

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heathfield, Heydon, Chishills,
Whittlesford

Report for Parish Councils – November 2021.

South Cambs District Council

Update on the development of the next Local Plan

The consultation period on the ‘first proposals’ stage in the development of the joint Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan began on November 1st and runs until 5pm on December 13th. The proposals were published in August by the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSPS) for consideration by parish councillors, residents, district councillors and other stakeholders.

GCSPS will be holding an in-person drop-in event on **Saturday 27 November, 9am to 12pm**, at Great Shelford Farmers Market. Further to the updates provided in the October reports, GCSPS has gathered the key links connected to the Local Plan:

The Local Plan homepage, which includes event listings:

<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan>

An interactive map of the sites in the ‘preferred options’:

<https://maps.3csharedservices.org/portal/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=ee39c55cf37845b1aeb3d5374e4c5214>

A library of all the documents published in with at the ‘first proposals’ stage:

<https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan-preferred-options/supporting-documents>

An explanation of how to comment on the proposals, including links to a quick survey and how to submit more detailed responses:

<https://consultations.greatercambridgeplanning.org/greater-cambridge-local-plan-first-proposals/tell-us-what-you-think>

Grant scheme for young people: deadline November 10th

A new grant has opened aimed at providing funds for projects that support children and young people. £38,000 is available through the scheme for projects which help to empower children and young people; helping them to build self-belief and make a positive difference to themselves and their community. Organisations that are independently set-up for charitable or social benefit (including Parish Councils) can apply for grants of between £4,000 and £8,000. This is being administered via the Grants Advisory Committee, who will review all the applications and award the grants to successful projects in early 2022.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday November 10th. More information, including application criteria, can be found here: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/new-grant-scheme-opens-for-local-organisations-working-with-children-and-young-people/>

Contact Details: E mail: cllr.mcdonald@scams.gov.uk or peter.mcdonald@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Telephone 07912 669092

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Black History Month

This year, South Cambs joined forces with Cambridge City Council to run events for Black History Month. The first virtual event took place on October 4th with Patrick Vernon OBE who spoke about preserving the legacy of the Windrush Generation. The second live event was hosted by the Cambridge African Network on Thursday 14th with a panel talking about their experiences of living in the UK and Cambridgeshire.

You can catch up on recordings and educational content related to Black History month on the South Cambs website: at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/equality-and-diversity/equality-activities-and-events/>

Council services to support people to live independently

South Cambs' Visiting Support Service is free for people over the age of 65, with a short-term focus to support people in their home – perhaps someone recovering from an operation, or who will be on their own for a short period of time, or who is having an unexpected crisis. The Community Warden Service is longer-term, and a nominal fee is payable; clients can be of any age, and the wardens will ring up or visit on a regular basis, and can help with tasks such as form-filling, picking up some essentials from the shop, or just being a friendly face. The Community Lifeline Service (under £4.50/week) provides a worn pendant that individuals of any age can press in an emergency, such as if they have a fall at home on their own. You can find out more about all of these services on our website:

- www.scams.gov.uk/visitingsupportservice
- www.scams.gov.uk/mobilewardenscheme
- www.scams.gov.uk/lifelines

We have produced some leaflets and posters to raise awareness of these services-attached are samples. If you would like some leaflets or a few posters to display please email

Lesley.McFarlane@Scams.gov.uk

South Cambs Christmas market

SCDC's Business Support team is organising an outdoor Christmas market in Cambourne on Sunday 5 December 3pm to 8pm.

Do you know any local performers who may like to perform on the stage at the event for about 30 minutes? They could be school, college or community groups, choirs or amateur dramatics group, musicians or bands. Please ask them to get in touch with the organising team at: reopening@scams.gov.uk

More details can be found here: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business/south-cambridgeshire-outdoor-christmas-market/>

Cambridgeshire County Report

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County Highways Issues

The Nov 4th committee looked at:

- County wide policy for 20 mph – a full paper will come back to the Committee
- HGV policy.
- Moving traffic offences e.g. yellow box blockage – this will be facilitated by Civil Parking Enforcement.
- Kings Parade barrier development and ant-terror review for the City.

Addenbrookes Roundabout

A safety review is underway after the sad fatality of a young woman who was hit by an artic fuel tanker.

Guided Busway

An independent review will take place of the Southern stretch after the recent fatality in a similar area to the 2018 death of Stephen Moir.

School Governors

A campaign has been launched to find more people willing to serve on the governing bodies of schools in Cambridgeshire. Schools are looking for governors who can bring a variety of skills and expertise from a wide range of backgrounds.

Governors – who are volunteers – support the strategic leadership of the school, providing support, challenge and accountability to the school's headteacher and senior leaders. The headteacher is responsible for the operational running of the school on a day-to-day basis.

Cambridgeshire County Council is particularly seeking to build diverse governing bodies which reflect the communities they serve, enabling children to succeed and thrive. Previous experience of being a school governor is not necessary, as full induction and training will be offered. Experience of working in education is not necessary either.

Governors are usually appointed for a four-year term. Time commitments vary from school to school, but to fulfil the role effectively, governors are expected to sit on individual committees, visit the school regularly and attend full governing body meetings.

Responsibilities include working as part of a team, maintaining educational standards and performance, holding the school to account and monitoring the school's budget.

Further information about the role and how to apply can be found here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/working-together-children-families-and-adults/working-with-partners/school-governors>

Covid 19 ERA

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Rising rates in older people coupled with building pressures on local health and education services led to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Councils who are both responsible for public health to ask Government to grant the whole area 'enhanced response area' status for at least five weeks from Monday November 1 - to bring down infection rates which are currently higher in most areas than seen in January's peak.

The ERA status allows us to push for additional support to:

- Accelerate and target 12-15 vaccination roll out to key areas and schools where infections are highest
- Accelerate booster vaccinations for eligible groups who have had their second vaccination more than six months ago
- Increase vaccination rate in areas with the lowest uptake
- In addition, as part of ERA status the area will enter into further discussions with the DfE about additional measures it can use in schools, but in the meantime it will continue to:
 - Encourage secondary school teachers or pupils who are household contacts of positive cases to take daily LFT tests
 - Continue with advice given to schools before the half term that face coverings should be worn in secondary school communal areas, and that meetings happen virtually where possible
 - Encourage anyone who is a household contact of a positive case to take daily rapid tests, until a negative PCR test is received
 - For the general population a government funded additional communications push will also begin from next week
 - Recommending wear face coverings in crowded and enclosed areas where you come into contact with people you do not usually meet'
 - Reminding people to get their vaccinations, test regularly and particularly before attending events, meet with others outside their households in well ventilated spaces and wash hands regularly and well

Peter McDonald

November 5th 2021