

# MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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Please note: Due to the current Coronavirus situation, the Parish Council will meet virtually via the Zoom meeting tool.

#### TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend the next meeting of Milton Parish Council to be held online on Monday 12 April 2021 at 7pm.

Members of the Public and the Press are cordially invited to attend. For details of how to join the online meeting please contact the Clerk by noon in advance of the meeting and indicate any agenda item(s) on which you would like to speak.

Clerk's signature: Surah Coder Date of issue: 6 April 2021

#### **AGENDA**

- 1. Apologies for absence: to receive and approve apologies for absence.
- 2. To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1 March 2021 (Pages 1-11)
- 3. Declarations of interest and dispensations:

To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda; To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.

4. Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak
Public Participation of a maximum of fifteen minutes duration for members of the public to
address Councillors. A member of the public may speak for up to 3 minutes to make
representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting in respect of the business on
the agenda (Standing orders 3e, 3f, and 3g).

#### 5. Clerk's/Chairman's Report:

Online Meetings – Clerk is seeking clarification from CAPALC/SLCC in relation to face to face meetings taking place from 7 May 2021

Gypsy, Roma & Traveller Inclusion Workshop – The Clerk and DW attended the workshop and carried out the Cultural awareness Training via Teams on Thursday 22 March 2021 From previous meetings:

A10 Trees – Email update 24/03/21: J Clarke (CCC) – "I have just spoken with Dennis and ask he updates me following a conversation with Nicola. I will be in contact once this has taken place".

**Deeds missing** – Ashtons Solicitors awaiting for a copy of the sports pitch deed to be sent from the Land Registry

**A14 Parish Legacy Fund** to improve the crossing by EACH office – Update: further email received 09/02/21 J Rutherford (CCC) – "Milton's A14 project will be delivered in isolation as no LHI bid from the PC was received for the coming 21/22 fin year".

Double Yellow Lines - The Rowans and Fen Road/Coles Road - See Item 13

The Sycamores Rec – Update: Installation start date 17 May 2021

Fen Road Dirt Track - HMS Update

Pop-up cycle Lane, Cambridge Road - See Item

Request for 20mph speed limit on Cambridge Road/High Street – Being discussed via the Working Group

**Flooding** – As District and County Councillor AB is drawing together information on the award drains and flooding issues, which she will share with the Clerk. This information will be used to put a file together on the award drains and flooding issues.

Butt Lane/A10 fence - Has now been replaced by CCC

Coles Road Phone Box – Has now been cleaned inside and refitted the glazing

Land under the A10/Butt Lane Footbridge – Email sent 09/03/21 to SCDC Environmental and

CCC Minerals and Waste reporting issues of fly tipping in both fields. Email received 25/03/21

from SCDC Enforcement Officer/Environment – Complaint will be investigated

#### 6. Planning (Pages 12-15)

To **RECEIVE** the minutes of the Planning meeting held on Monday 15 and 29 March 2021 **Decisions:** 

**20/04010/FUL** – "Police Hub" – One and two storey building containing offices, custody suite and associated facilities, new access, internal access road, hardstanding, car parking areas, landscaping, drainage attenuation features, lighting and means of enclosure **GRANTED PERMISSION** 

#### New:

S/2436/17/NMA2 – Development Site, Plots 1-21 Cambridge Science Park, Milton – Non material amendment of planning permission S/2436/17/NMA (demolition of existing buildings and erection of two four storey buildings for B1 use and a multi-storey car park including access and landscaping) for an amendment to rear entrance doors to substitute double swing doors with cylinder double sliding doors to match front entrance FOR INFORMATION ONLY 21/00800/HFUL – 17 High Street, Milton CB24 6DF – Erection of home office and gym building 21/00794/HFUL – 4 Coulson Close, Milton – Single storey front extension to provide secure bike store

#### 7. Maintenance (Pages 16-27)

To **RECEIVE** the minutes of the Maintenance meeting held on Monday 15 March 2021 To **CONSIDER** recommendations:

To APPROVE the new version of the Cemetery Policy

# 8. Gunnell Close Dual Use Path Barriers

(To make the barriers wider for use by cargo bikes, child trailers etc or to replace barriers with bollards)

To **CONSIDER** taking the question to consultation within the village asking: to remove the barriers and replace with bollards, widen the current barriers or take no further action

- Pop-up Cycle Lanes Milton (Pages 28-29) from AB County Councillor March Report)
   Does MPC wish to confirm their request for removal of the pop-up cycle lanes as in June 2020
   Minutes.
- 10. Renewal of Milton Parish Council Insurance Policy (Page 30)
  To CONSIDER renewal quote of £1,086.15 from Community Action Suffolk
- 11. CAPALC Membership 2021-22 (Pages 31-38)
  To CONSIDER CAPALC membership renewal quote of £794.07
- 12. Standing Orders (Pages 39-83)

To CONSIDER NALC's revised 2020 Standing Orders.

- 13. Bills for Payment and Money Received (Pages 84-86)
  To CONFIRM and AGREE bills for payment
- 14. Double Yellow Lines The Rowans and Fen Road/Coles Road (Pages 87-88)
  To CONSIDER predicted cost of work £1,707.18 from CCC Highways
- 15. Youth Building Sycamores Rec Eddies (Page 89)

  To CONSIDER email received from Edmund Trust (02/03/21) on the possibility of a lease agreement for the Youth Building

# 16. The Communications Working Group (Page 90)

To **RECEIVE** notes taken from the meeting held on Monday 22 March 2021 To **CONSIDER** the setup of a Milton Parish Council Facebook page

# 17. Local Authority Remote Meeting – Call for evidence GOV.UK (Page 91)

To consider response to the call for evidence Link: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-authority-remote-meetings-call-for-evidence/local-authority-remote-meetings-call-for-evidence">https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-authority-remote-meetings-call-for-evidence</a>

# 18. Waterbeach Barracks Development First Primary School – Consultation (Pages 92-96) To CONSIDER comments on the proposed arrangements – closing date 28 April 2021

# 19. Zero Carbon Communities Grant – SCDC (Page 97) To CONSIDER applying for a grant of between £1,000 and £15,000 for replanting of the bund area

#### 20. The Connection Bus Project (Pages 97a-b)

Update on restart of Youth building/bus based services

### 21. NALC Star Council Awards 2021 (Pages 98-99)

To **CONSIDER** entries for the 5 categories: Clerk of the year, County Association project of the year, Young Councillor of the year, Councillor of the year and Council of the year

- 22. Milton Community Centre February 2021 Report (Page 100)
- 23. County Councillor's February 2021 Report (Pages 101-108)
- 24. District Councillor's February 2021 Report (Pages 109-109b) Correspondence Milton (Pages 110-113)

Letter from Lucy Frazer MP - East West Rail Project

General: Copies on request

Cambridgeshire County Council - IHMC Incident Report February 2021

# 25. Dates of next meetings

Monday 19 April 2021 – Planning 7pm Wednesday 21 April 2021 – Finance and Administration 7pm Monday 26 April 2021 – Annual Parish Meeting 7pm

Clerk's Office

The full agenda papers are available on the website <a href="www.miltonvillage.org.uk">www.miltonvillage.org.uk</a> and at the Parish Council office.

#### Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 1 March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom on-line

Present:

D Wildman (DW) (Chair), J E Coston (JEC), P Ellwood (PE), A Horne (AH), D Owen (DO), A Markham

(AM), A Latchem (AL), A Bradnam (AB)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), J Barrett (Assistant Clerk)

Members of the Public: 1

1 Apologies for absence H Smith (Personal)

2 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 1 February 2021 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 February 2021 DW Proposed to accept the Minutes above – AGREED (RF Abstain – 1 February 2021) (AM Abstain – 15 February 2021)

3 Declarations of interest and dispensation

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: A Markham – Item 12 To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any): None To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate: None

- 4 Public Participation members of the public are invited to speak 1 member of the public attended to discuss Item 12
- 5 Clerk's/Chairman's report: From previous meetings:

A10 Trees - Email received from N Burdon (CCC), Network Management Officer, on 16/12/20 - "CCC will remove 15 dead trees and in accordance with our Tree Policy we will be replacing 2 trees for every 1 we remove so in total we will be replacing 30 trees along this section. Pollard 15 trees and minor works to prune some other trees within the belt to the 5.2 over the carriageway and 3 metres elsewhere. These works to be carried out early 2021". Update: Clerk has sent invoice to CCC (27/1/20) for costs incurred due to A10 tree damage caused: loss of paddock fees £320, Legal Fees £960, Fence repair £125, Tree felling £384, Land survey costs £168 and 50% of MPC administration costs £450. Total £2407. Payment has now been received Deeds missing - Awaiting delivery of the Coles Road Sport pitch deed from Ashton's - Clerk is following up MPC deed number with Ashton Solicitors. Clerk can confirm that a signed copy of the sale of land relating to 26 Old School Lane/Tomkins Mead and amended title deed has been received and is located in the deed file. A14 Parish Legacy Fund to improve the crossing by EACH office - Update: further email received (9/2/21) from P Hobson - Stakeholder Director - "As you are aware, your project is one which was agreed would be more cost effective if CCC's highways team were able to deliver on our behalf. Since my last communication I have been working with Josh Rutherford (cc'd in) and our internal governance team to agree timescales and budgets for the individual legacy projects. After what feels like an eternity, I am pleased to say we finally have all the ticks in all the right boxes to allow CCC to plan the works into their schedule. To improve the efficiency of delivering the individual schemes it has been agreed that CCC will co-ordinate them wherever possible with village LHI bids, which you may or may not be submitting. This basically means they will be delivered on the ground during the 2021/22 financial year. Prior to delivery there are however several other steps that will need to be undertaken to follow CCC protocol (e.g. design, consultation, TRO and safety audit) and Josh and his team hope to be able to at least start this process in the coming weeks prior to the end of this financial year. I'm sure as the process develops, and once the extent of the LHI bids become know, he will be able to provide you with a better idea of timescale for the work to begin and will update you accordingly. Hopefully you'll agree that this is good news in what has been, and remains, a testing time for everyone".

Double Yellow Lines – The Rowans and Fen Road/Coles Road – The project has been passed to the CCC Highway Services Team for target costing for the original TRO proposal. Clerk to chase up costing Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership Active Travel Study - A plan of proposed cycle improvements in Milton has been seen by MPC but has not been made public. AB and HMS are speaking with GCP to make sure the proposals come to the Parish Council for consultation before being made public.

The Sycamores Rec – An order has been placed with Wicksteed (9/2/21) for The Sycamores play area project – awaiting confirmation of delivery and start date.

Fen Road Dirt Track - HMS Update: No update given

Pop-up cycle Lane, Cambridge Road – AB further update: on request for a copy of the feedback/comments from the consultation and what happens when the TRO expires at the end of the 18-month period. See AB County Councillor report for update

Request for 20mph speed limit on Cambridge Road/High Street – Being discussed via the Working Group Flooding – As District and County Councillor AB is drawing together information on the award drains and flooding issues, which she will share with the Clerk. This information will be used to put a file together on the award drains and flooding issues.

Butt Lane/A10 fence – Update: AB (as County Councillor) has written to CC Highways asking for the fence to be replaced and the safety concerns for not having a barrier there. JEC Proposed MPC write a strong worded letter to CC Highways supporting AB's concerns.

**Coles Road Phone Box** – Email received from BT Payphones Customer Services (9/2/21) "I have raised a job for the kiosk to be attended and glass repaired and a clean to take place as long as the engineer feels it is ok to complete the works and no one comes into his or her zone they will be able to complete the works".

#### 6 Planning

The minutes of the Planning meeting held on Monday 15 February 2021 were received

Decisions:

No decisions received

New:

**S/4133/19/COND5A** – 7 High Street, Milton CB24 6AJ – Submission of details required by condition 5 (Renewable energy statement) of permission S/4133/19/VC **FOR INFORMATION ONLY** 

#### 7 Community Care

The minutes of the Community Care meeting held on Wednesday 27 January 2021 were received

### 8 To Review Membership of the Planning Committee

To CONSIDER adding P Ellwood to the Planning Committee – JEC Proposed to adding P Ellwood – ALL AGREED

# 9 To Consider a Working Group to Review External Communications

P Ellwood circulated a proposal document to review MPC external communications and to form a working group to discuss how we can integrate new technology with the aim to increase village awareness of what is happening in the community – DW Proposed to put together a Working Group – ALL AGREED. (DW, PE, AH and JEC put themselves forward as the Working Group)

# 10 Bills for Payment and Money Received, Monthly Budget report

To pay vouchers 367-397 RF Proposed – DO Seconded ALL AGREED.

## 11 Repairs on Humphries Way Play Area

To CONSIDER quote from Wicksteed for £967.50 + VAT to replace post on part of the Trim Trail – DW Proposed to accept the quote – JEC Seconded ALL AGREED. Clerk to ask if MPC can keep the old post and ask Wicksteed to check all the other posts on the Trim Trail during installation of the replacement post

#### 12 Funding Request

To CONSIDER request for funding for the Little Library to purchase a second Library from The Phoenix Trust for £300 - JEC Proposed to support this project (from the Community Grant budget) as the library has been a great success – RF Seconded AGREED (AM Abstain). JEC thanked B Munns for getting this project of the ground - echoed by all Councillors.

(Item 17 Discussed next - County Councillor Report)

#### 13 Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan

To **CONSIDER** views on the Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan. Link: <a href="www.scambs.gov.uk/WaterbeachNP">www.scambs.gov.uk/WaterbeachNP</a> - MPC has no views

(AB left 8:12pm – J Rippeth (District Councillor arrived))

- 14 The Network Rail Cambridge Resignalling, Relock and Recontrol Transport and Works Act Order To CONSIDER views on the consultation on planned works to upgrade the signalling system Link: <a href="www.networkrail.co.uk/cambridge-resignalling">www.networkrail.co.uk/cambridge-resignalling</a> MPC AGREED views to be submitted: 1. Concern that there is insufficient detail on the land use and position of the permanent access. 2. Attention should be given to the preservation of the ancient hedgerows.
- 15 SCDC Greater Cambridge Housing Strategy Consultation of new Housing Policies relating to Build to Rent

To **CONSIDER** comments on the draft policies. Link: <u>Consultation on new housing policies relating to Build to Rent, Clustering and Distribution of Affordable Housing and Affordable Rent Setting. - South Cambs District Council (scambs.gov.uk) **MPC Has No Comment**</u>

16 Milton Community Centre March 2021 Report

Very little to report this month as, understandably, things have been quiet doing lockdown.

COVID vaccinations continue, although these are on a very intermittent basis, which is all down to the supply of the vaccine. There were no vaccinations during the week commencing Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February, there are vaccinations on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> February and we are waiting to hear as regards the week commencing Monday 1<sup>st</sup> March.

Andy West was the successful applicant for the role of Community Centre Manager. He will start on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March and will work alongside myself for a short period to ensure a smooth handover.

- 17 County Councillor March 2021 Report (Full report on webpage as Appendix 1 on March 2021 Minutes)
  Report Emailed to Councillors Headings as follows: Council Tax, Flooding, Highways, GCP Financial Investment Strategy Active Travel Study (WSP), Covid Update, Vaccinations, Education, Deputy Leader of the Council has resigned.
- 18 District Councillor's March 2021 Report (Anna Bradnam, Hazel Smith and Judith Rippeth)
  Covid-19: There are now six rapid testing centres up and running across the county. The two closest ones are at The Hub, High Street, Cambourne, CB23 6GW and at The Meadows Community Centre, 1 St Catherine's Rd, Arbury, Cambridge CB4 3XJ. Residents who are keyworkers, those who need to leave the home to carry out their job, in training or volunteering, and most importantly are asymptomatic are being encouraged to get tested twice weekly to check they are not unknowingly infected with Covid-19. To book a test go online at <a href="https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/rapidtesting">www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/rapidtesting</a>

Criteria and information on how to apply for financial support grants of up to £500 for those who will lose income through self-isolation can be found at <a href="https://www.scambs.gov.uk/isolation">www.scambs.gov.uk/isolation</a>. The financial support on offer includes help for people who have lost income due to needing to care for someone who is self-isolating.

Free PPE is now available for carers to a relative until the end of June 2021. To check eligibility, carers need to email <a href="mailto:ppe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">ppe@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a> and will receive a quick order form to complete and return. If successful, the closest hub from which applicants can collect is in Trumpington. More details on available locations will be sent on receipt of order forms.

An additional 1.7 million UK residents have been added to the Clinically Extremely Vulnerable list. The change follows new research that has shown that when you combine factors such as age, ethnicity, medical conditions and body mass index some more people have a greater level of risk from the virus. The newly added people to the CEV list will be prioritised for the vaccine as they will be part of cohort 4 who have in the main now already received their first dose of the vaccine. They should receive an invitation within the next few weeks. The date for CEV people to shield has also been extended from 21 Feb to 31 March (for the existing and new CEV categories.)

A Community Chest Grant scheme has awarded Waterbeach Military Heritage Museum the maximum grant of £1000 to assist this volunteer run organisation with the purchase of a laptop and industry standard museum record keeping software. This will enable them to move over to a digital system for recording the details of each of the museum's artefacts. Not only will this improve the visitor experience by enabling the updating of displays and

increase security, it will also aid the museum with making larger grant applications from other grant giving bodies in the future.

**Council APMs** – all local council organisations are lobbying the government to extend the legal framework allowing them to hold council meetings online, which is due to expire on 7<sup>th</sup> May. While some are thinking about holding their Annual Parish Meetings/APCMs in April to get around this, most are confident that the government will make an announcement soon, as it would be irresponsible not to do so.

The OxCam Arc Non-Statutory Spatial Framework is highlighted as a document, alongside our Local Plan, which will have great influence in the way this area develops. The MHCLG officers who are promoting the Arc will be drawing it up, and the timescale we have seen has a very short timeline – it would be given significant weight in planning decisions by late 2022. Watch out for more news of this.

**Network Rail** have told us they are planning major upgrades of old equipment at both the Station Road, Waterbeach crossing and Fen Road, Milton. These will involve safety improvements, replacing the current half-barriers with full width barriers, installing radar for obstacle detection, and changing the signalling. They will require slightly more land to site their new equipment on at Milton, and there is a consultation from 1st March to 11th April. The work will be done in 2023-24 and will involve closing each crossing substantially for 4 days (possibly with pedestrian access only during the closures).

The **WSP consultants report** to the Greater Cambridge Partnership has caused some consternation locally. This is about cycle routes to join up commuter travel corridors and encourage more people to cycle to work. The initial analysis brings Milton High Street and Butt Lane in as a 3rd-ranking priority (ie high), while the school route Impington to Milton comes in near the bottom of their list. In our view this is wrong. Our representatives on the GCP Assembly are aware of the proposals and will scrutinise it carefully.

The **North East Cambridge Community Forum** on 10<sup>th</sup> March will be the first in a new series of meetings now that the AAP is through its consultation phase.

#### (JR left 8:28pm)

(DW proposed to suspend the Standing Order limiting meeting time and continue to 9pm – ALL AGREED)

#### 19 Correspondence - Milton

Email received: Litter around the Village – what can be done - Litter pick organised by AB will resume when regulations allow MPC to do so.

Email received: Land under the A10 footbridge – Litter and neglect of the area – Fly tipping has been reported to SCDC. Clerk to ask the County Council to clear rubbish further back in the field and under the footbridge. Horse field – illegal fly tipping on private land to be reported to SCDC and the County Council (Minerals and Waste). Concerns the horses could eat some of the dumped rubbish. Clerk to report back at future meeting on progress.

The Connections Bus Project – Update letter. Clerk to ask for update on restart of building/bus based services given recent publication of the Government roadmap, and request further details on the new venture proposals **General: Copies on request** 

Cambridgeshire County Council - IHMC Incident Report January 2021

20	<b>Dates</b>	of	next	mee	tinas

Monday 15 March 2021 – Planning 7pm – Maintenance 7:45pm Wednesday 7 April 2021 – Community Care 11:30am Monday 12 April 2021 – Parish Council 7pm

Meeting closed at 9:01pm	Signed:	Date:
Meeting closed at 9:01pm	Signed:	Date:

#### Appendix 1

**Council Tax:** The annual budget setting meeting of the County Council on 9th February decided the budget changes and the council tax increase for the coming financial year 2021/22. The pattern is that opposition groups propose alternative budgets which are not accepted and the majority group's budget inevitably wins the final vote. It is, however, an occasion for airing different views and for speeches as the leading group's Committee chairs have the opportunity to report on what a great job they have been doing.

The Council plan to spend £29.7 million on highways over the budget period (£6 million/yr), £20 million of footpath maintenance (£4 mill/year), £2.73 mill on flood attenuation (£0.5 mill/yr) and just under £7million on improvements to the B1050 (between Willingham, Earith and Chatteris – which is falling apart).

There were lots of congratulations and rightly many thanks to CCC staff for their resilience in the Covid crisis.

The scope for radical new ideas is very limited as most of the CCC budget is already committed to essential statutory services such as adult social care, children in care as well as highway maintenance.

This year's budgetary process has been overshadowed, inevitably, by the Covid pandemic which has required much flexibility from council employees, with extra costs, partially offset by extra grants from central government.

The County element of Council Tax will increase will be 1.99% for general expenditure and 1% for Adult Social care so the County Council component of your tax bill for next year will be:

Housing Band	Ratio	Amount £
A	6/9	933.18
В	7/9	1,088.71
Č	8/9	1,244.24
Ď	9/9	1,399.77
Ē	11/9	1,710.83
F	13/9	2,021.89
G	15/9	2,332.95
H	18/9	2,799.54

For people living in the Band D benchmark house, the increase amounts to £40.59 per year, or £3.38 per month. County council tax accounts for 70% of our overall council tax bill, the rest being levied by Fire, Police, District Council and Parish Council.

The new investments for the coming year are an extra £4 million on Footpaths and Pavements, £170k on saving the B1050 (between Willingham, Earith and Chatteris, which is in danger of collapsing) and £1 million on flood attenuation and biodiversity. Funding will be transferred from reserves to balance the budget.

The **Liberal Democrat** alternative for 21-22 (1.99% **plus 1.5% for Adult Social Care**) would have added an additional monthly charge of £0.57p for a Band D household, above the Conservative proposal. The Lib Dem improvement schemes included £600k for Community Support Hubs, £200k for Green apprenticeships and small businesses to enable business recovery after Covid, £40k for Junior Travel Ambassadors and capital investment in energy-saving measures, road improvement and enhancing and increasing biodiversity, with a revenue implication of £51k. In addition we proposed to save £105k by streamlining council committees and reducing the Special Responsibility Allowances for councillors.

The **Labour** alternative was for a 2% rise for Adult Social Care and 1% for general expenditure with a withdrawal of £13M from the Transformation Fund, and spending of £700k on the Innovate and Cultivate Fund, £4,393k on a Covid Recovery Fund, £100k on the Bikeability Scheme, £1m contingency fund for help with return to school and £300k extra investment in adult social care. Plus £7k to ensure that all CCC employees receive as a minimum the 'Real Living Wage'.

Flooding: The County Council is the Lead Flood Authority for Cambridgeshire and has been extremely busy since Christmas. Quinton Carroll is Joint Interim Assistant Director, Environment & Commercial Services. His most recent update on flooding was issued on 22 February, which I copy here in full:

- The number of reports we are receiving related to the flooding in December and January is slowing now so we are hopeful we have captured most of the information. The total number of flood reports received by the Flood Risk team now stands at 760. This includes both internal and external (garden/highway) flooding. Where reports relate to highway related issues, we have forwarded them on directly to highways.
- We have attended 12 community flood meetings (Godmanchester, St Ives, St Neots, The Offords, Brampton, Houghton/Hemingfords, Ramsey, Alconbury, March, Swavesey, Broughton, Buckden) to discuss the recent flooding and identify any required actions

- We held an extraordinary meeting of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Flood and Water Partnership on 3 February 2021 and the next meeting is scheduled for 2 March 2021.
- We have commenced discussions with the Environment Agency regarding the best way to start setting up
  flood groups and writing flood plans. We are aware that communities across the county are at different stages
  e.g. some already have groups, some have started but stalled and others don't have anything. We will
  therefore be adapting the approach accordingly and this local engagement will be a key part of our plans
  moving forwards.
- The formal flood investigations are in their early stages and we are currently recruiting additional resource to enable us to deliver these effectively and efficiently
- Anglian Water have offered to meet to discuss the issues around new development and planning responses
- Thanks to the information provided by residents and members we have developed a database of locations
  where we understand additional watercourse maintenance is required. We plan to write to all relevant
  landowners in the coming weeks to remind them of their riparian responsibilities and we will assess as to the
  appropriateness and extent of any enforcement action
- We would like to thank all members that have continued to send through details of flooding that has occurred and we would request you continue to make us aware of any flood related issues in your area

Our intention is to provide regular updates like this to you over the next few weeks, either weekly or fortnightly depending on what has progressed. However please contact us on <a href="mailto:floodandwater@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">floodandwater@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a> if you have any other questions.

**Flooding in Landbeach:** I have visited residents of Waterbeach Road and Ely Road, Landbeach who suffered from flooding in their rear gardens and disruption to their sewerage services at Christmas, which is ongoing. The water table remains very high. On the Environment Agency mapping at <a href="https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/risk">https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/risk several gardens in this area are identified as being liable to flood from surface water.</a>

The Chairman of the Waterbeach Level Internal Drainage Board has advised me that "between September and November 2020 the Ouse catchment had had 154% of its normal long term average rainfall and was already very saturated. The Environment Agency estimate that on  $23^{rd}/24^{th}$  December 2020 the equivalent of about 62 Wembley Stadium's full of rainfall fell. It was the wettest Dec/Jan on record. The sheer volume of water was hard to accommodate in rivers, channels and ditches, even where flood flows are not limited by bridges. The Great Ouse catchment also has its challenges in terms of conveyance because of its topography. It is very flat, so flows are slow and water takes a long time to 'get away'. In addition it is affected by tidal flow right up to between Earith and St Ives."

Locally in the Old West Level, water drains north in a series of ditches which zig zag north westwards towards and beside Green End and then across to the Beach Ditch which runs toward the A10 at Chittering and then north-westwards again until it joins the Engine Drove (a ditch) which the Chear Fen Engine pumps into the River Great Ouse, which crosses under the A10 near the Lazy Otter. From here the River Great Ouse flows north eastwards and joins the River Cam east of Stretham and then northwards through Ely and towards the main control sluices at Denver.

Drainage in the Fens is obviously complicated and the IDB recognises that(my underline), "if we increase pump capacity, we will only push flooding further downstream. We need to increase our capacity <u>and willingness to hold water in the catchment in which it falls</u>, along with more pumping capacity. In some places we may need to accept flooding of land to protect other areas" i.e. dwellings.

It is reassuring that the Lead Local Flood Authority is undertaking to write to all relevant landowners in the coming weeks to remind them of their riparian responsibilities and assess the appropriateness and extent of any enforcement action.

The A10 acts as a divider between the Old West Level and the Waterbeach Level, so properties living alongside the A10 also are subject to water draining off the road, which should be intercepted by gullies but many of these are blocked, despite requests to clean them. Longstanding problems in the centre of Landbeach, where water floods across the crossroads (instead of under), into the sewage pumping station and onto the meadow continue to cause concern. I've just heard from the Local Highway Officer that a job has been raised to clear the gullies along Waterbeach Road and at the crossroads. I'll let you know as soon as the work is scheduled.

Even understanding this, it is concerning that the water level has not started to drop until the last week in February. There are concerns that land-raising on a local development may have contributed to the problem. I am seeking advice from the **Local Planning Authority** on this. Meantime I have asked **Anglian Water** to advise me on how their pumping stations area functioning and explain what actions they are taking to improve the situation for residents. Anglian Water have just advised me they send me their drain network mapping for the area around the crossroads pumping station and for the Cardyke Road pumping station (shortcode WTBPSP)

Flooding in Chittering: I have also visited residents in School Lane Chittering, whose private septic tanks have been struggling with the high water table. I've also attended while a local farmer pumped water from the overflowing ditch beside the A10, across fields in an irrigation pipe to the Upper Mill Drain to the east. All this to save residents at Denny Lodge Cottages from being flooded in January. This risk seemed to come from water draining off the A10 into a ditch that did not seem to go anywhere, which overflowed.

#### **Highways**

Milton - Pop-up cycle lanes

I've finally received a response to the questions I originally asked in June 2020 and asked again in January 2021:

From: Bradnam Anna Cllr < Anna Bradnam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk >

Sent: 28 January 2021 20:47

Subject: RE: Milton - Pop-up cycle lanes

Dear ...

Since the pop-up cycle lanes were installed without prior warning or consultation on 22 May 2020, we understood that the first six months was to be the consultation period.

I was asked by the parish council to convey their request to you that the southbound lane should be removed. That was the content of my email in June 2020.

The reason the parish requested removal of the southbound cycle lane is because it makes Cambridge Road too narrow for two cars to pass without one having to divert into one of the cycle lanes on either side of the road. The northbound lane has a solid white line — which drivers must not cross but the southbound is marked with a dashed line, which drivers must not cross unless it is unavoidable. However drivers are reluctant to cross either solid or dotted white line, which has the effect of causing last minute confrontations between cars and a final give-way into an arbitrarily chosen cycle lane, often at the last minute, sometimes without checking if there is a cyclist in it.

The parish council feels it is dangerous, which is why, when the northbound cycle lane was installed, many years ago, the parish council opted for southbound cyclists to have a marked lane on the pavement.

When the parish council asked me again at their January meeting if the southbound cycle lane could be removed, I told them that I had been advised that there was at that time no funding available to remove the cycle lane line. Also that if the dotted line was regularly driven over, it was likely to fade in time.

The parish council asked for further clarification:

- 1) Please could you tell me if the Council will remove the southbound discretionary cycle lane, as requested by the parish council?
- 2) Could you provide a copy of the feedback you have received about the pop-up cycle lane since it was installed?
- 3) Please would you confirm what happens when the Experimental TRO expires after 18 months (November 2021)?

#### Kind regards

Anna

After a lot of passing from one person to another, I received a reply from Brian Stinton:

My comments are below in italics

From: Stinton Brian

Sent: 24 February 2021 16:26

To: Bradnam Anna Cllr < Anna. Bradnam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk >

Subject: RE: Milton - Pop-up cycle lanes

Dear Cllr Bradnam,

Apologies for the delay in responding to you. The ongoing revision of a few of the trials from Tranche 1 of the programme has inevitably rolled forward into tranche 2, impacting on the funding available. I have been pulling together any on-going requirements in order to get a clearer idea of the funding requirements for tranche 2. We are now in a position to confirm that the marking can be removed, so providing you support the PC's request we will put this in hand. (1)

There has been limited response, (2) with a total of 8 emails regarding schemes at Milton, none of which I can find that comment directly on the southbound cycle lane

In your message you refer to the experimental order, but I cannot find reference to such an order (no order is needed for the advisory lane). Are you able clarify please? (3)

I am happy to discuss further if you wish to call.

Kind regards Brian Stinton

- (1) I note that the request that met with universal support from the village was the request for a 20 mph limit on High Street/Cambridge Road. You will remember that the Highways Engineer ran a speed box survey which indicated that the ambient speed was too high to warrant the installation of a 20 mph zone. (Zones rarely work unless engineering works or physical features have reduced the ambient speed such that the zone speed is no less than 85% of the ambient speed.) One effect of the discretionary southbound cycle lane has been, now that drivers know the cycle lanes are on both sides of the road, they are tending to drive more slowly through the village because they are aware of the narrowing of the road. It occurs to me that this lower ambient speed may in turn justify the request for a 20 mph zone in due course. Although I did not welcome the peremptory introduction of the discretionary cycle lane, I do feel that it may have had the effect of slowing traffic down. It may be in the village interest to maintain the cycle lane, as a precursor to asking again for a 20 mph zone. I think if the parish maintains its request to remove the discretionary lane, it may weigh against a subsequent request for a 20 mph zone for the same reason as now that the ambient speed of traffic will be too fast. I'm not sure about this but you may wish to consider.
- Please would the parish consider this aspect in its consideration? You may wish to put this on a later agenda.
  - (2) I am not aware of any public consultation having been advertised to the residents of Milton. How would they have known to respond?
  - (3) I have sent him the link to Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders on the County website which are the guidelines under which the work was done in Milton in May 2020

#### GCP Financial Investment Strategy - Active Travel Study (WSP)

From: Bradnam Anna Cllr Sent: 23 February 2021 00:03

To: Hughes Graham, Paul van den Bulk

Subject: FW: GCP FIS - Active Travel Study - 210210-1.pdf

Dear Paul and Graham

Milton Parish Council has not been consulted about either of the plans involving Milton. Equally why has a modal filter been proposed for Butt Lane between Milton and Impington, when this is the only alternative route if this section of the A14 is closed?

It is completely unreasonable to dream up and score projects for villages without involving them in considerations.

Please can you advise me when you will be consulting with parish councils?

Kind regards Anna

-0-

Covid Update from Dr Liz Robin Director of Public Health - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

In the past week we have continued to see a reduction in Covid-19 rates with some areas across Cambridgeshire County now showing infection levels well below 100 cases per 100,000. Rates across the whole patch are reducing, but they remain very high in Fenland where the reduction is slower. We continue to work hard with the District Council and other partners in Fenland to prevent and reduce the spread of the virus.

Although our rates are moving in the right direction, they are still much higher than last summer so it is essential that people continue to follow the lockdown rules for now, as we prepare to implement the Government's Roadmap for Covid-19 Response, published on Monday.. The number of patients with Covid-19 in our hospitals is reducing but still significant, and sadly we are still seeing deaths from Covid although these continue to fall in number.

At the time of writing, the rate of Covid-19 cases in Cambridgeshire is 98 cases per 100,000 population, for the week ending 20th February, which is a 20% reduction on the previous week.

You can view the latest case rates for Cambridgeshire on a daily basis using the Government data website. You can access the website here - <a href="https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/cases?areaType=utla&areaName=Cambridgeshire">https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/details/cases?areaType=utla&areaName=Cambridgeshire</a> This week we have continued to support the CCG with the roll-out of the vaccination programme. The NHS are now publishing the numbers of people vaccinated in each lower tier (district or city) local authority area, which is available on Statistics » COVID-19 Vaccinations (england.nhs.uk)

Across the whole of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Sustainable Transformation partnership, nearly 230,000 people (based on data up to 21st February 2021) have received at least one dose of vaccine, with thousands more joining the list each week.

We continue to encourage people to accept the vaccine when they are offered one, which is critical to ensuring we get as many people across the county vaccinated against Covid-19 as possible. If you are able to, please help us to share these important messages. I have attached a toolkit containing messages that you can use on your own social media channels and forums.

In addition, I understand that a few of you have received questions from residents asking how they can vary their vaccination appointment once booked.

The National Booking Service allows people to manage their appointments via the main booking page if people want to reschedule or cancel their appointment. For those who have booked via 119, they can call 119 to reschedule or cancel as well. Rescheduling will be subject to availability at the local site. People are also asked to reschedule or cancel as early as possible to enable the slot to be offered to someone else in good time. Details of the CCG's national vaccination programme and some useful Q&As can be found here: COVID-19 national vaccination programme | Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group

#### (cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk)

In other news, the local Community Rapid Testing programme, using lateral flow tests (LFTs), continues to attract good numbers. Please, continue to encourage people aged 18 and over who are key workers or are having to leave home regularly for work, volunteering or training, to access the tests. A good number of businesses have also signed up to take part in workplace testing, but again please let us know of businesses which may be interested in testing on site.

In the coming weeks, we will be looking to offer pop-up testing at different sites across the county, so that we can take the tests to where we know people want to access them. I will be able to tell you more about this soon.

With rates of Covid-19 still well above the levels last summer, high, our Surveillance Cell, Outbreak Management Team, Contact Tracing Service, and the range of support available for more vulnerable people who are self isolating, all remain busy. We continue to work actively with District and City Council Covid-19 Gold teams on prevention and rapid response.

Our Education Team is now working flat out with schools to make sure they are ready for all children to return to the classroom announced as part of the national Roadmap. In secondary schools, all children will be required to wear face coverings whilst at school and have a rapid test twice a week.

Our communications team continues to use a range of tools and techniques to convey the important public health messages.

In the past week, our communications team, working with public health staff and directorates across the council, has:

- Produced an interim toolkit to help promote the new national assets linked to the roll out of the Prime Minister's Road Map announced on Monday, 22 Feb and issued a video blog from Councillor Count.
- Set up interviews with Jon Lewis to react to the news that all schools will re-open.
- Released our fourth #StandFirm film released featuring Kevin Delaney IT trainer for Cambridgeshire County
  Council, who was so ill with COVID that he slept in an armchair for seven weeks because he was afraid to go
  to bed. See the film <a href="here">here</a>.
- Publicised the news that more councillors have joined the list of those who have said yes to their Covid jab.
- Produced information about preparations being made for covid safe elections in Cambridgeshire.
- Worked with the CCG on vaccine comms encouraging uptake of the vaccine across priority groups.
- Created a video which explains the importance of rapid testing and takes someone through the process.
   Finishing touches being made so that we can start publicising from next week.

As usual, we are sharing messages with the public about all of this and more. Please support us by sharing information with your family, friends and people in your ward. By doing so, you will be helping to reduce the spread of

the virus. We post information on our social media channels daily and there is a wealth of information that can be shared at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Together we can continue to reduce rates of Coronavirus in Cambridgeshire.

**Vaccinations:** The roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccination programme is well underway in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. We have already vaccinated over 215,000 people (based on data up to 14 February 2021), with thousands more being vaccinated each week. Find out more about the COVID-19 vaccination programme in our area: <a href="https://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme/">https://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-national-vaccination-programme/</a>

If you're aged 64 or over, Clinically Extremely Vulnerable, or eligible for Carer's Allowance you can now book your COVID-19 vaccination online here: <a href="https://nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/">https://nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/</a>

Ring 119 to book if you don't use the internet.

If you have family or friends who are in a priority group for the #COVID19 vaccination, you can help them by:

- encouraging them to book their appointment
- planning their visit to a vaccination site
- sharing official advice from the NHS

More here: <a href="https://nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/">https://nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/</a>
If you have recently been added to the Shielded Patient List, the NHS will contact you to offer you the vaccine as soon as appointments become available. Visit <a href="https://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-patients-added-to-shielded-patient-list/">https://www.cambridgeshireandpeterboroughccg.nhs.uk/news-and-events/latest-news/covid-19-vaccine-information-for-patients-added-to-shielded-patient-list/</a>
to find out more.

Education: A recent report from Jonathan Lewis, Service Director for Education advised:

The second half of the spring term commenced this week and on Monday the Prime Minister announced the plans for reopening fully schools from the 8<sup>th</sup> March. Overall confirmed cases this week relating to children and staff who have been in schools and early years setting continue to fall and have reduced from 81 last week (15-21 Feb) to 59 (w/c 22 Feb). Forty three schools and early years' settings in Cambridgeshire were reported to have confirmed cases in the week until the end of Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February, none of which were in the Waterbeach Division.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> February, guidance was released on the reopening of schools. There have been a number of further updates and guidance since this time.

The <u>guidance released</u> is similar to previous advice we have received especially when education fully restarted in September. Key areas such as preventative measures including bubbles remain the same. The key headlines are –

Opening - Primary schools will open fully to all pupils in the 8<sup>th</sup> March. Secondary and special schools will flexibly open during the week commencing the 8<sup>th</sup> March to allow pupils to be tested. All pupils will be in education full time from the 15<sup>th</sup> March.

<u>Face Covering</u> – In Secondary schools, pupils and staff will wear face coverings in classrooms where social distancing cannot be maintained. This will be reviewed at Easter. Primary school staff will wear face coverings in school where they cannot social distance from other adults.

<u>Testing</u> – In secondary schools, all pupils will be tested 3 times, 3 to 5 days between tests, in school using a lateral flow test. Testing is voluntary but if a child has consent to be tested, they can only remain in school after their first test. Children not attending can attend when the other pupils attend. Testing will take some time and a staggered start will be required during the first week. After pupils have undertaken 3 tests in schools, they will be given 2 home based tests a week and will be required to report the findings to schools. Staff will also be given these test. Primary schools continue to have home tests for staff.

Attendance – this is mandatory and schools are advised to follow processes including legal action in the case of non-attendance. Our advice has been to work with parents to get pupils into school and work in the 3 weeks before Easter to build trust and confidence in the protective measures in place. Our focus will be on getting vulnerable pupils to attend and to follow up where pupils are persistent non-attenders.

<u>Critically vulnerable children</u> – the advice remains that these children should not attend until shielding is lifted on the 31<sup>st</sup> March. We have advised school only to consider children returning where there is a risks in remaining at home or mental health challenges. In these cases a full risk assessment will need to be undertaken.

<u>Critically vulnerable staff</u> – the guidance recommends the staff work from home. Where staff wish to attend, a risk assessment is required. It is likely that a shortfall in staff will mean some compromise in terms of educational delivery. Schools have been asked to consider redeployment or supply

<u>Educational visits</u> – The advice continues to remain that schools cannot undertake day trips or residential visits. This will be reviewed in June.

<u>Wraparound provision and extra-curricular activity</u> - schools should resume all your before and after-school educational activities and wraparound childcare for your pupils, where this provision is necessary to support parents to work, attend education and access medical care, and to support pupil's wider education and training. The financial viability of this sector is under significant pressure.

Examinations –The government have released its intention for KS4 and KS5 examination outcomes for 2021 – the press release outlines a summary of the consultation. Teacher assessments will be used including the optional use of questions provided by exam boards, as well as mock exams, coursework, or other work completed as part of a pupil's course, such as essays or in-class tests. Results days for GCSE, A level and some vocational qualifications will take place in the week of 9 August – moved forward from the week of the 23 August. These earlier dates provide additional time for appeals to be completed, so students reliant on those outcomes to achieve their university offer have the best chance of accessing a place. Exam boards will conduct their own checks, through a combination of random sampling and more targeted scrutiny where they identify cause for concern.

Catch up Premium - the government have announced three new strands of funding -

£302 million Recovery Premium for state primary and secondary schools, building on the Pupil Premium, to further support pupils who need it most. The average primary school will receive around £6,000 extra, and the average secondary school around £22,000 extra.

£200 to expand tutoring programmes made up of £83 million expansion of the National Tutoring Programme for primary and secondary schools, a £102 million extension of the 16-19 Tuition Fund for a further year to support more students in English, maths and other vocational and academic subjects and £18 million funding to support language development in the early years.

£200 million will be available to secondary schools to deliver face-to-face summer schools. Schools will be able to target provision based on pupils' needs but the government is suggesting they may want to initially target incoming year 7 pupils. This is alongside wider support funded through our Holiday Activities and Food Programme across the country.

We will be writing to parents next week to outline how schools will open, set expectations over schooling and remind them to abide by the lockdown rules including outside school and at home.

We have developed an attendance tool for schools to allow them to compare overall attendance against other schools in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. This will support schools in dialogue with Ofsted. Ofsted inspection during the period have been reduced to 1 day and will be suspended for the week of the 8<sup>th</sup> March. Full onsite inspections are expected to recommence in the summer term.

A briefing was held for schools on Wednesday and 430 school staff attended. In this meeting, the LA gave its interpretation of the government guidance. We have also to meet with trade unions to outline the LA advice on reopening.

We are hoping there will be no further changes to allow our school leaders to prepare for the 8th March.

#### Deputy Leader of the Council has resigned

The Deputy Leader of the County Council, Cllr Roger Hickford has resigned ahead of a report to the Audit and Accounts Committee on 5 March.

# Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 15 March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom on-line

Present: R Farrington (Chair), D Wildman (DW) (Ex-offico), D Owen (DO), H Smith (HMS), J Coston

(JEC), P Ellwood (PE)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), J Barrett (Assistant Clerk)

## 1 Apologies for absence

None - Full Committee

2 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 February 2021 RF Proposed to accept the Minutes of the meeting on Monday 15 February as a true record ALL AGREED.

3 Declarations of interest and dispensation

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: DO – Item 6 (1 Butt Lane), HMS – Item 6 (26 Fen Road)

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate; None

- 4 Public Participation members of the public are invited to speak No public attended.
- 5 Decisions Received:

None received

#### 6 New

**21/00334/OUT** – 1 Butt Lane, Milton CB24 6DG – Outline planning for the demolition of the existing bungalow and replacement with 5 no. two storey dwelling houses with off street parking with all matters reserved. **OBJECT:** 

- 1. Overdevelopment of site
- 2. Concerns over the location of the allocated parking spaces backing in or driving out straight onto Butt Lane which is situated very close to the High Street junction and corner into Butt Lane.
- 3. Concerns of overall height of the proposed buildings at 9.3 metres heigh would cause overshadowing to 1a Butt Lane.
- 4. There is no access to the rear of plots 2, 3 and 4.
- 5. Plot 5 is forward of the building line protruding towards the road
- No designated bin store.
- 7. Adding extra traffic to an already busy road Primary School entrance is via Butt Lane.

21/00561/FUL - 26 Fen Road, Milton CB24 6AD - Single storey 1 bedroom dwelling house OBJECT:

- 1. The proposed building goes right up to (and beyond) the current boundary hedge line which would impair the view of Coles House and be further forward than anywhere else in the street scene
- 2. Access to front door is via a narrow path
- 3. Preserve existing tree Tree has not been drawn in correct location on the proposed plans Is there plans to add a "no dig" to the foundations to avoid damage to the roots
- 4. Concerns of damage to Important culvert under proposed location
- 5. Impact on sighting of a listed building
- 6. Concerns of front hedge removal and relocation of the parking spaces to the front of the

#### original flats - backing in and out onto a busy village road

7. Not within keeping of the street scene

**21/00426/HFUL** – 14 Froment Way, Milton – Loft conversion, raising of ridge and providing a dormer with Juliette balcony to the rear and roof light and solar panels to the front **OBJECT**:

- 1. Overdevelopment of property
- 2. Overlooking properties on Burling Walk and Froment Way
- 3. Lack of parking space for a 4 bedroom house (currently 1 space)

21/00243/HFUL - 169 The Rowans, Milton CB24 6YZ - First floor rear and side extension OBJECT:

- 1. Overbearing in development style
- 2. Overbearing to property of 167 The Sycamores
- 3. Concerns of the size of the proposed blank side wall
- 4. Not within keeping of the street scene
- 7 Dates of next meeting
   Monday 29 March 2021 (Additional meeting)
   Monday 19 April 2021

Meeting closed at 7:56pm	Signed:	Date:

# Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 29 March 2021 at 7pm via Zoom on-line

Present: R Farrington (Chair), D Wildman (DW) (Ex-offico), D Owen (DO), H Smith (HMS), P Ellwood

(PE)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), J Barrett (Assistant Clerk)

1 Apologies for absence

None received

2 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 March 2021 RF Proposed to accept the Minutes of the meeting on Monday 15 March as a true record ALL AGREED.

3 Declarations of interest and dispensation

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: None To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate; None

- 4 Public Participation members of the public are invited to speak No public attended.
- 5 Decisions Received: None received
- S/1320/16/CONDA 26 Butt Lane, Milton CB24 6DG Submission of details required by conditions 3 (Traffic Management Plan) and 4 (Archaeology) of planning permission S/130/16/FL FOR INFORMATION ONLY. Comments: Under the Traffic Management notes on the Traffic Management Plan it says "no construction machinery or plant shall be operated between the hours of 0800-1800 Monday to Friday, 0800-1300 Saturdays and not at any time on Sunday or Bank or Public holidays" should the "no" be removed as construction machinery will be used during these times? Can cones be placed on the opposite side of the road to the entrance to stop cars parking opposite the site entrance?

S/4824/18/COND3 – Land North West of Sunningdale Park, Chesterton Fen Road, Milton – Submission of details required by condition 3 (External Materials) of planning permission S/4824/18/VC FOR INFORMATION ONLY S/4824/18/COND27 – Submission of details required by condition 27 (Car Park Management plan) of planning permission S/4824/18/VC FOR INFORMATION ONLY S/4824/18/COND31 – Submission of details required by condition 31 (Details of the boilers) of planning permission S/4824/18/VC FOR INFORMATION ONLY

S/4824/18/COND38 – Submission of details required by condition 38 (Detailed design for the foul pump and cavity drainage scheme for the basement) of planning permission S/4824/18/VC FOR

INFORMATION ONLY

**20/03183/NMA1** – 70 The Rowans, Milton CB24 6YU – Non material amendments to ref: 20/03183/HFUL (proposed 2 storey front extension, replacement front porch and side extension (above existing garage)) to omit the ground floor side elevation window and to change ground floor window on front elevation to provide 2 no. smaller windows **FOR INFORMATION ONLY** 

21/00712/ADV – Unit 25 Cambridge Science Park, Milton, Cambridge – Installation of 2 no. externally illuminated signs associated with Unit 25 Bio Innovation Centre HAS NO RECOMMENDATIONS

21/00685/ADV - 216 Cambridge Science Park, Milton, Cambridge - Installation of building mounted

fascia company branded illuminated signage and associated site signage (some illuminated) **HAS NO RECOMMENDATIONS** 

20/02880/HFUL – 25 Butt Lane, Milton CB24 6DG – Amendments: Construction of an outbuilding: Alterations to the front of the proposed outbuilding removing overhang OBJECT: Previous objections still stand (sent 23/09/20): Need further information on application. No service previsions. Need to clarify the fencing proposed in relation to the building – access to rear but there seems to be no rear door. Needs to be ancillary to main dwelling.

21/00674/HFUL – 11 High Street, Milton CB24 6AJ – Single storey rear studio office to the rear HAS NO RECOMMENDATIONS

21/01133/PRI01A – 1 Cambridge Road, Milton CB24 6AW – Ground floor rear extension OBJECTS: Original comments to previous Prior Approval still stands (sent 17/11/20): Extension protrudes rearwards from the back wall of the original property by 6 meters. We believe the existing bathroom is an extension to the original dwelling, therefore the proposed new extension would not fall under permitted development and requires a full planning application. Can this be done under Prior Approval?

7 Dates of next meeting Monday 19 April 2021

Meeting closed at 7:47pm Signed:	Date:

### Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 15 March 2021 at 7:45pm via Zoom on-line (Started at 8pm – Planning meeting over-run)

Present: A Horne (AH)(Chairman), D Wildman (DW), A Markham (AM), JE Coston (JEC)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), J Barrett (Assistant Clerk), P Ellwood (non-voting Councillor), HMS (non-voting Councillor), A Bradnam (non-voting Councillor arrived 8:14pm)

Members of Public: 1

# 1 Apologies for absence

None – Full Committee

#### 2 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 14 December 2020 AH Proposed to accept the Minutes of the meeting of Monday 14 December 2020 as a true record – ALL AGREED

## 3 Declarations of interest and dispensation

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: None To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate; None

# 4 Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak

A member of the Milton Cycling Group attended the meeting to discuss Item 10 – A short talk was given on the possibility of removal of the barriers and to be replaced with bollards allowing easier use of the dual use path by cyclists with cargo bikes, trailers etc

#### 5 Allotments

Update AH/SC: All allotments plots have now been taken. 4 people on the waiting list. Maintenance checks have been carried out and letters sent to relevant tenants regarding maintenance of their plots. Rents due to be reviewed at the June 2021 Maintenance meeting.

#### 6 Allotment Culvert and Access Path Damage Occurred

Update: AH – Erosion damage to the pipe that runs under the allotment entrance has occurred when SCDC were cleaning out the culvert and subsidence to the culvert walls has caused the side/hand barriers to become unstable (now taped for safety measured). SCDC have prepared an outline plan for repair and are preparing costings. To come back to a future Maintenance meeting for budgeting

To **CONSIDER** removal of fallen tree (allotment side) and debris from award drain between the allotments and Farm College **AGREED** – **Clerk to source quote for removal works** 

#### 7 Orchard

AH: Rabbits have caused slight damage to some of the saplings. Bark chip has now been placed around the base of the saplings. Clerk to apply for free tree packs from Woodland Trust when next round opens

#### 8 Cemetery

To CONSIDER updated Cemetery Policy, Clerk's Procedure flow chart, Internment booking form, Memorial application and Cemetery layout plan. AH: Cemetery Policy Items 10.3 h, I, j and I should go under the Item 10 Memorials – general which covers all sections of the Cemetery regarding types of memorials allowed (amended version to go to Full Council for approval). The Clerk's procedure flow chart, internment booking form, memorial application and cemetery layout plan were accepted.

To **CONSIDER** memorial topple test report from R S Memorials and any action required - Clerk update: Clerk has no family contact details for the memorials that require a new concreate base and ground anchor in the old part of the Cemetery. A letter can be attached to the memorials that require maintenance asking a family member to contact the Parish Council, if no contact made the memorial will be laid flat for safety. (This includes the 2 unstable concreate crosses). Clerk will write to family members in the new part of the Cemetery informing them of the outcome of the topple testing with proposed costing of works.

9 Landbeach Road Bus Stop – Extension of tarmac area
To CONSIDER amended quote from GW Shelter Solutions £3,840 + VAT to extend the hard standing
tarmac area to now include retarmac of the current area and reposition the bus shelter DW suggested
that the bus shelter should be located directly opposite where the bus doors would open at the
end of the proposed extended tarmac area. Easier access for disabled/pushchair users. AGREED
– Clerk to ask for updated quotes and check with County Highways the relocation of the bus
shelter is acceptable.

(PE left 8:59pm)

10 Gunnell Close Dual Use Path
To CONSIDER making the barriers wider for use by cargo bikes, child trailers etc or to replace barriers
with bollard – AH Proposed to take this to Full Council for consideration to take the question to
consultation within the village asking: to remove and replace with bollards, widen the barriers or
take no action on the barriers on Gunnell Close – 3 In Favour – 1 Abstain AGREED

(HMS left 9:19pm) (AB left 9:23pm)

- 11 To CONSIDER updated inspection sheets for play areas and open spaces and the allotment and orchard areas AM suggested to add the checking of the grass matting under the foot goals on Humphries Way and Froment Way. AH Proposed to accept the updated inspection sheets ALL AGREED
- 12 Dates of Next Meeting Monday 21 June 2021 - 7:45pm

Meeting closed at 9.37pm Signed: Date:	Meeting closed at 9.37pm	Signed:	Date:
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#### **Highways**

Milton - Pop-up cycle lanes

I've finally receive a response to the questions I originally asked in June 2020 and asked again in January 2021:

From: Bradnam Anna Cllr < Anna. Bradnam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk >

Sent: 28 January 2021 20:47

Subject: RE: Milton - Pop-up cycle lanes

Dear ...

Since the pop-up cycle lanes were installed without prior warning or consultation on 22 May 2020, we understood that the first six months was to be the consultation period.

I was asked by the parish council to convey their request to you that the southbound lane should be removed. That was the content of my email in June 2020.

The reason the parish requested removal of the southbound cycle lane is because it makes Cambridge Road too narrow for two cars to pass without one having to divert into one of the cycle lanes on either side of the road. The northbound lane has a solid white line – which drivers must not cross but the southbound is marked with a dashed line, which drivers must not cross unless it is unavoidable. However drivers are reluctant to cross either solid or dotted white line, which has the effect of causing last minute confrontations between cars and a final give-way into an arbitrarily chosen cycle lane, often at the last minute, sometimes without checking if there is a cyclist in it.

The parish council feels it is dangerous, which is why, when the northbound cycle lane was installed, many years ago, the parish council opted for southbound cyclists to have a marked lane on the pavement.

When the parish council asked me again at their January meeting if the southbound cycle lane could be removed, I told them that I had been advised that there was at that time no funding available to remove the cycle lane line. Also that if the dotted line was regularly driven over, it was likely to fade in time.

The parish council asked for further clarification:

- 1) Please could you tell me if the Council will remove the southbound discretionary cycle lane, as requested by the parish council?
- 2) Could you provide a copy of the feedback you have received about the pop-up cycle lane since it was installed?
- 3) Please would you confirm what happens when the Experimental TRO expires after 18 months (November 2021)?

Kind regards

Anna

After a lot of passing from one person to another, I received a reply from Brian Stinton:

My comments are below in italics

From: Stinton Brian

Sent: 24 February 2021 16:26

To: Bradnam Anna Cllr < Anna. Bradnam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk >

Subject: RE: Milton - Pop-up cycle lanes

Dear Cllr Bradnam,

Apologies for the delay in responding to you. The ongoing revision of a few of the trials from Tranche 1 of the programme has inevitably rolled forward into tranche 2, impacting on the funding available. I have been pulling together any on-going requirements in order to get a clearer idea of the funding requirements for tranche 2. We are now in a position to confirm that the marking can be removed, so providing you support the PC's request we will put this in hand.(1)

There has been limited response, (2) with a total of 8 emails regarding schemes at Milton, none of which I can find that comment directly on the southbound cycle lane

In your message you refer to the experimental order, but I cannot find reference to such an order (no order is needed for the advisory lane). Are you able clarify please? (3)

I am happy to discuss further if you wish to call.

Kind regards Brian Stinton

- (1) I note that the request that met with universal support from the village was the request for a 20 mph limit on High Street/Cambridge Road. You will remember that the Highways Engineer ran a speed box survey which indicated that the ambient speed was too high to warrant the installation of a 20 mph zone. (Zones rarely work unless engineering works or physical features have reduced the ambient speed such that the zone speed is no less than 85% of the ambient speed.) One effect of the discretionary southbound cycle lane has been, now that drivers know the cycle lanes are on both sides of the road, they are tending to drive more slowly through the village because they are aware of the narrowing of the road. It occurs to me that this lower ambient speed may in turn justify the request for a 20 mph zone in due course. Although I did not welcome the peremptory introduction of the discretionary cycle lane, I do feel that it may have had the effect of slowing traffic down. It may be in the village interest to maintain the cycle lane, as a precursor to asking again for a 20 mph zone. I think if the parish maintains its request to remove the discretionary lane, it may weigh against a subsequent request for a 20 mph zone for the same reason as now that the ambient speed of traffic will be too fast. I'm not sure about this but you may wish to consider.
- Please would the parish consider this aspect in its consideration? You may wish to put this on a later agenda.
  - (2) I am not aware of any public consultation having been advertised to the residents of Milton. How would they have known to respond?
  - (3) I have sent him the link to Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders on the County website which are the guidelines under which the work was done in Milton in May 2020

# GCP Financial Investment Strategy - Active Travel Study (WSP)

From: Bradnam Anna Cllr Sent: 23 February 2021 00:03

To: Hughes Graham, Paul van den Bulk

Subject: FW: GCP FIS - Active Travel Study - 210210-1.pdf





Welcome to RSA.

You should read this Schedule in conjunction with your Policy Wording.

These details are a record of the information provided to RSA. It is also essential that you read all of the clauses applying to your Policy as these contain important information that may affect your Policy cover.

**Policy Number:** 

RKL176640/PC/000303

Your Details:

Policyholder:

Milton Parish Council

Correspondence Address:

Milton Parish Council, RFO, Parish Council Offices, Coles Road,

Milton Cambridgeshire, CB24 6BL

**Business Description:** 

Parish Council

Your Intermediary's Details:

Intermediary Name:

Business Services at CAS Ltd

Address:

Brightspace, 160 Hadleigh Road, Ipswich, IP2 0HH

**Your Policy Dates:** 

Period of Insurance: 01/04/2021

To: 31/03/2022

Effective Date: 01/04/2021

Renewal Date: 01/04/2021

Your Premium Information:

Renewal Premium: £969.78

Insurance Premium Tax:

£116.37

**Total Amount Due:** 

£1,086.15

Long Term Agreement Expiry Date:

Reason for Issue: Renewal

Royal & Sun Alliance Insurance plc (No. 93792).



CAPALC
The Norwood Building
Parkhall Road
Somersham
PE28 3HE
www.capalc.org.uk

# Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils

February 2021

#### Dear Council Chairman and Councillors,

Please find enclosed a membership renewal invitation for 2021-2022.

As explained and agreed at the AGM we have increased the fees by an average of 3% to help meet increased costs; the increase is considerably less than the 11% I forecast last year. We have significantly increased the range and amount of training we are providing which has generated extra income. We have also taken steps to improve our efficiency, such as the online course booking, which I hope you will see in improved quality of service and responsiveness.

We have also included a leaflet explaining the range of services provided by CAPALC and the National Association of Local Councils (NALC). We will be changing the passwords for member access to the CAPALC and NALC websites on 1 July 2021. We will advise members of the new passwords on renewal.

NALC works closely with government ministers and civil servants to help shape upcoming legislation for the benefit of local councils and their residents; no other local council support organisation has this direct access to government. In recent years NALC has persuaded the government not to impose capping of precepts and to exempt councils from the requirement to have a data protection officer.

CAPALC also works in partnership with the local branch of the Society of Local Council Clerks and principal authorities on your behalf. We also work with principal authorities to foster good collaboration.

We are continually reviewing the range of training courses, workshops and events to help member councils deal with the opportunities arising from the changing nature of local government. We have adapted to the Covid-19 pandemic by moving all our operations and services online.

I do hope that your council will decide to be in membership of CAPALC for the coming council year.

If your council or councillors need any further information, please contact the office, and a member of staff or the board will be happy to answer any questions.

Yours sincerely,

10 Cm

Henry Clark Chairman



CAPALC

The Norwood Building
Parkhall Road
Somersham
Huntingdon
PE28 3HE

Tel: 07507 520849 www.capalc.org.uk office@capalc.org.uk

# **Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Association of Local Councils**

# **Affiliation Fee Invoice**

For the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

Council Name	Number of Electorates	District
Milton	3,438	South Cambs

Your standard annual membership fee to be paid before 30th April 2021 is:

£794.07

# **Data Protection Officer Membership Scheme**

For the period 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022

Further information about our DPO scheme and other benefits can be found on our 2021/2022 membership flyer.

Optional fee to join the DPO scheme - £50.00

**TOTAL amount including DPO Membership Option:** 

£844.07

Please make your cheque payable to CAPALC Ltd or by BACs Payment details below Sort Code: 60-83-01, Account No: 20410272

# Milton Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

				oli omenio	Description	Supplier VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	ouedne vo	=	5	5.00	1.00	Q00'9
398 Telephone / Broadband	28/02/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Mobile broadband	John Ambulance	94.95	18.99	113.94
	11/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		AED raus Brightnay	Thesaurus Software Ltd S	119.40	23.88	143.28
400 Subscriptions	10/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Ink refill pad	Stamps Direct Ltd S	11.82	2.36	14.18
	17/02/2021		Lloyds Corporate Card	2 6	Zoom	Zoom Video Communications S	11.99	2.40	14.39
402 Office expenses	19/02/2021		Lloyds Corporate Card		Bank Charne	Lloyds Corporate Card E	3.00	0.00	3.00
403 Bank charges	02/03/2021		Lloyds Corporate Card	O	Mohile nhone (Warden)	Tesco Mobile S	11.15	1.59	12.74
404 S137: Warden's Phone	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	2	AED battery	St John Ambulance S	160.00	32.00	192.00
405 Office expenses	03/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	ć	Website hosting	1 and 1 Internet Ltd S	26.97	5.39	32.36
406 Website	09/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	3 6	Website hosting	1 and 1 Internet Ltd S	3.99	0.80	4.79 K
407 Website	08/03/2021		Unity Irust Barik	2	Knee pads	Screwfix S	2.00	0.99	5.99
408 Cleaning and Sundries	11/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Allotment	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	276.78	55.36	332.14
	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Cemetery	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	160.94	32.19	193.13
	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Grass Cutting	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	724.63	144.93	869.56
	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		MC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	991.75	198.35	1,190.10
	e 01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	192.88	38.57	231.45
	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	890.00	178.00	1,068.00
	ce 01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	35.00	7.00	42.00
	se 01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank			Buchans Landscaping & Grou S	35.00	7.00	42.00
	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	C C	Website hosting	1 and 1 Internet Ltd S	6.99	1.40	8.39
	18/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	a	Troop	Town & Country Tree Surger S	180.00	36.00	216.00
	16/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		liees	18	192.00	0.00	192.00
	24/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Salary	B	306.88	0.00	306.88
	24/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Salary		1,078.90	0.00	1,078.90
	24/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Salary		848.13	0.00	848.13
	24/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Salary	s Health Solutions	374.66	0.00	374.66
	over 24/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Agency	British Gas	115.89	5.79	121.68
	23/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	QQ	Drofessional Services	GJK Accountancy Ltd E	150.00	0.00	0.051 Q
	23/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Mobile broadband	BT S	2.00	1.00	<b>₹</b> 00.9
			Unity Trust Bank	QQ	Mobile phone Clerk	Three	11.98	2.40	14.38
			Unity Trust Bank	DD	Maintanance	ESPO	19.65	3.93	23.58
	12/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	ć	Bank Charge	Trust Bank	3.40	0.00	3.407
	18/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	2 4	Pension payment		60.57	0.00	_
	ree) 25/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	2 8	Pension payment	Smart Pension E	60.57	0.00	60.57
	/er) 25/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	8 8	Pension payment	Smart Pension E	58.83	0.00	58.83
432 S137: Warden's Pension (Em			Unity Trust Bank	20	Pension payment	Smart Pension	58.83	0.00	58.83
433 S137: Warden's Pension (Em	n (Em 25/03/2021		Olify 1103 Series					,	
					April 100 March 17			1	of 2

2 of

# Milton Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

Vouche	Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
		26/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank	00	Cemetery Pest Control	Command Pest Control	S	440.00	88.00	228.00
4-	434 Cemetery Maintenance	1202/20/12		Unity Trust Bank		CAPALC memberhsip	CAPALC	ш	794.07	0.00	794.07
4.	435 CAPALC	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Atkins Gregory (The Cleaning	ing S	247.62	49.52	297.14
4	436 MCC cleaning	11/03/2021		Hoity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Atkins Gregory (The Cleaning	ing S	82.14	16.43	98.57
4	437 MCC cleaning	28/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Atkins Gregory (The Cleaning	ing S	17.65	3.53	21.18
4	438 MCC cleaning	01/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		PAYE/NIC	HMRC	ш	474.91	0.00	474.91
4	439 Payroll Clerk	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		PAYE/NIC	HMRC	ш	992.64	0.00	992.64
4	440 S137: Warden Salary	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		PAYE/NIC	HMRC	Ш	216.20	0.00	216.20
4	441 Payroll Highways	31/03/2021		Unity Traist Bank		PAYE/NIC	HMRC	ш	172.80	0.00	172.80
4	442 Payroll Asst Clerk	31/03/2021		Unity Truct Bank		Photocopying	CBS Office Solutions Ltd	S	34.15	6.83	40.98
4	443 Photocopying	31/03/2021		Ullity Hast Balls		Allotment	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	S 10.	276.78	55.36	332.14
4	444 Allotment Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Irust Bank			ouchant Landscaning & Gr	v ē	160 94	32.19	193.13
4	445 Cemetery Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Cemetery	pucifalls Lailuscapiilig & cloc	n (	100.51	144 03	95 0 58
- 4	446 Grass Cutting	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Grass Cutting	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	2 701. 5	724.63	144.95	00.600
г	110 G1833 CGCG113	1000/00/10		Unity Trust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	roc S	991.75	198.35	1,190.10
4	447 MCC grounds maintenance	31/03/2021		Hoiby Truct Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	roc S	192.88	38.57	231.45
4	448 MCC-NLP grass cutting	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Allotment	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	rol S	297.00	59.40	356.40
3;	449 Allotment Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Hust Bank		Cemetery	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	rol S	136.00	27.20	163.20
Ψ.	450 Cemetery Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Barin		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	ror S	184.00	36.80	220.80
N.	451 MCC grounds maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Irust Bank		MCC Grant Paid	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	ror S	169.50	33.90	203.40
7	452 MCC grounds maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity If ust ballik		Shrib clearing	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	roc S	136.00	27.20	163.20
7	453 Shrub Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Balik		Shrib clearing	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	irol. S	289.00	57.80	346.80
7	454 Cemetery Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity I rust Bank		Grand district	Buchans Landscaping & Grou	irot. S	144.00	28.80	172.80
7	455 Cemetery Maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Siliub clealing					
	, and the second second						Total		14,467.19	1,706.13	16,173.32

# Milton Parish Council RECEIPTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Receipt No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
167 General Maintenance	24/02/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Maintenance	Cambs County Council	ш	2,407.00	0.00	2,407.00
168 Allotments Rents	24/02/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Allotment Rent	DR	ш	15.00	0.00	15.00
169 Interest Santander S106 Arts	02/03/2021		Santander S106 Arts		Interest	Santander	ш	16.16	0.00	16.16
170 Community Care fees	02/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Community Care Fee	JA	ш	24.00	0.00	24.00
171 Interest CBS S106	31/03/2021		S106 (CBS)		Interest	Cambridge Building Society	ety ( E	12.23	0.00	12.23
172 Interest CBS Council Saver	31/03/2021		CBS Council Saver a/c	22	Interest	Cambridge Building Society	ety ( E	169.63	0.00	169.63
173 Electricity	29/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Electricity refund	Utilita	ш	383.68	0.00	383.68
174 Community Care Grant	29/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Community Care grant	Milton Charities	ш	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
175 Community Care Grant	29/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Community Care grant	Milton Charities	ш	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
176 Tree Maintenance	29/03/2021		Unity Trust Bank		Grant received	Milton Charities	В	200.00	0.00	500.00
						Total		7,527.70	0.00	7,527.70

#### Clerk Milton Parish Council

From: Steven Thoday <Steven.Thoday@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>

Sent: 16 March 2021 15:12

To: Clerk Milton Parish Council

**Subject:** Proposed traffic regulation order, The Rowans and Fen Road

Attachments: Copy of PR0668 The Rowans Fen Road Milton - Target Cost Rev A.xlsx

#### Dear Sarah

I have now received the target costing from our contractor for the costs to install the double yellow lines on The Rowans and Fen Road. The predicted cost of the works is £1707.18, a large percentage of this cost is for the traffic management operatives (for the stop and go boards) this is to ensure the safety of the lining contractors whilst they install the lining.

Please advise whether Milton Parish Council are content with these costings and would like us to instruct our contractors to programme the works into their schedule?

#### regards

Steven Thoday
Lead Technician
Policy & Regulation
Highways Service
Vantage House, Vantage Park
Washingley Road
Huntingdon
PE29 6SR
0345 045 5212



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PR0668 Third party funded - The Rowans & Fen Road, Milton	QS Scheme Supervisor Name:	TBC Martin Holmes	
	Scheme Supervisor Name:	Martin Holmes	
Option E - Cost Reimbursable	Employer's PM:	Steven Thoday	
Revenue	Construction Start Date:	TBC	
12 Lining & Signs	Construction Completion Date:	TBC	
	Planned Duration (Days):	1	
	Revision:	Rev A	
		£	1,493.54
	Net Subtotal	£	1,493.54
Adjustment I	Description	Adjus	tment
Local Office	3.49%	£	52.12
Direct Fee Percentage	10.45%	£	161.52
	Adjustment I	12 Lining & Signs  Construction Completion Date: Planned Duration (Days): Revision:  Net Subtotal  Adjustment Description  Local Office  3.49%	12 Lining & Signs    Construction Completion Date:   TBC

# Community Centre Report - April 2021

COVID vaccinations are still taking place in the Community Centre and Over Community Centre both servicing the villages to the North of Cambridge. We have had sessions on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of March. We have been informed that there will vaccination clinics for second doses on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of April.

All of our regular groups have been cancelled for the majority of the month due to Lockdown. Kids-R-Us have been running After School Club sessions each day in the Annex and North Lodge Park following the return to school for all children on the 8<sup>th</sup> of March.

From the 29<sup>th</sup> of March we have seen a return of children's tennis and football clubs and adult outdoor 5 aside and walking netball returning to the tennis courts and 5 aside pitch in line with the easing of lockdown and the government's roadmap. We have also seen the return of Eddies Art Works to the Youth Building at the Sycamores.

Andy West has been appointed as Community Center Manager following the recruitment process and started on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March with Andy Gray taking retirement from the 31<sup>st</sup> of March. Andy Gray will still be supporting the Community Center and Andy West when needs arise.

Andy Gray and Andy West Community Centre Managers 30/3/2021

# County Councillor Report for Parish Council meetings in April 2021 - Cllr Anna Bradnam

#### Shire Hall sold

Following a decision in 2017, the seat of Cambridgeshire County Council since 1933, Shire Hall, has been leased to a developer for 40 years and will be handed over in April but the new Civic Hub at Alconbury will not be ready to use until September at the earliest. Meanwhile the Ministry for Housing Communities and Local Government letter (attached) requires local government to return to in-person meetings after 7 May 2021, when the "Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels (Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings) (England and Wales) Regulations 2020" cease to apply. This means the Council will have to find alternative (large) venues in which to hold Council and Committee meetings, which will be both difficult and costly.

# Local Authority Remote Meetings – call for evidence - published 25 March 2021

In that letter the Minister announced the launch of a consultation with all levels of local government regarding remote meetings (attached). This includes parish councils. Local authority remote meetings: call for evidence - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

**Topic of this consultation:** This call for evidence seeks views on the use of the current arrangements which have provided express provision for local authorities to hold meetings remotely or in a hybrid format during the coronavirus pandemic.

**Scope of this consultation:** This call for evidence seeks to understand the experience of local authorities in the whole of the UK regarding remote meetings.

Duration: 12 weeks from 25 March 2021 to 11:45 on Thursday 17 June 2021.

Enquiries: For any enquiries about this call for evidence please

contact: Megan.McKibbin@communities.gov.uk.

**How to respond:** You can only respond to this call for evidence through our online consultation platform, <u>Citizen Space</u>.

As a heads-up I have copied the questions here. Parish Councils may wish to add to their agendas and respond in due course.

#### Questions

The government would like to gather evidence about the use of the arrangements that make express provision for local authorities to meet remotely or in hybrid format during the coronavirus pandemic, including the arrangements that existed for Scottish Authorities prior to the pandemic. Q1. Generally speaking, how well do you feel the current remote meetings arrangements work?

- Very Well
- Well
- Neither well nor poorly
- Poorly
- Very Poorly
- Unsure

While the powers in section 78 of the Coronavirus Act were brought in specifically to help local authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland deal with the challenges of holding meetings during the coronavirus pandemic, the government would also like to hear from interested parties

about the pros and cons of making permanent express provision, in whole or in part, for local authorities in England.

Q2. Generally speaking, do you think local authorities in England should have the express ability to hold at least some meetings remotely on a permanent basis?

- Yes
- · No
- Unsure

Beyond having express provision to avoid face-to-face meetings during the coronavirus pandemic, we are aware of feedback from local authorities about additional benefits of being able to hold remote meetings including, but not limited to, the environmental and cost benefits of reduced travel, increased participation from local residents, and the potential to attract more diverse local authority members. We are keen to obtain representative views on the benefits of remote meetings and would particularly welcome any quantitative evidence to support these views.

Q3. What do you think are some of the benefits of the remote meetings arrangements? Please select all that apply.

- More accessible for local authority members
- Reduction in travel time for councillors
- Meetings more easily accessed by local residents
- Greater transparency for local authority meetings
- Documents (e.g. minutes, agendas, supporting papers) are more accessible to local residents and others online
- · Easier to chair meetings in an orderly fashion
- A virtual format promotes greater equality in speaking time during meetings
- I do not think there are any benefits to remote meetings
- Other (please specify)

In their representations to us, many local authorities have referenced the cost savings they have achieved through implementing remote meetings, particularly regarding a reduction in travel expenses and accommodation costs.

For example, one upper tier authority has reported that running meetings remotely has enabled them to save in the order of £6,000 per month through reduced travel expenses. We would be interested to receive more quantitative data about the cost savings that have been achieved, including any estimates of the comparative cost of running a remote meeting versus a face-to-face meeting.

Q4. (For local authorities only) Have you seen a reduction in costs since implementing remote meetings in your authority?

- Yes
- · No
- Unsure

Some local authorities have also made reference to the difficulty that some members have had with the remote meeting format, particularly in relation to the difficulties in managing misconduct, the challenges of working with unfamiliar software, and technological issues caused by a poor internet connection. We are keen to obtain representative views on the disadvantages of remote meetings and would particularly welcome any quantitative evidence to support these views.

Q5. What do you think are some of the disadvantages of the remote meetings arrangements, and do you have any suggestions for how they could be mitigated/overcome? Please select all that apply.

- It is harder for members to talk to one another informally
- Meetings are less accessible for local authority members or local residents who have a poorquality internet connection
- Meetings are less accessible for local authority members or local residents who are unfamiliar with video conferencing/technology
- There is less opportunity for local residents to speak or ask questions
- Some find it more difficult to read documents online than in a physical format
- Debate is restricted by the remote format
- It is more difficult to provide effective opposition or scrutiny in a remote format
- It is more difficult to chair meetings in an orderly fashion
- Virtual meetings can be more easily dominated by individual speakers
- It might enable democratically elected members to live and perform their duties outside their local area on a permanent basis, therefore detaching them from the communities they serve
- It may create too substantial a division between the way national democracy (e.g. in the House of Commons) and local democracy is conducted
- I do not think there are any disadvantages to remote meetings
- Other (please specify)

The government considers that there are also many advantages of holding meetings face-to-face. For example, physical meetings provide numerous opportunities for local authority members to speak with one another informally and build alliances, as well as to encounter local residents in the flesh and listen to their concerns in person.

Additionally, some members have referenced the vast improvement in the quality of debate when there is a lively atmosphere and they are able to make full use of their oratory skills to persuade and influence others. Some may consider remote meetings stifling and that physical meetings are essential to effective democracy and scrutiny.

Q6. What do you think are some of the main advantages of holding face-to-face meetings, as opposed to remote meetings?

If express provision for remote meetings were made permanent, it might be preferable for the government to constrain the meetings or circumstances in which remote meetings can be held to ensure that effective democracy and scrutiny can still take place.

There are some occasions, for example, where a remote meeting format may be seen as more appropriate, such as for smaller sub-committees, meetings convened at short notice, or for meetings where attendees are drawn from a large geographical area i.e. for some joint committees, combined authorities and large rural authorities. On the other hand, there are occasions where a remote meeting format may be viewed as less appropriate, for example larger meetings involving Full Council or an authority's Annual Meeting.

Q7. If permanent arrangements were to be made for local authorities in England, for which meetings do you think they should have the option to hold remote meetings?

- For all meetings
- For most meetings with a few exceptions (please specify)
- Only for some meetings (please specify)
- I think local should be able to decide for themselves which meetings they should have the option to meet remotely
- I do not think local authorities should have the option to hold remote meetings for any meetings
- Unsure

Q8. If permanent arrangements were to be made for local authorities in England, in which circumstances do you think local authorities should have the option to hold remote meetings?

- In any circumstances
- Only in extenuating circumstances where a meeting cannot be held face-to-face or some members would be unable to attend (e.g. severe weather events, coronavirus restrictions)
- I think local authorities should be able to decide for themselves which circumstances they should have the option to meet remotely
- I do not think local authorities should have the option to hold remote meetings under any circumstances
- Other (please specify)
- Unsure

While local authorities have risen magnificently to the challenge of ensuring vital council business continues by conducting meetings remotely during these unprecedented times, there may be concerns that, if the arrangements were to made permanent, a situation could arise where remote meetings arrangements were used by a ruling party to avoid effective scrutiny or abuse the power in some other way.

Q9. Would you have any concerns if local authorities in England were given the power to decide for themselves which meetings, and in what circumstances, they have the option to hold remote meetings?

- Yes
- · No
- Unsure

Q10. If yes, do you have any suggestions for how your concerns could be mitigated/overcome?

In deciding whether and how remote meetings arrangements may be made permanent for local authorities in England, the government needs to ensure that it has due regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty. In particular, the government would need to avoid unlawfully discriminating (either directly or indirectly) against individuals with a protected characteristic, and also consider whether the arrangements advance equality of opportunity or help to foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

Many local authorities have spoken of the potential benefits that remote meetings could have for members or potential members with disabilities or young families. However, there are also those for whom remote meetings could pose additional difficulties, for example those with hearing or visual impairments or those more likely to struggle with the technology.

We are keen to consider views on these aspects of remote meetings and would particularly welcome any quantitative evidence to support views provided.

Q11. In your view, would making express provision for English local authorities to meet remotely particularly benefit or disadvantage any individuals with protected characteristics e.g. those with disabilities or caring responsibilities?

- Yes
- · No
- Unsure

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# Audit report completed on the tenancy of Manor Farm Girton

On 23 February Cllr Hickford, the Deputy Leader of the Council resigned and moved out of the County.

An all-day meeting of Cambridgeshire County's Audit and Accounts Committee on 5 March considered the outcome of a 400+ page audit report into the process leading up to the award of the tenancy of Manor Farm, Girton, the subsequent decisions made regarding the tenancy and the processes and practices of the County's Farms Estate

The audit concluded correct procedures were followed in relation to the tenancy award process and the approval of the additional extension works for the Manor Farm dwelling. However other serious concerns were raised as a result of the wide ranging audit investigation.

This resulted in eleven separate recommendations for further action in relation to financial, transparency and conduct issues which the committee agreed should be referred on for further

consideration under processes including the Members Code of Conduct and officer disciplinary procedures. Another thirty one further recommendations made to strengthen policies and procedures of the county farms estate itself, were also discussed and the management action relating to each considered.

# **Highways and Transport**

#### Waterbeach

Following the tragic accident at the Car Dyke Road junction on the A10, I submitted a written question, compied in conjunction with the Thorold family, at County Council on 16 March. Amongst other things we asked for a meeting with officers, early action to address the safety issues at the junction, speed cameras, a reduction in the speed limit, recognition of the danger of the junction and consideration of a signalised crossing over the A10. At a meeting a few days later with Lucy Frazer MP, Mayor Palmer, the Chief Executive of the County Council and Senior Officers we were relieved that the Council agreed to

- complete the A10 Route Safety Study from A14 to Denny End Road by the end of March
- install speed monitoring equipment to gather evidence to support a reduction in the speed limit, which through the Traffic Regulation Order process would be completed by June 2021
- bring forward works agreed through the U&C phase one application to provide a segregated cycle and footpath from Milton to Waterbeach

#### Milton - Voi eScooters

I spoke to a resident recently who finds the two Voi eScooters often parked on the southern corner of The Rowans/Cambridge Road junction something of an obstruction for those using a wheelchair; on one occasion one of the eScooters had rolled into the road. An operative was seen fishing one out of a ditch recently.

Having said that I also had an email from a resident whose children had spent an evening exploring Milton by Voi eScooters and felt they were a good idea, easy to use - and they would use them if they couldn't use their bikes for any reason.

So I think some people are finding them useful. Whilst occasionally straying across pavements it seems to me they are mostly parked sensibly and out of the way. One resident complained that they should not be parked on the verge but the ones I've seen have mainly been on the pavement, where it is wide enough to pass them.

I have not received a map of the proscribed parking places that I requested.

A14 / A10 – I await an explanation for the continued presence of traffic cones. There are concerns about the safety of traffic merging so close to the beginning of the A10.

#### Landbeach - road maintenance and flooding

The new Local Highway Officer has responded to my queries:

1) Flooding off the road into residential gardens along Waterbeach Road, Landbeach, I understand the LHO arranged for the gulleys to be cleaned. Please can you advise me when this is likely to be done?

"In regards to flooding on Waterbeach Road, there are works already scheduled and it includes all the gullies, laterals cleansed and jetted (between A10 and High Street Junction) additionally to have the system traced to the outfall and a report sent back to the LHO with their findings. This should be done no later than 16/04/2021."

2) There is a faulty (low) kerbstone outside 119 Waterbeach Road which allows water to flood off the road and down into the driveway of 119.

"In regards to the flooding issue at Waterbeach Road 119. I will visit the location on my next site visit day and assess it."

3) I explained the blocking under the crossroad which we observed despite all the clearing that has been done locally by residents and asked for the Landbeach crossroads to be moled. I explained the route taken by water overflowing from the ditches in Cockfen Lane, the flooding by the bus stop, the inundation of the sewage pumping station and the risk of aquaplaning at the crossroads.

"In terms of the ditches on Cockfen Lane. Once the works on Waterbeach Rd have been completed and water has drained out of the ditch. We will have to assess the extent of the work that need to be carried out, to prevent the issue reoccurring. I will keep you updated on this."

#### Landbeach Flooding

Following my lengthy explanation of flooding issues last month I continue to pursue this matter with the local authorities.

#### Horningsea

Following our site visit with the Highway Engineer in August 2020, the parish council has conducted a public consultation about suitable locations for further speed control measures, a passing place, some parking restrictions and a build-out to protect cars so they could feel safer parking fully on the road. Decisions on these options will be considered again in time to submit a bid when the Local Highway Improvement Fund is open again. Bids for funding in 2021/22 closed on 20 September 2020. I believe funding may open again, with the new budget in May 2021

**Footpath signs** – with a slightly quicker turnaround I was able to arrange for some waymarker disks and 'Please keep your dog on a lead' signs to be delivered to Gayton Farm at the end of March, to help keep the many walkers on the marked footpaths and away from stock.

#### **Fen Ditton**

I have contacted Anglian Water and County Highways supporting the residents' request for a dedicated entrance/ exit directly off the A14 for the proposed Wastewater Treatment Plant. This would avoid heavy lorries using either Horningsea Road or the ancient route of the Fleam Dyke along High Ditch Road. Since the road is so narrow and unlikely to stand up to the weight of heavy lorries, it would be preferable to get a dedicated access for construction and also for subsequent tanker journeys to and from the site.

#### Health

It is a year since the first national Covid-19 lockdown on 23 March 2020. **Dr Liz Robin, Director of Public Health** at Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, who leaves us soon, said:

"Our work with communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has been integral to our fight against Covid-19 throughout the pandemic. We were among the first local authorities to produce vlogs in multiple languages for all residents and our community and faith leaders have been invaluable in helping us to promote vital safety messages.

"The pandemic has been hugely difficult for everyone. There's been so many personal tragedies and effects on our residents, both from the virus and its impacts on mental health.

"A year ago, I never would have predicted that we would so quickly have developed not one, but multiple vaccines and already be well on the way to distributing them to everyone. The vaccine is a real milestone, but it's important for us to remember it takes time to have its effect. Up to three weeks after the first dose, and for maximum protection it is essential to have the second dose too.

"Because of this, and the fact that many working age and young adults have not yet been vaccinated, it's so important that we continue to follow social distancing guidance and the changes in the lockdown rules closely, as well as getting tested when necessary. We are at a transition point. It will get better, but it will take time.

"However, I have great faith in our residents and communities who have gone and above and beyond this last year to keep each other safe. Communities working together have real power in helping the residents that live in them live long and healthier lives."

The County Council with the District Councils launched a countywide contact tracing service working with the NHS to contact people who had tested positive for Covid-19, to remind them to isolate and to offer advice and support. A total of £1.134 million has been handed out to people who needed to self-isolate.

Since rapid testing began at the start of February 2021, more than 29,000 tests have been carried out. These were for people with no symptoms who are working volunteering or training, to identify any with Covid. To book a test, people need to visit <u>Cambridgeshire</u> Since launch in March 2020 the coordination hub, staffed by 449 redeployed council staff has helped 4,877 people in clinically extremely vulnerable groups listed by the Government who were advised to self-isolate and those who needed support. ."

If you, or someone you know is vulnerable and does not have support of friends, family or neighbours, then don't hesitate to get in touch with your local support hub. Contact details are as follows: South Cambridgeshire Hub – visit the website or call 03450 450 063.

**Community, faith and volunteer groups** have gone above and beyond the call of duty to keep residents safe. Our **care homes and domiciliary care providers** have done an amazing job looking after our most vulnerable residents.

**Free school meals -** Over 16,877 free school meal vouchers have been distributed to families since the start of the pandemic. They've gone to families of 2- to 16-year-olds through local schools, voluntary and community organisations, and childcare providers as part of the Holiday Activities and Food Programme. £30 vouchers for each child eligible, to cover the cost of a meal each school day for both weeks of the forthcoming **Easter Holidays**, will be going out shortly.

**Vaccinations** – early 350,000 residents across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough have now received their first Covid-19 vaccination through our network of 36 vaccination sites.

Fostering - Lockdown has been a challenging but rewarding time for foster carers. To find out more about fostering in Cambridgeshire call 0800 052 0078, email <a href="mailto:fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk">fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk</a>
Education - Headteachers, staff, governors and education officers have done an extraordinary job in keeping our children educated in what has been an intensely challenging time. Children have suffered a lot less because of the care, commitment and support of all our staff.

Find out more about the <u>roadmap out of lockdown</u>. Keep on washing hands, covering face and making space. If you have symptoms get a <u>test</u> and stay at home.

#### District Councillor report to Parish Councils - April 2021

#### **East West Rail:**

The second non-statutory consultation on the rail project linking Oxford to Cambridge has just opened and runs until 9<sup>th</sup> June. To make your views known please visit <a href="https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation">https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation</a>

The options to be consulted on include a new station at either Cambourne North or Cambourne South with the line going into Cambridge from the South. Importantly there will be no consultation on the Northern approach which would have seen the route cutting through Oakington, Landbeach and Milton into Cambridge North. There are a number of very strong reasons why this was not preferred all of which can be found in the appendix and people will be able to comment on it. Although this issue would appear to have gone away, it is always essential to keep arguing the point and indeed support the potential route options proposed in this current consultation so your voice is heard. The final decision will be taken by the Department of Transport as this is a piece of national infrastructure.

#### **Five Year Housing Land Supply:**

As of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 South Cambs and the City jointly have a 5YHLS of 6.1 years for the period 2021-2026.

#### Help for families in need of housing:

466 families in need were helped into Council or social housing between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020 and 1<sup>st</sup> March this year. This includes 185 families who were either homeless or at risk of being homeless. This represents a slight increase on the previous year in spite of the pandemic and challenges that has thrown up. All credit to the dedicated team of four at South Cambs who offer help and advice and works through the Council's letting agency Homelink. Housing advice from SCDC is available at <a href="www.scambs.gov.uk/housing">www.scambs.gov.uk/housing</a> or by emailing <a href="housingadvice@scambs.gov.uk">housingadvice@scambs.gov.uk</a> or calling 03450 450 051.

#### **Covid Recovery Community Chest Grant funding:**

To help groups and projects begin to resume their activities as we come out of lockdown, we have earmarked a £30 000 Covid recovery grant fund as part of our Community Chest funding. This is specifically designed to help local community groups and Parish Councils resume community activities which have been difficult or impossible during the pandemic.

The eligiblility criteria has been temporarily amended to allow applications for grants of up to £2000 for Covid recovery related projects and initiatives. Until 10<sup>th</sup> May all parish councils and community groups can apply to the scheme with applications being heard at the Grants Advisory Committee on 28<sup>th</sup> May.

Meanwhile the normal Community Chest Scheme continues to run for community groups for a maximum grant of £1000. The process is the same for both types of application with an option to select the correct type of grant you wish to apply for.

Cllr. Judith Rippeth

#### District Councillor Report to Parish Councils - for April 2021

#### Councillors Anna Bradnam and Hazel Smith (retired)

#### Virtual Meetings – request to continue

A group of local government organizations has launched a legal challenge to the government's decision to terminate the arrangements which allow councils to hold virtual public meetings. Local Government Lawyers (LLG) and the Association of Democratic Services Officers (ADSO), along with Hertfordshire County Council, have raised a challenge on the issue, which will be heard at the High Court on 21 April 2021.

This follows last week's announcement by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) that from 7 May it will again require councils to give the public physical access to full council and committee meetings. The rule was changed as an interim measure in April 2020 to enable remote meetings during the Covid-19 lockdown.

In order to comply with Health and Safety requirements of social distancing, the District Council and Parish Council's alike find themselves having to find larger premises in which to hold meetings, or reduce the number of attendees, which reduces democratic and public involvement. This is particularly concerning, since MPs have been given leave to continue taking part in parliamentary meetings virtually - and because while remote meetings have been allowed, parishes have seen increased public participation. Many would like to take this opportunity to build back better and to use technology to reduce our carbon footprint.

The challenge is urging the government to allow councils to continue holding virtual meetings or at least hybrid meetings until such time as all Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted. In my County Report you will see the questions in the public consultation which is being run until 17 June. NALC and parish councils are is being encouraged to respond to the consultation.

#### Planning – Permitted Development Rights (PDR)

From 31 March 2021 Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick announced a package of measures to 'revitalise England's high streets and town centres'. This will include, from 1 August 2021:

- New planning laws which enable unused commercial buildings to be changed into homes
  - New homes will be delivered through a prior approval process rather than full planning – but will look at flooding, noise impact, natural light and minimum space for habitable rooms, loss of commercial premises in conservation areas and loss of health centres.
- New planning rules to allow swift extension of public buildings including schools, colleges, universities and hospitals
- Amendment of existing PDRs for ports to have the same freedoms as airports for development.

This is of concern for parish planning committees, many of whom deal with commercial developments on High Streets, although it is most likely to impact more urban areas.

#### Shielding ends in England

From 1 April clinically extremely vulnerable people in England will no longer be advised to shield. Earlier this month, letters were sent to people on the shielded patient list with updated guidance. The letters set out the practical steps people can follow to reduce their risk of catching the virus, including continuing to maintain strict social distancing and keeping their overall social contacts at low levels, such as through working from home where possible. People should continue to follow the

national rules and take the additional precautions set out in the guidance to keep themselves as protected as possible.

#### **Business rates relief**

On 25 March, the Government has announced £1.5 billion further funding for councils to provide additional targeted support to those businesses that have not already received business rates relief. The funding will be allocated to councils based on the stock of properties in the area whose sectors have been affected by the coronavirus outbreak and they will use their knowledge to make awards to local businesses. The Government will work with and support local government to enable ratepayers to apply as soon as possible this year. You can see the detail here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-rates-relief-boosted-with-new-15-billion-pot">https://www.gov.uk/government/news/business-rates-relief-boosted-with-new-15-billion-pot</a>

#### Business support insolvency measures extended

On 25 March the Government extended a number of insolvency measures introduced in March 2020, to support businesses during the coronavirus outbreak until June 2021. The measures were introduced in the Corporate Insolvency and Governance Act in March 2020, and include protection for businesses from aggressive creditor enforcement and removal of personal liability on company directors. These measures have been previously extended on a number of occasions. The measures being extended until the end of June 2021 are:

- Statutory demands and winding-up petitions will continue to be restricted to protect companies from creditor enforcement action due to debts related to coronavirus.
- Small suppliers will not have to continue to supply a business in insolvency. However, larger suppliers will not be able to cease their supply or ask for additional payments while a company is going through a rescue process.
- Entry into a moratorium will remain relaxed and a company will be able to enter a moratorium
  if they have been subject to an insolvency procedure in the previous 12 months. These
  measures will be extended until 30 September 2021.

I had decided in 2018 to serve as District Councillor for just another 2 years, then to retire triggering a by-election, so my resignation is actually a year later than I'd planned, due to Covid-19.

I'd just like to thank all the parish councillors for their help in serving Milton. I will still remain on the parish council while I'm useful, and look forward to having more time to do things in the village.

Hazel