



ICKLETON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Held in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall, Frogge Street, Ickleton. CB10 1SH.
Thursday 14th May 2026 starting at 7pm

Present: Parish Council Vice Chair Simon Cheney (Chair), Parish Council Clerk – Barbara Benn, District and County Councillor - Peter McDonald, one representative from Urban & Civic and fourteen electors. A further five electors joined during the meeting.

1. **Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the electors to the meeting.

Apologies for absence:

- Age UK
- Coploe Pit Wardens
- Froglets
- Ickleton Community Pub
- Neighbourhood Watch coordinator
- St Mary Magdalen Church Warden

2. **Approval of Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on the 6th May 2025**

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2025 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Presentation by Wellcome Genome Campus followed by Q&As**

A breaking ground event took place in March 2026.

The first phase of construction will include:

- Two pedestrian and cycle bridges
- Health & Fitness Centre which will be open to the wider community
- The first eighty four houses for campus staff
- The Green - a residential area for sport and relaxation open to the wider community
- Research and Technology laboratory building
- Sustainable energy centre for Campus energy

Questions and Answers

What is the energy centre?

The Energy Centre has been designed to complement the surrounding agricultural landscape. It will incorporate solar panels and boreholes to support water heating.

Will there be rainwater harvesting?

No surface water will leave the site. Water will either be reused on site or directed into swales. The sewerage system is also being upgraded, with sewage to be pumped northwards from the site.

Are the bridges intended only to connect the existing and new sites?

Yes. The bridges are solely intended to provide access and connectivity between both sides of the campus.

Road safety concern raised by a resident

A resident noted that the road splay from Hinxton to the A1301 is too narrow and requested that this issue be addressed. The Wellcome Genome Campus (WGC) and local Parish Councils are aware of the concern, which has already been raised with the County Council. Peter McDonald advised the meeting that the matter remains under review, the safety officer has visited the site, and a Stage 3 assessment is currently underway.

How is the project progressing against the timeline?

The project is currently progressing in line with the planned timeline.

Will the leisure facilities be open to everyone?

Yes. The leisure facilities will be substantial in scale and will be open to the wider public.

Will the housing be available for sale?

No. The housing is being developed as a build-to-rent scheme for campus workers only.

Does the housing form part of the Council's housing quotas?

Yes. The housing is included within the planned housing quotas for the area.

What progress has been made on the ANPR Traffic Survey?

The ANPR system will now be implemented following the commencement of construction on site. Peter McDonald informed the meeting that a yellow card and red card system will be used to monitor contractor traffic and site conduct. This approach has been successfully implemented on other projects. Contractors receiving a red card will be removed from the site.

4. Report from the Chair of the Parish Council

The Chair's report was presented by the Vice-Chair. Please see [Appendix A](#) for the full report.

5. Report from the District and County Council

A summary report was presented to the meeting. Please see [Appendix B](#) for the full report.

Questions and Answers

Cambridge Development Society

A question was raised regarding the level of influence the Cambridge Development Society may have and how this would be managed. It was explained that the Council has sought to focus development on larger strategic sites in order to provide additional housing, rather than relying on numerous smaller local developments. Discussions are ongoing regarding infrastructure responsibilities, planning matters, and which organisations will hold responsibility for delivery.

A505 Improvements

A question was raised regarding progress on improvements to the A505. It was confirmed that funding has been committed towards the development of the roundabout on the A505; however, the allocated amount is currently insufficient to deliver all of the required improvements. Discussions regarding future plans are continuing.

Road beneath the level crossing at the Ickleton/Great Chesterford border

A resident asked who is responsible for the road beneath the level crossing on the Essex/Cambridgeshire border. It was noted that the bridge itself is the responsibility of Network Rail. Residents also highlighted missing signage in the area. Peter McDonald agreed to contact officers at both Essex and Cambridgeshire authorities to coordinate action on the matter.

Hedges between Ickleton and Hinxton

A question was raised regarding whether the Council has any influence over the owners of the hedges between Ickleton and Hinxton. Peter McDonald agreed to ask the relevant team to inspect the area.

6. Reports from Village Organisations and Groups

Age UK Cambridgeshire

Apologies were received. Please see [Appendix C](#) for the submitted report.

Coploe Pit Nature Reserve

Apologies were received. Thanks were extended to the volunteer wardens for their ongoing work in maintaining the site on behalf of the village. Please see [Appendix D](#) for the submitted report.

Friends of St Mary's Church

A representative of the Friends of St Mary's Church presented the report to the meeting. Please see [Appendix E](#) for the full report.

Froglets

Apologies were received. Please see [Appendix F](#) for the submitted report.

Ickleton Allotment Association

The Chair of the Allotment Association addressed the meeting. Please see [Appendix G](#) for the full report.

Ickleton Community Pub Ltd

A summary of the report was provided at the meeting. Please see [Appendix H](#) for the full report.

Ickleton Cricket Club

A report was presented to the meeting. Please see [Appendix I](#) for the full report.

Ickleton Social Club

No representative was present at the meeting.

Ickleton Society

An update was provided to the meeting outlining the Society's recent activities and future plans. Please see [Appendix J](#) for the full report.

Ickleton United Charity

No representative was present at the meeting.

Neighbourhood Watch

Apologies were received. Please see [Appendix K](#) for the submitted report.

Speedwatch

A representative of Speedwatch presented a report to the meeting. Please see [Appendix L](#) for the full report.

St Mary Magdalene Church

Apologies were received. Please see [Appendix M](#) for the submitted report.

Village Hall Committee

Apologies were received. A brief summary was shared with the meeting. Please see [Appendix N](#) for the full report.

7. Open Forum

Thanks were extended to Dom Pallett and Charlie Frankau for their ongoing maintenance work, which was recognised as a valuable contribution to the village.

Heavy Goods Vehicles through the village

Concern was raised regarding the number of large HGVs travelling through the village. The Parish Council agreed to note the issue and consider whether any measures could be taken to address it.

One suggestion was the installation of signage at the entrance to the village indicating that the route is unsuitable for HGVs. A parishioner noted that some villages in other council areas operate environmental weight limits, although such measures have proven difficult to implement within Cambridgeshire.

Biodiversity at the recreation ground

A parishioner commented positively on the area at the edge of the recreation ground, noting the abundance of wildlife and expressing support for extending similar biodiversity initiatives elsewhere on the recreation ground. The Parish Council confirmed that it is actively exploring ways to increase biodiversity across village spaces.

Cemetery and woodland burials

A suggestion was made that the cemetery could potentially include provision for woodland burials. Thanks were extended to Peter Wombwell for providing water for the trees and to the volunteers assisting with watering and maintenance.

Wetlands and river management

Positive comments were made regarding the maintenance of the wetlands and the value of the area as a local walking route. It was also noted that the Wellcome Trust had acted responsibly in responding to river pollution caused by a diesel spill.

Reference was made to a Duxford-based group that clears vegetation along the River Cam, and it was suggested that a similar volunteer group could potentially be established in Ickleton to support clearance work locally.

Close

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed:

Dated:

Appendix A - Report of the Chair of the Parish Council

May 2026

Finance

The budget and precept were approved at the Parish Council meeting in December 2026. For the 2026–2027 financial year, the Parish has set a precept of £43,500.

In setting this figure, the Council has worked to keep the precept as low as possible, while ensuring sufficient provision for future projects that will benefit the community.

The fully audited accounts for the 2024–2025 financial year are available on the Parish Council website and can also be obtained from the Clerk upon request. Draft financial statements for 2025–2026 will be published on the website from 2nd June and will likewise be available from the Clerk on request.

Council

The membership of the Parish Council has been consistent over the last 12 months.

However, ahead of the recent elections, **three councillors decided to step down**: Sam Brooks, Tim Pavelin and Terry Sadler.

We would particularly like to recognise the remarkable service that Tim and Terry have given, since **between them they have given close to 50 years of service** to the Parish Council. Their experience and knowledge of parish council matters, their recall of previous business and debates, and their considered opinions will be sorely missed.

With these departures we have **three open positions for councillors** going into the new term.

Community

We have **many excellent community groups that are an important part of our village life**, and many have provided a report to this meeting or are here in person to present.

Thanks to the Coploe Pit Wardens, the Friends of St Mary's Church, Froglets, the Ickleton Allotment Association, Ickleton Cricket Club, Ickleton Social Club, Ickleton Society, Ickleton United Charity, Neighbourhood Watch, Speedwatch, the Lion at Ickleton and the Village Hall Management Committee.

All of these are run by volunteers and their time and efforts should be recognised and celebrated.

Cemetery Extension

There is one particular area of Parish Council work that we're pleased to report has **reached a major milestone**. In March, after a lot of work and delays, **we closed on the purchase of the land adjacent to the current Cemetery**.

This will provide a **large area for expansion to accommodate more burials** and also an **area which we plan to develop as a community space**.

With the purchase completed, the next phase will be to **draft a planning application** required for change of use and also to start working on **ideas for how to develop the land not earmarked for burials**.

Environment

District planning

The Parish Council **continues to participate in local coordination activities and liaison meetings** run by the team at the Wellcome Genome Campus. **The Chair and Vice-Chair represented the Parish Council at the groundbreaking ceremony** that was held on the new site in April. Councillors attend regular meetings.

Following concerns raised by several local councils and other bodies there was a **review undertaken of the junction of the A1303 and New Road**. However, at this time, no alterations are planned.

There have also been **ongoing discussions with Wellcome regarding the installation of ANPR cameras** at points around Ickleton (as well as Hinxton and Duxford) in order to gather objective information about changes to traffic flows through the village.

Regarding the Boro Farm aggregate processing site, we reported last year that **all appeals by the operator had been rejected**. It took **threats of legal action by Essex CC** to eventually push the operator to start work clearing the site and **regular site visits by enforcement officers** have tracked progress.

Local planning

We continue to review and respond to applications for buildings and trees work within the Parish.

Parks and Open Spaces

We continue to look to reduce the amount of management of the natural environment while ensuring that our public spaces are still usable and safe. Our contractors, **Charles Frankau and Dominic Pallett, continue to provide excellent service cutting verges and the recreation ground** as well as many other jobs around the village, and their contract has recently been renewed for another 12 month term.

Last year we reported significant work that was undertaken in the cemetery to reduce or remove damaged or diseased trees. This year we hope to **undertake a wider survey of all land managed by the Parish Council** in order to assess the state and safety of every tree for which we are responsible.

As part of annual safety checks both the skate park and equipment in the children's play area are assessed to ensure they remain safe for use. As a result of reports from last year it was decided that **the swings and zip wire needed replacement**. The **replacement of the swings have been completed** and **the zip wire remains out of use while work on a replacement is finalised**. The Parish Council will contribute £3,000 and it is hoped community fundraising will match this.

Because of its age it was decided that **further repairs to extend the life of the skate park were not a good use of funds**. It has been a feature of the recreation ground for a number of years and **the council is actively considering options for a replacement**.

Water and Sewerage

At the time of the last APM the issue of **foul water overflows in several locations in the village** was still active and, having identified the issues that were causing overflows, Anglian Water had not committed at that time to a timetable for remediation.

We can now report that **Anglian Water have worked to install liners into significant sections of our sewers**, and taken enforcement actions, to reduce or remove sources of groundwater infiltration. Taken along with upgrades to the pumping station these measures appear to have been effective and **we have seen no repeat of the overflows over this winter**.

Transport and Streets

At the suggestion of Peter Macdonald, **the Road Safety Manager for Cambridgeshire County Council met with several councillors in November** to hear our concerns about speeding through the village, the condition of our roads and other safety issues. They provided advice in a number of different areas which we are currently reviewing.

The state of the roads in and around Ickleton has been a particular focus over the last 12 months with the winter weather leading to further breakdown of the surface in a number of areas.

We know that South Cambs District Council highways has received significant additional funding to address this and note that **many problem areas have recently been addressed**. However, the area at the junction of Abbey Street, Frogge Street and Church Street has been deemed by the Road Safety Manager to be beyond patching and this has been logged for replacement.

Regarding the Butchers Hill junction, had hoped that our application for funding last year would be successful but it again was declined.

However, in the feedback **it was suggested that we conduct a poll of villagers to gauge the level of concern**. We had an excellent response to the request for your opinions and it is clear that it concerns many of you with **over 50 respondees saying that you avoid this junction as a pedestrian** because of safety concerns. We are **hoping that this evidence will help bolster our chances of success** when we next make an application.

The **SpeedWatch team continues to play an important part in slowing down traffic through the village**, particularly on the approaches from Great Chesterford and down Abbey Street.

To conclude, it's important to recognise that the Parish Council is just one of the many bodies and individuals that collectively contribute to the life of our village. Some have been mentioned already but also thanks to all that publish and distribute the Icene, participate in the annual litter pick and many other activities that make our village what it is.

Appendix B – South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridgeshire County Council



South Cambs District Council

Ickleton APM: May 2026

Councillor Peter McDonald

**District Councillor for Duxford,
Ickleton, Hinxton, Babraham,
Pampisford**

Key Activities & Changes 2026/2027

Key Activities 2026/27

- £225k for CoL support including warm hubs, slow cookers and The Mobile Food Hubs
- Having doubled the number of new Council homes built from 35 in 2019/20 to 75 in 2025/26 and 139 so far in 26/2027
- £50k per year for homelessness
- £8m to enhance energy efficiency in council 5,600 homes
- £2 million in next 2 years allocated to continue to upgrade existing housing stock, as part of continuing carbon reduction efforts.
- £300k pa for community groups
- New scheme LIFT to support lower income residents- £450k claimed so far
- Weekly Food Waste Collections

2

WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY CADDY?

You can recycle all your food waste, including the following:

 food waste	✓ All uneaten food and plate scrapings	 dairy	✓ Dairy products ✓ Cheese ✓ Eggs	 bread & pastries	✓ Bread ✓ Cakes ✓ Pastries
 meat & bones	✓ Raw meat ✓ Cooked meat ✓ Bones	 tea & coffee grounds	✓ Tea bags ✓ Coffee grounds	 fruit & vegetables	✓ Raw vegetables ✓ Cooked vegetables ✓ Whole fruit ✓ Peelings
 fish	✓ Fish ✓ Cooked fish ✓ Bones	 rice, pasta & grains	✓ Rice ✓ Pasta ✓ Beans	 Remember to recycle your rubbish and put it into your bin, including any items removed from your packaging	

Please do not put any of these items in your caddy

✗ Packaging of any kind (except plastic liners)

✗ Liquids such as milk

✗ Oil or liquid fat

✗ Anything that is not food waste



Financials

2026/27

- SCDC takes c.£180 of the c. £1,700 of Band D Council Tax.
- Council Tax Increased this year by 2.99% or £5.24 to £180.64.
 - Correcting a deficit of £500k in 2019/20
 - SCDC still looking to generate 25% of income from investments (to protect Council & residents)
- County C Tax Increased by £84 or 4,99%.



5 yr Business Plan

- The budget for 2026/27 was agreed at a Full Council meeting on 24 February
- Support for the voluntary and community sector is boosted to £300k per year, £225k per year is allocated for cost-of-living support, and ongoing support for Mobile Warden Schemes was agreed.
- The Council Tax precept for the District Council will increase by 2.99% or £5.24 per year for a Band D property.
- This compares with a CPI inflation rate of 3.4%, wage growth of 4.2% (both from December 2025), and a state pension increase of 4.7% this year. The Council is expected to remain among the lowest-taxing 25% of district councils in the country.
- The budget accounts for the fact that the government has recently reduced the amount of Business Rates that local authorities can retain, further reducing our funding.

My Priorities

- 1. Monitor & influence planning projects.
 - Influence the local plan process/call for sites.
 - Monitor the 5 year housing land supply.
 - Work with villages on Wellcome Genome Campus development & housing covenants.
 - IWM & Gonville & Caius plan for the Av Tech.
- 2. Keep residents up to date
 - Monthly report for every Parish.
 - Facebook & Twitter.
 - Focus leaflets – 12x since Election in 2020/22.
- 3. Carry out effective case work on:
 - Planning
 - Housing
 - Highways
- 4. Represent my villages for grant support-total grants in 2024/25 across the District
 - Rural England Prosperity Fund £350k
 - Community chest - £58k
 - Mobile wardens £100k
 - Zero carbon Grants £125k
 - Improving high streets £90k
- 6. Work effectively on Cabinet
 - Business Support responsibility

Council Tax Breakdown 2026/27

Authority	Amount
Cambridgeshire County Council	c.£1500
Cambridgeshire County Council Adults Social Care Precept	c.£285
South Cambridgeshire District Council	£180.64
Cambridgeshire Police	c.£313
Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	c.£91
Mayoral Combined Authority	c. £38

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 questioned the CGC Chair, Peter Freeman, at a Scrutiny & Overview Committee meeting on 29 January where 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.
- The government is currently consulting on their plan to further the work of the CGC by forming a Development Corporation. The consultation closes on 1 April and I encourage Parish Councils and interested residents to respond. The council is holding an Extraordinary Meeting on 17 March to discuss its response.



The proposed boundary aligns with the current, combined administrative areas of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

Represent 11 Parishes: Duxford, Whittlesford, Foxton, Fowlmere, Hinxton, Ickleton, Pampisford, Shepreth, Thriplow & Heathfield, Chishills, Heydon, Ickleton.

Budget 2026/27 & 3 yr Plan

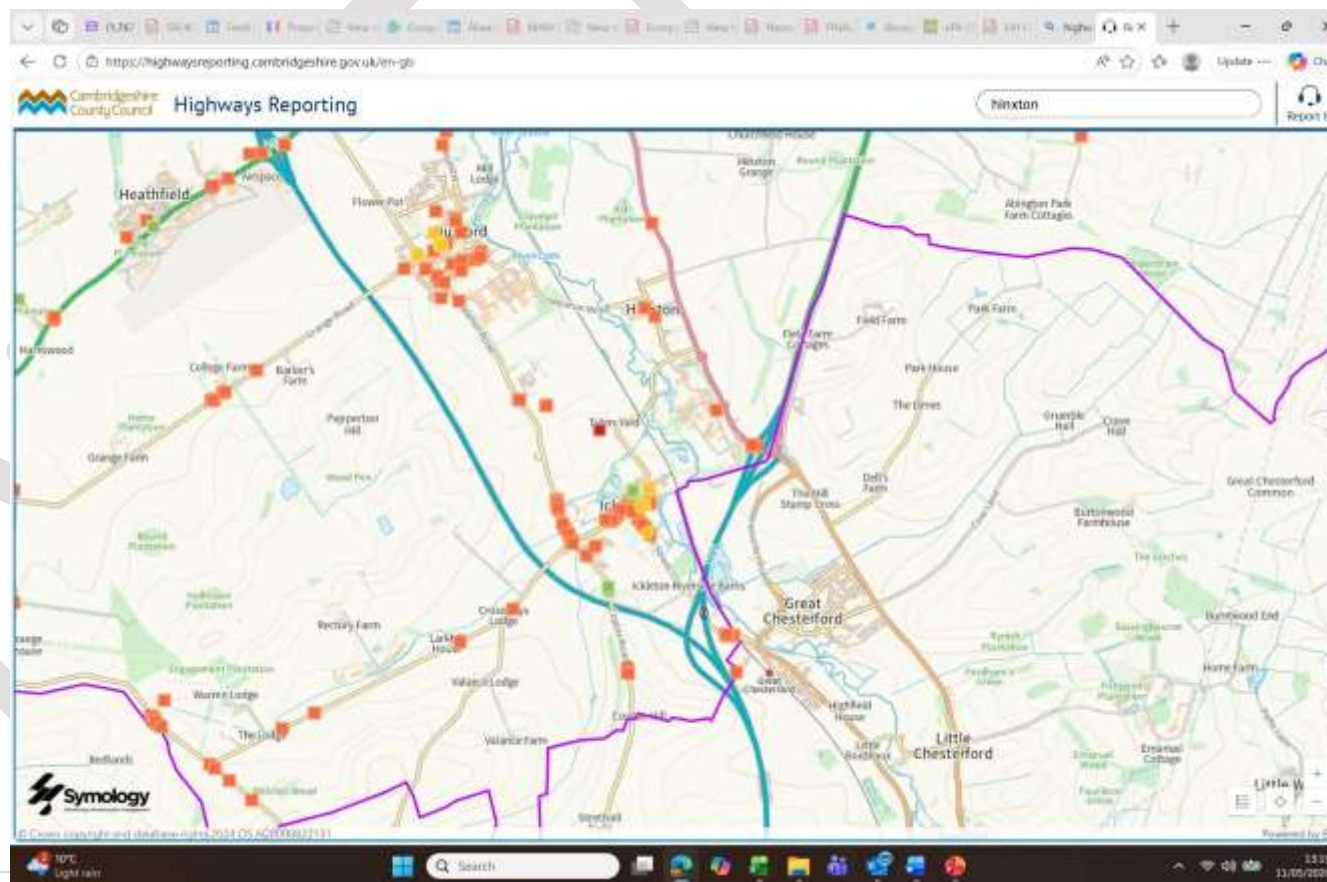
- The nearly £1.3 billion Business and Budget Plan includes a number of investments aligned with the council's three new ambitions:
- Supporting a green and sustainable county
- To improve day to day journeys for drivers, cyclists and bus users, it has allocated an additional £20m for highway maintenance, on top of Government funding, to provide safer and more reliable roads across Cambridgeshire. The council will also continue to provide leadership and deliver its Climate Change and Environment Strategy.
- Enabling full and healthy lives for all
- To support older people, adults with disabilities and families, who rely on care every day, the council is allocating £14.7m of additional funding for adult social care providers. This will help them to manage rising costs and ensure care workers are paid the Real Living Wage, improving stability and quality for those who depend on care workers for their support.
- Ensuring fairness and opportunity
- To help families under pressure from the cost-of-living crisis, the council is prioritising £1m to continue holiday meal vouchers for the children most in need, through to the end of summer 2026. As the Government withdraws the Household Support Fund, the council will also use its new £5m Crisis and Resilience Fund to provide a wider range of anti-poverty measures, offering practical support to households facing financial challenges.
- The plan will create 3,500 new primary school places and invest £72 million over five years to increase secondary school places, including at Alconbury Weald and North-West Cambridge. It also includes £780,000 a year to run a children's residential home in South Cambridgeshire, as well as continued funding for the Families First programme, an early-intervention project that helps keep more families together and is supported by the £6.7 million Children's, Families and Youth Grant. In addition, more than £1.2 million will be invested in

libraries and archives over the next two years.

- The plans discussed included an increase of council tax by 4.99%, the maximum permitted by Government for county councils, as is the case in nearly all councils across England, and the level assumed by Government in setting its grant allocations. A total 2% of this increase is specifically for adult social care funding. The increase will generate around £21million in additional funding and help the council continue providing the essential services people rely on. This will 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.

Potholes !

- 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. 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.



My Priorities

- 1. Chair & Committee
 - Council Chair
 - Environment & Green Investment
- 2. Highways Matters
 - Potholes !
 - Civil Parking Enforcement began Feb 1st 2024
 - New gulley scanning & cleaning programme initiated
- 3. Infrastructure
 - A505 plan for next 10 years
- 4. Represent you on County Farms
 - Currently 33,000 acres
 - Environmental Land Management
 - Tree planting
 - New farm acquisition.

Appendix C – Age UK Community Warden Scheme

Cambridge South Community Warden Scheme Update Ickleton Annual Parish Meeting 14th May 2026

Overview of the Warden Scheme

The Community Warden, Anita Gilchrist delivers 20 hours of warden service throughout the week during Monday to Friday. The warden schemes target capacity is at 80% (this is based on the number of service users divided by contracted hours). 20% of the warden's contracted hours are set aside to allow of the weekly administration of the scheme including the writing of case studies, data collection, assessments & reviews.

Service Delivery

As with the nature of the wardens' schemes, the number of service users (SU's) fluctuates throughout the year due to service users' circumstances changing. At present, the scheme is supporting 17 SU's within 10 households (with a target of 16 SU's).

Number of Households (Cambs South)	Male	Female	Couple/Shared Household
16	2	15	1
Youngest Service User	71-80		
Oldest Service User	91-100		

The community warden makes daily phone calls and two home visits each week. Please note home visits can increase when a service user requires extra support during a defined period, for example following hospital discharge.

Referrals into the scheme

Referral routes can include:

- Family member, Self-referral, Hospital Discharge Team, Voluntary Sector Organisation referral

Referrals are predominantly self-referrals or made by family members, along with referrals received from social prescribers across all the Age UK CAP warden service schemes. The reasons for referrals are:

- To improve health and wellbeing
- To reduce social isolation
- To improve social inclusion
- To provide practical support

Referrals are received via the Age UK website, I&A and word of mouth/visibility within the community.

Signposting

The following examples illustrate where the warden can signpost/externally refer to:

Age UK CAP Handyperson
Benefit Checks (Attendance Allowance Helpline)
Community Transport e.g. Volunteer Drive Scheme
Chiropodist/Ear Care
Age UK CAP Information & Advice (I&A)
GP Surgery/District Nurses
Cleaner/Gardener
Dementia Support Groups
Age UK CAP Hospital Discharge Team
Care Agencies/Micro Enterprises
Adult Social Care

Support provided to the Service User – a Service Users experience

There are multiple tasks where the warden supports her Service User's, including helping them to navigate the outside world and remain independent. Examples of these include (however, are not limited to):

- Accompanying (7 +) service users to the monthly luncheon club and supporting them while they are there.
- Small amounts of regular shopping
- Arranging repeat prescriptions & prescription collections/deliveries
- Arranging Doctor appointments and ringing hospital to get advice on upcoming appointments
- Supporting service users on walks to encourage physical activity and independence
- Supporting service users with online shopping to improve digital inclusion and build confidence and skills in using online platforms
- Reading & submitting meter readings
- Support with paperwork
- Booking hospital transport or local taxi service
- Checking & changing batteries when things stop working
- Be a regular figure in their lives who: listens, chats & reassure them when they are worried

Further to this, in Anita's role as a Community Warden, she:

- Works directly with Age UK CAP I & A Team to help service users to maximise their income, through benefit checks and applications.
- Encourages and supports her service users and their families to be more physically active and to access resources within the Cambridge South community.

- Navigate other services, ensuring that the service users can connect to their local community enhancing their support network and wellbeing.
- Provide consistency to the service user.
- Reduces isolation and loneliness.
- Delivers a person-centred and flexible service to meet the needs of the service user.
- Is an advocate
- Supports service users in a non-judgemental manner
- Supports her service users' families to ensure the best care for their loved ones and themselves.

Anita makes a difference, every day.

Promotion and advertising of scheme

Promotion for the scheme remains a continual process both locally by the Community Warden (detailed below are some examples) as well as across Age UK Cambridgeshire & Peterborough:

Social media – locally and across Age UK CAP
Ickleton Parish Council Website & village noticeboard
March edition of Icene – village magazine
Posters displayed in communities
Local dinner clubs and coffee mornings
Churches
Sheltered Housing Schemes
Doctor Surgeries
Social Prescribers
Local Businesses
Pharmacies
Advertising in local news bulletins
Advertisement in the Spring 2026 South Cambs Magazine

Case Studies

Please find below a case study detailing examples of the support delivered, alongside reflections on the learning gathered from this work. The case study has been compiled at the request of the service user, and an anonymised name ("Fredrik") has been used to maintain confidentiality.

CASE STUDY

Mark with X	Intended service outcomes in agreement with the service user (choose as many as appropriate)	
x	Improve social inclusion/ isolation	
x	Improve safety at home	
x	Provide preventative support	
	Improve money matters	
	Improve equality/human rights	
x	Provide practical support	
x	Improved health/ wellbeing	
About the person		
“Fredrik” is a 62-year-old man who lives alone in a housing association flat with no on-site caretaker. He is partially sighted and has been diagnosed, along with his brother, with a genetic eye condition. Fredrik uses a white cane and a high-visibility vest and walks almost daily to the local High Street for shopping. He regularly meets his brother, who is part of his support network. Fredrik presents with learning difficulties and speaks very quickly. He receives support from a volunteer who visits him to assist with shopping. His sister provides additional support by cleaning his home and managing his finances. At the time of referral, his sister was due to undergo eye surgery, which meant Fredrik required additional support during this period.		Age, district, live alone, general well-being, support network etc
What was the situation		
The referral was made by a close friend who knows Fredrik well and regularly looks out for him. The referrer expressed concerns regarding: - Fredrik's safety when crossing roads in Sawston, having witnessed several near misses - The cleanliness and general condition of his accommodation - The need for additional advocacy and support to improve communication and coordination between Fredrik and his sister These factors were having a direct impact on Fredrik's daily life, independence, and safety.		Why and how referred, what challenges, issues were faced, what is affecting daily life
What did Age UK do to make a difference?		
During the initial visit, the Community Warden found the flat to be in a good state of repair, with belongings arranged in a way that Fredrik expected and could manage independently. While the bathroom was reasonably clean, it was noted that the home telephone was not functioning. It was also identified that recent changes to government financial support meant Fredrik needed to apply for Universal Credit.		What action did we take to support and help – in bullet points
What outcomes were achieved?		
The following steps were taken to support Fredrik and his family: - Contacted Fredrik's sister to understand her role and discuss areas requiring improvement - Supported the sister by connecting her with the JH Charity to assist with the Universal Credit application, which she found overwhelming - Ensured the home telephone was repaired, enabling Fredrik to resume daily phone contact		Describe the impact and any service specific outcomes – how did it change things, e.g., safety, socially, independence, confidence etc

- Referred Fredrik to CamSight for an additional volunteer to support him on trips to the High Street - Supported the sister to begin an application for taxi vouchers, increasing Fredrik's independence if he was unable to walk - Provided practical support during visits, including accompanying Fredrik to the shops and ensuring he returned home safely As a result of the intervention: - Communication and coordination between Fredrik and his sister improved - Practical barriers, including access to a working telephone and financial support, were addressed - Fredrik's safety and independence were enhanced through volunteer and transport support - Fredrik experienced reassurance through regular engagement and practical assistance	
Quote from service user	
"Anita, why aren't you coming anymore? I would love you to start again and we can meet at the café." <i>(The service had been cancelled by the sister, and Fredrik may not have retained this information. This was later confirmed with his brother following a visit to the café where they regularly meet.)</i>	What difference and/or impact did our support give. Ask open ended questions to determine how.
Our learning	
This case highlighted the importance of: - Early, clear communication with family members involved in support - Providing additional assistance during periods when informal carers are unavailable - Supporting service users to navigate changes in financial systems - Addressing safety concerns proactively while balancing independence - These learning points will inform future practice and service development.	Our learning outcomes and future actions we could take to improve and/or develop our services
Completed by - staff name	Anita Gilchrist
Completion date	15.12.25
Has service user agreed to be named?	No
Service user name:	Anonymised name ("Fredrik") has been used to maintain confidentiality.
CL NO	N/A
Has verbal consent been given to staff member, named above, to use (general not personal details) i.e., first name, age, and area and to share with professionals/media/funders etc to the benefit of Age UK CAP	No
Has verbal consent been given to use and be contacted by a member of Age UK CAP staff regarding this case study to obtain further information to use publicly for the benefit of Age UK CAP only	No
Does the SU agree to a photo? If so, please complete photo so please complete photo permission form	Not asked

Appendix D – Ickleton Clunch Pit Nature Reserve

Report To Parish Council – Spring 2026

Background

A former clunch pit and County Wildlife Site containing a large variety of chalk grassland plants and supporting a significant number of invertebrate species including butterflies, in addition to birds and small mammals. A Priority Habitat under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan against the background of an enormous decline in recent decades due to changes in agricultural practices. The Wildlife Trust recognises the importance of this local nature reserve with a high biodiversity and has provided guidance on its management.

Volunteer Tasks

Cambridge Conservation Volunteers visited December 2024, January 2025 and December 2025 under the supervision of Volunteer Wardens to continue with scrub removal to allow spread of species rich grassland in line with the Management Plan.

Ongoing tasks carried out by Volunteer Wardens with assistance from Mike Slater:

Risk Assessment updated March 2026.

‘Popping’ of exposed roots and stems from February 2025 to April 2026 (using PC supplied tree popper) - every two weeks

Strimming of ‘enriched’ areas of grassland (using PC supplied strimmer), raking and removal of arisings and hand weeding of ruderal weeds such as docks, thistles and bristly ox-tongue – from May 2026 to September 2026 - every two weeks.

Hand pulling ragwort from exposed areas before seeding – July 2026.

Cut of species rich grassland areas in September 2026 once seed has set and spreading ‘green hay’ arisings onto newly cleared areas to allow seed transfer.



PC Strimmer Annual Service

Carried out by Ernest Doe of Fulbourn December 2025.

Next service due December 2026. Thanks to PC for covering this ongoing annual cost.

Village Guided Walk and Q and A Session

This took place on 7 June 2025 and a number of families and individuals from the village came along to learn more about our work at the Pit.

Another guided walk is planned for 20 June 2026 – to be advertised in ‘The Icení’.

Outlook and Next Steps

The area of species rich grassland continues to expand following the clearance of scrub and the removal of ruderal weeds.

Despite the drought conditions there has been an increase in wildflowers, including the first orchid recorded for a number of years and, in the autumn, a number of new species of fungi were present.

Strimming of enriched grassy area to continue over the summer along with remaining popping in cleared areas.

Cambridge Conservation Volunteers to visit December 2026 to assist scrub clearance.

Notable Wildlife Sightings in 2025

Wildflowers and Grasses – Pyramidal Orchid, Sainfoin (native type), Small Scabious, Fairy Flax, Autumn Gentian, Hoary Plantain, Squinancywort, Salad Burnet, Common Milkwort, Wild Thyme, Harebell, Crested Hairgrass, Quaking Grass and Downy Oat Grass – all indicator species of high-quality calcareous grassland.

Fungi- Wood Blewit, Slender Parasol, Winter Stalked Puffball, Glistening Ink Cap and Stubble Rosegill.

Vertebrates – Common Toad, Common Lizard, Bank Vole (nesting), Red Legged Partridge (nesting), Robin (nesting), Wren, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Dunnock, Yellow Hammer and Blackcap. Daily flying over – Red Kite, Buzzard, Raven.

Butterflies and Moths – Six Spot Burnet, Brimstone, Painted Lady, Small Skipper, Peacock, Meadow Brown, Gatekeeper, Comma, Marbled White, Small Heath, Brown Argus, Small Tortoiseshell and Common Blue.

Other Considerations

The fields, hedgerows and 'strip lynchets' adjacent to the pit are subject to a Biodiversity Net Gain proposal.

<https://www.cheffins.co.uk/rural/services/biodiversity-net-gain/coploe-hill.htm>

Ray Hackett and John O'Boyle – Volunteer Wardens – March 2026

Appendix E – The Friends of St. Mary Magdalene Church

Report from The Friends of St. Mary Magdalene Church, Ickleton to the Parish Council AGM On 14th May 2026

The Friends of St. Mary Magdalene Church is a registered charity, formed in late 2023 for the conservation, repair and maintenance of our beautiful, medieval church building which has been a focal point of village life over the centuries.

The objectives of the Trust have been specifically drawn up in secular terms in order that they are exercised not only for the benefit of churchgoers but also for all villagers and others of any religion or none.

Our first formal activity was the successful Granta Chorale concert held in the church last month and there will be a garden party in June followed in September by a lecture on the wall paintings.

The highlight of 2025 was the PCC's successful lottery bid which resulted in just under a quarter of a million pounds for the conservation of the wall paintings. Our thanks are due to Lewis and Jenny Duke and their team for all their hard work to secure such a magnificent outcome.

Now that the wall paintings conservation is secure for the time being, the Friends will concentrate maintaining the church building and facilities so that it continues to be a centre of village life and activities.

Finally, if anyone here is interested in joining The Friends, there are membership forms at the back of the room.

Peter Bricknell, Chair of the Trustees

Appendix F - Froglets

Froglets 2026

Froglets has been running for over 30 years and has always been well attended until covid. The numbers dropped and has never got back up to 30 children but we feel that even though we only have 8 children attending that the group is still of value even to a few families. The village hall committee have been extremely understanding that we are not making enough to cover costs.

We feel if froglets goes it will be very hard to reinstate. We intend to keep it open for as long as possible . We feel that because of rising costs parents are both having to work and the government is paying childcare from 9 months so most children are going straight into nursery. It could also be due to a decline in birth rate. It's not just our group it is happening at a lot of groups.

Anne-Marie Hoare

Appendix G – Ickleton Allotment Association

Ickleton Allotment Association

As we look back on the past twelve months, I am delighted to report that 2025 has been another rewarding and memorable year for the Ickleton Allotment Association. Following the slug-ridden challenges of 2024, this year brought a welcome return to more balanced growing conditions. A cooler spring gave way to a warm but manageable summer, and although rainfall was erratic at times, I believe it was a successful season.

One of the standout features of 2025 has been the continued strengthening of our allotment community. This year began on a high note with our second Wassail in January—a tradition that, remarkably quickly, already feels like an established part of our annual calendar. Once again, we filled the orchard with laughter, clattering pans, and steaming mugs of mulled cider. The enthusiasm from members confirmed that this is a celebration here to stay

Our Plant Sale and Produce Show were both extremely well attended, raising a combined total of £1,753. These events continue to be a highlight for the village, and once again the Allotment Arms proved as popular as ever. The sense of camaraderie, good humour, and pride in everyone's hard work was evident throughout the day. Thank you to everyone who contributed plants, produce, cakes, time, or muscle power to make the events run smoothly.

2025 saw some further improvements to the allotment site infrastructure

Earlier in the year several new fruit trees were planted as part of our long-term vision for a flourishing community orchard. These young trees will, in time, support activities such as apple-juicing days, cider making, and hopefully some bumper harvest.

The new communal shed house is now in place at the orchard and already proving to be an invaluable asset. Its debut during January's Wassail demonstrated just how useful it will be—both as a practical shelter

and as an important social hub. The shed is yet to be officially named, and we look forward to choosing something fitting as it becomes even more central to our community life.

We are also thrilled to report the success of our application for a Allotment Improvement Grant from South Cambridgeshire District Council. The award of £7,723 represents a major boost for our association and will allow us to install several long-aspirational improvements across the site. Planned additions include a waterless loo, two new communal storage sheds, and a pergola in the orchard, among other enhancements. These upgrades will greatly improve the functionality, accessibility, and enjoyment of the site for all members and visitors in the years ahead.

Across the site, many plots have been tended with exceptional care this year. In a closely judged competition, Paul Wells was awarded the Cecil Vincent Cup, a testament to his hard work and the high standard of cultivation on his plot. Congratulations once again, Paul.

As always, I would like to take a moment to thank our committee members, volunteers, and every single plot holder. Your commitment to maintaining the site, supporting events, sharing knowledge, and welcoming new members is what keeps the association thriving. The allotments are not only a place for growing food—they are a place for growing friendships, wellbeing, and community spirit.

Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be another exciting year as we continue to nurture our orchard, enhance the communal facilities, and welcome new faces into our ever-growing allotment family.

Wishing you all a productive, joyful, and abundant growing season in 2026.

Nick Thompson

Chairman, Ickleton Allotment Association

Appendix H- Ickleton Community Pub

Report to the Annual Meeting of Ickleton Parish Council

14th May 2026

At last year's meeting our then Chair, Rachel, reported on our fundraising journey and the frantic efforts we were making at that time to get the pub ready to reopen just six weeks later. A year on, we now have a pub that is open and trading. It is easy to forget, in the day-to-day running of the business, just how significant that milestone was, and what a huge achievement it represents for our community.

That achievement is the result not only of raising a substantial amount of money and securing the purchase of the pub, but also of refurbishing it on a very tight budget with the help of over 120 volunteers, alongside local tradespeople who generously gave their time and skills. To now have a welcoming, well-used pub, a comfortable interior, and a beautiful garden enjoyed by many is something we should all feel very proud of.

We should recognise that our success is down to both hard work and a degree of good fortune. Other communities have not been so lucky, despite similar ambition and effort. A number of villages pursued community ownership at the same time as us, raising funds and working just as hard, but without the same outcome. It is a reminder that outcomes like ours are not guaranteed, and we are fortunate as well as determined to have a pub that is open, trading, and at the heart of village life.

Of course, community-owned pubs are not immune from the pressures facing the wider hospitality sector. It was reported recently that, on average, two pubs a day have closed in England since the start of the year, with many citing rising costs across energy, food and staffing, alongside continued pressure on household spending.

Against that backdrop, it is worth reminding ourselves why the community-owned model matters. It gives us something quite unique; a pub owned by the community, run for the benefit of the community - where

decisions are made locally, and where any surplus is reinvested back into the building, the offer, and its role at the heart of village life. It allows us to shape something that reflects local needs and priorities, rather than being driven purely by external commercial pressures.

But with that strength comes a shared responsibility. This only works if the pub is actively used, supported and shaped by the community as a whole - not just the committee or the staff, but everyone who comes in, brings others, talks about it, and contributes ideas and feedback.

We are still a relatively new business, with a new team, and like any new operation there is a natural period of learning, adjustment and refinement as we work out what works best for both the business and our customers. Running a pub like this is a constant balancing act: between staffing and costs, between food pricing and quality, and between creating an offer that people want to return to, while still ensuring the business remains sustainable in a very challenging environment.

At times, the Management Committee has to make difficult decisions which may not always be popular with everyone. Those decisions are always taken with the long-term future of the pub and the wider interests of the community in mind. We have been

entrusted with that responsibility by the members, and we take it seriously, because the aim is not just to have a successful pub today, but to ensure it remains at the heart of village life for the long term.

Since reopening, the pub has become much more than a place to eat and drink - it is increasingly a genuine community space. The book club now runs two sessions to cater for both daytime and evening attendees, helping to ensure it is accessible to more people. The café, run entirely by volunteers, opens twice a month and provides not only homemade cakes but also a valued informal space for people to meet and connect.

Our garden continues to be a real asset to the village and is developing thanks to a dedicated and enthusiastic volunteer team. A grant has recently been secured to create a small children's play area, which will further enhance the space for families and help widen its use across the community. Our volunteer garden team invests a huge amount of time, energy and creativity into making it an attractive and welcoming environment for all.

Alongside these regular activities, we are developing a wider programme of events. Later this year we are planning a beer festival and a winter market, and we are pleased to be offering pre-theatre dining next week in advance of the Corkscrew Theatre production in the village hall. We are also looking forward to the Ickleton Society walk exploring the lost pubs of Ickleton. These are good examples of how the pub can work in partnership with other village organisations, and we are keen to explore many more opportunities to collaborate rather than compete.

All this activity is only possible because of the continued support of volunteers. So much work still goes into maintaining the pub and ensuring it delivers on the original vision of a thriving community hub. That energy, commitment and generosity remains one of our greatest strengths, and it continues to make a real difference.

We would like to end with some thank yous.

Firstly, to Nicola and David, and their teams. They are building on what has been achieved here so far, and it is very encouraging to see them bringing fresh energy, ideas and commitment to the next stage of the pub's development.

They are both very new in post, and Nicola in particular has moved into the area to take on this role, so we are especially grateful for the warm welcome she has received from all of you. She has really appreciated that support as she settles in.

We are very excited to be launching David's new menu this week, and we hope everyone will enjoy trying it. He is passionate about good quality, seasonal food, and keen to develop dishes and specials that reflect what you all want to see on the menu.

Both Nicola and David share a strong commitment to making the pub a long-term success. They are also keen to provide training and development opportunities, particularly for younger people, which reflects the original vision of the pub as a place that supports skills, employment and opportunity within the community.

They are both very open to ideas and suggestions, so please do pop in and speak to them directly – they genuinely welcome your feedback and input.

We would also like to extend our sincere thanks to all of the volunteers who continue to give their time; to serve on the management committee, maintain the building and the

garden, and to support the many community activities that take place here. None of this would be possible without that ongoing effort and commitment.

And finally, a heartfelt thank you to the wider community. This pub exists because of you - your support, your belief in the project, your time, your energy and your continued use of the pub. Without that, we simply would not be here today.

Looking ahead, we are ambitious for what The Lion can become. We have a committed team, and a community that made this project possible in the first place. With your continued support, engagement, and shared involvement, we believe The Lion can continue to grow into a sustainable and valued community hub for years to come.

Thank you.

Appendix I – Ickleton Cricket Club

Ickleton Cricket Club Parish Council Report 2026

The past year has been a busy and productive one for Ickleton Cricket Club, with a number of developments both on and off the field.

The most significant project has been the successful fundraising and installation of the club's new two-lane all-weather practice nets. These are currently being installed and should be completed once arrangements are made for the contractors to return and relay the astro. The project raised a total of £35,000 and will be a fantastic long-term asset for the club and the wider village. The nets will be available for villagers to use, whether club members or not, and we hope they will encourage greater participation in cricket locally.

This project would not have been possible without the support of many people and organisations. In particular, we would like to express our sincere thanks to the Parish Council for their generous donation towards the project.

A highlight of the fundraising effort was our "3K for 3K" event, where participants aimed to raise £3,000 by collectively running 3,000 laps around the cricket square. Villagers from 1 to 100 years old took part. The event far exceeded expectations, ultimately raising more than £7,000. It was wonderful to see so many villagers taking part, and it proved to be a real community occasion. Given its success, we hope to repeat the event in future, next time raising money for another village cause alongside the cricket club.

From an environmental perspective, we were pleased to prepare the ground entirely chemical-free last season, and we intend to continue this approach in the coming year wherever possible. This is great for children and nature. The grounds are hand weeded.

We have also continued to invest in the development of our members by regularly supporting individuals to gain formal coaching qualifications. This allows them to coach both within the club and more widely, helping to strengthen the club's playing base and develop cricketing skills across all age groups.

The club continues to be at the forefront of safeguarding developments and, alongside its flourishing women's team, is a flagbearer for the Cambridgeshire Cricket Board (and has been asked to participate as Essex CC grounds in June).

On the field, last season proved challenging. One achieved promotion. While it was not our strongest year competitively, we remain optimistic for the coming season and are hopeful that at least two of those teams will be pushing for promotion.

We were sad at the passing of Stan and donated a rose called True Love to Sue. Our new president is Jos Flitton and we are all delighted.

Finally, our annual VP's Day (Vice Presidents' Day) will take place on 13th June this year. This event celebrates those who contribute to the club and the village community, and we would be delighted to welcome representatives from the Parish Council.

Thank you for your continued support of the cricket club.

Edmund Harcourt
Chairman
Ickleton Cricket Club

Appendix J - Ickleton Society

Ickleton Society Report to APM 14th May 2026

In spite of having a smaller Committee than usual at the moment, the Ickleton Society has had another successful year. We've been able to put on the regular litter pick, Easter Egg hunt for the children and the New Year's Day walk and soup lunch, all of which are much appreciated.

Murray Jacobs gave us another entertaining talk about the untold secrets of Kings' College Chapel and we were very grateful to Douglas Kent for stepping in at short notice after a cancellation to talk about researches into the history of The Old Sun Inn.

We were excited to support and visit the summer archaeological dig at Abbey Farm which found evidence of an Iron Age settlement and we were grateful to Peter Wombwell for a trailer ride to see combining up close which was popular with children and adults alike. Again, thanks to our farmers, we had a late summer walk and picnic from Abbey Farm up to the ridge along via Rectory Farm to the Grange where Charles Frankau had very kindly put out hay bales for our picnic.

Fortunately, things have been fairly quiet on the development and planning front in the last year. I think everyone agrees that the Village Archive is a great asset but adding to the physical and online archives takes a lot of work both in terms of research into aspects of our village history, uploading photos to the Gallery and filing physical items. Also publishing some of the photos on our Facebook page. I'm grateful for the help given and being offered with that.

Future planned events include a Lost Pubs of Ickleton walk and talk (23rd May sign up required), a repeat of the first cemetery tour by Emma Easterbrook (26th July) and a House History day in November.

We can only do all these things if we have enough people to help. We're grateful to those who volunteer though we could really do with filling the 2 vacancies on the Committee. If anyone is interested please do talk to us.

Appendix K - Neighbourhood Watch

Report for Neighbour Watch May 2026

Neighbourhood Watch works as a team where everyone comes together to make their communities safer and improve the wellbeing of our residents. In

Cambridgeshire, we work with the Police, Local Authorities and many other voluntary and professional organisations. Most importantly we work with residents who want to make their neighbourhood a better place to live.

Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Watch Association aims to help prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime. We support these aims by developing a greater understanding of how to prevent crime, by improving community vigilance, and by reporting suspicious incidents. We also aim to improve well-being in the community by encouraging activities aimed at improving neighbourliness, reducing loneliness and by fostering a community spirit.

- Ickleton - the local police team consisting of a dedicated sergeant, Police Constables and Police Community Support officers under the command of an Inspector work closely with Neighbourhood Watch and community leaders to gather information and reduce crime.

We know that crime in Ickleton and the surrounding area is low. That being said, it is important for all of us to be vigilant and report suspicious behaviour. Top reported crimes in our area:

- Violence and sexual offences
- Anti-social behaviour
- Vehicle crime
- Criminal damage and arson

General guidance if you need to contact the police:

- If you require immediate police attendance because someone is in danger or the situation could escalate dial 999
- If you don't need police to attend straight away, this is classed as a non-emergency, you have a few options - you can fill in an online report form, you can speak to operators using live web chat on the force website
- If you want to report a non-urgent crime or seek advice you can call 101

Glynis Hammond

April 2026

Appendix L - Speedwatch

Community Speedwatch Report

I am the Coordinator for Ickleton's team, which consists of a dozen or so volunteers. We are one of the most active Groups in the County. We operate in two weeks each month, planning 6 to 8 sessions per week, weather permitting.

In 2025 we held 109 sessions, around the same number as in 2024, counting 17,388 vehicles in total (PY 16,250), reporting 1047 to the police for speeding.

The % speeding continued the trend noticed last year: it fell further to 6% from almost 8%. This is good news for residents and Speedwatch volunteers, as it demonstrates widespread awareness of the 20mph speed limit.

The average of vehicle totals per session was 160 (PY 153). This is an increase of 7%, although you have to be careful as figures may be skewed by exceptional events such as the 587 vehicles down Abbey Street recorded in one hour on a late afternoon one Friday last September!

Taking the long view, the figures collected by Speedwatch show a dramatic drop in traffic caused by the Covid outbreak followed by a gradual return to previous levels. WFH is no longer a large factor, apart from making Fridays quieter than they used to be. There is little evidence so far that expansion at the Genome Campus is leading to a significant increase in rat running. That does not mean that this could not happen, perhaps in the near future, as construction gathers pace.

Last year the Speedwatch Group applied for funding for a second Vehicle Activated Sign. The application succeeded, but delivery is currently stalled because it seems nowadays the signs must be attached to lampposts by qualified persons. You have to complete an awareness course to become a qualified person. This is not good news for a community relying on volunteers to deploy the sign. The Parish Council and I are trying to find a way forward.

An active Speedwatch group does indicate that a community has persistent problems with speeding traffic, and that residents are doing something about it. This helps your Parish Council's bids for funding for highways improvements. When the panel examining bids asks what has your village been doing about this problem and you have to answer er, nothing, it doesn't go down well.

The team needs new volunteers. Natural turnover is reducing the number of volunteers and the number of sessions people are willing to do. If you are bothered about traffic through the village, do something about it. Sessions are a great opportunity for gossip!

I may be the Coordinator, but for many years Penny Fletcher has been the driving force on the team, putting together the rotas of roadside sessions and much more besides. She has stepped back from those duties although remains a volunteer for the roadside sessions. I thank her for all that she has done and for the sessions to come. I thank Graham Fagg for stepping in on rota duties. I am most grateful to all the volunteers that make up the Ickleton Community Speedwatch Group.

Terry Sadler

Appendix M - St Mary Magdalen Church Report for Parish Council May 2026

Rev Lydia Smith continues to lead a team of volunteers across the three parishes of Ickleton, Duxford and Hinxton. The character of the three different villages mean that the offering varies in each of the villages, and the challenges are different. Ickleton welcomes those of all ages to twice monthly services and, especially, it has been encouraging to celebrate seasonal festivals together: harvest, Easter and Christmas when lively family gatherings have spread over church and churchyard.

We share the responsibility to maintain the churchyard with the Parish Council. Together we nurture this ancient place at the centre of the village, and it is a priority to record the seasonal flora as well as the maintain ancient monuments.

Meanwhile we concentrate on conserving our medieval wall paintings. The National Heritage Lottery fund has recognised the efforts of the community to raise funds by awarding us a significant grant. Work started in April to repair the masonry and round clerestory windows. Following the completion of this work specialist conservators will restore the wall paintings themselves. Hopefully this will all be completed in time to reopen the building for the Christmas season. Alongside the structural work a programme of community events are planned to enable everyone to access and learn about our unique history.

In these challenging times we hope to continue to be the focal point of village life for future generations.

Jenny Duke

Churchwarden

Appendix N - Village Hall Committee
Ickleton Annual Parish Meeting 2026
Report from the *Ickleton Village Hall Trustees*

As a result of the solar panels having been fitted in Feb 2023 some 6 tons of CO2 have been saved from the atmosphere.

A new exterior clock - overseeing the recreation field - was installed this year.

The new 'all singing' cooker is being well used, and appreciated.

The Hall is cleaned weekly, but as the premises are in frequent use, the floors can get quite messy between cleanings. Accordingly, we have just purchased a robot vacuum to assist in this regard.

Plans are afoot to make the main hall and the meeting room more acoustically isolated. There are a number of occasions each year that we are unable to let one hall because of the concurrent noise emitting from the other.

Parking remains an issue - particularly when the two halls have independent hirings, and the more so when cricket or football matches are in operation, too! The Wellcome Trust offered to consider ideas to maximise parking onsite, and we hope to have their thoughts soon.

The Hall continues to be well used - by a healthy mixture of regular-users and occasional bookings. Most clients use the hall with respect, but occasionally this is not the case. A recent party - which was booked under a false premise, resulted in a disturbance on the recreation ground, damage to fittings within the hall, police and ambulances being called, and for two trustees to spend their Sunday morning clearing up the mess which was left.

Another year has passed with no increase in charges for hire of the Hall and its facilities.

May I take this opportunity to thank my fellow Trustee and all who strive to keep the Village Hall a clean, safe and vibrant facility in our village.

Hugh Molloy
Chair, Ickleton Village Hall Trustees