

Over Parish Council

7.30pm

Minutes Full Council Informal E-Meeting – Tuesday 8th June 2021

This meeting of the Parish Council is an informal meeting and as such any decisions made at this meeting will be made now, in principle, and will be ratified at the next formal meeting.

PRESENT

Chairman: Mrs A Griffiths

Vice Chairman: Mr G Twiss

Councillors: Mrs J Davies, Mr S Couper, Mr M Conlon, Mr R Robinson, Mr A Tranter, Mrs M Hyde
(3 Vacancies)

Parish Clerk: Mrs M Pink

In attendance

District Councillor: Mr B Handley

County Councillor: Ms F Thompson

Parishioners: 3

2021/06-01 To Receive and Accept Apologies for Absence

District Cllr D Percival

2021/06-02 Members' Declarations of Interest & Dispensations

- 2.1 Declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda – Registered Interests received from Cllr A Tranter – Trustee of Over Day Centre
Cllrs A Griffiths, R Robinson – Trustees of Over Relief in Need, and The Church and Town Lands Charity, Church and Town Branches
Cllr J Davies – Trustee of Over Community Association
- 2.2 Requests to Speak - No requests received to speak on any items as declared above.
- 2.3 To receive requests for dispensations - No requests received.
- 2.4 To grant requests received - The granting of dispensations to be made by Full Council.

2021/06-03 Matters of Interest from County and District Councillors and PCSO

- 3.1 County Council – Report noted - Cllr Thompson highlighted her report for items of interest to the Council.
- 3.2 District Council – Report noted – Cllr Handley reported that the zero-carbon community grant may be a good funding pot for the Day Centre.
- 3.3 Police – No report.

2021/06-04 Public Participation – Three members of OSKA gave a presentation to the Council to provide an update on the current skate park proposals. They thanked the Council for giving support to the project. Groundwork have completed the consultation and will now generate a design brief as part of the tender pack. The next phase of the project is to raise money for this stage. Approximately £2,500 +VAT is needed. Bid funding is now being investigated and applications have been made to both Tesco and the Co-op Community Funds. The Council thanked OSKA for their work so far and look forward to seeing the designs when they are available.

2021/06-05 Minutes

5.1 To Approve Minutes of the Informal Full Parish Council Meeting Dated 11th May 2021

Cllr Couper asked for some changes to be made to the opening statement on the May Minutes. The first sentence should finish with the words “to be ratified at the next formal meeting”.

RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and unanimously agreed that the Minutes are approved following the changes noted above. The Chairman will sign the Minutes at the next available Full Council Meeting. All actions have been completed.

ACTION CHAIR

2021/06-06 Planning – For Discussion and Approval

Cllr Couper declared that he would not participate in the planning agenda item and would abstain from all decisions made

- 6.1 Application – 20/05343/FUL - 1 Drings Close - Extension of existing Doctors' Surgery to provide new consulting rooms, toilets and office space, vehicular access relocated to suit new extension and car park re-arranged to create additional parking spaces – Discussed in May.

- 6.2 Application – 21/01636/HFUL- 75 Willingham Road - Extensions to the front and rear, to raise roof and incorporate more bedrooms at first floor.
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and agreed seven for with one abstention that the Council comments are noted as no objections.
- 6.3 Application – 21/01709/FUL – Duces Pond – Re-profiling and enlargement of existing pond
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and agreed seven for with one abstention that the Council comments are noted as no objections. Cllr Tranter suggested that a bench could be provided once the improvements have been made. The Chairman asked the Clerk to add this to the budget proposals for the next financial year. **ACTION CLERK**
- 6.4 Application - 21/02043/HFUL – 13 Chapmans Way - Single storey rear extension
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and agreed seven for with one abstention that the Council comments are noted as no objections.
- Cllr Thompson left the meeting at 8.07pm*
- 6.5 Application - 21/02048/CL2PD - Charter Cottage Horse Ware - Certificate of lawfulness under Section 192 for the demolition of existing barn and clearance, levelling, and removal of excess soil from the site, the creation of an access and driveway and the setting out of the footprint of the building in accordance with the approved Planning Permission ref S/1883/18/FL.
RESOLVED: It was proposed, seconded, and agreed seven for with one abstention that the Council comments are noted as no objections. Cllr Twiss reported that this application is just needed for information as the work has already been carried out.
Planning for Information Only or Comments if needed.
- 6.6 Application - 20/02477/CONDB -Land off Fen End - Submission of details required by condition 22 (Piling Mitigation) of permission 20/02477/FUL.
Cllr Twiss informed the Council that the piling works are needed due to the number of ponds in this area and the Council did point this out to the planning department when this application was first discussed. There may also be rising gases in this area so ventilation may also be needed. Cllr Handley informed the Council that the piling is non percussive piling, and it will not damage the area.
- 6.7 Application – 20/02477/CONDC – Land off Fen End - Submission of details required by conditions 5 (Biodiversity) and 11 (Energy Statement) of permission 20/02477/FUL - Noted
- 6.8 Application – 21/0589/TTCA – 20 High Street – Tree works – Removal of dead tree - Noted
- 6.9 Application – 21/0653/TTCA – 20 High Street - Tree works – Various - Noted
- 6.10 Application - 21/0641/TTCA – The Vicarage – Tree works – Various - Noted
- 6.11 Application – 21/0669/TTCA – The Vicarage – Tree works – Fell Sycamore tree - Noted

2021/06-07 Finance

- 7.1 Approval of Payments
RESOLVED: To approve invoices and payments to the sum of £9,814.04
- 7.2 Receipts noted: £1,799.01 (VAT Refund)
- 7.3 Green Charity Accounts 2020 - 2021 to be noted – Noted by Council – The Clerk informed the Council that a Charity Meeting will need to be set so that a top up donation could be made, and a new bank account confirmed.

2021/06-08 Procedure**Information & Approval**

- 8.1 Internal Audit Report to be noted – Not yet received by the Clerk.
- 8.2 New Model Code of Conduct to be adopted if agreed – The Clerk informed the Council that a New Model Code had been approved by both the Local Government Association and the National Association of Local Councils, but it was not yet known if it would also be adopted by the District Council. More information should be released shortly, and it would be prudent to wait to discuss adoption of the Code until further information has been received. **ACTION CLERK**

2021/06-09 Village Matters**Information & Approval**

- 9.1 Asplins Close parking area update – No new update
- 9.2 Protection of Overcote from Illegal Encampments update – The Clerk has completed the online training and links have been sent to the Chairman and Cllr Hyde. The Toolkit has not yet been released for action to be taken.
- 9.3 Update details from the meeting with Manderson Trust re possible toilet facilities at Overcote – The Clerk had organised a meeting with the Trust and Cllrs Twiss, Tranter and Couper and this meeting was

positive, and it is hoped that the Trust and the Council can work on this project together. Cllr Tranter gave a brief outline of what was discussed, and the meeting notes had been circulated by the Clerk. The Trust have provided some concept drawings and the Council will now look into getting some costings for the project. Cllr Twiss thought that a trial run with some temporary portable toilets could give an indication of likely use and this option should be explored before any permanent arrangements are identified. Cllr Tranter will liaise with the Trust and will also get some costings together for further discussion and the Clerk will organise some quotes for temporary facilities so that this can also be discussed.

ACTION CLERK & AT

Cllr Handley left the meeting at 8.15pm

- 9.4 20's plenty campaign for support for a 20mph limit in rural villages to be discussed – The Clerk advised the Council that this is something that the whole Village should be consulted on before a decision can be made and it is hoped that this can be discussed at the next Parish Meeting which will be organised when the Covid restrictions have been lifted.

ACTION CLERK

2021/06-10 Village Reports

- 10.1 To receive Village Handyman Report and consider any maintenance items – No report
10.2 To receive Groundsman Report re the Green – No report

2021/06-11 PC representatives on Village Charities and other bodies – Matters of interest

Information

- 11.1 Hanson Aggregates – Cllr Twiss advised the Council that he had received an email from Hansons regarding some test boring in certain other areas of and around the existing site. These pieces of land belong to the Over Relief in Need, and The Church and Town Lands Charity, Church and Town Branches and Mrs Henshaw will be contacting them about this. Cllr Twiss wanted to make the Council aware that if the test bores are successful then Hansons may want to acquire the land, and this would then leave the Council owned land referred to as the Gravel and Gravel Tree Belt surrounded by Quarry and no longer useable or needed. Cllr Tranter also advised the Council that he had received some communication from Helen Wass, County Council Officer, regarding reinstatement of footpaths if they are taken over by the Quarry works.
- 11.2 Over Relief in Need, and The Church and Town Lands Charity, Church and Town Branches – No report
- 11.3 Over Community Association – Cllr Davies reported that the Vaccination programme is now finished at the Centre. The Café is doing well, and the Centre are looking into providing some bicycle racks.
- 11.4 Over Day Centre – Cllr Tranter reported that the Day Centre is open for two days per week, but this is likely to increase as 15 new assessments are under way to welcome some new clients to the Day Centre.
- 11.5 Community Warden – Update report emailed and noted by Council.
- 11.6 Speed Watch – Cllr Conlon reported that the first session has been completed and 152 vehicles were counted with the highest speed being recorded at 34mph on Willingham Road. The MVAS signs have now also been installed on some lamp posts in the Village and the sites of these signs will be varied so that a large area of the Village can be monitored. Cllr Conlon said that he had already received some good feedback about the use of the mobile signs.

- 2021/06-12** Correspondence received – The Clerk had forwarded an email received from a resident concerning dangerous driving at Overcote which was received on the 5th of June, after the agenda had been posted. Cllr Twiss felt that some signage could be installed regarding a suggested speed and caution to be taken due to children. The Chairman asked the Clerk to prepare a cost proposal for this idea and to present it to the Council in July.

ACTION CLERK

The Chairman asked each Councillor to confirm if they are now happy to meet face to face in July. The Clerk has provisionally booked the Main Hall in the Community Centre as this is larger than the Seminar room and social distancing will be a lot easier to maintain in a larger room. All Councillors agree that a return to face-to-face meetings can be arranged if the Government guidelines in force in July are followed.

ACTION CLERK

Thank you very much for electing me on Thursday 6 May as your Cambridgeshire County Councillor for the next four years. I have received many kind messages and will do my best for the residents of this beautiful part of Cambridgeshire.

The outcome of the County Council elections was that the Conservatives now have 28 seats on the Council, the Liberal Democrats 20, Labour nine, and the Independents four. This means that no one political group has a majority on the Council. On Friday 14 May the Liberal Democrat, Labour and Independent groups announced a new [Joint Administration](#) for the Council and published an agreement about its priorities and how it will operate.

Within the agreement, the Joint Administration placed Covid-19 recovery for all of Cambridgeshire – children and families, local businesses, and working people - and bringing forward targets to tackle the climate emergency, at the top of its ambitious policy agenda and pledged to work closely with partners inside and outside the council wherever possible.

I look forward to delivering these priorities with my fellow Councillors over the coming years.

COVID-19 UPDATE

RATES: The rates of Covid-19 has seen a slight rise in the number of cases in Cambridgeshire, although all districts are now well below the national and regional averages. For the week ending the 29 May there were 11 Covid-19 cases per 100,000 population, well below the England average of 32 and the regional average of 20.

Hospital Covid-19 admissions across Cambridgeshire have stabilised, with just 5 patients currently receiving treatment and here have been no Covid-19 related deaths recorded in Cambridgeshire since 30 April.

However, there are concerns about a slight increase in the number of cases in Huntingdonshire and to a lesser degree in South Cambridgeshire. These areas are close or on the border with Bedfordshire and the situation is being carefully monitored. All cases are backward contact traced to understand the transmission routes and we advise or offer testing to identify cases. This "targeted case finding" is currently being undertaken in Great Staughton where they have had a number of cases. We have seen a slight rise in Cambridge city, most notably amongst those aged 65 and over, but in recent days, there has not been any new cases.

Although cases have risen in these areas, it is important to remember that this is from an already low base. However, we are continuing to work extremely hard, especially in areas that have increases in the number of cases, to ensure that our backward contact tracing team finds cases as early as possible and identifies how the virus has been transmitted then take action to make sure people are tested and supported to self-isolate.

Our rates across the county look encouraging, but we know from experience that this can change very quickly so we are encouraging people to follow the rules and understand that getting back to a more normal way of life depends on all of us and the actions we take.

We must not assume that all restrictions will be lifted on June 21. Increased instances of the Delta variant previously known as the Indian variant continue to be of concern and the Government is due to announce on June 14 whether the easing of the restrictions found in Stage 4 of the roadmap are likely.

PILOT: A pilot to address Covid-19 transmission in areas of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough where rates remain stubbornly high has been given the green light by Government. These areas are known to have 'enduring transmission' which means that the virus is embedded and spread across our communities. As a result, Peterborough City Council and Fenland District Council, along with South Holland District Council, where rates are also persistently higher than average, submitted a proposal to Government for funding to provide additional support for employees and employers in specific sectors.

The Government confirmed on 23 May, that it is allocating £2.6 million to allow the pilot to be rolled out across the three areas over the next three months. It is the first pilot of its kind to be given the go-ahead by Government.

VACCINES: We would like to encourage people to accept their vaccine when offered one. People aged 30 and over, or those who turn 30 before 1 July, are now being called to book their vaccine which they can do so at www.nhs.uk. The latest statistics on vaccine delivery for local authorities are available under the 'weekly data' heading on [Statistics » COVID-19 Vaccinations \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/statistics/covid-19/vaccinations)

People are also still being called to have their second vaccine. We cannot stress enough how important it is for people to have both doses to give them the best possible protection.

NEW MOBILE RAPID TESTING VANS: There are now even more ways for people to take a rapid Covid-19 test in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough following the launch of three new mobile testing vans.

The vans will be stationed at popular public venues giving people the chance to take a rapid test or collect a testing kit for home use. Fully trained staff will be on hand to discuss issues around testing and answer any questions residents may have. The vans will initially be stationed at various locations, nearest to us is Sidney Street in Cambridge. For more information, including the opening dates/times, plus any changes to site locations, visit our [rapid testing webpage](#).

EDUCATION

COVID TESTING: There is some evidence that testing amongst secondary school pupils is not as high as it could be. We are encouraging these students to take a lateral flow test twice a week and – importantly – to register the result. New posters will be in schools when students return after half term encouraging them to take two tests a week and record the results.

SUMMER HOLIDAYS- Holiday Activities and Food Programme: The programme is aimed at providing healthy food and enriching activities for primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible for benefit related free school meals. During the Summer holidays, eligible children will be able to access four, four-hour sessions for four weeks of the holiday, at no cost. The sessions will include a healthy meal and a variety of exciting activities and sports. Further details can be found, to either check if your child is eligible and book your place (from 7 June), visit [Holiday Activities and Food Programme](#).

WIDER SUPPORT: We understand that as a result of the pandemic, there are many families that may need further support who are eligible for the Direct Food Voucher Scheme. We also know there will be families who don't meet the above criteria but are in need of support. Therefore, there is a network of hubs run by the city and district councils that will be able to help you to access further support. Details of support can be found: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/wintersupport. If you are unable to access the information online, you can call your local hub on 0345 045 5219, the team is available Monday – Friday 9am-5pm.

HIGHWAYS

The problems with road maintenance, especially potholes and blocked road gullies is high on the list of priorities for the new Joint Administration at the County Council. Residents are painfully aware of the short-term nature of much of the remedial work - within a year it has failed again. A more fundamental rethink to the approach is required. There is a big backlog and, while the new administration cannot promise to rectify all of the problems overnight, the new team is going to look critically at contracts and quality of work and drive improvements as soon as they can. Doing more inadequate repairs will only increase costs without fundamentally improving the situation.

Quarterly highways meetings have been re-instated with all the Parishes within my division: Longstanton, Northstowe, Oakington & Westwick and Over, first one taking place at Longstanton Village Hall on 18 June. Present will be: Two Local Highway Officers and Parish Chairs/Vice Chairs and Clerks. All current highway issues will be sent in advance of this meeting, to enable officers to be able to acquire specific information for the meeting.

Potholes: shoddy potholes resurfacing on Station Road has been reported following the recent works, the standard of the work completed will be raised with the contractor and the area will need to be resurfaced to a good quality resurface.

Residents are kindly reminded to report any problems on Highways using [Highways Reporting](#).

CONSULTATIONS

EAST WEST RAIL: East West Rail – Have your say!

A reminder that EWR's 10-week non-statutory consultation on the emerging proposals for route alignments closes on **Wednesday 9 June 2021**.

The final decision will be taken by the Department for Transport as this is a national infrastructure project, but we continue to encourage residents to submit their responses to this consultation.

EWR is a proposed new rail link, which would connect communities between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford and Cambridge, with a brand-new railway infrastructure between Bedford and Cambridge. As the route approaches Cambridge there are options for either a Southern or Northern approach, EWR's preferred option is the Southern route, details of which are below.

[Your Questioned Answered - Approaching Cambridge](#)

I encourage all residents to raise specific concerns with the details of the routes in their response to the consultation. My main concern is that EWR and the government listens to the community response to its consultation and starts providing more information on its plans.

Do share your views here: <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation>

LOCAL CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE PLAN CONSULTATION: Cambridgeshire County Council consultation on the creation of a Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan for Cambridgeshire are interested in local feedback on the initial proposals. This Plan is an early-stage policy document which seeks to outline new and existing walking and cycling routes and consider which routes should be created or improved, as and when funding becomes available. In many cases, it may be several years before monies come forward for these projects and works can take place. However, identifying the best routes and putting a Plan in place means that the County will be in the best position to bid for future Government funding and progress new cycling and walking routes.

Please take a look at the proposals. Are these the right routes? Are there alternatives routes which we should suggest? Please let the County Council know your thoughts via the survey and please feel free to share your advice with me on the email below. The consultation runs through to the end of the day on **Tuesday 13 July 2021**. Respondents are invited to complete the survey and/or mark cycleways and footpaths they would like to see created or prioritised on our map. This information will then be analysed and presented to the County Council's Highways and Transport Committee for their review. <https://tinyurl.com/4xb3s9dv>

COUNCILLOR CONTACT DETAIL

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about these, or any other matters.

Firouz Thompson

County Councillor for Longstanton, Northstowe & Over, including Parish of Oakington & Westwick

Contact details: firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

District Councillors' Report to Over Parish June 2021

Restart Grants

Applications are now open for the Restart Grants scheme for business rate paying businesses in the non-essential retail, hospitality, leisure, personal care and accommodation sectors. This grant replaces the Local Restrictions Support Grants which were awarded up to 31st March 2021. Applications must be received by 30 June 2021.

Non-essential retail businesses would qualify for grants from £2,667 to £6,000 depending on rateable value. Hospitality, accommodation, leisure, personal care and gym businesses will qualify for grants from £8,000 up to £18,000. To qualify for a grant, a business must be registered for business rates. If any councillor becomes aware of a local business that may be eligible but hasn't yet applied, please pass this information to them or tell us, so we can follow it up.

Zero Carbon Communities Grant

I feel we should emphasise that Community groups can now bid for a share of £100,000 from the District Council's Zero Carbon Communities Grant scheme, which has already funded more than 35 grassroots projects to tackle climate change. Grants between £1,000 and £15,000 are available. The money comes from business rates from renewable energy sites, like solar farms, in South Cambridgeshire that the Council retains and earmarks for use in green initiatives like this.

Non-profit groups or organisations that are based in the district and parish councils can apply. Other groups, such as social enterprises and community interest companies can apply as part of a partnership led by a parish council or not-for-profit groups. <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/nature-and-climate-change/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant/>

Greater Cambridge Partnership

The GCP Joint Assembly and the Executive Board is currently dealing with a bumper agenda that includes key decisions on all four key corridors – Cambourne to Cambridge, Cambridge South East, the Waterbeach Corridor and the Eastern Access Corridor. I suggest that parish councillors should maintain a watching brief on what is going on at these strategic meeting because, one day, their decisions could affect us all.

<https://www.gretercambridge.org.uk/>

'Wild Minds' Outdoor Activities for Young People

14- to 17-year-olds can register free for eight outdoor activity sessions at Milton Country Park, where they can try their hand at bush craft, yoga, survival skills, water sports on the lake and much more, for the benefit of their wellbeing. The sessions are 90 minutes long and are run on Sunday afternoons as part of an eight-week programme, in which small groups of teenagers are supported by skilled instructors as well as trained youth workers. The course is designed to help teens tackle things like mild anxiety or low mood, or to improve self-confidence and esteem.

The courses have been developed by South Cambridgeshire District Council together with Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust (which runs Milton Country Park) and is also supported by a Clinical Psychologist. Register free for courses starting in July or October on our Wild Minds page at <https://www.scamb.gov.uk/wildminds>

SCDC's Investment in Cambourne

The new South Cambridgeshire Investment Partnership (SCIP) has agreed to purchase land in Cambourne to bring forward new homes – while South Cambridgeshire District Council is also making a major investment in the future of Cambourne Business Park. SCIP is a 50:50 partnership between South Cambridgeshire District Council and the Hill Group.

The land on the southern edge of Cambourne Business Park being purchased for £12.9 million by SCIP and is expected to lead to around 275 new homes. 40% of these will be much needed affordable housing. This will include social housing, such as rented accommodation managed by the Council or a Housing Association

Additionally, South Cambridgeshire District Council is purchasing a currently empty plot of land at Cambourne Business Park, which is identified for commercial activity, with a view to completing this part of the Business Park. Key parts of the infrastructure of the Business Park are also being purchased by the Council. The total cost of these two transactions is £1.4 million. These deals represent a direct and long-term investment into this local community – establishing Cambourne as one of Cambridgeshire's prime business locations and playing an important part in our administration's commitment to bringing forward new homes that are truly affordable to live-in.

The first site comprises 19.2 acres of brownfield residential land to the south of the access road and is allocated in the District Council's current adopted Local Plan for residential and employment use. It has the potential to deliver around 275 new homes, with 40% affordable. The second site, being purchased just by South Cambridgeshire District Council, comprises 2.77 acres adjacent to South Cambridgeshire Hall, with detailed planning consent for 48,000 sq. ft of office space, set within the Cambridge Compass Enterprise Zone area.

Bill Handley and Dawn Percival, June 2021 Cllr.handley@scambs.gov.uk 01954 200287

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Twitter: @bill_handley55