

MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall on Wednesday 16th February 2022 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Sian Wombwell, Cllr Tim Pavelin, Cllr Simon Cheney, Cllr Philly Hamilton, Cllr Lucy Davidson, Cllr Steven Heaney, Cllr Liz Gibson (arrived at 7.56pm), Leanne Smith (Clerk)

District & County Cllr Peter McDonald

151/21-22 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies sent ahead of the meeting from Cllr Hugh Molloy and Cllr Terry Sadler.

152/21-22 Councillors Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda & Requests for Dispensation

Tim Pavelin – agenda item 163/21-22 i.

153/21-22 Open Forum for Public Participation Including Youth Representation

None.

154/21-22 To approve minutes of meeting held on 19th January 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2022 are approved and signed by the Chair.

159/21-22 Cllr McDonald requested that agenda item 159/21-22 was brought forward so he could leave the meeting early. The meeting agreed to the variation of business on the agenda.

Report received from Cllr Peter McDonald ahead of the meeting and circulated to Parish Councillors – Appendix A refers.

Business grants:

Confirmed that a small number of businesses in Ickleton have applied for the grant.

Council tax:

An increase of 3.4% has been proposed by South Cambs District Council. The three-year plan includes savings of approximately £1.5 million.

An increase of 4.99% has been proposed in order to close Cambridgeshire County Councils £16m budget gap this year. Next year's funding gap is likely to be even worse. The Government has proposed a one-year local Government finance settlement for 2022-23.

Thakeham:

Cllr McDonald to circulate the update from Stephen Kelly regarding the OxCam Arc and update from the South West Cambridge Action Group.

Questions/discussion:

A Parish Councillor raised the recent news story about the contaminated supply of water which effected residents in Cambridgeshire. Cambridge Water have confirmed that once the contamination was identified in June 2021, the source was removed from the water supply, but it is not known how long the water was contaminated before the source was removed. Cllr McDonald stated that a session with Cambridge Water was held with residents in Shelford last week. The Parish Councillor went on to raise the matter of water companies discharging sewage in water ways. Cllr McDonald will provide an update about how it is managed by Cambridgeshire County Council. It is known that Cam Valley Forum are sampling water.

155/21-22 Matters Arising

The Clerk's report was circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting.

Matters outstanding are the Privately Funded Local Highways Initiative and Back Lane improvements.

156/21-22 Defibrillator check

Defibrillator check carried out by the Clerk on 16/2/2022.

Training in first aid and defibrillator use will be provided on a Saturday morning in April 2022 for up to 10 people. ACTION - Clerk to notify community groups and parishioners via Icene and email, and Councillors to inform the Clerk if they wish to have a space.

- 157/21-22 Traffic and Highways Issues**
- i. **Speedwatch**
The total number of speeding vehicles reported to the Police in 2021 was 1535. Speeding vehicles reported to the Police so far in 2022 is over 250.
 - ii. **Local Highways Initiative (LHI) 2022-23**
Cllr Sadler attended the LHI Panel held on 31st January 2022 in support of the bid for funding for Village Gateways and awaits the decision.
- 158/21-22 Rural Crime Report**
Nothing to report.
- 159/21-22 Reports from County and District Councillors**
The report from County and District Councillor was brought forward to earlier in the meeting.
- 160/21-22 Correspondence Received**
- i. **Mr David Lilley – Cemetery/Churchyard inspection**
The annual inspection of the cemetery has been carried out with no matters reported to the Parish Council. Noted by the Parish Council. Once again, the Parish Council is grateful for Mr Lilley's assistance.
 - ii. **Cambridgeshire Geological Society – Coploe Pit**
Correspondence received from the Cambridgeshire Geological Society who have been considering which sites in the county could potentially be considered as Local Geological Sites (LGS). Coploe Hill Chalk Pit has been recognised as a site that potentially meets the criteria for becoming an LGS. LGS is a non-statutory designation and does not establish any legal rights such as access or management. Cambridgeshire Geological Society therefore welcomed a discussion with Parish Council regarding the possibility of putting the site forward for LGS designation. Parish Councillors were supportive and it was resolved that the site would be put forward for LGS designation.
- 161/21-22 Planning Information**
- i. **For consideration**
Reference: **22/00185/HFUL**
Proposal: Single-storey rear infill extension
Site address: 108 Frogge Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SH
The Parish Council support this application.
Reference: **22/00362/FUL**
Proposal: Construction of new boundary wall/fence to enclose garden land and the creation of a pedestrian access point in existing wall to allow the erection of a pedestrian gate.
Site address: Dove Barn, Butchers Hill, Ickleton, Saffron Walden
A Councillor stated that part of the wall adjoining the proposed new boundary wall/fence has recently fallen down or been damaged, and proposed that the Conservation and Planning Officers are notified. Due to differing opinions a vote was taken by show of hands with the majority objecting to the application. It was felt that the wall would need to be re-instated before the Parish Council could support the application.
 - ii. **Planning Decisions**
Reference: 21/05249/LBC
Proposal: Internal and external alterations to annex building
Site address: 37 Church Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SL
Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.
Reference: 21/05250/HFUL
Proposal: New gable window in the outbuilding
Site address: 37 Church Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SL
Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.
 - iii. **Planning Appeals**
None.
 - iv. **Tree Works**
None.

162/21-22 Reports from Councillors

Cllr Hamilton:

Reported that overgrown vegetation on the narrow road going into Great Chesterford near the railway track is a hazard for road users. ACTION - Clerk to report to Cambridgeshire County Council Highways.

Cllr Cheney:

The latest pack of hedge saplings from The Woodland Trust have been planted on the recreation field. Sixty small birch trees were unexpectedly included in the pack. They have been heeled in and a permanent location for planting shall be decided.

163/21-22 Financial Matters

i. To approve payments of February 2022 accounts

Clerk's salary (confidential)

Clerk's expenses – £57.50

Tim Pavelin (empty bins) – £80.00

SLCC (Local Council Administration book) - £123.80

Citadel Solutions Ltd (Domain hosting) - £72.00

Citadel Solutions Ltd (Internet security) - £18.60

It was resolved that all payments listed are made.

ii. Bank reconciliation (bank accounts)

Unity Current Account - £16,758.57

Unity Instant Access Account - £25,089.67

Total - £41,848.24

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for January 2022 is approved by the Parish Council.

iii. Bank reconciliation (cash card)

No money was spent on the cash card last month. The total remains at £194.54. Noted by the Parish Council.

iv. Cam Valley Forum membership

Membership renewal is due at a cost of £10. Cllr Cheney proposed, Cllr Hamilton seconded and it was resolved that the annual membership would be renewed. Cllr Wombwell proposed, Cllr Pavelin seconded and it was resolved that a donation of £40 using Section 137 powers would be made in addition to the membership fee.

v. Grass cutting quotes

Quotes for the 2022-23 grass cutting season have been obtained from Dominic Pallett and Charles Frankau totalling £10,868.00. Cllr Wombwell proposed that they are offered a longer-term contract in which prices are reviewed every two years. ACTION - Clerk to make the proposal. For consideration again at the March 2022 Parish Council meeting.

vi. Play area fencing quote

The quote was not received in writing before the meeting, so will be carried over for consideration at the March 2022 Parish Council meeting.

vii. Solar panel installation survey

The Village Hall Solar Panel Project Committee wish to get a quotation from a company which requires an initial survey-fee at a cost of £100.00 +VAT. The Parish Council was asked to pay for the survey. Due to differing opinions a vote was taken by show of hands with the majority against funding the survey.

viii. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Community Chest Funding

South Cambs District Council have temporarily changed the criteria for the Community Chest Grant scheme until the 12th of April to allow Parish Councils and community groups to make applications of up to £700 to undertake jubilee related projects. Cllr Davidson will keep the Parish Council informed of plans and if a grant application is necessary.

164/21-22 Recreation Field and Play Area

i. Outdoor table tennis project

CB Groundworks and Construction Ltd provided a quote of £1,000.00 +VAT to prepare an area and lay concrete, and £450.00 +VAT to install grid guard system and infill with soil and grass seed to specification. ACTION - Cllr Wombwell will make enquiries with another company. To be carried over for consideration at the March 2022 Parish Council meeting.

ii. Use of football pitch – Radwinter FC

Request from Radwinter FC to rent the adult football pitch on Ickleton recreation ground on Sundays during February and March 2022. It was resolved that the pitch could be used by the team at a cost of £30 per game. Details relating to hire of changing rooms at the village hall and pitch marking/use of nets would be provided by the Clerk.

165/21-22 Maintenance

i. Bus shelter light

The Clerk made enquiries into the installation of a solar panel light for a bus shelter in the Parish. In order to power a light for up to 6 hours per day (evenings in the winter) it would require a 120/160 watt solar panel. However, these size panels may be too big for the roof of the bus shelter. The estimated cost would be around £350-400. It was resolved that the Parish Council did not support the project as it was considered an unnecessary cost.

166/21-22 Review Burial Board charges

Cllr Pavelin proposed, Cllr Wombwell seconded and it was resolved that the burial board fees would remain the same this year after two previous annual increases. To be reviewed next year.

167/21-22 Review Risk Assessment and Emergency Plan

No amendments to the main content of the Risk Assessment were proposed and therefore it was resolved that the document remain the same.

Several amendments were made to the Emergency Plan in relation to contact names and numbers. It was resolved that the amended version was approved. ACTION - Clerk to circulate amended version.

168/21-22 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 16th March 2022 at 7.30pm

Any business and payments to be considered at the Parish Council Meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm

Appendix A

Report for Parish Councils – February 2022.

South Cambs District Council

Council Tax

It is proposed to increase the S Cambs element by £5 to £160 for a band D property so a rise of 3.4%. The 3-year plan includes savings of c £1.5m over the next 3 years. This is the link to the 5 yr plan including this year's C Tax.

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s125779/Summary%20General%20Fund%20Revenue%20Budget%202022-2023%20-%20Report%20for%20Cabinet.pdf>

Civil Parking Enforcement

The next stage of the CPE programme is in progress at S Cambs and the funding available from GCP.

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s125697/Civil%20Parking%20Enforcement%20in%20South%20Cambridgeshire%20-%20Report%20for%20Cabinet.pdf>

Business grants update: Hospitality and Leisure Grant and Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) top-up. This is up and running and the status as of January 28th was:

Omicron Hospitality & Leisure Grants

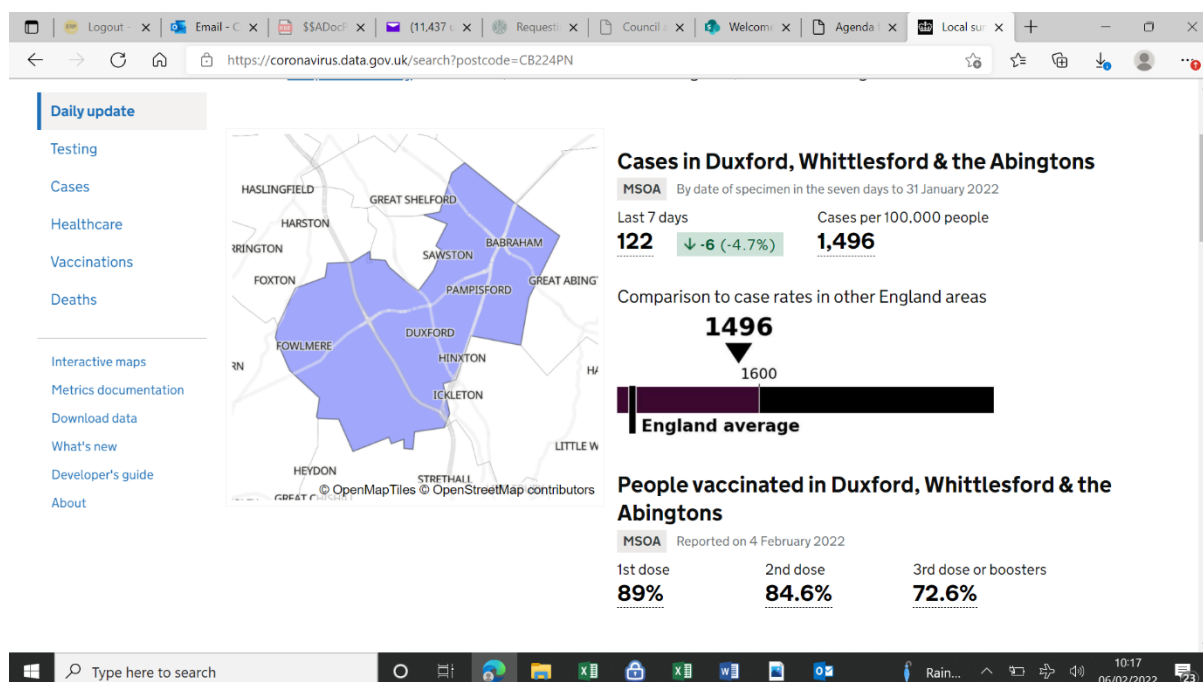
- Applications received: 205
- Applications processed: 80
- Processed value: £280.6k (£128k actually pay out)

ARG

- Applications received: 62
- Applications processed: 13
- Process value: £60k
- Rejected: 7
- Pending/in progress: 42

Cambridgeshire County Report

Current Covid & Vaccination Status Locally



Cambridgeshire County Council Budget

The Joint Administration is proposing a 4.99% rise in order to close the authority's £16m budget gap this year. Next year's funding gap is likely to be even worse. 4.99% would mean an extra charge of £1.04 per week for a Band B, and £1.19 for a Band C household. More than half of all homes in Cambridgeshire are in these two bands. Local government experts who visited in summer highlighted that historic decisions not to raise council tax in previous years had led to significant ongoing lost income to support services. The council is also proposing to set up and spend a £14m fund over the next five years to tackle inequality, improve lives and care for the environment.

In its first year, if agreed, the Just Transition fund will fund schemes that increase flood prevention in the county, continuing a recent rapid increase in gully clearing. It will also work towards tackling climate change; widen opportunities for children with special educational needs and disabilities; increase independent living services and expand direct payments and individual service funds – where adults assessed as needing support can choose and

manage their own care services; and expand the 'Care Together' programme, providing care services close to where people live.

Fire Authority Budget

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority is asking residents to have their say on proposals to increase the fire service's share of council tax for 2022/23. The Service is looking for a below inflation increase of £1.44 (around 2%) for the year, making the total contribution for the year £74.97 for a resident living in a Band D property.

Following the financial settlement confirmed by the government at the end of December 2021, which confirmed the level of funding for the next year, the Service has reviewed its financial position, making savings where possible, and has considered what it needs to maintain its valued services to the public.

Police Budget

Police funding comes from two main sources: 56% from central government (excluding specific grants) and the remainder from the policing part of council tax.

In line with government guidance, the PCC is asking for people's views on his proposed increase of £10 per year (83p per month based on a Band D property). This, together with an increase of £4.8m from government (excluding specific grants), would enable the Chief Constable to further maintain, invest and support in three key areas.

Proposals are here: <https://www.cambridgeshire-pcc.gov.uk/commissioner-proposes-precept-increase-to-support-record-officer-numbers-for-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough/>

Thakeham

Local Parish Council representatives attended a virtual meeting with the Head of Greater Cambridge Shared Planning, Stephen Kelly, last week for an update on the Local Plan and OxCam Arc in relation to Thakeham's 'Southwest Cambridge' affected villages.

Thanks to all who responded to the Greater Cambridge Local Plan First Proposals, which make it clear that Thakeham's vision for 25,000 homes in and around our villages is simply not compatible with the principles of sustainable development. Thakeham's only route is via top central government channels where power exists to override local democracy.

Health and social care reforms juggling act

A major reorganization of health and social care is happening now, with legislation in the process of passing through Parliament. This sounds heavy! Is it important? We think it impacts on us all.

The reforms include raising money through the National Insurance contributions that working people pay; widening eligibility for County-funded social care from about 4% of the population now to an estimated 14%, in Cambridgeshire (which must be paid for of course); and requiring the local NHS (our local GPs, hospitals, etc) and the Local Public Health and Social Care Authority (Cambridgeshire County Council) to collaborate and integrate, and think at a 'neighbourhood' level. Prevention is a constant theme – how can we live better and avoid getting sick in the first place? How can we give children - from birth - the best chance of a healthy life? What more can local communities be doing to play a part?

Some of the principles seem overwhelmingly positive but other aspects of the reforms are daunting. These are huge bureaucracies and whatever new money is raised will be directed first to the enormous Covid-induced waiting lists. That will take time to work through.

Nevertheless, from July this year it will be a legal requirement for 'Integrated Care Systems' to be up and running with the basics in place. This means that all of these organisations, already working to deliver vaccinations, tackle waiting lists and attract new staff to a depleting workforce, also need to find time to reflect and prepare for new obligations under the Health and Care Bill.

Given that this new legal requirement involves local government, we've been learning fast and furiously. Our colleague Susan van de Ven is chairing the 'Cambridgeshire Health and Wellbeing Board' where the NHS and Local Authorities formally come together. If you'd like to know a little bit more, or if you can teach us a thing or two

through your own experience and expertise, please join us for a Zoom coffee and chat on March 9th, 6-7PM – just let us know your contact details and we'll send you the link.

20's Plenty

Progress on introducing new 20mph speed limits to improve transport safety in Cambridgeshire was discussed at the Highways and Transport Committee on Jan 25th. The Council is looking to establish a new process for the implementation of 20mph schemes. This would allow third parties – such as Parish Councils - to make an application for a 20mph limit in their chosen area, with a number of schemes then progressing following a period of assessment and prioritisation.

There are two types of 20mph schemes which can be introduced by the council – 20mph limits and 20mph zones. A 20mph limit typically covers individual or a small number of streets and requires signs only, while 20mph zones typically cover larger areas and require both signs and markings.

The former are more cost effective, but the latter have been found to have a greater impact in reducing speed limits, especially when accompanied by traffic calming measures. It is anticipated that details outlining how applications for 20mph schemes will be prioritised, once submitted, will be brought to a committee meeting later this year.

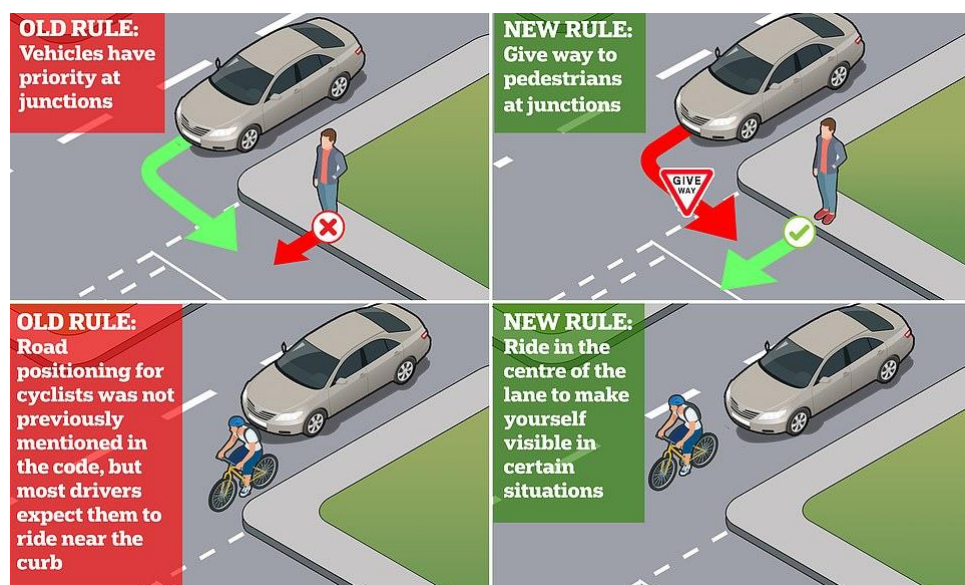
Civil Parking Enforcement

By the time you read this South Cambs DC will have written to the County Council to ask them to submit an application to the Department of Transport asking them to approve Civil Parking Enforcement for all of South Cambs. The police will no longer be responsible for enforcing illegal parking but instead Enforcement Officers employed by the County Council will be. The plan is to have two officers active full time moving between the villages and issuing parking fines to people who park where they should not. The agreement of the Greater Cambridge Partnership to underwrite the first five years costs has made it possible which is extremely good news. The less good news is that the wheels of government move slowly so we don't expect it to be implemented until 2023.

Changes to the Highways Code

You will be aware of changes to the code from January 29th

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>



Peter McDonald
February 6th 2022