

MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall on Wednesday 15th February 2023 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Terry Sadler, Cllr Steven Heaney, Cllr William Wombwell, Leanne Smith (Clerk)
District & County Cllr Peter McDonald

Cllr Sadler volunteered to Chair the meeting in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair.

158/22-23 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies received ahead of the meeting from Cllr Sian Wombwell, Cllr Edmund Harcourt, Cllr Tim Pavelin, Cllr Lucy Davidson, Cllr Philly Hamilton and Cllr Simon Cheney.

159/22-23 Councillors Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None.

160/22-23 Open Forum for Public Participation Including Youth Representation

None.

161/22-23 To approve minutes of meeting held on 18th January 2023

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2023 are approved and signed by the Chair.

162/22-23 Matters Arising/Clerk's report

The overgrown vegetation at the Ickleton to Gt Chesterford railway bridge has been cut back.

The bat survey at the Cemetery Chapel is outstanding.

The work on the replacement churchyard gates should be completed this month.

Following the correspondence from Gigaclear last month about installation of full fibre broadband, Cllr Heaney will contact Gigaclear to discuss options for Ickleton.

The Cricket Club were notified of the Parish Councils plan to plant commemorative trees on the recreation field. The club offered some alternative locations that were considered by the Parish Council, however it was resolved that the trees would be planted as originally proposed.

The Parish Council has received one oak tree from the South Cambs District Council 'six free trees scheme' so will not have to purchase one. This will be planted as soon as possible. The ornamental pear trees were not in stock but will be ordered as soon as possible.

166/22-23 Cllr Peter McDonald requested that agenda item 166/22-23 was brought forward so he could leave the meeting early. The meeting agreed to the variation of business on the agenda.

Report received from Cllr Peter McDonald and circulated to Parish Councillors ahead of the meeting. See Appendix A.

South Cambs District Council proposal is to increase Council Tax by £5 per annum, in addition to the relevant amounts required by the precepts of the Parish Councils, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner and the Cambridgeshire Fire Authority. Cambridgeshire County Council proposal is to increase Council Tax by 4.99 per cent comprising of 2.99 per cent Council Tax and 2 per cent adult social care.

In addition to his report, Cllr McDonald stated that Ickleton residents should have received notification of the forthcoming road works on the A505/M11 junction. He is consulting with Highways about the management of the project. Cllr Sadler also noted that works will be carried out at the Whittlesford/Sawston McDonalds roundabout next month.

At last month's meeting Parish Councillors noted the update relating to the Local Plan for Greater Cambridge regarding the likely increase of around 8,200 additional new jobs than previously expected, and the need for certainty around water supplies. Cllr McDonald stated that this is likely to come in the form of another new large development and is unlikely to be near to Ickleton due to the current Wellcome Genome Campus development. Water supply will be a critical issue for any new development proposals.

- 163/22-23 Defibrillator check**
Defibrillator check carried out by the Clerk on 15/2/2023. The Clerk could not access the cabinet. The Clerk will attempt to resolve the issue, but the Parish Council may need to purchase a new cabinet on the advice of the supplier.
- 164/22-23 Traffic and Highways Issues**
- i. **Speedwatch**
Sessions are being carried out as usual.
 - ii. **A505 crash barrier repairs February 2023**
Works are confirmed to start on Monday 20th February 2023. Due to the nature of the works and for safety reasons, lane closures and a speed limit reduction from 50mph to 30mph will be in place for the duration of the works which is programmed to take 10 weeks. These restrictions will be in place 24 hours a day between Hunts Road and the M11 roundabout.
 - iii. **Electric vehicle charging points**
The Parish Council do not own any land in which EV charging points could be installed. Funding is available from South Cambs District Council towards EV charging points at Village Halls. The Parish Council will liaise with the Village Hall Committee. Village Hall Committee members and the Clerk are attending an online EV charging point event hosted by Cambs ACRE and led by Luke Waddington from South Cambridgeshire District Council's Climate and Environment team.
- 165/22-23 Rural Crime Report**
Nothing to report.
- 166/22-23 Reports from County and District Councillors**
The report from County and District Councillor was brought forward to earlier in the meeting.
- 167/22-23 Correspondence Received**
- i. **South Cambs District Council (SCDC) – Delivery of magazine**
Smart Distribution have not been delivering the South Cambs Magazine to Ickleton as per their contract with SCDC. They were directed to redeliver the Winter edition to the Parish in early January 2023. The Spring edition is due at the end of February/beginning of March 2023. A copy will be delivered by Smart Distribution and a second copy will be posted. Therefore, Parishioners should receive the next edition. SCDC are considering the best way forward for future editions and have asked if any Parishioners would like to act as a delivery agent employed by Smart Distribution to deliver the magazines as part of the SCDC contract. The possibility of incorporating delivery of the SCDC magazine with Icene was considered but the delivery dates were not compatible. To carry over to the March 2023 Parish Council meeting for further discussion.
 - ii. **Various – Kings Coronation**
Various organisations and associations have contacted the Parish Council with information and guidance relating to the Kings Coronation. The Parish Council do not have any plans to organise an event. It is not known whether any groups in the Parish are planning an event but no-one has approached the Parish Council about use of the recreation field.
 - iii. **Cambridgeshire County Council - Draft revised Local Validation List Guidance note**
A consultation on the proposed 2023 revision of the Local Validation List for planning applications for the County Council's own development and for waste development will run for 6 weeks from 2nd February 2023 until 16th March 2023. Noted by the Parish Council.
 - iv. **Uttlesford District Council - Notification of Decision Statement, Gt & Lt Chesterford Neighbourhood Plan**
Notification received that Uttlesford District Council resolved to adopt the Great and Little Chesterford Neighbourhood Plan. The Great and Little Chesterford Neighbourhood Plan is now part of the statutory development plan for Uttlesford and will be used (alongside local and national policy) to determine planning applications in the Great and Little Chesterford Neighbourhood area. Noted by the Parish Council.
- 168/22-23 Planning Information**
- i. **For consideration**
Reference: **23/00126/HFUL** and **23/00127/LBC**
Proposal: Construction of brick and flint wall and gates to the front boundary.

Site address: 10 And 12 Frogge Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire

The Parish Council support this application, but note that the information relating to building materials does not specify which mortar will be used. If permission is granted, the Parish Council would ask that it is with a condition that lime mortar be used.

The Parish Council wished to note an amendment to the following application received after the agenda was published:

Reference: **22/05450/HFUL**

Proposal: Replacement windows and door to front side and rear elevations

Site address: 34 Butchers Hill, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire

Amendment: The application remains the same with a description change to include "removal of external cladding on principal elevation, replacing with render".

Noted by the Parish Council who continue to support this application.

ii. **Information only applications**

None.

iii. **Planning Decisions**

Reference: **22/04441/HFUL**

Proposal: Installation of eleven solar PV panels on roof.

Site address: 36 Abbey Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire

Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **22/03827/HFUL**

Proposal: Part single storey, part two storey rear extension and velux roof windows to front elevation.

Site address: 10 Church Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, CB10 1SL

Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **22/1406/TTCA**

Proposal: Gleditsia - 2m crown reduction Portuguese laurel - remove tree to near ground level

Maple 1 - Remove tree to near ground level (not red Norway Maple) - Self set tree Maple 2 -

Remove tree to near ground level (not red Norway Maple) - Self set tree Maple 3 - Remove tree

to near ground level (not red Norway Maple) - Self set tree affecting flint wall Elder - Remove

tree to near ground level - Self set tree affecting flint wall Ash - Remove tree to near ground level

- Self set tree affecting flint wall Cherry - Remove tree to near ground level

Site address: 30 Abbey Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire

Have no objection to. Noted by the Parish Council.

iv. **Planning Appeals**

None.

v. **Tree Works**

None.

169/22-23 Wellcome Genome Campus Expansion update

The next Community Liaison Meeting will be held on the 8th of March 2023.

170/22-23 Boro Farm Aggregate site

Reference: **ESS/112/22/UTT**

Certificate of Lawfulness for an existing use for aggregates and aggregate creation by way of screening, storage, importation and distribution.

Permission refused. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **ESS/109/22/UTT**

Change of use of land to allow the construction of a recycled aggregate production facility including storage bays and HGV parking.

The determination deadline is the 1st of March 2023.

171/22-23 Reports from Councillors

Cllr Sadler:

After several years of reporting a dangerous tree on Frogge Street to Highways, they eventually accepted nearly two years ago that the tree was indeed on land forming part of the highway and was therefore their responsibility. They agreed to have a tree surgeon assess and arrange removal if necessary, and the tree has now been removed.

Cllr Wombwell:

Following on from a discussion at last month's meeting, Cllr William Wombwell proposed, Cllr Heaney seconded and it was resolved that 30 plastic bollards would be purchased for various locations in the Parish. ACTION – Clerk to source suppliers and costs.

172/22-23

Financial Matters

i. To approve payments of February 2023 accounts:

Clerk's salary (confidential)

Clerk's expenses – £57.50

Tim Pavelin (empty bins) – £80.00

Citadel Solutions (Internet security and domain hosting) - £96.60

Dominic Pallett (Maintenance) - £155.00

Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management (Membership) - £95.00

An invoice was received after the publication of the agenda and brought to the meeting for consideration:

Shaggy Dog Ltd (Website domain renewal) - £20.12

It was resolved that all the payments listed be made

ii. Bank reconciliation (bank accounts)

Unity Current Account - £15,273.53

Unity Instant Access Account - £25,244.50

Total - £40,518.03

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for January 2023 is approved by the Parish Council.

iii. Bank reconciliation (cash card)

Total - £207.10

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for January 2023 is approved by the Parish Council.

173/22-23

Recreation Field and Play Area

i. Relocation of hedging

Cllr William Wombwell proposed, Cllr Heaney seconded and it was resolved that the hedging would be relocated to various locations around the Parish to be used to fill gaps in existing hedging.

174/22-23

Cemetery

i. Memorial application

Memorial application received for a replacement memorial in the old part of Ickleton Cemetery. The applicant also asked for permission to be granted for an additional interment of ashes in the future. Cllr Heaney proposed, Cllr Sadler seconded and it was resolved that the application and permission be approved.

ii. Cemetery/Churchyard inspection

The annual inspection of the Cemetery and Churchyard has been carried out by Mr David Lilley. There is no significant deterioration in the Cemetery but a memorial in the Churchyard may need some restoration work. ACTION – Clerk to make enquiries regarding restoration of the memorial. Once again, the Parish Council is grateful for Mr Lilley's assistance.

175/22-23

Policy and procedure

i. Review Risk Assessment

This item will be carried over to the March 2023 Parish Council meeting due to the absence of Councillors.

ii. Review Burial Board fees

This item will be carried over to the March 2023 Parish Council meeting due to the absence of Councillors.

176/22-23

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday 15th March 2023

Any business and payments to be considered at the Parish Council Meeting must be delivered to the Clerk for inclusion on the agenda at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Report for Parish Councils – Feb 2023.

South Cambs District Council

Budgeting & Council Tax

The proposal is to approve an increase in the District element of the Council Tax of £5 per annum, giving an average Band D Council Tax of £165.31, plus the relevant amounts required by the precepts of the Parish Councils, Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Commissioner, and the Cambridgeshire Fire Authority. The £5 is part of the 3 yr business plan.

<https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s130235/General%20Fund%20Revenue%20Budget%202023-2024%20V2%20-%20Report%20For%20Cabinet.pdf>

Key Amnesty for Council Houses

Anyone misusing Council properties is being offered a one-off opportunity to return their keys without facing criminal proceedings during a month-long crackdown by South Cambridgeshire District Council. A Key Amnesty campaign called #DoTheRightThing is taking place across the district during February to give tenants the opportunity to voluntarily hand in their keys, for a limited time, with the promise of no further action being taken.

The campaign is targeting people who:

- Have provided false information on application forms for housing.
- Anyone illegally subletting, where the tenant moves out then rents the property to someone else, usually at a higher rent.
- Right To Buy fraud, where people do not meet the criteria to buy their property but make false applications to benefit from a discount.
- Tenants who fail to use the property as the only or principal home as well as those who abandon homes without following the proper process.

It is hoped the campaign will also provide an opportunity to raise awareness among people who moved out of Council properties to create a family bubble during the Covid pandemic, who wish to remain living with relatives. They may now realise they no longer require their Council home and wish to hand in their keys, enabling another family to come out of temporary accommodation or off the housing waiting list. Additionally, the campaign is encouraging anyone who suspects housing fraud to report it to the District Council using the online form or emailing fraud@scambs.gov.uk.

#DoTheRightThing runs across South Cambridgeshire District from 1 to 28 February. Keys should be handed in to South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne CB23 6EA, in an envelope containing the property address. No more questions will be asked.

Good news on Funding for Housing

The Council has been awarded £4.5 million as part of the Government's Local Authority Housing Fund. The funding, which will run over this financial year and into 2023-24 is to help the Council to acquire 30 additional homes. These will initially be used to accommodate refugees from Ukraine and Afghanistan, but when they are no longer needed for this purpose, the homes will be available through the housing waiting list (as council houses).

More frequent battery recycling collections

Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire households can now conveniently recycle used, small batteries weekly, thanks to changes to waste collections. Adjustments to bin lorries mean that small plastic bags containing used batteries can now simply be left on top of green, black or blue bins for collection by crews on their usual rounds.

Previously, residents of both areas were asked to tie a small bag containing used batteries onto the handles of their blue bin. Now, they can simply put used batteries inside a small plastic bag, tie it up, and leave that bag on top of any of their three bins when they put it out for collection.

Residents of flats with shared bins should not leave batteries on these but can take them to one of the many public battery collection points at corner shop chains, supermarkets, chemists and petrol stations as well as those at recycling points and Household Recycling Centres. Visit Recycle Now to see all locations. Most small common household portable batteries can be placed out for collection at the kerbside, including:

- AA and AAA
- C and D
- Button cells

Please do not include mobile phone, laptop batteries or those that are attached to a device. Search online for ‘recycle small electrical items’ instead. Greater Cambridge Shared Waste collects recycling and rubbish from around 128,000 households across the city of Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire.

New funding for defibrillators

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has announced £1 million of funding to increase the number of automated external defibrillators in communities – providing an estimated 1,000 new defibrillators in community spaces in England. DHSC will invest the funding through an independent partner who will manage grant applications from bidding organisations. Those selected will be asked to match the funding they receive fully or partially, potentially doubling the number of new defibrillators created by the fund.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/number-of-defibrillators-to-be-increased-with-newfunding>
<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/every-school-will-have-a-life-saving-defibrillator-by-2223>

Homes for Ukraine: Hosts still needed for guests already in South Cambridgeshire

Hosts are still desperately needed across South Cambridgeshire to support families who have already arrived from Ukraine, with hosts eligible to receive up to £500 a month as a thank you payment. Around 770 people from Ukraine have already arrived in South Cambridgeshire and with the war continuing - and it not being safe for many families to return - there is an ongoing demand to provide them with a safe place to stay. Under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, hosts sign up to provide a home to guests for a minimum of six months. However, around 20% of current hosts are not able to continue past that initial six-month point. It means that guests who have been staying with them would benefit from alternative accommodation locally, so they can continue to build on the relationships and community connections they have already been able to make. Hosts receive comprehensive support from the District Council, along with a £350 monthly Government ‘Thank you’ payment. The District Council also offers an additional opt-in monthly payment to hosts of £150. This takes the total host payment to £500 per month. Anyone who can offer a spare room and warm welcome is being asked to text ROOM to 88802 so the Council can support them through the process and match hosts to guests who have already started to settle in the local area.

New “Energy Bills Discount Scheme” for businesses announced

On 9 January the government announced a new energy scheme for businesses, charities, and the public sector, ahead of the current scheme ending in March. The scheme will mean that all eligible UK businesses and other non-domestic energy users will receive a discount on high energy bills until 31 March 2024.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/chancellor-unveils-new-energy-bills-discountscheme-for-businesses>

Factsheet:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1b7FEXiILaj4oG5pGOW4QqeFvFwIb3o18/view?usp=share_link

Correspondence:

<https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/>

Cambridgeshire County Report

Budgeting & Council Tax 2023

The proposed budget which will now be put to all Members to consider at Full Council on February 7th, seeks to bridge a potential funding gap for the coming year of £21.4m, even after finding more than £10m of additional savings or income, in the face of levels of inflation not seen for 40 years plus rising costs for energy and essential services. The budget includes:

- £1m to continue free school meal vouchers for eligible children,
- £1m into highways schemes including rural roads drainage,
- £1m investment into flood mitigation,
- more than £1.3m into libraries,
- £380k investment in community services.

The proposal which will be put to Full Council is to set a balanced budget for 2023/24 through a mix of savings, use of one-off reserves, and the generation of additional income including a council tax rise for the coming year to 4.99% comprising 2.99% C Tax and 2% Adults social care. This would see band D properties in the county paying an additional £73 per year, although more than half (64%) of county lives in homes rated band C or below and would see rises of between £49 and £65 per year.

In total this would raise £17.8m towards setting a legally balanced budget for 2023/4 – and would help to mitigate the additional costs of demand for, and inflation related to, adult social care costs forecast by the council in the year ahead.

Over the next five years, additional improvements the business plan looks to deliver include.

- £122m for new primary school places
- £164m for new secondary school places
- £13.3m investment into converting streetlights to LED, delivering both environmental and financial benefits
- £2.5m into a new highways materials recycling operation

A £7.2m upgrade to the March and Milton Household recycling

The business plan can be found here [A4 Portrait-black & white \(cmis.uk.com\)](https://cmis.uk.com)

Bus Services & Precept

At the Combined Authority Board meeting on 25 January the Board approved the Mayor's draft budget for 2023/24 incorporating a Mayoral General Precept to support buses across our region. The Mayoral General Precept, will be an annual charge of £12 for a band D property and, based on forecasts from collection authorities would raise £3.6m in 2023-24.

The precept is in response to the financial pressure facing the Combined Authority across its supported bus services. Stagecoach withdrew from 18 bus routes and reduced a further 5 citing that declining bus travel compounded by the pandemic made these routes financially unsustainable.

The cost of the services is considerably higher than they were previously, reflecting the substantial increase in fuel, energy, and driver costs that are facing the public transport industry at large. The cost of the services is considerably higher than they were previously, reflecting the substantial increase in fuel, energy, and driver costs that are facing the public transport industry at large. This pressure is expected to continue, and the forecast costs of sustaining the currently supported service are £7m in 2022-23, compared to an existing budget of only £3.5m.

Households to get new cost-of-living payments from spring 2023

The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) has announced more detail on the payment schedule for the next round of cost-of-living support unveiled in the Chancellor's Autumn Statement on 17 November. The £900 payment for over eight million eligible means-tested benefits claimants (including those on Universal Credit, Pension Credit and tax credits) starts in spring. Payments will go directly to bank accounts in three payments over the course of the financial year. There will also be a separate £150 for

over six million disabled people and £300 for over eight million pensioners on top of their winter fuel payment. Payments will be made automatically if individuals are eligible and there will be no need to apply. Claimants who are eligible for any of the cost-of-living payments and receive tax credits, and no other means-tested benefits, will receive payment from HM Revenue and Customs shortly after DWP payments are issued.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/millions-of-low-income-households-to-get-new-costof-living-payments-from-spring-2023>

Great Chesterford Hardcore Site : ESS/109/22/UTT

This was refused. Planning Appeal:

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=3306988&CoID=0>

Peter McDonald

Feb 5th 2023