

## **Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 4 July 2022 at 7.30pm**

**Present** Caroline Ilott, Chris Herriot, Ian Francis and Peter Tye. There were 3 members of the public present including Pierre Redelinghuys who joined the meeting as a Parish Council at Item 7.

- 1. Apologies for Absence** –Geoff Barnes, Colin Reynolds, County Cllr. Peter McDonald and District Cllr. James Hobro
  
- 2. Open Forum for Public Participation and notice of Parish Council vacancies**  
A local resident asked if there would be any impact on the Foxton travel hub proposal now the Hauxton hub had been given planning permission. Caroline Ilott explained that the Parish Council had been advised that the proposal will be considered by Cambridge County Council planning sometime in the Autumn and a Parish Council public meeting will be held nearer the time in order to ascertain residents' views. The resident expressed concern that approval of the Foxton travel hub proposal could encourage development proposals such as the Thakeham proposal.  
  
Caroline Ilott noted that the Parish Council still had councillor vacancies, with six out of ten vacancies filled and co-option of one vacancy to be considered at this meeting.
  
- 3. Members Declarations of Interest for items on the Agenda** – Ian Francis declared a personal interest in item 15b.
  
- 4. To approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 6 June 2022**  
Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed. Caroline Ilott signed the minutes.
  
- 5. Matters arising from these minutes:**
  - Cllr. Hobro had circulated information re the option of a lighting column on the junction of the A10 at Foxton Bottom
  - Cissy Sleight provided a report to RGT on preschool needs and there is a meeting on Monday 11 July between VHT and the Preschool
  - The Clerk had completed all actions

### Action all

- Consider options for improving communication between the Parish Council and Foxton residents and filling Parish Council vacancies for August Parish Council meeting.

### Action Cllr Peter McDonald

- Look into remedial work of slurry surfacing on the pavements of St Laurence Road, Hall Close and West Hill Road

### Action Clerk

- Instruct quantity surveyor
- Order for informal goal and notify Football and Tennis Club, respond to email from Andy Cambridge
- Accept quote for SP Landscapes tree work

- Notify Cricket Club re approval of S106 application
- Submit planning response
- Place orders for (i) tree work; (ii) basketball sign; (iii) Dovecote hedge maintenance
- Book councillor training

## 6. Co-option of candidate for Parish Council vacancy

### a. Candidate for Parish Council vacancy is invited to speak and there will be an opportunity for questions from the Parish Council

Pierre Redelinguys was invited to speak. Pierre advised that he and his wife had enjoyed living in Foxton since 2020, had worked to become integrated into the local community and believed in giving something back to the village. Pierre believed that Foxton was unique and wanted to help preserve its environment and improve the lives of Foxton residents. Pierre explained that he had a lot of experience in the university sector and was a global project manager in the life science industry with experience in the planning, execution and management of large budgets, negotiation, generation of reports and influencing stakeholders. Pierre felt this experience would lend itself well to parish council responsibilities such as planning, S106 and external liaison roles. Pierre had worked on many science parks and understood the intricacies of how they operate and how they integrate into local communities which would be helpful experience with the new Burlington Press site proposal for a life science hub.

*Motion to exclude Public and Press: Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 where publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be discussed in the following agenda item b:*

Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed.

- b. **Consideration of candidate** The meeting was closed to the public for a short discussion about the candidate by the Parish Council. Members of the public, including the candidate, were invited to re-join the meeting after 5 minutes.

*3 members of the public including Pierre Redelinguys returned to the meeting.*

### c. Vote and resolution on co-option of candidate for Parish Council vacancy

Caroline Ilott nominated Pierre Redelinguys as a member of Foxton Parish Council. Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Peter Tye. All agreed.

*Pierre Redelinguys signed the declaration of acceptance and joined the meeting.*

## 7. County Councillor's Report – see written report Appendix 1

## 8. District Councillor's Report – see written report Appendix 2

## 9. Any Planning, Infrastructure, R&A, S106 and Police updates will be provided in writing if not included as a separate agenda item

Caroline Ilott advised that the planning application for the dwelling which will become 10 High Street (the old donkey field), had now been approved.

Work seemed to be starting on the 2 dwellings granted outline planning permission in June 2016 and detailed reserved matters permission in June 2019. The site lies between Chalkhill and 62a Fowlmere Road. Ref S/1763/16/OL.

The broken street sign for Chardle Fields had been replaced.

Ian Francis expressed concern that whilst the High Street was being resurfaced it had been left in a dangerous state and asked if the road would be marked once the resurfacing had been completed. Caroline Ilott had been advised that the road needed 2-3 weeks to settle and then any hatch covers/drain grills would be raised and then the road markings would be re-instated. Caroline was chasing this with County Council Highways and had also reminded Highways that the parking bay markings outside the shop would need to be reinstated. Ian Francis noted that the school had Bikeability lessons planned in September.

Caroline Ilott noted that the slurry surfacing on the pavements of St Laurence Road, Hall Close and West Hill Road still had not had any remedial work carried out despite being chased since the work was done in February. This had been passed to Cllr. McDonald to look into.

Caroline Ilott advised that the storm drain outside the White Horse was due to have a camera investigation.

#### **10. Foxton Travel Hub proposal and discussion of potential Foxton bypass**

Caroline Ilott advised that the Foxton travel hub proposal was due to be considered by Cambridgeshire County Council Planning on 20 July 2022 but this had been delayed until the Autumn. A public Parish Council meeting will be held nearer the time to ascertain residents' views about the travel hub and to consider a potential Foxton bypass.

Caroline Ilott noted that the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority consultation to update the current local transport plan would be brought to the August Parish Council meeting (deadline 4 August 2022).

#### **11. S106**

##### **a. Update**

A report had been circulated. The S106 working group had met on 14 June 2022. The working group's recommendations were as follows:

##### **b. Approve Jupiter Play design for playground/ community space**

Working group recommendation 1:

That the design and layout (subject to final corrections done on the plan) were now suitable for taking forward.

The full costs were still to be refined and this would be based on the revised cost sheets from Jupiter. Items still to be costed and added included full groundwork, water pipe and fountain (approx. £1500), community and other seating and hedges/fencing. At present an approx. figure of £300K was suggested taking into account some buffer costs. At present there was £90K of ring fenced S106 funding only.

Alistair Russell, a quantity surveyor, would do all the detailed costing estimates, the tendering process and project manage the whole plan. His costs must also be factored in and ring fenced. James Lord would check the ground work specification when that came in.

Finance for the playground/community space project

- a) The current estimated costs for this project including new playground, community space and seating, water fountain and supply, landscaping and planting and the new fixed informal football goal were in the region of £300,000.
- b) These costs included professional fees for a quantity surveyor who would project manage the whole scheme and handle the complicated tendering process required by South Cambs District Council.
- c) There was a £90,000 ring fenced S106 fund. S106 funds were from development fees paid to the Parish Council over the last 10 years. These funds could only be used on outdoor Community Space and if they were not used within 10 years of being given to the Parish Council, they would be taken back by South Cambs District Council.
- d) The Parish Council would make grant applications to all suitable local, regional and national grant making bodies. The residents of Foxton would not be asked to fund this from the current or future precept. The Parish Council would fund raise and seek donations in other ways but the main funds must come from grants.
- e) There would also be some gym equipment placed on the recreation ground near the allotments. As this is on Foxton Recreation Ground Trust land, it would be funded by RGT and grants. This would be for teenage and adult use.

A revised grant schedule would be drawn up along with any loans needed to service the project while waiting for successful grant funding to come in.

Peter Tye expressed some reservations about costs, including ongoing maintenance costs, and the proposed location of the basket ball court, stating that noise should be mitigated and any environmental issues addressed.

Caroline Ilott noted that the community seating near the basketball court may improve any antisocial behaviour in this area.

Caroline Ilott advised that a bridging loan would only be sought if grants were awarded. Grants would likely be given in tranches and towards the end of the project completion, which is why a short-term loan may be required.

Peter Tye asked if the playground land could be transferred from the Parish Council to RGT. Caroline Ilott explained that this would take a long time, would need Charity Commission/ professional advice and could set the project back 6-12 months. It was important to note that the Parish Council also had permitted development rights.

Peter Tye noted the following:  
Steep sloping mounds should be avoided in landscaping, gentle slopes were easier to maintain and wore away less.

That there should be enough run over from the basketball court to the flower beds.

Caroline Ilott advised that planting would provide a visual barrier and sound deadening and there should be enough space to cycle around the court. Ian Francis added that the wildflower area was relatively cheap to implement and brought environmental benefits. Peter Tye expressed concern that the wild flowers could be flattened by users of the basketball court.

Peter Tye asked if it would be possible to implement the project in stages, starting with the main playground area. Caroline Ilott explained that the project implementation would depend on grant funding.

Caroline Ilott confirmed that only one quote was normally required for a grant application.

Pierre Redelinghuys asked if the design could be changed and developed in phases. Caroline Ilott explained that if the project was implemented in phases it would likely increase cost. If the Parish Council was unable to obtain grants, then it would not be able to complete the project.

Chris Herriot asked if RGT could provide a bridging loan, to avoid applying for a public works loan. Caroline Ilott advised that RGT could not donate money to the Parish Council but there was nothing stopping it loaning the money. This would be a decision for RGT.

Caroline Ilott explained that the proposal was to go forward with the current design plan, which could be altered depending on funds and grants available, and to ask Alistair Russell the quantity surveyor to undertake a detailed costing of the project. It was proposed to share the current design with residents on the website and Facebook and at the school picnic on 16 July 2022, highlighting that the project was dependant on grant funding being awarded.

Pierre Redelinghuys asked how much community consultation had taken place. Caroline Ilott advised that a public consultation was held last year at the Scarecrow Festival, children were able to vote on the play equipment and a high proportion of responses were received online.

Ian Francis noted that the children's views were sought last year and if too much time elapsed, the children would be too old to use the equipment.

Pierre Redelinghuys noted that it was important to manage public expectation and that calling the design a vision rather than a plan would show that the plans were still in development whilst showing residents what could be possible.

Peter Tye asked the S106 working group to consider the ongoing maintenance cost at its next meeting. Caroline Ilott advised that the quantity surveyor would be considering these costs.

It was agreed to approve the current design plan and to share this with Foxton residents; to instruct the quantity surveyor, Alistair Russell to undertake a detailed cost estimate; to approve making grant applications and to look into short term loan funding (secured by guaranteed grant funding), if required. Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Chriss Herriot. All agreed.

The next S106 working group meeting was scheduled for 19 July 2022.

**c. Approve grant applications, requests for local business donations and short-term loan to cover upfront costs if needed**

Approved under Item 15b – see above.

*Two members of the public left the meeting*

**d. Approve purchase of a fixed informal goal to be sited in the Leylandii trees by the tennis court. Quotes awaited (estimated cost £4190); grant funding to be sought**

Caroline Ilott reported that this was a proposal from the Parish Council for a permanent fixed informal football goal.

Caroline Ilott explained that the Parish Council had trialed a small movable goal which proved popular but caused issues with it being moved and antisocial noise. Foxton Football Club had given the Parish Council an old adult size goal and, although fixed down, there had been issues with this being moved. All issues were documented in previous Parish Council minutes. Facebook requests for residents' feedback had not generated many responses and no replies had been received on where on the recreation ground the goal (fixed or moveable) should be sited. A survey of 25 adults and 20 children from Foxton school was undertaken at the Jubilee picnic on 5 June 2022. All adults preferred a fixed goal except one, who did not mind as long as there was something, and all the children (aged 7 to 13) unanimously requested a fixed goal. When asked why, they all said they did not want the bother of moving a goal to a flat area and then getting into trouble for moving it.

The working group had considered two possible sites for a permanent fixed goal on the recreation ground:

- a) In front of the white house at 14 Barons Lane on the raised ground.

The ground here is rough and not conducive to football as evidenced by the children who tried to play there and moved both the small and then the adult goal off that ground to flatter ground elsewhere. If the footballs were not to end up in

private gardens or risk being kicked into part of the play area, then the only position was nearer to the basketball court where the trees would be a back stop. This area is already marked out for community seating and new tree planting. Football here would run the danger of clashing with small children who may be congregating with adults at the new community seating. There would also be a problem with not enough space for shots coming into the goal from the sides. Any goal larger than 16' x 7' would attract youths from the surrounding area as would a 4G provision. The former was not desirable and the latter prohibitively expensive for an informal kick about football goal.

b) Set back into the leylandii hedge by the tennis court.

This is the area that the children moved the movable goal to most often. The ground was flat and offered a decent playing surface. The goal would be set back into the space after 4 dead leylandii trees were removed and fixed down. This would be a 16' x 7' goal, suitable for younger children. A catch net would be put along the top to prevent balls going into the tennis court and approx. 23 sq m of grass matting would be laid in the goal mouth and outside. This would allow the 3m run-off area from the side-line of the adult football pitch to be viable and would prevent significant wear and tear to the grass which could be easily mowed over the top of the matting. Some maintenance costs of grass repair in the area would need to be factored into the overall costs and no use of the goal could be allowed during football matches. The playing issues from a) would not happen at this site. The only limitation would be that the facility could not be used while a football match was in progress on the adult pitch.

The Parish Council considered an email received from Andy Cambridge of Foxton Football Club explaining his concerns with the proposed location of the new goal, namely that fixing a permanent goal in this location would wear out the ground rapidly and cause it to sink over time, leading to cancelled games in the future.

Peter Tye noted that he was not at the previous S106 working group meeting and explained that the goal would need the correct foundations before it was installed. If the ground at the proposed location was going to sink this would have already happened due to the proximity of the conifer trees, also maintenance and seeding would need to be considered and the Football Foundation may be able to provide a grant for this. Any excess soil removed from the area could be used to make the ground in the area level. Historically, this location was where the children liked to play football and the conifer trees provided a sound buffer.

Ian Francis had emailed Andy Cambridge to request a meeting on the recreation ground to discuss any concerns that Andy might have but he had not received a reply about this.

Two quotes for removing the trees, two quotes for grass matting and three quotes for the goals had been circulated.

Ian Francis explained that all companies provided the same warranties. A socketed 16x7ft goal was £1850 compared to a free standing, weighted goal at £1450.

It was agreed to accept (i) the conditions of proposal b (location set back in the Leylandii trees by the tennis court) and (ii) quotes from Shelford Trees and Calloo for the goal, installation and matting at a total cost of £4188+VAT to be paid from the £90K ring fenced S106 funds. An application will be made for Lottery funds to cover all of this cost. Ian Francis will seek a revised quote from Caloo with the cost of waste removal removed.

Proposed Ian Francis, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed.

The Football and Tennis Club's will be advised of this decision and Caroline Ilott will look into sourcing a pop-up net to stop balls going into the tennis court. Notice will be published in the Laurentian, the website and Facebook.

*Post meeting note: An issue with the artificial ground surfacing has arisen and the quoted item is not suitable. This will have to be re-costed and will be brought to the August Parish Council meeting for discussion.*

**e. Foxton Cricket Club S106 application for mower grant £2000, proposal to contribute £1000**

Caroline Ilott explained that Foxton Parish Council had received a revised bid from Foxton Cricket Club for £2000 towards a mower (already purchased).

In response to the question on the S106 application form –how will residents of Foxton generally benefit if the application is successful, the following comments were put forward by the cricket club:

‘Bid justification is that this mower cuts the area done by the cricket club in half the time of the old mower -1 instead of 2 hours. Therefore, more economical and environmentally friendly. Previous mower was 3 gang –this is 5 gang. Cut between 2 and 5 times a week.’

Caroline Ilott further explained that the Parish Council had previously refused this application at a meeting in December 2021 on the grounds that this was of commercial benefit to the club, not a general benefit to Foxton residents. Foxton Cricket Club is a contractor of the Parish Council and it was questioned whether the Parish Council should fund its machinery. The Parish Council paid for the grass to be cut to recreation ground standard and anything more was done voluntarily by the club for the benefit of cricket and football. The S106 working group proposed that a tangible benefit to residents was the degree of civic pride taken from a well cut and presented recreation ground, unlike many recreation grounds in surrounding villages. The group recommended refusal of this bid and a grant of £1000 be made to the cricket club in recognition of their hard work and the civic pride element. The environmental advantage of this mower was not recognised as the mower was used 2 to 5 times a week.

Ian Francis expressed concern that the mower was solely for the contractor's benefit.

It was noted that the mower was not used to mow grass elsewhere and therefore was only used to enhance the playing surface on the recreation ground, for the benefit of the football and cricket clubs.

Pierre Redelinghuys noted that Foxton is well known for its cricket and that cricket games would generate money for the village through spending at the village shop and at the pub.

It was proposed to agree to an S106 grant for the full amount of £2000 to recognise the value of the work provided by Foxton Cricket Club in providing an excellent facility for the clubs in the village and the degree of benefit provided to all residents in having a well-presented recreation ground and the economic advantage of attracting people to spend in the village. Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed.

**f. S106 funding for Village Information Board £2000, proposal to withdraw**

The S106 working group recommended that the £2000 ring fenced money for a village information board be withdrawn and absorbed back into the S106 funds. Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Peter Tye. All agreed.

**12. Planning Committee Report and applications:**

**a. Approve Planning Committee Minutes dated 19 April 2022**

Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Ian Francis. All agreed.

**b. Reference: 21/05528/FUL 32 Fowlmere Road Foxton**

**Planning appeal: Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of 4no. dwellings**

**<https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/21/05528/FUL>**

It was agreed that the Parish Council had nothing to add to its original submission.

**c. Reference: 22/02268/LBC 1 The Green Foxton**

**Inspection and reparation or replacement of primary (external) window frames**

**<https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/22/02268/LBC>**

It was agreed to submit the following comment on this application:

*Foxton Parish Council recommends approval subject to the conservation officers views.*

**13. Review of policies; publish S137 NALC guidelines; and adoption of (i) NALC template Standing Orders 2021; and (ii) new Complaints Procedure and Vexatious Procedure (SLCC template)**

The Parish Council agreed to allow more time to consider the complaints procedures. These will be brought to the August Parish Council meeting. It was agreed to (i) update the Social Media and Electronic Communication Policy to note the Parish Council's use of Facebook; and (ii) adopt the NALC template Standing Orders 2021. Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed.

## 14. R&A

### a. Update on Football Foundation grant progress

An update report had been circulated and shared with Foxton Football club. Peter Tye advised that there was no update on the pitch inspection app.

## 15. Approval of quotes:

### a. Remedial tree works pursuant to tree survey. Contractor A Group 1 £1410+VAT and Group 2 £1230+VAT; Contractor B Quote 1 £1830+VAT and Quote 2 £1000+VAT; third quote sought but not received

The quote from Contractor B, SP Landscapes was approved. Contractor A had provided a quote without a site visit. SP Landscapes had undertaken the tree survey and therefore there should not be any surprises in the work required. Proposed Peter Tye, seconded Caroline Ilott. All agreed.

### b. Proposal for Basket Ball Court sign to request no ball games after 9pm Quote A £40.59 Inc. VAT; Quote B £45 +VAT

Further to a complaint regarding antisocial behaviour and noise at night on the basketball court, a local resident had requested that the Parish Council consider installing a sign by the basketball court to ask for consideration to nearby residents and no ball games after 9pm.

Caroline Ilott noted that a sign would not be enforceable and asked if it would be preferable to ask for respect to local residents but not include any time restriction, bearing in mind the youth in Foxton have limited places to go in the village.

Ian Francis advised that ball games could go onto past 10pm on summer evenings and the low frequency of the ball bouncing penetrated through brickwork.

Peter Tye asked for a sign to be installed both at the basketball court and the playground.

It was agreed to accept Quote B from a local company, Unlimited Logos, at £45+VAT per sign and to purchase two signs with the wording "Please respect residents. No ball games after 9pm.

Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Peter Tye. Ian Francis abstained from voting. All agreed.

### c. Dovecote hedge maintenance £60

An additional quote of £50 had been received and included removing arisings. The quote of £50 from S W Gardens was approved. Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed.

### d. Village Warden playground remedial work following ROSPA report – 4 hrs at £17.50 per hour (total £70)

This work had been approved in advance by the Chair/ Clerk and had been completed. The invoice was listed under payments.

**e. CAPALC councillor training £75 (for 2 councillors) total £150**

Proposed Caroline Ilott, seconded Peter Tye. All agreed.

**16. Finance**

**a. Approval of payments**

The bank reconciliation and bank statements were reviewed and approved by Chris Herriot.

The following payments were approved. Proposed Peter Tye, seconded Chris Herriot. All agreed.

**Payments**

**Payments made (prior agreed)**

1. Salary (SO) - LGA 1972 s112	£1000.00
2. Pension - LGA 1972 s112, s111	£44.25
3. Google Ireland Gmail - LGA 1972 s111, s142	£32.78
4. Opus Unmetered street lights - Parish Councils Act 1957, s3; Highways Act 1980 s301	£82.61 inc VAT
5. Opus Metered street lights - Parish Councils Act 1957, s3; Highways Act 1980 s301	£12.86 inc VAT
6. Progreen Lawn Care approved PC May 2022 - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10	£1344.00 inc VAT
7. Foxton Village Hall approved Clerk/ chair - LGA 1972 s111	£49.20
8. Peter Evans village warden 8 hrs Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10, authorised PC June 2022	£140.00
9. Barnes Garden Maintenance - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10, authorised PC June 2022	£40.00
10. SCDC uncontested election fee, authorised PC June '22 - LGA 1972 s111	£150.00
11. ROSPA inspection - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10, Public Health Act 1875, s164 authorised PC June 2022	£558.00 inc VAT
12. HMRC June payment LGA 1972 s112, s111 authorised by Clerk and Chair	£141.05
13. SP Landscapes tree survey Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10, Public Health Act 1875, s164 authorised PC Feb 2022	£420.00 inc VAT
14. BHIB Councils Insurance LGA 1972 s111, authorised PC June 2022	£1301.00
15. Amazon office supplies (condolence book), authorised by Clerk and Chair - LGA 1972 s111	£32.95 inc VAT

**Payments to be authorised**

1. Parish Clerk Salary, phone and home allowance LGA 1972 s112/ LGA 1972 s111	£136.90
2. HMRC NI/ tax - LGA 1972 s112/ LGA 1972 s111	£162.93
3. Parish Clerk Expenses – June (mileage/postage) - LGA 1972 s111	£14.32
4. DP Garden Works May grass cutting/ litter pick - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10	£515.00
5. SW Gardens grass cutting June (1) - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10	£175.00
6. SW Gardens grass cutting June (2) - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10	£175.00
7. Foxton Cricket Club June grass cutting - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10	£350.00
8. Top up Lloyds Treasurers Account	£32.95

**Payments received after agenda published**

1. Foxton Village Hall office hire (2/4) - LGA 1972 s111	£85.38
2. Foxton Village Hall room hire x 3 - LGA 1972 s111	£34.95

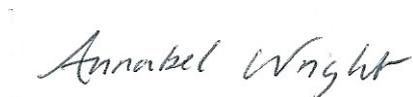
- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| 3. Peter Evans playground repair work, authorised by Clerk and Chair<br>Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10, Public Health Act 1875, s164 | £82.00  |
| 4. Peter Evans village warden - Open Spaces Act 1906 s9-10   | £131.25 |
| 5. Red Shoes Accounting - LGA 1972 s112/ LGA 1972 s111   | £76.80  |

\*Local Government Act

**17. Items for next agenda**

**18. Date and time of Parish Council Meeting: Monday 1 August 2022 at 7.30pm**

The meeting closed at 10 pm.



Annabel Wright  
Foxton Parish Clerk  
14 July 2022

## **Appendix 1 County Councillor Report**

### **Great Chesterford Hardcore Site : ESS/20/22/UTT**

I've been following closely the development of this site. It has been permitted by the EA and us been submitted to ECC Planning. I am working on an ECC officer refusal given the noise and dust from the site. SCDC have said they may be able to provide monitoring although its across the border. I will meet the Site Director July 5<sup>th</sup> to understand their operation and communicate residents' concerns.

### **Climate change and flood money**

The first spending from the Council's new Just Transition fund has been agreed. £2.175M over four years has been awarded for a business case for the first phase of the Council's plan for Cambridgeshire to reach Net Zero carbon by 2045. And £1.7M has also been awarded for flood work and nature restoration.

### **Highways IT system**

A new Highways IT system is on the cards for the County Council—but officers have been asked to do more work on their proposals after a report to the Strategy & Resources Committee was sent back.

### **Household Support Fund**

The Government has confirmed that it is extending the Household Support Fund for six months of 2022/23 and has allocated £3.58M of grant funding to Cambridgeshire for this. The Fund is intended to provide support to households through free school meals for eligible children during school holidays, and for payments to people in need. In order to meet the Joint Administration's commitment to provide free school meals in the holidays throughout the year, and to have a direct support scheme that is comprehensive, the Strategy & Resources Committee has allocated a further £1.87M to supplement this locally. Inflation adds to council costs

The County Councils Network and the Society of County Treasurers have revealed that spiralling inflation has left forty of England's largest councils with £729M of additional unfunded costs since they set their budgets in March. To balance their budgets—as they are legally required to—and control costs, councils warn they face a winter of 'difficult decisions'. The increased costs nationally include

- £428M for adult social care services
- £72M for children's social care
- £397M for capital projects
- £107M for energy prices
- £136M for external contract and labour costs
- £77M for school transport services
- £259M for staff pay

These inflationary costs far outstrip any increases in Government funding or council tax.

### **Library@home award**

Cambridgeshire's Library@home volunteers are one of three voluntary groups in the county to be given the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service. This is the highest award a local voluntary group can receive in the UK and is equivalent to

an MBE. It aims to recognise outstanding work by local volunteer groups to benefit their communities. The award was created in 2002 to celebrate The Queen's Golden Jubilee. Recipients are announced each year on 2 June, the anniversary of the Queen's coronation. The Library@home service provides books and audiobooks to residents who find it difficult to get to a library through disability, illness or caring responsibilities. Volunteers visit once a month to bring and return library books and to have a chat.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/libraries-leisureculture/libraries/accessibility>

### **Local Highways Improvement updates**

The schemes in Thriplow and Foxton are progressing as well as the 20 mph zone for Duxford

Peter McDonald	Foxton Parish Council	Fowlmere / Barrington / Shepreth Road	Signs / Lines & MVAS - Installation of gateway features, signs / lines and 40 buffer zones. & 2x MVAS	GREEN	Design work commenced. Design due to be complete Mid-late June.
Peter McDonald	Thriplow Parish Council	Middle Street / Fowlmere Road / Church Street / School Lane	MVAS unit	GREEN	To be procured as part of countywide MVAS package. Applicant contacted during June by officer.

### **CENSUS**

Cambridgeshire has seen one of the UK's biggest population increases over the past ten years, data just published from the 2021 Census shows.

Overall the number of people living in the county rose by more than 57,000 in the last decade to 678,600. This 9.2 per cent rise is higher than the East of England average, in a national picture which saw the East grow faster than any part of the UK. The figures confirm the County Council's contention that previous Office of National Statistics figures—on which the government bases its grant allocations—under-estimated the size of the county's population. Included within the Cambridgeshire Census figures is an overall 26 per cent rise in the number of Cambridgeshire people aged 65+, against an 18.6 per cent national average rise—with a high percentage increase of people in the 70 to 74 age band in all districts.

While the more urban areas of the county like Cambridge have seen population growth across all age ranges, its more rural areas have seen small or no growth in the youngest age groups (0-19) but large increases in older populations.

Last year's census took place in March 2021 and data from the census will be published in stages over the next two years. Future releases will include figures on ethnicity, religion, the labour market, education and housing. Also, for the first time, there will be information on UK armed forces veterans, sexual orientation and gender identity. [www.ons.gov.uk/census](http://www.ons.gov.uk/census)

Peter McDonald

July 2nd 2022

## **Appendix 2 District Councillor Report July 2022**

Councillor James Hobro

District Councillor for the parishes of Foxton, Fowlmere, Heydon, Great Chishill & Little Chishill.

I am always happy to hear from residents with any questions about these or other issues relating to the District Council. Please contact me by telephone on 07768 706670 or by email at [cldr.hobro@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.hobro@scambs.gov.uk).

### Support for Ukrainian refugees

The Council is setting up some events with the Association for Family Therapy and Systematic Practice to help with psychological support for hosts. More events are also being arranged to allow Ukrainian guests to meet up for mutual support.

For more information, please see the SCDC Support for Ukraine web page.

### Local Plan consultation

More than 9,000 comments received as part of last year's consultation into the First Proposals for the new Greater Cambridge Local Plan have now been published.

The Plan, being prepared jointly by Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils, will eventually set out how Greater Cambridge will develop over the next twenty years.

During the First Proposals consultation, the Councils set out an ambitious vision for minimising carbon emissions alongside improving the quality of life for residents across the area, with all new homes to be carbon-neutral. The proposals included 19 new sites for homes and business space, with the majority of extra development proposed for North East Cambridge, Cambridge Airport site and at Cambourne. It set out a range of new policies to meet the environmental challenges facing the area – including tackling carbon emissions and increasing biodiversity.

The First Proposals explicitly said that they are dependent on evidence coming forwards to confirm that there will be adequate water supply to support the delivery of new homes. If the water industry and central government do not act, the number of new homes proposed may need to be delayed or reduced.

The responses to the First Proposals have been published as part of the process to update Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councillors on the next steps for the plan.

A significant number of comments supported the aims of the plan, particularly for tackling climate change and protecting and enhancing biodiversity and green spaces. There were also some common concerns raised – relating to issues such as water supply and development for new jobs and homes.

For more information, please see the Greater Cambridge Local Plan web site.

### Police and Crime Commissioner survey

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has launched a survey to help understand what crimes are impacting businesses in our county.

Ensuring the voice of the business community is heard by community safety partners is a key priority and feedback from the survey will be used to drive the agenda for a countywide event planned to be held towards the end of the year.

The survey will run until 5pm on 6 July and can be accessed via [www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk](http://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk)

#### National Association of Local Councils (NALC) consultation on local elections

The National Association of Local Councils (NALC) invites local (parish and town) councillors and local councils, to complete their survey for the May 2022 local elections. The surveys are designed to collect data on the support, social media, promotion, planning, and resources that go into local elections. Furthermore, the final section of this survey will collect feedback on NALC's 'Make A Change' resources, to assess overall usage, what has been useful and what could be improved for our sector in 2023.

As local (parish and town) council elections took place in your area, we are asking for your help to ensure that we engage with as many of our councillors and local councils as possible. If you would be so kind as to share this survey (e.g., via e-mail, website, or bulletin) with your local councils, we would be very grateful. The survey can be accessed via this link and takes no longer than 10 minutes to complete.

#### Right to Buy extension for tenants renting from housing associations

On 9 June the government announced an extension of the Right to Buy scheme, which means tenants renting their homes from housing associations will be given the right to buy them outright. Currently, tenants in council homes are eligible to buy their homes at a discounted price, up to 70% off the market value dependent on how long they have lived there. However, the scheme is less generous for those in homes owned by housing associations. The government will work closely with the housing association sector on the design of the scheme. The Prime Minister also committed to the building of replacement social homes for each one sold.

#### Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/right-to-buy-extension-to-make-home-ownership-possible-for-millions-more-people>

#### Speech:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/prime-ministers-housing-speech-9-june-2022>

#### Zero Carbon News

The second fully electric bin lorry to collect waste from residents in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire has arrived, as local councils continue their fleet decarbonisation drive. Through their shared waste service, South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils are working to replace their bin lorries with electric or alternative fuel vehicles as existing diesel trucks come to the end of their working lives.

The new lorry has a constantly revolving body that contains a corkscrew which compacts waste. This type of waste compaction process has far fewer moving parts than are used in a traditional bin lorry, where waste is pushed from one end of the vehicle to the other. The power saved in the waste compaction process means it can travel longer distances, as the drain put on the vehicle's battery is reduced. The truck has a top speed of 56 miles per

hour, meaning it is one of the fastest electric refuse vehicles on the market currently. It can carry up to 12 tonnes of waste.

Cambridgeshire's first electric bin lorry has been collecting recycling from Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire residents since 2020. Greater Cambridge Shared Waste was one of the first waste collection services nationally to invest in green waste collection vehicles, which have zero emissions and contribute to delivering better air quality when out on the road.

This year's Zero Carbon Community Grant application period has now closed.

Electrical safety in social housing: consultation and call for evidence

On 8 June DLUHC launched a consultation on keeping social housing residents safe from the dangers of poor electrical safety. The consultation aims to improve safety for residents in social rented homes and bring greater parity between the rented sectors with regard to safety. DLUHC is consulting on mandating electrical safety inspection and testing in social homes, and calling for evidence on requirements for owner-occupier leasehold properties in social housing blocks. The consultation closes on 31 August. If you have any questions, please contact: [srselectricalsafety@levellingup.gov.uk](mailto:srselectricalsafety@levellingup.gov.uk).

DLUHC also announced yesterday that failing social housing landlords could face unlimited fines and Ofsted-style inspections, under the Social Housing (Regulation) Bill introduced to Parliament on 8 June.

Consultation:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/electrical-safety-in-social-housing-consultation-and-call-for-evidence>

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/ofsted-style-inspections-and-unlimited-fines-for-failing-social-landlords>

Legislation:

<https://bills.parliament.uk/bills/3177>