



MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Office, Coles Road,
Milton, Cambridge, CB24 6BL.
Telephone: 01223 861447.
Email: clerk@miltonvillage.org.uk.
Website: www.miltonvillage.org.uk.

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

You are summoned to attend the meeting of Milton Parish Council to be held in the
Bowls Pavilion on Monday 8 April 2024 at 7.30pm
Members of the Public and the Press are cordially invited to attend

Clerk's signature: *Sarah Cooper*
Date of issue: 2 April 2024

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence:** to receive and approve apologies for absence
- 2. To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 4 March 2024 (Pages 1-5)**
- 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 and see Works Schedule (Pages 6-7)**
Local Project 2024/25 20mph Funding – Clerk has applied for 20mph through the village – awaiting outcome
Milton Brook Clearance (Ditch below Tomkins Mead): response to AB's follow on email for further information on works required: Awaiting quotes and advice from B Heffernan for further ditch clearance work to expose the culverts beneath the highway for a camera and jetter to assess state of repair
The Rowans Safety Improvements – Awaiting installation date for extension of double yellow lines: notice has been published
Local Council Award Scheme – PE and DW to put together a Village Action Plan.
The Rowans Play Park Revamp – Order has been placed with Eibe – awaiting installation date (May 2024)
Waterbeach to Cambridge Greenway – walkthrough with Camcycle – Update
Parish Planning Forum - update
- 6. Planning**
Decisions:
22/05578/CONDA – 42-44 High Street, Milton – Submission of details required by conditions 3 (drop-off and pick-up servicing plan) and 4 (parking of cycles) of planning permission 22/05578/FUL
DISCHARGE GIVEN IN FULL
24/00230/HFUL – 12 High Street, Milton – Erection of a ground floor rear extension, first floor rear extension with new flat roof and the construction of a one bedroom annexe to rear garden
WITHDRAWN
21/04597/NMA1 – Land South West of Milton Park and Ride, Milton (Police Station) - Non material amendment of planning permission 21/04597/S73 1. Reduction (283sqm) in footprint and floorspace of the main office building block, 2. introduction of roof mounted solar PV to main office building roof, 3. reconfiguration of external cell wing southwest elevation, creating inset corridor between wings 1 and 2 and creation of corridor overruns to south east and southwest

elevations and, 4. reduction of curtain walling to northeast office elevation including removal of double height window upon northeast elevation, 5. addition of rain water downpipes, 6. rationalisation of external doors, windows and louvered panels to northwest elevation, 7. reduction of windows in southwest elevation, 8. introduction of curtain walling and provision of sun pipes to southeast elevation, 9. adjusted cill height lowered upon fenestration across office block building.
GRANTED PERMISSION

New:

24/00854/HFUL – 8 Knights Way, Milton – Single storey front and rear extensions and two storey side extension Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/00854/HFUL>

29/00969/FUL – 69 Cambridge Road, Milton – Erection of new single storey dwelling – resubmission of 23/00926FUL Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/00969/FUL>

24/01020/S73 – Land South West of Milton Park & Ride, Milton (Police Station) - S73 to vary conditions 2 (Approved plans) and 4 (Hard and Soft Landscape works) of planning permission 21/04597/S73 (S73 to vary condition 2 (approved drawings) of ref: 20/04010/FUL (One and two storey building containing offices, custody suite and associated facilities, new access, internal access roads, hardstanding, car parking areas, landscaping, drainage attenuation features, lighting and means of enclosure) to show minor amendments) increase to parapet wall to rear custody suite roof and internal enclosure of roof mounted plant and machinery
Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/01020/S73>

24/02079/FUL – 440 Cambridge Science Park, Milton – Erection of a research and development/office building (use Class E) and associated landscaping, car and cycle parking, infrastructure works and plant Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/24/01079/FUL>

24/0302/TTPO – 25 Willow Crescent, Milton- Grey popular: reduce height by 2.5m to prevent unwanted wind damage and any branches falling into the property’s garden and neighbouring gardens

Under Delegated Powers:

24/0269/TTPO – 2 Kens Way, Milton – T1 Horse Chestnut: reduce crown by approx. 2m **NO COMMENT (AB Tree Warden)**

Appeals in Progress

EN/00198/23 – 76 Fen Road, Milton – Alleged construction of a building without the necessary planning permission having been obtained

7. Maintenance (Pages 8-10)

To **RECEIVE** the minutes of the meeting on Monday 18 March 2024

To **CONSIDER** cleaning of the War Memorial (last carried out March 2018) – quote from Independent Memorial Inspection £1,950 + VAT for steam cleaning plus £70 + VAT for lime pointing (if required)

8. CAPALC

To **CONSIDER** renewal of the CAPALC subscription £886.61 plus £50 for Data Protection Officer membership (£936.61)

9. Bills for Payment and Money Received (Pages 11-15)

To **CONFIRM** and **AGREE** bills for payment
To **RECEIVE** net budget figures

10. Milton Youth Club

To **CONSIDER** request and quote from the Connections Bus Project to replace the table tennis table – Cornilleau Sport 100 indoor table tennis table £354.17 + VAT from Liberty Games

To **CONSIDER** budget of £1,000 to repair or replace the pool table (awaiting costs from The Connection Bus Project)

11. Parking of Container Lorries – Applying for 7.5t weight Limit for Milton (Page 16)

Meeting with M Martin, Senior Project Manager from Cambridgeshire County Council, on 11 April 2024 at 1pm to discuss options for applying for an intervention by either an LHI (Local Highway Improvements), a PFHI (Privately Funded Highways Improvements) or carry out a Feasibility Report application

12. Parish Council Office (Page 17)

To **CONSIDER** quote from Abbott Electrical for £192 to provide and fit a 3kw wall heater (current heater not working to standard)

13. Zero Carbon Communities Grant

To **CONSIDER** applying for the grant under either of the two themes (opens 2 April 2024)

1. Reduce carbon emissions or locking up carbon
2. Community engagement on climate change

(Suggestions given: biodiversity, improve recycling and litter (installing better bins), solar panels on community buildings)

14. To Receive County Councillor's Report (Pages 18-20)

15. To Receive District Councillors Report (To 21-22)

16. Correspondence

Complaints received for inconsiderate/dangerous parking on:

Willow Crescent junction with High Street – cars parking too close to the junction causing blind spots
Woodman Way/Starling Close – cars parking on the bends/corners at school pick up and drops (near miss with pedestrian reported)

Coles Road – when activities at The MCC have an influx of car drivers parking for the events, the overflow of parking causes issues for the nearby residents: parking on the bends, too close to junctions and blocking drive ways

Could double yellow lines be installed?

Cambridge Road/Benet Close – cars parking on the grass verges owned by the County Council
Emailed to Councillors

Greater Cambridge Greenway March 2024 – quarterly newsletter

Greater Cambridge Construction Update March 2024

Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation Project – examination hearings: 9 April 2024

CAPACL Affiliation Pack 2024/25

17. Dates of next meetings

Wednesday 17 April 2024 – 11:30am Community Care

Monday 22 April 2024 – 7pm Planning – 7:45pm Finance and Administration

Monday 29 April 2024 – 7pm Parish Council to approve accounts – 7:30pm Annual Parish meeting

Tuesday 7 May 2024 – Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

Clerk's Office

The full agenda papers are available on the website www.miltonvillage.org.uk and at the Parish Council office.

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 4 March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: HM Smith (HMS) (Chair), J Coston (JEC), D Owen (DO), P Ellwood (PE), D Wildman (DW),
L Champion (LC), A Bradnam (AB)(arrived 8:13pm)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk),

1 Apologies for Absence:

R Farrington (personal)

2 To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5 February 2024

DW Proposed to accept the minutes – DO Seconded ALL AGREED

To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 29 January 2024 (Deferred from January MPC meeting)

DW Proposed to accept the minutes – HMS Seconded ALL AGREED

3 Declarations of interest and dispensations:

To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda; **Item 6: DO - 26 Church Lane (friend of applicant), HMS – works next to 137 Cambridge 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 in attendance

5 Clerk's/Chairman's Report and see Works Schedule

Local Project 2024/25 20mph Funding – Clerk has applied for 20mph through the village

Milton Brook Clearance (Ditch below Tomkins Mead): response to AB's follow on email for further information on works required: Awaiting quotes and advice from B Hefferman for further ditch clearance work to expose the culverts beneath the highway for a camera and a jetter to assess state of repair

The Rowans Safety Improvements – Awaiting installation date for extension of double yellow lines

Local Council Award Scheme – PE and DW to put together a Village Action Plan.

SCDC 6 Free Trees – Planted (Top of Humphries Way/A10 junction, Humphries Way and Froment Way play parks, The Rowans and Hawthorn Hedge play parks and The Sycamores recreation ground)

The Rowans Play Park Revamp – Order has been placed with Eibe – awaiting installation date (**Work to start around mid-May**)

Village Litter Pick – Carried out on Sunday 25 February 2024 - 11 people attended (**Clerk to email Tesco asking them to carry out a litter pick at the front of the store – planting behind bus stop and the pathway leading to The Sycamores**)

The PC met with Camcycle to discuss the proposed Waterbeach to Cambridge Greenway and the affects the proposal will have on Milton. The PC and Camcycle will walk the proposed route on 7th March 11:30

Works schedule: JEC is gathering information about the boundaries at Old School Lane.

A10 Trees: Clerk to write to the Chief Executive of the County Council as many trees by the A10 are in a dangerous state, and we have been lobbying for action for many years now. We have suffered trees falling onto our allotments and broken sections of our fence which have not yet been repaired.

6 Planning

The minutes of the meeting of Monday 19 February 2024 were received

Decisions:

23/04837/FUL – 191 Cambridge Science Park, Milton – installation of one set of external ductwork, extractor fan on base and discharge flue adjacent to existing pharmaceutical unit – **GRANTED PERMISSION**

23/04822/FUL – 29 Cambridge Science Park, Milton – Erection of new substation, switch room and UPS room, alongside relocated cycle stores and associated works **GRANTED PERMISSION**

New:

24/00530/FUL – 137 Cambridge Road, Milton – Two storey rear extension with added PV solar panels

OBJECT: 1. Overdevelopment of the site. 2. No provision for long term parking on-site – proposed agreement for parking for a 3 year term at Milton Country Park is temporary and development should provide for its own

parking for the life of the building. 3. The cycle parking will constrict a narrow entrance between two buildings leading to 2 entries with double doors

24/00577/FUL – Willow Lodge 37 High Street, Milton – Change of use from garage into ancillary meeting rooms for the sole use of Red Balloon **HAS NO RECOMMENDATIONS**

24/00613/HFUL – 26 Church Lane, Milton – Single storey rear extension, conversion of existing garage and room above. Installation of solar PV panels to rear roof and removal of 2no Sycamore trees
(AB arrived 8:13pm)

OBJECT: Unless further justification is given for the felling of two Sycamore trees (T7 and T8). The trees are in the conservation area

Brockton Everlast Inc and the long term future of 210-240 Cambridge Science Park and Trinity Hall Farm Industrial Estate – help identify local needs – **Does MPC have any comments on their proposals for the sites?**
(Presentation was given at the Planning meeting on 19 February 2024)

MPC has no comments until the planning application is received

Notification of Planning Appeal

EN/0039/22 – Grassy Corner Caravan Park, Chesterton Fen Road, Milton – Hardcore laid and mobile homes sited on agricultural land without planning permission – Planning permission was refused on 20 April 2023: Enforcement notice requires the following steps: (i) Cease the use of the land as a residential caravan site (ii) remove all caravans from the land (iii) remove all hardstanding from the land – The notice gave a compliance period of six months.

The appellant has appealed the Notice on the following grounds:

Ground (c) - that there has not been a breach of planning control, Ground (g) that the time given to comply with the notice is too short

Does MPC wish to make comments?

Milton Parish Council reiterate their objections from September 2022 – as below

STRONGLY OBJECT:

1. The local planning authority have a robust Green Belt Policy which will prohibit such development proposals on green belt land
2. The land is in the flood plain and should not be built on
3. It is in the River Corridor
4. The vehicular access over the railway crossing is insufficient to cope with existing traffic
5. The application should be referred to Greater Cambridge Planning Committee
6. Milton Parish Council will seek to have their Chairman (Hazel Smith) represent their views at Planning Committee meeting

Milton Parish Council supports the Enforcement Notice and actions required

Notification of Planning Appeal

EN/00198/23 – 76 Fen Road, Milton – Alleged construction of a building without the necessary planning permission having been obtained Enforcement notice requires one of the following steps: Step 1(a) Dismantle the steel framed barn and cladding. Step 1(b) permanently remove all the resultant building material waste and construction paraphernalia and other items from the land. Step 1(c) Permanently remove any base placed footing or concrete pad placed on the land to be used in association with the offending barn including and debris or materials resulting in that removal. The notice gives a compliance period of 6 months

The appellant has appealed the Notice of the following grounds:

Ground (a) – that planning permission should be granted for what is alleged in the notice. Ground (b) that the breach of control alleged in the enforcement notice has not occurred as a matter of fact. Ground (f) the steps required to comply with the requirements of the notice are excessive and lesser steps would overcome the objections. Ground (g) that the time given to comply with the notice is too short

Does MPC to wish to make comments?

Milton Parish Council supports the Enforcement Notice and actions required

Milton Parish Council objects to the building's presence due to it being 5 times the original size, with a bigger footprint 2-3 times in height and a bigger base with new surround

The scale, bulk and materials used are inappropriate for this greenbelt area

7 Bills for Payment and Money Received

To **CONFIRM** and **AGREE** bills for payment - **DW Proposed to pay vouchers 373-401 and tabled 402 to 405 - HMS Seconded ALL AGREED**

8 Review of Highways Operational Standards in Relation to Weed Management

To **CONSIDER** any concerns/views of reinstating the use of chemical weed management
Milton Parish Council has no objection

9 Parking of Container Trucks in the Village

To **DISCUSS** concerns of container trucks parking in residential streets and possible restrictions
It has been reported that container lorries have been parking up for the night on The Rowans, Ely Road and Coles Road – Clerk and County Councillor to ask County Highways for weight restrictions of 7.5 tonnes though the village except for access – signs could be placed just after the Tesco roundabout and Ely Road and Humphries Way entrances/exits

10 E-Scooter Trial

Current trial period to end 31 May 2024 – The DfT who lead the scooter trial have asked for an extension of 2 years and changes to the boundary. The map below shows a **working proposal for a revised boundary**, see <https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1jL3w4sMC3-qSjFwa5EukizYypR-PE&usp=sharing>

Response: The proposed extension would include North Lodge Park and the College of West Anglia. Where would the parking hub be on North Lodge Park? – consult their Residents Association.

Has the College of West Anglia been consulted?

What is the GPS accuracy – can it tell if the scooter is on the footpath or road?

Can you slow the scooters down when on a shared footpath?

Can the Parish Council be consulted on the parking hub locations – is it the intention for it to be only on public land?

We are surprised to see another trial extension as the longer this goes on without proper legislation the more illegal uninsured private e-scooters are being bought, and these put pedestrians in danger.

11 To Receive County Councillor's Report (Full report on MPC Website)

County Council Budget – 2024/25: The council agreed a Council Tax rise of 4.99%, 2% for Adult Social Services, and 2.99% for general services—raising £17.5M of local income to help maintain and protect critical services for the most vulnerable communities. For the majority of residents in Band A-D properties that will mean an extra 99p to £1.48 a week.

Councillor allowances: The council agreed to implement the council allowances scheme recommended by the independent panel set up for this purpose.

(Old) Shire Hall – back on the market: Bids have been invited for the lease or purchase of part of the Shire Hall site in Cambridge, after the previous preferred bidder was unable to continue their interest.

ADULTS AND HEALTH: Measles – cases of measles are rising throughout the country so the council is asking everyone to check their MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) vaccination status and get vaccinated if they are not up to date. More information at <https://www.cpics.org.uk/measles>
Individuals should check their vaccination status if possible **before** attending one of these clinics.

NHS Dentistry: The Adults & Health Committee will be scrutinising the provision of NHS dentistry in Cambridgeshire at its meeting on 7 March. Access to NHS dental care has declined dramatically in recent years and many practices no longer accept NHS patients. Dentists say that under the current contract, it is not financially viable to offer NHS procedures because of a lack of Government investment.

Have your say on Healthy Communities: A survey has been launched asking for views on access to healthcare services, inclusive and accessible green spaces, opportunities for active travel and healthy play and leisure, and the provision of affordable healthy food options.
The survey is at <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/WNC1CB/> and is open until **Monday 15 April at 5pm**. If you would prefer to complete a paper copy, you can pick one up from your local library. If you have any questions please email healthinallpolicies@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

COMMUNITIES SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC) : Free data SIM cards - A reminder that free SIM cards to those unable to afford internet access are available at 11 libraries in Cambridgeshire. They are available to anyone aged 18+ from a low-income household. Recipients can self-declare as eligible, and the support is available for a maximum period of twelve months. This offer is available at a range of libraries including Cambridge Central, Bar Hill, Arbury Court, and Barnwell Road. Ask library staff for more details.

ENVIRONMENT AND GREEN INVESTMENT: Weekly Food Waste Collections - The Government is encouraging a move to weekly food waste collections, with financial support to District Councils for changes to **collection** of the waste. Milton was included in the trial run last year by SCDC to assess systems and viability. However the government has not given any support to County Councils for **disposing** of food waste.

Community Flood Risk Newsletter: The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Flood and Water Partnership (CPFloW) will start publishing a Community Flood Risk newsletter to help support residents, businesses, and communities in relation to flooding. This will include input from organisations such as the Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs) and water companies.

Reporting Flooding: If you have experienced flooding, please report it. If there is a flood and a threat to life, call **999**. Report non-life-threatening flood emergencies to the Police on **101**. Outside those events, please report on the County Council's flood reporting page <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/report-a-flood>

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT: Gulley clearing - The council has reinstated the programme of regular, cyclical gully clearing that the previous administration ceased; a decision which had contributed to many local flooding problems. The programme has not yet reached our area.

Highways Capital Programme – a draft programme has been sent to the Highways and Transport Committee for comment. Further work is needed to prioritise the use of this funding.

Guided Busway - Since February 2022, the southbound track has been closed between Cambridge Railway Station and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus. The Council has been working with the bus operators and emergency services to risk-assess and design a fence to be installed along sections of the southern busway. It has been specifically designed with removable sections to allow for safe evacuation. Contractors are working seven days a week and the busway and maintenance track are currently programmed to re-open on Saturday 30 March 2024.

Rail upgrade at Ely – unclear - Investment in Ely was highlighted by government when it announced its target to grow rail freight by 75% by 2050.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH COMBINED AUTHORITY: Just after Mayor Nik Johnson announced a list of bus improvements which his precept would be able to fund, Stagecoach announced it would be drastically reducing the **Service 9** bus from Ely to Cambridge. Stagecoach say they can no longer support running buses empty on this loss-making route. Since the route was changed in September 2023, I have been regularly requesting restoration of the connecting service through the villages of Waterbeach, Landbeach and Milton. Instead, from 14 April, the service will be slashed to just four buses Monday to Friday, with fewer stops. The Combined Authority is considering next steps to provide a useable service.

Highways and Road works: Milton Interchange – another brief overnight closure

Works have been scheduled in **April** to survey the north end of the west overbridge. During recent resurfacing works a void was identified under the carriageway and temporarily repaired. The findings will help to determine a permanent solution. The interchange west overbridge will be closed overnight **8pm – 6am from 8 April until 10 April 2024**.

Traffic will be diverted to the A14 westbound to J32, Histon Interchange and return on the A14 eastbound towards Milton Interchange just north of the A14 overbridge. Traffic will be able to access Milton off the roundabout (near Tesco).

12 To Receive District Councillors Report (Full report on MPC Website)

South Cambridgeshire District Council Budget for 2024-25: On Tuesday 27th February SCDC voted to approve the administration's Budgets and Business Plan for the period 2024-25.

Council tax for the upcoming tax year was set with a 3% below inflation rise with a band D household paying an extra £5 per annum on the portion that goes to SCDC.

Youth Mental Health support: The next Wild Minds course begins on Sunday 17th March from 3pm –to 4.30pm at Milton Country Park. The programme is designed to help those between the ages of 12 and 17 with mild to moderate anxiety or depression. The programme encompasses a range of nature-based activities which help support young people's wellbeing, by enjoying being outdoors and engaging with peers who may be experiencing similar feelings. To get involved and to register to take part visit the Council's Nature based Wellbeing web page: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/nature-based-wellbeing-programme/#form>

Easter bin collections: Collections in the 'Milton & Waterbeach' ward won't be impacted at all over Easter so continue to place bins kerbside for emptying on the usual day of the week (Wednesday or Thursday.)

24th February marked two years since Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The Council continues to support refugees in settling here and also supports their host families. South Cambridgeshire residents have opened their homes and hearts to Ukrainians fleeing war. We will continue to support our Ukrainian refugees to make a home here in South Cambridgeshire whilst hoping for an end to this conflict and for a day when those who wish to can return home.

13 To Receive Milton Community Centre Report

Maintenance/Improvements: General ongoing repairs have been completed across the 3 sites.

The majority of the car park at The Sycamores has been topped up with plainings and the potholes filled. We have also replaced the lights in the car park and the 5-side area with LED lights and replaced the time clock.

Bookings: The Annexe and the Main Hall remain popular for children's parties and the Main Building is now in use 7 days a week for regular bookings. We have seen a decrease in the number of attendees for some of our regular classes. This is thought to be due to people watching their money more.

Hard Courts: The Hard Courts are in use 7 days a week and Milton Colts have resumed their winter booking on the 5 aside court. Milton Tennis Club continue to use the 3 courts. The tennis courts have been professionally cleaned leading to a better playing surface.

Youth Building and Sycamores Pavilion: Eddies Artworks continue to use the building Monday to Friday and Youth Group on a Thursday evening.

Milton football club continues to use the Pavilion.

North Lodge: We still see very low interest in hiring the facility due to the main room being too small for exercise classes and the flooring not suitable for dance classes.

We have had issues with horses leaving the adjoining paddocks and damaging the football pitches due to the fence being removed. I am in regular contact with the owners of the land and the stable manager, and this should have stopped now.

Milton Colts and Milton Cricket are still the main users of the facility.

Vandalism and Crime: We have continued to have damage being caused to football pitches at NLP and the Sycamores by quad bikes. The damage has been reported to the police.

We continue to regularly receive complaints about dog owners not clearing up dog mess, not having dogs on leads, ignoring the signs regarding this particularly at Coles Road and The Sycamores.

We have seen a significant increase in litter at Coles Road particularly in the car park with fast food packaging left and tissues where people have cleaned their shoes before getting in to vehicles.

14 Correspondence

Question raised by resident: Is there any chance of having a bus shelter on Cambridge Road? The bus shelter is now on the wrong side of the road to go into town – **With the current Greenway proposal going through the village no locations can be considered. MPC are currently lobbying for a better Number 9 service. MPC are limited on what land is available**

Emailed to Councillors

Weed control regime information letter

Greater Cambridge Partnership Update February 2024

SCDC 4 day week report

15 Dates of next meetings

Monday 18 March 2024 – 7pm Planning – 7:45pm Maintenance

Monday 8 April 2024 – Parish Council

Wednesday 17 April 2024 – 11:30am Community Care

Meeting closed at 9:22pm Signed: Dated:

Milton Parish Council

Work/Project Schedule List (as of 2 April 2024)

Works Required	Committee	Progress
<p>Removal of Trees by Allotments/A10 and planting of replacement trees (Dec 2020)</p> <p>Added: (March 2023)</p>	Carried out by County Highways	<p>The 15 trees due to be removed Allotment/A10 side – A traffic order will be required. Email CCC 25/1/24 Request for trees to be reassessed</p> <p>Tree fallen onto Allotment land and Paddock Wood with fence damage. Awaiting date for removal and repairs. Emailed: response 2/8/23 – awaiting costings for removal. Followed up on 24/10/23. Email received 14/11/23 – Trying to get works order raised. Chased up 13/12/23 Email 25/1/24: Order on the system for tree removal. Once trees removed fence repairs can be carried out 20/3/24 – On-site visit to be arranged to discuss works</p>
Improve crossing point at High Street/Fen Road	A14 Legacy Fund	<p>Updated email received 27/7/23 – County Highways I have asked the LHO for the area to re-inspect and arrange to locally patch if the section meets intervention criteria. I appreciate this will be disappointing for the Parish, but unfortunately at this time we don't have any other budget which we could draw from to deliver this. Update: email received 14/12/23 If there is to be a tie in of works then we would look to delivery any maintenance work whilst accounting for the relocation of the island</p>
IN PROGRESS		
Power to Edmund Green	Maintenance	On hold until plans agreed

<p>Willow Crescent transfer of deeds</p>	<p>MPC</p>	<p>Update: 9/12/23 – Revised plans now agreed – Ashton sourcing an identical plan but with the appropriate scale, north point etc to ensure it is land registry compliant Awaiting an update: Chased up 28/2/24 and 11/3/24</p>
<p>Old School Lane adoption of land</p>		<p>Ashtons Solicitors putting together an application with information for adoption of land from the Crown HMS, DW and JEC looking into questions raised by Ashtons on previous land owner File on hold with Ashtons</p>

**Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 18 March 2024 at 7:45pm held in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: P Ellwood (PE)(Chairman), HM Smith (HMS), D Wildman (DW), J Coston (JEC), L Champion (LC)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), P Adams (Village Maintenance Person)

1 Apologies for absence

A Horne (Non-voting member)

2 To APPROVE the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18 December 2023

DW Proposed to approve the Minutes of the meeting of Monday 18 December 2023 as a true record -
PE Seconded **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

No public in attendance

5 Allotments

Update: Clerk – 1 person on the waiting list for an allotment

To **CONSIDER** request from SCDC to provide an area that could be transformed for a community food growing venture – accessible by the public. Specific funding available from SCDC – **Clerk to find out more information on this project: how will it be policed, what is the funding available and who will run and manage this project?**

6 Paddock Wood

Update: PE/Clerk

Clerk is still chasing up works by County Highways in relation to removal of the fallen tree and repairs to the damaged fence on both Paddock Wood and the allotments – **Clerk to send chase up email and to include the Chief Executive in the chain of the emails sent – AB and JEC to follow up with a visit to CCC if we receive no response (Update: response received 20/3/24 – a visit will be carried out to assess further works required)**

7 Cemetery

Update: Clerk/PE

Deputy Clerk is sourcing quotes to install a hand water pump and is trying to arrange sample testing of the ground water – confirming costs of water testing and if a pump can be installed

Clerk – to follow up with the Environment Agency and source who can carry out a groundwater risk assessment

To **CONSIDER** request for drainage to be put in the Cemetery grounds due to flooding of graves - **Due to the wet weather we are currently having the ground water levels are above normal. Other Cemeteries are also suffering. At present no further action to be taken**

To **CONSIDER** request for an additional bench on the right-hand side of the Cemetery – **Not on current action plan**

8 Play Areas

To **CONSIDER** using Play Safety to carry out full ROSPA inspections on the PC play parks at £78 + VAT per park (they do not carry out repairs) and Wicksteed to continue a yearly play park inspection at £90 per park – **Clerk to arrange for Play Safety to carry out an inspection as soon as possible and who they suggest for any repairs required**

To **CONSIDER** new wording for new play parks signs

It was **AGREED** to keep the same wording as before but add name of the park and Clerk’s mobile number to contact

NAME OF PARK (Humphries Way/Froment Way/The Rowans)

No Fouling

Dogs are not allowed near the play area apart from guide dogs

Dogs must be kept on a lead

Please keep dogs to the perimeter areas

Please inform the Parish Council if you notice any damage to play equipment
01223 861447/07853170646

To **CONSIDER** applying for a Public Space Protection Order (ongoing dog fouling)

Clerk to investigate on how to apply and the costing and policing of the order

9 War Memorial

To **CONSIDER** cleaning of war memorial (last carried out March 2018 steam clean and lime pointing).

Quote of £1,950 – extras: lime pointing £70 per m2 from Independent Memorial Inspection

Clerk to find out what is the gap time between cleaning, what is the plinth made of and what is the best approach to cleaning the war memorial

10 Edmund Green

To **DISCUSS** plans for the area – future planting and installation of electricity column

Clerk to arrange a face to face or on-line meeting with Buchans on how to move forward with the current contract and works required and to put a plan together for the area

11 Maintenance Equipment

To **CONSIDER** the purchase of a leaf blowing vacuum to assist with clearing of pathways in the village –

Quotes for a Cobra BV26c petrol blower vac £155.99 or B&Q 27cc petrol leaf blower and vacuum £79

Clerk to source costs for an industrial Stihl leaf blower

12 Dates of Next Meeting

Monday 12 June 2024 – 7:45pm

Meeting closed at 9:46pm Signed: Date:

IMI
Independent Memorial Inspection
81 Main Road
Watnall
Nottingham
NG16 1HE

Estimate No 3424

VAT Reg: 829 5636 89

Estimate

Customer

Name Mrs Sarah Corder
 Title Parish Clerk
 Address Milton Parish Council
 Parish Council Office
 Coles Road
 Milton
 Cambridge

Misc

Date 21st Feb 2024

Qty	Description	Unit Price	TOTAL
	Milton War Memorial, Coles Road, Milton, Cambridgeshire, CB24 6BW		
	Imperial War Museum, War Memorial Register, Ref No: 8416		
1	Clean war memorial and surrounding area, Steam	1,950.00	1,950.00
	Additional Options		
per m2	Lime Pointing	70.00	
per lm	Chain supply/install Stainless steel 2mm x 22mm x 4mm	55.00	
1	written report and photos		free
		SubTotal	1,950.00
		Shipping	
	VAT	20.00%	390.00
		TOTAL	£2,340.00

IMI also undertake Memorial Safety Inspections,
 as per industry guidance

Office Use Only

Assisting with "In Memoriam 2014," Imperial War Museum, War Memorial Register where appropriate

Thank you for your custom, I look forward to working with you in the future

Milton Parish Council

2 April 2024 (2023-2024)

PAYMENTS LIST

Vouch e	Code	Cheque No	Description	Supplier		VAT Type	Total
406	Website	1&1 WP Plus and domain	IONOS Cloud Ltd	S	18.99	3.80	22.79
407	Clerk employment costs	Pension payment	Smart Pension	E	72.63		72.63
408	Clerk employment costs	Pension Payment (employe	Smart Pension	E	72.63		72.63
409	S137: Warden Employment Costs	Pension payment	Smart Pension	E	71.94		71.94
410	S137: Warden Employment Costs	Pension Payment (employe	Smart Pension	E	71.94		71.94
411	General Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting	Cambridgehire Cour	E	-1,130.00		-1,130.00
412	Subscriptions	Brightpay Connect	BrightPay	S	2.21	0.44	2.65
413	Website	Microsoft 365 Business Lic	IONOS Cloud Ltd	S	6.99	1.40	8.39
414	Subscriptions	Pension Admin Charge	Smart Pension	E	26.40		26.40
415	Electricity	Electricity	British Gas	L	132.80	6.64	139.44
416	S137: Warden's Phone	Mobile phone insurance	Tesco Mobile	E	3.00		3.00
417	Telephone / Broadband	Mobile phone Clerk	EE Limited	E	6.84		6.84
418	MCC grounds maintenance	MCC Costs Contribution	Town & Country Tree	S	600.00	120.00	720.00
419	S137: Warden's Phone	Mobile phone (Warden)	Tesco Mobile	E	16.99		16.99
420	Tree Maintenance	Tree work	Town & Country Tree	S	3,390.00	678.00	4,068.00
421	Tree Maintenance	Tree work	Town & Country Tree	S	140.00	28.00	168.00
422	Trolley Bus	Dial-a-Ride	Cambridge Dial-a-Rid	E	120.00		120.00
423	MCC cleaning	MCC Costs Contribution	Atkins Gregory (The	S	1,308.69	261.74	1,570.43
424	Allotment Maintenance	Allotment	Buchans Landscaping	S	17.50	3.50	21.00
425	Cemetery Maintenance	Cemetery	Buchans Landscaping	S	226.63	45.33	271.96
426	General Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting	Buchans Landscaping	S	1,567.90	313.58	1,881.48
427	MCC grounds maintenance	MCC Costs Contribution	Buchans Landscaping	S	1,171.12	234.22	1,405.34
428	Paddock Wood	Paddock Wood Maintenan	Buchans Landscaping	S	65.46	13.09	78.55
429	S137: Sundries	memorial flowers	Milton Flower Shop	E	59.99		59.99
430	Bank charges	Bank Charge	Lloyds Bank	E	3.00		3.00
431	Stationery	Stationery	ESPO	S	36.45	7.29	43.74
432	Website	1&1 WP Plus and domain	IONOS Cloud Ltd	S	28.98	5.80	34.78
433	Clerk employment costs	Pension payment	Smart Pension	E	74.23		74.23
434	Clerk employment costs	Pension Payment (employe	Smart Pension	E	74.23		74.23
435	S137: Warden Employment Costs	Pension payment	Smart Pension	E	71.94		71.94
436	S137: Warden Employment Costs	Pension payment	Smart Pension	E	71.94		71.94
437	Website	1&1 Mail Pro Licence	IONOS Cloud Ltd	S	3.99	0.80	4.79
438	Payroll Dept Clerk	Salary	J B	X	227.40		227.40
439	Payroll Highways	Salary	P A	X	324.98		324.98
440	Clerk employment costs	Salary	S C	X	1,294.24		1,294.24
441	S137: Warden Employment Costs	Salary	T E	X	1,054.46		1,054.46
442	Youth Workers/Courses	Youth Club Sessions	The Connections Bus	E	776.00		776.00
443	Subscriptions	CAPALC Membership	CAPALC	E	936.61		936.61
444	Photocopying	Photocopying	CBS Office Solutions	S	22.52	4.50	27.02
445	Bank charges	Bank Charge	Unity Trust Bank	E	0.60		0.60
446	Bank charges	Bank Charge	Unity Trust Bank	E	31.80		31.80
447	S137: Warden's Mileage	Mileage	T E	E	240.75		240.75
448	Play areas	Play bark	Buchans Landscaping	S	289.50	57.90	347.40
449	Allotment Maintenance	Allotment	Buchans Landscaping	S	17.50	3.50	21.00
450	Cemetery Maintenance	Cemetery	Buchans Landscaping	S	226.63	45.33	271.96
451	General Grounds Maintenance	Grass Cutting	Buchans Landscaping	S	1,567.90	313.58	1,881.48
452	MCC grounds maintenance	MCC Costs Contribution	Buchans Landscaping	S	1,171.12	57.90	1,229.02
453	Paddock Wood	Paddock Wood Maintenan	Buchans Landscaping	S	65.46	13.09	78.55

Milton Parish Council

2 April 2024 (2023-2024)

RECEIPTS LIST

Vouch e	Code	Bank	Receipt No	Description	Supplier	Total
176	S106 Arts	Santander S106 /	Interest		Santander	31.32
177	Community Care fees	CBS General Purp	Community Care Fee		M S	42.00
178	Community Care fees	CBS General Purp	Community Care Fee		J K	78.00
179	Community Care fees	CBS General Purp	Community Care Fee		D M	78.00
180	Community Care fees	CBS General Purp	Community Care Fee		J C	78.00
181	Community Care fees	CBS General Purp	Community Care Fee		T G	130.00
182	Community Care fees	Unity Trust Bank	Community Care Fee		B C	70.00
183	Cemetery Fees	Unity Trust Bank	Ashes plot and Internment	AA11 and AA12		300.00
184	Community Care fees	Unity Trust Bank	Community Care Fee		EH/RH	156.00
185	Cemetery Fees	Unity Trust Bank	Memorial		E10	150.00
					Total	1,113.32

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Abbott Electrical

Tel. 07919054247 01223 860848

18 Willow Crescent
Milton
Cambridge
CB24 6BY
26 March 2024

Estimate for

Milton Parish Council
Coles Road
Milton

Provide and fit 3kW wall heater

Materials	3kW wall heater £132.00
Labour	£60.00
Total Cost	£192.00



County Councillor Report for Parishes – April 2024 – Cllr Anna Bradnam

County Full Council

On 19 March we received reports on Council pay, pay policy and pay gaps.

Three motions were passed:

1. To ensure our Armed Forces Covenant Officer is properly resourced; and to seek government support for veterans, Afghan refugees, and dependents of Commonwealth veterans.
2. To ask the government to introduce a proportional voting system for Police & Crime Commissioners and Mayors, and to improve public understanding of tiers of local government and increase participation of young people in local elections.
5. To ask government to commit to making the benefits of growth in Greater Cambridge accessible to all residents of Cambridgeshire, to commit to essential infrastructure and services, to establish ambitious targets for affordable housing, and invest in training and education.

Council composition: following the by-election in Yaxley & Farcet, the Liberal Democrat group is now the largest on the council. The composition of the council is as follows. Liberal Democrats 23, Conservatives 22, Labour 9, Independents 4, Non-aligned 3.

Development Corporation to shape Cambridge

The government has published details of its plans for a huge expansion of Cambridge and the areas around it. 'The Case for Cambridge' contains plans for 150,000 more houses in and around Cambridge. [The Case for Cambridge - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

The Government's spring budget included £10.2M for the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and transport to it, namely the Cambridge South East Transport or CSET project.

Water scarcity has been recognised by the Environment Agency as a major obstacle to growth in this area; the Government's proposal is to pilot a system of 'water credits' where 'developers can offset their development through the purchase and sale of water credits to ensure they have a neutral impact on water scarcity within Cambridge'. Personally I do not find this a convincing solution.

In 2023 the government appointed the head of Homes England, Peter Freeman to lead a **new Development Corporation** called the **Cambridge Delivery Group** to deliver the government's vision for Cambridge. This will add yet another layer to our already multiple layers of governance and will see a new and unaccountable body deciding the future of the City. Some locally elected representatives will be on an advisory board, but it seems decisions will be taken elsewhere.

STRATEGY RESOURCES & PERFORMANCE Household Support Fund and supermarket vouchers
The government's budget included an extension of the Household Support Fund for six months. This helps the council pay for supermarket vouchers during the school holidays, as well as other payments to households in need. This was not announced in time for local councils to include it in their budgets, so the council has agreed to modify its spending plans. The supermarket vouchers will therefore continue to be issued at the current rate for the next six months.

ADULTS & HEALTH Last year the NHS in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough spent an estimated total of £28M on emergency care for 4,500 people who attended A&E 5-10 times a year. The Council will host the 'High Intensity Users' team, working with patients with complex needs, as identifying and supporting them early can save the NHS at least 40% of these costs.

ASSETS & PROCUREMENT committee has approved a new Land & Property Strategy to guide the management of its diverse portfolio of land and property. The Council commissioned a CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) Health Check and this Strategy will undertake actions for change and improvement recommended in that report.

The committee has also approved a Commercial, Commissioning & Procurement Framework and made arrangements to re-procure water and waste water services when its current contract comes to an end in October.

COMMUNITIES SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC)

The Committee has approved an additional £150,000 to Cambridge Housing Society to deliver the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme, which supports Cambridgeshire residents facing unexpected financial difficulties.

Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme - Cambridgeshire County Council

The council has also allocated £400,000 to Citizens Advice to deliver income maximisation across Cambridgeshire.

The council is proceeding with a series of pilot projects to bring decision-making closer to local communities.

The committee has also refreshed its Safe Accommodation Strategy for victims of domestic abuse for the next three years.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

The council has refreshed its policy and protocol for enforcement under the Land Drainage Act 1991.

Fens 2100+ is a new programme of work launched in 2023 to enable the Fens to adapt to the challenges of climate change both now and into the future. It is a partnership project between the Environment Agency, the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA), Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs), National Farmers Union (NFU) and Anglian Northern and Great Ouse Regional Flood & Coastal Committees (RFCCs). The programme will develop a Fens-wide flood resilience investment strategy so that Flood Risk Management Authorities can plan for the next twenty-five years.

Over the next 100 years, an additional £4.5B will be needed to manage flood risk in the Fens. Under current flood risk management funding rules half of that investment would be funded, the rest is not. The **Fens 2100+** programme has been developed to address that funding gap. Our villages (Milton, Landbeach, Waterbeach, Chittering and Horningsea are in the Great Ouse Catchment. Fen Ditton is just on the boundary.

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-anglia-c-e/fens2100/>

The council is working with partners to develop a **Local Nature Recovery Strategy**. Natural Cambridgeshire is continuing to develop an engagement and communications plan to support it.

Decarbonisation of council buildings

The council has been awarded a government grant to decarbonise 9 more of its own buildings including libraries and youth centres. This will help the council meet its target of net zero by 2030 for its own operations. Government funding of £1,244,550 will be added to £3,793,741 from the council's own decarbonisation fund. The works to these buildings will reduce carbon emissions by 178.44 tonnes every year.

Clean energy at Park & Rides

Solar panels are being installed at St Ives and Babraham Park & Rides. These will provide power for the operation of the sites themselves, while also making energy available to commercial customers via a private wire. Electric vehicle charging points are being installed at each site, with some designed for drivers with disabilities.

North Angle private wire

Work is also finally under way on the project to connect North Angle Solar Farm to the Swaffham Prior community heat network by means of a private wire.

Swaffham Prior community heat network has been named as a finalist for an international award, the Ashden Awards, recognising ground-breaking climate solutions. The project won the prestigious Edie Net Zero Award for Renewable Energy Project of the Year in November 2023. The Ashden winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on Thursday 27 June.

Connecting Cambridgeshire - Gigabit-capable broadband coverage in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough has hit 85% a year early, meaning we are above the national average and ahead of Government targets. Work is ongoing to bring future-proof connectivity to homes and businesses in harder to reach areas. Connecting Cambridgeshire will be launching its Digital Inclusion Strategy in May 2024. Digital Overview for Cambridgeshire can be seen here <https://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/about/digital-connectivity-strategy-2021-2025/district-digital-overviews/>

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Gully clearing – I receive a regular update on the cyclic gully clearance programme but I've not been advised when gullies in Waterbeach Division will be cleared.

20MPH schemes A 20MPH speed limit in Ely went live on 29 March. Applications for new schemes in Cambridgeshire closed on 22 March. Speed reduction schemes such as these are being funded from the CPCA's Transforming Cities Fund allocation from government.

Hemlock has been gradually expanding across areas of Cambridgeshire. While it is invasive, and highly toxic to livestock and humans, it is a native plant species. In public spaces under the council's control the council instructs its contractor to treat it using professional equipment and glyphosate.

Guided buses have resumed two-way running between Cambridge Railway Station and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, following installation of a safety fence.

East West Rail are planning statutory consultation in the first half of this year. Land Interest Questionnaires have been issued to some landowners. As far as I can tell the southern route still appears to be their preferred route.

Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation - The Examination of this application is due to finish on Wednesday 17 April. The Conservators of the Cam have been heavily consulted concerning the new outflow point north of the A14.

Fens Reservoir Anglian Water and Cambridge Water are to consult on proposals for two new reservoirs for the East of England region. One is to be in the Fens near Chatteris and the other in Lincolnshire. The non-statutory consultation will start May 2024, and will run for eight weeks.

The Combined Authority Board will be tendering for a contracts to run the service 9 bus from Littleport via Ely to Cambridge, to replace the journeys proposed to be cut by Stagecoach in April. The Combined Authority is also working on plans for bus network improvements and £1 youth bus fare, and bus shelter improvements.

Trinity Hall Farm Industrial Estate, Milton Road – I attended a local member briefing from the developer about proposals for the estate. Public consultations are due to start soon.

Cambridge Biomedical Campus

I attended a presentation by the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, which explained forthcoming developments (Cambridge Children's Hospital, affordable housing for medical staff).

Milton Cambridge Road Industrial Estate – Councillor Rippeth and I have been taking steps at District and County level to deter antisocial parking, which blocks business access.

Milton Cambridge Road - I have reported the series of awful potholes from Tesco to One-Stop.

Milton Ely Road - overnight lorry parking. Whilst unexpected, parking is not illegal in this location. I have not received any reports of disturbance and lorries seem to leave early in the morning. Please report overnight parking to the Police if it obstructs the road.

Horningsea Greenway – works will continue once county footway resurfacing has been completed.

Landbeach High Street – I am checking a historic stretch of unexplained dropped kerb.

Landbeach Beche Way, Fen Ditton High Ditch Road and Fen Ditton Green End - footway slurry sealing will be done sometime between 1 May and 1 November 2024. Hoorah. I am seeking further details of timing.

District Councillors' Report to Parish Councils – April 2024

Celebrations at South Cambridgeshire District Council

Fifty years of serving local communities has been marked by South Cambridgeshire District Council as it celebrates its golden anniversary. Officially established in April 1974, the District Council has been at the forefront of shaping vibrant communities across 104 parishes and two towns. Currently the council has 45 councillors led by a Cabinet of eight councillors, representing over 157,000 people and a workforce of over 660, which includes all those employed in the planning and waste services which are shared with Cambridge City Council. For 2024/25 the council will spend nearly £81.5m, of which £37m will be met from local taxpayers (including business rates) and Government grants. The council will also receive £7.5m from investments and nearly £40m from fees and charges.

Financial Accounts 2022/23

We are pleased to report that the 22/23 accounts have been finalised and published on our website www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/finance-and-budget/council-accounts-and-annual-governance-statement/ Recognising the shortage of auditors services, the government has introduced transitional arrangements for all councils' outstanding audits, and we await the final decision from government about how our 2021/22 and 2022/23 accounts will be externally audited. However, in terms of our own position in preparing the accounts, we are now up to date.

Zero Carbon Grants – open for bids

This grant aims to empower community groups and parish councils to take local action on climate change. Applications are once again invited for projects under two themes: reducing carbon emissions or locking up carbon, and community engagement around climate change. Grants of between £2,000 and £15,000 are available to parish councils and community groups in South Cambridgeshire, with a total pot of £125,000 available. Projects funded previously have included community building retrofits, food waste and climate-friendly cooking education, and e-bike rental schemes. You can find more past projects, case studies and the application form on our website:

[Zero Carbon Communities Grant - South Cambs District Council \(scambs.gov.uk\)](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/finance-and-budget/council-accounts-and-annual-governance-statement/)

All applicants should review the updated application guidance and information documents. Please note especially, all solar PV projects are now asked to have received 3 quotes. We encourage those wishing to apply to attend our grant application workshop (24 April 2024, 7-8:30pm, [sign up via Eventbrite](#)). You can also email zcc@scambs.gov.uk for support. Applications close Sun 2 June, 5pm. www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant

The Government's announcement of a 'Case for Cambridge' – Councils' response

Along with the Chancellor's Spring Budget, Michael Gove MP, Secretary for Levelling-Up, Housing and Communities, unveiled a 'Case for Cambridge'. The document describes his vision for building up to 150,000 new homes in and around Cambridge by 2050, which he claims are necessary "to supercharge this scientific and economic supercluster".

[The Case for Cambridge \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](http://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Cllrs Mike Davey, Leader of Cambridge City Council and Bridget Smith, Leader of South Cambs District Council have called on Government for more detail about the housing proposed and where it might be located – and to ensure both councils and their communities are closely involved and can have their say. They have welcomed the Government's proposals to help tackle the critical water supply issues which are already impacting development, including progressing the Fens Reservoir as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, accelerating transfers from Grafham Water, promoting Nature Based Solutions, and trialling a water credits system. Many important questions remain

unanswered, such as the case for setting up a Development Corporation or the evidence indicating a need for 150,000 more homes. www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant

Allotment toolkit launch

The Council has launched a new 'allotment toolkit' to support the provision of good quality allotments across the district. The toolkit includes advice on areas such as governance, pest control, and community engagement, and includes a case study on Swavesey Allotment.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/community-action/allotment-toolkit/>

'Find a Grant' digital service – free trial offer for local government

In March 2023, the Cabinet Office launched a 'Find a Grant' digital service, for eligible individuals and organisations to find and apply for government grants. The Cabinet Office is offering councils, and grant administrator colleagues in any local government organisation, access to use 'Find a Grant' on a free trial basis until at least March 2025. To give councils a flavour of 'Find a Grant', the Cabinet Office has created a short video. And, if you'd be interested in a further demonstration of the service, please contact: findagrants@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Bringing empty homes back into use - An awareness campaign has been launched to bring empty properties back into use and help get families living in suitable homes. Shire Homes, the District Council's private sector leasing scheme, offers a complete management service and worry-free way of renting out. Shire Homes can take on a property for three or more years and provides guaranteed rental payments every month, with no management fees, regular property visits, full management service and day-to-day maintenance.

Shire Homes also offers a 'Homes for Ukraine' option where owners could potentially receive funding for up to £570 per home towards PAT testing, Gas Safety Check Certificate, EPC and Smoke Alarms to get their property ready for rental to a Ukrainian resident. Private homeowners can support the campaign by speaking to the Empty Homes Officer who can offer help, advice and visit your property if required.

A recent example is a house where the owner died with no known relatives. Empty since 2020, the property had burst pipes and flooding downstairs causing issues to neighbours, with no prospect of being sold. The District Council Empty Homes officer worked with a genealogy company to trace two distant relatives in France who have agreed to commence probate and sell the property. If you are a private homeowner and would like further help and support, please contact Anna Nightingale Empty Homes Officer on: nightingale@scambs.gov.uk

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service – digital improvements

Greater Cambridge Shared Planning has secured £100,000 of funding from the Department of Levelling Up, Homes and Communities (DLUHC). This financial boost will help the service embrace digital transformation to improve planning services for residents. It will make planning processes faster and more efficient, which will directly benefit residents and developers. It will also help GCSP to prepare for forthcoming legislation, ensuring compliance and readiness for future changes.

Waterbeach Community Liaison Forum - 20 March - We had useful updates from the Planning Service and U&C, followed by updates from the GCP (on the busway, the railway station and the Greenway), Smarter Journeys and County Education. David Boden answered questions on the service 9 bus route on behalf of Stagecoach. Anglian Water were unable to answer some questions asked about the effect of the proposed new sewage pipeline on Waterbeach residents, and agreed attend the Forum on 10 July to answer those questions.

Cllrs Paul Bearpark, Anna Bradnam and Judith Rippeth

22