business Plan for the next five years. Details can be found at the address below, which also points to ways in which residents can give their views on the development of the plan

<http://www.scambs.gov.uk/the-council/performance-and-plans/council-plans-and-reports/council-aims-and-objectives-the-corporate-plan/>. **You are invited to comment on the plan, outlines of which are given below.**

**Our focus will be on building vibrant and healthy communities with a range of homes people can genuinely afford to live in. Our communities will have the right facilities and services and be places where people love to live, not just groups of houses.** Doubling the current rate we are building Council houses:

- Working with developers to speed up the delivery of new homes
- Supporting people to build their own homes, including on land we own
- Building thriving communities where people can live, work and play
- Making sure developments have good walking and cycling routes and public transport links
- Beginning the process to create our next plan for delivering jobs and high-quality homes
- Working closely with residents and developers to design vibrant and healthy places to live
- Helping villages create and adopt plans to shape their future
- Encouraging more people to participate in active and healthy lifestyles
- Preventing homelessness and providing support for vulnerable people
- Supporting people in receipt of Universal Credit to manage their finances
- Working with national, regional and local partners to support the needs of refugees and asylum seekers

**Helping business to grow. We will support businesses of all sizes, including rural enterprise and farming, to help create new jobs and opportunities near to where people live.**

- Making it easy to do business in South Cambridgeshire
- Supporting growth in the area
- Creating a single point of contact for businesses into the Council
- Making the planning process easier for businesses
- Working more closely with business to ensure we understand and meet their needs
- Helping small and growing businesses access work space
- Identifying and addressing the skills needed by local businesses
- Creating more jobs by welcoming businesses to South Cambridgeshire
- Supporting and promoting the local visitor economy
- Working with partners to improve transport links between where people live and work
- Working with partners to improve rural broadband and connectivity
- Understanding and supporting businesses through Brexit

**We will put the environment at the centre of everything we do to create a cleaner, greener future for our communities.**

- Increasing the amount of green energy generated locally
- Improving the energy efficiency of our premises and Council houses
- Investing in green energy initiatives
- Raising the environmental standards of new homes
- Maintaining and improving air quality
- Making sure new developments are green
- Working with partners to provide environmentally friendly transport
- Supporting and promoting community transport

- Ensuring the proposed East West rail line fully considers the environment
- Tackling fly tipping
- Reducing the amount of waste produced
- Increasing the amount and quality of recycling
- Using more environmentally friendly alternatives to avoidable single use plastics in our offices
- Helping businesses and schools to use more environmentally friendly alternatives to avoidable single use plastics

### **Cambridge Northern Fringe East (CNFE)**

We have reported on this project before, but a short reminder is perhaps in order. There will be much more to report in the future if and when a Housing Infrastructure Bid to central government comes good. In the near future (8<sup>th</sup> January) there is to be a briefing in the City. Details from that will be presented verbally at the meeting of the Fulbourn PC on 9<sup>th</sup> Jan.

The first proposals for this area were put forward in early 2015 but at that time it seemed impractical to consider developing the site because of the proximity of the Wastewater Treatment Centre. More recently a HIF bid has been made, to enable development of housing on sites previously deemed to be too difficult to develop. This bid has passed the first stage and the next stage is to prepare a new Issues and Options Report, which will review and respond to the main points raised during the consultation on the first Issues and Options Report in 2015, the adoption of the Cambridge (City) and South Cambridgeshire Local Plans and consider any additional evidence. It is anticipated that the draft Area Action Plan will be available for public consultation in Spring 2019.

If successful this area could become a leading example of a mixed development at the junction of City and South Cambs using new technologies to enhance work and living, with excellent transport links in several directions. There should be many benefits to developing a residential area within walking distance of employment, Cambridge Regional College and public transport but as the development will focus on public transport and car-free living, it will be important from the start to ensure that transport from the area to other parts of the District is adequate and appropriate, with particular emphasis on ensuring good connectivity across and along the A14, and the development of better rail links. It is important in all of this that the eastern edge of the District (our Ward) is catered for. The development will be challenging, but if brought to a successful conclusion could have significant beneficial long-term effects for the whole area.

Lighting. Following a direct approach from a resident in Windmill Lane/Farmer's Row just before Christmas, concerning lighting there being out of action for some months, and a lack of response from Accent Housing to the resident, contact was made with Accent. There had been attempts at repairs but without sufficient equipment. We understand that work will be carried out within the next week, both here and in the Swifts. We believe a separate request was made concerning the Swifts in conjunction with an approach to Cllr Cone.

Housing. Work will begin on the Balsham Road housing development in February. Delays on this were due to a number of factors, including communications between lawyers, property agents, Accent and South Cambs. As always in these cases no one element should be singled out. On the plus side, the planners are being careful to ensure that the vernacular architectural detailing on the buildings, in a sensitive location at the entrance to the village, will be respected, and the landscaping element of the scheme be carried out fully.

Neighbourhood Plan. We continue to contribute to the Neighbourhood Plan group and will report on our part in this, as necessary and appropriate, from the NP meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> January. We have also been following closely the progress of the Village Design Statement group and were pleased to be present when the Fulbourn submission was commended at a Design meeting at South Cambs in December.

Claire Daunton ([cllr.daunton@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.daunton@scambs.gov.uk)) 07905 473395

John Williams ([John.Williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:John.Williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk))

### **Item 106.3**

#### District Councillor report to Parish Council January 2019

## **Happy New Year**

### Additional loan funding for the Cambridge ice rink

The Council has approved additional loan funding of up to £550,000 to enable the completion of a permanent ice rink in South Cambridgeshire. The District Council had already agreed in September 2016 to provide a £1.85 million loan to Cambridge Leisure and Ice Centre (CLIC) for the new venue, which is being built off Newmarket Road on the edge of Cambridge. The 56 metre by 26 metre ice pad will meet the requirements of the International Ice Hockey Federation, allowing visiting teams from around the world to play ice hockey.

Building work began in November 2017. However, progress was halted following the discovery of 194 small grenades dating back to World War II. Specialist contractors had to be brought in to assess the entire site and ensure it was safe for construction to continue. Building work recommenced in late January of that year, but the delay resulted in further costs. The Council's loan funding will only be released in stages as phases of work are completed.

I have always been in favour of this project and voted accordingly as I believe this project, once complete, will be of community value to South Cambridgeshire residents and provide SCDC with a revenue stream via the interest paid on the loan over the long term. All the money raised via interest payments back to SCDC can then be used to provide frontline services to residents in the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward and across SCDC. Other entrepreneurial schemes, such as Ermine Street Housing, (which is now bringing in 10% of the Council's income), have proven successful in generating money meaning councillors don't need to source money from additional taxes, or make additional cuts to front line services.

### Target to cut local carbon emissions to zero by 2050

The District Council has unanimously backed a motion proposing that "South Cambs shows responsible climate leadership by supporting the transition to zero carbon by 2050 in the next Local Plan." As a result, South Cambridgeshire's next Local Plan will consider how new homes, jobs and services will support that commitment. This will be a joint local plan with Cambridge City Council, which has adopted a similar aim. The next plan will look at ways South Cambridgeshire District Council can press for a carbon-free area through the design of homes and other buildings, land use including open space, transport links, energy supplies and waste and recycling services.

We live in one of the fastest growing areas of the UK therefore we must find ways to reduce carbon emissions associated with new development. Greener developments could be built around railway stations, rather than trying to add public transport in later – when it is more expensive, and the possible choices are more limited.

It seems a major target to aim for in only 31 years, but technology will enable it to be achieved while enhancing rather than sacrificing economic growth. Regions that try to preserve environmentally harmful industries, such as those based on coal or oil, will find themselves limited by technological backwardness. For example, Germany generates nearly half its electricity from coal, compared to less than seven percent (and falling rapidly) in the UK.

### Scrutiny of Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy

As a member of the SCDC scrutiny committee we were asked to scrutinise the greater Cambridge Housing Strategy being put forward to Full Council in February. The housing strategy which is jointly composed with Cambridge City will aim to pave the way to future delivery of homes set out in the Local Plan (which is also composed jointly with the City). The housing strategy should look at how communities are developed and new housing stock meets the requirements that are needed, whether that be housing mix, affordability, provision for the elderly and disabled, technology, future proofing and character etc.

The Scrutiny committee raised a number of questions and comments regarding the draft of the Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy (the minutes are available on the SCDC website for the meeting that took place on the 18<sup>th</sup> December). It has always been the Council's target to have 40% affordable housing on new developments where viability permits. This high target is necessary due to the very high cost of living within SCDC. I would like the council going forward to continue to have a target of 40% and I think of that 40% we need to be careful in the distribution of the split between rental – shared equity- starter homes etc. The Conservative group has also commented on the absence of static homes in the strategy and more emphasis might be put on housing for the disabled. The housing strategy is out for consultation until the 25<sup>th</sup> January 2019. Please feel free to go online and have your say.

### Conservative motion put forward at Full Council

The following motion was put forward at Full Council by Conservative Councillor Grenville Chamberlain.

*This Council has a well-earned reputation for being effective and efficient, as a peer review carried out two years ago confirmed. Its officers are hard-working and enterprising. The Liberal Democrat Leader and Cabinet have decided to spend £50,000 on management consultants to decide "how the Council could best focus on delivering its priorities". This Council is disappointed that the resources of the council's senior management are not being used to this purpose, and regards the decision as indicative of a lack of leadership and purpose, and calls for the money to be re-allocated to delivery of front-line services.*

I supported this motion as I believe to spend £50,000 on consultancy to tell the new administration what their priorities should be is a waste of tax payer's money when we have highly skilled officers and a management team commanding large salaries who are in place to deliver on the council's priorities. The Conservative group has offered to undertake this consultancy for free but as we thought this may be unpalatable. We did suggest some more serious alternatives, such as a peer review conducted free of charge by another authority or explore the Local Government Association. I strongly believe it is politicians that should be setting priorities, not consultants from outside South Cambridgeshire. This motion was not supported by the Liberal Democrats, thus voted down.

### **Road Sweeping in Fen Ditton**

Following Fen Ditton's Parish Council request to have a number of roads swept due to debris built up on the curb side, I contacted and met with the officer in charge of road sweeping to indicate the work necessary to be carried out. I am pleased to say this work was completed shortly before the festive period.

### **Development of New Dwelling in The Six Bells Pub Garden**

I was very disappointed to see this application get passed by delegated powers, as will many residents. It is my opinion that this was an awful application which will have an impact on our village's High Street for all the reasons that I have discussed in the past. I remain adamant that this application should have been taken to committee as Parish Councillors, Fulbourn Forum, residents and myself had called for. The administration decided not to bring this to committee so we will never know what the outcome of that committee may have been. However, I think there would have been a high chance of that committee sharing our objections to this particular application and I would have happily spoken out against it given the opportunity. I am not against development, per se, and as you know I support or oppose applications in the village based on their merit but this particular one is a shame.

*Thank you for taking the time to read my report; if you have any questions or want to discuss any of the issues raised email me on [graham.cone@councillor.online](mailto:graham.cone@councillor.online) or ring 07595361285 (please leave a voice mail if I am unavailable)*

***Councillor Graham Cone***

### **Item 114**

**MINUTES OF RECREATION GROUND WORKING PARTY HELD ON 8<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019**

- 1 Present: Gill Ward, Polly Butt, Ian Still, David Smith, John Pearce.
  - 2 Apologies: Robert Lacey and Richard Drage
  - 3 Minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> September were agreed.
  - 4 Dog Fouling. It is getting worse with some dog walkers clearing up after others. Suggest an article in the Pump, monitor and talk to dog walkers.
  - 5 It was proposed that club donations for 19/20 would be increased by 2.5%:-  
Football £1346, Cricket £431, Tennis £323, and Bowls £243.
  - 6 Landmark. A member spoke of greater use by the school last summer. A donation should be forthcoming and reminder may be needed.
  - 7 Dent. CCTV had been installed and we seem to be having fewer problems.
  - 8 Car park light to be repaired by David.
  - 9 Richard Drage to arrange spraying.
  - 10 New padlocks in place ensuring keys cannot be copied.
  - 11 Public tennis courts would be resurfaced later 2019. Sports Development Officer has suggested Netball markings for walking netball.
  - 12 Bowls store lock needs replacing and the door is in a poor state. Equipment inside worth £10,000. Cost of repair £1200 with the Bowls prepared to assist.
  - 13 Chairs in the pavilion are in a bad state. 20 new ones needed at cost of c£600. Cricket/Bowls may contribute.
  - 14 Cricket/Tennis have yet to make their contribution to the CCTV. They are ready to pay.
  - 15 AOB Much discussion re shed/shelter on Bowls Green. JP to attend March PC with proposal.
- Tennis Club requested notice at end of drive. They are prepared to meet cost if approved.

Date of next meeting - Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019, 7pm