

Minutes of a Meeting of FULBOURN PARISH COUNCIL held on Wednesday, 9th October 2024 in The Swifts, Haggis Gap, Fulbourn.

Present: Councillor Smith (Chairman), and Councillors Andrews, Brown, Butler, Drage, Gaskell, Johnson, Lacey, Thorn, Viner, Ward; County Councillor Daunton, the Clerk, the administrator and 7 parishioners.

47 To accept apologies for absence.

Councillors Bramwell, Howell, Lockwood and District Councillors Cone and Williams.

48 To notify the clerk of any declarations of interest that will be declared by members for any item to be discussed.

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.

- Parishioner has concerns for Pierce Lane parking, at the T Junction with Haggis Gap, as they have witnessed several close collisions, several of which involve buses. Cllr Daunton visited the area with the Parishioner to look at the issue. Cllr Daunton reminded that the High Street area was a big part of the Neighbourhood Plan. Funding was brought up, and Cllr Daunton suggested looking to County Council and said they hoped the Greenway coming in will calm the traffic slightly. Cllr Smith suggested getting the parking officer down to check parking.
Cllr Drage suggested we do a Parish survey of traffic around the village, Cllr Ward recommended the Highways committee look at this. Clerk to organise a meeting for Highways Committee.
- Gerry Nordan and Dave Glover (members from Royal British Legion) attended to confirm what was happening with Remembrance Day. Cllr Daunton confirmed road closure is free for remembrance. Cllr Daunton will talk to Highways about possibilities, and Cllr Smith has proposed an emergency meeting in the next few days to discuss the outcome. If nothing comes from this, Mr Nordan (RBL) has confirmed a plan is in place for the parade to be cancelled and to stop people walking in the street, which has been discussed with the Church and with the Scouts.

Clerk

**CD,
Clerk**

49 To receive reports from County and District Councillors.

49.1 County Councillor Daunton issued the attached report.

Cllr Daunton reported on the 20mph decision which was unanimous, the process of which should start end of 2024, or beginning of 2025.

LHI bids were sadly both rejected. But with the school bid, contractors can do some of the work that was written into the School bid while doing work elsewhere in the village. This will be the end of Jan/February 2025. Also concerning the Dogget lane bid, the white lines will be painted. Council have been offered feedback on their bids, so if Council want to put the bid in again for 2025, then it is recommended to take the feedback and then reapply.

Anglian Water – work has been done on Stonebridge lane. Clerk to suggest dates for a meeting between AW and Council. Cllr Ward volunteered to walk down Stonebridge Lane and check if the work had been completed.

There will be a two way system down Pierce Lane on Friday 11th October.

Parishioners were in touch about flooding down Thomas Road/ Roberts Way. Cllr Daunton managed to get Metropolitan to come and clear the gullies. Metropolitan report issues with the pumping station. The roads then flooded again and Cllr Daunton could not get back through to Metropolitan. Cllr Daunton contacted MP for help, so it is with Cllr Heylings.

Cllr Brown thanked Cllr Daunton for her help, as Parishioners were not getting anywhere with Metropolitan.

Greenways – the designs are going to a GCP assembly meeting in the near future, after that

**Clerk,
GW**

<p>they will come back to residents. 49.2 District Councillors Williams and Hofman issued the attached joint report. 49.3 District Councillor Cone issued the attached report. All reports were accepted.</p>	1553
<p>50 To approve the minutes of the last meeting. The Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chair.</p>	
<p>51 Matters arising from the last meeting. 51.1 <u>Development Sites</u> Next meeting 10th December 51.2 <u>Scouts Lease</u> Claus that the Scouts said was missing was to do with the Land Registry and so was not applicable. The Lease is therefore back with Scout HQ for signing 51.3 <u>Mobile speeding device</u> Discussions around having permanent solar panels and a Mobile Speed device that moves between each solar panel. Cllr Smith to discuss with Wilbraham PC at Highways meeting on 14th October, as they have a similar set up. 51.4 <u>Swifts Play Area</u> After many cancelled meetings with Accent, Council have contacted South Cambs to get them involved with the adoption. 51.5 <u>New/Refurbished pavilion</u> This will be talked about at the Rec Working Group meeting on 10th October 51.6 <u>Fulbourn Old Drift</u> Cllr Daunton has chased Belfour Beatty, who have said the project is still with their designers. Clerk to call Belfour beatty next week to chase. 51.7 <u>Community assets</u> The new working party has met and has started the process of registering the Six Bells as a asset of community value. The Clerk has contacted Punch Taverns, the current pub manager and South Cambs. South Cambs have sent the application form, which the working party will fill out with assistance from SC. 51.8 <u>IT</u> Mark Danson spoke to Council about changing to have a government domain. The recommendation is for councillors to each have a gov email, so they do not need to use personal email addresses anymore. It has been recommended for a new PC website to be created and the current site to stay as a village website (similar to surrounding villages) The Clerk also recommended having a PC Facebook page, to be able to post comments quickly for Parishioners to see. Cllr Thorn proposed and council all agreed. Clerk to implement both. 51.9 <u>Parking restrictions</u> Several councillors reported seeing issues, mostly concerning Manor Walk, with parked cars making it difficult for lorries to get down. If we want to put up parking restrictions, Cllr Daunton said it has to go through as an LHI bid. Cllr Drage suggested if we do a village traffic survey we can encompass this. Cllr Ward proposed to look at parking in the village as a whole, and look at funding and Cllr Drage seconded. 51.10 <u>Street Light Columns</u> Clerk to contact Belfour Beatty to give price for street light on Dogget Lane, and on Manor Walk (must be conservation light)</p>	DS
<p>52 Tree Works 52.1 No objections to proposed tree works 52.2 No objections to proposed tree works. 52.3 David Noble was invited to speak to Council about the current Village Tree Planting Programme. The proposal is to plant 54 trees, which will be looked after by the programme for 2 years, and will then be the responsibility of the land owner. Mr Noble provided a plan to council, which included where the trees will be planted, who the land owner is and the type of tree. Council gave permission for the proposed trees to be planted on council land. The Clerk will provide a letter of authorisation. Cllr Johnson brought up that several trees have been vandalised and completely pulled up, to which Mr Noble confirmed precautions will be taken with properly staking the trees. Mr Noble to contact Accent, and assist the Clerk in contacting Metropolitan, on behalf of the Tree Project. Mr Noble to notify tree officers at County.</p>	Clerk
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53 Correspondence.

- 53.1. SCDC – September Parish e-Bulletin
- 53.2. CAPALC – October Newsletter
- 53.3. NALC – October Newsletter
- 53.4. Fulbourn Arts – October Newsletter
- 53.5. CCC – Cambridgeshire Matters September report
- 53.6. Cambridgeshire Acre - invitation to Cambridgeshire ACRE's Annual General Meeting 2024 – Wednesday 9th October, 2-3pm via zoom
- 53.7. Cambridgeshire Library – The Library Presents new season of art events, running from Oct-Dec 2024
- 53.8. CAPALC – List of final training sessions of 2024
- 53.9. GCSP – Invitation to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus Planning Update on Wednesday 23rd October, 6-7:30pm
- 53.10. Fulbourn Centre – Open Morning for all village clubs and organisations to promote their activities on Saturday 25th January
- 53.11. Fulbourn Forum – September newsletter
- 53.12. Cambridge Water – Invitation to an online session called ‘Your Water, Your say’ on Thursday 17th October, 5:30-7:30pm
- 53.13. CAPALC - Final CAPALC Training Sessions of 2024
- 53.14. Cambridgeshire Acre - 'Staying Connected' event aimed exclusively at those living and working in South Cambridgeshire - Thursday 17 October 2024 at 5pm online via Zoom
- 53.15. CCC - TMC Incident Report September 2024
- 53.16. TTRO - Teversham Road, 28/10/24-1/11/24 road closure with diversion. There have been complaints that lorries have been using Thomas Road as a short cut during Teversham Road closures, despite the diversion being clearly marked. Cllr Daunton has been looking into this and recommended getting in touch with Street Works and asking them to attend on the first day of the next road closure to assess the situation. Clerk to remind Cllr Daunton following the meeting.
- 53.17. TTRO – Teversham Road, 4/11/24-8/11/24 road closure with diversion
- 53.18. TTRO – Station Road/ Church Lane, 12/11/24 – 18/11/24 road closure with diversion
- 53.19. CAPALC – One member of each council is invited to attend the CAPALC AGM. Thursday 31st Oct via zoom, 7pm start. Will last no more than an hour. Cllr Drage agreed to attend on behalf of Fulbourn PC.
- 53.20. CCC – Request to display advert for an over 60’s writing competition run by the Field Theatre Group
- 53.21. SCDC – Invitation from The Climate and Environment team to attend the SCDC Local Climate Action Conference 2024 on Tuesday 19 November from 11-3pm. RSVP by 5th November
- 53.22. CCC – Reminder the deadline to register interest for next years LHI bids is 11th October 2024
- 53.23. CPFT NHS – Request for any low/no cost things people (who might be lonely) can do over Christmas period in South Cambs
- 53.24. Domino Preschool – The preschool may have to close due to works taking place at the URC. Looking for ideas/suggestions for available space.
- 53.25 A Parishioner has contacted Cllr Johnson about motorbikes being disruptive; with 2 people riding one motorbike without helmets or a number plate. Cllr Daunton recommended the Parishioners report to Chris Wiseman. Clerk to also report on behalf on the Parish.

Clerk,
CD

MD

Clerk

54 To resolve the accounts for the month.

Pavilion Gas.....187.37	Pavilion Elec.....421.55
Hub Gas.....93.04	Hub Elec.....188.72
Smith of Derby: Clock.....210.00	S.P Landscapes: Grass cut.....1410.00

<p>Travis Perkins: Security fencing.290.88 Clerk: Wages.....1301.64 Admin Assist: Wages.....541.67 Handyman wages.....138.00 Questions raised around gas and electric for Pavillion. Cllr Smith to look at boiler. Cllr Ward reported electric is high because of MUGA and we get donations from the clubs towards these costs. Cllr Drage proposed accepting the accounts, proposal seconded by Cllr Thorn and agreed by the Council.</p> <p>55 Council Committees and Remote Meetings. 55.1 Planning Meeting. Minutes of a Meeting held on 24/09/2024 were issued and accepted. 55.2 Fulbourn Liaison Meeting. Minutes of a Meeting held on 10/09/2024 were issued and accepted.</p> <p>56 To receive items for inclusion on the next Agenda for decision and/or action. No items were received.</p> <p>There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9:44pm.</p>	<p>1555</p> <p>DS</p>
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Attached reports:

Item 49.1

Report to Parish Councils for October 2024 from County Councillor Claire Daunton

Fulbourn Issues

1. 20mph limit. This has ben agreed for implementation. I will speak more about this at the parish council meeting.
2. LHI bids:school. Most unfortunately neither bid came above the red line for funding. It was a very competitive year and although the bids were judged to be good, they scored just below the red line. However, county officers, thinking positively, should be able to deliver much of what the school was hoping for (the dropped kerb and white lining), through other routes, early in 2025. I have been in touch with the school to let them know and to explain how this might happen. The yellow lines on St Vigors and near the school and Stack Yard will need toi be the subject of a separate simple LHI bid in the next round.
3. LHI bid: parish. The parish are invited to resubmit the bid following the feedback that has been offered. I have also asked if, in the meantime, white lines can be painted on Doggett Lane and particularly at the junctions with School Lane and Home End. Officers are hoping to programme this work in, but I have yet to have a date.
4. Anglian Water. I contacted AW, s requested at the last PC meeting, putting to them all the concerns of residents and of the PC. I also followed up with a conversation with a senior county officer who is responsible for flood management across the County. AW has offered a second meeting with the parish council, online, and the senior county officer has agreed to attend. In the meantime, AW has been working on Stonebridge Lane to make good defects, as requested.
5. Drainage Work. There will be two-way traffic signals on part of Pierce Lane on 11th October while gully cleaning work is carried out.
6. Flooding on Thomas Road. At the request of a Cllr Brunner and of residents I contacted Metropolitan Housing concerning flooding on Thomas Road. This has occurred on several occasions. They cleared gulleys but the water was still gathering due to long-standing issues with the local water pumping arrangements: Cllr Williams has highlighted these in the past. MH are now looking at this afresh bringing in specialist advice. The office of Pippa

Heylings MP has also been in touch with Metropolitan to ask what their long-term plans are for dealing with the issue.

New Director of Public Health

Cambridgeshire County Council has a new Director of Public Health, Sally Cartwright, who joins us from Luton in January. The Director of Public Health is responsible for identifying and improving the health and wellbeing of residents, reducing inequalities in health outcomes and protecting local communities from public health hazards, such as infectious diseases and environmental threats.

Vaccination update

Vaccinations are now available for eligible people against a range of conditions including Covid, flu, pneumonia, shingles, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).

Local GP practices are calling up eligible patients, or you can find out more at

<https://www.cpics.org.uk/the-vaccinators/> and book with a local pharmacy or attend a convenient drop-in session without an appointment.

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

School place appeal panel volunteers

Volunteers are urgently needed to hear appeals when children are not offered a place at their preferred school.

All parents or carers have the right to make an appeal to an independent appeal panel if their child is not offered a place at their preferred school. The role of the panel is to decide whether a child who has been refused a place by Cambridgeshire County Council should be given a place.

All parties involved must be given an appeal hearing that is transparent, accessible, independent and impartial. The appeal panel is independent of the local authority and its decisions are binding on all parties, unless overturned by the courts.

Volunteers will sit on the independent admission appeal panels and ensure that parents feel they have had a fair and independent hearing and have been given every opportunity to put their case and have been taken seriously.

Panel members must be able to listen to two sides of a case and weigh up evidence objectively and impartially. They must also be able to:

- Communicate effectively with a wide range of people
- Read and assess information and identify key points
- Listen to key information
- Ask questions to obtain information and clarify points being made
- Analyse information and use it to form opinions and conclusions
- Obtain and weigh up evidence to reach a decision
- Work as part of a team, take advice and develop their own skills

All volunteer Panel Members receive initial and annual refresher training and will be fully supported by the Appeals Service.

The time commitment depends on how much time volunteers are willing to give. While appeals are held throughout the year, the peak months are between April and July. The appeals are arranged either for half a day or a full day, and hearings are currently held online using Microsoft Teams.

Anyone interested in applying or who would like an informal chat about the role should contact **clare.cronk@cambridgeshire.gov.uk**

New homes for children with complex needs

Cambridgeshire County Council's Assets & Procurement Committee has selected two former farmhouses close to each other in Soham as a pilot project to increase the number of local places available for children and young people with complex needs. Both properties, currently vacant, are owned by the Council. They will be fully refurbished and a provider will be offered a contract for up to ten years to provide care services to best meet the needs of the children.

Locally and nationally there is a growing need for placements, with children having to be placed out of the county due to a lack of local places and a limited number of registered settings being available. This project offers an opportunity for local and more stable placements, as well as avoiding over £635,000 of costs each year on private placements.

Looked after children

The Council's residential strategy for looked after children will be referred to the Strategy, Resources & Performance Committee. There remains a shortage of care placements for looked after children across the country.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

Climate change progress report and carbon footprint

The County Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee received on Thursday 3 October a progress report on its Climate Change & Environment Strategy, and the annual Carbon Footprint report. This is the sixth annual Carbon Footprint report, and covers both the County Council's own carbon emissions, and those of Cambridgeshire as a whole.

Carbon emissions are classified into three 'scopes'.

Scope 1 is direct emissions such as from gas or oil boilers and vehicles.

Scope 2 is emissions from purchased electricity.

Scope 3 is indirect emissions such as those of contractors and suppliers

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The Council's Scope 1 and 2 are 42 per cent lower than in the baseline reporting year of 2018/19. Scope 2 is now always zero as the Council buys electricity through a zero-carbon contract. The Council's Scope 3 emissions for 2023/24 account for around 99 per cent of its carbon footprint, and were 111,307 tonnes CO₂e excluding the Council's rural estate—39 per cent lower than in 2018/19.

During 2023/24 the Council procured expert support to identify baseline carbon emissions for its rural estate, and more work needs to be done to agree an achievable target. For Cambridgeshire as a whole, in 2022—the most recent available data—total greenhouse gas emissions were 6.45 million tonnes CO₂e, a three per cent fall from 2021. Transport (27 per cent) remains the highest emitting sector in the county, followed by land use, land use change and forestry (LULUCF) (23 per cent), agriculture (15 per cent) and domestic energy use (13 per cent). The risk of not reaching the Council's carbon targets has reduced but still remains considerable. Delivery of these targets relies on collaborating with our partner organisations.

Newly discovered Roman town given heritage protection

A newly discovered Roman small town south of Great Staughton has been given heritage protection as a scheduled monument by the Department for Culture, Media & Sport on the advice of Historic England. Cambridgeshire County Council is responsible for maintaining information about scheduled monuments in the county, and requested that test

trenches be dug at Great Staughton during archaeology prior to the submission of proposals for a solar farm. As a result of the findings, panels will not be installed on that part of the site. This site is now Cambridgeshire's second largest Roman Scheduled Monument after the walled town of Durobrivae, five miles west of Peterborough.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Local Highways Improvement schemes

The Highways & Transport Committee meeting on Tuesday 1 October has agreed which Local Highways Improvement (LHI) bids will be approved for the coming year. These are divided into complex and non-complex schemes.

prioritisation through the council's Delivering Transport Strategy Aims programme.

Next year's application round:

The application window for the next LHI application round will be as follows.

- Application window opens: Friday 1 November 2024
- Application window closes: Friday 10 January 2025
- Feasibility studies undertaken: February—May 2025
- Panel meetings: June—July 2025
- Report to committee including prioritised list for approval: October 2025

20MPH schemes

Local 20MPH schemes still prove hugely popular, with 91 schemes submitted by local communities for consideration, and a further eleven withdrawn for consideration under other proposals. Only eight of the 91 schemes were recommended to the Highways & Transport Committee on Tuesday 1 October for implementation this coming year, again for lack of funding:

- Waterbeach (village-wide)
- Stow cum Quy (village-wide)
- Elm (village-wide)
- Bottisham (village-wide)
- Little Paxton (village-wide)
- Earith (majority of village)
- Swavesey (majority of village)
- Steeple Morden (central area of village)

The Fulbourn scheme which was approved for funding last year has now been approved for implementation and I have written to the parish council concerning next steps. It is hoped to implement the scheme in early 2025, with a possibility of this happening at the end of 2024. The Great Wilbraham scheme which was approved for funding last year is waiting for approval. I hope the arrangements for decision making will be put in place very soon.

IMPORTANT POINT it was agreed by the Highways and Transport Committee to put some additional funding (1.2 m), made available from central government through the Combined Authority, into the LHI schemes. The details of this are to be worked out, but this decision recognised that LHI bids come from local communities and are expressions of what communities want to see happen to improve their areas.

Mill Road (Cambridge) closure

A special meeting of the Highways & Transport Committee took place on Friday 4 October to determine afresh the application for a Traffic Regulation Order. This would restrict traffic over the bridge by motor vehicles, except local buses, taxis, Private Hire Vehicles, blue badge holders' registered vehicles, and other authorised vehicles. Access would be maintained for cyclists and pedestrians. The Mill Road decision quashed by the court in August, and the statutory consultation relating to it, was agreed not to be taken into account, and the matter was determined by a different

group of councillors. The restrictions noted above were voted in on a majority vote and will take effect as soon as the necessary work to make this happen can be undertaken.

Meanwhile on the Combined Authority

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority has now been released from the 'Best Value Notice' placed on it in January 2023 as the Government has recognised the improvement in the organisation.

The Authority's Transport & Infrastructure Committee is recommending that the Board allow older people and those with disabilities to use their bus passes before the current 9:30AM start. The new Tiger Pass offers bus travel for £1 per journey for those aged up to 25. Details of how to apply for the new pass can be found at

<https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/onepoundbusfare/>

I was pleased to see that the Vision Zero road safety project is being revived. Its aims are to reduce the numbers of people killed or seriously injured on our roads and the social and financial impact of this, and to develop financially sustainable models of road safety activity. The original prospectus in 2020 aimed for zero killed or seriously injured by 2040 though this seems unlikely to be met. A reminder that the Combined Authority's consultation on bus franchising continues until 20 November. Short and long questionnaires can be found at <https://cpca-yourvoice.co.uk/bus-franchising-consultation/>

Item 49.2

Report of Councillor Carla Hofman and Councillor John Williams to Parish Councils for October 2024.

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@scambs.gov.uk or cllr.hofman@scambs.gov.uk

What are your priorities for South Cambridgeshire District Council?

Residents and businesses are being asked to help shape South Cambridgeshire District Council's plans for the years ahead – to help ensure the area remains one of the best places to live and work in the country.

The Council has identified five key priorities to help achieve its goals. Councillors now want to hear the views of local people so they can help influence the production of a full Corporate Plan for 2025 and beyond. This Plan, when finalised, will set out the actions, initiatives and strategies the Council will work through to meet its targets.

The five priority areas the Council has put forward are:

- Healthy and flourishing communities – which could include supporting communities to tackle local issues, support for arts and culture projects, providing cost-of-living support and working with partners to combat crime and anti-social behaviour.
- Sustainable homes and vibrant places – such as continuing to deliver new, high quality Council homes, bringing empty homes back into use, making new towns

vibrant and attractive places to live and supporting improved access to green spaces.

- Being green to our core – including reducing local carbon emissions, protecting air quality and working with others to tackle water scarcity and other environmental issues.
- Helping businesses to thrive in South Cambridgeshire – through methods such as promotion of local businesses, renting out space, supporting new markets and events and providing business support resources.
- Financially secure and fit for the future – which could mean completing reviews of services to make sure processes are efficient, exploring new ways of generating income, acting to reduce fraud and making it easier for residents to access services online.

The Council is keen to hear from as many people as possible – especially those who live, own businesses or work in South Cambridgeshire, as well as regular visitors to the area.

The public consultation and online survey will run until Tuesday 29 October, go to:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Yr5uzntVNkShnHZ-yizUUSEbKQeTT7JPluyOcLGOy9JUQ0MwNkJWV0qwTIRLMVdYNTJZU1BVMTIQQyQIQCN0PWcu&route=shorturl>

New £100,000 small business grant programme is launched in South Cambridgeshire

Small businesses in South Cambridgeshire are being invited to apply for funding of up to £5,000 each in a new grant programme launched this week. The funding is available to those already trading with ambitions to grow and will provide grants, advice and support for existing businesses with up to nine employees.

The new support grants are available as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) is the lead authority for delivery of the Fund, while the District Council is responsible for grant scheme delivery and allocation.

Applications will be open until 31 October 2024. Businesses may only make one application. The District Council reserves the right to close the application window earlier should the level of demand exceed the maximum funding available.

More information can be found online at:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/uk-shared-prosperity-fund/small-business-grant/>

Street trading policy change allows a three-month trial for new locations in South Cambridgeshire

An updated street trading policy is set for South Cambridgeshire to allow greater flexibility and opportunities for businesses. The new policy brings two key changes into force to support the growth of street traders such as food vans, flower stalls and cake vans. The two changes align with the District Council's corporate objective to grow local businesses and economies. They are:

- A three-month trial for new premises. This allows traders to assess suitability or viability of a new location before committing to an annual consent.
- A new ad-hoc trading consent, enabling trading for up to four times a year in one location to meet business needs or assess viability.

The existing fair approach to street trading continues across the district while ensuring it complements local shops.

South Cambridgeshire District Council is committed to ending violence against women and girls as a White Ribbon organisation

South Cambridgeshire District Council has become White Ribbon Accredited in recognition of its commitment to preventing harassment, abuse and violence against women and girls. The District Council is committed to working towards ending men's violence against women by becoming accredited and aligning with White Ribbon UK, the leading charity engaging men and boys to end violence against women.

As part of our work towards Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) accreditation, we introduced and strengthened policies and practices to support staff and residents of all genders who experience domestic abuse. This work was praised by assessors as inspiring and exemplary. As part of our White Ribbon action plan, our Ambassadors and Champions will continue to raise awareness of the White Ribbon promise to "never use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women".

National Fraud Initiative (NFI)

South Cambridgeshire participates in the National Fraud Initiative to help proactively detect fraud and error in our systems. Since its creation in 1996 there have been cumulative savings of £2.4 billion nationally.

While there is not a huge amount of fraud and error at the Council, it is important that we remain vigilant. This data matching exercise helps us to proactively safeguard our public funds. The Council submits various data sets to the Cabinet Office for data matching. These include data from: Licensing, Trade Creditors, Housing, Council Tax, Benefits, Electoral roll, plus our Payroll and Pensions. This happens at least every two years, with the Council Tax and Electoral roll data also being submitted annually.

The data is matched across all of the Councils, and this helps us to detect any payments or benefits which may not have been correct. We can then recover the money for the Council. This process also helps us to learn where our processes can be improved to prevent further risks. All data is handled according to General Data Protection Regulations using secure Cabinet Office computer systems. Further information about the processing of data is included in the Councils NFI webpage and the Cabinet Office's Fair Processing Notice.

Grants boost community support in South Cambridgeshire

Art for mental health, domestic abuse support and a community transport charity are among groups sharing a grant funding pot of more than £180,000 from South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The Service Support Grants are being awarded for advice services, independent living, mental health and wellbeing and to provide support to the wider voluntary and community sector.

Eleven non-profit groups will share a total of £167,400 and include Citizens Advice and Cambridge Dial-a-Ride and £14,250 has been allocated to Cambridge Cyrenians, Cambridge Reuse and Cambridge Women's Aid all of whom also support South Cambs residents.

Benefits of District Council's cost-of-living support highlighted by report

The latest cost-of-living support that has benefited thousands of South Cambridgeshire residents has been outlined in a new District Council report.

Last winter 500 more people were given a free electric blanket during the winter – to add to the 400 South Cambridgeshire residents who received either a blanket or slow cooker the winter before. The electrical products were targeted at people claiming Attendance Allowance or a certain level of Personal Independence Payment who are also receiving Council Tax Support. 90% of recipients who responded to a Council survey said they had noticed at least some difference to their energy bills – with the Council estimating that every resident who received one saved more than £33 a week. Additionally, almost all respondents said they'd noticed a difference in how warm they felt at home.

Meanwhile Warm Hubs – established in late 2022 to provide warm community spaces in South Cambridgeshire – evolved into Community Hubs. Run by Cambridgeshire ACRE, they have been funded largely by a two-year Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System grant. The 16 Community Hubs operate in communities across South Cambridgeshire – with three additional Hubs due to open this Autumn. They are a place where residents can receive debt advice, food aid, housing, and health services. Between February and July this year, more than 5,470 people visited these hubs.

Elsewhere a Mobile Food Hub – a partnership between South Cambs and not-for-profit organisation Hope CIC – visits eight locations across the district on a rolling basis. The Mobile Food Hub is stocked with fresh fruit and vegetables, essential items such as canned foods, pasta, rice, cereal, and long-life milk. Personal hygiene, period, and infant products are also available, plus household cleaning items such as laundry detergent. All items are sold at below retail price, with some offered for free. The initiative – which recently purchased an electric vehicle thanks to funding from the District Council's Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme – has received more than 2,000 visits from residents since it launched last summer. In addition, 263 emergency food parcels were supplied to residents as an emergency last resort

Elsewhere, three local groups covering Girton, Barton and Melbourn have successfully applied to the District Council's Community Growing Grant scheme. The £500 grants support communities to grow their own food sustainably. A South Cambridgeshire Sustainable Food Network has also been established, linking together all the foodbanks in the district. The network is now working to share surplus food to reduce waste.

Going forward the council has purchased software to better target its support and advice to residents on a low income, and there will be another distribution of free electric blankets for this winter.

Carla and John

Item 49.3

District Councillor report to Parish Council October 2024

eVisas and Ukrainian Guests

The Home Office and UKVI are launching a new online platform for managing refugee visas. Under this new system, all physical visas will be transitioned to an eVisa format. This update will play a key role in the forthcoming Ukraine Permission Extension scheme (UPE). The Homes for Ukraine team is reaching out to all guests and hosts to inform them of this change, ensuring a smooth transition to the UPE. If parish councillors encounter residents facing any issues with this process, please reach out to me, and I will request assistance from the SCDC team.

Small Business Support

Please could residents and Parish Councillors share this information, it would be lovely to see a small business within the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward receive this grant.

Small businesses in South Cambridgeshire are encouraged to apply for funding of up to £5,000 in a new grant programme which has been launched. This financial assistance is available for businesses that are already operational and seek to expand, offering grants, guidance, and support to existing enterprises with up to nine employees. These new support grants are part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) acting as the lead authority for the Fund's implementation, while the District Council oversees the delivery and distribution of the grant scheme.

For those aiming to start a business and take their first steps, free advice is available, including guidance on developing a viable business plan. This startup assistance will be provided by the Business and Intellectual Property Centre in collaboration with the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Growth Hub.

Applications are open until 31 October 2024. Businesses may only make one application. The District Council reserves the right to close the application window earlier should the level of demand exceed the maximum funding available. More information can be found on the SCDC website or you can email: businessgrants@scams.gov.uk

Scrutiny and Overview committee

As Chair of Scrutiny, I will be calling in Anglian Water and the Environment Agency so that committee members can scrutinise the following:

- Effective communication between the various organisations giving evidence, this Council and the public
- Measures to improve on, and add value to, existing work practices (including new technologies)
- Issues surrounding flooding and sewerage treatment
- Environmental responsibility

If Parish Councillors have anything they would like me to raise regarding these issues, I'm happy to put forward your questions, as much as time will allow.

Cambridge and Peterborough Combined Authority (CPCA) bus franchising consultation

This is a friendly reminder that the ongoing consultation is still open, and both parish councillors and residents are welcome to participate in the survey. The consultation on bus franchising will last for 14 weeks and will include a combination of online and in-person events. This isn't the first time the public has been asked about bus franchising, and we hope that this time, we can achieve progress beyond just the consultation phase. Please follow the link below to join the consultation.

<https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/news/bus-franchising-consultation-in-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough-goes-live/>

Cambridge Cancer Research Hospital

I will be supporting efforts underway in Cambridgeshire to support the plans for a new Cambridge Cancer Research Hospital, which is designed to be a leading facility in cancer research and treatment. Concerns have arisen regarding potential funding changes from the current government.

The Cancer Hospital is one of two proposed new facilities in Cambridge, alongside the Cambridge Children's Hospital. This new hospital aims to enhance groundbreaking research and emphasise early intervention, laying the groundwork for improved cancer care, as cancer impacts a significant portion of the population. There is uncertainty surrounding the future of the hospital's construction, as recent discussions indicate that funding may be reconsidered in the coming months.

I firmly believe that the Cancer Research Hospital is absolutely vital for the East of England. Addenbrooke's stands out as a remarkable site, merging the efforts of the private sector, charitable organisations, and the NHS to provide groundbreaking treatments that will save lives and enhance the quality of life for cancer patients facing challenging conditions. I have witnessed firsthand the incredible dedication and hard work that has already gone into this project. It has secured planning permission, and considerable time and resources have been invested to bring it to this point. To see this ambitious project put on hold would be nothing short of devastating. For those seeking more information about the Cancer Research Hospital, please visit the following website:

<https://www.cambridgecancer.org.uk>

Four days a week for 5 days pay

A four-day work week means staff work 80% of their usual hours while receiving full pay. South Cambridgeshire District Council conducted a trial of a four-day working week for its employees from January 2023 to March 2024. After the trial, the Council continued the four-day work schedule.

The Council has released results from the trial and here are some key questions I have:

Has it saved money?

One of the expected advantages of the four-day work week was cost savings for the Council. In November 2023, the council projected potential savings of £776,000 from this initiative, but actual savings amounted to £371,500—less than half of the forecasted amount. Additionally, this figure does not account for necessary expenses such as £430,000 for purchasing additional bin lorries if the four-day week becomes permanent, nor does it include an estimated £40,000 for a public consultation.

After considering these expenses, the council is facing a deficit of approximately £100,000, indicating that the four-day work week has resulted in higher costs rather than savings, alongside sporadic service delivery. These calculations do not also cost lost working hours which would be huge.

Has performance improved?

Determining whether performance has improved due to the four-day work week is challenging, as various factors can influence results. The planning phase for the four-day week started in October

2022. During the trial, the council also aimed to enhance operational efficiency through service reviews and moving more services online. However, the improvements in efficiency are not directly linked to the four-day work week policy. According to an analysis from the University of Salford, 33% of performance indicators showed a decline during the trial, raising concerns about essential services.

How has recruitment been affected?

The council hired 134 new staff members during the trial, but this number does not consider the employees who left. Only 9 of the new hires were in senior planning roles categorised as hard-to-fill positions, comprising just 6% of the new recruits.

Is the data reliable?

In September 2023, a report from the University of Cambridge was revised at the council's request prior to release. The current report from the University of Salford has raised questions about the reliability of the data and whether it has been influenced in a similar manner.

What do staff experiences reveal?

While many employees report having more positive workdays, underlying issues affect overall staff wellbeing. In 2024, 37% of council staff indicated they needed to work more than four days each week to manage their workload, an increase from 28% in 2023. Additionally, 30% of staff reported heightened stress levels in 2024, with many indicating that stress negatively impacted them. This situation raises questions about the sustainability of the four-day work week, as a significant number of employees are exceeding the intended schedule. New employees have reported challenges in acclimating to the council's practices, suggesting the trial may complicate the onboarding process for newcomers.

What do residents think?

Residents, who financially support the council's operations, showed limited support for the four-day work week. In an online survey, 75% of respondents opposed the initiative. Moreover, more than 80% of council members have not had an opportunity to vote on this arrangement, indicating a lack of representative input from the community.

Summary:

I will continue to raise my concerns regarding the effectiveness of the four-day work week trial, including questions about cost, staff performance, and recruitment. The experiences reported by staff indicate challenges that may undermine the intended benefits of the shorter working week.

*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***

Item 55.1

Minutes of a Planning Meeting of Fulbourn Parish Council

Location: The Hub, Home End, Fulbourn

Date: Tuesday 24th September 2024 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors J Gaskell, D Smith (chair), R Butler, K Johnson, A Bramwell. Also present was parishioner Emily Sullivan.

Apologies: Councillors M Drage, T Andrews, T Lockwood, K Seymour, D Thorn, G Ward

Applications Addressed:

24/03250/HFUL

Location: 1 Cow Lane, Fulbourn

Proposal: Single storey front and side extension and single storey rear extension

Comments: The Parish Council supports this application. The Parish Council does not request that the application be referred to the District Council Planning

Committee (signed by Councillor D. Smith on 24/09/24).

Comments submitted to SCDC by Alison Mclellan on 25/09/24.

24/03331/HFUL

Location: 44 Pierce Lane

Proposal: Single Storey Front Extension following demolition of Existing Covered Porch together with Re-Roof of Existing Flat Roof Elements and rooflights to rear, Internal Additions and Alterations

Comments: The Parish Council supports this application. The Parish Council does not request that the application be referred to the District Council Planning Committee (signed by Councillor D. Smith on 24/09/24).

Comments submitted to SCDC by Alison Mclellan on 25/09/24.

24/03492/HFUL

Location: 17 Caraway Road

Proposal: Demolition of existing car port and garage. Two storey side and single storey rear extension

Comments: The Parish Council supports this application. The Parish Council does not request that the application be referred to the District Council Planning Committee (signed by Councillor D. Smith on 24/09/24).

Comments submitted to SCDC by Alison Mclellan on 25/09/24.

Item 55.2



Fulbourn Liaison Meeting Tuesday 10th September, 6pm – 7pm via Teams

Attendees

Cllr Graham Cone – District Councillor Fulbourn – Chair
Cllr Claire Daunton – County Councillor Fulbourn
Claire Guyton - New Build Team SCDC
Jane Mountain – Project Officer SCDC
Phoebe Carter – Senior Planner GCP
Kris Garrett –Senior Site Manager Hill Group
Jim Brown – Contracts Manager Hill Group

Apologies

Cllr Williams -District Councillor Fulbourn
Dean Scivener – Principal planner
Charlotte Marsh – Hill Group

Actions From Last Meeting

1. Jane will ask if Morris Homes make their entrance on Old Drift clearer to not be confused with other entrances to the school or the hospital. *Due to launch show homes so have ordered better signage. See Morris Homes developer updates.*
2. Jane to contact both developers for emergency contact details for both sites. – *Emergency contacts for Morris Homes sent to Cllrs and Parish Clerk. Completed*

3. Jane will write to Morris Homes to ask who their social landlord is. *No agreed contracts with any social housing companies currently.* No update on a social landlord, Paul Larkin states he is not involved with this, but will let us know when he hears from the head office in Manchester.

Developer Updates

Morris Homes - 20/05199/REM (203) No Attendance – Information received via email from Paul Larkin.

- 6 completed plots
- Sales are steady, currently have 9 plots sold which are under construction
- Out of the 9 sales two are due next month and all the others in Q4 March – April
- Most of our major works are not complete, but in discussions with Highways to get road space to complete the S278 works.
- Morris Homes now have an onsite car park and there should be visibly less parking on Old Drift, if contractors are noted to be parking there, they will be asked to move.
- Morris Homes were also responsible for replacing the NHS sign

Hill Group - S/3290/19/RM (110) Jim Brown

- No occupations, but the show room is now open, and they have sold 6 properties.
- First occupations anticipated for October 2024
- Also working with Claire Guyton on properties for SCDC which will be ready next year.
- Timeframe for the build is expected to be until summer 2026
- Roadworks due to start late September for electrics and drainage. Full road closure on Teversham Road expected for one week and 2 days and partial closures for two weeks. Hill have assured the group that advance warning notices will be put out.
- Previous concerns regarding noise and fencing from the Hill development have been addressed. Noise monitoring shows levels within acceptable limits and working hours have been confirmed to meet regulations. Cllrs confirmed have not received any recent complaints regarding this.

Planning Updates

- No updates currently.
- Pump House development has started but this is an independent build. Phoebe said a traffic management plan was submitted and approved by the Council. July last year and she shared the planning reference number: 22/03530/CONDB - Hannah Reed and Associates, Telford House, 76 Cow Lane Fulbourn. [Simple Search \(greatercambridgeplanning.org\)](https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/)

Community Concerns & Updates

- Concerns raised about HGVs using Cow Lane there are a series of S bends and narrowing of the road at Highfield Gate and Apethore Street. It was discussed in the meeting that there had been road closures nearby that might have had a knock-on effect with traffic.

- Are lorries using the alternative routes provided earlier this year? Both Cllrs Cone and Daunton agreed that the traffic issues from earlier this year had improved.
- Has the development at the Pump House started? This development is separate from the developments discussed at these meetings but could be the cause of traffic on Cow Lane.

AOB

- Cllr Daunton has requested a timeline for all major upcoming works that could affect the community from both developers.

Actions

- **Jim Brown** to provide a detailed timeline for Hill's development and roadworks
- **Jane** to request a timeline from Morris Homes.
- **Jane** to circulate the Pump House traffic management plan details from Phoebe Carter.

Next Meeting Date - 10th December 6 – 7pm via Teams

Terms of reference

- *Mitigate any disruptive impact of construction on residents.*
- *Promote the integration of new residents into the community.*
- *Engage residents with the new development and the associated facilities.*

Membership

- *Parish Council*
- *SCDC*
- *Developer of significant plots (only those for which reserve matters have been settled)*
- *Member of the community*
- *Invitees*