

**Draft until signed**  
**Minutes of Dry Drayton Parish Council (DDPC) Meeting**  
**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at 7.30pm, at Dry Drayton Village Hall, High Street, Dry Drayton CB23 8BS**

**Present:** Cllr S Aldersley (Chair), Cllr J Granger (Councillor – co-opted at Item 4), Cllr T Houlihane (Vice-Chair), Cllr E Pyle (Councillor), Cllr D Smith (Councillor)

**Attending:** Mrs S Etherington-Meech (Clerk/RFO), Cllr E Murphy (County Councillor), Cllr R Stobart (District Councillor), Robb Lunn (Chair of Dry Drayton Village Hall Management Committee), 1 member of the public

**1. To Accept Apologies for Absence**

No apologies for absence, all councillors were present. Cllr Garvie (District Councillor) sent an apology of absence via Cllr Stobart.

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

Cllr Houlihane declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.1 – Consultations – GCP Cambourne to Cambridge Better Public Transport and Active Travel Environmental Impact Assessment - Public Consultation (Route potentially passes along the boundary of Cllr Houlihane's property).

**3. To Agree to hold a Public Forum**

No items were raised by the public and the Chairman gave Robb Lunn permission to speak during Item 9.5 in relation to the defibrillator.

**4. To consider applications and co-option for three ordinary vacancies – Joanna Granger**

Cllr Aldersley thanked Joanna Granger for making an application and it was RESOLVED <sup>(Prop Cllr Pyle, 2nd Cllr Smith, unanimous)</sup> to elect Joanna Granger as councillor for DDPC. Joanna Granger signed her acceptance of office.

**5. To Approve the Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Cllr Aldersley (Chairman) made an amendment to the last sentence of Item 8.10 (amendment in italics) 'Cllr Stobart suggested that with the results of the survey DDPC consider producing a mini village plan/brochure *for transport in Dry Drayton* for residents.' Once the amendment was made it was RESOLVED <sup>(Prop Cllr Pyle, 2nd Cllr Aldersley, unanimous)</sup> 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**

6.1 Ongoing issue, Cllr Aldersley has contacted Simon Lander, no response received.

6.2 Ongoing issue to remain as a standing item.

6.3 Cllr Murphy advised that she has not heard back but will continue to pursue this item.

6.4 The Clerk and Cllr Murphy confirmed that there has still not been a response from Highways.

6.5 Cllr Murphy advised that progress of the NMU is ongoing, and she will follow up. Cllr Aldersley requested a time frame.

6.6 Cllr Aldersley advised that no projects have yet been agreed and the Townsland Trust have emailed to advise they are going to set up a management committee for which they have asked Cllr Aldersley to join in a private capacity as he owns neighbouring land.

6.7 Cllr Aldersley confirmed that an article will be in the July newsletter and follow up survey included in the September newsletter.

6.8 Ongoing item.

6.9 Ongoing item, meeting to be arranged.

6.10 Cllr Aldersley advised that there is an article in relation to this item to be in the July newsletter and a meeting is taking place this evening.

6.11 Clerk advised that she has contacted Jon Clarke at Highways but has still not received an update.

6.12 Clerk advised that photos have been uploaded to the parish council website and now all bios have been received these will be uploaded too.

6.13 Cllr Pyle said that there was no update at present and Robb Lunn advised that he has locks for the ladies' toilets and will replace them soon.

**7. To Accept a Report from County and District Councillors**

For Cllr Murphy report – see Appendix 4

Cllr Murphy highlighted one item of particular interest, the decentralisation ambition of Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC). The vision being to decentralise decision making and for service delivery to be locally by engaging more with residents, local communities and giving them the ability to make more decisions that affect them. The next phases will be to look for candidates for pilots and to consult with parish and district councils to see what may work best.

Cllr Aldersley thanked Cllr Murphy for facilitating the replacement drain covers throughout the village.

For Cllr Stobart report – see Appendix 5

Cllr Stobart highlighted that in relation to the Local Plan known more generally as the Village Design that he has tracked down the officer at Greater Cambridge Planning who is responsible for this area. He will have a discussion with the officer in relation to picking off topics rather than completing a whole plan. Cllr Aldersley suggested the officer might be able to attend a parish council meeting for a small presentation, Cllr Stobart is to request this.

## 8. To Discuss Planning Matters

### a. Applications received for consideration

- i. **22/01806/HFUL - 6 Cottons Field Dry Drayton Cambridgeshire - Single storey side and rear extensions with realignment and part replacement of boundary fencing including new access gate – deadline for comments 7<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) to resubmit objection from the last meeting for this application for the following material considerations:

- Overlooking/loss of privacy
- Light pollution
- Contractor parking

With an additional material consideration for Design, Appearance & Materials to be included.

- ii. **22/02518/HFUL - Church Farm Cottage 2 Park Street -Demolition of existing garden room and erection of a single storey rear extension – deadline for comments 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) a neutral position with a request that contractor parking is to be considered as a condition and also stipulated that no parking is to occur on the village green if the application is approved.

- iii. **22/02573/HFUL - 21 Park Street - Front and Side Extension – deadline for comments 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Houlihan, unanimous) a neutral position with a request that contractor parking is to be considered as a condition and also stipulated that no parking is to occur on the village green if the application is approved. Also, to note that the extension is right up to the boundary.

### b. Decisions received from South Cambs District Council

- i. **22/01605/HFUL - 22 Pettitts Lane Dry Drayton Cambridgeshire CB23 8BT -Single storey front extension and roof light to front roof slope – Permission Granted**
- ii. **22/01582/HFUL - Studio One Park Lane Dry Drayton CB23 8DB - Erection of a Double garage – Permission Granted**

## 9. Matters for discussion/correspondence received

- 9.1 **To discuss proposal from Hallam Land Management on behalf of PX Farms to develop land East and West of Scotland Road – (<https://oc2.greatercambridgeplanning.org/form/56252> & <https://oc2.greatercambridgeplanning.org/form/51608>)**

Cllr Aldersley advised that this relates to a resubmission of what was received by Bidwell's in the first stage of the Call for Sites process, although with far more supporting documentation. It was discussed that the objections originally submitted are equally relevant to this proposal as there appears to be no changes.

Cllr Aldersley agreed to draft and circulate a letter to Stephen Kelly at Greater Cambridge Planning in relation to processes and lack of information. Cllr Aldersley highlighted that

expects our District Councillors to support DDPC objections and to ensure we are kept up to date with all matters that arise.

Cllr Stobart agreed to send over to DDPC details of establishing a village identity.

**9.2 For info – Comments published for Greater Cambridge Local Plan First Proposals Consultation**

**9.3 Cllr Aldersley - Update on the email received from PX Farms in relation to the culvert under Madingley and response from James Broder at Highways**

Cllr Aldersley to follow up as no response has been received from Highways.

**9.4 To discuss and agree wording for an inscribed/engraved plaque for the Jubilee bench to inc. jointly funded with South Cambridge District Council**

RESOLVED <sup>(Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Smith, unanimous)</sup> for clerk to source a small metal plaque with the following inscription *'Funded by Dry Drayton Parish Council and The Community Chest Grant 2022 South Cambridgeshire District Council'*.

**9.5 Defibrillator – to discuss and consider email received from DDVH Management Committee in relation to future maintenance costs and payment of costs already incurred. Update from Cllr Aldersley on research carried out in relation to the lifespan of the defibrillator, grant funding for purchasing of a defibrillator etc.**

Prior to the meeting Cllr Aldersley circulated notes to DDPC, DDVH and Graham Carver following his conversation with Andrew Barlow at East Anglian Ambulance Service. Following his discussion Cllr Aldersley proposed the following:

- Setting up of a generic email for the guardian of the defibrillator to ensure it can be transferred if the guardian changes at any point.
- The defibrillator to be registered on 'The Circuit' in order to ensure that the unit's location is known in the event of one being needed in the area, as well as to ensure that maintenance and replacement of consumables are carried out by the East Anglian Ambulance Service.

RESOLVED <sup>(Prop Cllr Smith, 2nd Cllr Aldersley, unanimous)</sup> that the clerk arranges for email address [defib@drydraytonpc.org.uk](mailto:defib@drydraytonpc.org.uk) to be set up for the guardian.

A discussion occurred between Cllr Aldersley and Robb Lunn in relation to the payment of costs already incurred for a new battery and pads for the defibrillator that DDVH have paid for. Cllr Aldersley explained that DDPC have limited funds at present and that the defibrillator, or its maintenance had not been included in the current 2022/23 budget. Discussions of splitting the costs occurred and it was finally RESOLVED <sup>(Prop Cllr Smith, 2nd Cllr Houlihan, 3rd Cllr Aldersley, Cllr Pyle abstained from voting)</sup> that 50% of the costs already incurred for the defibrillator battery and pads be paid to Dry Drayton Village Hall.

**9.6 For Cllr Aldersley to provide an update on discussion with residents of Pump Green and to discuss locations for the Jubilee and slab benches**

Cllr Aldersley had spoken to the residents of Pump Green, and they were against the Jubilee bench being placed outside their homes. RESOLVED <sup>(Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous)</sup> that the Jubilee bench be placed at the village green on the side of the church and one of the slab benches be placed at Dry Drayton Primary School. Discussion of location for the other bench to be considered at the next parish council meeting. A suggestion had been received from some residents that a slab bench be placed by the Village Hall. Rob Lunn commented that whilst a bench in the car park would be useful, he was not certain that a slab bench would be suitable and would discuss with colleagues.

**9.7 For info – Email from Chris Turner to Helen Taylor (SCDC) in relation to a damaged lamppost SC005**

The damaged lamppost has now been dealt with by Highways.

**9.8 For info – Email from Matheus Souza at Highways in relation to LHI application for Oak Crescent 2022/23**

Cllr Aldersley advised that the email had an estimated delivery window of the project from 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 to 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023.

**9.9 To discuss quotations received for maintenance and replacement of the damaged bus shelter**

Clerk advised that she has asked SLCC to circulate a request to other clerks in Cambridgeshire for recommendations for contractors. The Clerk has also contacted two companies to request quotations for repair works, one company have come back and will visit the site next week.

**9.10 To discuss skill sets of Councillors and the Clerk to assist functioning of Dry Drayton Parish Council**

ACTION – Clerk to circulate details of Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) duties to councillors for them to see if they have skill sets to assist functioning of the council.

**9.11 For info - Cultivate Cambs funding round - Grants for Cambridgeshire communities**

ACTION – Clerk to send to Les Waters for circulation in the parish.

**9.12 Cllr Aldersley – to discuss email to Cllr Murphy in relation to stolen drain covers**

Cllr Aldersley advised that stolen drain covers were reported to Highways, and they were first coned off and then replaced quickly.

**10. Consultations**

**10.1 GCP Cambourne to Cambridge Better Public Transport and Active Travel Environmental Impact Assessment - Public Consultation – deadline for comments 11<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, abstained Cllr Houlihane, unanimous) that the response in Appendix 3 be submitted for the consultation.

**10.2 Local Transport and Connectivity Plan (LTCP) for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough – deadline 4<sup>th</sup> August 2022**

DDPC agreed that councillors should respond independently to this consultation.

**11. Finance and Policy**

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

The bank reconciliation (see Appendix 2) and finance spreadsheet were circulated to all councillors before the meeting, RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) to accept and approve the accounts and bank reconciliation.

**b. To advise of payments received between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**i. Cambridgeshire County Council – Grass Cutting Reimbursement - £555.26**

**c. Direct debits and standing orders paid between 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**i. Salary/Overtime/Expenses/Pension (Period 2 & 3) - £703.10 (LGA 1972, s.112)**

**d. Online payments made between 1st June 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

**i. DDVH – Hall Hire for 2 hours 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 - £12.00 (DDPC are a regular user so hourly fee reduced from £7.00 per hour to £6.00 per hour) (LGA 1972, s.133)**

**e. Payments to hand**

**i. SLCC – Annual Membership Fee - £144.00 - RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online. (LGA 1972, s.143)**

**ii. SCDC – Uncontested election fee for 7 seats - £105.00 - RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online.**

**iii. Cambridgeshire ACRE – Annual Membership Fee - £57.00 - RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online. (LGA 1972, s.143)**

**iv. S&VA – Contribution to Jubilee mugs - £250.00 - RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online. (LGA 1972, s.137)**

**v. Reimbursement to Chris Turner for mounting bars and clamps for the MVAS - £182.18 - RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online. (Highways Act 1980, s.274A)**

**vi. Brookfield Groundcare – Grass Cut 4 of 10 - £360.00 - RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online. (Public Health Act 1875, s.164; Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10; Commons Act 1899)**

## Additional payments

- **S Etherington-Meech – Reimbursement for ream of paper - £4.00 - RESOLVED** (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online.
- **Brookfield Groundcare – Grass Cut 3 of 10 - £360.00 - RESOLVED** (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) for payment to be made, payment to be approved online. (Public Health Act 1875, s.164; Open Spaces Act 1906, ss.9 and 10; Commons Act 1899)

**f. To consider switching website and emails from org.uk to gov.uk**

Due to costs involved in the process of switching it was agreed that this should be discussed with the 2022/23 budget.

**g. To provide an update on Section 106 monies – both outstanding and spent**

The Clerk confirmed that £1,082.97 of Section 106 monies has been spent for Indoor Meeting Space and there is £40.31 outstanding to be spent by September 2023. £3,794.79 spent for Public Open Space and there is £757.23 outstanding to be spent as soon as possible and £2,244.90 by September 2023.

**h. To discuss current streetlighting energy contract with Drax Energy and discuss any quotations received from other energy suppliers for a new contract**

Email received from Drax:

*'Your contract with us ended on 19/02/2022. As you haven't agreed a renewal or left our supply, you've been placed on a rolling contract.'*

*Unfortunately we're unable to offer you a renewal, we would encourage you to find an alternative supplier with more favourable rates. You are free to leave at any point and do not need to submit a termination notice to do so.'*

The Clerk contacted a number of suppliers and only SSE Business Energy provided a full 12 monthly contract quotation with an estimated annual cost of £270.39. RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Pyle, 2nd Cllr Aldersley, unanimous) to accept the quotation, and supplier changed from Drax to SSE.

**i. To update the Asset Register to include the MVAS ladder and benches**

RESOLVED (Prop Cllr Aldersley, 2nd Cllr Pyle, unanimous) that the Asset Register be adopted with the new items.

**j. To provide an update on changes to bank signatories for Lloyds**

Cllr Aldersley advised that the bank signatory forms are now with the bank.

**k. To provide an update on streetlight ownership and responsibilities in the parish**

The Clerk received an email from Helen Taylor at South Cambs District Council (SCDC) confirming that the 7 units on DDPC streetlighting inventory are an asset of SCDC and therefore they maintain them, DDPC are only responsible for paying for the electricity supply.

**12. To accept notices and matter for the next agenda**

**13. Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 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.

**14. Review of employment policies and procedures and to discuss clerks' overtime and CiLCA studies**

In confidential minutes

Meeting closed at 10.15 pm

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

## Appendix 1

### Action Report/Ongoing Issues

6.1	Letter drafted to the Secretary of State in relation to complaints with planning and procedures for 65 Pettitts Lane	SCA/SL
6.2	To provide an update on call with Joshua Rutherford and Cllr Murphy in relation to highways issues in the parish	SCA/EM
6.3	Update from Cllr Murphy in relation to the removal of posts at the drift	SCA/EM
6.4	Update on a time frame from Highways in relation to fixing of wigwags	SEM/EM
6.5	To provide and update on the progress of the NMU	EM
6.6	Update of Section 106 projects from Townlands Trust and setting up a management committee	SCA
6.7	To put article in newsletter in relation to a survey of resident's views on traffic calming/speed reduction measures	SCA
6.8	To provide and update on Swifts Close	SCA
6.9	To arrange a meeting with DDVH and the church to discuss an action plan for Operation London Bridge	SCA
6.10	To update on the increase in aircraft noise following the change of airway approach for Luton Airport	SCA
6.11	Erection of additional poles for MVAS – clerk to contact Jon Clarke at Highways	SCA/SEM
6.12	To provide an update on councillor bios and photos for the website and map	SEM
6.13	Village Hall Management Committee Meeting Update inc. completion of S106 works	EP

Appendix 2

**DRY DRAYTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**June 2022 Bank Reconciliation**

	<b>£</b>
Lloyds current account on 31 <sup>st</sup> May 2022	£28,481.93
<u>Less</u> payments presented from 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 <i>1 online payments, 1 direct debit and 2 standing orders</i>	£715.10
<u>Plus,</u> receipts presented from 1 <sup>st</sup> June 2022 to 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022 <i>1 receipt received</i>	£555.26
Closing bank account on 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2022	£28,322.09
<u>Less outstanding payments not yet subtracted</u> Brookfield Groundcare (Cut 3 of 10) - £360.00 Reimbursement to clerk for paper - £4.00	<b>£364.00</b>
<b>Balance carried forward at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022</b>	<b>£ 27,958.09</b>

Notes:

*Sarah Etherington-Meech*

RFO

5<sup>th</sup> July 2022

### **Appendix 3**

Section D NMU access along Scotland Road, northern end.

## NMU Comments

The route proposed in the EIA consultation has three main issues:

- 1) The existing footpath is narrow. The typical width between road and street furniture is 1.40m, the narrowest point (Southernwood House) drops to about 1.10m but could be increased to 1.40m if a streetlight were relocated.
- 2) The proposed crossing point at the entrance to the village is regarded as being exposed to high-speed traffic and contention around the chicane.
- 3) Access from the Park Lane/Oakington Road side of the village will require users to cross twice.

Proposed alternative route:

- 1) Crosses the hedgerow most obviously past the end of the drainage ditch, opposite Southernwood House, further along between the trees opposite Blackgate House, or close to the roundabout if the levels can be adjusted to avoid a steep slope.
- 2) Joins the road opposite Oak Crescent. This might be a suitable point for a controlled crossing (with this scheme or in the future) and is probably the safest place to cross.
- 3) Permits cyclists from High Street to join after using the roundabout.
- 4) Provides a crossing point for pedestrian access from the green at the end of High Street
- 5) Provides a crossing point for pedestrian access at the Rectory Farm end (since there is an existing break in the hedgerow here).

There is an approved LHI submission to improve parking adjacent to Oak Crescent. There may be an opportunity to allow for future integration as part of this work.

There may be some loss of mature hedgerow, but it may be possible to mitigate this by providing additional screening of the route from the new Church Farm Buildings development. This would avoid introducing an obvious break into the hedge line.

A suggestion has been made that the path could follow the border of the Church Farm development and join the road network on Madingley road close to Park Street.

There is a bank on the bend alongside the roundabout, this may require some form of retaining wall to achieve a suitable path width.

Online map (extract below):

<https://shared.xmap.cloud?map=127c54e7-39fa-4186-bb8a-29a225b06da5>

## Travel Hub Comments

Many people do not have the ability to cycle and may not have a car, and so a regular shuttle bus service would be an essential component for Dry Drayton and other villages in the vicinity. This would be a way to ensure the Travel Hub is fully inclusive and could also tempt car owners from their vehicles.

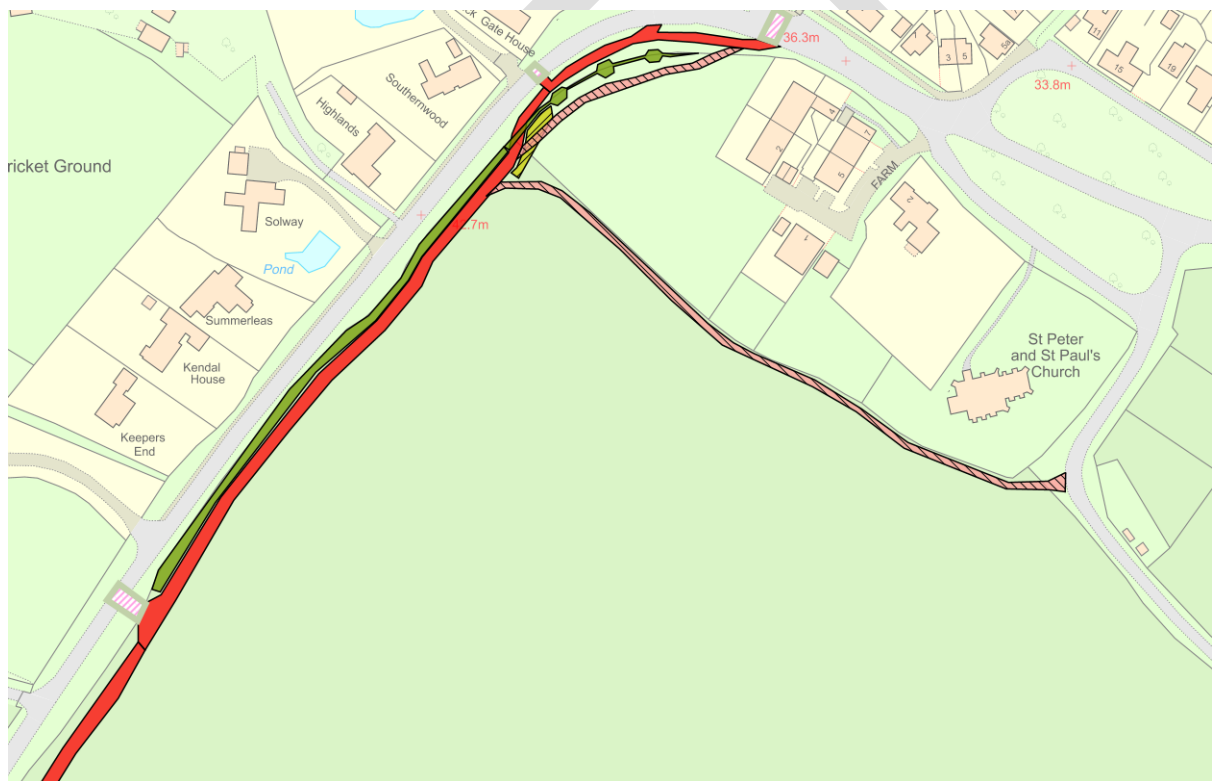
DDPC intends to survey residents of the village regarding potential traffic calming and speed reduction measures as a response to the existing conditions. However, we anticipate that additional measures may be necessary to mitigate the changing traffic flows resulting from the Travel Hub.



The consultation mentions a balancing pond and filtration system to protect Callow Brook. Whilst this is necessary protection, it is unlikely that it would be successful in the case of a fuel spillage from cars or buses. What protection will be in place during and after the construction phases to protect the environment and nearby watercourses should there be leakages from a fuel bowser or vehicle?

Strict movement protocols should be enforceable for materials' suppliers, subcontractors, and site staff to ensure they only use routes that approach from the A428 roundabout at Scotland Road and not via the C-road through Dry Drayton that comes from the A1307. This must be strictly enforced by the main contractor as the site for the Travel Hub will also be a main depot for the project, not just for the construction phase.

Designing out light and noise pollution from the Travel Hub must be a priority to mitigate its impact not only on the nearby residential and industrial areas, but also further afield on the Church Farm Buildings in the village itself.



## **Appendix 4**

**Cllr Edna Murphy**

**MONTHLY REPORT JULY 2022**

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### **FULL COUNCIL**

The next Full Council meeting will take place on Tuesday 19 July. It will be the first one to take place in the Multi-Function Room at the Council's new HQ at Alconbury Weald—an acid test of its capacity.

### **STRATEGY & RESOURCES**

- **Decentralisation**

The Council's Strategy & Resources Committee has agreed the policy framework and design principles for decentralizing decision making and service delivery. It will now consider pilots to ensure an informed and considered programme is developed. The key principles are that:

- a. A greater proportion of the Council's resource (workforce and budget) will be invested through decentralised approaches and structures.
- b. We will involve communities in our decision making, design, and activity.
- c. We will deepen relationships with voluntary and community sector organisations, District, Parish and Town Councils, other public sector partners, and community groups—working together through our democratic roles and most suitable governance structures to deliver the best outcomes for communities.
- d. Social, economic and environmental impacts will be given equal consideration in our decision-making processes.
- e. Our local presence should seek to be navigators and reference points for all local public services. Opportunities to apply this approach should be pursued by the Council's land and property functions.

We believe that the County Council needs to be less remote and more engaged with the communities it affects and serves. It is not easy to turn this around but we have taken the first steps in doing this. Parish Councils have a critical role to play and we look forward to much greater engagement as a result.

- **Money to tackle climate change and flood risk**

The first spending from the Council's new Just Transition fund has been agreed. An envelope of expenditure of £2.175m to cover 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. Also £1.7m has also been awarded for flood work and nature restoration.

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- **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 as it was not considered fully thought through. We proposed the delay not only so that more information could be obtained on the costs, but also for more discussion with local councillors on what residents and councillors wanted by way of information and other reporting.

The Highways & Transport Committee councillors also need to have an opportunity to review the requirements for such a system. It's really important we get this right as the current information flow is broken and a serious problem for residents who have taken the trouble to report local highways faults who then are not provided with any information after that.

- **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 scheme 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 2022.

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. This is the knock-on spiral of inflation, raising costs and prices, and given the UK is forecast to fare worst out of G7 (highest inflation, lowest growth) it is serious and not set to end soon.

The UK's poor economic performance is one of the 'bumps in the road' involved in the terms of Brexit which has produced greater labour shortage than exists in other European countries, a sudden and persistent 25% drop in trade with our biggest trading partner (but also drop in trade with others – US, Canada, Japan), funding cuts for arts, science and farming etc. It's a very challenging position for local government, and any other body trying to deliver public services.

#### **ADULTS & HEALTH**

- **Care reform costs**

The cost of the Government's adult social care reforms could be a minimum of £10bn higher than currently estimated, according to the County Councils' Network. The reforms include a more generous means-test, a cap on care costs of £86k, a move towards a 'fair' cost of care, and the ability for people who arrange and fund their own care to ask their council to do it on their behalf. The higher costs could create a further workforce crisis in social care, with over 5k extra staff projected to be required to carry out extra care and financial assessments for those seeking to benefit from the reforms. Councils in rural areas could face the greatest challenges.

#### **CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

- **Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)**

The Council's Children & Young People Committee will receive on 5 July 2022 a report on the strategy to deliver more SEND school places. It will also be asked to amend the specification of new build primary schools to include 55m<sup>2</sup> of additional SEND space per up to two forms of entry.

#### **COSMIC**

- **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-leisure-culture/libraries/accessibility>

## **ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT**

- **Resourcing Net Zero**

The Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee is moving ahead to implement its ambitious climate change strategy. The Committee is being asked on 7 July 2022 to approve a business case for the first phase of a three-phase approach to getting Cambridgeshire to Net Zero Carbon by 2045. The first phase will use the £2.175m awarded by the Strategy & Resources Committee (see above) and will involve eight workstreams:

1. Gaining professional technical competence in carbon across the Council.
2. Gathering data and intelligence.
3. Refreshing Council policy, governance and decision making on carbon.
4. Maximising the finances to support decarbonisation activity.
5. Enabling more low carbon purchasing.
6. Upskilling the Council workforce and enabling understanding of carbon.
7. Developing a forward strategy.
8. Supporting services in moving their existing knowledge into action.

- **Carbon pricing**

Progress is being made in implementing internal carbon pricing at the County Council. This is a way of assessing the financial value of carbon emissions or carbon reductions, to help inform decisions about projects on environmental as well as financial grounds.

- **Nature & Climate Declaration and Climate & Ecology Bill**

The Environment & Green Investment Committee is being asked on 7 July to recommend to the Full Council that it sign the Nature & Climate Declaration and endorse the Climate & Ecology Bill. The Nature & Climate Declaration asks the UK Government to deal with key climate risks by:

- Fulfilling the UK's fair share of emissions reductions to ensure that the

average global temperature increase will not exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius

- Halting and reversing biodiversity decline by 2030, and
- Delivering a more ambitious and integrated environmental protection and decarbonisation plan.

The cross-party Climate & Ecology Bill is a plan for a new UK law that addresses the full extent of the climate change and nature crisis in line with the most up to date science.

- **Energy retrofits**

Cambridgeshire Energy Retrofit Partnership is a collaboration between the County Council and Cambridgeshire's district councils. It is currently delivering energy efficiency projects in over 500 homes across the county with the poorest energy efficiency and lowest incomes, using over £9m of Government grant. The Government has indicated that it will continue to make funding available to councils for this work until 2025, and the partners are looking to use a contract 'framework' to maximise success in attracting this funding, both for council schemes and also to enable private households to secure a 'trusted contractor' if they can afford to privately fund their own home retrofit works.

- **Flooding and nature restoration**

The Council's Environment & Green Investment Committee is being asked on 7 July to agree to spend the £1.7m awarded by the Strategy & Resources Committee (see above) on:

- A natural flood risk management project in the town of March
  - Designing a number of 'shovel ready' flood mitigation projects
  - Community-led nature restoration and environment schemes
- **Waterbeach waste facility**

Preparations are happening at the Amey waste park at Waterbeach in advance of major works to reduce odour emissions. The works will allow district councils to continue to deliver collected waste to Waterbeach for transfer to alternative processing sites and to landfill from August while the odour emission works are done. These are necessary to comply with new legal requirements.

Updated operating procedures for the transfer station use have been submitted to the Environment Agency for their approval. A planning application has been submitted to the Council's Minerals and Waste Planning team seeking approval for the works proposed for the black bag waste facility.

## **HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT**

- **Bar Hill Bridge**

Works are still underway to investigate the reason for the appearance of ramps. This is a new bridge and such issues will be resolved with National Highways, and

any defects made good. More information will follow to residents when the analysis has been done and the nature of the remedial works is clear.

- **Girton / Oakington Bridge**

There have been some visible cracks in the parapet of the bridge. The County's bridge inspector has been to inspect the bridge and confirms that there are no major structural issues with the bridge, it is superficial mortar loss and brick spalling. The inspector carries out visual inspections of all our bridges every two years on a rolling programme. If there are any further changes please let me know.

- **Local Highways Improvement updates**

The LHI scheme is being redesigned so that it is easier to apply for funding. An initial set of principles is to be considered by members over the summer.

- **HGV working group review**

It is expected that following work on this the group will report in the autumn at the Highways & Transport committee.

## **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% 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% rise in the number of Cambridgeshire people aged 65+, against an 18.6% 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)

- **Meanwhile on the Combined Authority**

The Combined Authority Board's Annual Meeting on Wednesday 8 June 2022 considered only the first part of its long agenda before being held over to Monday 27 June, when it managed to conclude its business.

The day before the Platinum Jubilee holiday, the Chair of the Combined Authority's Audit & Governance Committee received a letter from auditors EY expressing concerns about value for money at the Combined Authority as a result of various ongoing issues.

There is a consensus among Combined Authority officers, chief executives of the member councils, and the Mayor and his statutory deputy, that there is a need for external support for the Combined Authority in addressing the risks which the EY letter has identified. The Combined Authority Board has mandated its officers to continue their ongoing conversations with the Department for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC) about what this support may look like.

The Audit & Governance Committee agreed that external support would be necessary for the Combined Authority to successfully address the concerns raised by the auditors; and agreed to invite DLUHC to its next meeting. However, it declined to support a specific proposal for an Improvement Board.

The Combined Authority has just appointed an experienced interim CEO who starts work on 4 July 2022 who can set about ensuring the support is there to resolve matters and set the Authority on a stable course.

## LOCAL ISSUES

### A14 trees – the saga continues!

Following up on the motion to Full Council in March, I convened a meeting with National Highways to review their progress following a survey done on the trees they planted along the A14, and hear what they had to say about further planting and changes to the maintenance programme.

We learned that contrary to what had been told to us by the County Council there were not 45k trees planted, but 800k. It is not easy to see how the County could have got figures so wrong, and this is itself a thing to follow up on. Furthermore, National Highways had planted the 800k saplings over a 2 year period. The 2020 die back survey information had also been incorrect, the die back rate was 70% not 94%, but still this was higher than they had expected. They have replanted every planting season and looked to consider further replanting in the coming season. They are trying a number of things to reduce the die back rate.

Another fact we learned was that they have no obligations to the County Council per se, there is



no contract with the County (we had been told there was), instead they are governed by what are effectively planning obligations, so the enforcement lies with district councils. Further information will be provided and now we have a regular meeting established with National Highways about this project.

#### **Flood risk 'hotspots'**

I have submitted to the flood risk management team a list of frequent flood risk hotspots in all areas of Bar Hill division. This should complement the list put together by the Local Highways Officer who was also asked for information. These will be considered if there is extra funding available for addressing flooding hotspots.

#### **Bar Hill roundabout**

There have been complaints about the main roundabout at the entrance to the village, that the road surface is in a poor state and potentially damaging cars. This has been taken up by the maintenance team and I am waiting for their response.

#### **Travellers**

Residents in Bar Hill have complained that there has been considerable damage and disruption caused by travellers. Advice has been sought from the Travellers' advisor on the County Council and discussions will take place to see if there are any measures which could be taken which would help minimize problems that are caused.

#### **Dry Drayton drain covers**

Thieves stole drain covers in a number of villages including Dry Drayton, leaving a dangerous gap in the road. County officials were alerted and were due to replace them quickly. This is a truly awful problem and can be very hazardous, so please do not hesitate to get in touch if this is an issue.

#### **Bar Hill 4G/5G mobile coverage**

Connecting Cambridge is interested to know where there is poor mobile coverage and is involving in planning further roll out. Given there is a significant problem in Bar Hill, with significant areas with poor or no cover I have alerted the officer to this and hope that she will report back with plans that we can consider, and respond to.

#### **Get in touch**

I am considering ways to have regular face to face surgeries in Girton, Dry Drayton and Bar Hill, including whether to hold zoom meetings as well. Details to follow over the summer but I would welcome thoughts on what options might work best.

In the mean time please don't hesitate to get in touch.

**CLlr Edna Murphy** - [edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

## **Appendix 5**

### **District Councillors' Report for July 2022**

We are pleased to present our report. We have highlighted local initiatives and funding possibilities. We would particularly draw your attention to the calls for public consultation, particularly on transport schemes and provision of pharmacy services. We have included web links as much as possible. If you're reading the document in an electronic format, simply press the *ctrl* key as you click on the link. Your browser will go to that page.

#### **Community forum**

The North West and West Cambridge community forum will be held in person on Wednesday 20 July ([Web link](#) or [Facebook link](#)). The forum provides an opportunity to discuss the status of local developments.

For more information about Community Forums, please email the South Cambs Communities team on [Duty.Communities@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:Duty.Communities@scambs.gov.uk).

#### **Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme**

Cambridgeshire County Council have asked us to help publicise their summer holiday activities and food (HAF) programme funded by the Department for Education. They have nearly 3,000 free holiday scheme places available with over 130 providers across the county. Families in receipt of income-related free school meals can access up to 64 hours per child, and children will receive a meal as well. They have also opened their eligibility to Ukrainian and other refugee families.

Further details about the programme can be found here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities-localism/support-with-the-cost-of-living/holiday-activities-and-food-programme>

Here is the "Parent Summer" Poster: [Summer HAF Poster \(cambslearntogether.co.uk\)](https://www.cambslearntogether.co.uk)

#### **Help for older residents who are struggling with bills**

Cllr Murphy has introduced the *Household Support Fund* in her report. We have also been asked to publicise the Fund and how residents should apply.

In March of this year, the Government announced that councils would be provided with funding to continue operating the Household Support Fund because of the impact of the rising costs of living. Cambridgeshire has been allocated £3.58million, of which £1.2m will be used to support households that include a person who has reached state pension age (66) by 30 September 2022 and are experiencing financial hardship. Funding will also be used to continue providing food vouchers for eligible families with children and the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme which provides a safety net to individuals and families facing unexpected financial difficulties and hardship.

Under the Household Support Fund, there is funding available via the Council and Age UK to provide financial support within a few days, and help people find longer-term support if needed. This financial assistance is available to people born before 30 September 1956.

Residents who wish to apply should call Age UK Cambridgeshire and Peterborough on 01223 221929 or visit <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund>

In March the Government announced the extension of the scheme, awarding Cambridgeshire an additional £3.58m to support children, families and pensioners. The County Council will be offering the following schemes:

- £1.96m for provision of food vouchers with a value of £15 per child per week, for the 2022 May half term and summer holidays. Schools and childcare settings, including childminders, will be contacted directly and eligible parents will be notified.
- £1.2m to support households with a person who has reached state pension age by 30/9/2022 and in financial hardship.
- A boost for other services supporting those in need

Please check this web-site for more information:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund>

### **Police and Crime Commissioner survey**

The Police and Crime Commissioner for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has launched a survey to help understand what crimes are having an impact on 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.

Please visit this web site to complete the survey:

<https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/get-involved/consultations-surveys/crimes-affecting-businesses-survey/>

### **Informal in-person get together for Ukraine hosts: Tuesday 12 July 6 pm to 8 pm in Cambourne**

Following on from an informal event for Ukrainian Guests on 28<sup>th</sup> June, there will be a session for Ukrainian hosts from 6pm to 8pm on Tuesday 12 July at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park, Cambourne CB23 6EA.

This is a free drop-in event for Ukrainian hosts to network, enjoy refreshments and find out more on the support (for both hosts and guests) that is available locally. The agenda will be published shortly.

If you would like to attend, please register at [Eventbrite](#) indicating the number of people who will be coming.

### **Care Network Well-being Service**

We are delighted to be able to share some information with you about Care Network's Wellbeing Service for individuals and the Recovery and Resilience Grants available for community groups. You will find a very short explanatory video (3 minutes) on Care Network Cambridgeshire's [wellbeing webpage](#), alongside further information about their provision and support. Care Network collaborate with many South Cambridgeshire partners to ensure that

the wellbeing needs of communities are understood and supported. If you have any queries, please do contact Kate Blackwell or Adam Fraser from Care Network's Wellbeing Team on 03300 945 750.

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Lead Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Bill Handley, said: "We're thrilled to help spread the word about this important initiative. Care Network Cambridgeshire provide a hugely important and beneficial service, connecting people with their community and helping them access many forms of support. We strive to be a Modern and Caring Council and would urge anyone in the district who thinks they, or a family member or friend, could benefit from Care Network Cambridgeshire's expertise to get in touch."

### **Greater Cambridge's second electric bin lorry arrives as zero carbon fleet drive continues**

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. Greater Cambridge Shared Waste, a partnership between South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils, has just taken delivery of a fully electric Faun Zoeller E-Rotopress.

Through their shared waste service, the 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.

Cllr Rosy Moore, Executive Councillor for Environment, Climate Change, and Biodiversity for Cambridge City Council said "It's great to have our second fully-electric bin lorry which is one more step to help us improve air quality and reduce our carbon emissions whilst maintaining a high-quality service to residents and businesses, collecting waste and recycling. We are committed to replacing our existing diesel vehicles with ultra-low emission versions when each vehicle requires replacement. We are early adopters of this new technology and are pleased to be leading the way as a waste collection service in doing everything we can to achieve our net zero carbon targets."

Cllr Brian Milnes, Lead Cabinet Member for Environment at South Cambridgeshire District Council said: "We were one of the very first waste collection services in the country to introduce a fully electric bin lorry into our fleet and I know residents were pleased to see it out and about. As we continue to reduce carbon emissions from our fleet, it's excellent news that we are taking delivery of our second such vehicle. Cutting emissions is one of the most significant things that we can do as a Council to meet our zero carbon aspirations for South Cambridgeshire."

In order to reach its net-zero aspirations, Greater Cambridge Shared Waste must invest in electric or alternative fuel vehicles.

South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils are committed to helping tackle the climate emergency and are working hard to reduce carbon emissions in the delivery of their services. There are already solar panels installed on top of the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service's Depot at Waterbeach, which are used to charge fully electric vans used by members of the team. In January this year, proposals for a solar farm to power electric bin lorries used by Greater Cambridge Shared Waste were included in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority's latest budget plans. Both councils will also contribute financially to the solar farm scheme.

### **The Low Carbon Business Support programme**

The Low Carbon Business Support programme has been designed to offer support and guidance to businesses looking to reduce their carbon emissions. The programme will run June 2022 to February 2023.

Potential beneficiaries must meet the following criteria:

- Be located in the Greater Cambridgeshire and Greater Peterborough.
- Employ less than 250 employees in total.
- Turnover less than €50m or balance sheet less than €43m.
- Not have had State Aid of €200,000 or more in the last 3 fiscal years.
- Not be in one of the following business sectors: Fishery/Aquaculture, Agriculture, State Funded Education and Health, Banking and Insurance

Please check the following web site for details: <https://lowcarbon.deytonbell.com/eligibility/>

### **Donating Laptops**

South Cambridgeshire District Council is working with [Cambridge Refugee Resettlement Campaign](#) (CRRC) to supply laptops to Ukrainian guests who have arrived in the area as part of the Homes for Ukraine programme. Guests can apply for a laptop for free. We are asking businesses to support this scheme by donating laptops for re-use by those in need. Any devices are acceptable for donation

CRRC works with [Laptops4Learning](#) (L4L) to deliver laptops locally. They take donations of much-needed devices from businesses and repair and refurbish them, making them plug-and-play ready, complete with chargers and software, ready for CRRC to distribute to Ukrainian families. Having tech refurbished for reuse enables businesses to reach their sustainability goals at this time of climate emergency, saving CO2 emissions, e-waste and the extraction of scarce natural resources.

A certificate of erasure is issued for each device and provided by serial number to the company donating.

If your business would like to help by donating laptops or if you have questions and would like more information on the scheme please contact [sue@laptops4learning.co.uk](mailto:sue@laptops4learning.co.uk) or [Admin\\_TeamUkraine@cambridgerefugees.org](mailto:Admin_TeamUkraine@cambridgerefugees.org)

### **Transport consultations**

There are several transport consultations currently underway.

*'A new road Classification for Cambridge'*, hosted by the Greater Cambridge Partnership. This seeks to reset the current road network and allow different modes of transport along different streets, including transport for people with impaired mobility.

Closing 18 July 2022: <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/road-network-hierarchy-2022>

*'Cambourne to Cambridge'* seeking to provide public and active travel connection from 'C2C'. This may be of interest if you have connections in Cambourne. Hosted by the Greater Cambridge Partnership.

Closing 11 July 2022: <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/c2c-eia-2022>

## **Boiler Upgrade Scheme opens**

The government has announced their new £450m Boiler Upgrade Scheme is open for grant applications and payments. Homeowners can benefit from grants to fit clean heating systems when they come to replace their oil and gas boilers, including systems installed from 1 April this year. The scheme will improve energy efficiency of homes, reduce energy bills and cut emissions. The scheme runs over three years from 2022-2025, and property owners will be able to get:

- £5,000 off installation of an air source heat pump
- £5,000 off installation of a biomass boiler
- £6,000 off installation of a ground source heat pump

Please check this web site for more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-may-be-eligible-for-the-boiler-upgrade-scheme-from-april-2022>

## **Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment survey**

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) want to know your thoughts about pharmaceutical services in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and if the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) covers what is important to you regarding the pharmacy services communities need and use. They want to know how easy it is for you and your communities to get and use medicines or medical equipment safely and how easy is it to access the services you need or want from pharmacies. Please spare 10 minutes for give your views on whether your pharmacy needs are being met to help assess and develop pharmacy services in the future.

Here's the link to survey: <https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/jsna/pna/>

If you have any questions, please do approach us directly and we will get you an answer as soon as possible.

*Cllr. Corinne Garvie: mobile 07780 932267, email [cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk)*

*Cllr. Richard Stobart: mobile 07950 934793, email [cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:cllr.stobart@scambs.gov.uk)*