

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 6 January 2025 at 7:30pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: HM Smith (HMS) (Chair), JE Coston (JEC), P Ellwood (PE), RJ Farrington (RJF), D Owen (DO),
D Wildman (DW), A Bradnam (AB)(arrived 8:15pm)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies for Absence:**
None – full Council in attendance
- 2. To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 December 2024**
Clerk – amendment to Item 14: (Maintenance Office budget) refers to Item 13
RF Proposed to accept the minutes with the above change - HMS Seconded **ALL AGREED**
- 3. Declarations of interest and dispensations:**
To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the 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 in attendance
- 5. Clerk's/Chairman's Report and see Works Schedule**
South Cambs District Council Green Space – Shared Prosperity Fund – Improving the area on Edmund Green – Meeting held on 4 November 2024. Update PE – **Design plans have been received but not as was discussed. HMS to speak with SCDC to confirm plans (new plans expected by 10 January)**
Edmund Green Art Bench – Repaired and returned. Will be relocated to the Cemetery
Christmas Tree on Pond Green – Installed. Thank you to Milton Yarnies for the baubles. Appreciated comments received from villagers. To be removed in the next few days
Landbeach Road Bus Stop – Front window panel was stolen, due to be replaced on February 2025
Community Centre Car Park – 2 more disabled bays to be installed in the car park near the Doctors Surgery – cost to MPC £350
LHI Application – Coles Road double yellow lines. Post went out on Facebook and Milton Chat for residents' views and comments. Application to be submitted by 10 January 2025 – **Responses received and reviewed are overall for support. It was discussed to put £3k towards this project (To be ratified at the February MPC meeting)**
MVAS – 2 new MVAS to be installed on Cambridge Road and High Street/Ely Road – **First one installed along Cambridge Road by the Vets- 2nd location to be confirmed**
- 6. Planning**
The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16 December 2024 were received
Decisions:
24/01020/CONDC – Land South West of Milton Park & Ride, Butt Lane, Milton (Police Station) – Submission of details required by condition 3 (materials) and 8 (archaeological work) of planning permission 24/01020/S73 **SPLIT DECISION**
24/1275/TTCA – Milton Hall, Ely Road, Milton - T146 Horse Chestnut x11ms in height - raise crown to 5ms all round. T145 - Alianthus / Tree of Heaven x10ms in height - raise crown to 5ms all round. T56 - Ash x14ms in height - reduce by 40% to address unbalanced crown, reduce by 5.5ms leaving tree at 8.5ms to rebalance crown after wind damage. T16 - Beech x18ms in height - top and fell and remove root to facilitate replanting **NO OBJECTION**
24/04030/HFUL - 27 Sutton Close, Milton - First floor side extension including an Air Source Heat Pump to rear and addition of PV Solar Panels to front elevation. **APPLICATION PERMITTED.**
24/04088/PRIOR – 51 Cambridge Road, Milton - Change of Use from Commercial, Business and Service to 3no flats (Use class C3) – **PRIOR APPROVAL GIVEN**
New:
24/04643/HFUL – 13 Willow Crescent, Milton – Installation of an air source pump (ASHP) to the front of

property **OBJECT: Due to noise from the pump MPC would like to see screening and noise attenuation (such as a fence or evergreen hedge)**

7. Maintenance

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16 December 2024 were received

To **CONSIDER** quote from C J Muffitt for installation of a concrete base and installation of the art bench at the Cemetery £580 +VAT **DW Proposed to accept the quote – HMS Seconded ALL AGREED**

To **CONSIDER** quote from Online Playgrounds (Previously Fenland Leisure) for required repairs at Humphries Way £3,468.90 +VAT – **Clerk to ask Playdale (manufacturers of the play equipment) to quote for the repairs**

8. Bills for Payment and Money Received

To **CONFIRM** and **AGREE** bills for payment- DW Proposed to pay vouchers 289 to 314 and tabled 315 to 332 – RF Seconded **ALL AGREED**

9. Policies

To **REVIEW** the following changes made to the policy: Freedom of Information Publication Scheme – **(Clerk was to check statutory fee and photocopying charge) – Clerk advised to remove statutory fee (as per guidance given) and keep photocopying charge at 20p per copy ALL AGREED (AB arrived)**

10. Village Tree Works

To **CONSIDER** quote from Town and Country £1,960 + VAT for required tree works at the Cemetery and Allotment **JEC Proposed to accept the quote – PE Seconded ALL AGREED**

11. Youth Building – The Sycamores Recreation Ground Installation of Solar Panels

To **RATIFY** the decision to accept the offer of free installation of solar panels and battery by Resolve Energy in supporting the local community **JEC Proposed to ratify the acceptance of this offer – RF Seconded ALL AGREED (panels to be installed on both sides of the roof as offered by their manufacturers)**

12. The County Councillor’s Report for January 2025 was received (Full report with Agenda papers)

English Devolution White Paper: On 16th December 2024, the Government published the English Devolution White Paper:

[English Devolution White Paper - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/english-devolution-white-paper)

Local Government Re-organisation (LGR): The White Paper also sets out the Government’s intent to undertake Local Government Re-organisation working with individual areas, by inviting proposals from all remaining two-tier areas, i.e. those areas with both County and District Councils, which will include **Cambridgeshire**. A Cambridgeshire County Council spokesperson said: “The English Devolution White Paper sets out a clear direction from the Government. We welcome the opportunities that greater powers and more funding being devolved from Westminster to Cambridgeshire could bring and will work closely with the Mayor and the Combined Authority to secure the best outcomes for our communities.

Could you be a Foster Carer?

If you think you could open up your home to help a child or young person in need of care, get in touch: [Fostering & adoption | Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

And if you’re interested in finding out more about becoming a foster carer, read more about what’s involved at www.fostereast.org.uk or call Foster East on 0330 024 1177.

Support for Carers: (Thursday, 19 December) we’re launching ‘Bridgit’, an AI-enabled carer support platform to provide a one-stop shop to help carers in Cambridgeshire.

The new platform is being offered by Cambridgeshire County Council in collaboration with Caring Together and alongside Peterborough City Council.

Bridgit has been designed by carers, specifically for those who juggle busy and often stressful lives. It is user-friendly and makes navigation easy, even for those with limited digital skills.

How will Bridgit help Cambridgeshire’s carers?

- **Comprehensive resources:** Free wellbeing, employment, finance, and care advice and events.
- **Local and national support:** Tailored support services and training opportunities.
- **Personalised Self-Care Plans:** Customisable self-care plans to manage well-being.
- **24/7 Availability:** All resources are available at any time of day, no registration required.

Bridgit is available to use now. However, if carers can also call Caring Together on 0345 241 0954 to discuss the free help and support available. [Browse support on Bridgit.](#)

Milton Household Recycling Centre - Opening times - October to March:

Monday to Sunday - 9am to 4pm (Site may close at dusk if earlier)

Entrance gates shut 10 minutes before closing time

Plans are being developed for a new Household Recycling Centre (HRC) at Milton, to replace the current facility which must close by 2026 under its existing planning consent.

Local Highways Issues:

Milton and Waterbeach – the ditch on the east side of the A10 is deemed to be in riparian ownership and is functional. The gullies and associated laterals and carrier pipes on the west side of the A10 need to be inspected, jetted and cleansed. They have been reported for maintenance.

Capitally Funded Highway Maintenance Scheme – I have referred:

- Cambridge Road/High Street, Milton – carriageway and cycle lane resurfacing
- Coles Road, Milton – carriageway resurfacing

13. The District Councillors report for January 2025 was received (Full report Appendix 1 of the Minutes)

Useful information – Flooding: SCDC's Scrutiny and Overview Committee recently discussed local drainage, flooding and mitigation of water pollution (Paul, Judith and Anna are all members of this committee). One of the tasks to come out of that meeting was to provide South Cambridgeshire's parish and town councils with some helpful information and tools to support them – particularly when it comes to flooding. This information has been provided to all parish and town councils in South Cambs via the clerks' e-bulletin. Given the importance of the topic we are also highlighting it to you directly here.

Watercourse rights and responsibilities: If there is a watercourse on, next to or under a property you own, then you could be a Riparian Owner. The deeds for your property or land may tell you if this is the case. However, even if your deeds do not say you are responsible for an adjacent watercourse, the law will assume you are. Waiver of responsibility only applies where a title deed states specifically that you are not responsible. This means you are responsible for its maintenance to ensure it flows freely without obstruction, pollution or diversion, and you should also maintain your side of the riverbank. If you are a tenant, responsibilities usually sit with the owner; but it is worth checking your tenancy agreement. [A map of all watercourses in Cambridgeshire](#) is available on the County Council website. You can also read more about rights and responsibilities as a riparian owner.

South Cambridgeshire District Council's Awarded Watercourse team: The District Council's Awarded Watercourses team is responsible for carrying out mechanical / machinery based, and hand works tasks, on approximately 275 km of open watercourses, culverts, pipes and associated structures within South Cambridgeshire.

The District Council's Awarded Watercourse team also support parish groups, councillors and representatives by taking a view on drainage matters generally and providing advice on the cause and resolution process. This includes enhancement and support for nature and ecology projects where the service can assist with resources.

Sewer Drainage: Any parishes that are experiencing any sewer drainage issues should email Anglian Water at their Public Affairs mailbox on public.affairs@anglianwater.co.uk

Campaign – Climate and Nature Bill: South Cambridgeshire District Council has signalled its support for the Climate and Nature bill which is soon to be debated in Parliament.

Transport - Cowley Rd update: The works currently undertaken on Cowley Rd are the much needed works to improve the conditions and safety for cyclists and pedestrians along this busy route south of the bridge over the A14. The scheme is progressing but has taken longer than anticipated due to the complexity of the work around the many utilities laid within Cowley Road to ensure they remain undamaged and do not affect the many businesses in the vicinity that rely on them.

The construction team are installing street lighting along the western verge from St John's Innovation Park

to the A14 Walking and Cycling Bridge, which will continue into early January. Once connected, the area will be restored to its original appearance.

In addition, improvements to key junctions are underway and cycleway and swale construction has advanced steadily, with drainage improvements carried out to ensure the route remains usable year-round. Finally, work has begun on enhancing safety at Anglian Water's entrance near the A14 footbridge.

14. The Milton Community Centre report was received

Maintenance/Improvements: General ongoing repairs have been completed across the 3 sites. These include replacing flooring at Sycamores Pavilion, replacing 4 faulty lights in the main car park, repairs to the Annexe entrance door, repairs to the play areas at Coles Road, repairs to the tennis court shelter, clearing out the main drains in the main car park and a deep clean of the kitchen at the Community Centre.

Coles Road: 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.

Hard Courts: The Hard Courts are in use 7 days a week and Milton Tennis Club continue to use the 3 tennis courts.

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 and Milton Cricket Club continue to use the Pavilion.

North Lodge: The National Teaching Advisory Service are currently using the pavilion 3 mornings a week for 2:1 educational lesson's. Milton Colts and Milton Cricket are still the main users of the facility. We have also had bookings for craft workshops at the pavilion.

Vandalism and Crime: Thankfully we have continued to see a reduction in damage to football pitches at the 3 sites caused by quad bikes.

We have had an attempted second encampment at Coles Road in the main car park when a convoy of caravans arrived. The police were called and attended. The visitors left without the need for bailiffs.

We continue to 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.

Staffing: Neil is continuing his learning journey and I have reduced to part time.

15. The Connections Bus Project report was received and reviewed

Many Councillors praised the work done. HMS to ask whether they have older young people in other sessions (e.g. babysitting) or are in touch via IVC

16. Correspondence

Emails Received

Cambridge Road Industrial Estate – Thank you for MPC support in parking enforcement action taking place and installation of signs about inconsiderate parking

Sent out via email:

Greater Cambridge Supplementary Planning Documents – consultation now open – closes 5pm 24 January 2025

SCDC Parish e-bulletin November 2024

New Police and Crime Plans for Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

CPCA e-scooter trial – new areas

17. Dates of next meetings

Monday 13 January 2025 – Finance & Administration 7:30pm

Monday 20 January 2025 – Parish Council Precept meeting 7pm – Planning 7:30pm

Monday 3 February 2025 – Parish Council 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 9pm

Signed: Dated:

