

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

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman), and Councillors Cone, Dawson, Gaskell, Hinton, Johnson, Lacey, Smith, Thorn and Ward, District Councillor Daunton and the Clerk.

	<b>Action</b>
<p>There will be a Planning Meeting of the Council commencing at <u>7pm</u> prior to Full Council at Fulbourn Hub. This was taken at the end of the Full Council meeting.</p> <p><b>61. To accept apologies for absence.</b> Councillor Brown – Illness and County and District Councillor Williams who was attending another meeting. Councillor Lockwood was absent.</p> <p><b>62. 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> No one present.</p> <p><b>63. To receive reports from County and District Councillors.</b> 63.1 County Councillor Williams issued the attached report prior to the meeting. 63.2 District Councillors Williams and Daunton issued the attached report which Cllr Daunton briefly went through some points. 63.3 District Councillor Cone issued the attached report. All reports were accepted.</p> <p><b>64 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>65 Matters arising from the last meeting.</b> 65.1 <u>New Community Building</u>. Royal Mail has confirmed the address as Fulbourn Hub, Home End; new buildings are fitted with fibre cabling for telephone lines. To keep the same telephone number will entail copper cabling to be fitted with costs running into thousands of pounds. Another option which has been decided is to change the number with callers receiving a message of the new number to redial at no cost to them. Council awaits a date for this to be completed. The safe has been moved to the new building courtesy of Cllr Lacey who was thanked by Members. 65.2 <u>Mobile Speeding Device</u>. This is currently in Birdfarm Road having recently been located in Pierce Lane. 65.3 <u>Remembrance Service</u>. The portable hand rail has been completed and will assist those attending the service in November. 65.4 <u>Low Carbon Grant</u>. Cllrs Cone and Ward met to consider this further and will be finalising the grant application ready for submission in the next few days. 65.5 <u>Shopper Bus</u>. The three-month trial to visit the library for refreshments is due to commence on 10/10/19 then on the first Thursday until December. Cllr Drage will meet parishioners at the library. 65.6 <u>MUGA</u>. The re-surfacing has been completed. Some spare materials will be collected on 15/10/19. 66.6 <u>Pierce Lane</u>. Repairs to the wall near 2-6 Pierce Lane have been completed and the Clerk has asked the agents to thank the landlord for dealing with this. 66.7 <u>Parish Planning Forum</u>. Cllr Smith attended this event at Cambourne on 25/09/19. He said there was a difficulty in recruiting staff which Cllr Daunton added was a national problem. 66.8 <u>SCDC, Tree Event</u>. Cllr ward attended this event held at Horningsea on 1/10/19. Fulbourn ranks low when it comes to canopy tree cover.</p>	<p><b>GC/GW</b></p> <p><b>MD</b></p>

<p><b>66 Neighbourhood Plan.</b> Results of the questionnaire sent out in July were received. The next meeting will be held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm.</p>	<p><b>1400</b></p>
<p><b>67 Removal of Public Telephone kiosk, Cambridge Road.</b> There has only been one call made from this kiosk in the last year. Council has until the end of October 2019 to respond, and will consult with Cllr Williams who had previously felt the village should have at least one kiosk in case of emergency.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>68 Armistice Close – Wording on name plate.</b> Cllr Thorn suggested “Named by FPC to commemorate the Centenary of the ending of WW1” which was approved by the Council.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>
<p><b>69 Willow Trees – Poor Well.</b> Cllrs Gaskell and Ward have both donated Willow trees to be planted at Poor Well. Members thanked them for their kind gesture.</p>	
<p><b>70 Tree works:</b> S/3160/19/TC, 6 Cow Lane – T1, Quercus robur and T2, Populus alba – crown reduce 2-3m; S/3236/19/TC, 18 Home End – Cherry Laurel and Cherry Plum, remove both to just above ground level and Beech hedge, reduce all to 5m above ground level; plant new Tilia henryana. S/3282/19/TP, 6 Manor Walk – Crown lift 3 x Hornbeams, two to 3m above ground level and one to 4½m above ground level and a Silver Birch to crown lift 3m above ground level. No objections. S/3481/19/TC, 56 Pierce Lane – Mature Yew; reduce height by one third and Mature Conifer; remove and plant smaller more suitable tree. Disclaimer: Fulbourn Parish Council Tree Officer and the Parish Council accept no liability for the advice given above.</p>	
<p><b>71 Correspondence.</b> The following items received this month: - 71.1 CCC – IHMC (Integrated Highways Management Centre), August and September 2019 Incident Reports. 71.2 Cambridge Open Art – Exhibition at Swavesey Village College, 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2019. 71.3 CCC – Cambridgeshire Matters September 2019 newsletter. 71.4 CCC – Street works planned in The High Street between 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019 during 08.00 – 17.00 hours to install a new electricity supply, excavate and reinstate joint bay and 2m trench in tarmac footway. 71.5 CAPALC – September 2019 Bulletin. 71.6 Cambridge Open Art – Exhibition on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at Swavesey Village College, 6.30pm to 9pm. 71.7 CCC – Cambridgeshire Matters, September 2019 Newsletter. 71. 8 BizBike – Cambridge Electric Transport (CET) wish to work with Parish Councils to introduce e-bikes services to villages. Grants possible from SCDC Zero Carbon Fund as annual charge of each bike and storage would be over £3k. This was declined by the Council. 71.9 SCDC – September 2019 Parish Ebulletin. 71.10 CCC – Road closure notification on Yarrow Road for white lining, resurfacing and maintenance works on Saturday nights only. Times and dates: 23.00hrs 29/2/20 – 11.00hrs 1/3/20 and 23.00hrs 7/3/20 – 09.00hrs 8/3/20. 71.11 Resident – Asking for more stringent measures to persuade dog owners to control their dogs when on the recreation ground; Despite notices at each entrance, one dog owner in particular is unwilling and unhelpful in controlling their terrier which is causing problems. The Clerk has spoken to the resident explaining the history of applying for a Dog Control Order and that there is a Public Right of Way running through the recreation ground, however other people may have experienced problems with the same dog, so measures could be taken if witnesses and evidence is provided. 71.12 CCVS (Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service) – September 2019 funding alert and October 2019 newsletter. 71.13 SCDC – Cambridge East Community Forum on 16/10/19 about Marleigh Phase 1A,</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>

from 6.30pm Room 4, C3 Centre, 2 Brooks Road opposite Sainsbury's. See Item 63.2. Cllr Smith will attend.

71.14 **CCC** – Local Highways Open Day at Whittlesford on Tuesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 between 10am – 3pm.

71.15 **SCDC** – Looking to upgrade footways lights to LED by March 2021. Sent a list of those in Fulbourn including ornate/heritage lights. As the Parish Council is looking to replace heritage lights like-for-like, we will consult further with SCDC.

71.16 **Community Car Scheme** – Donation request of £100 p.a. to support vital web programme. Cllr Ward proposed we make this annual donation, proposal seconded by Cllr Cone and agreed by the Council.

71. 17 **Neighbourhood Plan** – Agenda for next meeting on 14/10/19 together with Minutes from previous meeting received.

## **72 To resolve the accounts for the month.**

Wages: Clerk plus expenses.....1,137.16	Wages: Pavilion Cleaner.....136.00
Wages: Swifts Cleaner.....176.00	Urban Silence: Fees.....1,800.00
HP: Monthly ink supplies.....3.49	Shaws Ltd: Cemetery books.....302.40R
Konica: Photocopies.....102.78	Charles Lawrence: Tennis courts.....4,118.40
Sharp PLC: Photocopier.....342.28	S Danischewsky: Fees.....816.00R
Echo: Hand rails.....576.00R	CJ Murfitt Ltd: New Building.....29,065.80R
G White Joinery: Desk.....3,120.00	Front Row: New chairs.....989.39
Fosse: MUGA carpet.....48,888.00	Camb Water: Cemetery rates.....16.86
Algar: Hub lettering.....831.72	Daisy: Mobile.....15.41
e-on: Pavilion electricity.....410.02	

Cllr Thorn proposed accepting the accounts, proposal seconded by Cllr Lacey and agreed by the Council.

Quotations for tree works for The Haven and the Recreation Ground had been received.

Following discussion, Cllr Ward proposed accepting Gardenworks for The Haven and SP Landscapes for the Recreation Ground. Proposal seconded by Cllr Cone and agreed by the Council.

## **73 Council Committees.**

Communications Committee.

Minutes of a meeting held on 24/9/19 were issued and accepted.

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

Recreation Ground Users' Policy.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 8.50 pm.

**Planning Meeting** of Fulbourn Parish Council: Present Councillor Smith (Chairman) and Councillors Cone, Drage, Dawson, Gaskell, Johnson, Lacey, Thorn and Ward.

Apologies for Absence: Cllrs Brown and Hinton. Cllr Lockwood was absent.

### **To consider planning applications.**

**Permissions:** S/2542/19/FL, 2 Dogget Lane;

S/2579/19/FL, Railway Cottage, Fulbourn Old Drift.

S/2751/19/FL, 16 Pierce Lane.

**Amendment:** S/2594/19/FL, 8 The Chantry – Loft conversion within increase in ridge height, front and rear extensions. Concerns over the height of the roofline changing the character of the cul-de-sac in a Conservation Area. This has been highlighted in view of the numerous bungalows in Station Road all having varying rooflines/styles that are totally out of character with the original designs. Recommendation objects.

**Information only:** S/3426/19/DC, 1A Impett's Lane – Discharge of condition 3 (Contamination) to planning permission S/0478/19/FL.

### **New applications:**

S/3037/19/FL, 5 Dogget Lane – Single storey garage and studio; Supports

**1401**

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

**Clerk**

S/3276/19/FL, 23 Teasel Way – Proposed two storey side and rear extension; Supports  
S/3322/19/FL, 63 Caraway Road – Single storey rear extension. Supports  
S/3254/19/LD, 20 Pierce Lane – Certificate of lawful development for the change of use from a redundant first floor space within Class A1 to a mixed use for any purpose with class A1 (Shops) and the use of 2 flats under Class G.  
S/3332/19/FL, 40 Pierce Lane – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 2 detached dwelling houses.  
Concerns in respect of the boundary with 38 Pierce Lane – the garage will dominate the rear of 38 Pierce Lane as it appears to be in very close proximity and the height has not been indicated on the drawings (no measurements shown).  
Previous planning applications for tree removal have been granted on the basis of letting more light into the existing property which has totally changed the character of the conservation area.  
The drop-down kerb is not sufficient for 2 houses – only for pedestrian purposes at present.  
Concerns regarding contactors traffic on the narrowest part of Pierce Lane which is also a bus route.  
The nature of the size of the houses does not potentially provide affordable houses in the village. Recommendation objects.

S/3356/19/FL, 1 The Drive, Fulbourn Hospital, Cambridge Road – Internal alterations and construction of 2 no. two storey extensions to existing building. Supports.

S/3290/19/RM, Land east of Teversham Road – Approval of matters reserved for appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following outline planning permission S/0202/17/OL for the development of 110 dwellings with areas of landscaping and public open space and associated works. The outline was screened and confirmed not to be EIA development; A separate Planning Meeting will be held to discuss this application on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 at 7pm in the Scout Hall.

Attached reports:

### **Item 63.1**

## **County Councillor Report to Fulbourn Parish Council**

1. Over eight million pieces of packaging have been made out of recycled material in the last six months thanks to the recycling efforts of Cambridgeshire residents. At the beginning of the year a UK first was launched between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership (RECAP) and Cambridgeshire based plastic packaging company Charpak Ltd to see plastic waste collected across the county sorted, recycled, cleaned and re-manufactured into new products that can be recycled again and again. During its first six months over 200 recycling trucks of plastic waste has been collected (over 1500 tonnes), 199 of which has been recycled and re-processed within the UK. 215 tonnes of this material has been returned to Charpak to manufacture packaging made from the recycled material. In total 1000 tonnes of Cambridgeshire's plastic waste has been re-used by packaging manufacturers across the UK.

2. Take part in the consultation [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/chargingfor-care-yoursay](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/chargingfor-care-yoursay)  
A consultation on proposals to increase adult social care charging has gone live. Cambridgeshire County Council's Adults Committee considered carefully the plans before voting to consult on the proposed changes. The plans to change the adult social care charging policy would bring Cambridgeshire County Council into line with the majority of other local authorities. The alternative would be a reduction in the overall budget available to meet care needs or a reduction in prevention and support services that help keep people living as independently as possible. Many people who receive social care from Cambridgeshire County Council receive disability benefits which are paid specifically by the Government to help meet the costs of their care and support. Since the introduction of the Care Act 2014, councils have been allowed to charge for certain non-statutory adult social care services and take into account some disability benefits when charging. The majority of councils across the country have subsequently introduced such changes. Cambridgeshire County Council reviewed its charging policy two years ago and made no changes at that time. However, since then the financial situation has changed, other councils have made further changes, and the pressure on our adult social care budget has significantly increased. If the policy changes were to be adopted after the consultation, then the Council would ensure that any changes include protections to reduce the impact on

the most vulnerable. The Council would also retain discretion to review the impact on an individual case-by-case basis and make appropriate adjustments.

3. The St Ives Park & Ride Smart Energy Grid will be a 'first of its kind' in the UK, paving the way for future green energy projects. The project will install carports above the two central car parking sections, to which solar panels will be fitted. These panels will generate renewable electricity - powering not only the site, but also electric vehicle charging points and local businesses in the years to come. Construction is expected to start in early 2020 and will take up to one year to complete. The carpark will remain open during this time, with construction work being carefully coordinated to minimise the impact on users of the site.

John Williams  
3 October 2019

## Item 63.2

### Report of District Councillors Claire Daunton and John Williams to Fulbourn Parish Council October 2019

This report contains factual information which we hope will be of interest and of use to the parish council and the wider village community. Please contact us at [cllr.daunton@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.daunton@scambs.gov.uk) or [john.williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:john.williams@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) if you have any queries or need further information.

### Current Issues

1. Ice Rink. The official opening, organised by the University's Alumni Office, took place on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September. It was a good occasion. It was noted that the venue has been supported by the University, Marshall's Ltd and South Cambs, along with numerous private alumni donors, many of whom were present at the opening. All three District Councillors were present and Councillor Williams, as Lead Member Finance, spoke on behalf of South Cambs. A grand public opening, with a display of skating by professionals, took place on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September. Various preview tours of the building, with use of facilities, have been arranged for local organisations. We are pleased that the agreement of an additional loan from SCDC has enabled the rink to be completed, providing an important facility for leisure and well-being in the District as a whole, and in our Ward in particular.
2. Paths in Swifts Corner. Agreement has now finally been reached with Accent housing concerning the two footpaths on Swifts Corner leading to Chaplin's Close. It is intended that these will be repaired or upgraded so that they provide safe routes between the rear of Chaplin's Close and Swifts Corner. It is understood that this work will be done as soon as the relevant paperwork with Accent is completed and discussions with Highways are concluded.
3. Teversham Road. A reserved matters planning application has been received with a deadline for comments of 31<sup>st</sup> October. Meetings are being held in Fulbourn concerning this application, particularly relating to the mix of housing and its suitability for the site: there are a number of questions to be posed here. We are attending these meetings and will report regularly as this site progresses. We will bring any further updates to your meeting.
4. Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Daunton attended a meeting at South Cambs at which members of the NP committee took advice from South Cambs planning officers. Councillor Cone had planned to attend but the date of the meeting had to be changed to accommodate planning officers. The meeting was focused and helpful: advice was provided on the content and general shape of the

plan and there were some helpful remarks on the number and content of policies and on the timetable. Mr Ward writes in more detail in his report to the Parish Council this month.

5. Zero Carbon Grants Scheme. We have attended two presentations concerning this scheme, launched in early August with a closing date of 31<sup>st</sup> October. If the parish council is putting in an application – and we believe it is - you might wish to bear in mind the need to emphasise community engagement. Costs of Community-Action days or of targeted publicity can be included in the application. This is a new scheme linked to one of our administration’s key priorities – Being Green to the Core – and we hope the parish council is successful in its bid. For further information: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/community-development/grants/zero-carbon-communities-grant/>.
6. A14 Upgrade. Members of the A14-upgrade management team made a presentation to District councillors on 10<sup>th</sup> September. We learned that the scheme is divided into 6 sections with each section having a different focus and deadline. Some of these sections, including major areas of new road and adjacent slip roads, are complete and have been opened, even if only partially. The most complex sections – 5 and 6 – are those closest to the City and those closest to our Ward. These are not due for completion until late next year. We will, however, see some benefits of the whole scheme in the near future. In answer to questions concerning signage, lighting, redirection, night-time working and slip-road closures, the management team were constructive in seeking more information and being willing to respond to concerns. There are teams patrolling the length of the widening area throughout each day. The team currently hold consultations and information events regularly and in different places. We were also told about the extent of the archaeological and nature conservancy work, and in relation to the latter the A14 scheme has won an award. They encouraged feedback from parish councils and individual residents across the District.
7. Marleigh development (Marshall’s site) SCHOOL. This is the site know previously as Wing, between Newmarket Road and Fen Ditton. Following from our report last time on the granting of planning permission for phase I – housing, community buildings and school – there was a separate application for the building containing the primary school and nursery provision. This application was refused by the Joint Development Control Committee on two grounds: the position of the parking area for scooters and cycles in relation to the main entrance was deemed not to be safe; there were insufficient arrangements for cooling on one side of the building where large glazed areas were likely to provide too much heat gain. The applicant, Anglia Learning Trust, was asked to make a revised application.
8. Marleigh (Wing) General Information. This major development, amongst several others in our Ward, including those in Fulbourn which are designated as ‘strategic sites’, will be considered at the **Community East Forum, due to take place on 16<sup>th</sup> October at C3 Community Church, Coldham’s Lane, 6.30-8.30pm**. District and City councillors, planning and community officers will be present, speaking and answering questions. It is intended to have a poster display with a ‘drop-in’ time for residents to look at plans and ask questions of individuals before the more formal meeting begins. The Parish Council will have received formal notice of this event and flyers are being distributed to residents. The last such Forum, organised by the City in this case, took place in

the same venue on 12<sup>th</sup> June. Some residents of Fulbourn were present. We would welcome attendance at the meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> October which will be led by South Cambs. The agenda will be sent out in the coming week and will also be posted on the City and South Cambs websites under 'Community Forum East'. There

### **Major Housing Developments**

In addition to the developments in and around Fulbourn, to be covered in the Community Forum East meeting, there is another significant area of proposed development: the North East Fringe Development (NEFD).

This is the large 160-hectare site adjacent to Cambridge North station and along the A14 for which there is government funding for housing and for renewal of the site more generally.

Following our report to the last meeting of the parish council, we contacted relevant planning officers for dates of consultation meetings with parish councils. There are several layers of consultation proceeding at present, both in South Cambs and the City. Although this site is not immediately adjacent to Fulbourn, there will be strategic implications in due course since the development of the site will have an impact on transport infrastructure and will involve the moving of the areas main water treatment plant. We will be keeping you

Beyond those meetings, the Draft Area Action Plan is due to go through its Committee Processes in December and January, and then out to formal public consultation in February and March next year.

### **Planning: Preparing the Next Local Plan**

South Cambs and the City are continuing their work on preparation of the next Local Plan.

This work involves many layers of detailed work as well as many different levels of consultation. Planners are making every effort to consult widely and in the most appropriate manner. Feedback from the first-level consultations has been positive and helpful. The first formal consultation on issues and options for the joint plan is taking place now – Autumn 2019 – with submission of the plan due in Summer 2022 and an anticipated date of adoption in Summer 2023. The Issues and Options Consultation (IOC) is the first stage towards preparing the new Local Plan but is not the actual plan. The IOC stage is intended to explore the opportunity to inform, not shape, the direction of the plan before it is drafted. The Local Plan deals with a range of issues not just housing or infrastructure projects: it covers jobs, health and well being and the delivery of quality spaces, as well.

### Preparation for IOC

Officers have made progress in a number of areas to start the Local Plan process. They have been formulating approaches on: Governance, Lessons learned and good practice review; initial

stakeholder engagement via workshops; drafting the Issues and Options document; gathering supporting evidence; communications and engagement plan Full details of all these approaches can be found in the very good report prepared by the Greater Cambridge Planning Service. A Joint Local Plan Advisory Group has been formed to take this forward.

<https://democracy.cambridge.gov.uk/documents/s47421/191001%20-%20LPAG%20-%20Item%202%20-%20Local%20Plan%20Issues%20Options%20report.pdf>

The report notes that meetings have already been held with a wide range of groups, asking these various groups to identify the key issues facing Greater Cambridge over the next 20 years or so. These discussions inform the direction of the Issues and Options process as part of the development of the Local Plan. Planning and Communications officers are now planning 'roadshows' and other public events aimed at consulting members of the public who might feel they are not represented by or within the normal stakeholder groupings.

The purpose of the IOC is to begin a wider consultation about the kind of place we want the Greater Cambridge area to be in the future in a way that is accessible to everyone. A dedicated, visually-engaging website is being set up which will be easy to navigate and will allow users to both put in quick comments and to engage in a more detailed way. A draft text has already been prepared taking account of some early consultations and comments, and addressing the key objectives of both Councils. This draft text puts forward some over-arching themes for comment and sets out the conceptual spatial choices available for the development strategy. The overarching themes, set out below, have drawn on feedback from the workshops conducted so far and also address the key objectives of the two Councils including climate change and biodiversity:

Responding to climate change

Increasing biodiversity and green spaces

Promoting well-being and equality

Delivering quality spaces

Jobs

Homes

Infrastructure.

Each theme is examined in the same way:

What are we required to do in the Local Plan

What are we doing already

Key Issues

Questions

The text does not set out any firm proposals for land use or policy as this will be done at the draft stage in 2020, when a draft Local Plan, informed by comments received at this IOC stage, will come into play. The text at this IOC stages does, however, highlight the potential scale of growth in homes and jobs that should be planned for, based on existing information.



There is a wealth of additional information available on the steps towards forming a local plan. Much of it is easily accessible from the Councils' website and will be of interest.

**NB.** The South Cambs Communications Team is very keen to reach more informal groups of local people who might not perhaps attend parish council meetings or other local groups, and have asked us to let them know of any local meetings or events at which planners might be in attendance or might provide written material for people to collect. We have already provided details of Fulbourn Forum events – including the Community Market – but if there are any other events, then please do let us know so we can inform the Comms team and they can make contact as appropriate.

### **Scrutiny and Overview Committee**

This cross-party committee meets every month and carries out pre-scrutiny of decisions and policies before they go to the Cabinet and, thence (if appropriate) to Full Council. Councillors Cone and Daunton are member; Councillor Williams attends as Lead Member Finance. Over the past 16 months it has considered a very wide range of significant issues, informing key decisions and helping to formulate policy. We have reported on many of these at various stages. At its last meeting it considered, amongst many, two ongoing issues which we feel it might have some more general interest for you:

- (i) Investment Strategy. All Councils are now asked to look at investing to provide income for the provision of crucial services. The levels and choices of investment are governed by national guidance and by local rules and local constitutional framework. In the light of recent failures in local government (Northampton and Spelthorne, for example) councils have been warned to have robust investment processes. South Cambs has adopted a robust decision-making process involving officers and members, that both enables quick investment decisions, with any relevant confidentiality preserved, to be made where necessary, whilst allowing for longer-term investment proposals to be considered at a different pace. There is also the recognition of the need to have a diverse portfolio that reflects local conditions and one that continually tracks local conditions. A further very important consideration is the Council's commitment to ethical and particularly zero-carbon- informed decisions. Work in this area is particularly significant. It was noted at the committee that the purpose of the investments was to serve the needs of the Community of South Cambs.
- (ii) Asset Register and Asset Management. Significant work is going on to bring the Council's Asset Register up to date. It was last the subject of major work in 2007, with some updating done in 2013. It is now time for a major revision of this area of work and for South Cambs to register, value and insure all its assets, from car parks to small areas of green spaces, to garages as well as other types of property and pieces of infrastructure. Having registered

these assets it is then possible, where necessary, to have a discussion on how best to use them for community value and to raise income. Often these kind of exercises highlight spaces hitherto somewhat neglected for which more appropriate uses can be found and more benefit provided to the local community.

---

At a forthcoming meeting Scrutiny and Overview will be looking in detail at the Shared Planning Service and we will report on that. There have been several notices recently concerning Planning, including in the Press, but we will aim to report to a future PC meeting on the factual details that come out of the Scrutiny discussion.

---

### **Item 63.3**

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

##### My South Cambs web portal

As you know from my previous report I highlighted the customer contact centre as almost 10,000 residents in the first 2 months of the year did not have their phone calls answered. One of the important things aside from having enough staff to answer the phones is that more people move where possible to My South Cambs web portal for information.

There are nine categories of personalised information that can be viewed: council tax, benefits, bins & recycling, elections (e.g. polling places), planning, environment (e.g. fly-tipping, abandoned vehicles, dog fouling and noise), highways, complaints and the customer portal itself. In the next section there are 45 types of report that can be submitted, which range from applying for Housing Benefit or a Home Improvement Grant, to reporting a missed bin collection or a broken street sign.

The functionality is still at an early stage, with some forms requesting your name or postcode - information that was provided as part of the registration. There are plans to improve this, for example the postcode will automatically customise the bin collection calendar from this October.

Although the uptake has initially been slow I think the Council is doing a good job at starting to publicise this service both on the website and nudging people when they go to carry out certain tasks. This service should be by no means a replacement for our customer contact centre or an excuse for its poor performance but I do believe in the future this will help our residents to access the information they need quickly so I fully support the council moving this service forward. Please when residents come to you as parish councillors remind them that this service is available. I myself have registered and can see the potential that this service will have in the future to help our residents to get things done. Spread the word throughout the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward.

##### Greater Cambridge Greenways consultation launched

Plans to provide better walking, cycling and equestrian routes between Cambridge and its surrounding villages to the North East of the city will now be consulted on. Of interest to the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward the Bottisham and Horningsea routes are part of this network to be consulted on. The six week consultation was launched by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) on the 16<sup>th</sup> September and will run for six weeks closing on the 28<sup>th</sup> October. If parish councillors in the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward would like to comment I have left you the link below.

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/bottisham-swaffham-horningsea-greenways>

## New cycle stands being installed through the Greater Cambridge Partnership

The GCP will be installing 79 new cycle lockers across the Park and Ride sites and 77 new cycle stands around the city to make it easier for people to securely lock up their bike in the city when they have cycled in from outside. As someone that cycles from Fulbourn to the city fairly regularly I know that it is becoming almost as bad as parking a car to park your bike in the city. With the GCP improving cycleways and putting in cycle greenways at the cost of millions of pounds to encourage people from our ward to cycle into the city I was pleased to see cycle parking considered in the first instance. Having attended some of the cycle campaign meetings in the past I know this issue has been raised on numerous occasions.

## SCDC Councillor pay increases

You will have seen press releases from both SCDC's communications team and The Cambridge News on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> September that SCDC councillors voted on member allowances. A report carried out for the Council suggested that councillors should have a 2% increase on basic allowances and various committee positions (Chairs, deputy Chairs, members of certain committees) should receive much higher allowances than they currently are receiving and should be able to claim two special allowances as opposed to one. I voted against this as it had always been our policy when running the Council that councillors get exactly the same pay increase as the staff, no more, no less. This member allowance settlement will mean most councillors will get an increase far bigger than the staff, with the leader of the council getting an increase of 35% for example.

Despite myself and my group and other opposition parties voting against this proposal it was voted through by the administration. I accept there are good arguments on both sides for increasing councillor allowances but at a time when staff are seeing modest increases (1% or 2% over the last couple of years) I have always felt it wrong to support anything higher and I believe this proposal is increasing councillor allowances through the back door via smoke and mirrors which is wrong and has backfired because the newspapers have exposed it for what it is.

## Combined Authority search for new recruits to drive regional enterprise

The Combined Authority is looking for new members to take a seat at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's top business table to implement this area's local industrial strategy (LIS). A recruitment drive has been launched hoping to attract key players from companies across this region bringing in their business expertise. The business board advises the combined authority and gives industry and commerce influence and input into decision making. The board wants to attract small and medium sized businesses and ventures and entrepreneurs. I have included a quote from the interim Chair of Business Board Austen Adams below if parish councillors are aware of anyone that would fit the brief please make them aware of this board that will have an influence over policy making in our area and which will ultimately effect the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward.

*"It's an incredibly exciting and important time to be part of the Business Board as we engage Cambridgeshire and Peterborough companies in realising the Local Industrial Strategy across the region. There's lots to do and we need the right leaders to step up. And it's crucial that the Board both represents and reflects the business community it is championing."*

*Cambridgeshire and Peterborough already punches far above its weight. It has the best performing economy in the country outside London, it generates £23.7bn of national output, and it has seen employment levels surge by 3.3 per cent over the last six years. It contributes over £5 billion a year to the UK Treasury, has two of the top five fastest growing cities in the UK, and its historic university heritage is matched by the innovative thrust of agile young businesses blazing trails in research, development and tech.*

*The Business Board currently has six private sector members and one from the public sector. It seeks to recruit six new members to increase the breadth of experience, ensuring smooth management of all portfolios across the busy workflow. A permanent Chair will also be appointed in due course. Board members are appointed for an initial period of up to three years and can serve a maximum of six years, and it is hoped that the new board members will be in place by Autumn 2019.*

### Council staff with premature or unwell babies entitled to more unpaid leave

All SCDC employees (men and women) will now be entitled to additional paid leave after the birth of a child who requires an extended stay in hospital. I was pleased that the Conservative group had put this motion forward following one of our councillors (Cllr Heather Williams) experiencing the anxiety and helplessness that can often result from the birth of a premature or unwell baby. The Cabinet agreed the premature birth and neonatal birth policy on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2019 meaning that mothers with premature or unwell babies will not have to cut short the time they had planned to spend at home with their babies before deciding whether to return to work. The policy will grant mothers employed by the council whose babies are born unwell or before 37 weeks 100% of their salary either until the baby is released from hospital or until 28 days after their expected due date without effecting their normal maternity leave or pay entitlement. I have copied the quote from Conservative Councillor Heather Williams below.

*“Becoming a parent is a life changing event – for many a time of great joy and excitement, however for parents like myself who have premature babies it can be a time of fear, anxiety, and helplessness. While pregnant you prepare for bringing your baby home, but nothing can prepare you for the day you come home without your baby, having never held them. When the time does come to bring your bundle of joy home, you share the excitement and elation that other parents feel – but life is still not quite the same. The extra support a NICU/SCBU baby requires does not end when they leave hospital. They are more prone to infection and some babies require specialist care at home, so it is crucial that parents have enough leave not only to bond with their babies, but to provide this additional medical care too.*

*All of this is on top of additional financial pressures and difficult decisions about when partners should return to work, which is why it is so important for mothers like me to speak out, and for employers like the Council to support employees. It is the policy that we hope is never needed, but it will give some certainty at a time when there is very little. Progress is only made when parents like me speak out, and others listen, so I thank all councillors and officers who have supported this motion and brought it to reality.”*

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 73**

Minutes of a Communications Committee meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council held on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman), Councillors Cone and Thorn also the Clerk.

**1 Apologises:** Councillor Brown.

### **2 October 2019 Village Pump.**

Those present went through the draft copy. Cllr Drage is waiting for confirmation of dates in order to complete a couple of articles which will be known shortly.

### **3 Recreation Ground Users' Policy.**

This item was deferred; Cllrs Drage, Cone and Thorn will meet on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2019 to produce a draft document; this will then go before the Recreation Ground Working Party for their comments and/or amendments. The final draft will then be presented to Full Council for their adoption.

### **4 PC Office move.**

Openreach and the County Council are liaising as there is a fault underground which needs resolving to enable telephone and internet services to Fulbourn Hub.

A manhole cover needs tarmac to level the surface. One person has already fallen over so this will be reported to CJ Murfitt as a matter of urgency along with a section of piping which has come away from a downpipe.

There are internal sensors lighting issues which will be reported to Sotham.

The door lock from the café to the Youth lounge needs reversing to prevent access to the Youth Club area when they are not occupying the building.

Although the office has yet to move due to the aforementioned telephone line problem, it was agreed that future Council meeting will be held at the Hub starting in October

### **5 New Website.**

The Committee were happy for our current Webmaster to design a new website which as he explained, we could navigate on a trial basis to see what needs adjusting prior to the site going live.

Date of next meeting to be arranged.