

Cllr Lorna Dupré

MONTHLY REPORT JANUARY 2024

FULL COUNCIL

Five motions from councillors were debated at the Cambridgeshire County Council full council meeting on 12 December. Four were passed, one was not.

1. Noting the crisis in adult social care caused by chronic Government underfunding to councils, and asking officers to be ready to take advantage of any future change in Government policies. (Passed)
2. Asking the council's Communities, Social Mobility & Inclusion Committee to consider actions to ensure a more diverse council. (Passed)
3. Expressing concern at the lack of availability of NHS dentistry, and committing to take action to address the problem. (Passed)
4. Complaining of confusion about highways consultations, and wanting to consult all who could potentially be affected by changes to the highway. (Not passed)
5. Welcoming options for more flexible working, and committing to promote these within the council and among local employers. (Passed)

STRATEGY RESOURCES & PERFORMANCE

Joint statement on 'Cambridge 2040' announcement

The Rt Hon Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, unveiled updated plans for the Government's 'Cambridge 2040' vision on Tuesday 19 December 2023. These include 'northwards' of 150,000 new homes around Cambridge as part of a major new expansion of the city.

The leaders of Cambridge City Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, and the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, said:

"Despite working hard to engage constructively with Government officials since the Secretary of State's initial Cambridge 2040 announcement in the summer, it's deeply disappointing that once again Government plans for Cambridge seem to be being negotiated through the press.

We note in the latest announcement that the number of new homes put forward by Rt Hon Michael Gove MP has come down from 250,000 to 150,000, but this is still substantially more than the over 50,000 homes we have identified as needed in the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan (to 2040)—a number which will already be incredibly challenging to bring forward. We are ambitious for high quality sustainable, green growth but

can't stress enough how vital it is that Government supports us to tackle the issues that will otherwise act as roadblocks to sustainable growth.

We have written to the Secretary of State a number of times over the past month to stress the importance of committing to sustainable growth, and to reiterate the support that is needed to enable us to plan for the homes set out in the emerging Greater Cambridge Local Plan.

This includes prioritising sustainable public transport, community infrastructure such as schools and GPs, and water shortages in this region, which are putting our chalk streams under extreme pressure—an issue which the Greater Cambridge Planning Service warned in January 2023 could delay existing plans for housebuilding if not addressed by Government. We are still waiting for responses to these questions which would detail how Government proposes to support us in delivering a proposed 50,000 or so homes responsibly, let alone 150,000.

Clarity is also needed as to who is involved in the 'Cambridge Delivery Group', what it will do, and how it will be governed. Devolution works best when local politicians are empowered to lead and deliver sustainable development and we will continue to work hard to represent our residents and ensure that Cambridge and its surrounding villages grow in a sustainable and carefully planned way."

Since the initial announcement in summer 2023 about the Government's 'Cambridge 2040' plans, council leaders and officers have begun to explore the vision for Cambridge 2040 with Government officials.

Following a visit to Cambridge by the Secretary of State in November, leaders from Cambridgeshire County, Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District councils, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Greater Cambridge Partnership, and local business wrote to urge Government to make a number of commitments—including water supply and transport—necessary to support sustainable growth in and around Cambridge.

£368,000 to help council respond to major projects

A successful bid to Government means an additional £368,000 to help the council respond to proposals for major infrastructure in Cambridgeshire.

The money will help support the council with the administration of Development Consent Orders (DCO) for schemes like East West Rail, the A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet upgrade, and the Fenland Reservoir, as well as other Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs). £268,000 will bring in extra technical and specialist resource, and a further £100,000 will enable work across all these types of projects.

Consultation begins on budget proposals

Consultation is to begin on the council's proposals for its 2024/5 budget, in what is being called 'the toughest year to set a balanced council budget'.

The Government's one-year Local Government Financial Settlement announced last month does not compensate for the levels of demand and inflation that the council is faced with, particularly in areas such as children's social care, home to school transport and provision for children and young people with special educational needs or disabilities. A fair funding review for local councils promised by the Government has never materialised. And all local authorities face significant financial uncertainties as a consequence, as I reported last month.

The council is looking to support vulnerable people and improve highways maintenance, while still seeking to bridge a remaining £2M gap—even with a proposed council tax rise of 4.99 per cent (two per cent for adult social care services, and 2.99 per cent for general services).

The Strategy, Resources & Performance Committee received and considered draft budget proposals at its meeting on Tuesday 19 December. The council's service committees will consider these at their various meetings in January. An online public survey has been launched and is open until Tuesday 16 January <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/budget-consultation-2024-5>

The Strategy, Resources & Performance Committee will make a final budget recommendation at its meeting on Tuesday 30 January for Full Council to debate on Tuesday 13 February.

The draft proposals have been shaped by views gathered in the council's first Quality of Life Survey conducted over the summer. They focus on sustaining social services, continuing to provide free school meal vouchers for eligible children during holidays, progressing the council's commitment to pay the real living wage to people providing adult social care, and prioritising highways and cycleways maintenance across the county.

Potential savings have been identified to help bridge the funding gap. These include

- Moving to LED streetlights (£1M in energy savings each year)
- Rationalising office accommodation (£1.5M in the next three years)
- Reviewing the highest cost children's placement costs, and home to school transport routes (more than £2M)
- Driving down the amount of bad debt (£0.5M)
- Reviewing income from permits and parking charges (just under £1M)

ADULTS & HEALTH

Covid

Covid is far from over—as I write this I'm on the Tenth Day of Covid, and I know many others who have also contracted covid over the festive season. Our EU neighbours now seem to be able to purchase over-the-counter or online multi-tests which test for covid, flu, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) on a single test cassette. I've asked the Director of Public Health what the hold-up is in making these available in the UK.

Preventing falls

Falls and related injuries are a common and significant problem for older adults and a major public health issue. Falls are a major cause of disability and injury-related death in people aged 75 and over, and have a large impact on quality of life—and as our population ages, this will become even more of an issue.

Around one in three people over 65 years old and half of those over 80 experience a fall at least once a year. In Cambridgeshire and Peterborough in 2022/23, there were 2,699 emergency admissions due to falls and 1,015 admissions due to a hip fracture. The estimated combined total cost of these hospital admissions was £16.3M, an increase of over £1.9M on the previous year. These costs do not include wider health and social care costs such as primary care, ambulance, or adult social care costs.

Cambridgeshire County Council's Adults and Health Committee has endorsed a three-year Falls Prevention Strategy and detailed delivery plan, working with a multi-agency Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Falls Prevention Strategy Group.

The strategy includes a number of interventions that have been shown to be effective at preventing some falls and fractures, and its intended outcome is a reduction in the rate of hip fracture admissions, and an improvement to the quality of life of older adults who experience a fall or fracture.

COSMIC

Supermarket voucher scheme continues in Christmas holiday

The council's supermarket voucher scheme continued to operate in the Christmas school holiday for all eligible families in Cambridgeshire. The scheme will run until the February 2024 half term, using the Household Support Fund from the Department for Work & Pensions topped up with additional funding provided by the council.

Over 20,000 vouchers were claimed in the October half term alone. Over seventy per cent of families said the vouchers had helped them cope with the rising cost of living. More than half said the scheme had reduced the need for them to seek other sources of support in the school holidays such as food banks.

Total spend in the October half term week was £317,000, with this expected to more than double to £660,000 in the two-week Christmas holiday. In addition to the holiday voucher scheme, there is further support available in response to the cost of living

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living>

Libraries offer a helping hand to stay connected this winter

A successful pilot scheme offering free mobile SIM cards to those unable to afford internet access is now available in eleven of Cambridgeshire's libraries, including Ely. Cambridgeshire Libraries have signed up to the National Databank, an initiative run by Good Things Foundation which provides free mobile SIM cards to anyone over the age of 18 who is on a low income. The SIM cards are donated to the National Databank by Virgin Media, O2, Vodafone and Three. They are then supplied to members of the National Digital Inclusion Network, including the eleven Cambridgeshire libraries, to be passed on to those in need of data.

Life-saving defibrillators installed at thirteen council sites

Life-saving automated external defibrillators have been installed at thirteen county council offices for use by local communities as well as county council staff and visitors. The venues include Noble House in Ely, off Angel Drove. The council purchased the units, but all installations were carried out free of charge by the county council's maintenance contractor GSH as part of their commitment to support social value in Cambridgeshire.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

Network Rail signs up to County Council biodiversity site

Network Rail is the first investor in the council's pioneering biodiversity and habitat restoration scheme at Lower Valley Farm in Fulbourn. Arable land is being transformed into a one-of-a-kind 345-acre biodiversity net gain site. Council land there will be used to replace habitat lost due to construction of the new Cambridge South railway station at Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

From January 2024, legislation comes into effect requiring new developments in England to not only provide for nature lost as part of works but to achieve a minimum biodiversity net gain of 10%. As part of the Cambridge South Infrastructure Enhancement scheme, Network Rail has purchased 65 biodiversity units at the Fulbourn site to create an environmental legacy that will complement their creation of Hobson's Park on the Campus.

The Lower Valley Biodiversity Site is part of the council's commitment to a greener Cambridgeshire and helps tackle the ongoing country-wide nature crisis.

It also supports the council's aim to become a net zero county by 2045, five years ahead of national targets.

Change to access at Royston and Thriplow recycling centres

Cambridgeshire residents now need to apply for a digital permit to use Royston Household Recycling Centre in Hertfordshire. The change comes following the announcement last year that Hertfordshire County Council would be adopting a policy restricting access to non-residents at Hertfordshire's network of sixteen recycling centres.

However, the county council has reached an agreement with Hertfordshire County Council that enables continued cross-border access to Royston Household Recycling Centre for Cambridgeshire residents living close to the county boundary, whilst allowing Hertfordshire residents access to Thriplow Household Recycling Centre in South Cambridgeshire.

Resident-only policies are becoming increasingly common across the region and indeed the country, with many neighbouring counties having had this policy in place for some time.

Sunnica further delay

A decision on the Sunnica application for a large solar farm spanning East Cambridgeshire and West Suffolk has already been postponed from September to December. It has now been postponed again, to Thursday 7 March. This may mean no decision this side of a General Election.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

20mph speed limit for Ely approved

A city-wide 20MPH zone for Ely, put forward by City of Ely Council and funded by the Government's Transforming Cities Fund, has been approved following a consultation and a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) process. In consultation with local county councillors, officers agreed to install the 20MPH speed limit zone with a minor amendment to include the section outside Tesco and the railway station. A decision about the installation of speed cushions was deferred.

But not for Soham

By contrast, county councillors for Soham said they did not want officers to proceed with Soham Town Council's request for a 20MPH limit. Officers are considering whether it would be possible to carry out further consultation.

Electric vehicle charging

An estimated 10,000 public electric vehicle charge point sockets will be needed across Cambridgeshire by 2030, as motorists choose electric vehicles over more

polluting petrol and diesel cars. The sale of new petrol and diesel cars is set to be banned by government from 2035.

Using up to £5M in Local Vehicle Infrastructure (LEVI) funding, the council is working with the Combined Authority on how to meet this need, with fewer than 500 public charge points currently installed. Officers will develop a plan informed by technical mapping and seek public engagement to find suitable charge point locations. They will report back to the Highways and Transport committee in March, prior to a decision by the Environment and Green Investment Committee later in 2024.

Wheatsheaf crossroads

Work could begin in April 2024 to install a new traffic light-controlled junction on the B1040 Somersham Road / Wheatsheaf Road and Bluntisham Heath Road to reduce the number of collisions involving drivers failing to give way.

Funding of £6.8M is already in place, but works are dependent on being able to buy the additional land needed to widen the road. Subject to this, the next steps are to procure a contractor and then start the utility diversion work such as relocating the power lines, water, gas and broadband.

Civil parking enforcement starts in South Cambridgeshire

New Civil Parking Enforcement powers are now in effect across South Cambridgeshire following a decision by Government. Drivers are now far more likely to receive a fine for parking incorrectly where there are restrictions, such as on single or double yellow lines.

LOCAL NEWS

Priors Field GP practice

I'm continuing to liaise with the NHS in Cambridgeshire about their progress on ensuring a permanent GP practice in Sutton for residents of the village and its neighbours. This is something the NHS locally is committed to, and I'm continuing to check on developments as the current arrangements have only about fifteen months left to run. I'm optimistic about the outcome.

Sutton Post Office

Following the decision of the directors of One Stop to cease to host a post office branch in the Sutton store, Post Office Limited has now advertised a vacancy for a post office branch in the village. If you would be interested in setting up a post office branch in Sutton, you can register your interest at

<https://runapostoffice.co.uk/branch/sutton-post-office-cb6-2rb>

In the meantime, Post Office Limited has written to me to be clearer about which facilities will be available in the reduced One Stop offer.

"One Stop will be opening a Post Office Drop & Collect around the same time as the branch closure. Drop & Collect is a lighter Post Office format that allows customers to benefit from bill payment services and a number of popular, prepaid parcel products and services, including prepaid Royal Mail 'signed for' and Special Delivery, and pick up and drop off parcels through Royal Mail and Parcelforce.

As Drop & Collect focuses on prepaid parcel services, it **doesn't include** Post Office Travel services, DVLA services, personal and business banking or letter and parcel services bought at a Post Office counter. These services are available from full service Post Offices, the nearest one is located just under 2 miles from Sutton Post Office at Mepal with other alternative branches at Witchford and Ely.

More information about the branches in the local area, including their opening times and the services they have available, are on our website.

We apologise to customers who may need to travel further to access a full service Post Office branch when the Sutton branch closes next March."

Sutton fire station

The Fire Authority is to open a period of public engagement on proposals to close three fire stations in Cambridgeshire—Kimbolton, Manea, and Sutton.

The Sutton station is very seriously under-staffed, with difficulties in both recruiting and retaining firefighters. Most local incidents are responded to by crews from Ely, Chatteris, or elsewhere, rather than from the Sutton station which does not have the capacity required.

The Fire Authority will consider feedback in the summer, having also discussed the way forward with the Fire Brigade's Union, and if the decision is then made to close the fire station, this will be implemented from 1 January 2025

Blocked ditch at Witcham cemetery

Witcham Parish Council recently contacted me and the county council over a blocked ditch causing flooding of some of the graves at Witcham cemetery.

The council's highways maintenance team and contractor Milestone met onsite with their drainage specialists on Friday 22 December. They were able to remove four tankers' worth of water to alleviate the flooding and lower the water level in the ditch. They were also able to do some jetting but hit an obstruction in the pipework between the open ditch and another ditch at the end of a hedge line.

This information is now with the county council's Flood Risk Management Team and investigations will continue in the new year.

Witchford no parking traffic orders

Following consultation with me as the local County Councillor, highways officers have agreed to put in place the waiting restrictions requested by Witchford Parish Council, at the junction of Field End and Common Road, and at the junctions of Field End with Granary End, Quinton Road, and Victoria Green (including opposite the Quinton Road junction).

Meanwhile on the Combined Authority

Despite the Code of Conduct complaint against Mayor Nik Johnson having been resolved, the leaders of East Cambridgeshire and Fenland district councils are continuing to make accusations against the Mayor which are not based on any information which is in the public domain. It has been reported that Mayor Johnson is now initiating a Code of Conduct complaint against Cllr Anna Bailey over her behaviour in this matter.

MEET YOUR COUNCILLORS

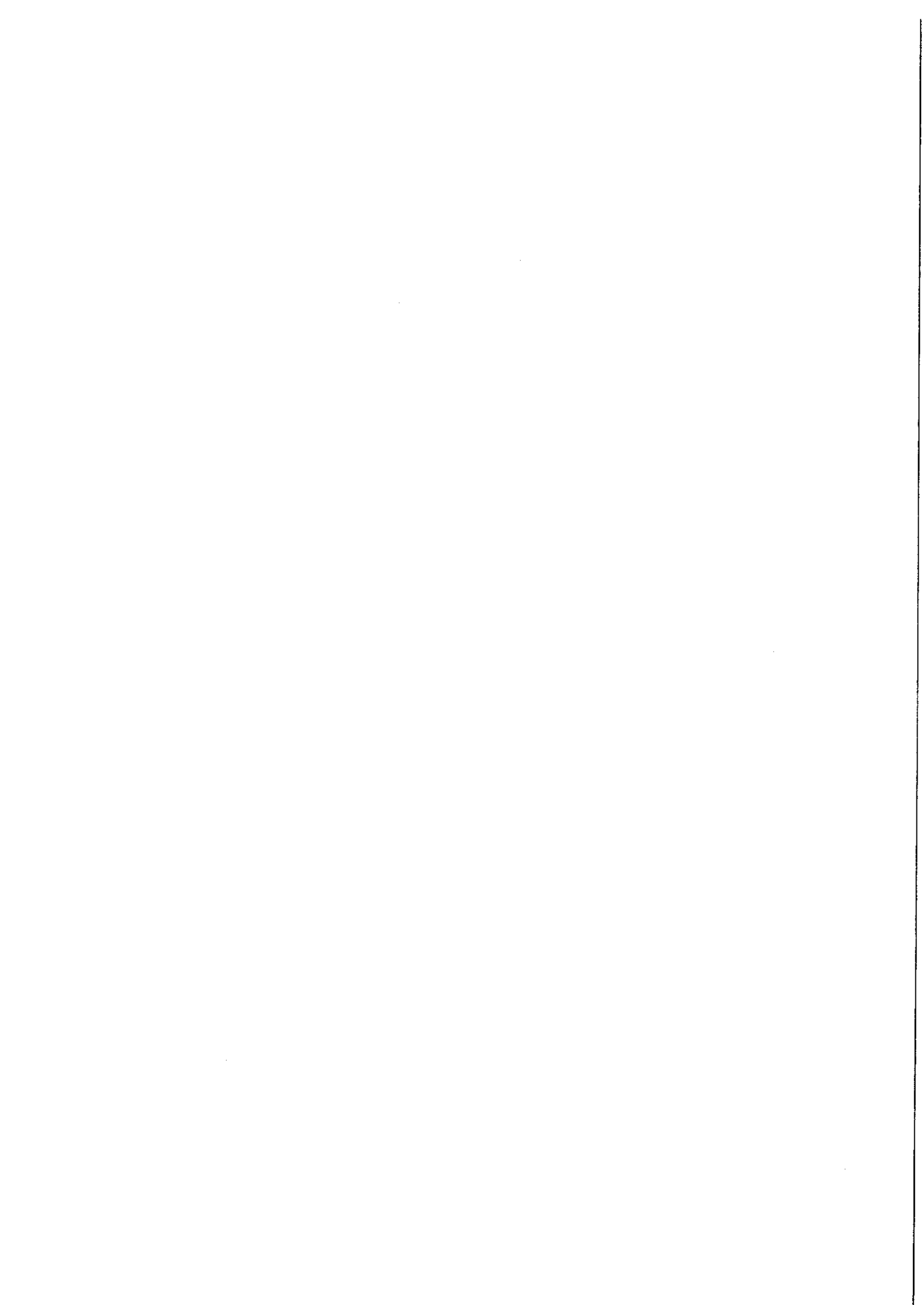
- * **Sutton:** Cllr Mark Inskip and I will be in the school Community Room on Monday 8 January and Monday 5 February, 6:30-7:30PM.
- * **Witchford:** arrangements TBA
- * **Little Downham:** I hope to be at the Book Café in the Village Hall on Friday 26 January from 10:00 to 11:00AM.
- * **Coveney:** arrangements TBA

I can also be contacted

- * by email at lorna@lornadupre.org.uk
- * on Facebook
- * by phone on 07930 337596

Cllr Lorna Dupré

County Councillor for the Sutton division



Burwell Parish Council

Minutes of the Safety Group Meeting – 9th November 2023 7.30 pm at the Jubilee Reading Room

Present: Paul Webb (Chair), Liz Swift, Geraldine Tate, Jim Perry, Ian Woodroofe, and Lea Dodds

1. Apologies
Apologies for absence had been received from Brenda Wilson.
2. Approval of draft minutes of the meeting held on 22.8.2023
The draft minutes from the meeting held on 22.8.2023 were approved.
The Chair informed the group that he intended to work through the agenda in a slightly different order with emphasis being placed on the survey results and the way forward.
3. MVAS Locations/updates and Speedwatch Update
Paul Webb reported that the MVAS Units were due to be taken down on Friday. He would try to remove the data held prior to taking them back to Westotec for repair. The units would be returned by Christmas 2023, and he would arrange for training to take place for Ian Woodroofe, Lea Dodds, Jim Perry, George Rowland and Debbie Cawley.
He continued to report that it was Speedwatch Team's aim to hold two sessions in January, one in Toyse Lane and one in the middle of the village. If by any chance the MVAS units are not back, the old equipment can be used. Paul Webb will check out locations within the buffer zones suitable for Speedwatch with Jim Perry. From February 2024 the aim is to try to organise 3 sessions per month. Each session will have a Team Leader. It was noted that a number of Speedwatch volunteers have been lost.
4. Meeting with Highways
A meeting with Highways is due to take place on Wednesday 15th November 2023. The previous list of outstanding jobs may need prioritising. The entrance/exit at the Gardiner Memorial Hall will hopefully be discussed.
5. Safety Campaign – Final Report
The final report is still awaiting completion.
6. Winter Gritting
Winter Gritting will be discussed with James Broder at the meeting with Highways.
7. LHI
The window for the 24/25 LHI scheme (non 20 mph) is now open for applications and closes on the 12th January 2023.
The 20mph scheme will be running annually.
8. 20 mph/Bypass – Survey Update and 20mph Speed Application
Paul Webb informed the group that over 80 villages in Cambridgeshire had applied for the 20 mph speed limit to be delivered in their villages. 20 schemes including Burwell have been selected on merit to be carried out during the first year. Every 1 mph speed reduction equates a 1% reduction in accidents, a reduction of particulate matter and a reduction in nitrate gasses. It also improves safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Lea Dodds stated that people get distracted by compliance with the law. In a lot of places it is not possible to make a road any safer for pedestrians, for example opposite the post office, but by slowing down traffic, safety does improve. The 20's Plenty website has lots of data, but although impressive, this is mainly from London. Data given on the site from other areas more akin to Burwell shows average speed dropping from 24 mph to 22 mph and 36 to 29 mph. Compliance by all and better policing would be ideal, but even without this, you would still get a lower level of speed.

Geraldine Tate reported that she had read that schemes in the Bath and Bristol area had slowed traffic down, but people had complained about there being no hard evidence. Having had data from the MVAS signs would have been beneficial. Liz Swift also expressed her disappointment that the MVAS data had not been available and asked if it would be possible to obtain the nitrate readings from the MVAS sign that was situated in the High Street. Paul Webb reminded those present that following on from the 2017/2018 survey, where the majority of people who had responded had indicated that traffic speed was an issue in the village, the Safety Campaign had been carried out. The first few months of the campaign focused on speeding and within the handout leaflets were diagrams showing the reduction in accidents against the reduction in speed graphs.

There were 1105 responses to the survey. There had been consistent voting up until early to mid October with just over 50% stating that a 20 mph speed limit should be introduced in either all or part of the village. A County Council press release giving information that Burwell had been successful with its application and was one of the 20 schemes to be delivered in the first-year led to a massive increase in those taking part in the survey, raising the 'no' vote to 697. However, it is very clear when analysing the responses that frequently many of the responses came from the same IP addresses and within a minute of each other. Removing repeated entries from the same address brought those against the 20 mph speed reduction down to 47%.

The group then discussed how to move forward. Ian Woodroffe felt that more substantiation was needed and asked if a professional could look at the data. Jim Perry suggested that the survey could be held again, setting up the survey to allow only one entry per IP address, with any further entries from that address being submitted on a paper survey form available from the Jubilee Reading Room. Jim Perry continued to suggest that the Jubilee Reading Room could be open over a weekend with residents coming along to vote. Lea Dodds considered that the Council has given the survey a good shot, and whatever way forward is chosen, will get a lot of flak. An option could be to defer making a decision at this stage. Later more data will be available. It is also important to reach out to more groups, especially those where the speed of traffic is causing issues with or stopping them from going out. Geraldine Tate liked Lea Dodds suggestion of deferring delivering the scheme. She also felt that relying on the yes vote being made up of the whole and part village results was not necessarily appropriate. The results of the survey would need to be published. Liz Swift asked how funding would work. She continued by saying that she agrees with both Lea Dodds. It had been necessary to do the survey in a hurry and that the results are close. The Wilbrahams who have also been successful has spent 3 years in consultation with the residents on the proposal. A part of Haddenham already has 20 mph zones, they did not consult with the community, and this has now resulted in some issues. Burwell Parish Council did pledge to do a survey.

Delaying going ahead with the delivery of the scheme seemed to be a favourable option.

This would allow time for a more educational campaign with more data available.

Due to concern about the voting issues the results are not conclusive and therefore the survey results cannot be validated. External advice from an organisation such as 20's Plenty would be beneficial when planning an educational campaign. Lea Dodds to make contact with the organisation. The consultation needs to reach all groups of the community including the vulnerable.

Following a vote with all in favour, the group makes the following recommendation to Full Council:

Due to the survey results not being conclusive, the Safety Group recommends to Full Council that a through consultation is carried out for the change of the speed limit to 20 mph in Burwell.

9. Email Security

Lea Dodds to talk to the Clerk about accessing email through the Office 365 set up.

10. Pound Hill Junction

To be discussed at the meeting with Highways.

11. Parking on the Causeway/Mill Lane and Mill Close

To be discussed at the meeting with Highways.

12. Date of next meeting – 23 January 2024

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed

Dated

Burwell Parish Council
Asset and Environment Group

Minutes of the Meeting of 19.12.2023 7.30 pm at The Gardiner Memorial Hall

Present: Lea Dodds (Chair), Gus Jones, Jim Perry, Liz Swift, Michael Swift, Sara Phipps, Geraldine Tate, Clive Leach, and Linda Kitching.

A&E/19122023/01 Apologies for absences and Declarations of Interests

Apologies for absence had been received from Paul Webb, Chris O'Neill, and Ian Woodroffe. There were no declarations of any known interests.

A&E/19122023/02 Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st October 2023 were approved and signed.

A&E/19122023/03 Non-Agenda updates from the previous meeting:

The following updates were noted:

Work to trees – 30 Hatley Drive

We now have approval to carry out the work suggested by Kevin Drane. The Clerk to request some quotations.

Mandeville Hall – Dividing door

An application has been submitted to ECDC Growth and Infrastructure Fund for a grant to cover the cost of the replacement door. It is not known when we will receive the outcome of the application.

Cemetery Water Leak

The Clerk reported that she had gone out to three companies for a quotation to install the new water supply pipework at the Cemetery. Only one quotation had been returned in the sum of £512.00 plus vat. This was from R Winkworth. It was agreed that the following recommendation should be made to Full Council:

That the quotation from R Winkworth to install a new tap and pipework from the water meter at the Cemetery in the sum of £512.00 plus vat is accepted.

Skate Park General Repairs

The Clerk reported that Chaz Hampson had agreed to look at the skate park when he is next in the area. The Clerk to contact Mr Hampson to see when this is likely to be.

Pavilion Water Pipes

The Clerk reported that the Maintenance Officer has now lagged all of the pipes in the roof at the pavilion.

A&E/19122023/04 Consideration of Action Sheet items

Project	
GMH refurbishment Phase One	The Clerk reported that AED has now been back to deal with the audio visual and lighting issues. It is not known if they have done anything about addressing the issues when using the panel at the back of the hall and a HDMI lead.
GMH Exit	The Clerk reported that she had contacted the Conservation Officer and was told that if we wish to have the views of the Conservation Officer for any changes to the entrance/exit then we will need to submit a pre application advice request. She continued to report that she had also contacted the Tree Officer Kevin Drane and had received the following response: Hi Yvonne, Due to the level changes and limited

	<p>rooting area an incursion of 2.5m into the existing rooting area would likely involve significant root severance that could effect the health of the tree nearest the entrance significantly. Would it not be a better and cheaper option to reduce the height of the wall on either side of the current exit and improve the visibility this way instead? You could also install a mirror angled to show pedestrians approaching the exit from the direction of the church.</p> <p>Regards Kevin Drane Trees Officer (Planning.</p> <p>It was suggested that protecting the roots with some form of a protecting the roots with some form of a reinforced concrete shelf may be an option. The Clerk to go back to Meads to see if there are any less invasive options.</p>
<p>Grass Cutting Contract</p>	<p>A meeting of the Assets and Environment Group to discuss the contract had been held with the following notes being taken:</p> <p><u>Verges</u></p> <p>It was agreed that a recommendation should be made to Full Council that the Parish Council should continue to be carried out by the Parish Council.</p> <p>The decision was very much based on the fact that both Willingham Parish Council and Soham Town Council have their verges cut by the County Council and have found that the verges are not cut very well, and the cuts are very infrequent, and communication is poor.</p> <p>It was agreed to reduce the number of cuts of the verges to a maximum of 6 cuts per year (currently 10 cuts per year). However, sight lines can be cut more frequently as required. This could be carried out by the Maintenance Officer if the contractor is not in the village imminently. Paul and Lea willing to look at the verges with potential contractors. There is a need to balance biodiversity and budget.</p> <p>The aim would be for a cut in late April, no cut in May (No Mow May), cut in early July and the remainder of the cuts between August and October.</p> <p>Jim Perry suggested that if the Maintenance Officer had a ride on mower, he could cut the verges. This is something that could be discussed at a later date but there would be many implications that would need to be discussed such as the need to employ another staff member, vehicle towing capability, storage, cost etc. Clive Leach informed the group</p>

that the Museum has a ride on mower which could be available.

Open Spaces Below

The same number of cuts to apply as for the 2023 grass cutting season unless stated otherwise.

Spring Close:

An additional path to the disabled gate to be added to the cutting programme and one path rerouted.

The fire strip around the edge should be 2 metres not 5 metres.

Priory Meadow:

It was suggested that a 'Love the Orchard' type group is set up to look after and to prune the trees to encourage the best fruit crop. The area under the trees needs to be kept short to stop the trees fighting with the weeds. It was agreed that the grass should be cut the same as in 2023.

Margaret Field:

Due to football now being played on Margaret Field it was felt that Mr Groundsman should be asked if he would take over cutting the site including cuts, if necessary, over the winter period.

Small Areas:

To be cut up to a maximum of 6 times per year to the same schedule as the verges.

Contract:

It was agreed that the contract should be for one year with a view to extending for a further two years subject to a satisfactory level of work. The contract should allow for an annual cost increase in relation to the RPI.

The Clerk will now sort out the tender documents.

The Spring Close Management Group is keen to takeover the management of Priory Meadow including the orchard and it was agreed that the following recommendation should be made to Full Council:

The Assets and Environment Group recommends to Full Council that the remit of the Spring Close Management Group is changed to include the management of Priory Meadow including the Community Orchard.

A&E/19122023/05 Hatley Drive Amenity Area Boundary – Update

The resident in Hatley Drive has removed his fence. However, the resident in Hythe Close has put up a wire fence in the same place. The Clerk was asked to write to the resident in Hythe Close and state that the wire fence is only acceptable as a holding fence whilst the hedgerow is planted. The resident also needs to be reminded that all planting must take place on her side of the boundary and should not encroach on to Parish Council land. A

request to be made to the resident for a timeline of when the planting will take place. The Hatley Drive resident to be kept informed of what is happening.

A&E/19122023/06 Quotation received from Meads to tarmac path to Skate Park and under the Youth Shelter at the Recreation Ground.

A quotation has been received from Meads to tarmac under the youth shelter. The cost is £4750 plus vat. They also provided a quotation to surface the footpath from the skate park to the car park. The cost for this is either £2450 or £4500 plus vat depending on type of path. The recommendation to have this work done has come from the Playground Safety Inspector to address the stones from the area which end up on the skate park. The group agreed however that at this point in time the Council is not in a financial position to have the work done.

A&E/19122023/07 Mandeville Hall – Issues with water draining away from guttering

The Clerk reported that water from the gutters is unable to clear properly during spells of heavy rain. This is believed to be due to the underground drainage pipes which lead to under the car park being blocked in some way. This causes the water to back up. The underground pipe work is clear (Toby from Right Price Windows who carried out the work at the pavilion) used his camera to check this out earlier in the year for us. It has been checked before, as this is an ongoing issue. However the underground pipework does appear to just stop. The car park would need to be dug to find out exactly what is happening. It was agreed that the Clerk should look at the plans for the water drainage and also ask Winkworth's if they have any suggestions as to how this could be resolved.

A&E/19122023/08 Skate Park Maintenance – Lights Update

It was noted that 4 lights are now out, and that Full Council has just approved JJ Drake to carry out a diagnostic check.

A&E/19122023/09 Gardiner Memorial Hall – Minor Plastering repairs

The Clerk reported that above the door between the back entrance foyer and the foyer area leading into the hall, the plaster is coming away from the wall. We are now past the defects period. This could be due to one area having heating and the other not. The Maintenance Officer should be able to repair.

A&E/19122023/10 Annual PAT Testing

The annual PAT Testing is due.

The Group recommends to Full Council that the Clerk organises the Inspection.

A&E/19122023/11 Any other urgent matters

The Clerk reported that the roof at the Gardiner Memorial Hall is still leaking. There is a tiny place on the roof where water comes in if it rains extremely heavily and the wind is blowing in a certain direction. This has been investigated before and the last time when Neil Kennedy tried to resolve the issue, he had informed us that if whatever he had done before did not work, scaffolding etc would be required to investigate further. The Clerk was asked to obtain some quotations for further investigative work to be done and any repair required to be carried out. It was suggested that J J Drake could also be asked to quote.

Liz Swift reported that there is concern about the ground surface under the new accessible gate at Spring Close and asked if the group could look at a more suitable option. The Maintenance Officer to be asked for suggestions in the first instance.

A&E/19122023/12 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will to be held on 27th February 2024.

The meeting closed at 8.27 pm.

Signed

Dated

TEMPORARY TRAFFIC ORDER APPLICATION FORM (TTRO)

Please Send Your Applications to:	Applicants Details:
Cambridgeshire County Council Street Works Team Vantage House Washingley Road Huntingdon Cambridgeshire PE29 6SR Tel: 01480 372444 Email: street.works@cambridgeshire.gov.uk	Name: Les Middleton Address: Highways Depot March Cambs PE15 8QN Tel: 07920220545 Emergency 24-hour Contact No: Email: Les.Middleton@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

**The cost of this application is:
£1190.00 for a Full Order or £835.00 for an Emergency Order**

YOU MUST ALLOW AT LEAST 12 WEEKS FOR THIS ORDER TO BE PROCESSED. A STREET WORKS PERMIT MUST HAVE BEEN SUBMITTED BEFORE THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED

PLEASE TICK ALL RELEVANT OPTIONS THAT APPLY:

ROAD CLOSURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FOOTPATH CLOSURE / PUBLIC RIGHTS of WAY *** Please see Notes for Applications below.	<input type="checkbox"/>	SPEED LIMIT	<input type="checkbox"/>	OTHER (Please specify below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional T/M Requirements	NONE <input type="checkbox"/> STOP / GO <input type="checkbox"/> 2-WAY LIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> 3-WAY LIGHTS <input type="checkbox"/> HOURS OF OPERATION: _____						
DESCRIPTION OF WORKS:							
Works relating to Carriageway Pot Hole Repairs Innovation Trial							
Road Name	North Street Unclassified						
Parish / Town	Burwell						
Road Number (i.e.: A140)	Unc						
Location of Works	Carriageway						
Closure Start Date:	08/02/24	End Date:	08/02/25				
Closure Times: 24/7 or Specify Times	Normal Daytime 0730-1800						

Working Hours: 24/7 or Specify Times	Normal Daytime 0730-1800
Diversion Route – List all roads & parishes (with names and numbers if possible) These can be found on Roadworks.org with “NSG” selected under Operational Info within the Map Layers Menu. Please provide a map showing the extent of the closure and diversion route.	Leads to Broads Drove which is a dead End No Diversion
Will the alternative route include a Trunk Road? (If so, it is the responsibility of the applicant to gain agreement from the National Highways and submit a copy of the approval to Street Works)	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Does the above route have any restrictions, i.e., Low bridges, weight limits, tunnels, fords, ‘one way’ or other Orders on it? (If yes then please give details). Some of these can be found here	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Details:
Will this Order apply to pedestrians, cyclist and/or equestrians? (If so, please provide details)	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> Details: All will be subject to site rules at the time access is requested
Please add any comments that you feel may assist the application	The nature of the works will allow access at all times – especially as this is a Cul de Sac type arrangement

Payment Details

Please specify the details of the company or individual that Cambridgeshire are to collect payment for the TTRO to be processed.

Company Name:

Address:

Tel. No:

Email:

YOUR ORDER NUMBER: LA487387

N/A

Please note: It is the applicant's responsibility to inform residents, businesses, the Local Parish Council and County Councillors about the closure. We may request to see the information you have sent them prior to sending you the legal order. Details can be found by following this [link](#)

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO THE CONDITIONS SET OUT WITHIN THIS DOCUMENT MAY RESULT IN AN APPROVED ORDER BEING WITHDRAWN.

REQUIRED ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

1. Please ensure you give the official road name with the correct spelling for which the Order is required.
2. Access may be allowed to Emergency Services **IF** safe passage permits.
3. Pedestrian / Cyclist and Access to properties must be allowed at **ALL** times, unless otherwise agreed.
4. An order will only be granted where a suitable alternative route or arrangements are available.
5. A clear map showing the extent of the closure and diversion route must be attached to this application.
6. Signs 1050mm by 750mm bearing the words "This Road will be closed "From To" and including the dates of the closure **MUST** be placed at all approaches to the site **at least 14 days** prior to the proposed closure.

Notes for Applications to close Public Rights of Ways (PRoW) / Footpaths

1. CCC strongly encourages early engagement with PRoW Officers prior to any application being submitted to close a Public Right of Way or footpath (PRoW).
2. Initial applications to close a Public Right of Way or footpath can only be granted for a maximum duration of 6 months.
3. If the applicant is aware that the closure is likely to exceed 6 months, they should indicate this on the initial application but will still need to apply for an extension using the following procedure:
4. The applicant needs to apply to Street Works at least **8 WEEKS** before the expiry date of the initial 6-month TTRO with full justification AND any alternatives that have been considered and reasons for not being able to accommodate any alternatives.
5. The applicant should use reasonable endeavours to minimise any extension duration and further extensions may be refused.
6. Applicants will be required to meet on site with our Senior Street Works Inspector and PRoW Officer to discuss the reasons for the extension and justification. The site meeting must be held within 2 weeks of the extension request being submitted to Street Works and applications to the Secretary of State (SoS) will not be progressed until the meeting has

been held and alternatives explored. The SoS requires a minimum of 4 weeks to consider an extension request. Any applications that do not comply with item 4. may be automatically refused.

7. All applicants should be prepared to accommodate any reasonable alternatives suggested by the Senior Street Works Inspector and PRow Officer and will be asked to justify in writing any refusal to accommodate reasonable and achievable alternatives. Additional cost to the works promoter will not be considered justification.
8. Applicants should not assume the full duration of the extension request will be granted and a reduced period may be agreed at the site meeting.
9. Applicants should not assume that extensions will be granted by CCC even if the Secretary of State (SoS) approves an extension.
10. The PRow should be reopened as soon as reasonably practicable and in a condition that is safe for all users of the PRow. In any case, it should be reopened in a safe condition, no later than the expiry date of the extension, if granted.
11. Failure to reopen a PRow on or before the expiry date of the TTRO / extension may result in CCC initiating appropriate enforcement action.

DECLARATION:

All the information given in this application is true and I have checked all the names of streets and parishes against an official map of the area.

Middleby

Applicant's Signature:...

Date: ...9th October 2023

Company: Cambridgeshire County Council.....

Position: Carriageway and Footway Engineer.....



EAST CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL
STREET NAMING AND NUMBERING SERVICE
SCHEDULE OF CERTIFICATION OF STREET NUMBERING

PARISH Burwell

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 15th December 2023

ADOPTED STREET NAME: North Street

SCHEME REF: STNN/23/125

DIRECTION: From The Causeway

Property Formerly Known As							
Official Street No	No./Plot	Development Name	Developer	Planning Application	Building Control Reference	STNN Reference No	Date
Idina 121							
121A							
123-125							
The Old Coach House 127A							
129							
Scoutbush 129A							
131B		Replacement Dwelling			06/00253/DOMFP		09/01/06
Black Barn Farm 131C		Site rear of 131B			14/00249/DOMFP	STNN/14/55	01/10/16
131							
131A							17/10/01
133B		New Dwelling			05/01051/DOMFP		11/11/05
133A							17/10/01
Highbury House 133		Addition of property name				STNN/23/125	15/12/23

Last Entry Date: 07th December 2023



**East Cambridgeshire
District Council**
The Grange, Nutholt Lane
Ely, Cambs, CB7 4EE

Tel: (01353) 665555

**Street Naming
and Numbering**

Reference: STNN/23/125

**Addition of property
name**

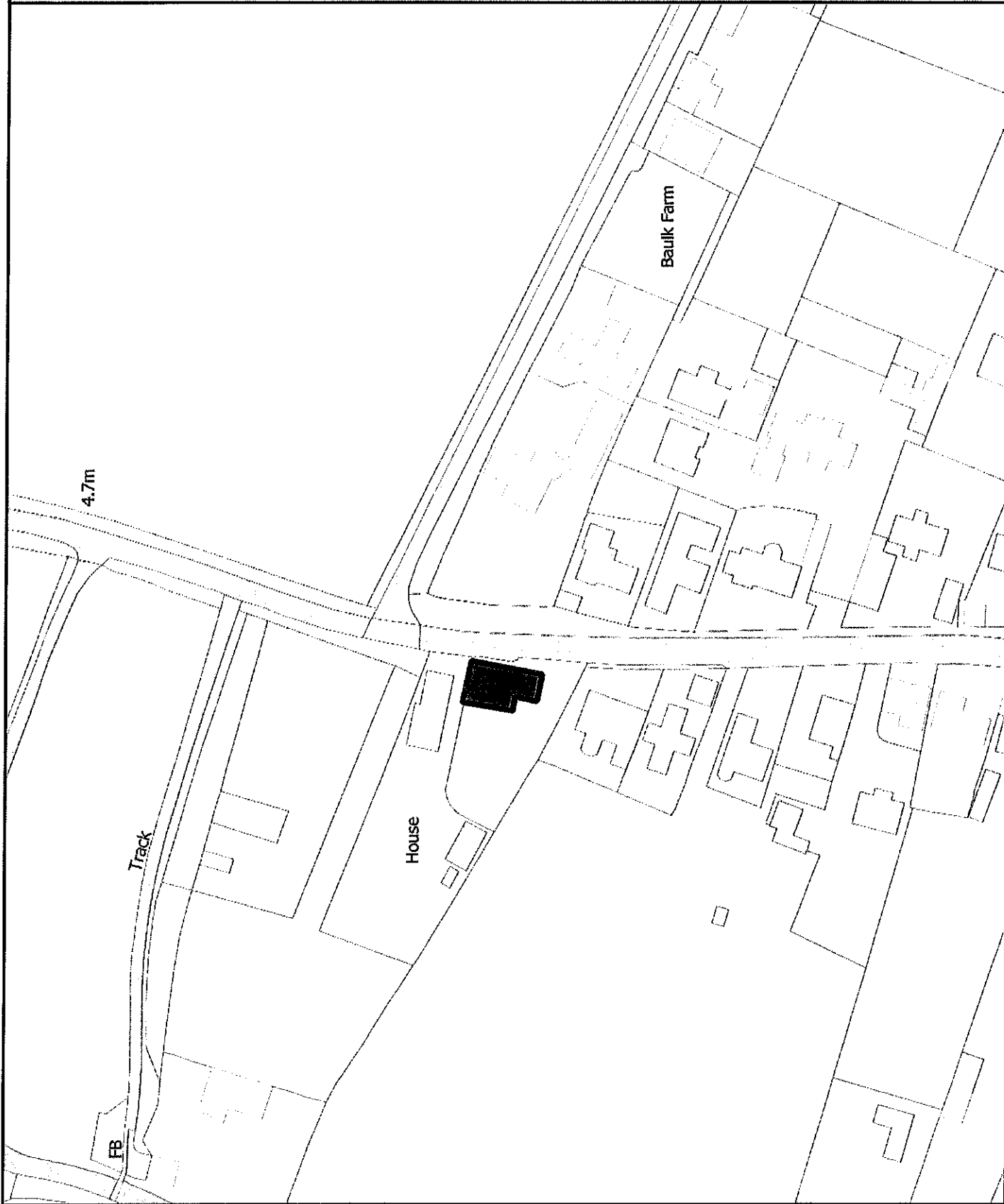
**Highbury House
133 North Street
Burwell**

Please read in association with schedule of
Certification of Street Numbering and
Naming

**This plan is for identification
purposes only and does not
represent legal boundaries.**

Date: 07 Dec 2023
Scale: 1:1,250

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Summary of the Newmarket Road Sports Hub Taskforce Meeting held on 6th December 2023 via Teams.

Present: Craig Mulhall and Andy Wilkinson (MCL Leisure), Brenda Kibblewhite (This Land), Tony Cornwell (Burwell Football Club), Liz Swift, Paul Webb, and Michael Swift (Burwell Parish Council).

Craig Mulhall reported that he had met with Duncan Jenkinson (Football Foundation) and Katie Critchley from the Cambs. Football Association and gave them an update of the general vibe from the public meeting held on 1st November 2023. Duncan Jenkinson and Katie Critchley were delighted to hear that the land offer through the Section 106 Agreement has been accepted by the Parish Council. The Local Football Development Plan is due to be discussed in December. The involvement of Joe Cherrington, Football Foundation Technical Advisor at upcoming meetings is a positive sign that the project will be moved forward.

Details on how the Sports Hub will be managed and operated needs to be decided, along with who would be applying for funding etc. This needs to be set out in a document (maximum of two A4 sides). Sports England would be looking for tenure of the site being at least 21 years. The Football Club would like to have a reasonable length of tenure and level of management to satisfy some of their proposed funders. Michael Swift expressed that we would probably be looking towards a partnership, with the land being leased to the Football Club. With other sports being able to take place there.

Liz Swift asked if there is a timeline available for handing over the land and when could a formal offer letter be expected? Brenda Kibblewhite explained that there is a need for the facility mix to be agreed prior to the formal offer being made, as information on drainage requirements for the pitches will have to be taken into account. The Football Association will need to know the status of the offer and some assumptions probably need to be made on the mix in readiness for the meeting later this month. Craig Mulhall explained that he is working on the basis that the facility will include a full size 3G pitch, grass pitches and initially changing rooms. A small kitchen area could be added and potentially a social area. A gym facility will not come under the scope of any funding application to the Football Association or Football Foundation. Craig Mulhall to make the Football Foundations and Football Association know that we are working on the facility mix. Brenda Kibblewhite informed those present that she needed the involvement of This Land's Development Manager, Khalid Shanan and that he would not be available until after Christmas. An Agronomist would also need to be involved. Tony Cornwell suggested that the site may need to be split into sections/phases. Liz Swift reiterated the need for the facility to be used by sports other than football. Brenda Kibblewhite, Craig Mulhall, and Andy Wilkinson agreed that they would meet in the new year when Khalid Shaban was available.

Andy Wilkinson reported that he has liaised with Charlie Milner at the Sports Centre and that he intended to meet with him when he is next in the area. The estimated cost to build a 4-court sports centre according to Sport England is now in the region of £2.8 million. Andy Wilkinson suggested that an option may be to extend the existing sports centre to allow for a gym/fitness suite to be provided. However, this is unlikely to be possible as the County Council is unable to offer anymore land for an extension to be built on.

The following was agreed:

- A face-to-face meeting of the Taskforce to be convened for January. On the same day a meeting to be arranged with Charlie Milner (Burwell Sports Centre) with Andy Wilkinson, Craig Mulhall, and members of the Taskforce from the Parish Council.

- Brenda Kibblewhite, Craig Mulhall, and Andy Wilkinson to go through suggested plans prior to Christmas with further discussions taking place as soon as Khalim Shaban is available.
- Craig Mulhall to let the Football Foundation and Football Association know that they are working on the facility mix.
- Craig Mulhall to update the Taskforce after the Local Football Development Plan meeting has taken place.
- Parish Council and Football Club to discuss options available for the management, organisation of the Sports Hub. Any recommendation will need to be put to Council for approval. It will take considerable time for this document to be drawn up.

Tony Cornwell reported that the Football Club has started to work on raising the profile of the club. It was suggested by Craig Mulhall that the Parish Council may wish to talk to Cambourne Football Club about how that has been set up as it is a similar scenario as Burwell. It was noted however that the Cambourne Football Club and facilities are about 4 times the size as Burwell's.

The cost of running the proposed facility was mentioned, with the need to bring in between £40,000 and £50,000 annually to cover the costs annually plus a sum of money to build a sink fund for future works. It is expected that a commercial agreement between the Parish Council and Football Club will need to be in place.

BURWELL PARISH COUNCIL
SPRING CLOSE MANAGEMENT GROUP
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF 13/12/2023

Present ; Mike Swift (Chair), Liz Swift, Geraldine Tate, Sara Phipps, Colin Smith, Caroline Smith, Malcolm Busby, Martin O'Leary

Apologies ; Paul Webb, Helen McMenamin-Smith, Jenny Moss, Jim Perry, Rachel O'Leary

The minutes of the meeting of 11/05/2023 were accepted.

Signs

George has installed the new central information sign. He has also removed the old information signs.

Climate Forum Talk at Burwell Belles W.I

Mike and Martin had both given short talks which outlined different aspects of the management and biodiversity of Spring Close.

Disabled Access Gate

George has installed a disabled access gate from the unmade section of Spring Close road into the field. The gate can only be opened fully with a Radar key which unlocks a padlock. Malcolm pointed out that some disabled people were struggling to use the gate for several reasons. Instructions for use were absent. The ground was not sufficiently level. Malcolm commented that the ground needed to be tarmacked or similar hardstanding laid below the gate and at the approaches to the gate to achieve satisfactory disabled access. He said that the current layer of shredded bark below the gate was a hindrance especially in wet weather. Malcolm had heard that a person had sent a complaint with a video to the Parish Council office. Liz replied that she hadn't been able to open the file on her computer. She will ask the Clerk for a report. It was agreed that the Parish Council lay tarmac or similar hardstanding below the gate and its approaches.

Colin suggested that a sign was placed at the gate with instructions on how to use the gate. It was agreed that a similar notice be posted on the Burwell Community Facebook page.

Mike reported that the gate cost £700. The expenditure was allocated to the Spring Close budget.

Grass cutting update

Mike reported that the current grass cutting contractor, Trulink, have said that they do not want to cut and remove the hay crop in future years. The business owner has indicated that he wishes to retire. Mike said that there was uncertainty about the future of the hay crop.

Work at Spring Close

Following the cutting of the long grass etc growing on the earthwork banks by the grass cutting contractor in October, Wild Burwell members raked away the arisings. Much of this work was done by Colin and Caroline and Nicola Hallows.

Colin and Caroline used a brushcutter scythe to cut an area of long grass on the castle mound, the wild clary bank and the low-level path to the footbridge. Colin is also clearing an area of blackthorn by the up and over path. He reported that there was an ongoing problem with regenerating blackthorn.

Malcolm cleared the stream path of nettles etc.

Work party in the New Year

Paul is to be asked if he and Karl Turner could cut back the brambles and nettles that border the path from the Mandeville gate down to the spring as in previous years – and trim the *Carex pendula* and other vegetation by the spring. Nettles and bramble regrowth on the stream banks downstream from the spring could also be strimmed. When they have finished strimming, a raking party could follow to deal with the arisings. Colin asked if he could remove a 15-foot sycamore that is growing by the stream about 10 metres downstream from the spring pool. This was agreed.

Greater Cambridge Chalk Streams Project

Martin reported that Nicola Hallows met Rob Martyr of the Greater Cambridge Chalk Streams Project at Spring Close to show him the spring and the stream. He was impressed by the condition of the spring and the stream. He is producing a report which he plans to share with the Parish Council (Note – chalk streams are a rare ecological habitat, largely confined to the south-east and parts of East Anglia).

Priory Meadow

Mike said that the Parish Council was considering if the Spring Close group could also manage Priory Meadow. The group were in favour of this proposal. Mike reported that parish councillor Lea Dodds had suggested that the fruit trees in Priory Meadow needed pruning.

Martin added that if the group was to take responsibility for Priory Meadow, we should ask Nicola Hallows to join the group in view of the work she does at the meadow maintaining the community tree nursery and raking away the arisings after the meadow is cut. It was agreed to ask Nicola.

NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 07/02/23 at 7.30p.m at the Jubilee Reading Room

Report of the Meeting of the Asset and Environment Group to discuss the Grass Cutting contract held on Thursday 7th December 2023, 7.30 pm at the Jubilee Reading Room.

Present: Lea Dodds (Chair), Liz swift, Paul Webb, Jim Perry, and Clive Leach.

Apologies: Michael Swift, Ian Woodroofe, Geraldine Tate, Chris O'Neill, and Sara Phipps

Verges

It was agreed that a recommendation should be made to Full Council that the Parish Council should continue to be carried out by the Parish Council.

The decision was very much based on the fact that both Willingham Parish Council and Soham Town Council have their verges cut by the County Council and have found that the verges are not cut very well, and the cuts are very infrequent, and communication is poor.

It was agreed to reduce the number of cuts of the verges to a maximum of 6 cuts per year (currently 10 cuts per year). However, sight lines can be cut more frequently as required. This could be carried out by the Maintenance Officer if the contractor is not in the village imminently. Paul and Lea willing to look at the verges with potential contractors. There is a need to balance biodiversity and budget.

The aim would be for a cut in late April, no cut in May (No Mow May), cut in early July and the remainder of the cuts between August and October.

Jim Perry suggested that if the Maintenance Officer had a ride on mower, he could cut the verges. This is something that could be discussed at a later date but there would be many implications that would need to be discussed such as the need to employ another staff member, vehicle towing capability, storage, cost etc. Clive Leach informed the group that the Museum has a ride on mower which could be available.

Open Spaces Below

The same number of cuts to apply as for the 2023 grass cutting season unless stated otherwise.

Spring Close:

An additional path to the disabled gate to be added to the cutting programme and one path rerouted.

The fire strip around the edge should be 2 metres not 5 metres.

Priory Meadow:

It was suggested that a 'Love the Orchard' type group is set up to look after and to prune the trees to encourage the best fruit crop. The area under the trees needs to be kept short to stop the trees fighting with the weeds. It was agreed that the grass should be cut the same as in 2023.

Margaret Field:

Due to football now being played on Margaret Field it was felt that Mr Groundsman should be asked if he would take over cutting the site including cuts, if necessary, over the winter period.

Small Areas:

To be cut up to a maximum of 6 times per year to the same schedule as the verges.

Contract:

It was agreed that the contract should be for one year with a view to extending for a further two years subject to a satisfactory level of work. The contract should allow for an annual cost increase in relation to the RPI.