

Kingston Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting held at 8.00pm on 26 September 2017

James Clear, Chair (JCI)
Julie Conder (JCo)
Trish Dunlop (TD)
Keith Tan (KT)
Peter Stokes, Clerk
Lina Joseph (CCC)
Tumi Hawkins (SCDC)
Members of the public: Jeannie Venn, Robert Venn

1. Apologies

1.1. None

2. Minutes of last meeting

2.1. Accepted

3. Matters Arising

3.1. **5.1.1 Speed bumps in village:** it was confirmed that the speed bump in Tinker's Lane now has its correct paint markings.

3.2. **5.1.3 Funding for cycle path:** Lina Joseph had previously forwarded an email from Peter Gaskin, who thought there was little chance of funding, and likely objections from various consultees. Lina advised that there had been no change to this position but she will continue to monitor the possibility of available funding.

3.3. **5.2.1 Broadband for village hall:** Lina Joseph advised that there was some funding available for providing broadband in village halls but it had not yet been agreed how the funding would be administered. Funding under this heading may also be provided for IT training for residents and computer equipment for communal use.

3.4. **6.2 Kissing gate near Toft:** the Rights of Way Officer has advised that his contractor is in discussion with the landowner to suggest various options for replacing the kissing gate. Clerk to continue to monitor progress. **Action: Clerk.**

4. County Councillor's report

4.1. Lina Joseph advised that CCC is seeing more reports of both domestic violence and modern slavery, and is formulating policies for dealing with both of these.

4.2. See Appendix A for full report

Lina Joseph then left the meeting.

5. Issues raised by Jeannie Venn (JV)

5.1. **List of parish councillors on website:** JV asked if contact details of parish councillors could be included on the website. Although Tumi Hawkins thought it advisable to demonstrate transparency, there was some unease amongst councillors. No decision was taken.

5.2. **Notice required for publication of agenda:** JV queried whether or not the 3 day period should be 'working days'. *[Since the meeting it has been clarified that 3 clear days' notice are required, not counting the day of posting and the day of the meeting. There is no requirement to exclude weekends etc from the 3 day requirement.]*

- 5.3. **Publish impending meeting dates by email:** it was agreed that, provided there is not significant opposition to the idea, the agenda of forthcoming meetings could be circulated using the village email list.
- 5.4. **Include forthcoming meeting dates in the Parish Magazine:** it was agreed that these could be published in the 'Village Diary', with a note to check the website or notice board in case of changes.
- 5.5. **Dimensions of new speed humps:** JV questioned if the new humps, particularly the one in Church Lane, meet the appropriate regulations or guidelines in terms of height, length and steepness of approach ramps. *[Since the meeting it has been established that the Church Lane hump complies with the relevant regulations.]*

6. Correspondence

- 6.1. **Email/letter from Toft PC re overhanging branches on Brookside:** The Clerk has established that Cheffins is either the landowner or the agent of the landowner. He has contacted Cheffins to arrange to get the trees trimmed.
- 6.2. **Letter from Aon re change of insurance broker:** noted. We will need to check at next renewal that the cover is unchanged. **Action: Clerk.**
- 6.3. **Complaint about wheelie bins from Terry Osborne:** The bins at Old Mead House are routinely left in an untidy group on the verge at the corner of Rectory Lane and Church Lane, with one or more in the road, obscuring vision for drivers emerging from Rectory Lane. The Clerk advised that he has reported the matter to the Highways Dept.
- 6.4. **Email from Peter Reynolds re The Swards:** Peter Reynolds has offered to plant some willow cuttings at The Swards. Agreed to advise him that KPC is happy in principle and request more details. **Action: Clerk.**

7. District Councillor's report

- 7.1. See Appendix B.

8. Open Spaces report

- 8.1. The allotments agreements have all been renewed for the new season starting 1 October 2017. Allotment 1 continues to have periods of neglect – Clerk to contact the tenant. **Action: Clerk.**

9. Faster Broadband report

- 9.1. There are still some residents unable to be connected, with a variety of reasons given. JCo continues to try and resolve problems on residents' behalf.

10. Clerk's report

- 10.1. **Bi-monthly report** – previously circulated. Noted that the KPC contribution to the WREN grant has been wrongly posted under the heading 'Grants'. To be re-posted under 'Village Hall Upgrade' and the report re-issued. See Appendix C. **Action Clerk.**

10.2. Invoices for payment:

- 10.2.1. Buchan's Landscapes grasscutting July £462.24
- 10.2.2. Buchan' Landscapes grasscutting August £462.24
- 10.2.3. Field (Compost) Ltd playbark £168.00

- 10.3. **Audit of 2016/17 Accounts:** the audit is now complete, with nothing of concern found by the auditor. No fee was charged.

11. Planning

- 11.1. **S/1241/17/LB erection of garden annex, demolition of greenhouse** at Pryor's Cottage, Field Road: this application has been withdrawn.

11.2. S/2405/17/PA notification of prior approval for change of use of agricultural building to dwelling houses at Kingston Pastures Farm, Old Wimpole Road: for information only.

11.3. S/3060/17/TC tree work at Barn House, Rectory Lane: for information only

12. Co-option of Parish Councillor: agreed to approach Miki Ellar who has expressed an interest. JCI to speak to her at the weekend.

13. Items for next meeting: none

14. Date of next meeting: 14 November 2017

Meeting ended at 22:05

Signed.....

Date.....

Appendix A

Report September
2017



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

Children's Centre Update

There has been a very large response to the consultation which is very positive. Residents have been asking about the outreach proposal. In a few lines:

What does outreach work means?

Family work in people's home
Regular and constant timetables groups sessions in buildings
Regular planned holiday offer
Responsive pop up interventions where intelligence informs a need

We need to transform our services. We want to reach those in most need and isolated areas. To do this we need to do things differently.

Caldecote Children's Centre (CC)

I have visited the school and spoken to the Head teacher. I have also been talking to the Manager who is leading the consultation and she has visited the school in order to find the best way forward for this building.

The service offered by the CC will continue to be provided through outreach. The building would be best use by allowing the pre-school to extend its offer and for the school to continue to offer the wrap around care parents want and need. This partnership between school and pre-school will offer the best outcome for children.

If have any comments or ideas please get in touch.

Budget and business planning

I have now attended several financial seminars and all members should start attending their committees business planning and prepare for budget meeting next year. We are doing everything we can to keep supporting the same level of services offered across the county and make sure that those most in need are receiving the help and support they need. We have started to transform services and evaluating the best way to achieve our goals.

We are negotiating with Central Government key financial points such as business rates and fair school funding for our schools.



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

If you have an idea about how a service can improve or do differently please get in touch. We want to hear from staff and residents.

Health and Wellbeing Board meeting

This session was looking at:

Discussing the national context for Health and Wellbeing boards
GROUP discussion about Cambridgeshire's progress
Joint Strategic Needs assessment and review priorities

You can find more information here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/be-well/cambridgeshire-health-and-wellbeing-board/>

Cambourne to Cambridge LLF 11th September meeting

Western orbital

Discussion regarding Trumpington P&R proposal to extend and increase spaces. Option 1a is the recommended by the officers as the most cost/effective option.

Members of the LLF raised their concerns regarding this proposal and you can find this information in more detail in the minutes.

Cambourne to Cambridge

Key points highlighted was biodiversity and visual impact; the price of the land for option 3a; alignment and if it would consider the north of the A428, amongst others.

There were nine proposals from members of the LLF to take forward to Executive Board.

There will be a Consultation in November, so please keep an eye out for this and send your response. The more people involved the better.

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



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation

Cambridgeshire Community Foundation manages grants for a range of organisations across the county, from public sector bodies, national and local businesses, and sole benefactors. They distribute grants within the following programmes, which fit well with the aims of our Innovation Fund:

- Children, young people and families
- Adults facing life crisis
- Health
- The Natural Environment
- Community Development/Engagement

The Council wishes to encourage innovation and new ideas, so all bids would be considered if they can demonstrate that they will be able to:

- build capacity within the community to help others, thus helping the community to become more resilient;
- demonstrate the social value of the actions they undertake, and the impact on outcomes for the most vulnerable people in our communities.

<https://www.cambscf.org.uk/home.html>

Meeting Head teacher of Comberton Academy trust

I met with Stephen Munday, Chief Executive for the trust. We spoke about challenges of academies which are very similar to the rest of the schools, housing for staff, retention, curriculum, mental health; and opportunities, apprenticeships, work experiences, improvement of grades, etc.

At the end we both agreed that Education is the most important area of our society.

Mental health

I am committed to raising awareness and working with organisations in order to improve the current provision of mental health across the County with the main focus being schools and teachers. I will be meeting lead officers from main Mental Health organisations, residents and County Council departments such as Public Health.



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

Public Transport

The next South Cambridgeshire District Council full council meeting is on Thursday 28 Sept (next week). The agenda will be published later today. In that agenda, you will see a Motion, proposed by Cllr Tim Wotherspoon (cc'd), saying:

"This Council resolves to partner with the County Council, the City Council, the Combined Authority and the Greater Cambridge Partnership (in the hope and expectation that they will each be willing to do so) to undertake a comprehensive review of bus services in and around the District and the wider area (and not just to/from Cambridge), in order to assess how significant short- and long-term improvements can be made for the benefit of our residents, employees, employers, students, patients, leisure-travellers and all others; and, to signal it's keenness for this review to take place, and as soon as possible, hereby allocates £50,000 to co-fund such a review".

Charities

I participated in the Hardwick Fun Run. They are raising funds for upgrading their play equipment. If you would like to be involved or donate please let me know.

As much as possible I support Charities, if you would like me to attend an event in your area I would love to be involved.

-----Press releases -----

Call for a fairer deal on Adult Social Care for Cambridgeshire

A local council is calling for a fairer deal on funding for adult social care services from Government.

The call comes from Cambridgeshire County Council ahead of further consultation on a national funding formula this month.

Over the next five years, the number of older residents living in shire counties, such as Cambridgeshire, is set to rise at an annual average of 2 per cent, compared to the national average of 1.8 per cent, placing potentially further strain on adult social care services.



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Cambridgeshire County Councillor

Shire Counties have also been subject to the largest reductions in estimated cash funding of any local authority type of over 20 per cent between 2013-16, despite having the fastest growing elderly population. In total, Shire Counties received £1.98 billion less funding in 2015-16 compared to other types of local authorities.

To deal with budgetary pressures, Cambridgeshire County Council is very focused on innovation and transformation in adult services and making sure the people of Cambridgeshire get the best possible value from every pound spent.

The Council has over the last two years found a number of ways in which we can help deliver services earlier at a lower cost and so reduce reliance on statutory support through better use of technology, adaptations and equipment in the home and by providing early help.

However, a fair deal for Cambridgeshire could provide more services to support older people, adults with learning disabilities and mental health needs live safely in their own homes and in their local communities. Also additional placements in care and nursing settings when this is needed.

Cambridgeshire County Councillor Steve Count, Leader of the Council, said: "One of our top priorities is to ensure that we can improve outcomes and safe guard the health and wellbeing of vulnerable adults and their carers that need our adult social care services. We have been successfully transforming our adult social care services over the last two years, but we need Government to recognise there is a substantial funding shortfall and that these services, both locally and across the country, are under strain. Government needs to give Cambridgeshire a fair deal so we can use this extra funding to give those adults requiring our social care services the support and help they need.

"We are working with other County Councils across the UK to ask our MPs to take a message to the government to make changes to their Funding Formula plans so we can receive a fair deal."

Special School being built

Parents and residents are invited to find out more about a new special school being built in Cambridgeshire.

Applications have been received from potential sponsors to run and manage the school which is being built by Cambridgeshire County Council on the Alconbury Weald development.

This school will have 110 places and will serve children and young people aged 3 - 19 with complex special educational needs living in the development and the surrounding area.



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

A public meeting is taking place in the Hall at The Club Building, Alconbury Enterprise Campus, on Tuesday, September 19 from 7pm-8.30pm.

Members of the public will have the chance to speak to representatives from each sponsor about their proposals and ask questions.

Cllr Simon Bywater, Chairman of the Children and Young People Committee, said: "This is a great opportunity to come along and hear more about the sponsors' proposals for this new special school. We're committed to making sure there is provision for children and young people with special educational needs in Cambridgeshire and helping them to progress with their learning. I would encourage parents to go along and hear about these exciting proposals."

The public meeting will be followed by an independent member/officer panel that will meet on October 2 to identify the preferred sponsor and make a recommendation to the County Council's Children and Young People Committee.

Details of all the proposals received, and the County Council's preference, will be sent to the Secretary of State who will make the final decision on who will be the sponsor of the new school.

Once completed, the Alconbury Weald development will include up to 5,000 houses, three primary schools with a total of 1,700 places, a 1,200-pupil secondary school plus sixth form provision and the new special school. The first primary school, Ermine Street, opened in September 2016 and is run by The Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust (DEMAT).

The £15 million investment for design and construction is being funded by Cambridgeshire County Council combination of basic need allocations, developer contributions and other County Council resources.

For more information, visit <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-&-learning/school-changes-&-consultations/new-special-school-at-alconbury-weald/>

The next Full Council will be 17th of October starting at 10am.

Just to remind you that the public is welcome to attend County Councils meetings. You can find all the details in the website, along with the agenda and supporting documents.



Lina Joseph
Cambridgeshire County Councillor

As always I welcome your questions and comments on the foregoing and any other local or strategic matter in which you are interested.

Lina Joseph

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward Councillor's Monthly Report – September 2017

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

1. Ongoing and/or Speculative Planning Applications

In July 2017, as I reported, the planning inspector allowed an appeal by Gladman Developments for 140 homes to be built at the top end of Highfields. This week, I attended another appeal hearing, this time by Welbeck developments regarding application S/2764/16/OL to build 58 houses at the western end of Grafton Drive. This will be 1.75 times the existing estate of 33 houses.

The Council presented its case through a planning consultant and a barrister, whilst Welbeck had the same barrister that represented Gladmans!! Phil Claridge (Parish Councillor) and me represented the village residents views as best we can.

SCDC Planning Dept had recommended the site for approval in a duplicate application S/1144/17/OL, siting various mitigation measures to offset the harm that would be caused to the village. There were so many of these measures, one could not fail to wonder what would happen if they were not implemented, or poorly implemented. The planning committee refused the application, and we were able to use some of the same arguments for refusal in our presentation to the planning inspector.

The 5-year housing land supply issue is still very much at play, but we hope that the inspector saw enough on his site visit, especially on the highways issue, to give it enough weight. If this site is approved, it will most certainly link Highfields to the proposed Bourn Airfield Development if that is given the go ahead in future.

2. Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) and Cambourne to Cambridge Busway

The newly rebranded Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP), formerly City Deal, scheduled a Workshop to update us on the work it was doing regarding the Park & Ride sites, right in the middle of the summer holidays.

At the meeting, we discovered that the original 9 options had been whittled down to 5, and one of those was the part of Bourn Airfield land right at the top of Highfields Road! It would seem that the consultants were not aware that the same piece of land is being eyed up by the Bourn proposers to be used to meet the quota of 3500 houses. The same land cannot be used for two purposes simultaneously! The other options were in Dry Drayton (near Hardwick Roundabout), the Water Tower site (on corner of Long road and St Neots Road), the original Crome Lea Site and Madingley P&R. Participants included Mr Andy Campbell who runs StageCoach in Cambridge. Participants were from parish councils and other interested bodies, and we gave our views which the consultants took away to use to refine the sites analysis. Read about the workshop here on my blog <http://tumihawkins.org.uk/bourn-airfield-park-ride-site-coming-highfields-caldecote/>

The final recommendation to the GCP Assembly and GCP Board Meetings earlier this month narrowed the options to Dry Drayton and the Water Tower sites for the P&R. Three route options for the Busway itself are Options 1, 3a and 6 (proposed by the A428 LLF). The Board unanimously agreed to put these two P&R sites and route options to public consultation over the next few weeks, despite the concerns expressed by the A428 LLF Technical committee about the dodgy analysis that was carried out to make Option 3a look better than Option 6, even though Option 3a will be more expensive to implement! Go figure!!

3. Council Housing and Fire Safety

In the wake of the Grenfell Tower disaster, the Council has sought to reassure all residents that it is taking fire safety seriously. The Council does not own any tower blocks of flats, and our stock of flats is predominantly low level with some medium rise blocks in Sawston. None of the blocks has been clad with external wall insulation.

All external wall insulation installed by the Council conforms to British Standards and is approved by the British Board of Agreement [BBA]. The systems have fire resistance and are compliant with Building Regulation B4.

In May 2017 a company called Safesmart Limited, specialists in fire risk assessment, was commissioned to carry out a full fire safety inspection of our blocks and sheltered housing communal rooms. The inspection started on 6 June 2017 and concluded on 20 July 2017. There will be a full report provided afterwards and the Council will take any action that is recommended

4. Environmental Services – Bin Collection

Bin collection became a shared service with Cambridge City Council in February 2017, with the aim of saving £700,000 for both councils over 3 years.

The bin collection day changed as a result, but the rollout fell short of being smooth with some bins being missed consistently. In the second week, collection was at 94% but has improved to over 98%. Some residents in Caldecote and Toft reported missed bins, but overall the City saw the higher number of missed bins incidents.

The work ethos also seemed to have contributed to the situation, where it seems that SCDC crew would work till all the rounds were collected, and the City crew would work to end of their shift time even if all bins had not been collected. Some bins were also missed because the crews did not know of their existence – which smacked off inadequate preparation/briefing as to which streets the crews were responsible for. Both Councils now say the majority of residents continue to get a good service, and incidents of missed bins have reduced significantly.

If your bin gets missed, please report by 3.30pm on the same day to South Cambs via the website, <https://scambs.egovhub.net/Org/Production/Apps/REPORTAMISSEDBIN/Launch.aspx> or telephone 03450 450 063 or email refuse@Scambs.gov.uk

South Cambs now needs to replace the bin lorries and is considering giving up separating paper from the blue bin. Clean paper used to fetch a good price for recycling – not any more. So, given that the Blue bin waste is sorted by machine at Waterbeach and it will therefore not have any impact on our recycling rates (currently 53%), the proposal is to buy lorries that just accept everything in the Blue bin. It will certainly make it easier!

5. Council Rip-Off

South Cambs District Council was embarrassingly named as one of ‘worst offenders’ in a credit card fee racket exposed recently in the Times. Currently, SCDC charges people who want to pay bills by credit card a fee of 2.5% while the Times advises handling fees charged by credit card companies can be as low as 0.6%. South Cambs allows people to pay bills including council tax, rent and benefit overpayments by various other methods but it turns out that the fee it charges for credit cards is more than that charged by Ryanair. Given that it is usually the least well off who have to resort to credit cards to pay bills when things are tight, forcing people to pay extortionate fees just to pay their council tax is a form of exploitation.

6. Business Rates – Help for Businesses

The way business rates are calculated has changed and some businesses are facing very steep rises. The District Council is using a Government grant to help around 300 South Cambridgeshire companies with £849,000 over four years in the form of rate relief. Any business with a rateable value of under £200,000 that faces a bill increase of at least 10%, is eligible to apply for the relief.

In addition, a separate fund of £50,000 will also be created from the money allocated to the Council by the Government as part of the programme. This is aimed at businesses in the district that do not qualify for the rate relief scheme mentioned above, but can demonstrate that the revaluation is causing them hardship

7. Superfast Fibre Broadband in Kingston and Caldecote

Even though the network infrastructure serving Old Caldecote and Kingston is now live and accepting orders, there are ongoing “technical” problems that mean some households in both communities are still unable to order.

It has been especially difficult in Kingston, where the most recent issue is “a problem in the connectivity between the exchange and the FTTP equipment”. I am pushing both Openreach and the Connecting Cambridgeshire team to get the remedial works done with speed (as much as a behemoth such as this monopoly can muster) so that residents who have been waiting for a while now can finally get the service. Julie Conder is pushing even more!! Hopefully with both of us on their case, we should get some results.

8. Cambridge Deserves Better Event

I had the privilege of sharing the stage with the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and 5 other speakers from the City, talking about a new/better vision for Cambridge. This arose from the shared concerns about the ongoing controversial plans being put forward by the GCP and the lack of vision in solving the infrastructure challenges we face. You can read more about it at <http://tumihawkins.org.uk/greater-cambridge-deserves-better/>

9. Casework/Councillor Drop-in surgery

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.

Drop-in surgery normally takes 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. If you need my assistance at any time in the interim, please contact me in one of the usual ways.

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
Sept-2017

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

Appendix C

Financial report 27 Sep 2017

N.B. All figures exclude VAT

Item	Budget 2016-17 £	Expenditure YTD £	Budget minus expenditure YTD £	
Grass and Hedge cutting	2053	1156	897	
Insurance	421	422	-1	
Clerk's salary	1166	407	759	
Grants (section 137)	682	0	682	
Village Hall upgrade	4788	3980	808	
Audit fees	144	44	100	
Village asset maintenance	600	264	336	
Subscriptions	297	143	155	
Parish Magazine	485	0	485	
Footpath lighting	165	0	165	
Miscellaneous and expenses	1292	228	1064	
Income other than precept	-130	0	-130	
Total	11963	6644		

Bank balances	Current account:	442
	Deposit account:	19010
S106 money (included in above)	'Open space'	5721
	'Community facility'	945