

CALDECOTE PARISH COUNCIL
(South Cambridgeshire District)

DRAFT MINUTES

**A meeting of this Council was held at the Sports Pavilion, Caldecote On
Thursday 1st November 2018.**

Members of the public are reminded that copies of reports and supporting documentation for agenda items can be obtained from the Parish Council website, <http://caldecote.gov.uk> or upon request to the Parish Clerk.

Present: Chairman Cllr Jack Lang (JL), Vice-Chairman Cllr Phil Claridge (PC), Cllr Polly Field (PF), Cllr Helen Cartwright (HC), Cllr John Barker (JB), Cllr Jamie Powell (JP) and Cllr and District Cllr Tumi Hawkins (TH).

Absent: Cllr Gregor Jossaume

In Attendance: Frances Laville (FL), Parish Clerk, Katy Reeves (KR), Deputy Clerk.

1. **Apologies for Absence** - Apologies were received from Cllr Fiona Whelan
2. **Chairman's Announcements** – There were no announcements.
3. **District Councillor's Report** – District Cllr T Hawkins delivered a monthly report (see attached). The report included the following points:
 - The government has lifted the cap on borrowing by local councils for house building. The council aims to build around 200 new council homes in the next 5 years. The site developed by Linden homes will include some council housing.
 - Consultation on the Bourn Airfield planning application ends on the 6th December. It is recommended that the Parish Council consider holding a public meeting with information about the application.
 - Work on the Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) for the Bourn Airfield development is being carried out by consultants and a meeting to consult with Parish Council representatives will be held on 21st November 2018.
 - A public consultation on the development of the former TKA Tallent site on Bourn Airfield will take place in Caldecote on 6th November 2018.
 - A meeting has been held with Linden homes and they have been made aware of past flooding and drainage issues. It is suggested that the Parish Council should work closely with the developers.
 - A consultation is underway with respect to the proposed Greenway cycle network, with current plans suggesting that it will extend to Hardwick and Comberton.
 - A fund of £400,000 has been created to help local community groups. The closing date for the applications for the initial tranche of funding is 16th November 2018.
4. **County Councillor's Report** – County Cllr L Joseph provided a monthly report (see attached).

5. **Members Declarations of Interests or Requests for Dispensations** – There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.
6. **Minutes of the Last Meeting** –The minutes of the Council meeting held on 4th October 2018 were approved as a correct record and duly signed by the Chairman. Proposed HC, seconded PC.
7. **Outstanding Actions and Matters to be Reported from these Minutes** – Councillors considered the list of outstanding action items.

It was noted that, following the recent electrician’s visit, the override switch for the Pavilion lighting was no longer working and agreed that the electrician would be asked to return to carry out repairs. **Action: Clerk**

It was agreed that all ‘completed’ items will be removed from the list. **Action Clerk**

8. **To receive Councillor’s updated Register of Financial Interests form** This item to be deferred to a later meeting.
9. **Open Forum for Public Participation** – There were no questions from members of the public.
10. **Drainage Matters** – Cllr P Claridge reported that he has tried to contact Anglian Water for an update on the situation at the pumping station but has not yet received a response. The ditch at the east end of Hall Drive may need clearing and it was noted that a contractor has been asked to look at it.
11. **Village Design Statement (VDS)** – Cllr P Claridge reported that a tour to other villages has taken place but that none of those viewed was of a comparable housing density to the proposed Caldecote developments. The first full meeting will take place on 10th November at the Pavilion.
12. **Emergency Planning** – There were no updated on the Emergency Plan.
13. **Planning Applications and Decisions:**

13.1 Proposal: [S/3878/18/LD](#) Certificate of lawful development for a proposed use of land comprising the garden, for the siting of a mobile home/ caravan for incidental residential use.

Location: 121 Highfields Road CB23 7NX
Applicant: Mr and Mrs Pritchard

It was **RESOLVED** that no comment would be made. Proposed JL, seconded HC. Cllr T Hawkins abstained from the vote.

13.2 Proposal: [S/3680/18/FL](#) 1 new dwelling
Location: Land to the rear of 75 Highfields Road CB23 7NX
Applicant: Johnson, A&P Construction

It was **RESOLVED** that no comment would be made. Proposed JL, seconded HC. Cllr T Hawkins abstained from the vote.

13.3 Proposal: [S/3215/18/FL](#) Single storey rear extension
Location: Village Hall, Furlong Way, Highfields Caldecote CB23 7ZH
Applicant: The Trustees of Caldecote Village Institute Ltd

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend approval in principle but to note the following concerns:

- There are concerns about available parking and it is to be noted that some of the additional parking mentioned in the application (that next to the MUGA area on furlong way and by the recreation ground) is not on public land and, in the case of the recreation ground parking, is behind locked gates. It is therefore recommended that additional on-site parking is considered.
- There are concerns about visibility for cars and pedestrians entering and exiting the Village Hall car park's narrow entrance and it is recommended that measures be taken to improve visibility or provide alternative access.
- There are concerns about the additional noise for residents of Furlong Way. Proposed JB, seconded JL. Cllr T Hawkins and Cllr H Cartwright abstained from the vote.

13.4 Update on the Linden Homes application meeting – Cllr P Claridge reported on the meeting held with Linden Homes and a written report was provided by the Clerk. Key points included:

- The development will take place in two stages, with a 7 month gap in order for the badger's sett to be moved.
- The developers were unaware of previous discussions with Gladman's about drainage and access. It was agreed that the Parish Council will write to Linden Homes and South Cambs District Council to note these concerns

Action: Cllrs Lang and Claridge -

A pavement originally proposed to run down east side of Highfields Rd will now run inside the development.

- The developers have agreed to maintain the ditch on the east side of Highfields Road.

13.5 Update on the Bourn Airfield Application and plans for a Public Consultation – It was agreed that plans will be made to hold a public meeting on the Bourn Airfield development. The Clerk will arrange booking of the Village Hall on an appropriate date and ask Hardwick Parish Council if they would be willing to share the materials used at their recent meeting. **Action: Clerk**

Cllrs also discussed issues related to pedestrian access to the new development from Caldecote. It was agreed that the Parish Council will write to South Cambs District Council to inform them that the current proposed access route runs across Parish Council land and that pedestrian access via the south end of the village would be best. **Action Cllr Claridge**

13.6 Greater Cambridge Partnership Consultation on Cycle Greenways – It was agreed that the Parish Council would respond to the Greenways consultation to request that an extension of the route to Caldecote is

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considered.

Action: Cllr Hawkins

14. Finance Matters:

14.1 To approve using SLCC's GDPR Policy Documents. The Information Data Protection Policy, Privacy Notice and Consent forms, modified from the SLCC's model, were approved and adopted. Proposed HL, seconded JL.

14.2 To receive a report on the Current Financial Position - The Parish Clerk provided a report on current budget vs. expenditure. Received.

14.3 To receive staff timesheets – Staff timesheets were received and approved. Proposed JL, seconded PC.

14.4 To receive the schedule of payments and approve the payment of Bills – The schedule of payments was received, and payment of bills was approved. Proposed HC, seconded JL. Agreed.

14.5 To receive and approve the Bank Reconciliation - The bank reconciliation dated 26th October 2018 was received and approved.

14.6 To consider/ adjust Budget Proposal for 2019/2020 – It was agreed that a Finance Committee meeting that is open to all Cllrs will be held to discuss the budget and S106 monies. **Action: Clerk**

14.7 To consider quotes for new internal auditors – Two quotes were considered. It was agreed that the quote from Heelis and Lodge for one visit at £255 would be accepted. Proposed HC, seconded PF. Agreed. **Action: Clerk**

15. Leisure and Amenities Matters:

15.1 To receive a report from the Leisure and Amenities Working Groups
It was reported that all outstanding grounds work by MD Landscapes will be completed by the end of November.

A village walkaround identified problems with the footpath running through and south of the Furlong Way playground. The footpath requires some repairs and in the winter can form sheet ice that is dangerous. The LAWG recommend that the Parish Council look into options for better drainage at the bottom of the path.

On Blyth Way, the covers of some of the service drains have cracked and it will be necessary to get in touch with the owners of the drains.

There are several items in the Furlong Way park that require repairs, including one of the swing bars on the central climbing frame, a hinge on the swings and the trim trail and gates. It was agreed that contractors will be contacted to make the necessary repairs. **Action: Clerk**

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Clarification on the cost of verge cutting versus the amount paid by the County Council for this service was sought. **Action: Clerk**

There are some tiles missing from the Pavilion roof. It was agreed that a roofer will be appointed to carry out repairs. **Action: Clerk**

15.2 To consider and award the Grounds Maintenance Contract – Four quotes on Version 10 of the Grass Cutting Contract were considered. It was agreed that CGM will be awarded the contract, at a cost of £11,795 per year, to begin on 1st March 2019. Proposed PF, seconded HC **Action: Clerk**

15.3 To consider future charges for the Cricket Club – This item will be considered at a later meeting.

15.4 To consider locksmith's quotation for Pavilion doors – The Clerk reported that new keys for the main doors of the Pavilion cannot be cut as the original card is missing. It was agreed that two additional quotes for replacement of the lock barrel will be sought. **Action Clerk**

15.5 To consider quote for the shutter service – It was agreed that the quote for shutter servicing from Cambridge Door Services Ltd should be approved and the work scheduled for Spring 2019. **Action: Deputy Clerk**

- 16. Correspondence** – Correspondence from a resident in Grafton Drive concerning the maintenance of a Willow Tree was received and considered. It was agreed that the Clerk will respond to let the resident know that the tree will not be removed or pruned at the Parish Council's expense, as it is not considered to be a danger to the public. **Action: Clerk**

Correspondence advising of the closure of the Bridleway 3 from 10th December 2018 was received.

17. Councillors Reports

Cllr P Claridge reported that he needs help to sort the Parish Council archives and will be arranging a meeting of the Document Archiving Group. He is also accumulating parish maps and requests that an maps are sent to him.

Cllr P Field reported that there have been no youth services since 1st October and that some of the staff have left. She will propose ideas for alternative services and request funding at a future meeting.

Cllr J Barker requested that the Parish Council details in the Caldecote Journal are updated in the next issue. **Action: Clerk**

18. Staffing matters (closed to the Public)

19. Dates of the Next Meetings

*Parish Clerk: Frances Laville, 32 High Street, Great Eversden, Cambs CB23 1HW
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L&A Working Group – 15th November 2018
Full Council – 6th December 2018
L&A Working Group 20th December
F&P Committee 20th December (TBC)

The Meeting Closed at 10 pm

Signed: _____

Dated: _____



October Report 2018

Dear all,

I hope you find this information useful.

Highways

It is great news that Phillip Hammond will announce tomorrow during the budget that over 400 million will be given to Local Councils for repairing potholes and over 3 billion for major roads. Of course, I would like to see more money given for local roads as they very much are in need of repair.

I will continue working with officers and other colleagues to find a way of putting more money into our roads. They are an essential public good used by everyone. I completely understand that we are a demand lead local authority. This means that we must care for an elderly person in need of support, a

child who have been neglected by their parents or a person with serious mental health issues. We are protecting the most vulnerable individuals in our society and we have the responsibility to look after them.

Once the financial officer receives this budget, I will let you know how much our county will receive.

Budget

You may have recently seen on the news that our CEO announced that staff needed to take leave during Christmas. This will save nearly 1 million pounds. Staff in the lower pay grade will be protected.

This decision has been happening since I started as an officer back in 2013 and the County was in no control which means supported by Liberal Democrats, Conservatives and Labour. It's a measure that we know will not have a high impact on staff or services but it can make a crucial saving that will allow us to maintain other services at the current standards.

However, as we are looking to close the funding gap we will have to make other decisions and follow what neighbouring counties are doing. If you compare our county with others across the county we are not charging for many services that others are doing. This does not mean that we will follow completely but we must put all the options on the table. Once I have more information about the different committees, I will let you know.

We believe that by 2020 we will not experience as much pressure as now because the savings we have to make will be going down. This will also be linked with the return on property investments and other. The County is one of the largest landowners and we will maximise



this. I have highlighted to the Chairman of the Investment Committee that we must protect a minimum of the land. I understand that residents need housing but it cannot be at any cost and with my environmentalist hat on, I will continue to put pressure so that future generations enjoy the land that I and many cherish greatly.

News

The purchase of a purpose built student accommodation block in Cambridge, will allow Cambridgeshire County Council to plough £1.9m a year back into vital frontline services – as well as supporting more students to find high quality accommodation in the city.

The council's investment of £38m in the 251 bed Brunswick House on Newmarket Road, is the first acquisition in its strategy to build a portfolio of investments that both support its objectives - and raise an excellent return, helping to safeguard the future of vital services for people across the county.

The completion of the purchase, agreed by the council's Commercial and Investment committee, was reported to Members in this week's General Purposes Committee.

This is the Council's first major purchase as part of a plan to invest a total of £100m raised from sales of land to another successful investment initiative, "This Land" a property development company owned by the council. As a result the Council is increasing its total asset portfolio, improving the supply of homes to Cambridgeshire residents, and creating an on-going revenue stream.

"With rising demand for our services, the council is determined to consider all opportunities to invest in schemes that will help us maintain and improve our service levels and stand on our own feet financially. Our ethos of transformation, commercialisation and sound financial management means we are better able to deal with financial pressures, meaning cutting back on services is a last resort." said Cllr Steve Count, leader of Cambridgeshire County Council, and chair of General Purposes Committee.

"We are being economically prudent, and are taking advantage of current low interest rates which means we can make a return as well as improve the local area. Helping to alleviate a chronic lack of high quality purpose built student accommodation in Cambridge, is something that completely fits with our council objectives."

Brunswick House offers 231 ensuite rooms and 20 self-contained studio flats in a building directly opposite Anglia Ruskin University's Computer Science centre.

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Cambridge faces a severe shortage of student accommodation with 44% of students currently unable to access university or private sector purpose built student accommodation in the city – amongst Anglia Ruskin students (the nearest University to this building) the figure rises to 77%.

Combined Authority

The latest report looking at sustainability across the work of the nine combined authorities in the UK shows Cambridgeshire and Peterborough has made the greatest level of improvement.

The Combined Authority Sustainability Benchmarking Technical Report analyses sustainable activity and scores each authority on their progress in areas including air quality, carbon emissions, green infrastructure, biodiversity, energy systems, renewables, district heating and public transport.

www.sustainabilitywestmidlands.org.uk/resources/combined-authority-sustainabilitybenchmarkingtechnical-report-analysis-of-strategies-2/

South Cambridge District Council

I am sure Parishes should know but I just thought to mention it just in case you were not aware.

Unfortunately, Parish Councils will not be able to apply for Community Grants from the district council. It is my understanding that the new administration believes that you should be raising council tax in order to pay for anything you want for your community. I know how hard is to fundraise, I used to volunteer in Burwell Parish Council when I was living there and also when supporting specific residents involved in large projects for which the parish doesn't have the funds... Obtaining grants will become more of a challenge as you are excluded from most grant applications.

When conservatives were in power they believed that parish councils should be able to apply for these grants for specific projects. The projects they delivered benefited the community greatly.

Local issues

Hardwick:

This parish as other larger ones has seen their land bought by developers. I must say that is my opinion that the community will largely benefit from S106. They had early negotiations with the developers and obtained close to 1 million pounds. I understand the dilemmas that increase of housing poses on parishes, however, I must say that residents will benefit greatly from a business type approach and longterm strategy.

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Madingley:

There is resurfacing of a road in Madingley planned for this autumn. It is great that at least 2 of my parishes have been chosen for resurfacing main roads out of 17. I will continue to work with officers so that they are completely aware of which roads require repair and are not put at the bottom of the list!

Caldecote:

There has been some concerns raised due to highways works. This has been raised with the local highways officer and streetworks team. I will continue to work with this teams until we get it right. Apologies to all the residents for the inconveniences caused and thank you for raising this matter.

Kingston:

There has been a reported crime in the village. As much as we live in one of the safest parts of the country, it's just a reminder that we cannot be completely complacent about security and leaving things of value at public view.

I am organising a meeting with the Police Commissioner to talk about rural crime and discuss other issues.

Coton:

James Palmer visited the parish council and shared with them the outcomes of the latest report from a consultancy that has been looking at the "metro". It came to light that the best way forward would be to go off-road due to high speed and other reasons which I will go in more detail in the next couple of months.

I will continue to support the Parish Council and push for an on-road option as a short-term option. I have meetings planned with key stakeholders and will continue to voice the concerns of residents.

Comberton:

Residents have been concerned about the health of the pond and wildlife. This issue was raised with the Parish Council. The pond dried this summer due to the hot temperatures. However, now it has started to fill up. When speaking to the water company to see if they would intervene, it was mentioned that due to the water being treated with chemicals this could have a negative impact on the ecology. For this main reason ponds across the country are left dry until the weather conditions change.

Local Natural Partnership Board

As you may already know I represent the Council in this outside body. You have over 10

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organisations represented and it's always active, trying to push the natural agenda forward and upwards.

Recently we have been able to launch a new website, please take a look at it. This is a very exciting milestone. www.naturalcambridgeshire.org.uk

Events

Please find attached a Highway Events remembrance diary special highlighting all the events likely to impact the highway on Sunday 11th November 2018. With over 30 events taking place and although many of these events are short in duration they may have an impact on you if you are travelling or are undertaking works on the 11th November. Please take a moment to review the diary and contact me if you have any questions in regards to any of the events listed or if you are aware of any other events that are taking place that are not listed.

All events can also be found on our webpage at

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travelroads-and-parking/roads-andpathways/highway-events/>

Funding portal

Please do share this link with community groups that wish to find funding pots.

<http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/supportcamb>

Highways

A reminder that you can report road maintenance issues here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roadsandpathways/roadworks-and-faults/>

Hedges

If you have an issue with hedges then they would be advised to log their complaint on our

website <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roadsandpathways/roadworks-and-faults/>

Roadworks

I had calls from residents regarding roadworks. If you would like to know what is happening in your area you can check in this website. www.roadworks.org

Just to remind you that the public is very welcome to attend committee meetings and Full Council. You can find all the details [here](#).

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Lina

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Representing the villages of: Harlton, Barton, Great and Little Eversden, Caldecote, Kingston, Madingley, Hardwick, Coton, Grantchester and Comberton.

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South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward
(comprises the Parishes of Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston, Bourn, Longstowe & Little Gransden)

Councillor's Monthly Report – November 2018

This report is for all the Ward, so please be aware that some of the content may not be relevant to your particular Parish.

Housing

It is well known that the cost of housing in the district is quite high and putting people off moving to the area. This is resulting in businesses struggling to recruit to fill vacancies. We hope recent events will help us to make inroads into building more homes that are affordable.

Lifting of Borrowing Cap for Councils

The Chancellor of the Exchequer announced in his budget that the cap on the amount Local Authorities can borrow to invest in new Council homes will be lifted. This is very good news for South Cambridgeshire where there is a shortage of council housing in an area that is seeing unprecedented growth. Up till now, government has literally hampered councils in efforts to provide truly affordable homes by first insisting on councils sell off stock under Right-to-buy scheme, then taking up to 70% of the proceeds of such a sale into government coffers whilst then insisting councils replace the stock that was sold. This meant councils had to borrow money, but that level of borrowing was capped!! The maths just did not add up. Was it any wonder that there is such a shortage. The housing crisis was of the government's own making.

Even with the cap, South Cambs has already amassed experience in building council housing, with about 100 either built or being built since 2015. In September, Cabinet agreed to submit a bid to Government to increase borrowing by £17 million to help us build 149 new affordable homes at a cost of £32m. The balance was to be made up from the proceeds of sale of houses under the right to buy scheme. Now that the borrowing cap is to be lifted completely, this bid may be set aside but it would depend on how quickly the government implements removal.

We now have plans to build a further 200 new council houses in the coming years, some of which will be in Caldecote and Hardwick, and the rest in other parts of the district (Waterbeach, Teversham, Great Abington). We are looking forward to building more homes that are affordable for people to live in, and doing so quickly, so we can reduce the housing waiting list significantly.

New Affordable Homes in Gamlingay

Robinson Court in Gamlingay was a site with 32 old bedsits. It has now been redeveloped into 14 new homes – 10 of which are affordable Council homes. The new homes were recently completed and Council tenants with local connections to Gamlingay have now moved in.

They help address the shortage of affordable housing in Gamlingay with one and two-bedroom flats for affordable rent, and some one and two-bedroom houses for shared ownership. The remaining four homes were made available for sale on the open market, which helps to pay for the affordable housing on the site.

Planning

Bourn Quarter – Former TKA Tallent Site

I reported last month that the former TKA Tallent Site is now owned by a Pension fund, and will be developed separately as an employment site. Aitchison Developments who are the developers are holding a consultation exhibition on 6th November 2018 at Caldecote Village Hall from 3pm to 8pm to engage with residents who can view the proposals and share their views.

There is also a website www.bournquarterconsultation.co.uk which will be populated as from that date where residents can also see the plans and get info on how to respond should they wish to.

Bourn Airfield New Village – Outline Application Consultation Extension

Due to administrative issues, the consultation period for the outline application [S/3440/18/OL](#) has been extended to 6th December 2018. New consultation letters are also being sent out to residents of surrounding villages including Cambourne, Bourn, Caldecote and Hardwick. I encourage residents of Bourn and Caldecote to engage with the consultation and send in comments. The planning application is to determine only the principle of access to the site, using the Childerley Roundabout and Broadway-North. Details on the council website is at <http://bit.ly/S-3440-18-OL>. Please send comments to planning@scambs.gov.uk

Bourn Airfield New Village – Supplementary Planning Document

The Council is holding a workshop with local stakeholders on 21st November 2018 at Caldecote Village Hall to discuss the preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). The workshop will be led by ARUP, the consultants employed by the Council to create the SPD and will be attended by the Deputy Leader Cllr Aidan van der Weyer, who is leading the delivery of the site. I will be attending and participating as your Ward Member.

This SPD will provide detailed guidance on how the site will be built out, and will be in addition to the main local plan policy to be used to determine all the applications that will be submitted for the site. This is the first of at least two workshops that will be held to discuss the content of the SPD.

Linden Homes – Site for 140 Houses in Highfields Caldecote

I met with Linden Homes on 19th October 2018 to discuss their plans for the site (formerly Gladmans site which they have now purchased). This was a meeting to show the initial design that they've come up with together with the Councils Design Panel.

As the Local Elected Member, I informed them of the concerns of the village, especially on surface and foul water drainage and emphasised that they should not take Anglian Water assurances at face value.

I emphasised that they needed to engage with the team working on the Village Design Statement and also to engage more closely with the community. They talked about sending out a newsletter to all residents in the village, and maybe do something more. We shall see.

It seems Linden Homes are keen to make it a very good development and to engage. When they do, please lets work with them as a community so that we get the best development possible out of them.

There are lots of S106 issues to provide leisure amenities, contributions for school places, etc. The Parish Council will have the list and discussing further with Linden.

Little Gransden Gliding Club Planning Application

This application by the gliding club, Ref S/2866/18/VC, is to vary a number of conditions set in the original planning consent granted to the club. These conditions are:

(i) Condition 4 -Aerotows, (ii) Condition 5 - Flying activities, (iii) Condition 6 - Self launching sail planes, Condition 7 - Hours of Operation and Condition 8 - Aerotowing Equipment of Planning consent S/0607/90/F for Use as Gliding Club and ancillary purposes.

The application has caused a lot of concern in Little Gransden and Longstowe, as well as other villages nearby. Due to the concerns raised, and potential impact on the amenity of residents in these villages, the application is to be determined by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 14th November 2018, and the committee will be visiting the airfield prior to that, to see how it operates and weather permitting watch a glider towed up.

The Parish Council will be attending the meeting to represent the residents views to the committee and I will also be attending in my role as your District Councillor to speak on behalf of residents.

Transport

Bus service X3 saved

The service X3 from Cambridge to Papworth had been scheduled to stop running from November 2018 because Whippet could no longer sustain it. However, South Cambs and the Combined Authority subsequently agreed to provide funding to subsidise the bus service up to March 2019. The service was saved following the awareness raised in a petition set up by a 17-year old resident who started an online petition that quickly got over 2000 signatures.

The Mayor has commissioned a review into buses in the combined authority area, and the report is due sometime in November. It is expected that the services will be reorganised in 2019.

Comberton Cycleway – Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP)

Greenways are attractive linear corridors away from traffic and suitable for cycling, walking and sometimes horse -riding. Greenways can be important wildlife corridors as well as corridors for use by people. The aim of this project is to increase levels of cycling and walking and reduce car use

Cycling routes between our villages are few and far between but there are plans to try to rectify this. The GCP is currently consulting on the Comberton Greenway which is the cycle/pedestrian route from the City to Comberton via Coton.

The new proposal has a spur to Hardwick. I think that spur can be extended to Caldecote and indeed to Bourn, Toft and Kingston but we must make the case for it. I am asking and encouraging everyone to take a look and respond to the consultation. Consultation started on 29th October and closes on 17th December 2018. The information and consultation page is at <http://bit.ly/CombertonGreenwayConsult>

Universal Credit Rollout

It has been a long time coming, and now finally arrived. Universal Credit (UC) was introduced in South Cambridgeshire in October. This is the new one-stop-shop benefit that the Government has created to replace six (6) other benefits for working age claimants with a single monthly payment for people out of work or on a low income.

There have been problems encountered by claimants in other parts of the country where it has been introduced, but the Council officers have been working hard in preparation to make sure that those who get this benefit in our district are not adversely affected. The benefit is not managed by the Council but officers can help claimants to resolve difficulties.

If you or anyone you know is having difficulty with their claim, please contact the Council for assistance.

Funding/Grants for Community Projects

Are you a local community group and need funding? South Cambridgeshire District Council has launched a new funding pot that you can access. The £402,000 fund offers three year funding agreements to eligible Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations for the delivery of community support and development services in South Cambridgeshire.

The community transport part of the scheme is also open to applications from parish councils.

The **CLOSING DATE** is Friday 16th November 2018. Go online to find more details and application form <http://www.scambs.gov.uk/community/grants/service-support-grants/>

Business and Brexit Workshop

The Council hosted a Brexit workshop on 24th October 2018, supported by the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce and the Federation of Small Businesses (East of England). The aim was to business representatives from both Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire know about the support the Council and these organisations could provide that would have a positive impact on their business.

The event was well attended with businesses represented ranging from automotive, ecommerce to food, retail etc. and attendance from across the district.

With the time to Brexit day so close, it turns out that 1 in 7 businesses had not done anything to prepare for Brexit! The discussion was wide ranging and we hope to provide some of the feedback from it more widely when it has all been collated.

Parish Council and Cabinet Liaison

The new administration is keen to make sure that communication flows freely between local parishes and the Council and the liaison meeting is one way of doing this. The next Parish Councils and Cabinet Liaison Meeting will be held on Tuesday 27th November at 6:30pm at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne.

Emergency Plans

This is reminder to all parish councils to please update existing plans where these exist, or create emergency plans for those that do not yet have one. These plans should be lodged with the Council, and will be used in event of disasters, catastrophic events or floods.

Casework

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

If you are having any issues with housing, housing repairs, planning, benefits, council tax, bin collection, environmental health etc, don't fight it on your own, I am available to help you to get the best outcome possible for your situation.

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
1-November-2018

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