

Kingston Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held at 8.00pm on 10 July 2018

James Clear, Chair (JCI)
Julie Conder (JCo)
Miki Ellar (ME)
Katherine Reid (KR)
Sue Dalgleish (SD)
Peter Stokes, Clerk
Tumi Hawkins (SCDC)

1. Apologies

1.1. None

2. Minutes of last meetings

- 2.1. Parish Council meeting 8 May 2018: accepted
- 2.2. Annual Parish Meeting 17 May 2018: accepted
- 2.3. Extraordinary Parish Council meeting 31 May 2018: accepted

3. Cycle paths (matters arising from Annual Parish Meeting on 17 May 2018, item 4.4)

- 3.1. Lina Joseph was not present to report on the possibility of a cycle path from Kingston to Toft, but Chris Reid reported on information he had found on an initiative by the Greater Cambridge Partnership to build or enhance a series of 12 'Greenways', i.e. cycleways, footpaths or combined cycleways/footpaths, linking Cambridge to surrounding villages. The project is in its early stages, with designs for the first two of the greenways (Barton and Haslingfield) being currently at the consultation stage. A Comberton greenway is proposed for a later phase, with possibilities mentioned of extension to Toft, Kingston, Eversdens and Bourn. Agreed to contact the Greater Cambridge Partnership and request to be included in any mailing list for information, consultation etc. **Action: Clerk.**

4. Matters Arising

4.1. Parish Council meeting 8 May 2018

- 4.1.1. 4.3 Updating sign at playground: agreed that the listed keyholders will be Miki Ellar, Joan/Peter Reynolds and Peter Stokes. Clerk to arrange for sign to update information at the playground.

4.2. Annual Parish Meeting 17 May 2018

- 4.2.1. 2.2 Cutting of grass on Field Road Green not always up to edges: Stuart Buchan has agreed to take action, but mentioned that some trees hang low making it difficult to cut the grass below them. Agreed to add the task of trimming low-hanging branches of trees in the village to the programme for a workday to be arranged for October/November. **Action: Clerk.**
- 4.2.2. 4.1 Potholes in the village: awaiting report from Lina Joseph.
- 4.2.3. 4.2 Telegraph pole on B1046: agreed no further action.
- 4.2.4. 4.3 Surface of Field Road: awaiting report from Lina Joseph
- 4.2.5. 8.2 Publishing information about Kingston Poor Land Charity and appeal for suggested beneficiaries

- 4.2.6. 9.1 Community Speedwatch: agreed to pursue instead a mini-roundabout at the crossroads. Clerk to make an application for funding under the current LHI round. **Action: Clerk.**

4.3. Extraordinary Meeting 31 May 2018

- 4.3.1. None

5. Correspondence

- 5.1. Email re noise nuisance from wedding celebrations: whilst KPC is sympathetic to those disturbed by the noise from the party, it was felt that this was a 'one-off' and there was no further action to take.
- 5.2. Letter from a person in Cranes Lane re various matters: this letter was anonymous and as copies had been sent to the relevant local authorities it was agreed it would not be discussed, apart from two items:
- 5.2.1. Alleged business being carried out from a home address: SCDC have confirmed that the owner has permission to run a business from his home. No further action.
- 5.2.2. Alleged cars blocking Crane's Lane: although access can be narrow there is regular traffic comprising refuse collection vehicles and oil delivery lorries, so there does not seem to be an urgent problem. Agreed to monitor.
- 5.3. Email from Lina Joseph re Coton Internet Club: noted.
- 5.4. Phone call re grass cutting: a resident complained that the KPC contractor was cutting grass unnecessarily. No further action.

6. County Councillor's report

- 6.1. See Appendix A.

7. County Councillor's Liaison Meeting report

- 7.1. No report.

8. District Councillor's report

- 8.1. Affordable housing to be built in Comberton will be made available first to Comberton residents, then to residents in surrounding villages. Interested parties should register their interest with SCDC. Tumi Hawkins to advise the procedure so that this information can be passed on. **Action: TH.**
- 8.2. For full report and June report see Appendices B and C.

9. Open Spaces report

- 9.1. No report.

10. Faster Broadband for Kingston report

- 10.1. No further reports. Omit in future agendas and minutes as regular item.

11. Appointment of Councillor with Footpaths responsibility

- 11.1. Agreed that Katherine Reid would take on this role.

12. Clerk's report

- 12.1. Bi-monthly report (previously circulated): it was noted that the total for Clerk's salary appeared to be incorrect, and that 'income other than precept' should be a negative amount. Clerk to correct and re-issue. See Appendix D.

12.2. Invoices for payment:

- 12.2.1. LCR magazine subscription £17.00 – agreed for payment.

- 12.2.2. Buchan's Landscapes grass cutting May £471.48 – agreed for payment.
 - 12.2.3. Buchan's Landscapes grass cutting June £471.48 – agreed for payment.
 - 12.2.4. RoSPA playground inspection £96.60 – agreed for payment.
 - 12.2.5. SCDC election expenses £75.00 – agreed for payment.
- 12.3. Playground inspection May 2018: the following items were raised in the report as needing attention:
- 12.3.1. Gate: item missing. This is not understood, but may refer to a 'missing' pedestrian gate. Clarification to be requested. **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.2. Seating: requires timber preservative. To be added to list for autumn workday (see minute 4.2.1). **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.3. Basket swing: Strimmer damage to timber members at ground level may accelerate rot. Protection to be provided. Further advice to be sought from inspector and manufacturer. **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.4. Basket swing: finger entrapment. No practical action possible. No further action.
 - 12.3.5. Basket swing: secondary support device required. This requirement is not understood. Clarification to be requested. **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.6. Goal posts: grass inside goal and around posts needs cutting. To be added to list for autumn workday (see minute 4.2.1). **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.7. Willow tunnel: needs repairs. It was agreed that this item has been unsuccessful despite numerous repairs, and it will be removed. To be added to list for autumn workday (see minute 4.2.1). **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.8. Slide: fails entrapment requirements. No practical action possible. No further action.
 - 12.3.9. Slide: protective surface required. Agreed to request clarification of the type of surface required. SD suggested that if the type of surface recommended proved to be high cost, a grant might be obtained to pay for all or part of it, and she was willing to investigate this. **Action Clerk.**
 - 12.3.10. Swing: needs repainting. Agreed that this was beyond the scope of volunteers on a workday so a contractor would be engaged to prepare and repaint. **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.11. Climbing frame: playbark needs topping up. Clerk to order additional playbark, to be spread on autumn workday (see minute 4.2.1). **Action: Clerk.**
 - 12.3.12. Climbing frame: splits/shakes in timbers. Monitor for water ingress and decay. Contact manufacturer if splits/shakes exceed 8mm at handhold sections.
 - 12.3.13. Climbing frame: playbark surface needs weeding. Arrangements will be made to weed the area before more playbark is spread in the Autumn (see minute 12.3.11).
- 12.4. Change of bank signatories: as required by the bank, the parish council resolved that:
- 12.4.1. The people named on the 'change of signatories' form will be authorised as signatories on all accounts
 - 12.4.2. They are aware that Unity Trust Bank may not make enquiries before acting on instructions given by any authorised signatory
 - 12.4.3. They will notify Unity Trust Bank of any changes to the organisation in writing

13. Planning

13.1. S/1804/18/FL First floor extension at 2, Field Row: agreed to respond 'support'.

13.2. S/2433/18/FL New site access from Tinker's Lane to Town Farm barns, Tinker's Lane: agreed to respond 'support'.

14. Date of next meeting: 11 Sep 2018.

Meeting ended at 22.00

Signed.....

Date.....



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor
Hardwick Division

July Report 2018

Dear all,

It has been lovely attending Village Fêtes across my division and meeting many residents. It's wonderful to see the community spirit and what great things we can all do when we get together and support each other.

We continue to lobby government to recognise the pressures we have in our demand-led services such as Adult Social Care and Looked After Children. These two services take up to approx... 80% of our total budget. Our authority is one of the worse funded in comparison with other Unitary Boroughs. We continue working hard to find innovative ways of doing the work we do. Just to put it in perspective, some other Councils (Conservative, Labour or Liberal lead) have decided to close libraries and stop providing non-statutory services. We care and see the value for residents and our communities in the non-statutory services and keep challenging officers to finding ways of providing the service but in a more efficient/innovative manner. So far we have been successful.

Transport

Several important rural bus routes, temporarily reprieved after Cambridgeshire County Council stepped in to save them from last August onwards, will now be funded until the end of the financial year.

Mayor James Palmer stepped in to say that the Combined Authority will provide the extra funding to see service 46, which runs between Wisbech and March and is used by students attending Neale-Wade Academy, extended, plus three new services which Whippet Coaches have recently decided to pull out of: the 196 Waterbeach to Cambridge service, the 31 Barley to Cambridge service and the 75 Wrestlingworth to Cambridge.

The County Council will continue to fund all the other previously agreed bus services until the end of the 2018/19 financial year, using reserves held for this purpose, when the Combined Authority's review of these services is complete. The Council will then work with the Mayor to discuss future funding arrangements.

A14 upgrade

Projects that will benefit local communities are set to get off the ground thanks to funding from the A14 upgrade legacy.

A scheme to widen the footway between the village green and school entrance is expected to be carried out at the end of August in Boxworth End, Swavesey while preparation work to provide a zebra crossing in Buckden is underway.



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Hardwick Division

They are the first of five projects originally put forward by residents through the Council's Local Highways Improvement Initiative (LHI), which communities can apply for to help improve their roads and streets.

The schemes are being part funded by the A14 Community Fund which was launched by Highways England to fund projects connecting local communities with the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon upgrade.

Cambridgeshire County Council has been awarded £41,127 from the fund, which will contribute towards the projects in South Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire over the coming months.

Combined Authority

The Combined Authority successfully secured £100million from the Government as part of the devolution deal to deliver 2,000 affordable homes across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Funding portal

Please do share this link with community groups that wish to find funding pots.

<http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/supportcambs>

News

Cambridgeshire has been shown to be among the best performing Local Authorities for breastfeeding and childhood obesity in a national report.

Public Health England today (July 12) has published the 2016/17 'Public Health Dashboard' which compares local authorities on how they deliver preventative local health services for 0-5 year olds, child obesity, drug and alcohol misuse treatment, tobacco control, NHS Health Checks, sexual health services and air quality.

The dashboard gives each local authority a ranking for each service area and shows how it compares nationally and with similar local authorities, based on information from 2016/17. Similar local authorities to Cambridgeshire include Oxfordshire, Warwickshire Northamptonshire and Suffolk

Cambridgeshire County Council is in the 'best' category nationally for 'childhood obesity' and 'best start in life' ranking second and fourth out of 16 similar councils respectively.

The data shows that for rates of childhood obesity at age 4-5 years, Cambridgeshire ranks third out of 16 similar authorities, while for 10-11 year olds Cambridgeshire has the best ranking in the group.



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Statistics show that out of seven similar councils which submitted data on breastfeeding, Cambridgeshire is second for the number of women breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks with 56.1 per cent.

The Council is also ‘better than average’ for NHS health checks, alcohol treatment, and sexual and reproductive health, ranking sixth out of 16 similar authorities.

However Cambridgeshire is in the ‘worst’ category, ranking 14th out of sixteen similar councils for tobacco control, although the County is better than the national average on this measure. Cambridgeshire is also in the ‘worst’ category for drug treatment services. An issue with waiting times for treatment in 2016, which has since been resolved, affected this ranking.

Public Health England have included an interim measure for air quality, where Cambridgeshire ranks 14th out of 16 similar local authority areas. This is based on the proportion of residents in the county living in an air quality management area. Two air quality management areas in Fenland are in process of being revoked due to local improvements, and Cambridge City Cambridge have recently produced a new draft Air Quality Action Plan which is out for consultation (closing in September), which will focus on actions to reduce air pollution in the City centre.

Dr Liz Robin, Cambridgeshire County Council’s Director of Public Health, said: “We’re pleased to see we have performed well in providing services that tackle childhood obesity, giving children the best start in life and a number of other measures. We recognise there is still work to do in some of the other categories including tobacco control, drug treatment and air quality. We will be working hard with partner organisations to improve in these areas, to ensure people in Cambridgeshire have healthier outcomes for everyone.”

Highways

A reminder that you can report road maintenance issues here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults/>

Hedges

If you have an issue with hedges then they would be advised to log their complaint on our website

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults/>

Cambridge South Station update

The proposed Cambridge South station would be situated adjacent to the Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC), an internationally significant health and life sciences cluster expected to accommodate 27,000 jobs by 2031. More immediately, The Royal Papworth Hospital will relocate to the CBC in Autumn 2018 and AstraZeneca’s new global headquarters



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and strategic R&D centre will be operational from 2019. Improving transport access to the site is vital to help the businesses on the CBC to grow and remain both nationally and internationally competitive by attracting skilled staff from a wide catchment area. It is also needed to provide visitors to Addenbrooke's and The Royal Papworth hospitals with convenient and sustainable access by rail.

The station would support connections across Cambridgeshire, Stansted Airport, Kings Cross, Liverpool Street, and in future, a range of destinations en route to Oxford, via East West Rail.

Due to the surrounding rail network being at capacity, the current proposal is to expand the track around the proposed station to enable a good quality service to run upon opening. This would include expanding the current 2- and 3-track sections to four tracks north and south of the station, and improving the junction to the south, where the Stansted / London Liverpool Street and London Kings Cross bound trains currently diverge (see image below). This infrastructure would also be required for the proposed southern alignment of the central section of East West Rail.

Recent developments

There have been a number of significant steps made on the project in recent months.

In November 2017, the Department for Transport approved the project's Strategic Outline Business Case (SOBC). The SOBC showed the project has a Benefit-Cost Ratio of 1.3-1.5:1 at this early stage of development, and highlighted further work was required to understand the feasibility of the scheme.

Subsequently, in January 2018, all funding partners signed a Heads of Terms document, setting out our commitments to the project and our expectations of the work required in the short-medium term to advance the proposals. Following this, in May 2018, the funding partners signed a legally-binding Development Agreement, formalising each partner's commitment to the scheme.

In February 2018, the Department gave Network Rail the go-ahead to begin procurement of engineering design contractors, and conduct initial feasibility studies. We expect that contractors will be appointed by autumn 2018.

We are soon to commence work on a funding, financing and delivery strategy for the project, which will explore innovative models for paying for and constructing the station and rail infrastructure. This work is also expected to be completed by autumn 2018.

In parallel, the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, James Palmer, is leading work on options for accelerating delivery of the project. This research is expected to be complete in late summer / early autumn 2018.



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Local issues

I had calls from residents regarding roadworks. If you would like to know what is happening in your area you can check in this website.

www.roadworks.org

Greenways

Those Parishes that are feeling left out because the project does not go far enough, please be patient. I have been told by officers that once they complete phase 1, and as long as there is more funding, they will start looking at going further. I have made my position very clear to officers about the need to connect my parishes into the network. I will keep reminding them!

Just to remind you that the public is very welcome to attend committee meetings and Full Council. You can find all the details [here](#).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Lina Joseph

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E-mail: Lina.Joseph@Cambridgeshire.gov.uk
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South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward Councillor's Monthly Report – June 2018

Caldecote Ward comprises the Parishes of Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston, Bourn,
Longstowe & Little Gransden

This report is for all the Ward, so please be aware that some of the content may not be relevant to
your particular Parish.

1. New Administration Update

Further to my report last month, I can confirm that the handover was formalised at the Full council meeting on Wednesday 23rd May 2018. The new Council Leader is Cllr Bridget Smith, and she announced her new cabinet of 7. Full details of the members of the new cabinet can be found at <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/news/new-leader-outlines-business-support-aims-and-confirms-cabinet>.

Just to say that I am in the Cabinet, and the Lead member for the Planning Service. The strategic aspect of planning (including Local Plan and liaison with Greater Cambridge Partnership) will be handled by the Deputy Leader, Cllr Aidan van der Weyer.

This administration will work collaboratively with other parties for the benefit of our residents. The new Council chairman is an Independent (Cllr de Lacey), and the Chair of Scrutiny is a Conservative (Cllr Chamberlain).

In her first speech to the new council (see <http://bit.ly/LDLeaderSpeech>), the new Leader stated that the administration has three priorities namely:

- (1) Truly affordable homes, with the right infrastructure, which means homes that allow local families to stay in their home areas, live near to their places of work and allows older people to stay near their friends and family
- (2) Putting the environment first in everything we do. This means every brick, every swathe of concrete laid should be leaving an associated positive environmental legacy, be it improvements to flora and fauna, increased public access to the countryside, improved physical and mental health benefits, including reduced air pollution
- (3) Actively support business growth. The booming economy in our district is a combination of big and small businesses. The small businesses in particular keep our villages alive and vibrant. We will ensure that all our services that businesses use, from environmental services to the planning system, are focussed on their needs. We will also look at how we can support business post Brexit.

We are also restructuring the governance structure so that we focus on delivering our policies across the spectrum of services areas. We are moving to a pre-scrutiny model where we consult widely within the organisation so that we reach better decisions collectively as a cabinet. This is different to the post-decision scrutiny process previously used.

As the Cabinet member responsible for Planning, my role will be to make the service more user/customer friendly, meet the needs of householders and businesses, support development of new and existing communities to be green and sustainable and deliver planned growth in the Local plan in away that creates sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities that sit well with existing neighbours. It is ambitious and challenging, but it's the message that I have received from lots of residents.

2. Strategic Planning & Transport

Five Year Housing Land Supply

Finally, as of the 21st May 2018, South Cambs Council considers that it can now demonstrate a five year housing land supply (5YLS) of 5.0 years for the period 2018-2023 using the stricter calculation required by Government (the Sedgefield method) and applying a 20% buffer.

This is indeed very good news, not least because the inability to demonstrate this 5YLS had led to a free-for-all by speculative developers because planning policies were considered out of date, and resulted in over 5,000 houses being granted planning permission. Many villages have had developments outside the village framework foisted on them, and that cannot be changed. But going forward, such speculative developments will be more difficult to pass through the planning process.

Draft Local Development Plan Update

We are still waiting for the Planning Inspector's pronouncement following submission of the last consultations responses back in March. The draft LDP was submitted in March 2014, so four years and counting.

We now have a potential threat to the LDP in the form of the transport strategy/plan for the A428 corridor – the famous Cambourne to Cambridge busway project led by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP). The Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authority (CPA), James Palmer now has the overall responsibility for Transport in the new CPA. He recently decreed that the GCP work on the A428 busway be suspended for 2 months, whilst the work on his transport strategy is carried out (by well paid consultants). This suspension means that the report that should have gone to the GCP in July will now not be discussed, adding further delay to the decision making progress and risks the future work of the GCP.

Risk is two fold. (1) that the delay will be seen by the Planning Inspector examining the LDP as detrimental to the plan for the A428 corridor and therefore cannot be relied on, and therefore affect the final decision on the soundness of the LDP
(2) that the delay will have impact on the GCP timeline for utilising the first tranche of funding, and showing in the review due in 2019 that it has done enough to justify receiving the 2nd tranche of £200m funding from Central Government.

The Mayor's decision was called in by the CPA Scrutiny committee, which was to have met to discuss the matter on Friday 15th June, but the meeting was scuppered and unable to be quorate because some Conservative councillors failed to turn up nor send their substitutes. This seems to be a coordinated effort to frustrate the work of scrutiny and I think is a shameless affront to the democratic process of holding the Mayor to account.

Designation

The Council has written to the Planning Service to explain why it should not be designated, and we are still awaiting a decision. Fingers crossed we are not designated as it would remove the ability of our planners to make decisions on planning applications for the district.

Shared Planning Service

Although Planning is now a shared service with Cambridge City, effective 1 April 2018, the planners are still located in their respective offices in Cambourne and the City. There is a joint structure for the service, but implementation is dependent on getting the staff in for the top layer,

and negotiations with the staff and unions on the pay structure etc. So still some way to go yet before we can call it a truly joint service.

3. Other SCDC News

The new administration has sprung very quickly to action in establishing two new committees and one new working group. **The Climate and Environment Committee** will be looking at all the ways in which the Council can positively influence matters both in its own and its partners' operations to reduce damage to the climate and improve our environment.

The new **Grants Committee** is reviewing all the grants currently administered by the Council to make sure that they are providing maximum benefit where it is most needed. Money is very short these days and so no council can be as generous as it was 10 years ago. We need to make sure that we are spending tax payers money well and for the best outcomes.

The Brexit Working Group is investigating ways in which the Council can help businesses in and around South Cambs to cope with any anticipated or actual consequences of Brexit. We already know that farmers are struggling to get the workers they used to be able to get easily to harvest their crops and that some of the high skills industries, which are reliant on a European workforce, are seeing a reduction in applicants from outside Britain. Even the NHS is suffering with its reliance of hospital-based services on people from other countries, especially the EU.

4. Highways England (HE) – A428 Dualling

I attended a briefing about the proposed A428 dualling from the Black Cat to Caxton Gibbett at Wyboston Village Hall, MK44 3AU, where HE updated us on the status of ongoing work on this very important project. The preferred route alignment is to be announced 'definitely' in 2018, and it will be followed by a four month consultation period.

The delay is partly due to having to do more modelling to take into account potential routes of the proposed A1 upgrade. The new route will not be part of the Cambridge – Oxford Expressway as the scheme is too far advanced, but it will be future-proofed so it slots in easily.

We also learnt that there is a Designated Funds grant scheme available to communities affected. Acceptable projects must fall into one of five categories: environment; cycling, safety and integration (CSI); air quality; innovation; and growth and housing. More information on Designated Funds can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/highways-england-designated-funds>. If you have a suggestion, please email a428blackcattocaxtongibbet@highwaysengland.co.uk.

5. Housing

The lack of affordable housing locally is a theme we hear a great deal from residents. We also hear a lot from Government about its intentions to make it easier to get more affordable housing built. However as Government itself keeps changing the rules, Councils are finding it harder to make good on the government's promises.

Previous requirements in South Cambs required all developments of 3 or more houses to provide an affordable element (up to 40%), but now due to the new rules, any development of 10 units or less does not have to make any provision for affordable housing. So, it is that planning applications come are being submitted for 10 houses or less. Talk about sending players to the crease to bat with not just one, but two hands tied behind their backs.

What is the second hand? The cap on how much Councils with housing stock can borrow against their stock in order to build more much needed housing!! The task is difficult, but we will be looking at ways in which we can facilitate more building of affordable homes as pledged.

6. Events

1. Parklife: This is the annual event that takes place at Milton Country Park. This year it is on Sunday 1st July. There will be plenty of watersports, which have tended to be very opular, and the waer zone will feature kayaking, canoeing and paddleboarding. The Cycling zone will be coming back for those who want to try out all types of bikes including odd balls like the recumbent, smoothie makers and pedal powered Scalextric! Check out the council website here for more details <https://www.scams.gov.uk/parklife>
2. Planning Roadshow. The council held a similar roadshow in March which was well attended. As a result it is holding another one on Saturday 9 June, 10am to 2pm at Whittlesford Memorial Hall, Mill Lane CB22 4NE.
Residents are encouraged to attend to find out more about the planning process and maybe even get advice.
Check it out at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/events/2018/06/09/planning-roadshow>

7. Casework/Councillor Drop-in surgery

I have not yet decided when and where to hold surgeries for this municipal year, but will let you know as soon as I come to a decision.

Please do feel free to contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services. If you are having any issues with housing, housing repairs, planning, benefits, council tax, bin collection, environmental health etc, don't fight it on your own, I am available to help you to get the best outcome possible for your situation.

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
8-June-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

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward Councillor's Monthly Report – July 2018

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your particular Parish.

1. Governance

The new administration has had a very busy month getting into the stride of running the council. The Cabinet and Parish Liaison Meeting of 20 June was well attended. It would have been standing room only had any more come in. All the new cabinet members were there to meet Parish councillors, explain our roles, visions and objectives for the services, and take questions. We hope to have more of these meetings in future.

In the meantime, each Portfolio holder will, over the next few months, be visiting a number of Parish Councils not in their wards, as part of us being more accessible to residents.

2. Planning News

Shared Planning Service:

The new service is continuing to take shape. The ethos behind it is “making Greater Cambridge work for you” so we are making sure we get it right.

We are filling the senior management roles first, and happy to report that the recruitment has been successful. These managers will now be assisting the Director of Planning to put the rest of the team structure in place.

Locations – each planning team is still working from their current locations, in City and South Cambs Hall. Eventually, when fully operational, planners will be able to work flexibly from any of our public buildings, and also work on any application within the shared area.

This flexible working will be facilitated by the new software that is being purchased. We expect it to be ready for trial later this year. So working to one process structure with one piece of software should enable us provide a more streamlined service to residents.

Meanwhile, I welcome comments and feedback from anyone who has used the planning service pre-May, so that we can learn from what the service did well, and those were not so good, and use this to improve the new service going forward. Please bear with us during this period of transition.

Draft Local Development Plan (LDP)

The Planning Inspectors are yet to provide us with their decision on the soundness of the Local Plan. The draft LDP was submitted in March 2014, and even though we have written to the Minister about the delay in the hope that this might help move the matter along, we were disappointed by the response that came back. He talked about level of representations made, implications of the main modifications, challenging issues, service level agreements with Planning Inspectorate, and more good sounding phrases, bottom line was he could not give us any more hope of a date to expect the report from the Inspectors.

We now have a potential threat to the LDP in the form of the transport strategy/plan for the A428 corridor – the famous Cambourne to Cambridge busway project led by the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP). The Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authority (CPA), James Palmer now has the overall responsibility for Transport in the new CPA. He recently decreed that

the GCP work on the A428 busway be suspended for 2 months, whilst the work on his transport strategy is carried out (by well paid consultants). This suspension means that the report that should have gone to the GCP in July will now not be discussed, adding further delay to the decision making progress and risks the future work of the GCP.

Risk is two fold. (1) that the delay will be seen by the Planning Inspector examining the LDP as detrimental to the plan for the A428 corridor and therefore cannot be relied on, and therefore affect the final decision on the soundness of the LDP
(2) that the delay will have impact on the GCP timeline for utilising the first tranche of funding, and showing in the review due in 2019 that it has done enough to justify receiving the 2nd tranche of £200m funding from Central Government. Delays to the GCP projects (incl. cycleways and A1307 busway), could now jeopardise that.

The Mayor's decision was called in by the CPA Scrutiny committee, which was to have met to discuss the matter on Friday 15th June, but the meeting was scuppered and unable to be quorate because some Conservative councillors failed to turn up nor send their substitutes. This seems to be a coordinated effort to frustrate the work of scrutiny and I think is a shameless affront to the democratic process of holding the Mayor to account.

The furore eventually got to the Minister who has now written to the Mayor to instruct that all the local authority leaders work together to ensure that the region did not suffer and growth not hindered. Read about it here. <https://www.lgcplus.com/politics-and-policy/devolution-and-economic-growth/mayor-on-collision-course-with-ministers-over-400m-city-deal-cash/7024997.article>

Designation

Still no news. The suspense is not good for us, but maybe in some ways it is good news! In the meantime, our work continues unabated.

Village Design Statements (VDS) – The Council launched the VDS on 26th June, an event that was well attended by representatives from Parish Councils. South Cambs won funding from central government to help villages prepare these VDSs. The purpose of a VDS is to capture the distinctiveness of their parishes/villages and state how they would like to design of new developments to respond to the local unique character of those villages.

This pilot project will be for between 6 to 8 villages, selected by a panel, and the council will provide consultancy assistance in helping to get the VDS done. They need to be short and to the point, not history books, as the VDS will be adopted as a Supplementary Planning Document to give it material/legal weight in planning decisions. It can become part of a neighbourhood plan (for those preparing one) or be adopted policy in the new Local Plan (to be started in 2019).

3. Housing

Cambs HIA (Homes Improvement Agency) is a shared service, working across South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridge City Council and Huntingdonshire District Council. Its remit is to help elderly, disabled and vulnerable people apply for grant funding to get essential works done in their homes, enabling them to live safely and independently at home.

The agency works closely with Occupational Therapists who assess the person based on their medical needs to determine the required adaptation. The staff then help the person apply for grant funding, including drawing up a schedule of work, getting quotations and dealing with all

regulatory issues. There is a small fee charged for this service which forms part of the grant, if eligible.

If interested, contact the team by phone on 01954 713330/713347, email Debra Barker at Debra.Barker@CambsHIA.org, or HIA@CambsHIA.org, and you can see more information on the website at www.cambshia.org

4. Environmental Services

Bins and Recycling: I went on a trip to the Waterbeach Waste Depot and Amey's Material Recovery Facility (MRF). The MRF tour was quite interesting, especially seeing how waste is sorted to recover something of value that can earn income for the Council.

I encourage residents to continue to recycle as much as they can. Items for the blue bin include mixed paper, glass bottles and jars, cardboard, household metal packaging (cans, foil etc.), tetrapaks and cartons, plastic bottles, pots, tubs, trays, bags and film.

But please make sure you clean out any remnants of food from pots, tubs, jars etc., rinse them out before putting in the recycling bin. Same with liquids from bottles – empty them completely please. This avoids the food or drink remnant contaminating the other materials and rendering a whole load unrecyclable. It costs the council money as the contaminated stuff then has to go into landfill.

Also compress bottles, cans and cartons to maximise space in bins. If you need a second blue bin, it is free – just ask. Email refuse@scams.gov.uk

5. Other SCDC News

The new **Grants Committee** met recently to decide on the applications that were already in the pipeline prior to the new administration taking over. I am pleased to say that two applications relevant to or in our ward were approved.

The Hardwick Scouts got a grant of £1,000 to buy a new kayak, and Little Gransden Village Hall got a grant for £3,000 to replace old windows with new double glazed units.

Once the new structure of grants is sorted, I will be sure to let you all know.

6. Highways England (HE) – A428 Dualling

I attended a briefing about the proposed A428 dualling from the Black Cat to Caxton Gibbett at Wyboston Village Hall, MK44 3AU, where HE updated us on the status of ongoing work on this very important project. The preferred route alignment is to be announced 'definitely' in 2018, and it will be followed by a four month consultation period.

The delay is partly due to having to do more modelling to take into account potential routes of the proposed A1 upgrade. The new route will not be part of the Cambridge – Oxford Expressway as the scheme is too far advanced, but it will be future-proofed so it slots in easily.

We also learnt that there is a Designated Funds grant scheme available to communities affected. Acceptable projects must fall into one of five categories: environment; cycling, safety and integration (CSI); air quality; innovation; and growth and housing. More information on Designated Funds can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/highways-england-designated-funds>. If you have a suggestion, please email a428blackcattocaxtongibbet@highwaysengland.co.uk.

7. Local Highways Improvement Funding

The County Council is now accepting Local Highway Improvement (LHI) 2019/20 applications!

The submission **deadline for LHI applications is Tuesday 31st July 2018**, following which successful PC applicants will be contacted by an officer to develop your Feasibility Study. They will work with you to ensure your project scope and budget are accurate and achievable. Your Feasibility Study will then be presented to the LHI Member Advisory Panel.

Please ensure you have read through the supporting LHI guidance available online before completing the application. Please complete the application form electronically, save and submit via email.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-your-local-highway/local-highway-improvement-funding/>

If you have any questions please don't hesitate contacting the Highways Service team by email on local.projects@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

8. Social Events

Caldecote PTA Fun Run – what a joy to be part of this event on 1st July to raise funds for sports equipment for Caldecote Primary school. It was my pleasure to open the event, help the warmup demo, and present the winners with their trophies. Well done the organisers.

Parklife event took place on Sunday 1st July at the Milton Country Park and was very well attended. The glorious sunshine definitely helped. I did a stint as a welcome, helper, and participant in the Jazzercise demo! That was one hot day.

The Kingston Wood Manor gardens is a delight, and I was happy to have been able to attend the open gardens event on the afternoon of 1st July. Thanks to the Metherell family for opening it up so we could enjoy the fabulous gardens.

I will be opening the Kingston Church Fete at 2.30pm on Sunday 14th July. Hoping the weather holds for that too.

9. Casework/Councillor Drop-in surgery

I have not yet decided when and where to hold surgeries for this municipal year, but will let you know as soon as I come to a decision.

Please do feel free to contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services. If you are having any issues with housing, housing repairs, planning, benefits, council tax, bin collection, environmental health etc, don't fight it on your own, I am available to help you to get the best outcome possible for your situation.

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
6-July-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

Appendix D

Financial report 11 Jul 2018

N.B. All figures exclude VAT

Item	Budget 2018/19 £	Expenditure YTD £	Budget minus expenditure YTD £	
Grass and Hedge cutting	2115	726	1389	Includes receipt from Fasnacloch ~Estates. Payment not yet recd fromCCC.
Insurance	438	390	48	
Clerk's salary	1212	303	909	
Grants (section 137)	682	0	682	
Village Hall upgrade	7010	644	6366	
Audit fees	44	44	0	
Village asset maintenance	600	42	558	
Subscriptions	346	147	199	
Parish Magazine	504	0	504	
Footpath lighting	171	194	-23	
Miscellaneous and expenses	1342	103	1239	
Income other than precept	-130	-9	-121	Interest
Total	11963	2585		

Bank balances	Current account:	2795
	Deposit account:	19584
S106 money (included in above)	'Open space'	5721
	'Community facility'	945