

MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall, Frogge Street, Ickleton. CB10 1SH.

Wednesday 19th February 2025 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Cheney, Cllr Lucy Davidson (arrived 7.35pm), Cllr John Gidley, Cllr P Hamilton (arrived 7.35pm), Cllr Steve Heaney, Cllr Tim Pavelin and Cllr Terry Sadler.

In attendance: Barbara Benn (Clerk), SCDCllr Peter McDonald and four members of the public.

Open

177/24-25

Open Forum for Public Participation – 15 minutes will be made available for members of the public to address the council. Cllrs Davidson and Hamilton arrived during the discussion about Anglian Water.

- A resident requested an update concerning the tankers currently in the village. Cllr Cheney updated the meeting. Anglian Water hope to restrict tankering to 6am to 11pm daily and are still investigating the issue. CCTV has shown water ingress however AW have no budget for significant works. SCDCllr McDonald will ask MP Pippa Heylings to approach the Anglian Water CEO for a meeting.
- A resident raised concerns about the increasing frequency of incidents at the low railway bridge on the border with Great Chesterford. SCDCllr McDonald will ask the Highways department at each County Council to liaise with each other concerning improved signage. He will also contact the Highways green team to ask them to cut back shrubs and trees impinging visibility of signs. Ickleton and Great Chesterford Parish Councils will send a joint letter to the Highways Authority in each County.
- A resident raised concerns about the poor state of the road in Back Lane and Icknield Close. SCDCllr McDonald will ask for urgent repairs to these areas.
- A resident spoke to the Parish Council about the new Forest School on private land.

Formalities

178/24-25

Apologies for absence. Apologies for absence were received and accepted for personal reasons from Cllr Wombwell and Cllr Gittins.

179/24-25

Councillors' Declarations of Interest. Cllr Pavelin declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 184 ii. and a personal interest in agenda item 193 xi.

180/24-25

To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2025. It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2025 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

Agenda

181/24-25

Reports from South Cambs District (SCDCllr) and Cambridge County Councillors (CCClr).

See Appendix A

An update was received concerning the New Road junction. Some changes have been made to the junction but it still requires improvement. SCDC Peter McDonald has asked Cambridgeshire County Council to investigate the issue.

Council

It was resolved to take agenda item 193/24-25 xi at this point in the agenda.

To consider any comments to be returned to SCDC relating to planning applications:

25/00129/FUL Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling, garage, office/store and greenhouse, with access, landscaping and air source heat pump Site address: Land at Little Farm Barns 8 Mill Lane.

Extension for comment granted until 21st February 2025. Following discussion, a vote was taken. Four Councillors voted to support, one voted against and two no comment. It was resolved that the Parish Council support this application by majority.

Clerk

24/02788/FUL Proposal: Two storey extension to Unit 4 and the erection of 2no. new building for office/research and development uses (Use Class E) together with associated car parking, infrastructure and landscaping. Site address: Abbey Barns. Amended application. Comments by 5th

March 2025. It was resolved that the Parish Council respond to this application reiterating their previous position. **Cllr Sadler**

182/24-25 Policy and procedures

- i. Review and agree Burial Board charges. It was resolved that the Burial Board charges be increased. Updated charges to be published on the website. **Clerk**

183/24-25 Projects and initiatives

- i. Cemetery extension purchase update. Contracts and information pertaining to the sale were circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting. Further guidance is awaited from the Solicitors in relation to the contract. **Cllr Davidson & Cllr Cheney**
- ii. Review and agree proposed plan for the cemetery extension and meadow from the Green Spaces Team. It was resolved that the revised plans are approved.
- iii. Update concerning access arrangements for new cemetery. No update received.
- iv. Consider quotations received for the move to the Gov.uk domain name, change of email and Microsoft upgrade and agree actions. To be considered at the next meeting. **Clerk**
- v. Agree new domain name: ickletonparishcouncil.gov.uk, ickleton-pc.gov.uk or ickletonparish.gov.uk. It was resolved that ickletonparishcouncil.gov.uk should be the new domain name.

184/24-25 Tax and finance

- i. To note receipts from:
Burial fees £630.00
Icene advertising £36.00
Salvation Army, clothing bank, £2.74
- ii. To approve payment of February 2025 accounts:
T Pavelin, invoice 40, bins, £100.00. Cllr Pavelin abstained from consideration of this item.
Clerk's salary (confidential)
Cam Valley forum membership 2025, £10.00
Citadel, invoice 16768, domain and F-secure, £100.20
E&E Plumridge, INV-4364, Icene printing, £157.50
Ickleton Village Hall, Invoice 24-25/33, Jan 25 hire, £25.00
Bank charge £6.00. DD to be taken 28th February 2025.
It was resolved that the payments listed above be approved and paid.
D Pallett, invoice 180225, Grass cutting, £500.00, received after publication of agenda. Cllr Pavelin proposed and Cllr Cheney seconded that this payment also be made. **Clerk**
- iii. Bank reconciliation. Current account £12,941.52, Instant access account £41,652.48. Total £54,594. It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for January 2025 is approved and signed.
- iv. Equals cash card reconciliation. Balance £635.60. It was resolved that the Equals card reconciliation for January 2025 is approved and signed.

185/24-25 Meetings and decision making

- i. Confirmation that the annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 6th May 2025** at 7pm.
- ii. Consider moving Parish Council Meetings to 7pm on the third Wednesday of each month. It was resolved that the meeting time remain as 7.30pm.

186/24-25 Safety and risk management

- i. Review and agree Risk Assessment. An updated Risk Assessment was circulated prior to the meeting. It was resolved to adopt this. **Clerk**

187/24-25 Collaborations and affiliations

- i. Agree council response to South Cambridgeshire District Council consultation on four-day week. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not respond as a body. Councillors will respond in their personal capacity if they wish to.
- ii. Agree Parish Council response to the consultation on the proposed 2025 revision of the Local Validation List for planning applications for the County Council's own development and for waste development. Closes 10th March. It was resolved that the Parish Council would not respond to this consultation.

Community

188/24-25

Health and Safety

- i. Defibrillator check (Cllr Pavelin). Checked 18th February 2025 and in full working order.

189/24-25

Services and amenities

- i. Update on responses received concerning battery back up at the Coploe Road mast site. MP Pippa Heyling is looking into this on behalf of residents.

190/24-25

Churchyard and cemetery

- i. Update on removal of ivy from churchyard wall. No update. Clerk to contact contractors to ask about removal. **Clerk**
- ii. Consider actions resulting from annual gravestone check. It was resolved that Cllr Pavelin would review the area and report back to the next meeting. **Cllr Pavelin**

191/24-25

Groups and Societies

- i. Update on purchase of the Ickleton Lion Public House and Council liaison with the committee. The Ickleton Lion has been purchased by Ickleton Community Pub Ltd and work is in progress on improvements.

Environment

192/24-25

District development

- i. Wellcome Genome Campus Expansion Update. No update.

193/24-25

Land and premises

Planning information from South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC)

- i. To consider any comments to be returned to SCDC relating to planning applications:
25/00129/FUL Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling, garage, office/store and greenhouse, with access, landscaping and air source heat pump Site address: Land at Little Farm Barns 8 Mill Lane. Extension for comment granted until 21st February 2025. This item was resolved earlier in the agenda.
24/02788/FUL Proposal: Two storey extension to Unit 4 and the erection of 2no. new building for office/research and development uses (Use Class E) together with associated car parking, infrastructure and landscaping. Site address: Abbey Barns. Amended application. Comments by 5th March 2025. This item was resolved earlier in the agenda
- ii. To note SCDC planning decisions:
24/04451/HFUL. Site: 8 Butchers Hill. Proposal: Single storey rear extension, conversion and extension of existing garage into habitable living space and internal alterations. Status: Application Permitted
24/04452/LBC. Site: 8 Butchers Hill. Proposal: Single storey rear extension, conversion and extension of existing garage into habitable living space and internal alterations. Status: Application Permitted
24/04583/HFUL. Site: 34 Butchers Hill. Proposal: Single storey side and rear extension. Status: Application Permitted
- iii. To consider any comments to be returned to SCDC relating to tree works:
25/0061/TTCA Site: 9 Abbey Street. Proposal: Fig tree - Fell to ground level Acacia tree - Reduce crown by 1.5 metres and remove branch hanging over roof and wall. Walnut tree - Reduce height by 5 metres, reduce remaining crown by 1.5 metres and Remove lower branches touching boundary wall. Walnut tree - Reduce height by 4 metres, Reduce remaining crown by 1.5 metres and Remove lower branches touching boundary wall. Comments by 25th February 2025. The Parish Council resolved to request that walnut should be pruned after mid-summer and only reduced by 20% **Clerk**
- iv. Review and approve quotations received for village maintenance 2025-26. The quotations were circulated prior to the meeting and it was resolved that they are approved. **Clerk**
- v. Review feedback concerning skate ramp and zip wire and any actions. The Parish Council received one email in response to its request for feedback. Further action will be discussed at the next meeting.
- vi. Update on fundraising ideas for play equipment repairs/replacement. To be considered at the next meeting.

- vii. Agree any action to be taken concerning the hedge at the Southern edge of the recreation ground and that on the driveway to the village hall. The hedge on the driveway has been reduced. The Parish Council resolved to take no further action re the southern hedge at this stage.
- viii. Update on application for recognition of Right of Way through pub car park. There will be direct discussion between SCDC and Ickleton Community Pub Ltd to formalise Right of Way.
- ix. Update on proposed Wildflower area. No update.
- x. Improvement of Village Hall and Ickleton Lion car parks. It was resolved that the Parish Council would support this.
- xi. Correspondence received concerning Icklewoods Forest School. It was resolved that the Clerk would respond to the email. Cllr Pavelin abstained from consideration of this item. **Clerk**

194/24-25 Natural Environment

- i. Consider and agree Parish Council response to email from Coploe Pit Warden In respect of land adjacent to the Pit. It was resolved that the Clerk would respond to this email. **Clerk**

195/24-25 Water and sewerage

- i. Update on sewage leak in village following investigations by Anglian Water. An update was received earlier in the meeting during the open forum.

Social issues

196/24-25 Vulnerable residents

- i. Consider request from Age UK for financial support and offer to present on their Community Warden Scheme at a future meeting. The Parish Council resolved not to pursue these requests.

Transport and Streets

197/24-25 Roads and Highways

- i. Update on any actions taken/to be taken concerning New Road, Hinxton junction to A1301. This matter was discussed earlier in the agenda during the report from SCDCllr P McDonald.
- ii. Consider any action which can be taken by the Parish Council in relation to improving signage for the low railway bridge on Ickleton Road. Considered earlier during the meeting during the Open Forum.
- iii. To note the LED rollout for street lights in Ickleton due in March 2025. Noted

198/24-25 Road Maintenance

- i. Consider any action which could be taken by the Parish Council in relation to repairs to the degraded road surface on the approach and turning area at Icknield Close. Discussed during the Open Forum.

199/24-25 Action list update and Councillor's reports.

200/24-25 Matters for Further Discussion. This item is subject to the discretion of the Chair and includes matters raised by Councillors with a view to being an item on the next agenda. Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item. Cllr Cheney advised that the Six free hazel trees have been received.

201/24-25 **Date and time of next Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 19th March 2025 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 10.20 pm.

Signed: S Cheney

Dated: 19th March 2025

Appendix A

Parish Council Report February 2025 **South Cambs Council**

Local government reorganisation

On 16 December the government published a White Paper called English Devolution which included a push towards conversion to unitary councils in two-tier authority areas such as Cambridgeshire. In this region our two tiers are Cambridgeshire County Council and the district councils. The White Paper included a requirement for local authorities to submit proposals for reorganisation at the end of March. A letter from the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government has been promised to define the expectations from government in more detail. In the meantime there have of course been many conversations between the various branches of local government. The government has indicated that it will be adopting a phased approach to this reorganisation with an initial focus on areas where the current system is clearly failing. On this basis, and given the focus on delivering local growth, it seems unlikely that Cambridgeshire will be selected for early reorganisation. However, little is known for certain at this stage.

Increased funding for electric vehicle chargers

The funding available from the Council's electric vehicle (EV) charging grant has increased from £5,000 to £12,000 per project. The grant is open to parish councils, community groups and charities and can be used to fund the installation of EV chargers in car parks associated with community buildings. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/grants-funding-and-community-support/electric-vehicle-charge-point-grant/>

Green bin collection

The green bins will be collected once in February (on 4 February) alongside the blue recycling bins, with a blue-bin-only collection taking place on 18 February. From the beginning of March, they will be emptied fortnightly again.

Council housing and its allocation

South Cambridgeshire District Council is responsible for around 5600 Council houses across the district. The Council is building new housing stock at a rate of around 75 houses per year to help rebuild the social housing supply that has historically been in decline. This year, over £1 million is being spent on improving the insulation and heating for existing Council houses. You can read more about the Council's work on improving and managing Council houses in the Annual Report to Tenants and Leaseholders.

The allocation of Council houses is managed by Home-Link, a shared service that covers Cambridgeshire and West Suffolk. The allocation policies are designed to allow people seeking social housing to exercise choice in deciding where they wish to live and in the type of property they prefer, while prioritising by housing need and making the best use of the housing available. They aim to assist applicants with the highest assessed need, to be fair and transparent, to support vulnerable applicants, to promote social inclusion and to foster sustainable communities. They must also comply with all relevant legislation. Anyone can apply for Council housing at www.home-link.org.uk or via a paper form. The Council will then write to applicants to inform them whether or not they have been accepted onto the housing register. Due to the high demand for housing in this area, acceptance depends on having a connection to the local area. Once accepted, people are assigned to a band (A–D) according to their assessed housing need. Anyone on the register can then bid for homes through the Home-Link scheme. Housing is allocated based on the band of the applicants and the time they have been on the register. The lettings policy can be read here.

Four-day working week consultation

The Council began a consultation on the four-day working week on 27 January which runs for eight weeks until 23 March. The aim is to gather data from residents and businesses on how the quality of

the Council's services has changed since January 2023, when the trial of the new working practices began. This will be used alongside the other extensive sources of data on the Council's costs and performance to decide the next steps for this working practice. The aim of the trial was to improve value for money in the light of the difficulties in recruiting and retaining permanent staff, especially in the Planning service.

<https://engage.scambs.gov.uk/en-GB/folders/four-day-week>

Cambs County Council

Bus Franchising

Bus franchising took the next step with the report to the Transport & Infrastructure Committee. Item 7.

<https://democracy.cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=138&MId=126&Ver=4>

A505 Study

As previously circulated there is a new report on the next steps for the A505. Item 12.

OxCam Corridor and Super-Cluster

The Chancellor announced a re-hash of the OxCam corridor which is to be Chaired by Lord Vallance and I attach a link to the report.

<https://oxcamsupercluster.publicfirst.co.uk/Oxford%20-%20Cambridge%20Scenario%20Modelling-2.pdf>

LED Street Lighting

Work started in earnest in the New Year to replace the majority of our existing streetlighting with newer, more efficient LED (light emitting diode) lights – this can cut energy consumption from street lighting by more than half.

Cambridgeshire County Council is responsible for more than 53,500 streetlights across the county, approximately 47,500 of which will be replaced by LED replacements under this scheme.

Reducing the existing carbon usage of streetlights is vital to achieving our goal of net zero carbon emissions by 2030, and in addition to the environmental benefit, the installation of energy-saving LED lighting will help to significantly reduce future spending on streetlighting.

It will take around two years to replace all 47,500 streetlights with LEDs; we're expecting the work to be finished by May 2026.

Electricity for the county's streetlighting is purchased through the supplier 'EDF Energy' and it's purchased on a tariff which guarantees that it's from 100% renewable sources such as solar, wind and hydro.

LED technology is extremely reliable and there should be very few instances of streetlights failing or not coming on at night. The new streetlights are designed for 20 years of continuous life, with no maintenance (other than cleaning) required.

The LED streetlights have been rigorously tested to ensure they provide a similar level of brightness on the road to that provided by the older, less energy efficient streetlights. In rural areas, a 'softer' white light will be used, which is slightly less energy-efficient but is better for wildlife, including bats. The LED streetlights emit light in a more concentrated way directly towards the road. This means that in a residential area, whilst the road is lit, other places such as verges and driveways, which were previously incidentally lit by the old streetlights, will now likely appear darker. Ensuring that the new streetlights do not significantly illuminate areas beyond the street itself will reduce light pollution and is one way that energy efficiency has been improved.

You can find out more about our streetlight replacement programme [on our website](#).

Information on how to report a street lighting fault, and likely repair times are on our website: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/streetlighting

Frequent A & E Patients

A new specialist team is helping to reduce avoidable visits to Accident and Emergency (A&E) departments across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Known as the High Impact Use team (HIU), the service is a partnership between NHS Cambridgeshire & Peterborough and Cambridgeshire County Council (who host the service) on behalf of the Integrated Care System (ICS). This service helps those who often attend A&E for reasons that extend beyond medical interventions and for needs which would be better met by other professionals.

Since its launch in October 2024, the HIU team found that many of the frequent visitors to A&E at Peterborough City, Hinchingsbrooke, and Addenbrooke's Hospitals were experiencing issues such as loneliness, financial problems, and poor physical and mental health, rather than medical emergencies that require urgent hospital care.

The HIU team works alongside partners to build a trusted relationship with each person identified as requiring non-clinical support through their frequent attendances at A&E, creating an open, person-centred approach to help meet the individuals' needs.

The service is provided to people aged 18 and over and who are registered with a GP within Cambridgeshire, Peterborough and Royston.

Peter McDonald Feb 5th 2025