

MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Held in the Gordon Woolhouse Meeting Room, Ickleton Village Hall on Wednesday 15th June 2022 starting at 7.30pm

Present: Cllr Sian Wombwell, Cllr Terry Sadler, Cllr Tim Pavelin, Cllr Simon Cheney, Cllr Philly Hamilton, Cllr Steven Heaney, Cllr Edmund Harcourt, Cllr Lucy Davidson (in attendance at 8.22pm) and Leanne Smith (Clerk)

Two Parishioners were in attendance.

021/22-23 To Receive Apologies for Absence

Cllr William Wombwell – apologies received ahead of the meeting.

022/22-23 Councillors Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda & Requests for Dispensation

Cllr Pavelin – Agenda item 033/22-23 i

Cllr Harcourt - Agenda item 035/22-23 i

Cllr Harcourt requested a dispensation for agenda item 035/22-23 i. so that he could participate in the discussion. His request was granted by the Parish Council.

023/22-23 Open Forum for Public Participation Including Youth Representation

A Parishioner was in attendance to speak about agenda item 030/22-23 i. She requested support and assistance in establishing responsibility for the maintenance of the road and verges at the Ickleton to Great Chesterford railway bridge. She has spent the last two years corresponding with Cambridgeshire County Council, Essex County Council, Network Rail and Ickleton and Great Chesterford Parish Councils without any progress. Cllr Peter McDonald has been contacted about the matter and is arranging a visit to the site with Cambridgeshire Highways. ACTION – Clerk to submit a report on Essex County Council Highways website and liaise with Cllr McDonald regarding the site visit and to request that his Essex counterpart is invited to attend.

024/22-22 To approve minutes of meeting held on 18th May 2022

It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th May 2022 are approved and signed by the Chair.

025/22-23 Matters Arising & Clerks Report

The Clerk's report was circulated to Parish Councillors ahead of the meeting.

The quote for repairing the play area swing mats has not been received to date. ACTION – Clerk to request a quote from elsewhere.

The Abbey Street bollards haven't been installed to date. ACTION – Clerk to make contact with Dominic Pallett to enquire.

The play area bark was levelled but Cllr Pavelin proposed that it should be topped up. ACTION – for discussion at the July 2022 Parish Council meeting.

All Councillor administration required after the election has been completed.

026/22-23 Defibrillator check

Defibrillator check carried out by the Clerk on 15/6/2022.

027/22-23 Traffic and Highways Issues

i. Speedwatch

Speedwatch sessions have been conducted as usual. A Councillor asked if the Moveable Vehicle Activated Speed machine could be moved as it has remained in situ on Frogge Street since before covid. ACTION - Cllr Sadler will share contact details for the relevant person for the Clerk to contact.

028/22-23 Rural Crime Report

Nothing to report.

029/22-23 Reports from County and District Councillors

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

A Parish Councillor noted that Cllr Peter McDonald has been appointed the Lead Cabinet Member for Economic Development with responsibilities for business support, skills, and transport.

030/22-23 Correspondence Received

i. Parishioner – maintenance of road and verges at the Ickleton to Great Chesterford railway bridge.

This agenda item was discussed in the open forum for public participation 023/22-23.

ii. **Cambridgeshire County Council - Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme**

During the summer school holidays, eligible children and young people can attend a participating holiday scheme or childminder for free for up to 64 hours with daily lunch and snacks provided. ACTION – Clerk to include in Icene.

iii. **Wellcome Genome Campus – Science and Sport Fun Day 9th July 2022**

Science and Sport Fun Day featuring the Commonwealth Games Queen’s Baton Relay on Saturday 9th July from 12:30-7:30pm at the Wellcome Genome Campus.

There will be a range of local entertainment, locally-sourced food and crafts, fairground rides and lots of science and sporting activities. A family fun run with races throughout the afternoon is available to book.

A limited number of free tickets are available, which are required to enter the event, issued on a first come first served basis. Please book your tickets here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/science-and-sport-fun-day-tickets-347943697967>

Accessible parking only is available at the Wellcome Genome Campus and blue badge holders will be required to display their badge. All other parking is available at the Babraham Research Campus and a free park and ride service. Pedestrian access to the event is available for those within walking distance of the Campus. No dogs are allowed. ACTION – Clerk to include in Icene.

031/22-23 **Planning Information**

i. **For consideration**

Reference: 22/02056/HFUL

Proposal: Installation of 3no. new windows, 3no. replacement windows, 1no. new roof light, replacement front door and replacement of front boundary fence with wall.

Site address: 14 Brookhampton Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, CB10 1SP

The Parish Council unanimously support this application.

ii. **Information only applications**

None.

iii. **Planning Decisions**

Reference: 22/01388/LBC

Proposal: Listed building consent for woodworm treatment to timber structure in cellar, making good works for alterations and upgrades to mechanical and electrical services, lifting of floorboards, new bathroom and internal alterations.

Site address: 18 Church Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SL.

Application withdrawn due to the Conservation Officer's comments, for the application to be reviewed and re-submitted with revised drawings and documentation. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: 22/0437/TTCA

Proposal: 2 X ASH in rear garden - Shorten lateral spread above garage roof by approx. 3m and shape into remainder of canopy. Shorten over-extended limb in middle crown on house side by approx 3m and shape into remainder of canopy. COLLAPSED WILLOW - Coppice on all sides.

Site address: The River House, Church Street, Ickleton, Saffron Walden.

Have no objection to. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: 21/03276/NMA1

Proposal: Non material amendment of planning permission 21/03276/FUL (Demolition of dwelling No. 12 Frogge Street) to amend the wording of condition 4 to omit the words - to 12 Frogge St.

Site address: 12 Frogge Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, CB10 1SH

Granted permission. Noted by the Parish Council.

iv. **Planning Appeals**

None.

v. **Tree Works**

Reference: 22/0611/TTCA

Proposal: Cherry tree located in the front garden within close proximity to the main

dwelling. Crown Reduction approx 30% or 2m back to where it was previously cut.

Site address: 6 Frogge Street, Ickleton, Cambridgeshire, CB10 1SH.

Noted by the Parish Council who did not object to the application.

032/22-23

Reports from Councillors

Cllr Sadler:

- The Project Director from Urban and Civic has not been able to attend a Parish Council meeting to update the Parish Council about the Wellcome Genome Campus expansion. Cllr Sadler proposed that the invitation is postponed until after the summer and the other Councillors were in agreement.
- Cllr Sadler will write to a Parishioner of Great Chesterford on behalf of the Parish Council to thank her for informing the Parish Council of the planning application at Boro Farm, Great Chesterford.

Reference: UTT/00/1280/CC

Proposal: Consultation on Essex County Council application ESS/20/22/UTT - Change of use of land to allow the construction of a recycled aggregate production facility including storage bays and HGV parking.

ACTION – Clerk to include details of the planning application in Icene.

- Greater Cambridgeshire Planning has contacted Cllr Sadler asking him to review comments submitted on behalf of the Parish Council relating to the New Local Plan process. All comments made on November and December 2021 had been published online. Cllr Sadler will review the comments. Next steps to be taken in the process will be decided and announced by SCDC shortly.

Cllr Davidson:

- Reported that parishioners have noted that the field next to the recreation field has been fenced. Parish Councillors were not aware the reason. Some thought that only the field entrance had been partly fenced.

033/22-23

Financial Matters

i. To approve payments of June 2022 accounts

Clerk's salary (confidential)

Clerk's expenses – £57.50

Tim Pavelin (empty bins) - £80.00

ECL (Icene printing January and February 2022) - £240.00

South Cambs District Council (2022 Election) - £135.00

E&E Plumridge (Icene printing – June 2022) - £131.00

Mijan Ltd (Internal audit) - £75.00

The following invoice was received after the agenda was published but brought to the meeting for consideration:

Red Shoes Accounting (Payroll) - £46.80

It was resolved that all the payments listed be made.

ii. Bank reconciliation (bank accounts)

Unity Current - £21,421.72

Unity Instant Access Account - £25,103.28

Total - £46,525.00

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for May 2022 is approved by the Parish Council.

iii. Bank reconciliation (cash card)

Total - £ 157.39

It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for May 2022 is approved by the Parish Council.

iv. Allocation of budget - preparation for potential expansion of cemetery chapel

Parish Councillors were in agreement that money should be earmarked for the cemetery extension. It will be discussed further at a later date when estimated costs have been established. The Parish Council will give consideration to borrowing the money rather than spending from reserves.

v. Contribution to the Village Hall solar panel project

The Parish Council agreed at the May 2022 Parish Council meeting to make a contribution of at least £1,000.00 to the Village Hall Solar Panel project but would request more detail about Village Hall funds and other contributions. The Village Hall has provided more detail and a representative from the Committee attended the meeting. The cost of the project is estimated to be around £17,000. The Committee is likely to apply for a grant of around £8,500. Ickleton Open Gardens 2022 have agreed to donate 50 per cent of their profits which is expected to amount to approximately £3,500.

The Parish Council were unanimous in deciding to make a contribution but due to differing opinions took a vote on the amount.

A contribution of £3,000 was proposed. Cllr Sadler, Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Pavelin and Cllr Heaney voted in favour.

A contribution of £2,000 was proposed. Cllr Sian Wombwell, Cllr Cheney, Cllr Davidson and Cllr Harcourt voted in favour.

The Chair had a casting vote but instead proposed a contribution of £2,500. Cllr Sadler, Cllr Cheney, Cllr Heaney, Cllr Pavelin and Cllr Hamilton voted in favour. Cllr Davidson and Cllr Harcourt did not vote in favour. With a majority vote, it was resolved that the Parish Council would make a contribution of £2,500.

The two Parishioners present left the meeting.

vi. Quote to treat woodworm at Cemetery Chapel

Two quotes have been requested but have not been provided to date. To be carried over to the July 2022 Parish Council meeting.

vii. Quote for replacement Churchyard gates

Quote received from Chip and Chisel for £10,440.00. The quote has been shared with the Church for their consideration. A second quote from Adrian Green was requested but not provided in time for the meeting. A third quote will be obtained. A Parish Councillor suggested the Council considers whether gates are needed and should be replaced, but the general consensus was that they should be. ACTION – Cllr Sian Wombwell to liaise with church wardens to ascertain their views. The Parish Council were asked to consider annual maintenance if the gates are replaced.

viii. The Hundred Parishes grant application

Parish Councils and other organisations who have long-standing membership of the Hundred Parishes Society have been invited to apply for funding support towards a project that is consistent with their charitable aims. It was resolved at the May 2022 Parish Council meeting that Ickleton Parish would submit an application for funding towards the cost of the woodworm treatment in the Cemetery Chapel, however a quote has not yet been obtained.

It was therefore resolved that the Parish Council would instead submit an application for £3,000 towards the replacement Churchyard gates. ACTION – Clerk to submit application.

ix. Review Icene advertising fees

Due to differing opinions a vote was taken on the proposal to increase the fees by 10 per cent. Three Councillors voted in favour of the proposed increase, five Councillors voted against the proposed increase and it was therefore resolved that the fees would remain the same.

x. Building valuations

Costs for carrying out a valuation of the Cemetery Chapel and wall have been obtained by the Clerk as follows:

Cambridge Surveyors - £400.00

Richard Baker Surveyors - £400.00

Norris and Fisher (online valuation) - £100.00

The Clerk requested a cost from Ecclesiastical but did not receive one.

Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Davidson seconded and it was resolved that a valuation would be carried out by Richard Baker Surveyors on the basis of recommendation by another Clerk.
ACTION – Clerk to make arrangements.

xi. Purchase of a laminator

Cllr Sadler has offered the Clerk use of his personal laminator for Parish Council business.

034/22-23 Annual Governance and Accountability Return 2020-21

i. To receive the Internal Audit Report

Internal Audit Report received and circulated to the Parish Council ahead of the meeting. Matters for attention were discussed and noted.

ii. To approve Annual Governance Statement

The Annual Governance Statement was circulated to Parish Councillors ahead of the meeting. It was resolved by unanimous agreement that the Annual Governance Statement as presented by the Clerk is approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chair and Clerk.

iii. To approve Annual Accounting Statement

The Annual Accounting Statement was circulated to Parish Councillors ahead of the meeting. It was resolved by unanimous agreement that the Annual Accounting Statement as presented by the Clerk is approved by the Parish Council and signed by the Chair.

iv. To confirm date of Exercise of Electors Rights

The date of Exercise of Electors Rights will be Monday 20th June 2022 to Friday 29th July 2022. Noted by the Parish Council.

035/22-23 Recreation Field and Play Area

i. Cricket club – various matters for discussion

All-weather net:

The club would like to construct an all-weather practice net to replace the current one. The cost is likely to be between 20 and 30K and the Cricket Club will make a funding bid to an English Cricket Board related funding pot. They need permission from the Parish Council, as well as planning permission before they can proceed. The Cricket Club will consult Parishioners and stake out the proposed area for Councillors to see before the next Parish Council meeting.

Ickleton Lodge Boundary netting:

The occupants of Ickleton Lodge have requested that netting is installed to stop cricket balls going into the garden. The estimated cost is £6,000. The occupants have offered to make a contribution. The Cricket Club has obtained legal advice and will carry out a risk assessment by a suitably qualified person.

Basket Ball court:

The location of the court is currently within the normal boundary of the cricket pitch, so the club has to adjust the boundary rope, shortening the boundary at that point. The court is considered a danger for anyone fielding in that position. The club would like to organise the moving of the court to a position that doesn't impact on the playing area. The Cricket Club is therefore asking if the Parish Council would support the moving of the court and if they would make a financial contribute towards the costs, which are likely to be in the region of 12 – 14K. The Cricket Club will consult Parishioners in the first instance.

New hedging planted on the recreation field:

The Cricket Club have stated that the newly planted hedging is likely to have an impact on play due to an increased number of lost balls, a reduction in the size of the playing area and the risk of injury. The Cricket Club is therefore asking if it is possible to relocate the new hedging. The Parish Council agreed to remove the bamboo canes in the short term. If the hedging is moved it will not be done until the winter and so the Parish Council will decide whether it is removed at a later date.

ii. Completion of outdoor table tennis project

Parish Councillors report that the table is being used, but that bats and balls have already gone missing. It was resolved that more bats and balls will be purchased. ACTION - Cllr Cheney will ask if bats and balls can be kept at the Costcutter shop rather than the pub.

036/22-23 Cemetery extension

CLLr Cheney has made contact with CLLr McDonald to discuss planning. Letters have been sent to landowners. CLLr Cheney will have a further discussion with one landowner.

037/22-23 Church quinquennial report

The Quinquennial Inspection was carried out by Stephanie Norris on Thursday 3rd March 2022. The inspection report was circulated to Parish Councillors ahead of the meeting. The Parish Council noted the need to remove ivy within the Churchyard. ACTION – Clerk to notify the gardeners.

038/22-23 Queens Jubilee Celebrations

The Parish Council wishes to express thanks to all those involved in Ickleton's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, including Dilip and Sunita who acted as the box office for the ticketed events.

039/22-23 Councillor training

Councillors were reminded of the training available to them provided by Cambridge and Peterborough Association of Local Clerks.

040/22-23 Motion to exclude Public and Press for agenda item 041/22-23

Since there were no public or press at the meeting and only Council members in attendance, there was no need for a Motion to Exclude to be passed before discussion of item 041/22-23 but separate, more detailed and confidential minutes will be produced.

041/22-23 Clerks' appraisal and salary review

The Clerk left the meeting and returned after the Councillors' discussion and decision. An annual appraisal was carried out with the Clerk by the Parish Council Chair Sian Wombwell on 8/6/2022. CLLr Wombwell provided feedback to the other Councillors and the Clerks performance and salary were discussed. It was proposed and resolved to advance the Clerks salary with immediate effect.

**042/22-23 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
Wednesday 20th July 2022**

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 10.43pm

Appendix A

Report for Parish Councils – June 2022

South Cambs District Council

Elections & New S Cambs Cabinet

I am very honoured to have been re-elected. The new Cabinet was announced at the Full Council. I have been asked again to become Cabinet Member for business.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/new-council-cabinet-and-appointments-confirmed/>

Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: Visa data by country, upper and lower tier local authority

DLUHC has today (1 June), published visa data received from the Home Office by local authority in separate tables for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland as of 30 May 2022. Tables also include data relating to visas sponsored by the Scottish Government and Welsh Government. This is an ad-hoc release of management information and does not constitute an Official Statistics or National Statistics release. It relates to Ukraine Family Scheme and Ukraine Sponsorship Scheme: visa data published by the Home Office.

Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ukraine-sponsorship-scheme-visa-data-by-country-upper-and-lower-tier-local-authority>

In S Cambs we have c.50 officers working on this as we currently have the highest number of Ukrainian sponsored families in UK.

Homes for Ukraine: Updated guidance for councils

DLUHC has written to all Local Authority Chief Executives in England about a cohort of applicants whose sponsors have been unsuitable, and how they will support them to find new sponsors. They have also updated the guidance for councils to include some more detailed information on sponsor suitability. The guidance has also been updated for sponsors with regard to eligibility, additional information you should know about being an approved sponsor and adapting to life in the UK.

Council guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-guidance-for-councils>

Sponsor guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-sponsor-guidance>

Launch of our Markets Toolkit

As part of our commitment to grow the local economy, support businesses and ensure a rich and diverse choice of products is widely available to our residents, our Business Support Team has launched an online Markets Toolkit with two directories to encourage and support local communities in setting up their own markets. Markets are often community cornerstones, enabling social experiences and sitting at the heart of local commerce, helping emerging businesses whilst feeding money back into our communities. We already have a number of successful local markets, but we believe there is scope for many more. The online toolkit gives lots of useful information on how to go about setting up a market, while the directories detail local markets and local stallholders. We hope both directories will grow quickly.

More information is available here Council launches online toolkit to help local villages and towns set up markets.

<https://www.scambsgov.uk/council-launches-online-toolkit-to-help-local-villages-and-towns-set-up-markets/>

Planning Update from Chief Planner

The Government writes to Heads of Planning from time to time. Here is the latest missive especially on permitted development rights:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1080291/Chief_Planners_Newsletter_May_2022__2_.pdf

30days30waysUK' resilience preparedness campaign

Councils and their local resilience partners are being encouraged to sign up to participate in the 2022 round of the '30days30waysUK' resilience preparedness campaign. Many councils and local resilience forums (LRFs) have previously participated in the campaign, and all areas are being encouraged to take part this year. The 2022 draft programme has just been released and final programme will be published on 1 August. 30days30waysUK is open and free to join.

More information: <https://www.30days30waysuk.org.uk/partners/>

Sign-up: <https://www.30days30waysuk.org.uk/join/>

Draft programme: https://30days30waysuk.org.uk/docs/2022Programme_draft.pdf

Local resilience forums: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-role-of-local-resilience-forums-a-reference-document>

Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay

The Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay is confirmed to visit the Wellcome Genome Campus during its final journey through England this summer, as the full route is revealed.

The Queen's Baton Relay is set to travel the length and breadth of England for a total of 29 days, before culminating at the Opening Ceremony for Birmingham 2022 on 28 July 2022. Kicking off on Thursday 2 June, the Baton will spend four days in London, coinciding with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend. The Baton will then resume the international journey and return to England on Monday 4 July to commence a 25-day tour of the regions.

On 9 July 2022, the Wellcome Genome Campus in Hinxton, will officially welcome the Baton. Later that day, the relay will continue on to the city of Cambridge.

During its time in South Cambridgeshire, the Baton will first pass through the Wellcome Genome Campus, where an event will be held to bring together local communities to celebrate the Baton

relay, science and sport. The Wellcome Genome Campus is home to multiple institutes and companies, including the Wellcome Sanger Institute and EMBL's European Bioinformatics Institute (EMBL-EBI), which champion genome and biodata research. The Campus is a hub of research and industry, translating science into tangible societal benefits.

The ticketed free event, a collaboration between the Wellcome Genome Campus and South Cambridgeshire District Council, will bring together local communities, school children and Campus staff, and will have a range of entertainment, locally sourced food vendors, plus science and sporting activities. There will be a range of activities for children and families to explore areas of the genetic research that takes place on the Campus. As well as this, there will be a variety of sports games, a family fun run, and local talent providing entertainment, including performances from nearby sports groups.

Representatives from various local groups and communities will be invited to attend the free ticketed event at the Wellcome Genome Campus and more information will be provided in the coming months.

Cambridgeshire County Report

Useful NHS video on the new Integrated Care Services

The NHS is in the process of enormous transformation which will require it to work closely with local authorities and the voluntary sector from 1st July 2022 when it will become statutory. This is in recognition that services are very fragmented and confusing and that change is needed to improve outcomes for people. To explain a little more about these changes please follow the link <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/audio-video/how-does-nhs-in-england-work>

The Community Ownership Fund updated prospectus and webinars

DLUHC has published a new prospectus for the Community Ownership Fund ahead of round 2 of the fund opening in June. The £150m Fund helps communities across England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland to take ownership of assets and amenities at risk of closure. From July 2021, community groups have been able to bid for up to £250k matched-funding to help them buy or take over local community assets at risk of being lost, to run as community-owned businesses. In exceptional cases, up to £1m matched-funding is available to help establish a community-owned sports club or help buy a sports ground at risk of being lost without community intervention. DLUHC has today published an updated prospectus ahead of the fund opening for Expression of Interest (EOI) applications to round 2 on 10 June. DLUHC has made some changes to the eligibility requirements and application process for the fund having learnt lessons from the review of the first bidding round. These changes will be explained in the updated Community Ownership Fund prospectus. Further supporting guidance will be published once the fund has opened for full applications later in June. In order to promote the fund and to explain to any prospective applicants what is required in order to submit a strong bid, DLUHC officials will be hosting webinars on 8 and 16 June. Councils are encouraged to promote these events with any groups who would be interested in attending and share the link to the form below so that DLUHC can forward on an invite. DLUHC will also be making a recording of the event for those unable to attend a webinar, which can be sent on request using the same form.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/eligibility-for-community-ownership-fund-expanded>

Prospectus:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/community-ownership-fund-prospectus>

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/new-levelling-up-and-community-investments#the-community-ownership-fund>

Webinar Registration Form:

<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=EGg0v32c3kOociSi7zmVqLXwFDTckQdPuYzTs-INwH5UMFRUNTIMWEcyQzBNNUxRNkpSMVZONEIOOC4u>

Cost of Living Payment guidance

On 26 May the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) published guidance on getting an extra payment to help with the cost of living for those entitled to certain benefits or tax credits. Individuals do not need to apply, if they're eligible, they'll be paid automatically. The payments are not taxable and will not affect the benefits or tax credits you get. Councils are encouraged to share this information as appropriate.

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/cost-of-living-payment>

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/millions-of-most-vulnerable-households-will-receive-1200-of-help-with-cost-of-living>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/cost-of-living-payment>

Statement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/cost-of-living-support>

Factsheet:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-living-support/cost-of-living-support-factsheet-26-may-2022>

Super market Vouchers

Over 20,000 supermarket vouchers have been sent to families in Cambridgeshire affected by the pandemic and the rising cost of living. The vouchers were automatically sent to eligible families on 27th May in time for the May half term next week.

The County Council's Joint Administration agreed to finance the vouchers regardless of Government funding until the February 2023 half term.

A total of 21,322 vouchers – each valued at £15 for the week - were distributed to eligible children and young people across the county who met agreed criteria. The voucher does not need to be used in a single shopping trip and once claimed will last for at least a year.

Peter McDonald

June 5th 2022