

Minutes of Kingston Annual Parish Meeting Held at 8.00pm on 17 May 2018 in the Village Hall

Present:

James Clear, Chair of Kingston Parish Council, Chair of meeting
Julie Conder, Sue Dalgleish, Katherine Reid, Miki Ellar, Councillors, Kingston Parish Council
Peter Stokes, Clerk to Kingston Parish Council
Tumi Hawkins, Councillor, South Cambridgeshire District Council
Lina Joseph, Councillor, Cambridgeshire County Council

Members of the public: Janet Clear, Suzy Stokes, Irene Heyman, Joan Reynolds, Jill Coleman, Paul Wright, Keith Tan.

The following reports were presented in summary. Where a discussion followed or questions were asked, brief details of these are given. Full copies of the reports are attached as appendices.

1. **Chairman's report** (see Appendix A): James Clear highlighted the following from his report:
 - 1.1. Thanks to relentless efforts by Julie Conder and Tumi Hawkins, fibre broadband is now available to everyone in the village.
 - 1.2. After some early problems, the speed humps in Church Lane and Tinker's Lane seemed to be effective in keeping down traffic speed through the village. All present agreed they were happy with them.
2. **Parish Clerk's report** (see Appendix B).
 - 2.1. Peter Stokes asked residents to advise him of any problems with the grass cutting contractors.
 - 2.2. Jill Coleman said the grass on Field Road green is not always cut right up to the trees, or to the ditch. **Action: Peter Stokes.**
3. **District Councillor's report** (see Appendix C)
4. **County Councillor's report** (see Appendix D).
 - 4.1. Several people raised complaints concerning potholes in the village. **Action Lina Joseph.**
 - 4.2. Jill Coleman said there had recently been a hit and also a near miss to a telegraph pole on Toft Road. She asked if it was possible to move the pole as it appeared to be vulnerable in its present location. **Action Lina Joseph.**
 - 4.3. Keith Tan complained that the surface of Field Road had been patched many times and asked if it could be resurfaced. **Action Lina Joseph.**
 - 4.4. Julie Conder and Katherine Reid asked if a cycle path could be provided between Kingston and Toft, to link up with the cycle path from there which goes into Cambridge. **Action Lina Joseph.**
 - 4.5. Joan Reynolds mentioned that there was an overhanging hedge at No. 1 Crane's Lane. **Action Peter Stokes.**
 - 4.6. Jill Coleman commented that it is very annoying when cyclists use the road when a cycle path is available, especially when riding two abreast.
5. **Village Hall Management Committee Report** (see Appendix E)
6. **Webmaster's Report** (see Appendix F)
7. **Parochial Church Council report** (see Appendix G)

7.1. Janet Clear distributed a summary of her report.

8. Kingston Poor Land Charity report (see Appendix H)

8.1. Katherine Reid asked if the trustees had any plans for the charity's reserves, which seem to be increasing year by year. Joan Reynolds, trustee of the charity, replied that they (the trustees) had asked for residents to nominate any new potential beneficiaries for consideration but there had been no response to this.

8.2. Peter Stokes asked if the disbursements could perhaps be made a little larger in future in view of the high level of reserves. It was also suggested that the trustees might again put an item in the parish magazine giving some information about the charity and its terms of reference, and asking people to come forward with suggestions for suitable beneficiaries. **Action: Joan Reynolds and Donal O'Donnell.**

9. Open Forum

9.1. Jill Coleman asked if the parish council had considered setting up Community Speedwatch in the village. Peter Stokes advised that this had been discussed some years ago but it was concluded that it was not appropriate for Kingston. It was agreed that the parish council would look at this matter again. **Action: Peter Stokes.**

The meeting finished at 21:20.

Signed.....

Date.....

Chairman's Report for Kingston Annual Parish Meeting – 17th May 2018

Following Tim FitzJohn's retirement last summer, I found myself elevated to the position of Chairman. Tim and his predecessor Simon Draper set a very high standard in this Office, so I was somewhat daunted by the responsibility. Fortunately the Parish Council is very much a team and I have had great support from the other Parish Councillors, guided as always by the steady hand of our Parish Clerk Peter Stokes.

It has been a relatively quiet year at a local level for the Parish Council. We have dealt with fairly mundane matters such as the positioning of Parking Signs for the Village Hall Car Park and arranging the repair of the Kissing Gate to the important issue of the provision of high speed Broadband for the Village. Julie Conder together with Tumi Hawkins has done a sterling job in keeping up the pressure on Openreach and we are now in the position that every household in the village has access to High Speed Broadband.

The speed tables, to curb speeding through the Village, were installed last summer and after a few teething problems they now appear to be having the desired effect.

On wider issues we still do not have a Local Plan for SCDC – some four years after this process began. There is still a presumption to grant planning permission to build houses on an ad hoc basis rather than part of an approved and adopted plan. We would like to consider our own Neighbourhood Plan but until the Local Plan is in place we feel that this exercise cannot be started.

Trish Dunlop and Keith Tan have withdrawn from the PC and I would like to thank them for their invaluable contribution. We are pleased to welcome Sue Dagleish and Katherine Reid who have recently been co-opted onto the Parish Council.

Congratulations are also due to our District Councillor, Tumi, on her recent Election victory. She has always been a great supporter of the Parish Council and we look forward to working with her and our County Councillor Lina Joseph for the foreseeable future.

James Clear
Chairman
Kingston Parish Council.

**Kingston Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting 17 May 2018
Clerk's Report**

I have attached a summary of income and expenditure for the year 2017/18, and will now highlight a few items from this.

1. Grass and Hedge cutting

Stuart Buchan Landscapes have again provided a satisfactory service so after agreeing a small price increase, they are again our contractors this year. We continue to receive a payment from the County Council for cutting of grass verges within the village, and from Mrs Heyman for cutting an area of grass owned by her adjoining Field Row. Please let me know if you believe there are any problems with the grass and hedge cutting carried out by our contractors.

2. Grants

Grants were made to the Parochial Church Council of £593 for churchyard maintenance, and £485 towards Parish Magazine costs, and to the Village Hall Management Committee of £3336 as the 3rd party contribution to the WREN grant for the large hall upgrade.

3. Communication

The Parish Council uses the magazine to disseminate information to residents. The magazine continues to be delivered to all households in the parish free of charge and has become a lot more interesting since Peter Holly took over as editor, but even if you are not an avid reader, I do encourage you to at least flick quickly through each issue as there may be something important or something of interest to you. The Parish Council also communicates through the emailing list – please let me know if you are not on this list and wish to be included.

4. Bank Balances

Our total bank balances at the end of the year stood at £19867, slightly lower than last year due to village hall grants. This total still includes a sum of \$106 money earmarked for upgrading the outside area of the village hall.

5. Audit of accounts for 2017/18

The audit for the 2017/18 accounts is currently under way. The internal auditor has completed her report and found no problems. Anybody may request to inspect the Parish Council accounts and other documentation. We do not expect any problems with the external audit which will be carried out in early June. When the result of the audit is received it will be published in the usual way.

Peter Stokes
Parish Clerk

KINGSTON PARISH COUNCIL - FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2017/18

2016/17
£

2017/18
£

INCOME

8605.00	Precept	9098.00
303.55	Grasscutting	275.55
60.00	Rebate from Kingston Oil Club	50.00
13.22	Interest earned	21.13
60.00	Allotment rent	60.00
533.66	VAT reclaim for previous year	596.90
9575.43	Total	10101.58

EXPENDITURE

412.30	Insurance	421.71
144.45	Audit fees	44.40
2284.26	Grass and hedge cutting (contract)	2311.20
1140.76	Clerk's salary	1165.52
165.64	Footpath lighting	0.00
291.13	Subscriptions	319.64
767.00	Grants	593.00
1287.58	Village Hall improvement project	4623.56
1050.93	Asset maintenance	404.39
475.00	Parish magazine	485.00
317.06	Miscellaneous	210.20
563.24	VAT (reclaimable)	515.59
8899.35	Total	11094.21

INCOME MINUS EXPENDITURE

676.08	-992.63
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BANK BALANCE AT 31 Mar

20890.03	19897.40
Change last year to this year	-992.63

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward Councillor's Annual Report – April 2018

Caldecote Ward comprises the Parishes of Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston and Toft

1. Introduction

I want to thank all the Parish Councils for their support throughout the 2017/18 municipal year. I have worked on issues such as planning, environmental health (noise, bins, drainage etc), housing (repairs, allocations), and held councillor drop-in surgeries in Caldecote and Toft where residents could come and discuss any issues or problems that they had or needed assistance to help resolve. I have also assisted local groups projects and continue to be the Ward Broadband Champion assisting to get superfast broadband to our residents.

2. Governance

District Council –The ruling party remained the Conservatives. The political makeup of the Council stayed the same as in previous year Conservative 36 (63.1%), Liberal Democrat 14 (24.6%), Independent Group 6 (10.5%), Labour 1 (1.8%). The Committee seat allocations followed suit with Conservatives at 48, Liberal Democrat at 19 and Independent 8. Just for interest, 41 males and 16 females.

My official roles were (i) Liberal Democrats member on Scrutiny Committee, (ii) substitute for Partnerships Review Committee, (iii) Scrutiny Monitor & (iv) Opposition Spokesperson for Business & Customer Services Portfolio Holders Meeting.

New Ward Boundaries: It is now official. The new Ward boundaries take effect from 3rd May 2018. Toft has been moved to Hardwick Ward. Caldecote Ward will comprise of Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston, Bourn, Longstowe and Little Gransden. Councillor numbers reduce by 20% from 57 to 45.

I am sorry to see Toft removed from Caldecote Ward – goodbye and best wishes to all Tofties.

Cambridgeshire County Council - The ruling party is now the Conservatives (previously hung council). Our County Councillor is Conservative Lina Joseph. The County administration has pleaded lack of funds for the deteriorating level of services but failed to increase council tax until this municipal year. However, the £7.969 million extra raised by the 2.99% increase was put into the Council's savings account, instead of being used to fill potholes or save Children's centres. It is now proposing to charge people who use the computers & internet at the libraries it runs! One good thing, the £1 parking charge at Park & Ride sites was scrapped on 1st April.

Combined Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authority (CA) - This new layer of local government, led by Conservative Mayor James Palmer, has been making waves, not all of it positive. He has put an end to the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) taking over its functions and seems to be aiming to do the same for the City Deal (now Greater Cambridge Partnership)

When the CA was created a year ago, it promised South Cambs would get about 70% of the affordable housing funding provided by central government, because it meets the criteria for priority funding. However, the Mayor is clearly politicising this. First he removed his fellow Conservative Cllr Topping, Leader of SCDC from the role of Housing Portfolio Holder. Secondly, East Cambs (home of Mayor Palmer) was allocated £925k to support affordable housing whereas South Cambs, which is far larger and has higher housing costs, was allocated £829k.

3. Finance

The South Cambs budget agreed for the next year will depend upon reserves - which have built up to a healthy £11million - being drawn down over the next five years to a level of £2.5million. Figure 1 below shows the councils income and expenditure.

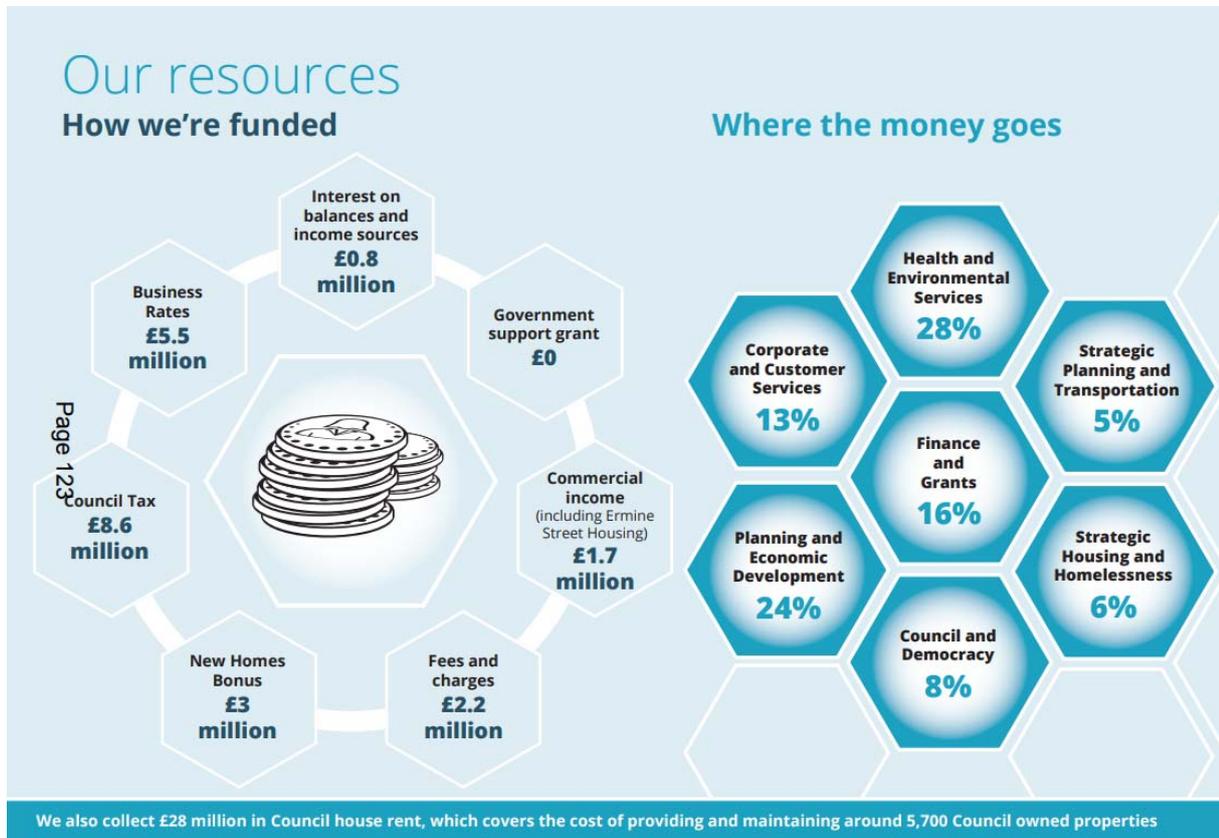
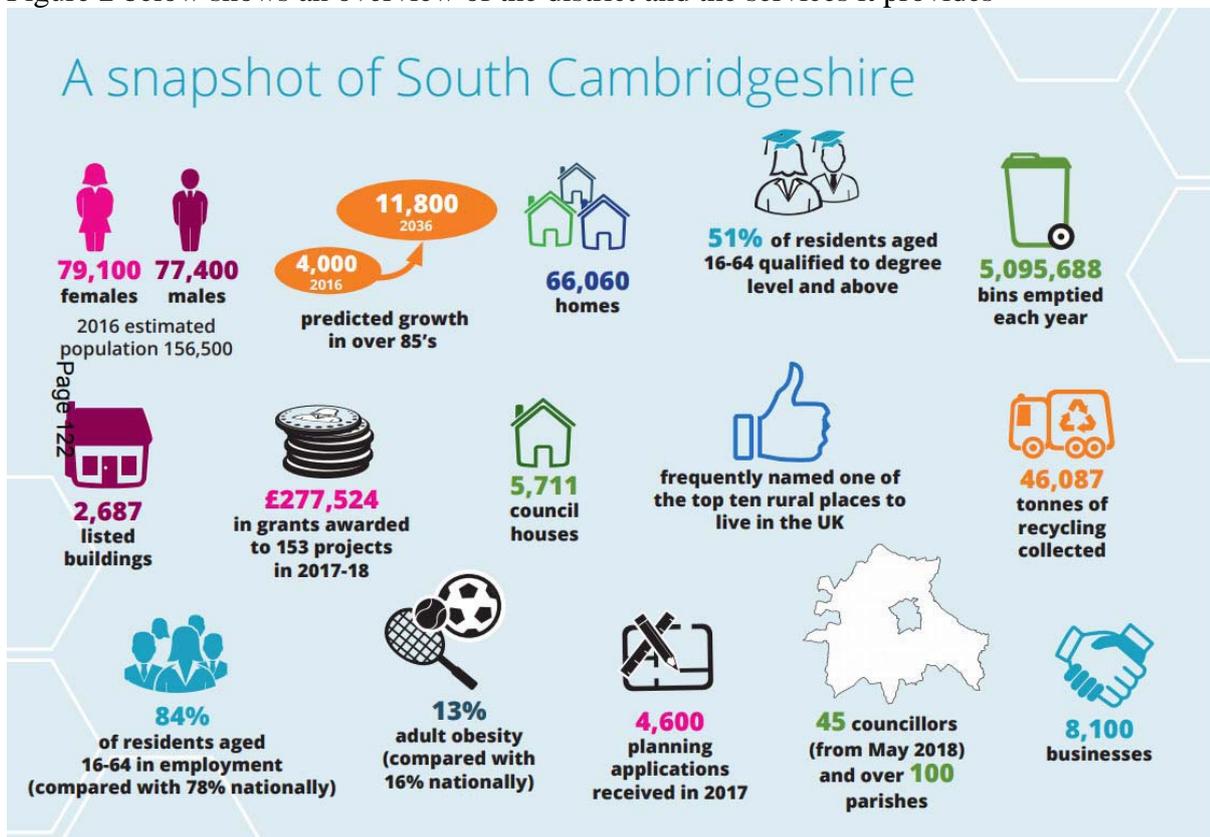


Figure 2 below shows an overview of the district and the services it provides



As you see from Figure 1, the Council no longer receives any funding from central government and has to generate its own funds to run services. The sting in the tale is that under new funding rules, the Council may in fact become a net contributor to government coffers, which would mean our tax payers subsidising other parts of the country. Watch this space.

4. Planning

SCDC avoided being designated in 2016, but is again at risk of designation. This time apparently due to the number of planning appeals that it has lost. Those appeals have come about from developers using loopholes to take speculative applications to appeal on grounds of non-determination. Designation will mean the Planning Inspectorate making all the decisions.

The big issues for Caldecote Ward in the past year has been on planning issues, specifically:

- (i) Bourn Airfield Development proposal, as part of the SCDC Draft Local Development plan
- (ii) Gladman application for 140 houses on Highfields Road north of the village
- (iii) CALA Homes application for 71 houses land rear of 18-28 Highfields Road
- (iv) Welbeck application for 58 houses off Grafton Drive
- (v) Bennell Farm – application for 90 houses
- (vi) Land West of Hardwick Road – 30 houses

CALA was approved by the SCDC Planning Committee, whilst the **Gladman and Welbeck** applications went to appeal, and the Planning inspector granted permission for both. This means that 269 houses will be built in Caldecote (currently only 690 houses) an increase of 40%. I have worked with council officers to get more S106 funds to improve some of the inadequate infrastructure, and for affordable housing on these sites for local people. I hope to be around in the next 4 years to make sure that what was promised is delivered.

The **Bennell Farm** application for up to 90 Houses was re-submitted because the football field was removed from the plans. The S106 funds in lieu have been re-allocated to other community infrastructure, though it is my view that it was not done equitably in the case of Toft. The affordable housing element will be allocated for Toft and Comberton in the first instance, and cascading to neighbouring villages

Bourn Airfield – As expected, further consultation took place, on the main modifications made by the Council and requested by the planning Inspector. The results of the consultation have been collated and sent to the Inspector, and we await further instructions from her. We are however hoping that there will be further hearing, which I, StopBAD and Coalition of Parish Councils have asked for, in order to further examine the modifications proposed for the airfield.

Countryside Properties, the proposers of the site, held two exhibitions in Cambourne and Bourn Airfield, to showcase their plans and get local feedback. They got a lot of feedback from me.

Land West of Hardwick Road, Toft – The first speculative proposal for this site outside the village envelope was overwhelmingly opposed by residents, and withdrawn, A new speculative proposal was recently submitted for full planning with the proposers seeming to rely on historical appeal decisions in Over, Swavesey and Caldecote for similar located sites that were allowed on appeal. The big difference in this case is that Toft is classed as an infill village and does not have the sort of facilities required to sustain such a large development in such a village. The outcome will likely be decided by the Council planning committee.

5. Greater Cambridge City Deal

Greater Cambridge Partnership – That is the new name of what was the City Deal. That is about all that has changed with this organisation. The main project being proposed is still the Cambourne to Cambridge Busway and attendant Park & Ride sites. This being pushed as a transport solution to help with getting the Draft local plan to be adopted

The GCP now have three options on the table, 2 on-road, 1 off-road for Phase 1 which is the section from Madingley Mulch to Cambridge. Phase 2 is the Cambourne to Madingley Mulch section and the options are yet to be investigated. Their analysis of the costs and benefits of Phase 1 options have been flawed to say the least, favouring the off-road solution that they've been pushing. There is still no date for starting the project as a decision is still not made on which option to go for!

Another sting in the tail is that the Mayor is now responsible for Transport issues across the combined authority and seems to be making his own proposals for solving the transport challenges of the A428 corridor – this including metro line and autonomous buses. The saga continues.

6. Environmental Services

Bin collection – With the service now combined with City Council, this new service has exercised us quite a bit. Initial poor performance has now improved significantly, and hopefully stays that way.

Recycling – with the price of recycled paper now lower than a few years ago, the need for the black bin caddy has been negated. All recycling now goes in the blue bins. In addition, the Council has purchased new single body bin lorries as the previous 2-body ones were at the end of their life cycle. This makes collection now more efficient.

Drainage/Sewerage - The talks that I re-opened with the County Council back in 2016/17 to discuss the issues of drainage and sewerage as it affects our villages stalled – yet again – no surprises there. But I am pleased to say the talks were re-opened in February, following intervention by the new County councillor. Now that Caldecote has to take just under 300 new houses, it is even more imperative that a solution is found.

I hope the talks lead to something positive Watch this space.

General Issues – I have also dealt with and helped resolve various other issues such as getting car parks tidied up, new dog litter bins installed, noise issues, hedges, street lights, you name it.

7. Housing

The cost of housing continues to increase, as does the need for council / affordable housing. SCDC is struggling to build council dwellings at the rate they are sold under Right-To-Buy, mainly because central government takes 70% of the receipt of each dwelling sold. The need to ensure new developments meet the 40% affordable housing criteria is even more critical. Unfortunately, the council has consistently allowed large developers to reduce that, to 20% as in Northstowe and West Cambourne. More is the pity because it is these large developments that stand the better chance of enabling the provision for the level of affordable housing we need.

The Government released the report of a study into the project to develop the Oxford to Cambridge (via Milton Keynes) arch. The proposal includes re-opening the railway line, and building new Garden cities along the arch.

8. Superfast Fibre Broadband

I am so glad to report that finally all of Kingston and Old Caldecote are on the information superhighway, with the installation of the second phase of the fibre infrastructure. It has been a while, but we finally got there. Thank you all for your patience, and thank you to Julie Conder taking on the coordination with Kingston residents, whilst I focussed on pushing Openreach directly – including the contact that Openreach Gavin Patterson gave me when I complained to him.

Highfields Caldecote – even though this village got its fibre infrastructure back in 2012/13, BT was still saying to some that superfast broadband was not available in the village. Following my email complaint to Mr Patterson, CEO of BT, I was assigned a contact who has been helping to resolve the cases that have been raised with me. I know how important it is for our businesses and homes to have fast internet connection and will continue to act as the Ward Broadband champion to make sure all those that want connection get it.

9. Casework/Councillor Drop-in surgery

Drop-in surgery normally took place on the first Thursday of every month, 7pm – 8pm at the Caldecote Village Hall and first Monday of every month, 6pm – 7pm at the Toft People's Hall. I stopped at the beginning of January this year, but if re-elected will resume, potentially with revised times and locations.

If you need my assistance at any time in the interim, I am always available to you, so please contact me in one of the usual ways.

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
01 May 2018

Email me @:	tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk
Read my blog at:	http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk
Twitter:	@CouncillorTumi
Facebook	@itsCouncillorTumi
LinkedIn	TumiHawkins
Call me on:	01954 210840



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

County Councillor's Annual Report

Overall

A very big difference this year to last year is that the County Council is now back under Conservative control following the election last May. This means that after four years of the Council being in “no overall control”, and the inevitable affects that brings, the Council can now get on with business in a more effective manner.

Budget

The County Council did make efficiency savings in the last year of £32m as per our business plan. However, we had even greater than predicted pressures from our “demand led” services such as Adult Social Care and Looked After Children. This left a gap in the budget of around £4.5m at year end. The Council continued with the 2% Adult Social Care precept, but for the first time in three years the Council raised Council Tax by 2.99%. This will cover the budget shortfall and also allow for some funds to be put into a “smoothing reserve” for the next two years where we can see upcoming budget pressures.

Government continues to reduce the amount it gives to County Councils. Our Revenue Support Grant (RSG) is down from £15m to just under £4m, and taking into account other grants no longer being given, we are down £13m overall from government funding for this coming financial year. This is in conjunction with still being the fastest growing county by population, and an ever increasing demand on our services.

Highways

The Council is aware of the concerns regarding the condition of our roads, and in particular the number of pot holes. Last year we invested an extra £2.5m from our revenue budget for road repairs and maintenance. So this is not a one off funding, but every year an extra £2.5m so we can plan our maintenance going forward to include the extra funding. This is on top of the funding we already put in, and the extra funding from government for following their recommended HIAMP program. This has been the worse winter for roads in the past few years, and the number of pot holes increased dramatically. The Council is repairing more pot holes than before, and has invested in two machines (dragon patchers) which can repair pot holes much quicker than our maintenance/repair groups can. Now the weather is milder, the number of outstanding pot holes needing repair is falling. There is still much to do with regards trying to keep our road system from getting worse with the limited funds available.

Government has also recently committed to further investment for road maintenance, mainly potholes. Cambridgeshire has been allocated over 1.6m.

This year has been a successful time for my parishes regarding the Local Highways Improvement bids. I made sure to make recommendations towards the schemes presented. I believe others are in the process of working with officers for future schemes and I will be supporting them also along the way.



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

Park & Ride

As of 1st April the £1 charge at the Park & Rides was removed. This proved to be an unpopular charge. Patronage did fall, but when looking at the situation holistically, the funds received did pay for the upkeep and rates for the car parks. It was an election pledge to remove this charge, and we are pleased to be able to deliver it.

Libraries

Cambridge County Council is fully committed to retaining its libraries, unlike some other top tier councils. There has been much work and many workshops to see how we can modernise the library system and make it work and fit for purpose. We acknowledge that libraries are a community asset, but that as a social space many are still underused. We are investigating how libraries can benefit the wider community. As from the 1st of April CCC introduced a small fee for using the computers – the first half hour is free, then a fee of £1 per hour after that. This doesn't apply to anyone using a computer for the new Universal Credit.

The new Communities & Partnership Committee is proving its importance to community safety and resilience. The committee has four main areas of its delivery plan.

Community Resilience Tackling Deprivation Economy & Skills Partnership Working. The White Ribbon campaign is now well on the way to gain Accreditation in November. The campaign is aimed at tackling violence and domestic abuse. There is now a full 2 year programme in place.

Greater Cambridge Partnership

This year has been a very challenging one for infrastructure and transport network. Still more to come. I have been liaising with parishes regarding busways and greenways. I very much hope that residents have been able to appreciate that I am listening to their concerns and that I will do everything I can for them to be represented amongst key people.

I will keep working with my parishes in order to obtain the best result for everyone. I will keep pressing for a review of the Cambourne to Cambridge busway, Greenways projects across South Cambridge and various other ones.

Commercialisation

The Council's commercialisation program is vital for much needed revenue and income for the future. The housing development program is well under way.

Finally, I would like to say that I am very honoured to serve as your representative and I feel very lucky to be the councillor of this division.

Lina Joseph

Kingston Annual Parish Meeting Kingston Village Hall report

The Village Hall Management comprises nine people, following three resignations in the past year. There is a need to co-opt more people on to the Committee and we still need the support of other villagers to help with events and maintenance, so please volunteer if you are able to spare some time.

Events

The Committee and helpers ran and helped with the very successful annual Village BBQ, Village Fete, Children's Christmas Party and Quiz 'n' Chips evening. Pub Nights have been very successful, particularly pizzas. Owing to the renovation of the large hall, internal events have been restricted since November. However, Caxton Village Hall, during their own renovation, sent several of their clubs to Kingston and we gained from hire fees.

Phase 2 Renovation

We finally have a fully-functional large hall following the completion of the internal work in Phase 2. The improvements to aesthetics, sound and heat insulation are massive. The new solid wood floor has had a major effect on overall appearance and reducing drafts and damp, whilst the ivory-coloured new paint contrasts with the more utilitarian white in the small hall. We have soft-white, dimmable LED lighting globes and curtains which offset the paint and help considerably in deadening the acoustics of the large space. Along with the sound-absorbing west wall and double-glazed east window, we have gained thermal and sound insulation and the new radiators mean both halls now warm up quickly. We have tried to be sympathetic to the original building in terms of painting the north, east and south walls, retaining the natural brick texture and installing galvanised conduit for electrical cables. We have also purchased 60 new padded banqueting chairs to replace the hard plastic ones, along with 17 new small café tables to add to the ambiance.

The mural has, disappointingly for some villagers, been sealed and painted over. This was an emotive issue, right until the day before the wall was painted, but the Committee relied on the village consultation in 2012, when two-thirds of the people who completed the form voted for Option 4: make a photographic copy of the mural, reproduce and add some text and then board or paint over. We have recently commissioned a larger A1 copy reproduced from the high-quality original, as it was felt that the current framed copy of the mural should be enlarged. An interesting discovery was made when inspecting the deteriorating surface of the mural: that it was painted on thick paper and then pasted onto the north wall. Now we know how the children contributed to the painting without climbing a ladder. It was sad to see it go as it was part of the history of the school hall, but the deterioration over the past few years in the damp environment had rendered it beyond recovery.

Owing to the long time lapse between applying for the WREN grant and original quotes, we incurred a 5 % over-spend, mainly as a consequence of increased material costs. We originally requested 7.5 % contingencies from the sponsor based on the over-spend in Phase 1, but they would not permit contingencies. Therefore, we must be happy that we have managed to keep the over-spend within estimate. The entire project cost c. £32,700, of which £31,000 was funded by WREN. There was a compulsory "third-party" payment of £3,500 which was made by the Parish Council at the start of the project, for which we are

very grateful. Therefore, we have managed to produce a much-improved, safe and warm facility with reduced maintenance costs for the village community for only £5,000. I would like to thank Chris Reid (Treasurer) particularly, along with ACRE and their cash-flow loan, for sterling work in making the financial side work: without the ACRE support, our reserves would not have been sufficient. Additionally, thanks must be expressed to Ron Leslie, who completed the massive task of submitting the proposal to WREN, without which the project would never have started.

There have been several new groups using the hall during the Phase 2 renovation, and I thank them for coping with the building and renovation works that sometimes disrupted their events. We are raising the costs of hire for non-village residents, but we will be maintaining the costs for residents throughout at least 2018. It is now a great, cheap facility to hire for parties, meetings, social events etc., so please utilize it.

I hope that many of you will take the opportunity to have a look at the hall soon, if you have not already done so. We are holding a Grand Opening of Phase 2 on 2 June, where we have invited the sponsors, local craftsmen who worked on the job and all villagers to help us celebrate and thank the people involved. Please come and celebrate with us.

I would like to thank all the current and past Village Hall Committee members for their sterling help in completing this project and the village for your support and comments over the past six years. I think we can now be proud of our Village Hall again.

Phase 3

Phase 3 involves three projects: improving the acoustics of both halls with sound-absorbing panels to help the hard-of-hearing; repairing and extending the fence; and resurfacing of the tarmac area surrounding the hall to create a child-friendly safe area. The former should be easily achieved with one of the numerous grants that are available for such purposes. The re-surfacing will be partially funded by the S107 funding that the Parish Council hold for use on open-space development. Hopefully, these projects can get underway fairly shortly.

Finances

All payments and outstanding deposits with contractors in Phase 2 have been completed with WREN. The ACRE cash-flow has also been repaid. The over-spend of £1,700 reduced the balance (currently £4,700, which is slightly below an acceptable amount agreed by the Committee to cover running costs and maintenance). The urgent need to replace and extend the fencing is expected to cost c. £1,100 for a contractor as it would be a major undertaking for a volunteer village work force.

Future events

The Committee have managed to place adverts for the Hall on various websites and we have had a steady stream of enquiries and bookings for events, including a Tuesday double-session fitness class run by Jacqueline Smith. Miki Ellar has re-instigated the Wednesday Coffee mornings. Please support these admirable events. More events are needed, but the social function element of the Hall is being fulfilled and we can be proud of that.

Concluding remarks

Finally, I would like to express my personal thanks to all the Committee, who support and help and continue to show what a great team we have in Kingston. I would like to request

that people please keep promoting and attending the events run by the Committee in the future since it rewards the members' commitment.

Mark Stalham
Chairman
Kingston Village Hall Management Committee
9th May 2018

Webmaster's report for Kingston Annual Parish Meeting

17 May 2018

Broadband in Kingston

I reported at the meeting last year that installation of FTTP (Fibre to the Premises) had been completed for half the village, and that the first households were going through the hoops to get superfast broadband all the way into their homes. I rather optimistically suggested that the remainder of the village were only weeks away from enjoying the new facility too. In fact, the hoops proved almost insurmountable and it has taken nearly a year to get the service available for everyone in the village. It has only been due to the ongoing hard work of our newly re-elected District Councillor Tumi Hawkins that we managed to deal with all the delays and obstacles and excuses from BT OpenReach to achieve this goal. Many thanks to Tumi!

If there are any remaining households who are still struggling and that we are unaware of, let me know and I will see what we can do to help.

Website and Facebook

We have a village website www.kingstonvillage.org.uk and a Facebook Page www.facebook.com/Kingston.village I do my best to keep these updated with matters of local interest and news of forthcoming events (and I apologise for any tardiness in maintaining these). Let me know of anything you would like added. We have for example a page for villagers to recommend local tradesmen www.kingstonvillage.org.uk/local-tradesmen.html I am sure people may have ideas for new listings, so send me details please: kpcwebmaster@conder.myzen.co.uk

Julie Conder

Kingston Parish Councillor and webmaster

14th May 2018

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL OF THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS AND SAINT ANDREW, KINGSTON – MARCH 2017 – 2018

1. Statement required under the Parochial Church Councils (Powers) Measure 1956

The Parochial Church Council agrees to cooperate with the Team Rector in charge of the Papworth Team Ministry (Team East) in promoting in the parish of Kingston the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

2. Members of the Council who have served during the current financial year until the approval of the accounts on March 20th 2018

Rev Nigel di Castiglione (Team Rector)	Mrs K Forsythe
Rev Stephen Day (Team Vicar)	Mr P Reynolds (Churchwarden)
Mrs C Allison	Mrs L Rimmer (Treasurer)
Mrs J Clear (Secretary)	Mr E T Smith (Clerk of Works)
Mr J Diggle (Churchwarden)	Mrs L Steele
Rev Paul Gildersleve (Associate Priest) – resigned July 2017)	

3. The Parochial Church Council holds regular meetings quarterly.

4. The following were the principal matters dealt with by the PCC March 2017 – March 2018:

- (a) Arrangements for Festival services
- (b) Church Gift Day 08.07.17 (raised £5,498)
- (c) Gesualdo 6 concert 30.03.17 (raised £2,508)
- (d) Other fund raising: 'Ride and Stride' £125; carol singing (2016) £602 (paid to bank 2017); Harvest supper £330; card sales £218; Church Guide sales £350
- (e) Collections for charities at festivals (£343)
- (f) Daily church opening until June 2017
- (g) Annual inspection of fabric and fire extinguisher inspection and boiler inspection and repairs
- (h) 1 volunteer work day
- (i) Two funeral services
- (j) Harvest Supper after Harvest Festival 30.9.17
- (k) Nativity Play at South Sea House 23.12.17
- (l) Church ceiling – closure of church after fall of plaster 12.06.17; inspection of ceiling; discussion and meetings with DAC, architect and others on temporary and long-term solutions; installation of temporary 'crash deck'
- (m) Church fabric repairs – tower contract given to Abbey Roofing; major high level repairs to ceiling, S aisle roof etc – expression of interest to Heritage Lottery Fund; discussions and meetings with HLF, architects etc
- (n) Meeting with Skellon Studio concerning possible interpretation of wall paintings project
- (o) Conservation of C17 wall paintings – successful application to ChurchCare for grant to commission Report from Perry Lithgow
- (p) Consideration of Art and Christian Enquiry (ACE) arts project with Wysing Arts
- (q) Preparation of 'statement of needs' and 'statement of significance' and DAC visit for consideration of possible new servery and WC facilities

5. Finances

The main funding for the church has been donations by Banker's Orders and collections at church services. Grants were received from the Parish Council: £593 towards the upkeep of the churchyard and £485 to subsidise the Parish and Church Magazine. Income for the year to December 31st 2017 for the General Purposes Account was £26,868 (including donations of £2,250 for the Endowment Fund) (£25,696 in 2016);

and expenditure £26,390 (including transfer of £5,937 to the Endowment Fund) (£60,937 in 2016, including transfer to E F of £44,043), with an excess of receipts over payments of £478 (a deficit of £35,241 in 2016). Dividends from the Endowment Fund to 31.12.17 were £2,204 (£1,348 in 2016).

Balances at 31.12.17:

General Purposes Account	£4,941
Restoration Fund Current A/C	£3,524
Secure Trust Bank (Restoration Fund)	£10,607
Todd Fund	£747
Endowment Fund	£56,523

The Parish Share in 2017 was £9,006 plus £2,244 as Kingston's Team Share.

6. The Electoral Roll in March 2017, before revision, stands at 21 (20 last year)

7. Attendance at Services

Average Sunday attendances

Service	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
H. C.	11	9	9	7	6	5	5	6	7	6	5
E. P.	9	8	8	8	9	7	7	6	6	3	3
F. S.	16	14	14	13	16	16	13	13	14	10	10

Attendance at the major festivals

Festival	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Easter	21	12	41	18	21	26	31	49	33	39	23
Harvest	32	28	23	21	34	43	16	21	26	17	32
Carol Service	40	24	33	26	45	38	75	31	52	45	36
Christmas Eve + Day	36	30	20	38	34	42	46	30	47	41	20
Total	129	94	117	103	134	149	168	131	158	142	111

The figures for Holy Communion, Evening Prayer and Family Service were stable in 2017. (In 2015 and 2016 there were Nativity Plays not Carol Services. There was no Christmas Eve service in 2014). There was a Nativity Play at S Sea House on 23.12.17 with 80 attending. There was no Christmas Day Service in 2017. Harvest attendance increased in 2017, but Easter and Christmas fell markedly.

Addresses for correspondence:

Mrs Linda Rimmer (Treasurer)
1 Field Row
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Mrs Janet Clear (Secretary)
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Kingston
Cambridge
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Signed.....Chairperson

Kingston Poor's Land Charity

Annual Report 2018

Total in bank at 30th April 2018 was £7644.33

Income was £801.49

A total of £475 was paid in 2017. This comprised of gifts to 3 school leavers, and Christmas donations to three families

Mrs Joan Reynolds & Dr Donal O'Donnell
Trustees