

Over Parish Council

Minutes Full Council Meeting – Tuesday 14th September 2021

7.30pm

PRESENT

Chairman: Mrs A Griffiths
 Vice Chairman: Mr G Twiss
 Councillors: Mrs J Davies, Mr S Couper, Mr R Robinson, Mr A Tranter
 (3 Vacancies)
 Parish Clerk: Mrs M Pink

In attendance

County Councillor: Cllr Firouz Thompson
 District Councillor: none
 Parishioners: 2

2021/09-01 To Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence

Mr M Conlon, Mrs M Hyde, District Cllr B Handley, District Cllr D Percival

2021/09-02 Members' Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

- 2.1 Declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda – Registered Interests received from Cllr A Tranter – Trustee of Over Day Centre
 Cllr R Robinson – Trustees of Over Relief in Need, and The Church and Town Lands Charity, Estate and Town Branches
 Cllr J Davies – Trustee of Over Community Association
- 2.2 Requests to Speak - No requests received to speak on any items as declared above.
- 2.3 To receive requests for dispensations - No requests received.
- 2.4 To grant requests received - The granting of dispensations to be made by Full Council.

2021/09-03 Matters of Interest from County and District Councillors and PCSO

- 3.1 County Council – Cllr Thompson reported that West Street flooding works have been scheduled to include two extra gully's and a connection to the system at no.20. There has also been a spate of drain cover thefts from various Villages in the immediate area. The County Council team have put cones over the missing covers and will replace them.
- 3.2 District Council – Emailed report noted by Council
- 3.3 Police – No report

2021/09-04 Public Participation – No comments

2021/09-05 Minutes

- 5.1 **To Approve Minutes of the Informal Full Parish Council Meeting Dated 10th August 2021.**
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Minutes are approved.
 Chairman to sign the Minutes. **ACTION CHAIR**

2021/09-06 Planning for Discussion and Comments

- 6.1 Application – 21/03570/HFUL- 33 Mill Road - First floor front extension over existing garage, single storey front extension to replace existing conservatory, single storey rear extension and updates to appearance of the property (Resubmission of 21/00693/HFUL)
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council comments are noted as no objections.
- 6.2 Application – 20/02527/FUL - Pike & Eel Overcote Lane Needingworth - Provision of a marquee for wedding receptions, pergola, and additional car parking space
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council comments are neutral, and a recommendation was made regarding noise monitoring to ensure that the noise levels in the proposed outdoor venue are acceptable
- 6.3 Application – CCC/21/030/FUL – Dawson Plant Hire, Middle Fen Drove, Swavesey – Use of land for waste management including a new waste handling building
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council object to this proposal as there will be a lack of visibility at a blind junction and this could result in safety for the school children that use this route and for the cycleway. The traffic routes are also inappropriate as this will lead to extra traffic in the Village of Over.

- 6.4 Application - 21/03806/HFUL - 31 Chapmans Way - Loft conversion and re-roofing with a dormer - Resubmission of 21/02853/HFUL

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council object to this proposal as the design does not fit in with the street scene and is not in keeping with the area. The dormer window height is still too high.

Planning for Information Only or Comments if needed

- 6.5 Application – 20/02477/CONDD – Land Off 38 Fen End - Submission of details required by condition 6 (External Lighting), 9 (Boundary Treatments), 12 (Water Calculations), 13 (Infrastructure Provision) and 23 (Archaeology) of planning permission 20/02477/FUL
- 6.6 Application - 20/02985/NMA1 - 16 Willingham Road - Non-material amendment on permission 20/02985/HFUL to allow addition of window to rear elevation and alterations to approved roof lights and rear roof shape, including raising of eaves height
- 6.7 Application - S/4171/19/NMA2 - Land at West Mill Road - Nonmaterial amendment of planning permission S/4171/19/VC to amend the site layout to meet the adoption requirements of the Local Highway Authority
- RESOLVED:** The Council requested that comments are made as the size of the gardens are still not compliant on a significant number of dwellings within the development.

2021/09-07 Finance

- 7.1 Approval of Payments – The Clerk asked the Council to agree a payment for grass cutting at Overcote now and that the invoice will be added to the list of payments for September.
RESOLVED: To approve invoices and payments to the sum of £8,303.47 and to include the added payment of £75.
- 7.2 Receipts noted: None.
- 7.3 Qtr. 1 Accounts to 30th June 2021 to be noted – Noted by Council
- 7.4 Qtr. 1 Budget Report to 30th June 2021 to be noted – Noted by Council – Cllr Couper requested an explanation of the reserves.

2021/09-08 Procedure

- 8.1 New Model Code of Conduct to be adopted if agreed – The Clerk informed the Council that the amendments made in May to the Model Code of Conduct only related to guidance matters.
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council adopt the new Model Code of Conduct tabled by the Clerk for consideration.
- 8.2 LHI Bid to be discussed – The Clerk suggested that the possible pathway from Chapmans Way to the Pavilion could be put forward for consideration, but Cllr Tranter did not have the time to prepare the bid, but it is a good idea that can be put forward in the next round of Local Highway Initiative Bids in 2022.
- 8.3 Street Name and Numbering – Dutch Corner – To be noted – Noted by Council that the Clerk had requested that the new housing development in Fen End could be called Cooks Corner in memory of Mr Cyril Cook but she has not heard back from the Street Name and Numbering Team.
- 8.4 Street Name and Numbering – 4a Lowburyholme Road – To be noted – Noted by Council.
- 8.5 Street Trading – Attila’s Grill – Norman Way – To be noted – Noted by Council.
- 8.6 Overcote Riverside Location Risk Assessment for Events to be discussed – The Clerk had tabled the proposed Risk Assessment for consideration and amendments were highlighted by Cllrs Tranter and Twiss prior to the meeting and the amended Risk Assessment was presented to the Council for discussion.
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council agree the amended Risk Assessment.
- 8.7 Insurance Renewal to be noted – Noted by Council.
- 8.8 Developer offer to the Parish Council regarding Land at Mill Road (Section 106) LEAP and Public Open Space with a commuted sum for the long-term maintenance of both to be discussed.
The Council discussed the LEAP (Locally Equipped Area for Play) area and the POS (Public Open Space) sites that are highlighted on the plans but feel that a site meeting would enable them to make a better decision regarding any future responsibility for maintenance of these areas within the site. The Clerk

is to ask for a site meeting to be called so that the Council can discuss this at the next meeting in October.

ACTION CLERK

- 8.9 Standardised Council email addresses to be discussed – The Clerk had not had time to fully investigate this item but explained to the Council that they could have a business plan for Office 365 which would provide standardised, controlled email addresses, up to date access to all the Office 365 programmes and the ability to have virtual meetings using the teams function along with all of the other features of a subscription plan. This would allow for central control of Council data. The Council asked the Clerk to investigate this further and provide some other examples so that a more informed decision could be made in October.

ACTION CLERK

2021/09-09 Village Matters

- 9.1 Asplins Close parking area update – Pre-Planning Application for change of use to be discussed – The Council agreed that the Clerk could prepare a pre planning application for consideration. The final wording of the application will be OK'd by the Vice Chairman
- ACTION CLERK & GT**
- 9.2 Illegal Encampments update – No new information
- 9.3 Overcote – Additional facilities to be discussed – The Clerk had received a request from a resident to provide some additional facilities at the Overcote site such as hire of Canoes, some food and drink provision and the possible use of a waterless eco toilet. This would all be managed by the resident who would provide the necessary licences and permits. The Chairman asked the resident, who was present at the meeting, to provide the Council with some further information and to answer any questions that the Councillors may raise. A brief presentation was made to the Council. Licences and permits would be needed, and this was a concern for the Council, but the resident would find out more information and provide a full report if the Council thought that the idea could be supported. The Council asked the resident to provide more information as they are keen to support a local business.
- 9.4 Anglesey Way to the Doles cut through to be discussed – The Clerk had received an email from a resident who was concerned with the poor surface of the current cut through. The Clerk has attended a site visit with the County Council Rights of Way Officer who has offered a temporary solution to the problem for this year by providing a truck load of road planings for the site. The planings will then be spread over the area to make it more useable for residents. The Groundsman and a Village volunteer will organise this. Old carpet remnants have been removed and some overhanging tree and hedge vegetation have also been removed to enable the tipper lorry to access the site. It is then hoped that more road planings can be provided next year for the whole Doles path.
- 9.5 Green Hedge – Garden access to be discussed – The Groundsman informed the Clerk that a cut through had been made into the hedge at the Green by a direct neighbour. The Clerk informed the resident that the hedge belonged to the Council and that the damage to the hedge should be reinstated. The gap has now been filled in.
- 9.6 OCA email concerning graffiti and the Skate Park to be discussed – The Clerk had received an email from Over Community Association who are the Trustees for the Community Centre as they are concerned about the graffiti that has been placed on the skate ramps at the Centre. The graffiti has been over-sprayed with a less offensive message and will wear away via the abrasion caused by the wheeled sports taking place at the skate park.
- ACTION CLERK**
- 9.7 OCA email concerning street signs to be discussed – The Over Community Association are requesting the County Council to provide three new road signs to direct people to the Community Centre and they have sent an email to the Parish Council asking for Parish Council support for this initiative. The Parish Council are happy to support OCA.
- ACTION CLERK**
- 9.8 Maintenance to Village Noticeboard at the shop to be discussed – Cllr Robinson asked the Council to consider some refurbishment of the noticeboard as the two locks have seized and need to be replaced and it may be a good idea to get the board surface retreated at the same time if a contractor is to be commissioned. – The Clerk is to contact Mr Wookey to ask him to help with the refurbishment work needed.
- ACTION CLERK**
- 9.9 Resident request to provide recycling litter bins in the Village, but primarily on the Green, to be discussed – The Council do not have the ability to dispose of recycled materials at this present time as they are not able to monitor the items that will be placed in the bins if they are in public areas such as the Green. Replacing or adding new bins is also not a budgeted item for this financial year.

- 9.10 Resident request for a grant/donation to the Santa Trip to be discussed – The Council will look at this again when they know the amount of the grant/donation needed and have asked the Clerk to liaise with the resident to find out. **ACTION CLERK**
- 9.11 Six Free Trees – The Council have looked at the idea of planting more trees in the Village and would like to apply for one large horse chestnut tree for the Green. Cllr Tranter has discussed this with the District Council, and they should be able to help with this request. The Clerk is to apply for one large horse chestnut tree for the Green. **ACTION CLERK**

2021/09-10 Village Reports

- 10.1 To receive Village Handyman Report – Noted by Council
- 10.2 To receive Groundsman report re the Green – The Groundsman has resigned his position as grass cutter for any sporting facility and the Council now need to appoint another grass cutting contractor for the immediate need of the Green and for the new season in March 2022. The frequency of cuts, for the sake of gathering new quotations, was fixed at 16 cuts per year during the growing season of March to October with no collection of clippings. The Clerk is to seek advice from any new contractors regarding what is needed to maintain a recreation area where sports are played. Immediate cuts will be determined by the Clerk in agreement with the Chairman and quotations will be supplied to the Council in October so that a decision can be made to appoint a new Contractor for the new year. The Groundsman will continue his 16-year working relationship with the Council as a self-employed contractor using his own equipment to maintain all other areas of the Village such as ponds, trees, hedges, wildflower meadows etc and the Council fully support his decision to remove himself from the stressful encounters that he has had with the sports clubs in the Village. **ACTION CLERK**

2021/09-11 PC representatives on Village Charities and other bodies – Matters of interest

- 11.1 Hanson Aggregates – Cllr Robinson reported that there had not been any meetings
- 11.2 Over Relief in Need, and The Church and Town Lands Charity, Church and Town Branches – Cllr Robinson reported that Hansons had asked the Charity to consider the take over of Town Lands so that they could increase the current size of the Hansons Quarry which would in turn revert to wetlands for the RSPB when any quarrying work had been finalised. This request is still being considered. A small organisation has shown an interest in leasing the Town Hall building but this decision has still not been settled.
- 11.3 Over Community Association – Cllr Davies reported that there had not been any meetings, but one was scheduled soon.
- 11.4 Over Day Centre – Cllr Tranter reported that the Centre is currently open for 3 days per week, moving to four days in October and five days in December. The emphasis now is to attract more clients.
- 11.5 Community Warden – The Clerk is having a meeting on Monday and will report back in October
- 11.6 Speed Watch – No report

2021/09-12 Correspondence received – None

Invoices for approval to date - 31st August 2021				Total Payments	Total Receipts	Powers	Type of payment
Village							
Direct Debits:							
British Gas Lite	The Pavilion - Electricity		42.03			LGHA 1972, s.133	DD
Information Commissioner	Data Controller Fee		35.00			GDPR 2018	DD
Invoices received:							
D Bridgman:	Handyman tasks, August - Village	818.65					online
	Handyman tasks, August - Pavilion	70.00					online
			888.65			LGA 1953, s.4	
Clerk's Salary - August 2021	Gross £1337.19		1,004.97			LGHA 1989, s.7	SO
HMRC	PAYE and NI August		415.05			LGHA 1989, s.7	online
Over Community Enterprise	Room hire for PC meeting		79.20			LGA 1972, s.133	online
Over Community Enterprise	Shredding Service GDPR		21.60			LGA 1972, s.133	online
Atlas Tree Surgery	Tree Work at Church End		660.00			OSA 1906, s.10	online
R Fenwick	Grass Cutting		75.00			OSA 1906, s.10	online
MSP Services	Overcote maintenance		195.00			OSA 1906, s.10	online
Came & Company	Insurance	2,704.50				LGA 1972, s.111	online
Viking	Stationery Clerk Office		37.03			LGHA 1972, s.133	online
SCDC	Refuse Collection Bin at the Centre		923.00			Litter Act 1983, ss5,6	online
SCDC	Refuse Collection Bin at the School		461.50			Litter Act 1983, ss5,6	online
	Total Payments for the Village:		7,542.53				
Costs relating to The Green (Registered Charity 300418)							
D Bridgman:	The Green, August maintenance work		727.49			LGA 1953, s.4	online
	Total Payments for The Green:		727.49				
	Total Payments to be made for August		8,270.02				
Payment made by D Card							
Optimum Card	monthly charge x 1		1.99			LGA 2003, s.93	Dcard
Amazon	Signs for the Green		31.46			OSA 1906, s.10	Dcard
	Total Payments already made for the Village:		33.45				
Receipts							
						-	

Next meeting dates: Full Council Meeting – 7.30pm Tuesday 12th October 2021

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 10.30PM

These minutes are unadopted.

Signed & dated Chairman.

District Councillors Report to Over Parish Council September 2021

Important update on the (New) Local Plan - Preferred Options

The next stage of the Local Plan – the preferred options stage - has just been published by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (a partnership between South Cambridgeshire and Cambridge City Councils).

First stage – the call for sites

Over 690 sites were put forward by landowners in the first stage “Call for Sites” but only 19 (3%) of them are being proposed for acceptance and, of those, many are extremely small. The NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) states that local plans must make ‘sufficient provision’ for need of both homes and jobs. We are proposing to meet what our evidence has determined will meet that minimum need. This means we are rejecting the much higher growth figures suggested by some commentators and reports. A number of studies have been conducted to identify what the combined need within South Cambs and Cambridge City is for additional housing between 2020 and 2041. It is greater than the figure provided by the government’s standard methodology because, based on our evidence, that is insufficient, and if we fail to prove to the Planning Inspector that we are meeting the evidential need, the plan will be rejected or significantly delayed (as was the previous Local Plan, which led to serious consequences for our villages). In other words, the plan will quickly become “out of date” – significantly reducing our level of control over future applications.

If we make an under-provision, we drive up house prices and rents and export our growth to other areas. A consequence of that could be increased commuting into and out of our district which conflicts with our zero carbon ambitions and our affordability ambitions. Given the impact of travelling on reducing carbon emissions (which is a key point from our evidence) this joint plan shifts the emphasis away from meeting housing need in the dispersed

rural villages of SCDC. Instead, the plan will focus on new growth in more connected localities - including making the best use of existing new settlements and focusing on locations close to existing services and infrastructure such as North-East Cambridge. The new plan therefore increases the role of the existing new settlements and further reduces the role of rural areas in meeting future housing need.

Stage 2 – preferred options

The top priorities of this Local Plan are to address the problems posed by climate change and the high cost of housing in our area and the new proposals allocate a fair share of additional housing between the two districts. This is the “preferred options” stage, which includes the proposed locations where homes and jobs could come forward in the years ahead. A further period of public consultation will begin on 1st November.

Residents of South Cambridgeshire told us how important reducing carbon emissions and enhancing the environment is, so locations with excellent public transport have been prioritised, shifting the emphasis away from unsustainable locations in rural villages. For all sites we will require the provision of 40% affordable housing. This new plan has a good balance of locations with only 4% of the proposed new homes in rural areas, helping to preserve the precious character of our villages. Overall growth in villages equates to an average of an extra 21 additional new homes per year (between 2020-41) spread over 7 new sites. These allocations will be focused upon the villages with adequate services and very good public transport links. The new plan increases the contribution of the big strategic sites through densification and increased annual delivery - it plans to make them work harder.

Protection of the Green Belt

When it comes to the Green Belt, it is only possible to make changes if there is very strong evidence to justify it and just 4 of the sites put forward for the new Local Plan met these rigorous tests. Two are extensions to research sites of national importance; The Cambridge Biomedical Campus and Babraham. The other two are housing allocations close to excellent public transport; 20 homes in Oakington (next to the guided busway) and 100 homes in Great Shelford (near to the railway station).

The Local Plan is not just about development; the plan strives to include considerable environmental benefits too. For the first time ever, a “Call for Green Sites” was issued and the proposals include new green spaces and wildlife projects. The plan also sets a high bar for building standards, including policy recommendations for low carbon buildings.

Water conservation and the chalk streams

Specially commissioned studies give robust evidence to show how we need to reduce the amount of water we take from the groundwater aquifer, including our internationally important chalk streams. This Local Plan will put constraints on the amount of development if the water issue is not resolved. Central Government and the water companies have to invest in this in advance of further growth; if they cannot or do not, we will have no choice but to scale back growth.

Please take a look at the new section of the website, which includes an interactive map:

(www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan) and take the opportunity to comment during the next public consultation, which starts on 1st November 2021.

Local Support Grants

As part of Cambridgeshire County Council’s Covid Local Support Grants, SCDC has distributed £30,000 to a range of local organisations in South Cambridgeshire to support families over the summer months with food, fuel and other emergency supplies. The educational charity Cambridge Online has received a grant of £15,000 to support 105 families to get online, with devices, data packages and support. Other grant recipients include: Cambridge City Foodbank (£3,000 awarded to help expand the fresh food offer in Trumpington, Cambourne and Northstowe); Care Network (£1,000 awarded for its ‘community navigator’ and ‘help at home’ teams, which help people to continue to live independently); Age UK (£8,000 awarded to support older residents through the community warden scheme and to help to provide a fruit and veg service for older people); and smaller grants, which have been awarded to Parish Councils, local food networks, community food banks and Covid community groups.

SCDC Growth Grants

This is a reminder that businesses based in our area who are looking for help to scale and grow can apply for financial support from the South Cambridgeshire Growth Fund, funded by the Government’s Additional Restrictions Grant. The scheme is open to micro and SME applicants from any sector. They could be pandemic start-ups or established businesses looking to expand. A one-off grant of between £1,000 to a maximum of £50,000 will be awarded to successful applicants. Applicants must be South Cambridgeshire based start-ups looking to scale

and grow quickly or be established South Cambridgeshire companies who can clearly demonstrate ambitious growth plans within our District.

So far (to the end of August) SCDC has allocated £641,110 to local businesses through this scheme.

A new website for South Cambridgeshire

SCDC's Business Support team is working on a new website to promote everything there is to see and do in South Cambridgeshire. This is to support the local economy by encouraging tourists to visit the area and for local people to spend more time in the district.

The site will be launched in the autumn and SCDC and the team is inviting local businesses and event organisers to secure a free listing by submitting information and photos online via a short questionnaire. Please pass this information to businesses in the village. www.VisitSouthCambs.co.uk to create a free listing or email visit@scambs.gov.uk for further information.

“Changing Places” Toilet funding

The Government has made available funding to increase the number of ‘Changing Places’ toilets. Standard accessible toilets do not meet the needs of all people with a disability; over a quarter of a million people in the UK with a disability need extra equipment and space to allow them to use the toilets safely and comfortably. These needs are met by Changing Places toilets <https://www.changing-places.org/>

Local authorities have been invited to submit an expression of interest in the Changing Places toilets programme. SCDC is preparing to submit an expression of interest and is asking parish councils to help identify potential locations. The funding available for this can be substantial (£30,000-£50,000+) but is only for capital costs and not for ongoing maintenance and the funding cannot be used to transfer an accessible toilet into a Changing Places toilet.

Is there a building in Willingham that could be a possible venue to install a Changing Places toilet?

If so, please contact Duty.Communities@scambs.gov.uk by Friday 10th September, sending information to support a bid with the proposed location, the rationale for this choice, evidence of consultation with users and an assessment of deliverability.

Afghanistan refugees

SCDC Housing staff have been working on plans to resettle three Afghan families, provided a home and essential support in response to the international crisis. South Cambridgeshire District Council's five-year (2020-2025) Business Plan commits to working with national, regional and local partners to support the needs of refugees and asylum seekers. Council owned homes are not being used to house these three families and it will not have an impact on the waiting time for local families who are already on the Council's housing waiting list.

SCDC's High Streets team passes milestone of 1,000 visits and enquiries

A Council team set-up to help South Cambridgeshire's businesses re-open safely has passed the milestone of 1,000 interactions with local traders in a year. The District Council's Reopening High Streets Safely Team was established in July 2020 to support local small to medium sized businesses recover and reopen. During the last year, the small team of three officers has visited around 700 businesses to provide them with face-to-face advice, and dealt with more than 300 enquiries, concerns and queries.

Launch of Six Free Trees Scheme

SCDC have just launched the Six Free Trees scheme. Every parish council in South Cambridgeshire can apply for six free trees which they can plant on their land. This follows last year's hugely successful Three Free Trees scheme last year.

PCs are offered a choice of six native trees which can be either pot grown or bare rooted. It is a very simple process to apply but you need to do so by the deadline of Thursday 30 September 2021. SCDC's supplier will then deliver trees direct to you. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/nature-and-climate-change/six-free-trees/>

Bill Handley and Dawn Percival, September 2021 Cllr.handley@scambs.gov.uk 01954 200287

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bill.handley.54540> or <https://www.facebook.com/libdems3rdMay18/>

Twitter: @bill_handley55

DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT OVER

September 2021 Cllr Firouz Thompson – County Council Report

HIGHWAYS

Next Highways meeting is on Friday 1 October at Oakington Sports Pavilion. Present will be: two County Officers and Parish Chairs/Vice Chairs and Clerks. All backdated and current issues will be discussed and prioritised where possible, a collaborative highways document with the Parishes is in place and we are using this to track issues.

Residents are kindly reminded to report any problems on Highways using [Highways Reporting](#), as it will then be picked up by the LHOs to bring to these meetings. Please note: A pothole must be deeper than 40mm and wider than 75mm in any horizontal direction for the Council to intervene and fix. Further details can be found on the following link: [How long does it take to fix a road fault - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

You can also follow us on Twitter for updates on where we are working: - [@CambsCC](#) or [@Cambs_Traffic](#)

Gully Maintenance Schedule for 2021

Gully maintenance will be taking place in Q3 for Longstanton, Over and Oakington and should be completed by end of September. All gullies will be included and recorded.

Over

WEST STREET FLOODING: 29 July - ADC attended site as an emergency: checked and cleaned the gullies. 30 July - ADC were back on site investigating and jetting the system, whilst there they found that by No 10 the two gullies appear to lead into No 10 garden and came to a stop. The resident of No 20 spoke to the crew on site who informed them that there used to be an old village pond and orchard these gullies may have drained into. A few residents shared pictures of the village pond on my post on Facebook.

There are no other gullies between No 10 and No 20, therefore we need to connect the current two gullies outside No10 to the system outside No 20. Whilst we are doing this, we will install another gully along this stretch. We need to visit site and mark up the extent of the works and request a target cost from our contractors so an order can be placed. I will keep you updated on the progress.

Please note: It has been unfortunate that with the heavy downpours we were getting in such a short period of time, systems will be working at full capacity, but once the rain stops the flood disperses.

POTHoles: Several potholes have been marked up and filled across the village, including Glover Street, Long Furlong, Longstanton Road, and Fenn Road (for the A14 Legacy White Line scheme).

ROAD RESURFACING: Glover Street/Long Furlong I have put these roads in for resurfacing assessment.

FOOTPATH RESURFACING: Anglesey Way, inc. Kirby, Deny, Hemington & Elstow Close's, Full estate Footway resurfacing. This is currently in design stage for delivery this financial year, likely to be Quarter 4 2021.

A14 BAR HILL AND SWAVESEY NON-MOTORISED USERS CROSSING CYCLE BARRIERS: The staggered barriers at the bottom of all four ramps of the two bridges have been the subject of scrutiny since they have been installed by a wide range of users: mobility scooters, wheelchairs, tandems, cycle trailers and horse riders.

The County Council procured an independent review of these barriers and the risks raised by the original road safety audit conducted by Highways England. With the support of the local divisional County Councillors there was a clear support for the removal of all barriers, this was agreed by the members of the Highways & Transport Committee on 27 July.

All four barriers will be removed from the approach ramps of both bridges, including the northern approach to the Swavesey bridge. Here pedestrian guardrail will be installed along the end of the local access road NMU across the end of the ramp to minimise the risk of cyclists overshooting and entering the carriageway. At the time of writing this report the barriers at A1307 end had been removed.

LHI BIDS FOR NEXT YEAR

The Highways & Transport Committee have now opened the new application window for Local Highway Improvement schemes to be delivered in 2022/23, details are as follows.

- Application window opened: Monday 30 June 2021
- Application window closes: **Thursday 30 September 2021 – Now extended**
- Feasibility studies undertaken: August to October 2021
- Panel meetings: December—January 2021/22
- Report to committee including prioritised list for approval: March 2022.

This will mean the winter period can be used to begin designing schemes for delivery from 1 April 2022, making use of the summer weather for delivery rather than design, although formal approval will not yet have been given.

Further details here: [Local Highway Improvement funding - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

District and County Wide News

JOINT ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

The new County Council Joint Administration has been taking stock of the council's financial position and ways of working, at a time of continuing increasing financial and demographic pressures as well as new variables around Covid legacy and recovery. In other words, we are examining how to go forward with less income and a continuing need to 'make savings' while dealing with inflation and the economic costs of Covid to the council.

Our population is getting older and/or has increasingly complex health needs which need to be understood and our highways network is in 'managed decline'. Our job as a council is to provide the best possible services for our residents. The next round of committee meetings is in September, and all meetings are live-streamed and accessible on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/CambsCountyCouncil/videos>.

Decentralisation of Services

One of the new Joint Administration's major commitments is to decentralise council services, making decisions closer to communities. This might include:

- Joint decision making—the County Council working closely with the District or City Council, Town or Parish Councils, local voluntary, community and faith groups, and communities to identify priorities and agree how best to deliver to them.
- Service relocation—County Council services physically located within the heart of communities where there is an evidenced need, with opportunities for co-location between council departments and with partner agencies.
- Delegation of funding, service delivery, and/or decision making—a community or local organisation being given formal delegation to deliver a service or to make decisions relating to county council services.

A progress report will be made to the December meeting of the Communities, Social Mobility & Inclusion Committee. The Council aims to support and enable partners to deliver services or make joint decisions, rather than adding pressure and cost to those organisations. This will be an important principle to establish before firm decisions can be made and reflects some of the early feedback received from District and City Councils.

Staffing at Cambridgeshire County Council

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: The search is on for a new Chief Executive for Cambridgeshire County Council to succeed the present postholder Gillian Beasley, who told councillors of her intentions before May's election. Gillian is currently Chief Executive of both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council, but both councils have agreed that this joint arrangement should cease. Cambridgeshire will therefore have its own Chief Executive dedicated entirely to the county.

OTHER POSTHOLDERS: Meanwhile Sue Procter joins Cambridgeshire County Council as Director of Highways & Transport. Sue is currently at Kirklees Council, and will take up her new role from 1 November.

COVID-19 UPDATES

CASES: At the end of August East Cambridgeshire had 305 cases per 100,000 population, a decrease of 16.2 per cent, and lower than the national average.

VACCINATIONS: Information about walk-in vaccination clinics is available at thevaccinators.co.uk Alternatively, appointments can be booked online at www.nhs.uk

TESTING: Mobile rapid testing vehicles continue to visit sites across the county, offering on-the-spot lateral flow tests as well as test kits to take away and complete at home. You can also order kits to use at home. More information at

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/rapidtesting

INFORMATION:

<https://twitter.com/CambsCC>

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/coronavirus-covid-19-overview>

SUPPORT GRANTS

As part of Cambridgeshire County Council's Covid Local Support Grant, £30,000 has been given to a range of local organisations in South Cambridgeshire to support families over the summer months with food, fuel and other emergency supplies. The educational charity Cambridge Online has received a grant of £15,000 to support 105 families who are financially vulnerable. The money will buy equipment to help refurbish laptops and buy tablets and data packages for online access. They also provide free ongoing support to all families who use the service. The aim of the new scheme is to provide computer devices and internet connections to help South Cambridgeshire families and households gain online access for education, to access services or for social interaction. More information and to apply for the scheme can be found here: [Internet Devices – Cambridge Online](#)

Other grant recipients include Care Network, which was awarded £1,000 for its 'community navigator' and 'help at home' teams, which help people to continue to live independently and Age UK which was awarded £8,000 to support older residents through the community warden scheme, and to help to provide a fruit and veg service for older people.

ADULTS AND HEALTH

THANK YOU TO OUR GP SURGERIES: GP surgeries are under unprecedented pressure with an enormous backlog of patient need, in many cases with medical conditions having worsened through time and Covid-inflicted delay. We would like to say thank you to everyone supporting our GP practices, from nurses and GPs and dispensary staff to receptionists answering incoming calls.

PLEASE USE '111' - NON-EMERGENCY FIRST PORT OF CALL: Hospitals are running at full capacity and trying to address unprecedented waiting lists. Ambulances are sometimes not able to transfer people on arrival at A&E due to the number of walk-in patients, some of whom could be treated outside of A&E. Therefore, we are being asked to use the '111' phone service as a first port of call for non-emergency concerns. The 111 service is well-resourced to manage this role. In an emergency, please ring 999.

Education

COVID-19: With the reopening of schools, the preventative measures have been relaxed (bubbles and face coverings) and we are now required to support schools and early years settings where they reach critical levels considered under the government [contingency framework for education settings](#). The threshold for intervention is if the number of cases (PCR positive) within 10 days among children or staff who have mixed closely: Increases rapidly, 5 cases (2 for special schools and boarding schools) or 10% of the cohort (e.g. in a setting with 20 children this would be 2) or Single hospitalisation or death due to covid-19.

CARBON DIOXIDE MONITORS: The government have announced that they will be providing [all schools with carbon dioxide monitors](#). They will enable schools to quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved. We are not expecting these to be available until October half term and we will be providing further advice to schools when they are available.

VOUCHER SCHEMES: We successfully operated our voucher scheme in the summer holiday with two vouchers were sent out to parents of eligible children over the holidays. We have dealt with over 1,500 queries during the summer holiday including signing up new parents for free school meals. We are working with schools and early year setting to follow up unclaimed vouchers and we will be withdrawing unused vouchers on the 24 September. Parents with issues can contact us at winter.support@cambridgeshire.gov.uk. We will be taking proposals to the Children & Young People Committee in September on how we will support families in October half term.

RENEWABLES: Schools across Cambridgeshire will be supported in replacing gas and oil boilers with cleaner, greener heating systems thanks to a new model of funding approved by Cambridgeshire County Council, which will speed up the process and make it easier for work to be carried out. We have agreed that a combination of capital and loan funding could be used to supplement any grants, to help cover the costs of retrofitting Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) systems in council-maintained schools where existing boilers need to be replaced. Additional measures such as LED lighting, solar panels and energy management systems will be installed at each school to offset energy costs and to help achieve the council's commitment to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2030.

Community Flood Action Survey

As part of its Community Flood Action Programme, Cambridgeshire County Council is updating its riparian guidance document to make it more useful for those living next to a watercourse.

A riparian owner is anyone who owns a property where there is a watercourse within or adjacent to the boundaries of their property. A watercourse includes a river, stream or ditch. A riparian owner is also responsible for watercourses or culverted watercourses passing through their land.

As this document is aimed at residents and landowners, the Council wishes to seek their views and get a better understanding of their awareness of riparian issues. The Council has therefore prepared a short survey (five questions—link below) for residents and landowners to complete. The Council plans to keep the survey open until Thursday 30 September but this can be extended if necessary.

In addition, the Council would be grateful for any photographs of watercourses that residents may have, to include in the guidance document. If anyone would like to submit photos, please email them to CFAP@cambridgeshire.gov.uk and include the name they would like to be credited as. <https://forms.office.com/r/5HQbNqGtba>

FOSTER CARERS

Cambridgeshire County Council needs more foster carers. Fostering means caring for one or more children or young people in your own home when they are unable to live with their family.

Foster carers provide a safe and secure home for children and young people of all ages, and come from a wide range of ages, cultures and backgrounds. Becoming a foster carer normally takes four to six months. The Council offers:

- a generous mileage allowance, a setting-up fee for furniture and equipment, two weeks additional basic maintenance payments for holidays, birthdays allowance, a festivities allowance, and an initial clothing and school uniform allowance.
- round-the-clock 'out of hours' support should you need reassurance.
- a dedicated social worker to provide regular supervision and support.

Foster carers could earn up to £44,720 plus benefits for looking after two children aged eleven or over, subject to experience, training, and assessment.

There are lots of different types of fostering available for the right people and their families. Applicants will need enthusiasm and commitment to support the needs of children and young people in care, as well as a spare bedroom—and be over 21 years of age. The Council urgently needs foster carers for teenagers, sibling groups, and children with disabilities. There are a lot of myths around fostering, which the Council is keen to dispel.

- [Finances and home](#)
- [Career and work](#)
- Personal circumstances
- [Relationships and lifestyle](#)

More information:

- [Six steps to fostering](#)
- [Siblings and teenagers](#)

Being involved with social services or the police will not automatically rule out an applicant. The Council would just need to discuss this further. For more information

- visit www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering
- call 0800 052 0078 or
- text FOSTERING to 60777

DOMESTIC ABUSE SAFE ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY

The County Council has drawn up a Domestic Abuse Safe Accommodation Strategy as all county councils are required to do by the Domestic Abuse Act 2021. The three key aims of this strategy are to achieve:

- Earlier identification of, and intervention for, domestic abuse through access to domestic abuse support, local authority housing advice, and social and private landlords.
- A reduction in the number of victims of abuse who are made homeless as a result of domestic abuse.
- Increased housing sustainment options so that people experiencing domestic abuse can remain safely in their home when it is their choice to do so, or do not lose their tenancy status if they relocate.

The Council's Communities, Social Mobility & Inclusion Committee is being asked to approve the strategy for submission to Government.

Carbon Footprint

THE CARBON FOOTPRINT OF WHERE: We live The Centre for Research into Energy Demand Solutions has produced a new place-based carbon calculator. This looks at a single year in carbon emissions across England, to help us understand where our community's footprint comes from, and how we can reduce it. The latest statistics are for 2018, and are calculated down to LSOA or 'Lower Super Output Area' level. <https://www.carbon.place/>

Afghan Resettlement

Cambridgeshire County Council is working with partners to help resettle Afghan nationals (and their families) who are at risk because they worked alongside our armed forces and the British Government, or who may be vulnerable for other reasons. So far around 10 to 15 homes have been identified across the county, while the County Council has also offered one of its vacant outdoor education centres as temporary accommodation for Afghans while they wait for suitable accommodation either in Cambridgeshire or elsewhere in the region.

The local authority has met with officers in each of the district and city councils (in their capacity as local housing authorities) to find out how they will be supporting the national programme, so that it can identify ways in which the county council can provide them with wraparound support – such as childcare placements, language classes or support to transfer qualifications to British standards. Each district and the city council have confirmed that they will be accepting and/or supporting Afghan nationals as part of the national Afghan Relocations and Assistance Policy (ARAP), and the broader Afghan Citizens' Resettlement Scheme (ACRS) for other vulnerable Afghans.

A consistent message from all of the discussions has been the need to continue to work collaboratively, while a commitment has been made to establish a county-wide taskforce to share good practice and unblock challenges. In addition, the County Council is also identifying a senior officer to work with district and city councils to help speed up decision-making and problem-solving, while it will also be working with a wide range of partners from across the public, voluntary, community and faith sectors to extend the coordination effort.

Support being offered by the County Council includes:

- Developing tailored English-language courses through its adult skills service, Cambridgeshire Skills
- Supporting the national effort to transfer qualifications to British standards, through Cambridgeshire Skills
- Exploring employment and apprenticeship opportunities within the council, and its contracted and commissioned services
- Coordination of donations from the public
- Expanding the locally led donations schemes, especially for high demand items such as beds, wardrobes and white goods
- Extending existing mechanisms to buy goods or to provide food and other vouchers via the County Coordination Hub
- Supporting Afghan families to access online resources through the provision of computer hardware and data
- Working with our public health teams to offer immunisations/vaccinations to those individuals who might need them
- The offer of broader social opportunities.

The council is aware that many people are keen to offer help and support. It is especially keen to hear from landlords with suitable and available housing (whole and self-contained houses, rather than rooms or shared accommodation), as well as from anyone able to donate good quality large items of furniture, including beds and wardrobes.

Anyone wishing to contribute or to find out more detail is asked to approach the relevant district or city council where the housing located in the first instance. However, the County Council is also offering an information point for anyone that wants further information, to offer accommodation, or to offer other support:

Email: communitycv@cambridgeshire.gov.uk.

Telephone: 0345 045 5219

councils, responsibilities and key government funded organisations

If you have a problem or concern do not worry too much about who can solve it just ask the question to the parish clerk or a councillor and they will point you in the right direction. The organisational structure of Cambridgeshire is complex, but it is important to identify where responsibility lies.

County Council Responsibilities: Education, Transport, Highways, Heritage, Social care, Libraries, Trading standards, Waste management, Maintaining their estate. Some of these services are shared between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council but any concerns should be directed to the county council.
District Council Responsibilities: Council tax payments and benefits, Household bin collections, Housing and housing benefits, Council leisure facilities, Environmental health, Residential planning.
Parish/ Town Council Responsibilities: Looking after community buildings, Open spaces, Allotments, Play Areas, Bus shelters.
Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) 'The local delivery body for a City Deal with central Government worth up to £500 million over 15 years, to vital improvements in infrastructure (decarbonising transport), supporting and accelerating the creation of 44,000 new jobs, 33,500 new homes and 420 additional apprenticeships.'

Partnership between Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, University of Cambridge.
The Combined Authority, Cambridge and Peterborough, our elected Mayor 'A combined authority (CA) is a legal body set up using national legislation that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take collective decisions across council boundaries.' What our Mayor does – Business support, skills, housing, transport, environment, international, digital connectivity, resilience, research, and strategy. New homes.
Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridge, and Peterborough To support and challenge the Chief Constable to provide effective and efficient policing services for the area.
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority The Fire Authority is the governing body responsible for delivering a fire and rescue service to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is made up of Cambridgeshire County Councillors and Peterborough City Councillors.

councillor update

For those on social media we have a highly active Facebook group covering the whole ward here:

<https://www.facebook.com/libdems3rdMay18>

Contact Details

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about these, or any other matters.

Bill Handley, Dawn Percival

District Councillors for Over and Willingham

Firouz Thompson, County Councillor for Longstanton, Oakington & Westwick, Northstowe & Over

Contact details:

Bill Handley: cllr.handley@scambs.gov.uk

Dawn Percival:

Firouz Thompson: firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk