

Draft until signed
Minutes of Dry Drayton Parish Council (DDPC) Meeting
Tuesday 11th January 2022 at 7.30pm, at Dry Drayton Village Hall, High Street

Present: Cllr S Aldersley (SCA) (Chairman), Cllr T Houlihane (TSH) (Councillor), Cllr S Vale (SV) (Councillor), Cllr E Pyle (EP) (Councillor), Cllr K Cullen (KC) (Councillor), Cllr E Wickham (EW) (Councillor)

Attending: S Etherington-Meech (SEM) (Clerk/RFO), Dr T Hawkins (TH) (Lead Cabinet Member for Planning Policy & Delivery), Cllr C Garvie (CG) (District Councillor), Cllr T Bygott (TB) (District Councillor), 9 members of the public

1. To Accept Apologies for Absence

Apologies accepted from Cllr S Lander (absent due to being in isolation with Covid-19). Cllr E Murphy (County Councillor) sent her apologies.

2. To Accept Parish Councillors Declarations of Interest for Matters on the Agenda

Cllr Wickham declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 11. k. – Finance & Policy – To discuss and consider S.106 monies church bench/church eco award (EW is a member of the PCC at the church).

3. Guest Speaker - Dr Tumi Hawkins – Lead Cabinet Member for Planning Policy & Delivery to include discussion in relation to the ongoing planning issues with 65 Pettitts Lane/Swifts Close

SCA welcomed TH and opened the discussion by telling TH that Dry Drayton and DDPC would like to know ways in which they can work with planning to ensure the best results for all are achieved. TH explained that through the restructuring of planning they have been trying to make it easier for Parish Councils to engage with the planning process itself. Planning has been split into 3 areas and the Team Leader for DDPC is Lorraine Casey (LC) and in the first instance DDPC should approach her with any issues, lack of responses, need for advice etc. TH suggested that DDPC could invite LC to attend a Parish Council meeting. Ultimately if there is no success with this avenue TH can be contacted.

A resident was invited by the Chairman to provide a background for 65 Pettitts Lane/Swifts Close.

- Development on this site has been contentious for 30 years; on at least 1 occasion development was refused on appeal by the Secretary of State.
- Outline approval for development was granted in 2016 when a Local Plan was not in place.
- The outline application was for 6 family dwellings (2 of which were affordable) but this was amended significantly (10 urban style market rate units) and in spite of numerous objections was approved with a number of Conditions required to be observed.
- The Construction phase was not monitored, Conditions were disregarded and the 'as built' units are not in line with approved plans.
- A retrospective S73 application, has been submitted to 'regularise' several unapproved changes. This application contains some omissions and inaccuracies, including the inclusion of a non-existent carport on the plans.
- The developer has submitted a further application to enclose all carports; this is also 'awaiting Decision'. This aspect would not have been approved if submitted as part of the RM application and again objections have been registered.
- Consultees have also registered some concerns about these applications.
- The Local Plan currently being prepared would not have supported this development, for many of the same reasons put forward by objectors at the time of the outline application in 2016.

The resident stated that if conditions are set against an application, it would be expected that they would be monitored, SCA agreed that this was a valid observation. SCA received an email the day of the meeting with a similar query raising concerns over work at another property being carried out that is not in line with conditions of its original planning application. SCA asked TH that if permission is granted with a number of conditions how it is monitored/policed and where residents and Parish Councils sit with having these reinforced and proof of action provided?

TH acknowledged this point from SCA and advised that once conditions are discharged it is the responsibility of the developer to build according to plans. Planning do not physically go to the sites to monitor, most of the time neighbours or Parish Councils will alert Planning to this issue. SCA highlighted that this is exactly what has happened with this development, however, no action has been taken. TH stated that she understands this dilemma and frustration. Therefore, SCA asked TH of the best way to report this. SCA advised that reporting so far on this development has been in various ways including through the Case Officer and in light of the number of issues raised, a letter was sent directly to Stephen Kelly (Director of Planning) from the previous Chairman in January 2020 (copy of letter forwarded to TH during the meeting). SCA advised that DDPC are still awaiting an acknowledgment or even a reply to the issues raised, and DDPC want to know how these situations can be resolved and addressed fairly and amicably

TH advised that the best course of action would be to email the Case Officer, Area Team Leader and if required the Planning Enforcement Team also. KC questioned if Building Inspectors come out to check developments. TH advised that developers could employ any building control firm they wish and do not have to use those from the local council. TH explained that the reason the Section 73 is now being looked at for this development is to regularise what is there now. In terms of enforcement, they look at the breach and whether it can be regularised or not, and they have to be pragmatic. For instance, does the development get taken down or can it be put right in planning terms? SCA believes DDPC and residents are not suggesting the buildings are demolished, but frustration is felt as DDPC, residents and the local area have missed out on affordable housing and Section 106/CIL monies due to the developer manipulating planning rules. Dry Drayton is an expensive area with not enough starter homes available.

TH confirmed her frustration too and commented that the Government has changed the rules in relation to planning and this has been taken advantage of. SCA asked what the outcome of the Section 73 has been. TH advised that this could not be discussed, and she was planning to sit down with Charlotte Peet (Case Officer) and Lorraine Casey (Area Team Leader) after tonight's meeting to see what the options are. TH did advise of a holding objection for the Section 73 application from Highways, concerns from drainage due to uncertainty of permeability of the site, and also comments from Cambridgeshire Constabulary in relation to exterior lighting which would be required to go back to Environmental Services. Therefore, there is still a chain to go through. DDPC objections have also been registered and all comments will be considered. TH advised she would not tie officers down to a specific timeframe as they are working with statutory consultees who have raised objections. However, TH advised she is now aware and has heard the strength of Dry Drayton's feelings, asked for forgiveness for the time it has taken and wishes to engage with DDPC. TH finally encouraged DDPC to attend the Area 3 Parish Planning meetings.

SCA thanked TH for attending tonight's meeting.

4. To Agree to hold a Public Forum

A member of the public requested an update on progress of the proposed NMU track connecting the village on Oakington Road to A1307. It was highlighted that it has been some months since this item has been discussed by the council. Any news on the project as well as what DDPC plan to do to push this forward was requested. SCA advised that he has requested an update from Cllr Murphy. There is a note in Cllr Murphy's report (see Appendix 3) which advises there is nothing to report at the time as there has been no breakthrough or change in Cambridgeshire County Councils desire to progress things. However, SCA will report back to Cllr Murphy after this meeting and ask for her to clarify what is happening. SCA confirmed with SEM that DDPC contribution monies to the project are still available as agreed previously.

5. To Approve the Minutes of Meeting held on Friday 12th November 2021 & Tuesday 30th November 2021

RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd EP, unanimous) that the minutes of the meeting be approved and signed by the chairman as a true and accurate record.

6. Matters Arising from the Minutes, Report of any actions and Resolutions from last meeting – See Appendix 1

7. To Accept a Report from County and District Councillors

Cllr E Murphy sent her apologies for tonight's meeting – for her report See Appendix 3

SCA advised that he looked through the Flood Management Strategy Consultation and there does not appear to be anything in relation to damage due to infrastructure. There has been flooding over the Christmas period at Park Street near to the school and Duck End which SCA has discussed with Cllr Murphy as it needs to be addressed. SCA advised that he is unsure of the suggestion for forming a Community Flood Volunteer Group as its infrastructure, and asked TB and CG if there was anything they could add to this.

TB advised that Girton Parish Council has a Flood Officer who is designated amongst Parish Councillors and who monitors various flood issues in the parish and comes to the council for suggestions for improvements. TB advised that if flooding issues are sufficient to warrant attention this is one way that DDPC could go. TSH said that he believes DDPC track well enough and are aware of spaces prone to flooding, SCA agreed. SCA asked TB if having a Flood Officer gives anymore traction to having issues addressed, TB responded that it just gives a central of contact for flood issues. SCA stated that Dry Drayton is a small village where the issues are known and if having a Flood Officer raised the profile DDPC would support but this does not appear to be the case. SCA offered to be the unofficial Flood Officer for the time being.

Cllr Garvie presented her report – See Appendix 4. Two items CG highlighted was the change to the main point of contact number at SCDC and that she has sent SCA and SEM details of a contact within the Tree Department at SCDC.

Cllr Bygott presented his report - See Appendix 5. TB highlighted that the planning portal is changing and will be down between 28th January 2022 and 31st January 2022.

8. To Discuss Planning Matters

a. Applications received for consideration

i. 21/02302/CONDA - 11 Pettitts Lane Dry Drayton CB23 8BT - Submission of details required by condition 3 (Details of Works) of listed building consent 21/02302/LBC – For information only

RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd TSH, unanimous) to email a summary to Planning, Enforcement and a Tree Officer at SCDC of comments (as below) received from a resident (as below)

- 11 Pettitts Lane is an old, listed property in need of repair. However, it is believed that repairs are not being carried out as detailed in the application and further investigation work and information are required.
- A complaint has been sent to Planning in relation to industrial power tools and equipment being used causing adjoining building to vibrate resulting in dislodged mortar and brick dust. This contradicts the original application stating that ‘all investigation work would be carried out by hand’.
- The original application stated shrubs and bushes would be cut back. However, use of a chainsaw and shredder took place with a number of mature trees being taken down.
- A response to concerns raised by the neighbour has taken a long time and it does not appear that anyone has been to inspect the works.
- A specific concern for this amended application relates to work to the fireplace with no mention of work to the shared chimney or investigation as to the state of the chimney.
- The schedule of work makes no reference to the repairs to the sewage system which is shared with No 7 and 9 Pettitts Lane.

ii. 21/05291/FUL - Springhill Stables Oakington Road – Retention of mobile home RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd SV, unanimous) to support this application on the condition that it must not lead to a more permanent form of accommodation.

iii. 21/05524/OUT - Land Off Park Lane Dry Drayton Cambridge - Outline application for the erection of 1 No. dwelling with all matters reserved – 17th January 2022

RESOLVED ^(Prop TSH, 2nd SCA, unanimous) to object to this application for the following reasons:

- Concern about privacy of the property to the north if it is overlooked by first floor windows.
- Concern about overlooking between proposed property and existing Greenacres property.
- Proposed subdivision of an existing generously sized plot would result in two new plots with poor garden provision for a rural location, particularly if landscaping forms part of the final approved plans.
- Property will be clearly visible from the highway and would significantly limit the view through to open countryside from the road at this point.

If the application is approved, conditions to be applied to the following items:

- Height should be constrained to match the lower of the adjacent bungalows.
- Hedgerow and tree planting should be conditioned to provide biodiversity net gain and compensate for the loss of open green space.
- Suitable building efficiency standards should be conditioned.
- Contractor parking must be conditioned; the adjacent road space is very limited.

iv. 21/05417/FUL - Land East of Park Lane & South Side of Madingley Road Dry Drayton - Change of use of land from agricultural to equine use and construction of an American barn, exercise track and associated works – 20th January 2022

RESOLVED ^(Prop KC, 2nd EP, unanimous) to support the approval of this application with the following conditions:

- The council is concerned that the proposed access improvements may be marginal given the limited visibility along the road, and frequent inappropriate speed of some vehicles making any build-up of traffic on the road dangerous.
- The council has concerns with the flooding report since this does not acknowledge the recent surface water induced flooding next to this site. It may be hard to ensure safe access to the site in extreme weather conditions.
- Details of the proposed foul water treatment should be conditioned if the application is approved.
- The council requests that a moderate degree of landscaping to further improve the screening of the site from the road is conditioned if the application is approved.

b. Decisions received from South Cambs District Council – no decisions received

9. Matters for discussion/correspondence received

9.1 To discuss the works carried out at 50/52 High Street not matching original plans

The residents of the property advised that they had plans to drop the curbs outside the properties which was agreed by planning in order to obtain off street parking on the drives. Tarmacking of the drives is at cost to the residents and is a work in progress that will be done to District Council standards. Tim Holloway from Enforcement at SCDC had been in touch with the residents and stopped the works. However, the residents have approval and hope the works will improve the parking situation in the area.

9.2 To discuss and agree action required for damage caused to the allotments by badger & deer

EP advised that she spoke with an allotment holder who believes that unfortunately there is no action that DDPC would be able to take to stop this issue occurring and allotment holders placing netting over their crops is the only option.

9.3 To consider and discuss a tree survey being carried out for the parish

SCA adjourned to the February meeting.

9.4 To consider participation in the Great British Spring Clean – 25th March 2022 to 10th April 2022

SCA adjourned to the February meeting.

9.5 To discuss and consider the SCDC Community Chest Fund offering £2K towards a Parish Plan

SCA adjourned to the February meeting.

9.6 For info – Street Naming & Numbering Notification for Roosters Lodge, Rectory Farm, Scotland Rd

9.7 To consider emails received in relation to organising events for the Queens Jubilee

It was agreed at the previous Parish Council meeting that a commemorative bench would be purchased and erected by DDPC for the Queens Jubilee.

9.8 To consider email correspondence in relation to flooding issues in the parish ^{SCA/EM}

This was already covered earlier in the agenda with the County Councillors Report.

9.9 To discuss the need for a dog waste bin at Duck End due to lack of provision in area of the parish

SCA highlighted that this has been investigated previously but not resolved. DDPC suggested that a dog waste bin is required along Park Lane. SEM has emailed the relevant department at SCDC to request more information such as sourcing of the bin, costings etc. **Action** – SEM to investigate and report back at the February meeting.

9.10 To consider and discuss spending of Section 106 monies for improvements to Village Hall toilets

Dry Drayton Village Hall (DDVH) have provided DDPC with a quotation of £591.36 'To change the supply Pipework and fit Infrared Battery Cisterniser to Urinals' and £410.11 to replace and fit new flooring in the men's toilets. **RESOLVED** ^(Prop EP, 2nd KC, unanimous) for £1,001.47 to be transferred from Section 106 monies. SEM to contact DDVH to advise of money transfer and that £121.81 is left from the Section 106 monies allocated for 'Indoor Meeting Space' projects.

10. Consultations

10.1 Fulbourn Neighbourhood Plan – deadline for comments 18th January 2022

It was agreed that no comments were to be made for this consultation.

10.2 Street Trader Policy Draft Policy Document – deadline for comments 11th January 2022

It was agreed that no comments were to be made for this consultation.

10.3 Making Connections: have your say on greener travel in Greater Cambridge – extension permitted for comments to after meeting

RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd EP, unanimous) for DDPC to submit the following for this consultation. *'Dry Drayton is only 6 miles from Cambridge City Centre; however, they are not on a bus route and do not have a cycle route and want to question why Dry Drayton and other small villages have not been considered in the plans.'*

10.4 Cambridgeshire Flood Strategy Management Strategy Consultation – 23rd January 2022 ^(SCA & EM)

Spoken about previously in agenda under Item 7. No comments to be submitted.

10.5 Cambridgeshire Active Travel Scheme (Madingley Rd) – Amended proposal for Cambridge Rd

RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd TSH, unanimous) for the following comments to be submitted.

- Dry Drayton Parish Council feel this consultation is not thorough enough. For instance, where are documents for this proposal such as the impact assessment? What are the objectives of this proposal?
- Dry Drayton Parish Council request that if the proposal is accepted, signage is provided at the junction of Madingley Road and Church Lane to ensure traffic is aware of the road closure. Also, that improvements are made to the turning area that will be at the no entry signs.

11. Finance and Policy

- a. **To accept account review to date and bank reconciliation**

Bank reconciliation (see Appendix 2) and finance spreadsheet were circulated to all councillors before the meeting, RESOLVED ^(Prop EP, 2nd KC, unanimous) to accept and approve the accounts and bank reconciliation

- b. **To advise of payments received between 1st November 2021 and 31st December 2021**
- i. **HMRC – VAT Reclaim for 2020/21 - £734.87**
 - ii. **Allotment rents for 2021/22 - £288.00**
 - iii. **HMRC – PAYE refund for tax overpay - £21.79**
 - iv. **CAPALC – Bursary for 2021/22 for Clerks CILCA Re-Registration - £143.50**
- c. **Direct debits and standing orders paid between 1st November 2021 and 31st December 2021**
- i. **Salary/Pension/Overtime/Expenses (Period 7 & 8) - £1,437.92** ^(LGA, 1972, s.112)
 - ii. **Drax Energy – Streetlighting Energy 1st Oct to 31st Oct 2021 - £4.35** ^(Parish Councils Act 1957, s.3; Highways Act 1980, s.301)
- d. **Online payments made between 1st November 2021 – 31st December 2021**
- i. **Brookfield Groundcare – Cut 8 of 10 (Inv No 1076) - £360.00** ^(Public Health Act 1875, s.164)
 - ii. **CAPALC – Social Media Training for Cllr Aldersley (Inv No 2876) - £45.00** ^(LGA 1972, s.175)
 - iii. **CAPALC – Allotment Training for Cllr Aldersley & Clerk (Inv No 2938) – £120.00** ^(LGA 1972, s.175 & LGA 1972, s.112)
 - iv. **CAPALC – Chairmanship Training for Cllr Aldersley (Inv No 2928) - £50.00** ^(LGA 1972, s.175)
 - v. **SLCC – Clerks CILCA Re-registration Fee - £287.00** ^(LGA 1972, s.143)
 - vi. **National Society of Allotments (NAS) – Annual Membership Fee - £60.40** ^(Small Holding and Allotments Act 1908, ss.23 25)
 - vii. **MVAS platform ladder reimbursement to Mr C Turner - £170.95** ^(Local Government and Rating Act 1997, s.26)
 - viii. **Brookfield Groundcare – Cut 9 of 10 (Inv No 1126) - £360.00** ^(Public Health Act 1875, s.164)
- e. **Payments to hand**
- i. **DDVH – Hall Hire for 11th January 2022 - £14.00** ^(LGA 1972, s.133)
- f. **To agree the final budget and precept requirement for 2022/23 (deadline for precept submission 24th January 2021)**
RESOLVED ^(Prop TSH, 2nd SCA, unanimous) that the final budget for 2022/23 be approved and the precept for 2022/23 be increased by 6.6% in 2022/23, the final precept figure being £17,250.00. ^(Local Government Finance Act 1992, s.41)
- g. **To consider attendance at training session for Clerk (Understanding Elections & Clerks Role on 8th March 2022) and Chairman (Mapping Session on 23rd March 2022)**
RESOLVED ^(Prop EP, 2nd KC, unanimous) for Clerk to attend session for cost of £30.00 and Chairman to attend Mapping session which is free of charge.
- h. **To consider and discuss streetlighting energy contract renewal with Drax Energy (was Haven Power)**
RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd TSH, unanimous) to renew the streetlighting energy contract with Drax Energy due to current uncertainty with energy companies and outgoings for streetlighting energy being minimal expenditure for DDPC.
- i. **For info - Signing of MVAS risk assessment and method statement for order for operation** ^(SCA & SEM)
- j. **For info – successful bursary application for clerks CILCA re-registration**
- k. **To discuss and consider S.106 monies church bench/church eco award – NALC legal advice**
The summary of NALC legal advice was *‘The Parish Council should consider whether the specific seats the subjects of the request would relate to the affairs of the church. If the Parish Council reasonably concludes that the seat are not related to the affairs of the church then it can fund them’*. DDPC concluded as per the legal advice and RESOLVED ^(Prop SCA, 2nd EP, unanimous, EW was present but did not vote due to an interest) that as a public footpath passes through the church grounds the seats would not be related to affairs of the church. Therefore, Section 106

monies are to be provided for two benches on condition that their locations in the church grounds are agreed by DDPC. **Action** – EW to discuss the decision with the PCC.

I. To discuss the Nimble platform for e-learning through CAPALC

SCA adjourned to February meeting

12. To accept notices and matter for the next agenda

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore, the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion.

13. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 1st February 2022 at 7.30pm at Dry Drayton Village Hall

EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public and press be excluded, and they are instructed to withdraw, Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

There are no items to discuss that require exclusion of the public and press

Meeting closed at 10.05pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

DRAFT

Appendix 1

Action Report/Ongoing Issues

6.1	Update from Charlotte Peet following meeting at Swifts Close re: complaints for planning and procedures/SCA & SL to draft a letter to Charlotte Peet & Enforcement requesting a satisfactory response – Covered in agenda	SCA/SL
6.2	Update on the Pegasus consultation for a new development – Ongoing no further updates	DDPC
6.3	Village Hall Management Committee Meeting Update – Covered in agenda	EP
6.4	Update on road surface & repairs for Pettitts Close – Path has been repaired but not the road surface - ongoing	EM
6.5	Update on 2022/23 LHI application - Panel meeting planned for 31 st January 2022, SCA and SL to attend and provide a 15 mins presentation on DDPC proposal	SCA
6.6	Zoom meeting with Highways to discuss transport issues to be arranged with Cllr Aldersley, Cllr Murphy, and members of the Speed Watch team – No update, SCA to follow up with EM	SCA/EM
6.7	Detailed info on Section 106 projects from DDVH^{EP} & Townlands Trust^{SCA} – Covered in the agenda.	EP/SCA
6.8	Update on removal of dead oak tree and SCDC survey of trees/CG to provide SCA with contact details – KC advised that the dead oak tree has now been removed and SCA given details of tree department at SCDC.	CG
6.9	Update on dangerous footpath between Hill View & Trinity Stables – It was advised that this area is muddy but has not flooded since some works were carried out a few months ago.	EM
6.10	Update on MVAS operation and erection of additional poles – SCA advised that the unit has now been erected and now we await additional poles in order for it to be moved to new locations on a 4-weekly basis.	SCA/SEM
6.11	Councillor photos and bios for website – Ongoing issue	DDPC
6.12	Liaise with previous councillors for grass cutting map – Ongoing issue	SL
6.13	Discuss with Cllr Murphy the loss of trees on the roundabout – SCA has liaised with EM	SCA
6.14	Obtain quotations for Queens Jubilee bench for parish – SL has provided a report with quotations for DDPC to consider	SL
6.15	To discuss the management/administration of the allotments – Ongoing issue	SCA/SEM
6.16	Update on planting of six free trees - TSH advised that the trees were received and planted on Butchers Lane in early December.	TSH/KC

Appendix 2

DRY DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL
December 2021 Bank Reconciliation

	£
Lloyds current account on 31 st October 2021	£32,343.32
<u>Less</u> payments presented from 1 st November 2021 to 31 st December 2021 <i>9 online payments, 3 direct debits and 4 standing orders</i>	£2,895.62
<u>Plus,</u> receipts presented from 1 st November 2021 to 31 st December 2021 <i>4 receipts</i>	£1,188.16
Closing bank account on 31 st December 2021	£30,635.86
<u>Less outstanding payments not yet subtracted</u>	£0.00
Balance carried forward at 31st December 2021	£ 30,635.86

Notes:

Sarah Etherington-Meech

RFO

4th January 2022

Appendix 3

County Council report January 2022

Public health. Omicron continues to surge with infection running at record levels. Fortunately a smaller proportion of people have become seriously ill or died from the new variant compared to Delta, but it represents a serious health risk, to individuals (not least because of the risk of long covid) but also to the population as the health services are put under severe pressure. The Full Council meeting in December 2021 was deferred on the basis of advice from the Director of Public Health, as the government requires all local government meetings to take place in person. Schools are returning, with government advice that secondary school children (but not teachers) should wear masks during the day.

Integration with social care. This remains a major challenge but the deadline for introducing new governance has been delayed slightly. The main players in rethinking health and social care are currently engaging in dealing with the pandemic, so this is extremely challenging for all concerned. Work is progressing on this as far as humanly possible.

Flood risk consultation. The consultation document is a technical document but is intended to set out the constraints and context for flood risk management across the County and ensure that residents, particularly parish councils, have an opportunity to input. It may be helpful to point out the following:

- The strategy is concerned with: understanding flood risk in Cambridgeshire, managing the likelihood of flooding, helping Cambridgeshire's citizens to manage their own risk, ensuring appropriate development in Cambridgeshire, improving flood prediction, warning and post flood recovery.
- Looking at p86-101 is probably the best place to get a feeling of how those objectives are translated into actions
- The resources that are involved are not the core Council resources and no funding that is already in place to deal with matters that impact flooding risk will be re-allocated as a result of this
- Dry Drayton don't feature in the lists of flood risk areas (P14) or 'top 10 Cambridgeshire wet spots' (P65).
- Some of the evidence used for this is data collected from flood reporting to the Council – note that many incidents of flooding are reported to the highway faults reporting tool and therefore may not have been captured. It is therefore important to ensure that in responding we make clear the flooding incidents that have occurred and ensure that this information is captured, in case the village's assessment is changed by doing so

An interesting point to highlight is the contribution to flood risk of poor highway infrastructure and the compounding factors of traffic speed and weight – these are cross disciplinary issues for the Council which need to be co-ordinated better

It may be helpful to consider whether to form a Community Flood Volunteer Group if there is not one in place already. There is help to set these up from Council, and with a group in place they can

help give the village a stronger voice on flood risk issues in the future. The Community Flood Programme Manager is Charles Krolik-Root (charles.krolik-root@cambridgeshire.gov.uk).

Dealing with National Highways. There is widespread concern about dealing with National Highways on a number of fronts following the completion of the A14 project. A key area of concern however is the trees planted as part of the A14 project which are not thriving. The County Council needs to be much more proactive in ensuring that National Highways fulfils its obligations. A group of County Councillors – myself, Cllr Firouz Thompson (Longstanton, Northstowe & Over) and Cllr Ros Hathorn (Histon & Impington) are calling for more engagement and are meeting next week with Council officials to map out what is possible. There are so many reasons why the tree planting must succeed.

Path linking Oakington Road to NMU. Unfortunately there has been no breakthrough on these discussions. There is no change in the Council's desire to progress this but nothing new to report at this time.

Speed limits, safety, HGVs. I am waiting for feedback from Council officials on various questions which have been raised and will report back more fully on a later date, hopefully next month.

Contact details: Cllr Edna Murphy

County Councillor, Bar Hill Division & Chair, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority

Tel: 01223 577005; Email: Edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Appendix 4

Dry Drayton District Councillor Report January 2022

Councillor Corinne Garvie
Cllr.garvie@scams.gov.uk
07780 932267

Please contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services.

New Golden Number

Call back feature on Council phone lines

The council's Contact Centre has moved across to a single number for most of its services. The number is **01954 713 000** which replaces 03450 numbers, and this service does not cost any more money in call charges than the previous numbers did. The Contact Us website page contains all the details.

<https://www.scams.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/contact-us/>

There is also a new call back feature which is useful for when answering times are longer than usual; if the customer has to wait for more than five minutes the call back function will automatically be offered to them.

A webchat service is planned for 2022 which will allow residents to message the council at their convenience online - further details will follow early next year.

Green bin collections to resume from Wednesday 12 January

[Green bin collections will resume](#) from 12 January. There will not, however, be the option to report a missed green bin. This is because they are prioritising all staffing resources to complete all of the green bin rounds. They apologise for any inconvenience.

You can always check upcoming bin collection days at:

<https://www.scams.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/find-your-household-bin-collection-day/>

Police

I attended the meeting held by the Police and Crime Commissioner. His role is to produce a plan for reducing crime and disorder. The operation lead is the Chief Constable. For more information ring 0300 333 3456 or use cambs-pcc@cambs.pnn.police.uk

Contacting them: 999 is for emergencies. Ring 101 for all other police inquiries. This number has a triage system so you are put through to the right department. He reported that residents do not always hear back from the police and they are trying to improve this.

80% of their funding is spent on pay. They are still recruiting for their urban and rural teams. The grant given by the government is one of the lowest in the country and the Commissioner is trying to change this. The Government gives 56% of the funds and the County Council pays the rest.

Neighbourhood Policing: I asked about the return of the local Bobby. He said that neighbourhood policing will be in a different form and Police Officers are being trained in this role.

Illegal Parking

The enforcement of this will move from the Police to the County Council.

Throwing away computers?

Many of our children and families in need are missing opportunities because they don't have access to digital devices. The County Council is partnering with @cambsyouthpanel and @cambridge2030 to refurbish and donate essential technology to families in need. If you're buying new tech this winter, please consider donating your old and unwanted devices. Visit <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/computers-for-families-campaign-kicks-off-with-arm-donation> to find out how you can help. Plus it's good for the planet!

Emmaus in Landbeach also do a re-boot service for computers to bring them back into use. Ring 01223863657 or visit their website

South Cambridgeshire community groups can now apply for double the funding from Council's grants chest

Eligible South Cambridgeshire community groups which work to improve the quality of life for local residents can now apply for double the amount of grant help from the Council's Community Chest scheme. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/grants/community-chest-grants/>

Not-for-profit voluntary and community sector groups, charities, small parish councils or meetings and public sector bodies can now request small grants of up to £2,000, increased from £1,000, for help in covering one-off costs relating to a project or activity.

This can be for improvements to community buildings and spaces such as village halls, pavilions or play areas; repairs to historic buildings, monuments or memorials; equipment or capital purchases or materials; or start-up costs such as training of staff and volunteers, hall hire and other revenue costs.

Information about other funds, priorities and criteria may be found on the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF) website. <https://www.cambscf.org.uk/home.html>

Business Support and Development Team

The Business Support and Development team offers advice on the wide range of financial help available to businesses such as general business grants and loans, support for the arts and culture

sector, grants for rural businesses and support for the research and development sector, as well as help for businesses to become more energy efficient.

Since the onset of the pandemic, the Council's Business Support and Development Team has interacted with over 3,000 small businesses to give support with guidance on COVID safety and regulations. It has paid out more than £38 million in Government funding via business support grants, as well as providing general business support and advice to both existing businesses and start-ups.

To help the hospitality sector, which has been particularly hard hit by lockdowns, it has set up a new website at <https://visitsouthcambs.co.uk/> This showcases the wealth of local food and accommodation businesses and the attractions of the area to boost both local and visitor trade. Local hospitality and leisure sector businesses can have a free listing on the website via the link:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/visit-south-cambs-tourism-website/>

The Council also supports and showcases local businesses and traders on its social media channels under the banner *#OnYourDoorstepSCDC*. The campaign shines a spotlight on what local hospitality and retail businesses are offering seasonally. It is built around the idea of encouraging everyone to 'shop local', which supports local business owners, local jobs, and is positive for the planet too.

The Council also supports and showcases local businesses and traders on its social media channels under the banner *#OnYourDoorstepSCDC*. The campaign shines a spotlight on what local hospitality and retail businesses are offering seasonally. It is built around the idea of encouraging everyone to 'shop local', which supports local business owners, local jobs, and is positive for the planet too. Just search for *#OnYourDoorstepSCDC* on social media to get involved.

Corinne Garvie

District Councillor's Report - Cllr Tom Bygott

11th January 2022

Green bin collections starting up again

South Cambridgeshire District Council paused green bin collections on December 13th citing covid issues, including sickness and self-isolation, "along with a continued national shortage of HGV drivers, plus a lack of agency staff because of demand for them elsewhere such as in supermarkets and at online delivery services". At the time of writing, green bin collections are planned to restart on January 12th.

The advice to residents is to put bins out on collection days as published in the South Cambs Magazine and on www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins. The council has published the caveat that "there are still staff absences and vacancies, despite an ongoing recruitment campaign at Greater Cambridge Shared Waste, any green bins that are missed will not be emptied until the next scheduled collection in February. This is because there are not enough waste crews to return to empty these missed green bins. Any homes that are unfortunately missed will be prioritised for the subsequent collection."

The Christmas season is often the most difficult time of the year for households to face reduced waste collections, as there are additional categories of waste, such as turkey bones (green bin) or present wrapping paper (blue bin), along with a larger than usual amount of food packaging and, unfortunately, wasted food. If your household is struggling to find space for uncollected rubbish, it is possible to order additional bins at www.scambs.gov.uk/recycling-and-bins/report-or-request/request-a-bin-or-sack or by calling 01954 713 000. Households are allowed up to four blue and four green bins and one black bin. A second black bin is only permitted to those with six or more in a house or with two or more children in nappies. There is no charge for the extra blue bins and the extra green bins cost £40 annually per bin.

Waste collection and recycling are one of the main services for which we pay our Council Tax. I would rather South Cambs went back to being one of the top recycling councils in the country. In 2010, the council set itself the target of "meeting or surpassing a 65% recycling and composting rate by 2012" and by October 2010 achieved a monthly rate of 63.7%. In recent years, as the council has been overwhelmed by all kinds of other problems, ambitious targets like this have fallen by the wayside. In the 2019/20 English rankings for recycling and composting, www.letsrecycle.com/councils/league-tables/2019-20-overall-performance, the Greater Cambridge waste service only achieved a rate of 49.3%. Whilst not the worst performing service, ours came 92nd out of 341, it is a mediocre result that we cannot be proud of.

Coronavirus update

As of 11th January, Covid infection case numbers in South Cambs were 1,402 cases per 100,000 people, with the East of England at 1,661 cases per 100k. Up-to-date statistics can be found at <https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk> and guidance at www.gov.uk/coronavirus. Information on how and where to get vaccinated and have booster shots can be found at www.thevaccinators.co.uk.

In my report in April 2020, during the first lock-down, I wrote that infectious diseases go through three phases: epidemic - where the illness is localised to certain geographic areas, pandemic - where there is widespread sustained transmission throughout the general population, after which it becomes endemic - remaining present in the background. We are transitioning now into the endemic phase. It will be a difficult transition, because the endemic phase lasts forever, and while people are often

happy to make short term sacrifices to survive an acute crisis, the same is not true of a general permanent loss of freedom. Almost everyone who wants to be vaccinated has been and, at some point, things need to get back to normal. With every day that passes, the balance of opinion is shifting further towards an end to restrictions.

Businesses have been experimenting with different ways of working, and while many have found that there are some benefits in certain types of jobs being performed partly remotely, there are also costs in staff not having the spontaneous contact that happens in an office. Remote working also requires a greater level of discipline and social initiative than comes naturally to everyone. Many companies are starting to return to the office, even if only a few days per week.

There are few organisations that have taken as extreme a position on coronavirus working restrictions as South Cambridgeshire District Council. Its building has been virtually empty for nearly two years, with desks taped off to prevent staff sitting at them - with tape not unlike that used by the police at crime scenes. Given the problems in various areas, such as auditing the accounts and processing the enormous backlog of undecided planning applications, the council needs to improve its performance. Returning to more a normal working environment is an essential ingredient to repair what is now a struggling organisation.

Cllr Tom Bygott
cllr@bygott.net 07765
475 513