

# Babraham Parish Council: Minutes of Meeting held 10th March 2022

## Present:

Chair: Stuart Laurie

Cllr Peter McDonald

Jane Goody

Members of the Public: 1

Charlotte Rogers

Denise Dear

Clerk: Anne Charteris

	<p><b>Part I: Non-Confidential Information</b></p>
2203/01	<p><b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b> Apologies received from Damon Stanwell-Smith and Chris Chapman</p>
2203/02	<p><b>To receive members' declaration of interest for items on this agenda</b> None received</p>
2203/03	<p><b>To sign and approve minutes of meeting dated 10th Feb 2021</b> These were approved by all and signed off.</p>
2203/04	<p><b>Exclusion of the public</b> To determine which items, if any, from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded.</p>
2203/05	<p><b>Public participation time – 15 minutes allowed</b> Speed bumps- these seem to be working well, Clerk had spoken to Council re extending the speed limit up to Oak Lane. This will cost in the region of £5 000 to £8000. It was decided to wait and see how the effect of the new measures works over the next few months, then apply for the work to be done if necessary. Parking outside the School- there have been some complaints about the number of cars parked outside the school and how some drivers have been inconsiderate eg doing three point turns outside the school causing obstructions rather than driving into the village and turning round at a better location. Clerk to write to school and ask if parents could be asked to be more considerate towards other road users. Dog fouling in Church Lane- 4 new signs to be purchased to ask dog owners to clear up after their dogs. Clerk to action this and send signs to CR to put signs in place.</p>
2203/06	<p><b>Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald</b> In brief: <b><u>Ukraine</u></b> The Council has pledged to support people fleeing the Ukraine and is calling for a national resettlement programme to be set up by the Government so that this can happen. Councillors have said that the Council will play their part and work to identify local homes for refugees leaving the warzone if needed. You can read the Council's position in full here: <a href="#">pledge to support people fleeing Ukraine</a>. We hear and empathise with the anxiety and concern of residents who want to do something to help those affected and we want to help by signposting people who wish to offer support in response to the humanitarian crisis. <b><u>Donations</u></b> The Disasters Emergency Committee brings together 15 leading UK aid charities to raise funds quickly and efficiently at times of crisis overseas. You can <a href="#">learn more about their Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal</a>.</p>

	<p><b>Secondary School Places</b> The proportion of pupils offered a place at one of their preferred Cambridgeshire secondary schools has risen. In total, 90% of pupils have received a place at their first choice school for 2022/23, similar to the 90.9% figure from this time last year. Moreover, 97.2% of pupils were allocated a spot at either their first, second or third preference school, a rise from 97% last year.</p> <p><b>Easter Programme for Children</b> Enriching experiences and a nutritious lunch are being made available in the Easter holidays for the children of families receiving benefits-related free school meals.</p> <p>The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme offers fun with friends and free food for primary and secondary school children in both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.</p> <p><b>Highways Capital Spending</b> The 2 year capital plan including footways and paths is here <a href="#">Document.ashx (cmis.uk.com)</a> The priority schemes are listed here <a href="#">Document.ashx (cmis.uk.com)</a></p> <p><b>Flooding</b> A new plan to reduce the risk of flooding in Cambridgeshire over the next five years has been approved by Members of the county council's Environment &amp; Green Investment Committee agreed the Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Strategy and supporting action plan at its meeting on Thursday. The council is responsible for developing, maintaining and applying a local flood risk management strategy (LFRMS) for the county. The strategy and action plan are included in the meeting's agenda, which can be viewed here. <a href="#">Document.ashx (cmis.uk.com)</a> Residents can check their flood risk by using the online flood maps to check whether they're at risk of flooding at <a href="https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding">https://www.gov.uk/check-flooding</a>.</p> <p><b>County Farms Estate</b> Cambridgeshire County Council has been advertising for new tenants for seven council-owned farms, part of the council's 33,000 acre rural estate. The council's estate – the largest public sector estate in the country – is divided into 226 holdings, with 160 different tenants. The seven farms up for application, 1,800 acres in total, are in South Cambridgeshire, Fenland and Littleport. Interviews will take place this month, and tenancies will be ready to take up from October onwards. The council has published a brochure about this opportunity, <a href="https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/business-with-the-council/rural-business-opportunities">https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/business-with-the-council/rural-business-opportunities</a></p>
2203/07	<p><b>Report from Cambridgeshire County Councillors Brian Milnes and Maria King</b> Included in the report from Peter McDonald</p>
2203/08	<p><b>Report from Babraham Research Campus (BRC) representative</b> No report this month</p>
2203/09	<p><b>Clerk's Report</b> Clerk has been working with Transport Officer at Cambridge County Council to see if we can recover the money spent on the speed reduction measures from the new development at Sawston, as this has increased traffic through the village.</p>
2203/10	<p><b>Forest Garden Project.</b> To hear and comment on updates from Hannah Thomas <b>The 'Working Group'</b> has grown again with the welcome addition of Sandra Bandy, Carole Anastasi and Lorisa Dubuc as members. The first meeting was held the week before tree planting began, and</p>

2203/11	<p>helped to arrange refreshment facilities at the Church, signage preparation and engagement with Babraham School parents through FOBS.</p> <p><b>Tree planting</b> was an outstanding success! There was an extraordinary and wonderfully positive response from all parts of the community. There were 12 separate tree planting sessions, and about 175 volunteers came to help plant: a great many villagers, 24 groups of parents and their children from the School, companies on Campus; local companies from the 'Green Labs' environmental network of biotech firms, and the Babraham Research Campus Gardening team. The Church very kindly allowed the use of their new kitchen and toilet facilities for refreshments at the end of the sessions.</p> <p>As a result, there is now a windbreak hedge of 502 hornbeam trees planted, along with 65 edible and ecologically beneficial forest garden trees and large shrubs.</p> <p><b>Educational materials for schoolchildren</b> – To support the EcoSquad planting session, a little educational pack was created introducing the Babraham Forest Garden and providing information on the four fruit trees planted by EcoSquad.</p> <p><b>A new Facebook page</b> for the Babraham Forest Garden, complete with a newly designed logo, was set up to showcase all the volunteer planting activities</p> <p>Through the Babraham Research Campus marketing team, the Babraham Forest Garden was covered by the Cambridge Independent on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March</p> <p><b>Budget</b></p> <p>Necessary overspend (fencing) has been absorbed by contingency funds and underspend on most other budget lines. This month (March) will see strategic allocation of remaining budget to key activities (raised beds, education, project documentation and outreach) to reach end of Year 1 on or under budget for both Parish Council and Zero Carbon Fund.</p> <p><b>Activities planned for month ahead</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.Rebuilding the School raised beds - Work will start this week with help from a small group of parents.</li> <li>2.Communications - Creation of a short (1-3 minutes) film to document the project's success.</li> <li>3.Reporting - A final report to Zero Carbon Communities Fund (grant ends 31.03.2022).</li> <li>4.Contract renewal - Renewing Parish Council Forest Garden contract for Year 2 work.</li> </ol> <p><b>Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) Cambridge South East Transport ( CSET)</b></p> <p>To review updates, discussions and actions by GCP with regard to CSET and to resolve on any actions.</p> <p>The Campaign to consider alternatives to CSET have sent a letter to the GCP to reconsider the plans and consider an alternative route to run alongside the A1307.</p> <p>The new development in Stapleford will affect the proposed busway.</p> <p>Plans for Cambridge South Station have progressed and the TWAO will be granted for that scheme well ahead of the busway. This means that Network Rail's scheme is likely to proceed first and therefore the busway works will have to fit around or be delayed by Network Rail</p> <p>There is a growing awareness of the <b>carbon emissions</b> associated with large infrastructure projects such as the busway. Alternative options require less infrastructure and therefore will have a better carbon budget.</p> <p>Preliminary work has been carried out to consider an alternative busway within the A1307 corridor. This would involve adding sections of bus lane to the A1307 where localised congestion would impact the reliability of bus services, as well as creating a new section of busway between the Babraham Road Park &amp; Ride and the Biomedical Campus (ie serving the proposed new development of the Campus). This route would then join the route currently proposed by the GCP. This alternative would also have the advantage of serving more of the Campus than the proposed busway, which runs only along the western edge of the Campus and duplicates the access that will be provided by the new station.</p> <p>This alternative would provide similar journey times and reliability as the proposed off-road busway but can be delivered at significantly less cost, more quickly and with less damage to the countryside.</p>
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	<p>Due to the expansion plans of the Biomedical Campus it would also deliver higher economic and transport benefits.</p> <p>They request that the GCP Exec Board formally revisits the decisions that it made in 2018 and July 2021 and that a full assessment is carried out of an optimal scheme in the A1307 corridor.</p> <p>Please see Cambridge Past Present and Future website for more details:  <a href="https://www.cambridgeppf.org/south-east-cambridge-busway">https://www.cambridgeppf.org/south-east-cambridge-busway</a></p>
<b>2203/12</b>	<p><b>Roads &amp; Traffic</b></p> <p>The road to Sawston will be closed to allow underground cables to be installed, work is expected to start week beginning 24th April, subject to change.</p> <p>Problems reported as traffic is still turning right from the High St onto the A1307.</p>
<b>2203/13</b>	<p><b>Policies to be reviewed/adopted:</b></p> <p>Lone Working Policy  Record Management  Complaints Procedure  Safeguarding Policy- new policy  Mission statement- new policy  Equality and Diversity  All policies reviewed and agreed by all.</p>
<b>2203/14</b>	<p><b>Platinum Jubilee celebrations</b></p> <p>Donations to be asked for to buy items for the celebrations- bunting etc.</p> <p>Tables and chairs- ask local businesses, the Church, the school and BRC to see if we can borrow these on the day.</p> <p>Look into hiring Mobile toilet/s</p>
<b>2203/15</b>	<p><b>Ox Cam Arc</b></p> <p>A <a href="#">report written by Liz Watts</a>, the chief executive of South Cambridgeshire Council, one of the local authorities making up the supposed "Ox-Cam Arc", states there has been a change of approach by the housing department since Michael Gove was installed as secretary of state.</p> <p>Watts' report, produced in advance of a council meeting next week, said that after a period of uncertainty, it was now clear that "the government does not wish to see the Ox Cam Arc as a project driven by central government".</p>
<b>2203/16</b>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p><b>Report from Hannah Thomas:</b></p> <p>Babraham Residents survey:</p> <p>The results are now available on our website. You can see the results directly by clicking this hyperlink here: Babraham Residents' Survey Results or by visiting our website and navigating to the Resources page: <a href="http://www.babrahamneighbourhoodplan.com">www.babrahamneighbourhoodplan.com</a>. If you would like a copy of the report sent to you directly, please email <a href="mailto:babrahamneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com">babrahamneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com</a>.</p> <p>The results will be used to underpin the draft Neighbourhood Plan policies under development. We will continue to update our website: <a href="http://www.babrahamneighbourhoodplan.com">www.babrahamneighbourhoodplan.com</a> and you can get in touch via email: <a href="mailto:babrahamneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com">babrahamneighbourhoodplan@gmail.com</a></p> <p>In the Residents' Survey, we asked for your views on whether you supported the CSET proposals and, if the proposals were to be adopted, whether you would support an alternative 'Pink variant route' that would cross the river Granta adjacent the A11 and behind the reservoir, minimising visual impact.</p> <p>From the survey results, 79% of Babraham villagers are against the GCP CSET scheme and 9% are either fully supportive or somewhat supportive. In addition, 70% preferred the Pink 2 variant route and only 2% supported the GCP CSET proposed 'Brown route'. Our survey closed shortly after we became aware of Cheveley Park Farm's vision for over 3000 houses in the fields</p>

	<p>around our village. Many of you will have responded to the survey unaware of this vision and the opportunity Cheveley Park Farm saw when the GCP CSET proposal was finalised. A second survey organised by Anthony Browne MP asked a slightly different question based solely on the GCP route itself, while keeping the travel hub in the proposed position next to the A11 and A1307. It asked South Cambridgeshire villagers affected by the Brown route whether they supported it as proposed or whether they supported a new route running along a widened A1307 to prioritise bus transport into and out of Cambridge.</p> <p>The full report of the Anthony Browne survey results can be accessed via the link below, but Anthony Browne's team kindly provided us with the Babraham village responses. From his survey, 90% of Babraham respondents did not support the current Brown route and only 8% were in favour. When asked about the alternative A1307 route (running as a separate lane in a widened A1307), 49% of Babraham respondents were in favour, and 37% were against. Considering both survey results, Babraham villagers are clearly very much against the GCP CSET scheme in its entirety (Travel hub and Brown route). If (despite the lack of local support) there must be an off-road route connecting the villages, then Babraham villagers overwhelmingly support the Pink variant route. If the A1307 on-road route is an option, then Babraham villagers favour this option over the proposed off-road Brown route.</p> <p>Full results of Anthony Browne's GCP CSET Scheme survey:  <a href="https://www.anthonybrowne.org/sites/www.anthonybrowne.org/files/2022-02/22%2002%2010%20Anthony%20Browne%20MP%20Survey%20Report%20%28AM%29_0.pdf">https://www.anthonybrowne.org/sites/www.anthonybrowne.org/files/2022-02/22%2002%2010%20Anthony%20Browne%20MP%20Survey%20Report%20%28AM%29_0.pdf</a></p>																											
2203/17	<p><b>General Village Matters and new items for discussion</b></p> <p>To discuss any other village matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footpath between pub and Home Farm, getting very dangerous, nothing has been done yet despite the PC reporting this several times.</li> <li>• Details have been received on Operation London Bridge- this is the code name for how to mark the death of a senior member of the Royal Family. Clerk was asked to buy the following- Book of Condolence, black tablecloth and pens. This will be put in the Church when the time arrives.</li> <li>• Pot holes. The sub-contractors have not been making a satisfactory job of filling these in, they will now be inspected once done, if not of a high standard of work, then the contractors will not be paid and they will have to do them again. It is hoped this will improve the repairs to potholes in the future. Roads are also hoped to be scanned on a regular basis to see where work is needed.</li> </ul>																											
	<p><b>FINANCE</b></p>																											
2203/18	<p><b>Receipts (as of 5th March 2022)</b></p>																											
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A full list of payments were circulated and reviewed at the meeting.</li> <li>• Signed off and agreed by all.</li> <li>• All payments outside of the regular maintenance payments to be approved before any service or goods ordered. Some recent payments were queried and it was reiterated that the Parish Council must obtain the best value for money in all areas.</li> </ul>								
2203/21	<p><b>Balances and Bank Reconciliation at 5th March 2022</b></p> <p>Balances held</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="338 517 1114 667"> <tr> <td>Unity Current A/C balance</td> <td>£24,588.11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unity Savings A/C balance</td> <td>£61,246.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cambridge Building Society</td> <td>£80,038.58</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Unity Current A/C balance	£24,588.11	Unity Savings A/C balance	£61,246.62	Cambridge Building Society	£80,038.58		
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2203/22	<p><b>PLANNING</b></p> <p><b>Planning Applications (as of 5th March 2022)</b></p> <p>Application for Works to Trees in a Conservation Area- information only. Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council Proposal: T3 : Apple ~ Reduce overall Crown by shortening of all branches by 1 to 1.25 metres (leaves finished Crown dimension 4metres x 3.5 metres cardinal spread) T4 : Plum ~ on one side - reduce by 1.5ms height and lateral branch to west by 1m -( leaves Crown dimension of appro 3 metres height by western Crown 1.5metres) T6 : 7 x Sycamore suckers growing at edge of bridge, Listed wall and building ~ Fell to ground level. Site address: 42 High Street Babraham Cambridge Reference: 22/0220/TTCA Public Access link: <a href="https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/22/0220/TTCA">https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/22/0220/TTCA</a></p>								
2203/23	<p><b>Planning decisions (as of 5th March 2022)</b></p> <p>None received</p>								
2203/24	<p><b>Correspondence.</b></p>								
2203/25	<p><b>Items for inclusion in the next meeting</b></p>								
2203/26	<p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday 14th April 2022 at 7:30pm</p> <p><b>Part II: Confidential Information</b></p> <p>Exclusion of the Press and the Public: To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.</p> <p>Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i>      <b>5th March 2022</b> 10 Duxford Road, Hinxton, Saffron Walden, Essex CB10 1RB 01799 531827</p>								