

Minutes of a Remote Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

**Present:** Councillor Drage (Chairman), and Councillors Brown, Butler, Cone, Gaskell, Johnson, Lacey, Newell, Smith, van Spaendonck (from Item 101.2), Thorn and Ward; District Councillor Daunton and the Clerk.

	<b>Action</b>
<p><b>99 To accept apologies for absence.</b> County Councillor Williams; Councillor Lockwood. Absent: Councillor Dawson.</p> <p><b>100 To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed.</b> None received.</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>101 To receive reports from County and District Councillors.</b>            101.1 County Councillor Williams issued the attached report adding the microasphalt programme which includes The Maples, Oslar’s Way and The Croft will commence 29/03/2021. Cllr Williams confirmed School Vouchers would be issued for the Easter Holidays. Approval had been granted for a Policing Hub on the outskirts of Milton.            101.2 District Councillors Williams and Daunton issued the attached joint report.            101.3 District Councillor Cone issued the attached report.</p> <p><b>102 To approve the minutes of the last meeting.</b>            With one minor amendment, the Minutes were then accepted as a true record.</p> <p><b>103 Matters arising from the last meeting.</b>            103.1 <u>Ida Darwin</u>. A remote meeting with the Parish Council’s Working Party, two members from Fulbourn Forum (FF), Morris Homes (MH) and GCSP Planning Officers was held. MH gave a presentation after which concerns were raised about Surface Water Drainage, Ecology and Landscaping. MH attempted to resolve issues raised by FF on housing as outlined in the Village Design Statement. The Parish Council will respond to Reserved Matters as soon as possible and will arrange a separate Planning Meeting at the end of next week, once Members had had a chance to look at the recently received planning documents. Arrangements will be made to view these observing Social Distancing guidelines with a timetable in place.            103.2 <u>Swifts Play Area</u>. Cllr Ward is arranging for an independent tree survey of the area.            103.3 <u>Swifts, Street Lighting</u>. Cllr Johnson has had site meetings with the contractors and will notify Accent Group of any lighting still not working. Cllr Johnson will then ask for another site meeting with Accent. Cllr Johnson added one grate in Dunmowe Way had now been repaired with another grate in Farmers Row still to be done.            103.4 <u>Mobile Warden Scheme</u>. Cllrs Thorn, Brown van Spaendonck and the Clerk had an online meeting with AGE UK and the newly appointed Warden, Gemma Hutchins. At the moment no one from Fulbourn has signed up to the scheme and Gemma is presently covering holiday leave in Teversham who have been using the scheme for 26 years. Eventually it might be that both parishes are combined to share expenses. Posters have been displayed and quarterly meetings will be arranged.            103.5 <u>Utilities Contracts</u>. New contracts have been arranged for all buildings either owned or run by the Parish Council.            103.6 <u>Traveller Toolkit Workshop</u>. Cllrs Cone, Daunton and van Spaendonck attended this online platform and found it very useful. With a shortage of long-stay sites it does impact when they travel between areas then Travellers face problems when pitching up in a new place. Police then the Council are always notified resulting in costly evictions. It was</p>	<p><b>MD</b></p>

suggested talking to the Travellers, try to find a piece of suitable land for them and negotiating peacefully to reduce costs. There was talk of the Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plans to include where to relocate Travellers or provide temporary sites. There are problems with litter and there were suggestions that Portaloos are provided by the District Council. Grants are available for villages to approach Travellers regarding health care, education and kids' clubs. Travellers face racist comments and there are myths of increasing crime rates when they arrive.

103.7 Tree Preservation Orders (TPO) – The Parish Council submitted an application for three trees in Dogget Lane; a Copper Beech, Beech and Walnut but sadly before the application could be considered, the magnificent 100year old Copper Beech was felled. Not in a Conservation Area, the Parish Council could not intervene and can only hope TPO's are awarded to the other trees.

104.7 Mower. Service completed and machine returned 4/3/21.

#### **104 Neighbourhood Plan.**

Consultation on Regulation 14 finished on 28/02/2021. The received comments have been collated, updated on the NP website and when considered, replies will be sent. The Consultation Statement is next in this process.

#### **105 Minutes of Planning Meetings held on 24/02/2021 & 03/03/2021.**

Minutes of the above meetings were issued.

#### **106 Tree works:**

21/0196/TTCA, Apthorpe Street – Reduce height of Cherry Tree; GCSP has no objection.

21/0238/TTCA, Pierce Lane – Fell Apple Tree; GCSP has no objection.

Cllr Ward has spoken to Hill about a dead tree in Armistice Close which they have agreed to replace. Hill will also repair a large pothole.

Disclaimer: Fulbourn Parish Council Tree Officer and the Parish Council accept no liability for the advice given above.

#### **107 Correspondence.**

107.1 **Fulbourn Arts** – February 2021 newsletter advising of future events, if permitted.

107.2 **SCDC** – Covid-19 weekly updates.

107.3 **NALC** (National Association of Local Councils) – Weekly Chief Executive Bulletins.

107.4 **Greater Cambridge Partnership Joint Assembly** – Next meeting, 24/02/2021.

107.5 **Greater Cambridge Shared Partnership** (GCSP) – Waterbeach PC has submitted their Neighbourhood Plan; comments by 20/04/2021.

107.6 **Cambridge A14 to Huntingdon** – Copy of press release following discovery of a carved Roman millstone believed to be over 2,000 years old.

107.7 **CCC** – Online session being arranged for the Introduction to Cambridgeshire Local where the County Council & Partners can work better together with Local Councils and the community in our area. Fulbourn included on 3/3/21, South East session.

Cllrs Drage and van Spaendonck attended this event and heard of some brilliant ideas from other villages in their support for schools and sports initiatives. It is also a way for the community to get to know each other whilst working together. When Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, Council can move forward with Fulbourn Community Aid.

107.8 **SCDC** – Cambridge East Community Forum, Remote meeting 24/03/2021.

107.9 **GCSP** – Information on Food Waste Week Campaign running from 1 – 7 March 2021.

107.10 **SCDC** – Zero Carbon Communities quarterly newsletter, Spring 2021 edition.

107.11 **SCDC** – Application and plan of a Club Premises Licence for Fulbourn Sports & Social Club, Capital Park; Any representations to be received by 23/3/21.

107.12 **Cambridge and Peterborough Independent Commission on Climate** – Online event, on 15/03/2021 to discuss various issues including Transport, Buildings, Energy and

Peat and the Fenland Landscape.

107.13 **S Chubb** – Suggestion of a “Parklet” in The High Street offering a place to socialise whilst combating isolation and loneliness.

Parish Councillors raised concerns about carbon emissions from the buses and general traffic whilst using that area, and felt it quite dangerous for children and the elderly in view of the fact that the road has two-way traffic; close to the entrance of the car lot is not ideal either. Whilst trying to encourage healthier options by walking to the shops, for some this is not always possible, so to lose parking spaces might have an effect on local businesses. There were also concerns about Public Liability Insurance, anti-social behaviour in the evenings and the Parish Council's responsibility in keeping the area clean and tidy.

When things do get back to the new normal, “Twelve” hosts a variety of events encouraging anyone to join in and meet new people, plus Amanda's café already has on-street seating. Request politely declined. Cllr van Spaendonck abstained from voting.

107.14 **SCDC** – Tree Health News, February 2021 & Tree Warden Newsletter, March 2021.

107.15 **N Hallows** – Suggesting the verges along Yarrow Road and Gazelle Way are used for the benefit of wildflowers and pollinators. Working with the County Highways on other major roads, she requests the borders are cut but leaving the central area over the Summer. Although the County Council approved promoting management of verges, the only PRV (Protected Road Verge) in Fulbourn runs along Shelford Road and this is managed by the farmer on behalf of the council. Yarrow Road doesn't qualify as an urban PRV as the speed limit is above 30 m.p.h.

Yarrow Road is a man-made verge approximately 20 years old. It was dug up about 5 years ago when a Solar Plant was erected. If this verge was left unfortunately it would just look a mess and attract stinging nettles (yes the butterflies love them) and brambles. An area of grassland was missed off the grass cutting list a couple of years ago on that estate, and it just looked an eyesore attracting fly tipping and complaints from the nearby residents.

The ground is unsuitable and would need some preparation work before being sown with wildflower seed. This isn't something we have allowed for in this year's budget, but Council are happy to consider it next year, when hopefully things might have returned to the new normal and income can be generated again.

107.16 **Clerks & Councils Direct** – March 2021 magazine.

107.17 **CCC, IHMC** (Integrated Highways Management Centre) – February 2021 Incident Report.

107.18 **On The Verge, Cambridge** – Reiterating Item 15, suggesting mowing less but taking away the cuttings to boost wildlife.

107.19 **Cambridge Approaches** – East West Rail Action Group. Webinar 16/3/21 at 7pm.

107.20 **C Connell** – Allotment holder requesting permission to house a small bench and storage unit on their plot; These will not reduce sunlight to neighbouring plots, and they understand the PC cannot accept responsibility for their safekeeping.

After discussion, Council asked for sizes of the proposed structures and need assurance when the plot is vacated, these will be removed.

107.21 **CAPALC** – March 2021 E-Bulletin.

107.22 **CCC, Highways** – Microasphalt programme scheduled to commence on 29/3/21 in The Maples, Oslar's Way and The Croft. PC website has been updated.

**Clerk &  
Winter  
Planner**

**Clerk**

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

e-on: Pavilion electricity.....218.14R	e-on: Swifts electricity.....400.92
Barclays: Monthly fees.....11.59R	CAPALC: Affiliation fees.....880.23
DBS: Defibrillator pads.....43.20R	MG Services: Swifts door.....390.00
BT: Broadband services.....64.86	BT: Mobile phone.....28.80
Cleaner Windows: Swifts.....30.00R	Huws Gray: Supplies.....23.28R
T Fretwell: R.F.O. fees.....500.00	e-on: Hub electricity.....72.72

<p>Zoom: Monthly fees.....14.39 e-on: Street lighting.....148.05</p> <p>Cllr Johnson proposed accepting the quotation and passing the accounts, seconded by Cllr Newell and agreed by the Council.</p>	<p><b>1454</b></p>
<p><b>109 Council Committees.</b> The Communications Committee needs to meet to discuss the April 2021 edition of The Village Pump.</p>	<p><b>Comms Comm</b></p>
<p><b>110 To receive items for inclusion on the next Agenda for decision and/or action.</b> There are some dog bins in the village that need attention.</p>	
<p>There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9pm.</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p>

**Attached reports:**

**Item 101.1**

**County Councillor Report to Fulbourn Parish Council**

1. Cambridgeshire County Council is increasing its share of Council Tax by £40.59 a year for a Band D property, or 78p per week. The Government is giving Cambridgeshire and Peterborough less money to repair our roads next financial year.

2. Schools across Cambridgeshire will re-open their doors on March 8. The Director for Education for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough held a session with around 400 school staff to go through the latest Government guidance and answer any questions in order to facilitate a smooth return.

There will be additional help to support the COVID testing process. Children will do three tests at school, followed by home testing. Test and trace will continue. The number of positive cases in schools last term was relatively low, helped by good ventilation and schools' rigorous approach to cleaning. There have been some small changes since last term but head teachers have been advised as to what they need to do differently, including guidance around face coverings.

Guidance is still emerging on examinations and testing. Both councils recognise this is a difficult time for students and will be sharing this guidance as soon as they can.

3. The highways contract with Skanska finishes at the end of this financial year and will be replaced by M Group Services. This has come about because Skanska has sold its local authority contracts to M Group Services. Due diligence of M Group Services has given no cause for concern regarding its financial circumstances and staff will be Taped from Skanska. I hope this will improve staff retention and moral which has been low since Skanska announced it was disposing of its highway contracts some two years ago. Information about M Group Service can be found at: <https://mgroupservices.com/>

4. The Newmarket bus (route 18) which runs on Tuesdays and Fridays and serves the High Street, Pierce Lane and Teversham Road, the first journey from Little Wilbraham to Teversham is now running onto to the Tesco superstore where it will wait 30 minutes for

shopping before returning on its journey to Newmarket. As a result the times of the bus to Newmarket in the morning have been changed to run about 30 minutes later. The afternoon return journey from Newmarket is not affected.

5. As if the prospect of the end of lockdown wasn't enough excitement to look forward to, this year also sees Census 2021 on March 21st.

6. In partnership, Cambridgeshire County Council, Peterborough City Council, Cambridge 2030, the Cambs Youth Panel, Cambridge Digital Partnership and Cambridgeshire Culture Foundation have launched the campaign to encourage businesses and residents to donate spare laptops and/or make a financial contribution to purchase new equipment to support young people in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough who do not have access to a computer or the internet at home.

Our target is to secure sufficient funding and resources to ensure that every child and young person in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has both the equipment and access to broadband that they need to maintain continuity of their learning and education in their homes. As of last week 352 laptops had been donated.

There are two ways businesses and residents can help us make a difference:

#### Laptop donations

We are working with Libraries in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to allow residents and businesses to drop their unwanted laptop(s) off at their local library - a list of locations can be found below:

Cambridgeshire: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisure-culture/libraries/visit-a-library>

Peterborough: <https://vivacity-peterborough.com/libraries-archives/your-local-library/>

After laptops are donated, they will be delivered to the Cambs Youth Panel where all data will be securely wiped from them in line with the guidance provided by the National Cyber Security Centre before they are repurposed ready for a child or young person to use.

If donors would like their laptop to go to a named school or a school in a particular area, they should include this information when they leave it at the collection point.

#### Financial donations

If residents and businesses would like to help in another way, we welcome financial donations to assist us in purchasing refurbished laptops and 4G routers for internet access for Peterborough children and young people. We now have a portal whereby businesses, other public bodies and individuals can make a donation in a fast, secure way. To make a financial donation visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/cambridgeshire-laptops-for-children>

For enquiries about the appeal please email: [LaptopsForChildren@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:LaptopsForChildren@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

John Williams  
4 March 2021

#### **Item 101.2**

**Report to Fulbourn Parish Council from Councillors Claire Daunton and John Williams  
for March 2021**

*This report contains factual information which we hope will be of use and of interest to the parish council and to the community more generally. For queries please contact us at [Cllr.daunton@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.daunton@scambs.gov.uk); [cldr.williamsjg@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.williamsjg@scambs.gov.uk)*

***DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: 24<sup>th</sup> March, 6.00-7.30pm, Community East Forum online. Discussions with planners, developers, councillors, residents on Land North of Cherry Hinton, Marleigh, Ida Darwin site, Fulbourn hospital. We look forward to seeing you.***

## **OxCam Arc**

There have

been notices in the press recently concerning the government's intentions to provide more detail on the development of the OxCam Arc – a growth corridor between Oxford and Cambridge. This is an area of the country marked out for significant development in terms of jobs, housing, infrastructure. There is also now more attention to the impact of climate change on the way development takes place. The green agenda, with an emphasis on low carbon initiatives, on biodiversity, on landscape and water management is very much being led by South Cambs – particularly through the work of the Leader, Bridget Smith and that of Chief Executive, Liz Watts.

It is important for our area, our villages that we keep abreast of these developments and have an input into the developments and elected councillors will be doing just that. We have **attached to the end of this report** information from a presentation made recently giving more details of the development of the spatial framework; and we will continue to report as and when further information comes forward.

## **Covid**

### Winter Support Payments

Small one-off payments to help South Cambridgeshire individuals and families in acute need can now be made by some of our officers and other partner organisations across the county such as Citizens Advice and Age UK. These will be in the form of direct payments under the Winter Support Family Fund. The payments of up to £50, can go towards food and fuel for those who need financial assistance as a direct result of Coronavirus. A payment of up to £25 for an individual, and up to £50 payment for a couple or family. The payments will be made as a one-off grant. These grants are designed as reactive support under the Winter Support Scheme.

The resident will then either be emailed with a food retail voucher, or sent a unique code to credit their fuel account at a pay-point. The final option is a text/email code to take to a pay-point to cash out the money from their text code, to purchase what they need.

This is a countywide scheme, and ends at the end of March 2021 which is when funding for Winter Support is expected to end.

**Residents can apply by emailing [duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk) and an officer will be in touch with the resident to understand their situation, offer further advice, and make the award if needed.** If you know of residents who may benefit from this small grant, please ask them to email us at [duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk) so we can get in touch with the resident to find out about their situation and help them if we can. If you have any questions, please contact Jay Clarke via [Jason.clarke@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Jason.clarke@scambs.gov.uk)

Vaccination Briefing, the highlights of which are below:

- A cumulative total doses of 215,034 have been administered in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (based on data up to 14 February 2021)
- More than 90% of residents aged 70 and above in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have received their first dose
- Anyone aged 65 and over, or Clinically Extremely Vulnerable (previously on the shielding list), who hasn't yet had their first dose should now make an appointment at [www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination](http://www.nhs.uk/covidvaccination) or by phoning 119
- Carers are included in cohort 6 for vaccination if they fit the definition of "adult carers", which is defined as "Those who are eligible for a carer's allowance, or those who are the sole or primary carer of an elderly or disabled person who is at increased risk of COVID-19 mortality and therefore clinically vulnerable." Eligible adult carers will be contacted via the National Booking System (NBS) to receive an invitation to book vaccination through Vaccination Centres, Community Pharmacies or Hospital Hubs, once a list of these individuals has been produced
- If an individual has been added to the Shielded Patient List as part of the new QCovid model, the NHS will contact them to offer them the vaccine as soon as appointments become available. The NHS may contact patients via text message, letter or a phone call to offer an appointment.

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#### Latest research findings

The [latest findings from the Imperial College London's React study](#) show that the number of COVID-19 infections is halving every 14.6 days. The research, which saw more than 85,000 swab tests carried out across England between February 4 and 13, showed that infections had dropped to one in 200 people testing positive.

Rates are continuing to fall in all regions of England, according to the [latest weekly surveillance report from Public Health England](#) (PHE). In the East Midlands, the rate of new cases stood at 176.7 per 100,000 people in the week to February 14. This is the highest rate of any region but down from 228.4 in the previous week. South-west England recorded the lowest rate - 87.4, down from 123.1.

The Public Health England report also shows case rates in England are falling among all age groups. The highest rate remains among 30 to 39-year-olds, which stood at 192.5 cases per 100,000 people in the seven days to February 14, down week-on-week from 270.8. For people aged 80 and over, the rate fell from 208.0 to 129.6.

#### Self-isolation support scheme extended

[Financial help for people to self-isolate](#) has been extended until the end of June and expanded to include parents who need to have time off work to look after a child who is self-isolating. The scheme was due to expire at the end of February, but the Government has announced that it has been extended to allow Councils to continue supporting everyone who needs assistance to self-isolate. People who need to self-isolate are able to make a bid for funding from The Test and Trace Support Payment Scheme which is administered by us - and each of the district and city councils across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Those who don't meet the criteria are also able to apply for a discretionary payment of £500.

Full details of the scheme – along with eligibility criteria – [can be found on our website](#).

#### **Community Support in South Cambs**

Working with volunteer groups across the District, officers and elected members have been looking back at the outstanding work done by volunteer groups, working alongside Ward members and SCDC patch officers, throughout the Covid period. Many volunteer groups also wish, themselves, to harness their experiences and expertise and to build on these. South Cambs is now embarking on research to consider how best to take forward and develop this work in order to build community

resilience networks across the District. It is intended to set up some focus groups to discuss initial ideas and to then determine how best to continue community groups beyond the immediate Covid crisis. The intention would be that these groups would work alongside parish councils. It is early days yet and there will be due consultation with existing volunteer groups, with parish councils and with elected members as this work progresses.

### **Covid Business Support**

The Business Support Unit continues its important work with local businesses helping them through the Covid crisis, with funding, with advice and with other support. This has been a massive effort and has involved a huge amount of dedicated hard work.

Grants: £6,932,202 paid in total to 3,056 businesses since November.

Survey on Safe Opening of the High St [\(4\) South Cambridgeshire – Posts | Facebook](#)

Green Business Webinar [\(4\) South Cambridgeshire – Posts | Facebook](#)

Redundancy Support: [\(4\) South Cambridgeshire – Posts | Facebook](#)

[Information about the latest range of help, including latest grants and advice can be found here](https://sway.office.com/9AvkyP5cbVbEx3bu?ref=email)

## **FINANCE**

### **The Medium Term Financial Strategy**

The five year General Fund Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) delivers our Business Plan for South Cambridgeshire and its four principal objectives namely Growing Local Businesses and Economies, Housing that is Affordable for Everyone to Live In, Being Green to Our Core and delivering A Modern and Caring Council. It is reviewed and refreshed every six months. At its February meeting the Full Council has refreshed the MTFS to incorporate an updated financial forecast of the risks associated with Covid 19 and of the changes made and intending to be made by the Government in its financial support for local government, including the changes to the Public Works Loan Board rules.

In order to deliver the Business Plan and our statutory duties the Council must take a proactive approach to managing its resources effectively. Our four year Service Transformation Programme introduced during 2019/20 and our commercial investments are delivering savings and additional revenue and are at the centre of this. As a result of the refresh, despite the challenges we now face we forecast we will need to find £5 million in savings and additional income over the coming five years which is about the same as it was this time last year. Moreover we have a healthy General Reserve balance of around £16.5 million to deal with unforeseen problems.

We are still expecting the Government to carry out a major review of local government finance next year and we continue to take what we believe could be the worst case scenario for us in our forward planning.

### **The coming financial year**

The Full Council meeting also approved the General Fund Revenue Budget and the Housing Revenue Account and Capital budget for 2021/22.

The heart of the General Fund Revenue Budget is the Covid 19 business and social recovery in South Cambridgeshire and about continuing to give support to our residents and businesses to help them recover from the pandemic in the coming financial year. This budget also recognised the Government's local government financial settlement for the coming financial year - which in the words of the Local Government Association - is dependent on councils increasing council tax bills.



The net expenditure for 2021/22 to be met from Government Grants, Business Rates and Local Taxpayers is estimated at nearly £21.7 million pounds. Council Tax payers are being asked to pay an extra 10 pence a week for the average Band D property, bringing its annual council tax bill to £155.31p. Not to do this would require us to use money from reserves building up trouble for the future. Nevertheless the Council Tax bill from South Cambridgeshire District Council will continue to be in the lowest 25 per cent of all district council taxes. We have a Local Council Tax Support Scheme for those on low incomes which we have already discussed this afternoon, as well as having discretionary powers to help council taxpayers.

We have seen a hit on Business Rate income and we have concerns that the long term effects of Covid 19 in terms of business failures and property devaluation may impact on the Business Rate growth in this coming financial year. Against this background of less income from Business Rates and grants, the council is not just relying on more money from council tax payers.

To do our bit we have embarked on an ambitious 4 year plan to transform council service quality, better realign our financial resources to business plan priorities and improve customer service. This will achieve a reduction in net expenditure compared to 2020/21 of over £2.1 million. But we can't just stand still. Helping our communities and businesses fight back in these difficult circumstances is essential. So some of the savings achieved have gone to pay for additional support. For Covid 19 we have set aside a revenue contingency of a quarter of a million pounds and there is a two year post for a Welfare and Visiting Advisor to support and enhance the work of the Housing Benefits team during this difficult time for our residents. There is more funding for homelessness at this time of economic hardship and for land drainage when we are seeing record breaking rainfall due to climate change. And staffing support to maximise our investment opportunities, which is key to retain our financial resilience to deliver place making and income. South Cambridgeshire District Council with a General Fund reserve of £16.5 million is in a sound financial position and this budget gives us the financial stability to proceed into the next council year and beyond.

The Housing Revenue Account budget is focused on delivering more council housing and improving the service to our tenants. The HRA budget continues to be set in the context of a 30 year business plan. We must also remember that broadly speaking the HRA cannot be subsidised by local tax and it has to support a housing debt of £205m pounds taken out by the previous administration to enable us to retain our council rents from the Government.

As to the council house building programme we have external funding from section 106 commuted sums, retained right to buy receipts and how we utilise these funds is identified in the Housing Capital Investment Plan. Since April 2018 we have completed 105 rented and shared ownership properties and have 248 in the pipeline. We have also disposed of 8 plots for self-build. We estimate the HRA balance at the end of this financial year will be just over two and a half million pounds and while this is adequate for HRA purposes it would not be prudent to let it fall much below that figure. There is therefore no alternative to increasing council rent levels if we are to maintain our drive to improve the customer service to our tenants and grow our social housing stock.

Rents will increase by 1.5 per cent in line with Government policy and this means that the average social rent will increase to 106 pounds and 2 pence per week. And in line with rent legislation our affordable rents will continue to be no more than 80% of the market rent. At the time of writing the report the average affordable rent was 148 pounds and 18 pence.

We are acutely aware that some of our tenants are having financial problems. Paragraph 21 explains that because of the pandemic current council rent arrears have increased significantly in

percentage terms. However, the introduction of the new Orchard housing management system should allow for targeted review of tenants arrears & collections. We anticipate that this position will improve as we emerge from the pandemic. The HRA budget also includes support for tenants some of whom are receiving Universal Credit.

### **Zero Carbon Initiatives**

There is a lot of useful and interesting information in the Spring edition of the zero carbon communities newsletter, well worth reading. It is very well presented.

<https://sway.office.com/nbeuI3HuLf5mQr4P?ref=Link> The Doubling Nature strategy, which we hope will have wide-ranging implications for all aspects of the Council's work, is also set out here.

**We hope, also, to announce soon the criteria and application deadlines for the ZCC grants round for 2021/2002 and will be encouraging all parishes in the Ward to apply.**

South Cambs Climate and Environment Fortnight 2021 is part of our commitment to be 'green to our core'. It features a series of online events which focus on climate change and the environment. It commenced on 22 February. Full details can be found here:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/nature-and-climate-change/climate-and-environment-fortnight-2021-events/>

### **Park and Ride Services to be Suspended: From 1 April**

Stagecoach East announced that it has had to make further reductions following the government advice to limit non-essential travel during the coronavirus outbreak.

The suspended services are:

- Madingley Park & Ride
- Newmarket Park & Ride
- Trumpington Park & Ride
- Milton Park & Ride

There will also be a revised timetable in place for the **Babraham Park & Ride** service. Monday to Friday buses will run every half an hour in the morning and afternoon peaks and hourly throughout the day. The operator will also be diverting the 13 service into the **Babraham Park & Ride** for some afternoon journeys. There will be no **Babraham Park & Ride** services on a Saturday, but as an alternative Stagecoach will be diverting the 13 service into the Park & Ride.

South Cambs Magazine – bin collection calendar We have spotted an error in the bin collection calendar in the Winter 2020 edition of South Cambs Magazine. This is the edition of the magazine that was delivered to all residents across the district late November / early December last year. So, for now at least, it remains the 'current' and most recent edition that residents have. Normally, the bin collection calendar dates in one magazine run up to (and usually past) the final delivery date for the following magazine. In this instance that has not happened. The Spring 2021 edition, which contains the new bin calendar, starts getting delivered to residents on Monday 8 March. The primary source of bin collection dates for residents should always be our [online bin collection calendar](#). Residents can contact [refuse@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:refuse@scambs.gov.uk) or call 03450 450 063 for waste-related questions.

## **OxCam ARC Spatial Framework : points taken from a recent government document**

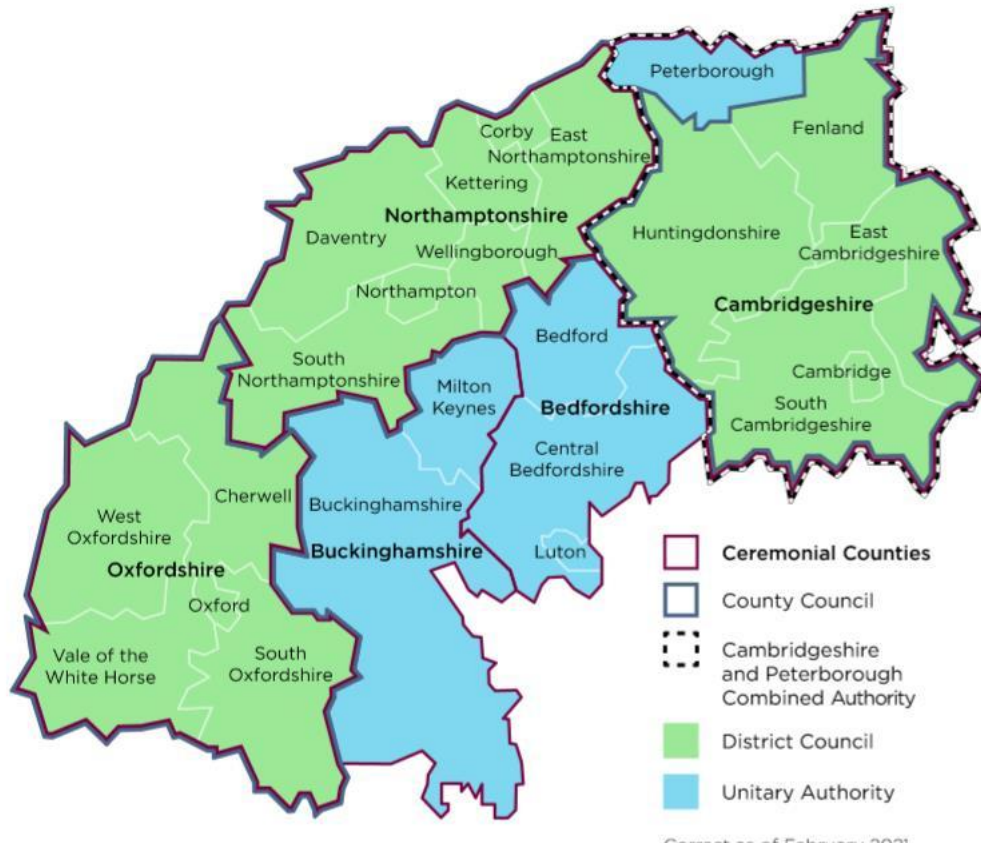
### **PURPOSE:**

1. support long-run sustainable economic growth across the area
2. help to make the area a brilliant place to live, work and travel in – for existing residents and future communities alike
3. Support lasting improvements to the environment, green infrastructure and biodiversity

By “...focusing on the strategic opportunities for growth and environmental improvement that cross local administrative boundaries and require more joined-up thinking across the area...”

Approach to the Framework – 10 Principles

Collaborative Adaptable **Long-term** Integrated Inclusive Digital-first **Evidence-based** Sustainable Quality **Add value**



The Areas

Economy – Spatial Framework will...

- provide an assessment of existing employment land, planned growth and anticipated future need
- set policies to support local planning authorities in allocating these as Strategic Business Zones or Strategic Industrial Locations, as appropriate
- set policies to support different land uses for different sectors and sizes of business

### The Environment

Setting policy to...

- support retention of and investment in, key existing and potential new habitats, and improve access to nature and accessible green space
- set high standards for new development, including on carbon emissions, water management, green space, integrated and functional green infrastructure, e.g. for active travel and biodiversity net gain
- support an integrated water management approach, taking into account sustainable water abstraction and drought resilience, water quality, reducing risk and resilience to flooding and how and where new infrastructure should be developed

- support clean air outcomes, with clear links to housing and transport policies • embed the enhancement of natural capital across the Arc
- Includes objective to identify Environment “Opportunity Areas”

#### Transport and Infrastructure in the Arc

*“...taking an infrastructure-first approach to growth – identifying and delivering strategic infrastructure priorities as development happens”*

Mapping existing health, education, accessible green spaces, social and community infrastructure, utilities, green and blue infrastructure and other infrastructure requirements at an Arc-wide scale

Identify future need and gaps in provision  
Create an infrastructure plan to facilitate future growth

proactively setting strategic policies for local transport authorities and local planning authorities to enable this

targeted climate resilience and air quality policies based on air quality modelling

wider strategic policies to facilitate utilities investment in line with key development opportunities, including digital infrastructure

#### **Housing and Planning in the Arc**

*“...We will plan for the right level of growth in the Arc... to do this the spatial framework will identify:”*

- **Opportunity Areas**, to support local planning authorities to plan for this growth
- the **infrastructure** needed to support sustainable growth in those locations, and the key locations for strategic infrastructure to support sustainable growth
- **locations for environmental enhancement** to achieve greater environmental benefits that can allow development to take place elsewhere

#### **Spatial Framework – policies to enable...**

- **new settlements** to come forward at the **scale and speed** needed
- new development to **support** habitat recovery, delivery of Local Nature Recovery Strategies, and provision of good-quality green space within schemes
- brownfield redevelopment and densification, and expansion of existing settlements, in sustainable locations or **locations that can be made more sustainable by enhanced access** to sustainable transport modes
- **housing needs to be met in full**, including delivery of much-needed affordable housing

*“...It will indicate locations but will not include site allocations, and it will not include detailed policies set elsewhere in national policy or better left to local plans.”*

#### **Item 101.3**

#### District Councillor Report to Parish Council March 2021

Combined Authority invest £500,000 into adult learning

Over half a million pounds has been allocated by the combined Authority for adult learning as part of a new innovation fund. Local colleges and learning providers can bid for grants of up to £50,000 to test ways of delivering training courses to adults over the age of 19. The innovation fund is targeted at the unemployed or those at risk of redundancy. Adults who require English language skills, health volunteers, adults with learning difficulties, individuals with disabilities and ex-offenders.

### Oxford to Cambridge Arc

I welcome the announcement by the Government to deliver the Oxford to Cambridge Arc. Alongside this a new growth body will also be set up to create the special framework to sit alongside long-term growth within this area. The Arc will connect Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge. The aim of the special framework will be to create new environmentally friendly public transport links with sustainable housing and new jobs. This combined with the Cambridge Autonomous metro and a station at Cambridge South will make this area hugely more connected in the future. The combination of these transport links have the potential to improve the environment, increase housing supply that is connected and contribute to the local economy. It is estimated that the transport emissions in the Arc region alone are responsible for 46% of the total carbon dioxide emissions in this area.

### Expansion of skills programme

A skills and training programme to boost apprenticeships and help adults retain and find new careers post Covid will be launched from April 1<sup>st</sup>. The programme will help people of all ages learn new skills and seek careers advice, it will also work with businesses to support them in offering training to staff to facilitate taking on trainees and apprenticeships. I'm really pleased to see this going forward and it will hopefully help people in the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn Ward post Covid. I'm really pleased to see the Greater Cambridge Partnership moving this forward.

### Residents urged to share views on new Affordable Homes and Build to Rent policy

Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Council are consulting on new housing policies. I have included the policies below so Parish Councillors and residents can take part in the consultation which will run to the 23<sup>rd</sup> March. I have also copied the link below.

*The new policies cover:*

- 1. Where on a new development new affordable homes (such as rental social housing and shared ownership homes) should be situated, looking at the size of clusters; ensuring different sizes of homes are mixed together where appropriate; and making sure affordable housing is well mixed with market housing.*
- 2. How the councils would like rent levels for social housing to be set, to ensure that they are as affordable as possible to applicants on the councils' housing registers.*
- 3. The development of homes built specifically to be rented out i.e. Build to Rent, looking at what the councils expect in terms of issues such as size and layout; quality of design and management; and how schemes should contribute to providing affordable housing.*

<https://www.scams.gov.uk/Housingpoliciesconsultation2021>

### Covid News

Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) list

There has been a Government announcement changing the criteria of the CEV list. The details of this are in the information circulated by Government below.

## **QCOVID – what it is**

- An expert subgroup of NERVTAG was commissioned by the Chief Medical Officer to develop a predictive risk model (QCovid), to enable a more sophisticated approach to clinical risk based on multiple risk factors.
- To identify adults who may be at increased risk from Covid-19, the model combines a number of characteristics such as age, sex, ethnicity, body mass index (BMI) and clinical conditions to estimate the risk of serious outcomes from COVID-19.
- NHS Digital used this model as part of a population level risk assessment to identify adults in England who may be at high risk, using data held centrally.
- Further information can found at <https://digital.nhs.uk/coronavirus/risk-assessment/population>

### What it means for councils and shielding people

- Those within this group who are over 70 will have already been invited for vaccination and 820,000 adults between 19 and 69 years will now be prioritised for a vaccination.
- Clinicians believe the newly-identified people are of equivalent risk to CEV, so as a precaution they are being added alongside those who are clinically extremely vulnerable on Shielded Patient List and prioritised for vaccination.
- We expect up to 1.7m people are projected to be added to the Shielded Patient List (SPL) nationally.
- They will be offered the same advice and eligible for the same support as those who are already on the SPL, and councils' obligations under the existing LA Framework will apply to them. Councils will be funded to provide support to those who need it.
- Shielding/CEV guidance is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19/guidance-on-shielding-and-protecting-extremely-vulnerable-persons-from-covid-19>

### When and how these changes will happen

- Shielding will be advised until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, we will also issue an extension letter communicating this to the existing CEV cohort.
- The SPL additions will be added in two tranches, the first of which will be under 70s to enable prioritisation of vaccinations. The second tranche of over 70s will be added as soon as possible.
- These individuals will receive a letter explaining that they have been identified through the model and are advised to follow shielding guidance, whilst that guidance is in place.
- Those who have not received a vaccination by virtue of their age will receive a letter inviting them to make a vaccination appointment.
- Councils will begin to receive updates to their SPLs from today. We expect emails to issue to tranche 1 of the newly identified people from 18<sup>th</sup> February, with letters going to print around the same time.
- We will confirm timelines for the second tranche later this week.

### Free PPE for carers

If you are caring for a relative and require PPE you are entitled to this for free which will be paid for by the Government until the end of June this year. I have provided the email address below if you know anyone that would benefit from this and there will be a collection point in Trumpington once people have filled in the short order form outlining their requirements.

### Support for renters

I have mentioned in a previous report that the Government had put restrictions on evictions and but a ban of the bailiffs during the pandemic. This has been extended for another 6 weeks, meaning the scheme will now last until the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

*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 07595 361 285 (please leave a voicemail if I am unavailable)*

**Councillor Graham Cone**

### **Item 105**

Minutes of a remote **Planning Meeting** of Fulbourn Parish Council on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Councillor Smith (Chairman) and Councillors Brown, Butler, Drage, Gaskell, Johnson, Lacey, Newell, Thorn, van Spaendonck and Ward.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Cone.

**Absent:** Councillors Dawson and Lockwood.

### **INFORMATION ONLY:**

20/03675/CPNDA

Location: Capital Park CPC1 & CPC2, The Visual Space, Fulbourn  
Proposal: Submission of details required by Condition 3 (Method Statement) of planning permission 20/03675/FUL

### **New Applications:**

21/00022/FUL

Location: St Vigor's Church, Church Lane  
Proposal: Installation of 12 no. solar panels on the south aisle roof of the church.

This Listed Building is central to the village and as the solar panels will be visible from the southerly aspect of the church, will be completely out of character.

Recommendation Objects

21/00050/FUL

Location: St Vigor's Church, Church Lane  
Proposal: Installation of 12 no. solar panels on the south transept roof of the church.

Recommendation supports

21/00150/HFUL

Location: 7 Osler's Way  
Proposal: Lean to roof (canopy) to front elevation

Recommendation supports

**Greater Cambridge Local Plan - site info survey  
(call for sites list - no 674)**

The above item was discussed in detail and Council's comments and objections will be submitted to Greater Cambridge Shared Partnership before the 01/03/2021 deadline. Councillors Drage, Lacey and Ward Declared Interests in respect of some of the Call for Sites list: Land north of Wilbraham Road; Land west of Station Road; Land north of Balsham Road and Land off Court Meadows House, Balsham Road.

Minutes of a remote **Planning Meeting** of Fulbourn Parish Council on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 at 7.30pm.

**Present:** Councillor Smith (Chairman) and Councillors Brown, Butler, Gaskell, Johnson, Lacey, Newell, Thorn and Ward.

**Apologies for Absence:** Councillors Cone, Drage and van Spaendonck.

**Absent:** Councillors Dawson and Lockwood.

**New Applications:**

21/00094/HFUL

Location: Holly Lodge, Cox's Drove  
Proposal: Single storey rear extension

Recommendation supports

21/00371/FUL

Location: 2 Manor Walk  
Proposal: Minor alterations to existing hard-standing and dwarf wall to improve parking and access, alterations to existing window openings and new windows, natural white insulated external render to existing brick elevations including side and rear wall of garage (uninsulated), new entrance porch and single storey side extensions.

Recommendation supports

21/00743/FUL

Location: 20-24 Pierce Lane  
Proposal: Change of Use and associated works to revert from current use as shop unit and ancillary stores/workshops to a terrace of 3 no. dwelling houses

The scheme as proposed will inevitably result in additional on-street parking in Pierce Lane, a regular bus route (Citi1 and Citi3), with such parking being outside other existing dwellings to the west of the development site (Pierce Lane to the east is mostly too narrow for street parking).

Street parking cannot take place immediately outside the proposed housing as this is occupied by a bus stop and is directly opposite the junction with Haggis Gap. This additional parking is not appropriate for Pierce Lane and will increase the danger to cyclists, particularly, but not only, children cycling to school. This is also the route to school from the proposed new housing development at the Ida Darwin Hospital site. New development must not contribute to an increase in on-street parking when the aim, both nationally and regionally, is to provide better and safer routes for cyclists.

FPC requests the application is referred to the Planning Committee.

Recommendation objects

21/00482/HFUL

Location: 48 Shelford Road  
Proposal: First floor extension, loft conversion and hip-to-gable roof  
Alterations

Recommendation supports