



MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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

Wednesday 18th February 2026 starting at 8.30pm

Present: Cllr Simon Cheney(Chair), Cllr Lucy Davidson, Cllr John Gidley, Cllr Tim Pavelin, Cllr Terry Sadler and Cllr Peter Wombwell.

In attendance: South Cambridgeshire District Cllr Peter McDonald, Barbara Benn (Clerk).

Open

182/25-26 Open Forum for Public Participation – 15 minutes will be made available for members of the public to address the council. No members of the public were present.

Formalities

183/25-26 Apologies for absence. Apologies were received and accepted for personal reasons from Cllr Steve Heaney, Cllr Sam Brooke and Cllr Philly Hamilton.

184/25-26 Councillors' Declarations of Interest. Cllr Pavelin declared a pecuniary interest in agenda item 189/25-26 iii.

185/25-26 To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2026. It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 21st January 2026 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

Agenda

186/25-26 Reports from South Cambs District (SCDCllrs) and Cambridge County Councillors (CCCllrs).
See Appendix A

Council

187/25-26 Policy and procedures

- i. Accessibility Statement review. It was resolved that the Accessibility Statement was reviewed and approved for publication.
- ii. Burial Boards charges review. It was resolved to increase the Burial Board charges by 20% and publish the new rates. After discussion a vote was taken. One vote was made against increasing the fees, four votes were cast in favour of increasing the fees by 20% and there was one abstention. It was resolved to increase the fees by 20%. It was further resolved to remove the additional charges from the proposed fees.
- iii. Cemetery Guidelines review. It was resolved that the Cemetery Guidelines were reviewed and approved for publication.
- iv. Cemetery guidelines – Funeral Director's version review. It was resolved that the Cemetery Guidelines – Funeral Director's version were reviewed and approved for publication.
- v. Ickleton Cemetery Information Guide review. It was resolved that the Cemetery Information Guide is reviewed and approved for publication.

188/25-26 Projects and initiatives

- i. Cemetery extension update. Papers have been signed by both sides.

189/25-26 Tax and finance

- i. To note receipts from:
The Frank Litchfield Trust £5,000
Cemetery fees £250.00

- Salvation Army clothing bank £26.51
- ii. To approve payment of February 2026 accounts:
Clerk's salary (confidential)
E&E Plumridge, INV-5234, Icene Feb 26, £186.25
Citadel, invoice 16956, Domain hosting for 1 year, £84.00
Citadel, invoice 16961, F-Secure for 1 year, £18.60
ACRE, invoice 9079, Membership 26-27 £74.50
Bank charge £6.00 DD to be taken 28th February 2026
It was resolved that the payments listed above be approved and paid.
The following invoice was received after publication of the agenda:
Cam Valley Forum membership 26-27 £10. It was further resolved that this payment be made.
- iii. To approve payment of February invoice from T Pavelin, bin emptying, No. 52 £80. Cllr Pavelin abstained from comment on this item. It was resolved the payment be made.
- iv. Bank reconciliation. Current account £51,765.20, Instant access account £15,166.42 Total £66,931.62. It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for January 2026 is approved and signed.
- v. Equals cash card reconciliation. Balance £504.54. It was resolved that the Equals card reconciliation for January 2026 is approved and signed.

190/25-26 Organisation and roles

- i. Consider Clerk's request to attend the SCDC Parish Clerk's conference on 4th March. The Clerk is no longer able to attend this event.

191/25-26 Membership and elections

- i. Consider if the Parish Council wish to cancel its membership of the ICCM. It was resolved to cancel the ICCM membership at renewal.
- ii. Parish Council Election 7th May. Consider publicity to encourage residents to stand for election to the Parish Council. Anyone wishing to stand for election will need to submit a nomination paper. The period to submit nomination papers opens on 30 March 2026, and closes on 9 April 2026 at 4pm. Papers must be submitted in person. It was resolved that the Clerk would liaise with Councillors concerning the nomination papers and make an appointment to deliver the nominations in bulk. An advert will be placed in Icene.

192/25-26 Collaborations and affiliations

- i. Consider if a Parish Council response is required to the open consultation (closes April 1st) on establishing a Development Corporation in Greater Cambridge. It was resolved to consider this at the March 2026 meeting.
- ii. Consider if a Parish Council response is required to the government consultation on four different options for Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, which have been developed by different councils across the region. It was resolved not to comment on this consultation.
- iii. Consider if the PC wish to invite Genome Campus representatives to present at the Annual Parish Meeting. It was resolved to invite the Wellcome Genome Campus to attend.

Community

193/25-26 Health and Safety

- i. Defibrillator check (Cllr Pavelin). Checked 18th February 2026 and in full working order.

194/25-26 Churchyard and cemetery

- i. Update on permission to undertake repairs to the raised grave at the churchyard. No reply from Diocese. Cllr Sadler will chase for a response.
- ii. Consider request to install a memorial constructed of oak. It was resolved that this request was outside the scope of the Cemetery Guidelines and was not approved.

Environment

195/25-26 Land and premises

Planning information from South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC)

- i. To note SCDC planning decisions:

25/04547/HFUL Site: 2 Brookhampton Street. Proposal: Construct pitched roof over existing single-storey rear extension and alterations to fenestration. Status: Application Permitted

25/1432/TTCA Site: Caldrees Manor 2 Abbey Street. Proposal: Holm Oak - Prune to clear building, including overhang by approximately 2 metres. Status: No Objection

The following decision was received after publication of the agenda:

26/0017/TTCS Site: 64 Abbey Street. Proposal: T1 - Pear - Reduce largest leader in height by approx 4m (approx 1m above top of roof, red lines on photo) and reduce lateral spread by approx 1-2m, remove smaller secondary leaders to ground level leaving central secondary leader (attached to the main stem) - This is to make a more compact shape and retain the tree. Status: No Objection
Decisions noted.

- ii. To consider any comments to be returned to SCDC relating to tree works:

26/0091/TTCA Site: 32 Brookhampton Street. Proposal: 2 x Magnolia trees

- Reduce height by 3 metres, Reduce lateral branches by 1.5 metres. 2 x Horse Chestnut trees

- Crown lift on garden side to 5 metres. 1 x Cotinus (smoke bush) - Reduce branch growing in front of pedestrian gate by 4 metres. 26 x Conifer trees - Reduce height by 4 metres, leaving the trees at 3 metres high. Cut back branches overhanging the boundary at the back to the boundary line.

Comments by 24th February 2026. It was resolved not to comment.

- iii. To note SCDC applications withdrawn:

25/04439/LBC Site address: Swallow Barn, Butchers Hill. Proposal: Removal of existing pantiles and replace with Lincoln Clay interlocking pantiles. Noted.

- iv. Update on zip wire. It was resolved that this item be considered at the March 2026 meeting.

- v. Consider estimates received for village maintenance and grass cutting 26-27. Estimates have not been received. It was resolved to consider this at the March 2026 meeting.

- vii. Request to purchase two new playground signs at £18 each. It was resolved to approve this purchase.

- vii. Update on repairs to benches in children's play area. It was resolved to consider this at the March 2026 meeting.

- viii. A commemorative blossom tree and plaque to honour community volunteers and remember those affected by the COVID19 pandemic will be delivered by 2nd March. Consider where to plant and if a community event should be planned. It was proposed that this be considered at the March 2026 meeting.

196/25-26 Natural Environment

- i. Consider Parish council response to email concerning collaboration on a Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS). It was resolved that Cllr Davidson would start exploratory discussions on the Parish Council's behalf.

Leisure and culture

197/25-26 Recreation

- i. Decide if the Parish Council are happy with the proposed location of the new all-weather cricket net. It was resolved that Councillors were in favour of the current location however they would be happy to support a change of location should the Cricket Club wish to pursue. The Parish Council believe that the site of the old skate park would be a preferable location for the all-weather nets.

Transport and Streets

198/25-26 Road Maintenance

- i. Consider further actions concerning the potholes in the village and surrounding area. This issue was raised with CCCLl Peter McDonald.

199/25-26 Action list update and Councillors' reports.

200/25-26 Matters for Further Discussion. Cllrs Gidley and Sadler will be meeting a representative of CCC concerning the Butcher's Hill LHI project application on 9th March 2026.

201/25-26 **Date and time of next Parish Council meeting: Wednesday 18th March 2026 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

Close

The meeting closed at 10.08pm

Signed: S Heaney

Dated: 18th March 2026

Appendix A

Parish Council Report February 2026 **South Cambs Council**

Cambridge Growth Company

The Cambridge Growth Company (CGC) was established by the government in 2024 to foster additional economic growth in the Cambridge area by delivering housing, transport, water, and wider infrastructure. The council invited the CGC Chair, Peter Freeman, to attend a Scrutiny & Overview Committee meeting on 29 January, where he and his team were questioned for three hours on the company's objectives, progress and its proposed relationship with local councils. You can view the meeting [here](#). I asked questions about how the CGC's aims might differ from our Local Plan and about their proposals to facilitate improvement in our bus services.

The CGC gave firm reassurance that their aim was to support the delivery of the new Local Plan by helping to solve water and transport problems, rather than to rewrite it. However, they are proposing to have the power to intervene anywhere in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire rather than restricting their involvement to specific high-impact development sites. They also emphasised their role in long-term planning for growth, beyond the end of the new Local plan period in 2045. <https://thecgc.org.uk/>

Planning Service Awards

After recently being awarded the title of Planning Authority of the Year by the Royal Town Planning Institute, the council's Planning service has received another award, this time for its Youth Engagement Service, which has won the Inspire Future Generations Award for Best Local Authority in Youth Engagement from the Thornton Education Trust. This recognises their work in engaging thousands of children in the planning process, providing work experience placements, and supporting youth engagement in public art projects.

Food waste collections

In line with changing government requirements for food waste collection, weekly food waste collections are now taking place in some parts of the district. They are scheduled to begin in our ward in April. Everyone should receive a letter in March with details of the change and information on how we will receive our food waste caddy. More information is available on the council's web site. <https://www.greatercambridgewaste.org/foodwaste>

Street cleaning schedule

The next scheduled period for street cleaning in our ward is 9–20 March. If Parish Councils have specific areas that they would like dealt with by the road sweeper crew, please contact the street cleaning team using this form. <https://www.greatercambridgewaste.org/litter-in-public-spaces/street-care-and-cleaning-south-cambs>

Civil Parking Enforcement survey

A survey on Civil Parking Enforcement has been sent to Town and Parish Councils in the council's regular e-bulletin to help gather feedback on the scheme since its introduction two years ago. A previous survey generated only received limited feedback so I would encourage Parish Councils to give their views. The survey will close at the end of March.

Record level of council house rebuilding

The council has completed building 113 new council homes since 1 April 2025, which represents a significant increase in the rate of replenishing our council house stock in the district. The previous yearly record (from last year) was 91 homes. This is bringing real improvements in our ability to meet the growing housing need in this area.

New powers to keep pavements clear

The Department for Transport announced on 8 January that they will be introducing new local government powers to keep pavements clear and accessible, while allowing exemptions where required. This will streamline the present lengthy process for taking action on parking that blocks pavements. Guidance will be released later in the year.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-local-powers-to-keep-pavements-clear-for-those-who-rely-on-them-most>

Feedback on council services

A reminder that the District Council has a new mechanism to allow general feedback on the council's services from residents, businesses, Parish Councils, or any other clients.

Please use the link www.scambs.gov.uk/leave-fee

Cambs County Council

Budget for 2027/27

The draft Business Plan and Budget includes a number of proposed investments aligned with the Council's three new ambitions:

- Supporting a green and sustainable county through continued delivery of the Council's Climate Change and Environment Strategy, and an extra £20m of investment in road maintenance on top of Government funding for Cambridgeshire highways.
- Enabling full and healthy lives for all, an additional £14.7m of funding to help providers of adult social care in the county to meet ongoing costs, including inflation and to enable them to pay the Real Living Wage to care workers.
- Ensuring fairness and opportunity, to help further tackle poverty and support families under pressure, the Council is proposing to invest £1m to sustain holiday meal vouchers for those most in need through to the end of the summer holidays 2026. This will support families as changes linked to the Government's withdrawal of the Household Support Fund are implemented and use of the new £5m Crisis and Resilience Fund to support a broader range of anti-poverty measures is implemented.
- In addition, the draft budget sets out major investment across key services, including £11m to upgrade the Milton and March Household Waste Recycling Centres. Residents will also see major investment in the services families rely on day to day, more school places, stronger support for vulnerable children, and well-resourced local libraries.
- The proposals include 3,500 new primary school places and £72m over five years to support secondary schools in Alconbury Weald and North West Cambridge. They also provide £780k a year for the re-opened children's home in South Cambridgeshire, continued funding for the Families First programme backed by the £6.7m Children's, Families and Youth Grant, and more than £1.2m for libraries and archives over the next two years.
- The council's reported £6.4m budget gap in December has been fully closed following the announcement of the provisional Local Government Finance Settlement for 2026–29 by Government.
- In our pre-budget engagement exercise, just over 50% of respondents supported an increase in council tax of up to 4.99% to maintain or improve essential services, recognising the current financial pressures faced by the Council.
- In a second round of consultation, from December 25 to January 26, residents were asked to share their views on key spending and saving proposals. The majority supported the suggested ways of saving money and reducing costs to children's services, adults and public health and 71% supported prioritised spending for highways and community services.

- Proposals discussed included an increase of council tax by 4.99%, the maximum permitted by Government for county councils. A total 2% of this increase is specifically for adult social care funding. This increase, if approved, would generate around £21million in additional funding and help the Council continue providing the essential services people rely on.
- This would mean that for a Band D property, the County Council's share of Council Tax would increase by £84.78 a year, or £1.63 a week. Today's draft Business Plan and Budget proposals are available to view on our website, and the committee meeting was streamed live on the Council's YouTube channel.
<https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccclive/MeetingsCalendar/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/2478/Committee/71/SelectedTab/Documents/Default.aspx>

Highways Maintenance Update

- Currently, there are 5,400 potholes requiring repair across Cambridgeshire. In the past week, (last week January) the council has repaired over 1,000 potholes.
- There will be a dramatic increase in the number of work crews dealing with both temporary and permanent fixes – normally there are eight crews and two dragon patchers available across the county, now there are 30 crews and two dragon patchers working hard to repair potholes. This will significantly increase the level of pothole repairs attended to each week.
- Since 2023/24, the amount of capital funding spent on highway maintenance has increased by £35m, from £24m to £59m. The Council has allocated more than £73m for highways maintenance in 2025/26.
- The Highways and Transport Committee have recently supported budget proposals that could see an additional £20m of investment into road maintenance in 2026/27. Read more on our website.

Pothole facts:

- Over the past five years, we have repaired an average of 55,400 individual potholes each year.
- In general terms, if a pothole is large and deep, we will fix it within five days. If it is smaller and less of a hazard, we will fix it within 21 days
- We mark up the potholes in different ways, those repaired in five days are not marked as our repair is immediate, yellow means we will repair it within 21 days. We always aim to fix potholes within five and 21 days depending on their level of priority
- We aim to fix emergency faults as soon as possible, always within five days
- We always aim to repair potholes with a permanent fix first time. However, this depends on the weather – if it's wet or has been raining we sometimes have to make temporary fixes to keep people safe and moving as the road conditions are too wet for permanent repairs. Permanent fixes will then be programmed in and delivered when the weather allows
- A pothole repair costs around £50
- The dragon patcher is a specialist machine, nicknamed the 'dragon' because it fires out flames to dry out the road surface, it is then cleaned with compressed air and sealed with a stone mix and hot bitumen. It is much quicker and simpler compared to traditional methods.

Peter McDonald Feb 2nd 2026