

Over Parish Council

Minutes Co-Option Meeting – Tuesday 12th October 2021

7.30pm

PRESENT

Chairman: Mrs A Griffiths

Vice Chairman: Mr G Twiss

Councillors: Mrs J Davies, Mrs M Hyde, Mr R Robinson, Mr A Tranter, Mr M Conlon
(3 Vacancies)

Parish Clerk: Mrs M Pink

In attendance

County Councillor: Cllr Firouz Thompson

District Councillor: Cllr Bill Handley

Parishioners: 1

Item

2021/10-01 To Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence

Mr S Couper, District Cllr D Percival

2021/10-02 Co-option of Councillor to fill One vacancy (two further vacancies due to resignation)

The Clerk has received an application from Mr Michael Grange to cover one vacancy for a Councillor on Over Parish Council. The application was circulated prior to the Meeting.

The Vote takes place

Resolved: It was proposed, seconded and unanimously approved that the applicant is asked to become a member of the Council.

The Clerk asked Mr M Grange to complete the acceptance of office form.

The Chairman thanked Mr Grange and welcomed him to the Council and asked him to take a place at the Council table at the Full Council meeting which is now convened.

Over Parish Council

Minutes Full Council Meeting – Tuesday 12th October 2021

7.35pm

PRESENT

Chairman: Mrs A Griffiths

Vice Chairman: Mr G Twiss

Councillors: Mrs J Davies, Mrs M Hyde, Mr R Robinson, Mr A Tranter, Mr M Conlon, Mr M Grange (2
Vacancies)

Parish Clerk: Mrs M Pink

In attendance

County Councillor: Cllr Firouz Thompson

District Councillor: Cllr Bill Handley

Parishioners: 0

2021/10-01 To Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence

Mr S Couper, District Cllr D Percival

2021/10-02 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, Mrs M Hyde – 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.

2021/10-03 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 for Thursday. Emailed report noted by Council. Mrs J Davies asked if the speed limit could be changed at the School to a 20mph area along Long Furlong. The School Governors are concerned about the

vehicle speeds on this stretch of road despite the new road markings that are now clearly shown on the Road. Cllr Thompson recommended that the Parish Council put in an LHI Bid next year to see if this change of speed limit can be actioned and asked Mrs Davies to forward the email from the Governors so that it can be formerly noted. **ACTION JD**

- 3.2 District Council – Emailed report noted by Council
- 3.3 Police – No report

2021/10-04 Public Participation – No comments

2021/10-05 Minutes

5.1 To Approve Minutes of the Full Parish Council Meeting Dated 14th September 2021.

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Minutes are approved. Chairman to sign the Minutes. **ACTION CHAIR**

Mr Twiss noted that the Annual Parish Meeting Draft Minutes should be presented to the Council so that any actions can be taken up and the Chairman asked the Clerk to add this to the Agenda in November. **ACTION CLERK**

2021/10-06 Planning for Discussion and Comments

- 6.1 Application – 21/04077/ADV - Land at Junction of Mill Road and Willingham Road – Installation of 2 no. post mounted signs and 6 no flags

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council comments are noted as no objections.

- 6.2 Application – 21/04287/HFUL - 37-39 Fen End – Conversion of existing garage and new link to existing dwelling

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council comments are noted as no objections

- 6.3 Application – 21/04288/LBC - 37-39 Fen End – Conversion of existing garage and new link to existing dwelling

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council comments are noted as no objections

Planning for Information Only or Comments if needed

- 6.4 Application – S/4201/18/CONDA – Land East of 7 Longstanton Road – Submission of details required by condition 3 (Materials) of planning permission S/4201/18/VC – Noted by Council
- 6.5 Application – 21/1182/TTCA – 2 Horse Ware – S211 tree works notice (Conservation area) – Noted by Council
- 6.6 Application – 21/1207/TTCA – 20 High Street – S211 tree works notice (Conservation area) – Noted by Council
- 6.7 Application – S/2442/19/FL – The Piggery, Haden Way – Amendment extended red line boundary to connect Highway and Certificate D served. – Noted to defer comments to Willingham PC
Mr Twiss noted that the Appeal hearing for 20/03254/OUT - 30-32 New Road is due on the 16th November 2021 and he asked the Clerk to automatically book him a space at the Appeal.

2021/10-07 Finance

- 7.1 Approval of Payments – £6,367.37

RESOLVED: To approve invoices and payments to the sum of £6,367.37.

- 7.2 Receipts noted: £42,500 Precept

- 7.3 RBL Donation towards the cost of wreath to be discussed

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Council provide a donation of £50 to cover the cost of the wreath and a donation to the RBL Branch. Mr M Conlon to lay the wreath

- 7.4 Resident request asking for support in raising funds for repairs to Over Windmill – The Clerk had received an email from a resident asking for support with fund raising to help with repairs to the Windmill. The Windmill is a privately owned business and as such direct funds from the Council cannot be given, as any funding provided by the Council must benefit the residents of the Village and not just one party. However, the Council will look into possibly having the building listed as a Community Asset and DC Cllr Handley will look into this in more detail. The Clerk is to offer information regarding other grant funding streams that the business owner can consider such as

English Heritage. The Windmill is a historic Village landmark and must be conserved as such for posterity. A Community Champion or Group should be encouraged to take this project on to allow for fund raising and maintenance work to be completed. The Clerk, in conjunction with the Chairman, will contact the owner to give them the information provided by the Council. **ACTION CLERK & CHAIR**

Parish Council meeting suspended in order to discuss items relating to the Registered Charity for The Green (Charity number: 300418) Parish Council is Sole Trustee of the Charity

2021/10-08 The Green as a Charity

- 8.1 Grass Cutting Contract to be agreed for the new season in 2022 – The Clerk had provided the Councillors with information concerning three quotations that she had received.
 Option 1 - £50 per cut at green no clippings collected based on 16 cuts
 Option 2 - £75 per cut at green no clippings collected based on 16 cuts
 Option 3 - £49.25 per cut at green no clippings collected based on 16 cuts
 The options quoted also provided costs for grass cutting at the Centre which are additional to the costs stated above.

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that Option 1 should be accepted.

The Council also considered other potential land areas that could accommodate a sports activity within the Village and two areas in particular have been highlighted that belong to the County Council and can possibly be leased in the interim until other options can be provided. Over Village is under provided for public open green space and this was questioned at length during the Annual Parish Meeting. The Parish Council have therefore been looking to explore other options available for the provision of Public Open Space for the recreational use of the whole Village. It was agreed that two action groups would be established to look into strategic sources of new land for recreational sports and activity and to look into what the Village users would actually want to see in the Village. Sporting facilities are not paramount in all Villagers thinking and recreational usage by all residents will also be contemplated. With these two different action streams identified the Council agreed that:-

- 1) Mr Twiss and Mr Grange would look to open up a dialogue with the Village Sports facilities
- 2) Mrs Davies would look to open up a dialogue with other green open space users as it is not just sports facilities that need to be provided in the Village.

Mr Grange also noted that more teenage open space priorities should be considered such as open-air exercise equipment available for all.

This will be an Agenda item for further updates in November.

ACTION GT, MG, JD & CLERK

Mrs Hyde also clarified some action points needed by the Community Groups responsible for the Christmas Lights. Tree base barriers, sponsorship banners and lighting options were queried and solutions given. The Clerk is to provide Mrs Hyde with the electrician's details. **ACTION MH & CLERK**

Parish Council meeting reconvened

2021/10-09 Procedure

- 9.1 External Audit report to be noted – Noted by Council – Thanks were given to the Clerk.
- 9.2 Standardised Council email addresses to be discussed – The Clerk had provided some further information and costings and Mr Grange will look into this in more detail as he has experience of this matter and will report back in November. **ACTION MG**
- 9.3 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 – Street Trading to be noted – Public Notice of proposed resolution to re-designate streets within South Cambridgeshire District as Consent Streets – Noted by Council.
- 9.4 OxCam Arc spatial framework consultation to be discussed – Noted by Council as no comments to make. This is a Nationwide Consultation and although it will add to the road network system it will also encourage more homes to be built which could damage the environment.
- 9.5 Street naming for 26 New Dwellings at Site Adjacent Longstanton Road – one favourite and two fall backs to be considered – The Council nominated the name of Sandpit Close and as this was favoured by most it was agreed that this name should be put forward. **ACTION CLERK**

2021/10-10 Village Matters

- 10.1 Asplins Close parking area update – The Clerk is to get some quotations for the work needed and will organise a letter drop to alert the residents of Asplins Close to the proposed changes to the grassed area and to assess the need for parking. **ACTION CLERK**

- 10.2 Illegal Encampments update – No new information
- 10.3 Countryside Stewardship to be discussed – The Clerk and Village Maintenance Contractor would very much like to explore the many grants offered by Natural England under the Countryside Stewardship Programme as highlighted to the Clerk by the County Council Rights of Way Officer. Many different pots of money can be applied for. Hedge gapping, tree surgery and other hedge and tree work grants could be available. The Clerk asked the Council to support her in trying to find some new grant funding for Village Maintenance issues. The trees in the Doles, for instance, are owned by various different organisations but if grants can be sourced for all then more work can be carried out on all trees and not just those owned by the Parish Council. The Chairman asked the Clerk to report a fallen tree on the Ouse Fen Bank about a third of the way down from Overcote Road end. This footpath is the responsibility of the County Council, and the Clerk will report this using the online reporting tool offered by the County Council. **ACTION CLERK**
- RESOLVED:** It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Clerk can look into this funding programme in more depth to help with Village Maintenance.
- 10.4 Request from the 20's Plenty Campaign for the Council to support the normalisation of 20mph in the Village of Over – Further to the Annual Parish Meeting presentation the Council agreed to support normalisation of a 20mph in Villages.
- RESOLVED:** It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that support should be given to the 20's plenty campaign to normalise 20mph in Villages within the County.
- 10.5 Climate Change – Plastic Free Communities scheme to be discussed – Further to the Annual Parish Meeting presentation on Climate Change the Clerk has been looking into ways in which the Council can make a difference and the Plastic Free Communities Initiative can be a good way of making a start. A Community Group may be needed to carry out all of the steps in the plan to become plastic free accredited and the Clerk will try to move this forward. Mrs Hyde will invite the Clerk to become a member of the Over Eco Facebook group to see if this is an initiative that the Village would like to work towards. **ACTION CLERK & MH**
- 10.6 Tree maintenance at Websters Way to be discussed – Mr Robinson had been contacted via email concerning some overhanging trees in Websters Way. He had given the Clerk a quote to cut back the branches and the Clerk tabled this for agreement.
- RESOLVED:** It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Clerk can organise for the work to be carried out to the trees in Websters Way. **ACTION CLERK**
- 10.7 Official PC thank you to be given to the Overcote slipway cleaning team to be noted – Noted by Council and acknowledged in these Minutes. Thank you to the Overcote Slipway cleaning team.

2021/10-10 Village Reports

- 10.1 To receive Village Handyman Report – Noted by Council
- 10.2 To receive Village Maintenance Report – Noted by Council
- Mrs Davies reported that she would like to see some maintenance carried out at the small children's play area at the Centre. Some painting of the wooden items and some strimming and cutting of the grass. Both Mrs Davies and Mrs Hyde thought that the area looked uncared for. Mrs Davies will walk around the area and give the Clerk some points to look at. Mr Twiss also asked the Clerk to look into some more maintenance at Sandpit Pond. Both of these areas should be included in a regular maintenance schedule that the Clerk can work out and administer with the help of the Village Maintenance Contractor. **ACTION CLERK & JD**

2021/10-12 PC representatives on Village Charities and other bodies – Matters of interest

- 12.1 Hanson Aggregates – Cllr Robinson reported that there had not been any meetings
- 12.2 Over Relief in Need, and The Church and Town Lands Charity, Estate and Town Branches – Cllr Robinson reported that a lease is being organised for the use of the Hall. The Clerk had also received a email asking for a new Nominative Trustee following the resignation of Mr Tim Henshaw. The Council asked the Clerk to write to Mr Henshaw to thank him for his valuable work as a Nominative Trustee.
- RESOLVED:** It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that Mr Graham Fenn should be approached to see if he would like to act as a Nominative Trustee for the Charities listed above. The Nominee did not have to be a Councillor. The Clerk is to approach Mr Fenn and then report back to the Charity if he is happy to accept the Nomination. **ACTION CLERK**

- 12.3 Over Community Association – The Chairman reported that OCA had requested a report on the funds available for OCA Projects and the Clerk had provided a report on the funds currently available in the Council reserve fund and Cllr Tranter had given a report regarding the monies negotiated in the S106 agreements that the Council had managed to agree. Trading levels are back up to pre covid days and it is hoped that new projects can be prioritised and organised to help the Centre to flourish within the Community.
- 12.4 Over Day Centre – Cllr Tranter reported that the Centre is currently open for 4 days per week, moving to five days in December. The emphasis now is to attract more clients.
- 12.5 Community Warden – The Clerk had a meeting with the warden and the level of provision currently sits at 2 clients in Over and four in Willingham and is not as high as expected. More awareness is needed to move the project forwards. The Age UK Representative will attend the PC meeting in November to give a more detailed report.
- 12.6 Speed Watch – Cllr Conlon thanked Cllr Robinson for his help with maintenance to the batteries. There will be approximately two more sessions until the end of the year and will resume again early in the New Year. Only one new volunteer has replied to the appeal for help.

2021/10-13 Correspondence received – None

Cllr Robinson reported that he had received a phone call from a resident who was concerned about late night noise from the Pike and Eel during a wedding reception in the Marquee. The resident should contact the licensing department to report this issue so that the problem can be passed back to the Owners for action. As yet the Clerk has not been contacted about this but will respond as proposed above if a complaint is received. The resident told Cllr Robinson that they had contacted the Clerk but she has not received any correspondence about this issue.

Invoices for approval to date - 30th September 2021				Total Payments	Total Receipts	Powers	Type of payment
Village							
Direct Debits:							
British Gas Lite	The Pavilion - Electricity		53.56			LGHA 1972, s.133	DD
Invoices received:							
D Bridgman:	Handyman tasks, Sept - Village	308.00					online
	Handyman tasks, Sept - Pavilion	140.00					online
			448.00			LGA 1953, s.4	
Clerk's Salary - Sept 2021	Gross £1337.19		1,004.77			LGHA 1989, s.7	SO
HMRC	PAYE and NI Sept		415.25			LGHA 1989, s.7	online
Over Community Enterprise	Room hire for PC meeting		79.20			LGA 1972, s.133	online
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit		480.00			A&AR 2003 SI2003/533 reg 9	online
Atlas Tree Surgery	Tree Work at The Doles		3,456.00			OSA 1906, s.10	online
R Fenwick	Grass Cutting		75.00			OSA 1906, s.10	online
Cllr Tranter Expenses	Overcote expenses - slipway paint		43.55			OSA1906, s.10	online
Glasdon Ltd	New bin top for repair		191.90			OSA1906, s.10	online
	Total Payments for the Village:		6,247.23				
Costs relating to The Green (Registered Charity 300418)							
D Bridgman:	The Green, Sept maintenance work		118.15			LGA 1953, s.4	online
	Total Payments for The Green:		118.15				
	Total Payments to be made for Sept		6,365.38				
Payment made by D Card							
Optimum Card	monthly charge x 1		1.99			LGA 2003. s.93	Dcard
	Total Payments already made for the Village:		1.99				
Receipts							
Precept			42,500.00				
					42,500.00		

Next meeting dates: Full Council Meeting – 7.30pm Tuesday 9th November 2021

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 9.55PM

These minutes are unadopted.

Signed & dated Chairman.

OVER COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

COVERING LONGSTANTON, NORTHSTOWE, OVER, OAKINGTON & WESTWICK

OCTOBER 2021

CLLR FIROUZ THOMPSON – COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

HIGHWAYS

Highway's meeting took place on Friday 1 October at Oakington Sports Pavilion. Present were: County Highway Officer and Parish Chairs/Vice Chairs /Clerks from Longstanton, Over and Oakington & Westwick. All backdated and current issues were discussed and prioritised where possible. Next meeting will be in January date to be confirmed.

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](#)

OVER – HIGHWAYS UPDATES

GULLY MAINTENANCE was brought forward to Q3, we are now working to Q4. The delays have come on the back of severe weather leading to flooding, gully caps being stolen, petrol shortages and the condition of the gullies. We currently do not have a record of all our gullies across the county so as we will be cleaning, we will also be recording. Due to a lack of maintenance over the years the gullies are taking longer to clean.

GULLEY CLEARANCE: On 17 September, gullies were cleared on Glover Street/Long Furlong and High Street, unfortunately even with signs put out the day before for no parking, cars still parked on these roads. Cllr Bill Handley kindly went out with the Local Highways Officer and helped to move the cars by knocking on doors, in the end only 1 gully was not accessed due to a parked car but this did delay the works. We are looking on how we can improve this in future as communication is not part of the contract, we have in place for gully clearances or maintenance, as we do not close the road.

WEST STREET FLOODING: Site visit has taken place in July by Highways team and Milestone in West Street to look at this issue and decisions were made to add to 2 extra gullies in between No's 10 and 20 and then connecting this to the system that runs from No 20. A local resident 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.

Milestone our supplier has undertaken the design work, costed and placed the work order, we are awaiting to hear confirmation when the work will take place, we are confident it will take place this month. We will look to inform the residents as soon as we have a date, and we will share on social media and knock on doors.

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. Please note that this is a legacy scheme from previous administration.

M11: National Highways (formerly Highways England) will be carrying out maintenance work on the M11 to replace the expansion joints and re-waterproof the junction 9 bridge. They are also carrying out some resurfacing. The work is planned to be completed over 13 weeks to Monday 13 December, subject to weather conditions.

OVER DAY CARE

I met with Over Day Care in August with Cllr Bill Handley to discuss how we can assist the centre get back on their feet as Covid restrictions has put financial pressure on the centre, with reduced number of clients. I would like to thank Cecilia Tredget (Co-Chair) and Hayley Smith (Centre Manager) for showing us around their facilities along with one of county officers from the County Council. A further visit will be made to the Centre by county officer this month to assess further procedures.

Starting early October, the Day Centre will be open Monday to Thursday 9.30 till 3.30. Spaces are available, daily fee is £23, which includes a two-course lunch, morning and afternoon refreshments with biscuits/cake, and entertainment throughout the day. If you live in Over, Longstanton, Willingham, Bar Hill or Swavesey then you qualify to use our free minibus service.

Fundraiser on Sunday 3 October, well done to Over Day Care for running a successful Bike Rides 50m, 20m and 8.5m in and around Over. Fundraising page is still open for donations
<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/odc-bike-rides>

NORTHSTOWE PHASE 3A AND 3B

The Northstowe Phase 3A and Phase 3B Section 106 Agreement Draft Head of Terms report was presented at the Cambridgeshire County Council Environment and Green Investment Committee Thursday 16 September from 10am to 1pm.

Cllr Lorna Dupre, Chair of the committee, read out the following statement from me:

"The local Parish councils still have concerns about particular flood and draining issues and we would ask the Local Lead Flood Authority to correspond with the local planning authority SCDC to ensure that these matters can be adequately resolved prior of the granting of the planning permission."

Full report can be accessed on this link, it is item no. 4 on the agenda

[Council and committee meetings - Cambridgeshire County Council > Meetings \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

The meeting can be viewed accessed on [Cambridgeshire County Council - YouTube](#)

We are looking to put in a place a few meetings with regards to the flood mitigations for Oakington with County Officers, Homes England, dates yet to be confirmed.

NORTHSTOWE SECONDARY COLLEGE – COMMUNITY OPEN MORNING

Northstowe Secondary College will be holding an Open Morning, 9am - 12pm on Saturday 16th October 2021 to allow members of the local community and families to look round the facilities that the Northstowe Secondary College has to offer. They had always intended to hold an open event for the local community and our families, but with the pandemic it has meant that those plans had to be delayed.

In order to help us to mitigate risk and maintain Covid-19 protocols, they are asking the community to book tickets for a specific timeslot 9-10am, 10-11am and 11-12noon

[Northstowe Secondary College - Community Open Morning - Sat 16th Oct 2021 Tickets, Sat 16 Oct 2021 at 09:00 | Eventbrite](#)

QUEEN'S GREEN CANOPY

The scheme will see thousands of trees planted between now and the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next summer. 70 special trees, one for each year of her reign, will be given to schools in cities across the UK, including Spring Meadow in Ely.

Local individuals, schools, businesses, community groups, councils are all being encouraged to plant trees where appropriate to do so. The County Council's website includes advice on this, and the national Queen's Green Canopy website will soon include a map on which residents can mark the trees they have planted as part of the scheme.

In Cambridgeshire, the initiative is backed by the Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire Julie Spence. The County Council will be identifying some land in its ownership on which to plant trees.

<https://queensgreencanopy.org/>

[The Queen's Green Canopy Project - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

COMMUNITY AND THE CLIMATE

LOCAL CLIMATE LEADERS: Ahead of the 2021 UN Climate Change Conference (COP26), Glasgow in November, the Council wishes to celebrate those individuals, businesses or community groups who've found meaningful ways to take positive environmental action, and so inspire others to help tackle the climate emergency. Please consider nominating any who fit this description, by emailing communications@cambridgeshire.gov.uk explaining why they deserve to be an ambassador for climate action in our area.

WATERCOURSE REINSTATEMENT GRANTS: The County Council has agreed to offer grants from a pot of money set up to ensure watercourses across the county are properly maintained. Applications may be made by established community flood groups and parish councils where a watercourse needs to be reinstated, and the riparian owner* either cannot be identified or genuinely cannot afford the works to reinstate their 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.*

The Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee has set criteria against which applications will be considered. It is expected that the work to bring the watercourse back up to standard would be one-off in nature, with them being regularly maintained thereafter.

LOCAL FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: The County Council's Flood & Water team has been revising the Council's Local Flood Risk Management Strategy in the light of the growing recognition of climate change, and the flood events of last winter. The updated strategy will be considered by the Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee later this year.

OFFERING OF FLOOD TRAINING FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS: free online flood incident training for community flood groups, and people looking to set up, or who have recently set up, community flood groups.

CCC Flood and Water Team are delivering with Communities Prepared as part of CCC's Community Flood Action Programme. The training offered takes place on the following evenings across October and November, and residents can sign up using the following links:

12 October, 6:00-8:15 pm – Cambridgeshire: **Incident Management** - https://bit.ly/CambsCP_IM

19 October, 6:00-8:15 pm – Cambridgeshire: **Flood Volunteer** - https://bit.ly/CambsCP_flood

26 October, 6:00-8:00 pm – Cambridgeshire: **CEV Coordinator** - https://bit.ly/CambsCP_CEV

3 November, 6:00-7:45 pm – Cambridgeshire: **Crisis Recovery** - https://bit.ly/CambsCP_recovery

10 November, 6:00-7:45 pm – Cambridgeshire: **Snow Volunteer** - https://bit.ly/CPCambs_snow

16 November, 6:00-7:45 pm – Cambridgeshire: **Utility Volunteer** - https://bit.ly/CambsCP_utility

The initial sessions on 12 and 19 October offer some background to the remaining 4 sessions. These initial sessions have previously already been held for communities in South Cambs however, we are encouraging anyone in South Cambs who missed them the first time to join the offering to the rest of the county.

COUNTY WIDE NEWS

JOINT ADMINISTRATION UPDATES:

PEER CHALLENGE: The County Council invited the Local Government Association to send in a Peer Challenge team to look at how the council works. The team's report has now been published. The team found

'there are positive early signs that the joint administration in Cambridgeshire County Council is working collaboratively and there is a strong willingness to work together and create strategic plans to deliver against the future challenges and political ambition'.

The team's main recommendations are as follows.

1. Devise a strategic approach to financial strategic planning for Cambridgeshire as a place.
2. Ensure the budget planning process for 2022/23 addresses the medium-term budget gap and incorporates contingency planning.
3. Develop a member/officer strategic forum to consider the overarching picture of progress and outcomes across the organisation.
4. Take action to recalibrate member roles, behaviours and conduct.
5. Sustainable capacity in the Chief Executive role needs to be established for Cambridgeshire.
6. Embrace the opportunity to reset, clarify and rebuild the different roles for the Combined Authority, the Greater Cambridge Partnership, Cambridgeshire County Council, and District and Town and Parish Councils in place shaping and place delivery, and take the lead where appropriate.
7. There is a need to review 'This Land'.
8. Review the effectiveness of the new Committee system arrangements, including the role of scrutiny, in six months.
9. The use of short-term additional capacity should be considered to ensure that there is the necessary capability to both develop and deliver the savings programme and strategic financial plan.
10. Develop some shared services to deliver greater efficiencies through shared data and client record systems and a shared service Target Operating Model where appropriate.
11. Further develop the current organisational resource to better support wider transformation and innovation.

There were also some recommendations about the future of shared services with our partners.

[Cambridgeshire County Council - Corporate Peer Challenge Report](#)

PARENTAL LEAVE POLICY: The County Council's Constitution & Ethics Committee voted to recommend to the Full Council a new parental leave policy. The policy would allow six months maternity leave to councillors giving birth, adopting, fostering for adoption, or becoming surrogate parents, and two weeks paternity leave for biological, adoptive or surrogate fathers. The proposal is the result of a recommendation from the Independent Remuneration Panel, highlighting the positive benefits it could bring to attracting a more diverse group of people to become councillors.

HGV DRIVER SHORTAGES: The shortage of HGV drivers means the County Council is facing challenges in both home to school transport and school catering. These difficulties are being managed but are adding still more pressure for staff on top of Covid.

COVID-19 UPDATES

OVERVIEW: Covid cases are rising across the county, largely due to the return of schools. In Cambridgeshire 32 per cent of recorded Covid cases for the week ending 22 September were in the 10 to 14 age group. A further 11 per cent were amongst those aged 15 to 19. Secondary school students are being encouraged to test twice a week to help identify those who have Covid without symptoms. All adults are also being encouraged to use rapid lateral flow tests regularly as well.

There has also been a rise in the number of people aged 40+ testing positive, believed to be because children are taking the virus home to their parents or carers. This is of course concerning as it means more older people may catch Covid and we know that they are far more likely to suffer more severe symptoms and end up in hospital, particularly if they are unvaccinated.

VACCINATIONS: Vaccination take-up varies by district, with Cambridge around 10 per cent behind the rest of the country which of course is concerning. In the other areas, acceptance rates are largely in line with the national average.

The end of September saw vaccinations starting to be offered to 12-15 year olds in secondary schools. Vaccinating this age group should also help to reduce the need for young people to have time off school and reduce the risk of spread of the virus within schools. Education and public health teams continue to work closely with schools to manage the high number of Covid cases and to ensure that schools can continue to keep children learning in the classroom.

Vaccination bookings www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19

Vaccination walk-in centres and pop-up clinics www.thevaccinators.co.uk

The Government has decided to end the shielding scheme for clinically vulnerable people. The County Council is therefore writing to everyone on the local shielding list to ensure they are aware of this. They will also receive a letter from the Government. The Countywide coordination hub, which has supported thousands of people since the start of the pandemic, will continue to operate, alongside a network of support hubs across the county, with anyone in need of help urged to get in touch.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - Community support - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

The Government has extended the financial payments available to help people self-isolate, until the end of next March. These payments support people who will lose income as a result of having to self-isolate and will struggle to pay their bills or buy food and essentials.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/coronavirus-covid-19-support-to-self-isolate>

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>

ADULTS AND HEALTH

HOSPITAL WAITING LISTS: 5.45M people across the UK are waiting for hospital treatment following the COVID-19 pandemic. Healthwatch Cambridgeshire would like to hear from residents if they or a loved one have been affected by cancellations or delayed treatment, operations or appointments. They have published a short online survey for residents to complete. <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/SQVSJO/?ct>

ALL AGE AUTISM: The All Age Strategy for people with autism in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was co-produced with parents, carers, and people with lived experience of autism as well as all local partners. This consultation is to gather feedback and hear the views of the public on the All Age Autism strategy proposal. You can fill in the online survey and provide your feedback. Further details are below.

This survey will close on Tuesday 19 October 2021. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RLXFT5>

EDUCATION

APPLY NOW FOR A SEPTEMBER 2022 SCHOOL PLACE: The application process for children who need a school place in Cambridgeshire or Peterborough for September 2022 has started. Any child transferring from primary school to secondary school next year must apply for a place by 31 October this year. Children due to start at primary or junior school next September must complete their application by 15 January 2022. Online applications are encouraged. Children starting at primary or junior school will be notified about their school place on national offer day 19 April 2022. Those applying to secondary school will be offered a place on 1 March 2022.

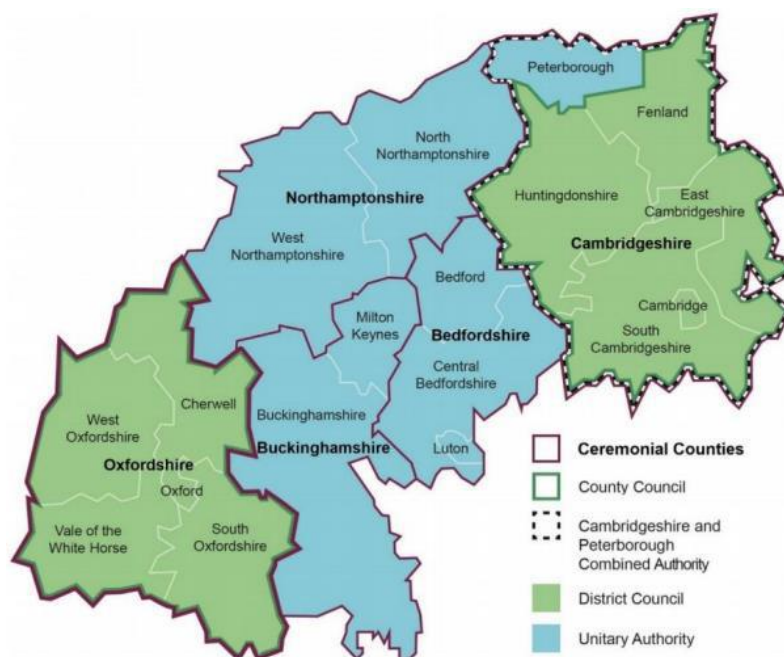
CARBON DIOXIDE MONITORS: The government have announced that they will be providing [all schools with carbon dioxide monitors](#). They will enable schools to quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved.

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.

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.

OXCAM ARC PRINCIPLES

The County Council is responding to the Government consultation on the principles of the OxCam Arc, an area of proposed growth from Oxford to Cambridge. This is a Government initiative, not a County Council one. The amount and detail of information within the consultation is not sufficient to respond with any detail or certainty.



The Council is engaging in the Government process, but this should not in any way be construed as endorsement of what is being put forward. The Council's response says that any growth must be led through the Local Plan process and justified by need, and should enhance and complement existing communities. It should demonstrate how it will help achieve the county's net zero carbon aspirations and contribute to maximising positive health and wellbeing outcomes for all. Water management should be considered early on. New growth areas should facilitate opportunities for public transport, and active travel should be prioritised.

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.
<p>District Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Council tax payments and benefits, Household bin collections, Housing and housing benefits, Council leisure facilities, Environmental health, Residential planning.</p>
<p>Parish/ Town Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Looking after community buildings, Open spaces, Allotments, Play Areas, Bus shelters.</p>
<p>Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP)</p> <p>'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.'</p> <p>Partnership between Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, University of Cambridge.</p>
<p>The Combined Authority, Cambridge and Peterborough, our elected Mayor</p> <p>'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.'</p> <p>What our Mayor does – Business support, skills, housing, transport, environment, international, digital connectivity, resilience, research, and strategy. New homes.</p>
<p>Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridge, and Peterborough</p> <p>To support and challenge the Chief Constable to provide effective and efficient policing services for the area.</p>
<p>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority</p> <p>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.</p>

COUNCILLOR UPDATE

Monthly email newsletter - with updates on local news as well as wider district issues which will impact us all. To sign up please go to: https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/email_signup_longstanton

(Note to help us manage GDPR it is easier for us to host from the LibDems webpage, but we absolutely promise this link will NOT subscribe you to LibDem news)

For all the latest news & updates so far please go to: https://www.sclibdems.org.uk/longstanton_news

For those on social media we have a highly active Facebook group covering the whole ward here: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/>

Contact Details

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

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

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

District Councillor' report to Over Parish Council October 2021

New grant scheme for young people

A new grant aimed at providing funds for projects that support children and young people has just opened. £38,000 is available through the scheme for projects which help to empower children and young people; helping them to build self-belief and make a positive difference to themselves and their community. Organisations that are independently set-up for charitable or social benefit (including Parish Councils) can apply for grants of between £4,000 and £8,000. This is to be administered via South Cambridgeshire District Council's (SCDC's) Grants Advisory Committee. The committee will review all the applications and award the grants to successful projects in early 2022. We will give a link to the application page of SCDC's website when it is available. More information can be found here: [Children and young people grant fund 2022 - South Cambs District Council \(scambs.gov.uk\)](https://www.scambs.gov.uk/children-and-young-people-grant-fund-2022).

Visit South Cambs - Business Website and Listings

SCDC has launched a new business directory of businesses in the district. This is intended to boost local commerce now that we are coming out of Covid restrictions. Any viable, independent business in South Cambridgeshire can apply to be listed on the website and we encourage businesses, especially those in hospitality and retail to use this free service. <https://www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk/>

Afghan refugees

SCDC responded quickly to the government's call for local authorities to find homes for Afghan refugees. By the time this report is published, three families will have moved into their new homes in the district and the council is looking to help a further four families in the near future.

Electric Bin Lorries

The Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service has purchased two more electric bin lorries. Although these vehicles are expensive, the performance of the first vehicle has surpassed expectations. The savings made on fuel, together with the environmental benefits, means that they should more than pay for themselves over their eight-year lifetime.

Covid update

We are warned to expect a further peak of Covid soon. Over one hundred school children are currently testing positive each day and some classes are having to close as teachers become infected. What is of greater concern is the capacity of the hospitals, which are having to operate at over 95% capacity and hospital staff are exhausted. GP surgeries also continues to be affected and the public is asked to be patient because normal service is still not possible and may not be for some time.

Growth Fund

SCDC has been extremely successful in getting the government's Covid grant money out quickly and efficiently and an additional sum of Growth Fund money has now been allocated. The Growth Fund is for businesses to grow and, in so doing, increase their turnover and profits and, consequently, the number of people they employ. So far over £1M has been allocated to 63 South Cambs businesses in a range of sectors with grants ranging in size from £2,500 to £50,000. We encourage any local businesses with the potential to grow to contact the council's business support team for advice and support and to apply.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/growth-fund-grant-scheme/>

NHS Integrated Partnership

From April 2022 the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group will cease to exist and will be replaced by an Integrated Care Service. This will be a partnership of health and care organisations that will come together to plan and deliver a more joined up service to improve the health outcomes of local people. This will be a collaborative operation with all local authorities involved. We will give more information about this as and when it becomes available.

Covid Community Volunteer Update

We are planning another Covid Community Volunteer Update session soon. We hope to have Jyoti Atri, C&P Director of Public Health to give the latest position on Covid, to cover ideas for Christmas neighbourly support and to give details of SCDC's support and community led planning. These bulletins have been very well received and we will post them on our Facebook page for all to see. <https://www.facebook.com/libdems3rdMay18/>

Date for the diary - Cambourne Christmas Market

SCDC will be running a Christmas Market in Cambourne High Street on 5th December. Further information will follow soon.

Bill Handley and Dawn Percival, November 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