

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 9th November 2022 in The Fulbourn Hub, Home End, Fulbourn.

Present: Councillor Thorn (Chairman), and Councillors Bramwell, Brown, Butler, Cone (and District), Gaskell, Johnson, Lacey, Lockwood, and Ward; County & District Councillor Daunton, District Councillor Williams, the Clerk, Mr Ron Ward, Mr Greg Harewood and 3 Parishioners.

<p>70 To accept apologies for absence. Councillors Drage, Roberts, Smith and District Councillor Hofman.</p> <p>71 To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed. Cllr Lockwood – Personal during the Public and Press section.</p> <p>Public & Press - You are invited to attend the whole meeting and are welcome to speak at our Open Forum at the beginning of the meeting. Having received a report regarding Scout Leader, Greg Harewood, The Parish Council made the Scouting Association aware of its contents resulting in the Association immediately suspending Mr Harewood pending an investigation. Greg Harewood then addressed the Parish Council, however aware the PC would not be making any comments pending the investigation; Mr Harewood’s presentation will not be included in these minutes. A child in attendance with his father also spoke to the Council regarding this matter.</p> <p>72 To receive reports from County and District Councillors. 72.1 County Councillor Daunton issued the attached report reminding Members of the East Area Community Forum’s online webinar detailed on page 3 of her report. Cllr Daunton had been dealing with flooding issues around the village following the recent heavy downpours. Cllr Cone advised he had reported flooding issues which had gone onto residents driveways along Shelford Road online too. 72.2 District Councillors Williams and Hofman issued the attached report. Cllr Williams said 25 Warm Hubs had been set up around the district, the nearest is in Cherryhinton Library. SCDC had looked at the community room in Chaplin’s Close, but this was well used already. Cllr Williams said £15,000 had been put into a charitable fund for the purchase of slow cookers, blankets and such items to assist over the winter. 72.3 District Councillor Cone issued the attached report adding there was more information regarding parking enforcement on the website. Cllr Cone said proposals including issuing fines will go before the CCC Highways Committee, then to government, and if approved, would go live. Cllr Cone spoke of the recent fire to a bin lorry due to the incorrect disposal of batteries by residents. Cllr Lockwood said she had in the past, witnessed bin men putting batteries into the wagons. Cllr Cone said staff had been made aware of the dangers so this should not occur again. Item 75 was taken next.</p> <p>75 Neighbourhood Plan. Mr Ward advised the Referendum Version of the NP was nearing completion. SCDC had some minor changes which Martina Juvara will incorporate and finish this week. To assist the PC in planning the implementation of the NP, Mr Ward suggested that once we have the Referendum Version he would get the NP Team together to list the items in need of consideration. He would bring the list to the PC for integration into the PC Sub-Committee structure and also those Members of the NP Team willing to join the Sub Committees to assist. The suggestion was agreed by Council. Cllr Cone said there was still some Parish Councillors on the NP Team, and suggested they attend the meeting along with the Chairs of all the Sub-Committees. Cllr Cone will also update social media sites. The Chairman thanked Mr Ward for his presentation and Mr Ward left the meeting.</p> <p>73 To approve the minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.</p>	<p>GC</p>
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<p>74 Matters arising from the last meeting.</p> <p>74.1 <u>Ida Darwin site.</u> Morris Homes has still not taken over the site. Cllr Williams explained the NHS had sold the site to Homes England and had then leased some of the site. The lease has not yet been settled, which is why Morris Homes have been unable to complete.</p> <p>74.2 <u>Swifts Play Area.</u> The latest RoSPA Play Inspection report had been received from Accent Group. It did show a couple of pieces of equipment were coming close to their end-by date, and would either need replacing or removing. Cllr Johnson said there were some loose bricks near the Life Wall exposing wiring, and parts of the Human Sundial were being lifted up.</p> <p>74.3 <u>LHI (Local Highways Improvement Bid).</u> Unaware of what kind of consultation has been done by CCC with Shelford Road residents, the PC supported taking CCC's advice regarding buffers and speed bumps. Cllr Daunton said CCC were concerned about increased costs the longer this project is delayed. Cllr Cone said the option CCC had put forward was within the expected costs.</p> <p>74.4 <u>Mobile Speed Camera.</u> This is currently in Haggis Gap. Standing Orders were suspended as a parishioner spoke about the speeding traffic along Balsham Road, especially when leaving the village. Following an exchange when the parishioner took offence to a remark made by a Councillor, Cllr Cone explained how the Mobile Speed Camera collects data which he shares with the authorities including the Police. He said the village hotspots are the approach roads and is able to collate numbers of vehicles, their speeds and the times of the day when most offences occur. Cllr Cone offered to share this information with the parishioner. Asked about installing 20 m.p.h limits, Cllr Daunton said the CCC are making it easier for PC's to put these in place but it is dependent on how PC's want to take this forward. Standing Orders resumed and the parishioner left the meeting.</p> <p>74.5 <u>Pavilion showers.</u> The Clerk and Richard Drage had met Shelford Heating due to the ongoing problems and lack of hot water in the pavilion. The engineer was going back to consult colleagues for further advice to resolves these issues. We await their suggestions.</p> <p>74.6 <u>The Swifts.</u> The Meeting Room, Library and corridors have been redecorated and already the PC has received favourable comments especially from the library.</p> <p>74.7 <u>Proposed City Congestion Charge.</u> The Public Consultation runs until 23/12/22 and Cllr Johnson advised an online petition has passed its threshold.</p> <p>74.8 <u>Community Garden.</u> Following correspondence at the October 2022 meeting, Cllr Williams suggested this group might be eligible for a Community Chest grant.</p> <p>75 Neighbourhood Plan. See above.</p> <p>76 Tree works:</p> <p>22/1281/TTCA, 15 Home End – Remove semi-mature Ailanthus and replant with a more suitable species for this location, i.e. Magnolia, Field Maple or Whitebeam. PC's comments; The tree hasn't reached mature height (17-22 metres) and hasn't grown much in the last few years. It is a valuable tree as regards street scene. Objects.</p> <p>22/1301/TTCA, 2 The Pines – Hornbeam, crown lift to 2m above ground level and Pine, fell due to major dieback (Red Band Needle disease), and if dead branches removed, very little of the crown will remain. PC's comments – It would be nice if the Pine Tree was replaced. Recommendation supports.</p> <p>22/1311/TTPO, 2 The Pines – Holly, crown lift to 2m and crown reduce by 1m back to previous pruning points. Recommendation supports.</p> <p>22/0008/TTPO, Herrings House, Wilbraham Road – 5-day notice issued giving permission for works on Ash Trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order. Disclaimer: Fulbourn Parish Council Tree Officer and the Parish Council accept no liability for the advice given above.</p>	<p>1484</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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77 Correspondence.

- 77.1 **SCDC, Communities Duty** – Updates on supporting Ukrainian Refugees.
- 77.2 **Cambs Acre** – Views and ideas needed to help set up a Rural Community Prosperity Fund in Cambridgeshire. A Partnership has been formed between the Combined Authority, East Cambs DC, Fenland DC, Huntingdon DC, SCDC and Cambs Acre to form this addendum.
- 77.3 **GCP (Greater Cambridge Partnership)** – Making Connections Consultation runs until 23/12/2022. Remote meeting on 02/11/2022 to brief Parish Councils and hear your views on transformational proposals to significantly improve how people travel around Greater Cambridge.
- 77.4 **CCC** – Information from their partners, Communities Prepared, on who they are and what they do plus workshop information they facilitated for the Flood Groups Conference.
- 77.5 **Resident** – Request for a street light along Fulbourn Old Drift which will also assist residents living at the mobile home park of which several are elderly. Cllr Daunton has met the resident and has been liaising with the Clerk.
- 77.6 **Longfellow** – New owners of Capital Park offering Councillors a site meeting to show them round or to meet elsewhere or online if they would prefer. Council would like to accept this invitation. The Clerk will make arrangements.
- 77.7 **EWR (East West Railway)** – Summary note of a meeting held on 11/10/2022,
- 77.8 **GCP** – Series of online meetings have been arranged: West Area Community Forum to be held on 07/11/2022 all between 6-8pm; East Area CF on 16/11/2022; South Area CF on 22/11/2022 and North CF on 29/11/2022. See Item 72.1.
- 77.9 **Cambridgeshire Acre** – “Staying in Touch” updates and information.
- 77.10 **Cambridge & Peterborough Combined Authority** – October 2022 update.
- 77.11 **CCC** – Cambridgeshire Matters, October 2022 newsletter.
- 77.12 **TMC (Traffic Management Centre)** – October 2022 Incident Report.
- 77.13 **CCC** – Cambridgeshire Libraries were granted the “Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service” and a presentation will be held on 28/11/22 at 2pm in March library.
- 77.14 **SCDC** – Next Parish/Cabinet Liaison Meeting, on Monday, 12th December 2022 at 6pm.
- 77.15 **CCC** – Flood Awareness Week; Risk Team working with partners, stakeholders and residents to try and prevent flooding and deal with it when it occurs.
- 77.16 **SCDC – ZCC (Zero Carbon Communities), Green Connect session on 17/11/22 at 6pm.** Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT), in partnership with BLUEPRINT, hosts a session on what a circular economy could look like in your community. Learn about what the circular economy is and how it helps to reduce waste and contributes to a sustainable future for us all.
- 77.17 **Clerks & Councils Direct** – November 2022 magazine.
- 77.18 **CCC** – Christmas Holiday Activities Food (HAF) Programme; information and links have been uploaded on the PC’s website and posters displayed.
- 77.19 Further correspondence received regarding the suspension of Scout Leader, Greg Harewood, which will not be discussed pending an investigation by the Scout Association.

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Clerk

78 To resolve the accounts for the month.

e-on: Pavilion gas.....4.45	e-on: Hub electricity.....130.80
e-on: Hub gas.....66.07	T Fretwell: R.F.O. fees.....500.00R
Cleaner Windows: Swifts.....30.00R	Source: Cemetery water rates.....43.86
Progreen: Green maintenance.....1,020.00	Barclays: Monthly fees.....13.47R
Peac: Copier lease.....253.46	Trent: New chairs.....222.72
Community Sparx: Domain fee.....100.00R	G Marshall: Swifts decorating.....1,975.00
M North: Cycle racks.....100.00	SP Landscapes: Grass cutting.....1,650.00
Fulbourn RBL: Wreath.....15.00	B’s Travel: Shopper bus Aug/Oct.....715.00
N Power: Street lighting.....572.04	Falcon Print: Village Pump.....395.00

BT: Mobile phone.....30.72
 Cllr Lockwood proposed passing the accounts, proposal seconded by Cllr Ward and agreed by the Council.
 Quotation for electrical works at the pavilion from DBS Electrical had been received. Cllr Cone proposed accepting the quotation, proposal seconded by Cllr Bramwell and agreed by the Council.

79 Precept Requirements 2023/24

This was deferred to the December 2022 meeting.

80 Council Committees and Remote Meetings.

80.1 AGE UK – Mobile Warden Scheme. Notes from a meeting held on 12/9/22 were issued.

80.2 Highways Committee. Notes from a walking meeting held on 27/10/22 were issued.

Following discussion about works being done, their prioritisation and delays caused by weather conditions, the PC was asked to report any concerns to Cllr Daunton.

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

Cambridge Nature Network; Set Date for Precept Meeting including budget requirements by all Sub-Committees and the King’s Coronation.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.20pm.

Attached reports:

Item 72.1

County Councillor Claire Daunton: Report to Parish Councils for November 2022

BUSES: service changes

The Combined Authority’s bus procurement concluded last month, with all eighteen routes which had been cut by Stagecoach, seeing some level of service reinstated. The Nos. 11 and 12 are now being run by Stephenson’s of Essex, as noted in colleagues’ reports.

The Combined Authority had set aside £1.7M for subsidies to operators to keep them running. Currently, the total cost is expected to be about £1.25M because bus operators were limited in what services they were prepared to provide. The Combined Authority will be monitoring how the new services are working.

As well as ensuring vital bus services continue between October and the end of March 2023, the Combined Authority is working to put in place a sustainable and affordable bus network from April 2023 onwards.

All this is a sharp reminder of the reality of the current deregulated bus system, and the problems caused by sixty per cent of bidding authorities in England, including Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, receiving no Government funding for their Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIPs).

The Combined Authority’s Overview & Scrutiny Committee was told in a report from its lead member for buses that two reasons had been given for the failure of the Department for Transport to fund Cambridgeshire’s Bus Service Improvement Plan:

- 1. in DfT’s view we had insufficient commitment to road charging, active travel and bus priority schemes in our area; and**

2. the DfT subsequently applied a deprivation index score to each BSIP submitted and given our high overall growth, this meant that the money tended to be allocated in the north of England rather than to us.

A refreshed Bus Strategy for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is due to be presented to the Combined Authority's Transport & Infrastructure Committee in November, alongside a refreshed Bus Service Improvement Plan and a case for Government investment.

Work is also continuing to further develop the business case for a franchised bus network in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, but this will need money for the necessary investment in the service.

Passengers with questions about bus services can email
passenger.transport@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk

BUSES: Mayoral precept

The Mayor of Cambridgeshire & Peterborough meets regularly and informally with leaders of the member councils of the Combined Authority, including the County Council. One idea he raised in one such meeting was whether there might be a case for setting a Mayoral precept to be added to the Council Tax, to fund bus services beyond March 2023. Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council would both have a veto over such a proposal.

A bus network covering more than just a few key urban routes will need public subsidy, and the money for this will need to come from somewhere—either central government, or local government.

The Government has already refused to fund Cambridgeshire's Bus Service Improvement Plan once. Will we be more fortunate this time? The Chancellor of the Exchequer is also known to be looking for billions of pounds in spending cuts. How likely are we to see the kind of Government investment we need? There are some questions for us all here: locally, some politicians have opposed the Greater Cambridge Partnership congestion charge proposals, and also opposed the idea of a Mayoral precept. If we continue to receive no money from central government, and if all sources of local government funding for improved buses are opposed, how else will the necessary investment in bus services be raised to move Cambridgeshire to a more sustainable franchised model of bus transport?

Greater Cambridge Partnership

The Greater Cambridge Partnership has now opened its public consultation on its proposals for a significant expansion of bus services in Cambridge (for the phased launch of which from 2023 funding is available) and the city's travel to work area, to be paid for, in due course after 3 years, by the introduction of a congestion charge in Cambridge in 2027/28.

It is important to read the full package of proposals (a better bus services for our area, along with better walking and cycling connectivity, a sustainable travel zone with a congestions charge) complete the survey, and let the Greater Cambridge **Partnership know what the proposals would mean for communities as well as for individuals. It is a consultation.**

Booklets setting out the whole package of proposals, along with the survey form, have been sent to thousands of households. Information is also available on line and there are many online and in

person webinars and exhibition venues with chance to ask questions and offer views and raise concerns. The survey closes at midday on Friday 23 December. The consultation website, including the survey, brochure, map book, frequently asked questions, and contact details, can be found at <https://consultcambis.uk.engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022>

Dates for Consultation events

10 November 2022

Drop-in public exhibition - East Cambridge 5-8pm

Come along to one of our drop-in events to hear/view more on the proposals and have your questions answered by a member of the project team.

Thursday 10 November, 5-8pm, Abbey Stadium (Signature Suite), Cut Throat Lane, Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8LN

15 November 2022

Drop-in public exhibition - South Cambridge 5-8pm

Come along to one of our drop-in events to hear/view more on the proposals and have your questions answered by a member of the project team.

Tuesday 15 November, 5-8pm, Trumpington Meadows Local Centre, Primary School Main Hall, Kestrel Rise, Trumpington CB2 9AY

16 November 2022

East Area Community Forum - online webinar 6-8pm

Join our webinar to hear/view more on GCP's current proposals for the area and have your questions answered.

Wednesday 16 November, 6-8pm - to join the meeting, please register

at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xQfrZ5q6TTWlt_tINnqonA(External link)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining webinars.

17 November 2022

Drop-in public exhibition - Central Cambridge 12-2pm

Come along to one of our drop-in events to hear/view more on the proposals and have your questions answered by a member of the project team.

Thursday 17 November, 12-2pm, The Small Hall, Cambridge Guildhall, Peas Hill, Cambridge CB2 3ET

22 November 2022

South Area Community Forum - online webinar 6-8pm

Join our webinar to hear/view more on GCP's current proposals for the area and have your questions answered.

Tuesday 22 November, 6-8pm - to join the meeting, please register

at https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mx0Inxo3RUSJEMuLrQJnXw(External link)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with information about joining webinars.

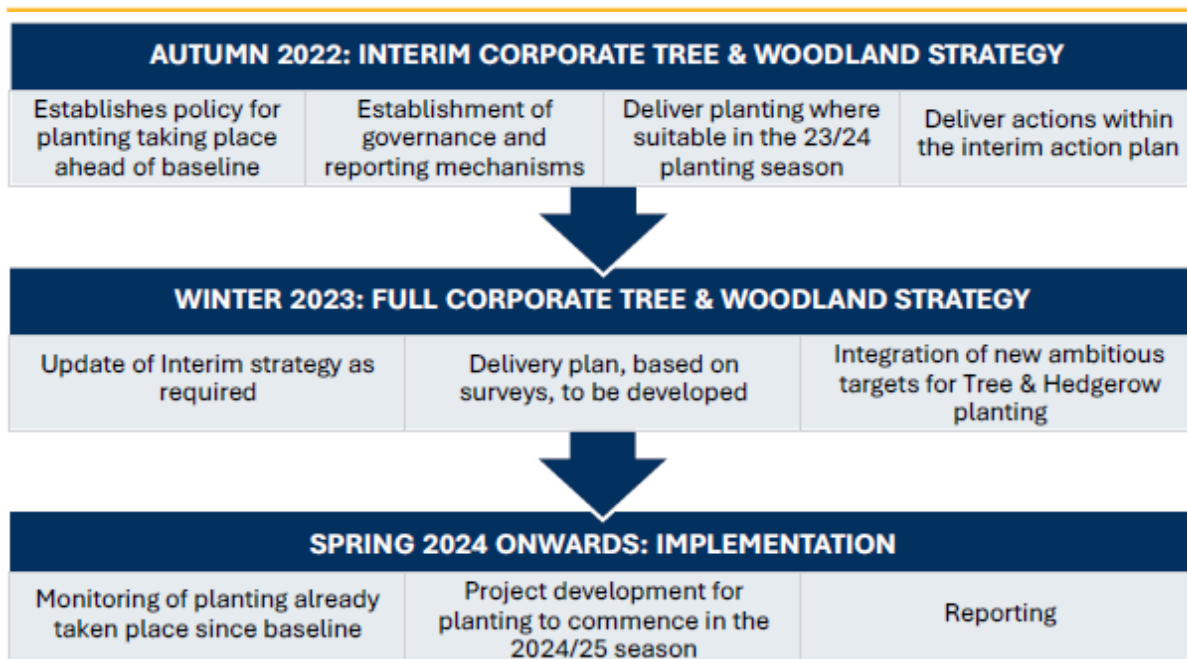
COMMUNITIES, SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC) COMMITTEE

Household Support Fund The Committee met on Tuesday 1 November and agreed eligibility criteria for the third round of the Household Support Fund (October 2022 to March 2023). The amount available for the third round of funding is £3,581,424. This is proposed to be spent once again on school meal vouchers for the school holidays, and on direct one-off grants to eligible households. It is proposed that such grants should be raised from £100 to £110 to reflect increasing inflation.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Interim Tree & Woodland Strategy

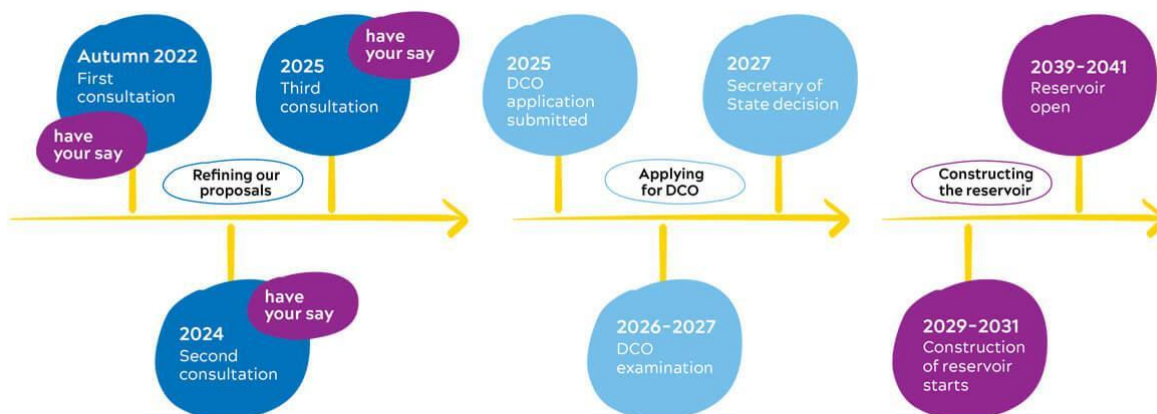
The Environment & Green Investment Committee approved an Interim Tree Strategy last month. The interim strategy will serve while the Council gathers information about what trees the Council has, where they are, and how the Council can improve and expand its tree assets. Once the Council has this baseline information it can start to plan for the future.



Fens Reservoir

Anglian Water and Cambridge Water have now announced their preferred location for a new Fens reservoir north of Chatteris.

The timeline for such a big project is a long one, with multiple consultations, an application to the Secretary of State, construction expected to start in 2029-31 and the reservoir to open in 2039-41. The indicative timeline is as follows.



The water companies' initial survey on the design of the reservoir, and what people would like to see as part of the project, will be open for public comment until Wednesday 21 December at <https://www.fensreservoir.co.uk/>

Details of public events in Fenland and community webinars are available at <https://www.fensreservoir.co.uk/our-proposals/consultation-overview/>

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT Local Highways Improvements

Information and guidance from highways officers:

- Application window opens **Monday 31 October 2022**
- Application window closes at 5:00PM on **Friday 6 January 2023**
- Feasibility studies undertaken **February to April 2023**
- Panel meetings **May 2023**
- Report to committee including prioritised list for approval **June 2023**
- Programming, design, consultation **July 2023 to March 2024**
- Pricing and construction **March to August 2024**
- The website has been changed to reflect the newly agreed process communicated to you all earlier in October and can be found at the following - [Local Highway Improvement funding - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)
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- Some key changes to the website include the narrative / guidance for applicants. This explains parishes apply, which part of the process you fall under, and provides some narrative and examples of suitable responses to the different questions asked.
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- I would also like to draw your attention to the following page - [Improving the local highway - Cambridgeshire County Council](#) This contains interactive links to the different measures available, and also gives you the expected cost for installing the measure. You will need to take this into account when budgeting for your proposed improvement and completing the application form.

20MPH scheme Proposals for the process to award funding for applications for 20MPH schemes will be reported to the December meeting of the Highways & Transport Committee. I have been pressing for this to be put in place as soon as possible. It is likely that the applications window will open in February and close at the end of April. But this is all to be confirmed.

HGV policy The draft HGV policy I reported last month has now been approved with a couple of minor additions about length and width restriction applications. <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/heavy-or-abnormal-loads-on-the-highway/>

FIRE AUTHORITY Budget The Chief Fire Officer for Cambridgeshire has warned that there will have to be reductions to the service unless the way in which it is funded changes.

As part of national negotiations a revised cost of living pay award of five per cent was offered for firefighters. Combining this with the offer already on the table for support staff, Cambridgeshire's fire service will be in budget deficit of at least £1.1m at the start of April 2023. CFO Chris Strickland said the service wanted its employees to be given a pay increase that reflected the current

rate of inflation, but also had a responsibility to deliver a balanced budget, and these were currently at odds.

At the moment, fire and rescue services can only ask for a maximum of two per cent increase in council tax, which is around an additional £1.50 per year for Cambridgeshire council taxpayers (based on a Band D property).

The Chair of the Fire Authority, Cllr Edna Murphy, said: “This year’s increase in fires, as a result of the prolonged hot, dry weather, has shown us that we will need the fire service more in the future, not less.”

Fulbourn Issue

This month it’s mainly about gulleys and pipes. Gulleys in most of Fulbourn were cleared in September and October. There were a few places not tackled. These have been picked up by a senior highways officer and will be done soon. Some areas also needed pipes jetting through to source: Home End has been done; Geoffrey Bishop Avenue needs to be done. We are ‘onto that’

Other local issues: residents have raised with me the delays to patching of footpaths, following mark-up, as well as missing white lines and signs. These are all on the ‘little list’ monitored closely by me and our LHO, but it is taking longer to get things done, there is no doubt. We had Brexit and Covid. There are shortages of people and materials and costs have shot up, as we all know, following the mini-budget and other crises. On the subject of white lines, there are 67 jobs in the queue for one firm. Fulbourn has moved up the list.

Item 72.2

Report of Councillor Carla Hofman and Councillor John Williams to Parish Councils for November 2022.

This report contains factual information which we hope will be of use and of interest to the parish council and to the wider community of the parish.

For queries please email us at cllr.williamsjg@scambsgov.gov.uk or cllr.hofman@scambsgov.gov.uk

Support for providing Electric Vehicle Charging Points

A new scheme is being launched this month to help parish councils and operators of community buildings to provide publicly accessible electric vehicle charge points (EVCPs), in order to encourage electric vehicle (EV) uptake within the district.

Parish Councils and those operating community buildings will be able to South Cambridgeshire District Council for grants of up to £5,000. The application form requires applicants to describe and justify the location for the EVCP. There must be a good prospect of current or future demand for the EVCP for the installation to be worthwhile. Demand may be from nearby residents who do not have access to on-street parking, or from nearby amenities such as shops, public houses, rail stations or other attractions where EV users may benefit from being able to charge their vehicle nearby.

The scheme is being funded from the Council’s Renewables Fund.

Look out for details.

Cost of Living Crisis Funding for Parish Councils

You will know from last month's report that South Cambridgeshire District Council has declared a Cost of Living Crisis. In response to this the Council's Community Chest Grant scheme criteria has been altered to allow Parish and Town Councils of any size to bid for Community Chest grants that provide a benefit to those affected by the cost-of-living crisis.

The criteria has been expanded to allow applications for revenue costs or overheads (for example, salaries, rent, advertising, promotional materials) to be included for all projects that provide a benefit to those affected by the cost-of-living crisis. But it does not include food costs.

A sum of £20,000 in addition to the Community Chest budget has been ring-fenced specifically for this with a limit of £2,000 per bid. A Parish Council can only make one bid in line with existing Community Chest criteria. This £20,000 comes from the Integrated Care System funding, which SCDC is administering, and which must be committed by the end of March 2023, for the purposes of delivering projects that provide a benefit to those affected by the cost-of-living crisis.

To apply go to the Community Chest page:

www.scambs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/grants/community-chest-grants/

We have announced a number of measures to help residents and businesses cope with the rise in costs. Information about support can be found at:

www.scambs.gov.uk/cost-of-living-support/

Warm Hubs open in South Cambridgeshire

The first Warm Hubs have opened their doors as part of a new initiative to support communities in South and East Cambridgeshire this winter.

In South Cambridgeshire, the first Warm Hubs have opened at Gamlingay and Caldecote. Hardwick, Cottenham and Comberton will be the next villages to see Warm Hubs open their doors.

The new initiative has been developed by South and East Cambridgeshire District Councils and funded by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, part of our local Integrated Care System. The Warm Hubs are coordinated by Cambridgeshire ACRE – the charity dedicated to supporting and strengthening rural communities across Cambridgeshire.

Operating at the heart of local communities, the Warm Hubs concept has been designed to offer warm, friendly and inclusive places with access to light refreshments. Hubs also provide residents with somewhere to socialise, take part in activities and receive information on how to reduce bills, access financial support, and stay healthy and well.

The activities and services available at Warm Hubs are operated by trained volunteers from within the local area who are individuals who understand the needs of the local communities.

Find out more at:

www.scambs.gov.uk/warm-hubs/

Changes to Stagecoach Bus Services update

With the exception of Stow-cum-Quy broadly speaking the villages in our ward of Fen Ditton and Fulbourn were unaffected by the withdrawal of 18 Stagecoach bus routes and one A2B route on 30 October.

As to Stow-cum-Quy, having lost Stagecoach route 12 it is now served by an hourly Monday to Saturday service between Newmarket and Cambridge (numbered 11) operated by Stephenson's of Essex. Unfortunately passengers for Soham and Ely will now have to change at Cambridge or Newmarket. Stephenson's has also registered the former Stagecoach 11 service, which ran along the A1303, as a commercial route, but has numbered it 12! So, residents in Wilbraham can still pick up this bus on the A1303 at Bottisham.

Our other Stagecoach routes which are all commercially operated continue as before (namely, the city 1 and 3, 16a and 19 and the extension of the Newmarket Road P&R bus to Stetchworth), although there are new timetables on all. There is no timetable change to the A2B operated 18 which runs between Teversham and Newmarket.

The Mayor is only funding the Stephenson's route 11 and A2B route 18 until the end of this financial year (that is 31 March 2023). With the lack of Government support for rural buses, he is considering a ring-fenced bus precept on all council taxpayers in Cambridgeshire to ensure there continues to be a fund to subsidise these services.

For the Stephenson's timetables go to:

<https://stephensonsofessex.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Buses-around-Newmarket-web.pdf>

For the new Stagecoach timetables go to:

www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/east/east-bus-network

For the A2B timetable go to:

www.a2bbusandcoach.com/bus-timetables

Greater Cambridge Partnership “Sustainable Travel Zone”

Just a reminder, that the public consultation by GCP for its proposed City Access scheme closing on 23 December 2022.

Key features of the proposed City Access package are:

- New bus routes, additional orbital and express services, and a huge increase in rural coverage, with buses supported by Demand Responsive Transport.
- Longer operating hours from 5am to 1am and more frequent services - 6-8 buses every hour in the city and from market towns, and hourly rural buses.
- Flat fares to make public transport cheap and accessible for all; with passengers paying £1 to travel in the city and £2 in the travel to work area.
- Options for new cross-city cycling routes to encourage more active travel, enhancing Greater Cambridge's reputation as the UK's leading cycling city.

Better buses and reduced bus fares would be phased-in before any Sustainable Travel Zone was introduced. The City Deal can forward-fund the bus upgrades now to build confidence in services to help people make the modal shift from private car to bus, but the changes require longer term funding.

Under the proposals, all vehicle movements into, out of and within the STZ would pay a flat daily charge - unless exempt or eligible for a discount or rebate scheme included in the consultation - between 7am and 7pm on weekdays. The revenue generated by the STZ, which would not be introduced until 2027/28, would be ring-fenced for the bus network and transport improvements.

The City Access package is central to the GCP's integrated transport network – providing the thread that links together the GCP's busway and active travel schemes to transform how people travel across the area.

For more information visit:

www.greatercambridge.org.uk

South Cambridgeshire top for hosting Ukraine families

Ukraine families continue to settle into life in South Cambridgeshire thanks to a range of grant-funded activities organised by the District Council including day trips, English classes, free laptops, books and bikes.

Six months since the government launched its Homes For Ukraine scheme, the Council remains the top District in the country for hosting families, with 808 visas issued and 720 guests arrived so far, since the government's scheme began in March 2022.

The council has provided extensive support to families fleeing the war with the help of local partnerships including more than 340 items of free tech goods delivered such as 93 laptops, 77 Chromebooks, 52 mobile phones and 124 SIM cards.

In addition, hundreds of English lessons have been given plus day trips to help people integrate into life in a new country.

Carla & John

Item 72.3

District Councillor Report to Parish Council November 2022

Congestion charge consultation

The consultation on Congestion Charging with measures to improve bus services has been launched. I have provided you with the link below so you can have your views on whether you think a Congestion Charge for Cambridge is right or not.

<https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/news/consultation-launched-on-proposals-to-transform-how-people-travel-around-greater-cambridge>

Warm Hubs

Warm Hubs have been designed to support vulnerable and isolated people, as well as those on lower incomes; at a time when the cost of living is a significant challenge. In South Cambridgeshire, the first Warm Hubs have opened at Gamlingay and Caldecote. Hardwick, Cottenham and Comberton will be the next villages to see Warm Hubs open their doors.

More hubs will open in November across both South Cambs. Operated from community buildings across East and South Cambridgeshire

The new initiative has been developed by South and East Cambridgeshire District Councils and funded by NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, part of our local Integrated Care System.

As an affiliated network, the Warm Hubs are coordinated by Cambridgeshire ACRE – the charity dedicated to supporting and strengthening rural communities across Cambridgeshire.

Operating at the heart of local communities, the Warm Hubs concept has been designed to offer warm, friendly and inclusive places with access to light refreshments. Hubs also provide residents with somewhere to socialise, take part in activities and receive information on how to reduce bills, access financial support, and stay healthy and well.

The activities and services available at Warm Hubs are operated by trained volunteers from within the local area who are individuals who understand the needs of the local communities.

Batteries cause bin lorry fire

Recently there was a fire involving a refuse collection vehicle that was collecting black bin (non-recyclable) waste. The cause of the fire is believed to have been batteries which had been placed inside a black wheelie bin. When batteries are put into a wheelie bin, it is possible for them to split when mixed and compacted with other waste or recycling in the back of the collection lorry – which can cause a fire.

The correct way to dispose of all types of portable household battery (for example, Li-ion, AA, C, D, button, laptop) is to put them inside a small plastic bag and attach that bag to the handle of your blue bin for kerbside collection. There are also collection points in all major retailers that sell batteries. For example, supermarkets and electrical shops.

Head of Greater Cambridge Shared Waste, Bode Esan, said: “We’re grateful to Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service and Cambridgeshire Police for their quick response to this fire. I’m pleased that nobody was hurt but this is a reminder about why it is so important batteries aren’t put inside wheelie bins. They can cause fires like this in our collection vehicles. Used batteries should instead be put in a clear plastic bag which can be tied to the handle of your blue bin, if disposed of at home instead of battery collection points.

“Even if they don’t cause a fire in one of our vehicles, which can put it out of action for some time and disrupt our collections, batteries put inside wheelie bins will end-up in landfill. Once there, they will leak out toxic chemicals which can be harmful to people and wildlife. I’d also encourage residents to consider buying rechargeable batteries as modern ones hold their charge much better than was previously the case and can be charged more quickly.”

Greater Cambridge Shared Waste is a partnership between South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils. It collects recycling and rubbish from around 127,000 households.

Combined Authority approves £100,000 for community led housing

The Combined Authority has unanimously agreed that a further £100,000 of funding be made available to support community-led housing initiatives across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Community-led housing involves local people playing a leading and lasting role in solving housing problems, creating genuinely affordable homes and strong communities. It can involve building new homes, returning empty homes to use and managing existing homes.

Funding challenges are often met by incorporated community led housing groups in the early stages of a project. Examples include meeting the costs of viability appraisals, addressing legal and planning issues, addressing site specific issues such as ground investigations, entering into arrangements for securing a legal interest in a site, conveyancing and preparation of partnership arrangements.

The approved £100,000 will provide a source of follow-up funding in circumstances where it can be demonstrated that it could address challenges and maintain project momentum.

Speaking of the decision by the board, Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, Dr Nik Johnson, said *“Community led housing is an essential part of our commitment to providing affordable housing across our districts, and I’m delighted that the board unanimously agreed to this additional funding. By supporting our communities and their desire to build community assets, not only will we increase the overall supply of affordable homes, but we will also see an increase in empowered and engaged communities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.”*

I thought it would be worth Parish Councils knowing of this fund in case they decide to get involved with small housing projects / exception sites in the future.

*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 or ring 07595 361 285 (please leave a voicemail if I am unavailable) **Councillor Graham Cone***