

## MINUTES OF ICKLETON PARISH COUNCIL

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 starting at 7.30pm. This meeting was held remotely using the software application Zoom.

Present: Cllr Sian Wombwell, Cllr Terry Sadler, Cllr Tim Pavelin, Cllr Simon Cheney, Cllr Hugh Molloy, Cllr Philly Hamilton, Cllr Edmund Heaney, Leanne Smith (Clerk)

District & County Cllr Peter McDonald

**129/20-21 To Receive Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllr Katherine Denman-Johnson.

Cllr Liz Gibson was absent from the meeting.

**130/20-21 Councillors Declaration of Interest for Items on the Agenda & Requests for Dispensation**

Tim Pavelin – Agenda item 140/20-21 ii.

Simon Cheney – Agenda item 138/20-21 iv.

Tim Pavelin - Agenda item 138/20-21 iv.

**131/20-21 Open Forum for Public Participation Including Youth Representation**

None.

**132/20-21 To approve minutes of meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020**

It was **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 are approved and signed by the Chair.

**133/20-21 Matters Arising**

List of outstanding highway repairs in Ickleton was received from Cllr Peter McDonald the day before the meeting. ACTION – Councillors to check the list and report back to Cllr McDonald if any repairs are missing from the list. A Councillor reported a new pot hole at the junction of Birds Close and Coploe Road. ACTION – Clerk to make a new report to Highways.

The Clerk contacted the Tree Officer at South Cambs District Council (SCDC) to request that a tree at 8 Abbey Street is assessed for a Tree Preservation Order (TPO). The response was that as the tree is in the conservation area it has a level of statutory protection and as such SCDC would not seek to serve a TPO on it as well unless it was threatened with inappropriate types or amounts of tree work. In this case they would not put a TPO on the tree at this point but that it could be revisited in the future. The Councillors did not feel satisfied with this response in that inappropriate types or amounts of tree work could be undertaken without the protection of a TPO. They also noted that a planning condition relating to the property stipulated that the tree must be retained. ACTION – Clerk to make further contact with the tree officer to share the views of the Parish Council.

The dead hawthorn tree at the Cemetery has yet to be felled and when completed the Clerk will obtain a quote for the bench to be repositioned.

Contact still to be made with the land owner of the field near to the public footpath between Ickleton and Duxford to discuss hedging to prevent mud on the footpath from the potatoes being lifted. ACTION – Cllr Wombwell to make contact.

**134/20-21 Traffic and Highways Issues**

**i. Speedwatch**

Speed watch has been suspended due to the current national lockdown as advised by Cambridgeshire Constabulary. Prior to the lockdown the wet weather had made it difficult for volunteers to conduct sessions.

**135/20-21 Rural Crime Report**

**i. Report from Cllr Wombwell**

Reported thefts of farm equipment, deer and hare coursing and eight sheep suspected of being killed by a dog in the local area. Cllr Wombwell to discuss in detail with Cllr McDonald.

**ii. Vandalised telephone kiosk on Frogge Street**

A glass panel was smashed at the kiosk. The matter was reported to the police. Nearby villages of Hinxton and Great Chesterford have suffered similar acts of vandalism recently.

**136/20-21 Reports from County and District Councillors**

See Appendix A

Cllr McDonald Spoke specifically about the following:

Business grants are available from South Cambs District Council and businesses are encouraged to check what they are eligible for. ACTION – Clerk to include in Icene and contact local businesses.

He reported the following in addition to his report:

The Greater Cambridge Local Plan have invited Parish Councils to a workshop to explore the emerging evidence base findings and spatial options assessment for the Plan which have recently been published. Of note from the findings are that issues relating to carbon emissions and water supply have been highlighted in this plan.

A County wide test and trace service is launching on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2020. Council Officers will initially make contact by phone, text or email asking people to call a local number, which from earlier experiences in contacting shielded people has been found to be more effective than a contact from a national number. If this fails, the officers who will all carry local authority identification, will make house to house visits to reach those people who have tested positive. They will be given advice and support on how they can stay isolated to break the chain of infection, and prevent it spreading to their household contacts. They will also be asked to share details of others they have been in contact with.

**137/20-21 Correspondence Received**

**i. Uttlesford District Council - consultation on an update to the Statement of Community Involvement.**

Uttlesford District Council is consulting on an update to the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI). This draft Statement of Community Involvement will replace the previous one, adopted in July 2019. In addition, the Council has prepared an Engagement Strategy to support the Statement of Community Involvement. The views from Parish Councils are sought on both the draft SCI and Engagement Strategy. Consultation ends on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020.

Noted by the Parish Council who do not wish to comment at this time.

**ii. Stop Stansted Expansion - Uttlesford District Council consultation on major changes made by Manchester Airports Group to the Environmental Statement for the Stansted Airport Planning Application.**

Correspondence received from SEE to inform the Parish Council that Uttlesford District Council (UDC) consultation on major changes which have recently been made by Manchester Airports Group (MAG) to the Environmental Statement (ES) for the Stansted Airport Planning Application for permission to handle 43 million passengers per annum. The original ES, comprising some 2,000 pages, was published in February 2018 alongside the Planning Application. The recently published "Addendum" to the original ES comprises 880 pages of new information, analysis and assessments of these adverse impacts.

The reason for the arrival of all this new information from MAG is that a Public Inquiry is currently being arranged to (re)consider the Airport Planning Application. The Inquiry is due to start on 12th January 2021. The Inquiry is expected to last for 10-12 weeks.

Stop Stansted Expansion (SSE) will be involved throughout the Inquiry, presenting evidence on all the main topics and, with the help of our QCs, cross-examining MAG's witnesses. The SSE team, supported by external consultants, is currently hard at work preparing its evidence. SSE is keen for there to be as many representations as possible from Parish & Town Councils. Comments should be made by 23rd November 2020.

Cllr Sadler will comment on behalf of the Parish Council.

**iii. Greater Cambridge Local Plan - workshop invitation.**

The Greater Cambridge Local Plan team has invited Parish Councils to a workshop to explore the emerging evidence base findings and spatial options assessment for the Plan which have recently been published. Cllr Wombwell will attend the workshop on behalf of the Parish Council.

**iv. M11/A11 concrete repair scheme November 2020.**

Correspondence from Volkerfitzpatrick to confirm that they will be carrying out repairs to the existing north and south bound concrete road surface along the A11 between junction M11 9A and Ickleton. Work will start on Thursday 19 November 2020 and be completed by Monday 14 December 2020. To minimise disruption, all work will be carried out overnight from 8pm until 6am with a full weekend closure from 8pm Friday 20 November until 6am Monday 23 November. Dependent on weather, additional road closures may be required.

Noted by the Parish Council.

**v. The Community Reach Fund – Supporting Communities Covid Enabler Grant.**

Correspondence received from the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Youth in Communities Team.

The Community Reach Fund (CRF) Supporting Communities Covid Enabler Grant can be given to:

- Community projects that wish to address the needs of children, young people and their families, support vulnerable and marginalised groups or those directly affected by the pandemic in line with Think Communities principles.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communitieslocalism/community-resilience>

- Community projects or initiatives that can be duplicated by community and partner agencies in another geographic area to effect the same outcomes where the need due to Covid is significant and current social capacity does not allow it.

The grant is decided internally through the Youth and Community Coordinators (YCC) Forum and application is via engagement with the YCC and completion of a short application form. Grants of up to £500 can be awarded to enable a community project or initiative to get started.

ACTION – Clerk to share the information in Icene.

**vi. Village Hall car park – fish and chip van proposal.**

Correspondence received from Ocean Tree fish and chip van asking for permission to use the Village Hall car park one evening a week. The Parish Council were in favour but were mindful that it would bring competition to the Public House so therefore suggest that Ocean Tree approach the Public House to discuss a mutually beneficial arrangement. It was noted that the decision lies with the Village Hall Committee.

**vii. Village Hall Wi-Fi installation**

Correspondence from the Village Hall Trustees to inform the Parish Council that they are in the process of arranging for the installation of Wi-fi and following an on-site visit by the Openreach engineer a new pole will need to be installed as the nearest telegraph pole is too far away. This proposal will need to be submitted to South Cambs District Council for consultation. The Parish Council would like make contact with Openreach in the first instance to discuss alternatives to a new pole. ACTION – Clerk to obtain contact details from the Village Hall Committee.

**viii. Planning matter - 130 Frogge Street, Ickleton.**

Correspondence received from the owners to advise the Parish Council that they intend to build a small extension on to an agricultural shed. They have also advised the Planning Department but stated that as the land is agricultural, work can be carried out without consultation and permission. Noted by the Parish Council who will await any response from the Planning Department.

**138/20-21 Planning Information**

**i. For consideration**

Reference: 20/04451/REM

Proposal: Reserved matters for appearance, landscaping and layout following outline planning permission S/0312/18/OL for a detached bungalow.

Site address: Land to The Rear Of 11 Coploe Road, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, Cambridgeshire.

The Parish Council were unanimously in support of this application.

**ii. Planning Decisions**

Reference: **20/03693/LBC**

Proposal: Installation of secondary glazing

Site address: 21 Church Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SL

Applicant: Mr Simon Fawcett

Permission granted by SCDC. Noted by the Parish Council.

Reference: **20/1102/TTPO**

Proposal: Walnut - crown reduce height by 3m, crown reduce spread on all sides by 3m,

shape and balance. This tree is causing damage to the tennis courts and adjacent boundary hedge.

Site address: 8 Mill Lane, Ickleton, CB10 1SW

Applicant: Mr Owen

Permission granted by SCDC. Noted by the Parish Council.

iii. Planning Appeals

None.

iv. Tree Works

Reference: **20/2236/TTCA**

Proposal: Sycamore - 30 percent reduction in the crown so that it stands about 10 metres high by 6 metres diameter. This work has been done 3 times in the past 36 years. The tree has grown out of proportion to its setting and is overshadowing my driveway, the adjacent public pathway and my neighbours garage/cart shed.

Site address: 10 Butchers Hill, Ickleton, Saffron Walden

Applicant: K D Worthing

Noted by the Parish Council who had no objections.

Reference: **20/2301/TTCA**

Proposal: COMMON WALNUT (*Juglans regia*) - (T7) - works to address past storm damage to crown to include 3 meter crown reduction, removal of low hanging bough to north west obstructing neighbouring driveway. COMMON WALNUT (*Juglans regia*) - (T4) - 2.5 meter crown reduction to clear obstruction to vehicles on Church Street and to driveway to the west. COMMON LILAC (*Syringa vulgaris*) - (T2) - removal to allow excavation of new access for driveway with required visibility splays as per approved planning permission. INDIAN BEAN TREE (*Catalpa bignonioides*) (T3) - remove to create space for new driveway and allow required change in levels in line with approved planning permission. PLUM TREE - (T5) - remove to allow garage demolition.

Site address: 6 Church Street, Ickleton, CB10 1SL.

Applicant: Mr Simon Cheney.

Noted by the Parish Council who had no objections.

**139/20-21 Reports from Councillors**

Cllr Cheney:

The allotment hedging has been delivered by The Woodland Trust and planting has begun.

He will dispose of the Parish Council filing cabinet in his skip.

Cllr Pavelin:

Would like the Parish Council to consider spending the Community Covid grant on training for a mental health first aider. ACTION - Clerk to ascertain in the first instance if there are any mental health first aiders in the village who would be willing to act as a community mental health first aider.

Cllr Wombwell:

Has completed and submitted a feasibility study to Highways in relation to the Grange Road/Coploe Road safety issues.

Reported that the grass verges on Back Lane are in a poor state and so she has subsequently spoken to the relevant builders currently carrying out works.

Contact was made with Cambridgeshire County Council earlier in the year who made arrangements for a surveyor to visit and assess the area of Icknield Close to consider if any environmental improvements such as lighting were needed. These matters were then put on hold due to the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown. Cllr Wombwell has made contact in order to progress the matters.

Cllr Heaney:

Suggested that in light of the recent announcement by the Government to the end of the sale of new petrol and diesel cars in the UK by 2030, the Parish Council may want to consider grants to fund electric charging points in the village in the future.

Cllr Hamilton:

Reported that pot holes between Grange Road, Ickleton and Great Chishill have been repaired.

## **140/20-21 Financial Matters**

- i.** Payments made since the last meeting:  
Cheque written out and dated 4/11/2020 to the Royal British Legion for a Remembrance Day wreath as approved at the October 2020 Parish Council meeting – £75.00  
Noted by the Parish Council.
- ii.** To approve payments of November 2020 accounts:  
Clerk's salary (confidential)  
Clerk's expenses – £26.00  
Tim Pavelin (empty bins) - £80.00  
Essex Care Ltd (Icene printing) - £384.  
It was resolved that all payments listed are made.
- iii.** Payment of note received:  
£200.00 – South Cambs District Council (Community Covid Grant)  
Noted by the Parish Council.  
The Councillors were invited to consider ways to spend the grant. A Councillor suggested that consideration be given to purchasing items such as hand sanitiser for people listed with the Ickleton United Charities. ACTION – Clerk to make contact with Ickleton United Charities.
- iv.** Bank reconciliation (bank Accounts) 31/10/2020  
Unity Current Account - £26,083.10  
Unity Instant Access Account - £25,088.12  
Total - £51,171.22  
It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for October 2020 is approved by the Parish Council.
- v.** Bank reconciliation (Equals cash Card account) 31/10/2020  
Total - £147.17  
It was resolved that the bank reconciliation for October 2020 is approved by the Parish Council.
- vi.** **To approve the 2021-22 budget**  
A Councillor wished to review the budget set for chapel repairs due to a quote for repairs being considered in this meeting. Therefore, agenda item 140/20-21 ix. was brought forward for discussion. A quote of £5,591.70 was received from Cambridge Stained Glass. The Parish Council needed to decide whether to accept the quote for all outstanding work, for work to be completed in stages falling into the current financial year 2020-21 and next financial year 2021-22, or for no work to be completed. A Councillor noted that it is a listed building and the Parish Council are obliged to undertake repairs. Cllr Wombwell proposed that the quote of £5,591.70 for all outstanding repairs and maintenance is accepted as ultimately the work needs to be carried out. Cllr Sadler seconded the proposal and it was resolved that the quote is accepted. The Clerk requested that contact is made with Cambridge Stained Glass to ascertain if the work will be completed before the end of the financial year March 2021 and suggested that approval of the 2021-22 budget is carried over to the December 2020 Parish Council meeting. The Councillors were in agreement. ACTION – Cllr Wombwell to contact Cambridge Stained Glass.
- vii.** **Purchase of litter and dog waste bins**  
At the request of Cllr Pavelin, the Councillors discussed the purchase of a replacement litter bin on the recreation ground at a cost of £193.07 from Glasdon. At the September 2020 Parish Council meeting the Councillors decided to request a new dog bin from South Cambs District Council (SCDC) to be installed on Coploe Road. SCDC no longer supply dog bins for free and only supply litter bins. They quoted a cost of £414.00 +VAT for the supply and installation of a litter bin with no cost incurred to empty on a weekly basis. If the Parish Council were to supply and install a dog bin, SCDC would charge a weekly fee of £3.00 to empty the bin. Although the initial cost for the supply and installation of a bin purchased by the Parish Council would be cheaper, in the long run more money would be spent due to the cost to empty the bin.  
Cllr Wombwell proposed that the Parish Council purchase a litter bin for the recreation ground from Glasdon and a litter bin for Coploe Road from SCDC. Cllr Molloy seconded the proposal and it was resolved that the bins are purchased.
- viii.** **Maintenance quotes**

**Three quotes for the Parish Council to consider:**

Install new bins on Coploe Road and Recreation Ground - £100.00

ACTION – Clerk to request a quote for the installation of a litter bin on the Recreation Ground only and for discussion at the December 2020 Parish Council meeting.

Dismantle and remove broken bench on Frogge Street. Remove broken concrete and make good - £200.00. Cllr Hamilton proposed, Cllr Molloy seconded and it was resolved that the quote is accepted and work carried out.

Repairs to the main gate to Recreation Ground, rub down gate and wrought iron railings re paint with black gloss - £250.00. Cllr Sadler proposed, Cllr Wombwell seconded and it was resolved that the quote is accepted and work carried out.

**ix. Chapel window quote**

Cllr Wombwell proposed the quote for all outstanding repairs and maintenance at a cost of £5,591.70 is accepted. Cllr Sadler seconded the proposal and it was resolved that the quote is accepted. Also see agenda item 140/20-21 vi.

**x. Recognition for the village shop**

The Parish Council had a discussion to decide if any additional gifts would be purchased for staff at the village shop and a decision was made not to.

**141/20-21 Maintenance**

**i. Frogge Street bench relocation**

The relocation is undecided. At this time the bench will be removed and area made good. The relocation can be decided in the near future.

**142/20-21 DATE OF NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 7.30pm**

**\*\*Please note that this is the second Wednesday of the month due to Christmas\*\*** 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 9.52 pm

**Appendix A**

**Report for Parish Councils – November 2020**

**South Cambs District Council**

Again this month I've now included other major items as well as C19.

**New Planning Pre-Application Charges**

The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service has updated charges for pre-application services with effect from 2nd November). Pre-application advice is an optional service which can help simplify and speed up the process of gaining planning permission, through feedback on draft proposals and ensuring that proposals meet planning requirements.

The changes to charges have been made to more accurately reflect the cost of providing pre-application planning advice. What's more, for the first time there is a single, aligned pre-application charging scheme across the Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Council areas. Further information can be found on both councils' pre-application advice webpages along with the new fees.

Changes include:

- A single set of aligned charges to apply across both Council areas

- A small charge, in Cambridge City, for householder advice for the first time, to align with practice in South Cambridgeshire
- 100% discount of the pre-application fee for small charities
- A single discounted flat-rate charge for planning advice to small businesses.

Alongside charged-for services, informal advice will continue to be provided by way of the duty planner service by telephone. The Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service will also be publishing more targeted advice and assistance online over the coming months.

Pre-application advice can:

- identify the main planning issues for your proposal and how you can address these
- tell you what you need to submit with your planning application
- speed up the overall process of obtaining planning permission
- reduce the costs of your eventual application
- avoid applications being rejected by us due to insufficient information or applying for the wrong type of permission.

The revised charges follow an in-depth review, involving engagement with local architects and agents, of the pre-application advice service provided by the GCSPS, on behalf of Cambridge City Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The revised pre-application charges do not affect the planning application process (where fees and process are determined nationally), which is unaffected by these revisions.

### **Electric Bin Lorry**

Now out around the streets on bin collection days, the lorry is the first all-electric addition to the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service – a partnership between South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils. The Dennis Eagle ‘eCollect’ is now part of the Shared Waste Service’s fleet and being used to collect residents’ recycling.

It marks the start of a drive to replace all the waste service’s collection lorries with electric or hydrogen vehicles as their existing trucks come to the end of their working lives.

The Shared Waste Service is one of the first waste collection services nationally to invest in green vehicles which have zero emissions and contribute to better air quality when out on the road.

The new fully electric Dennis Eagle ‘eCollect’ has five specially designed battery packs storing 300kWh of energy and capable of supplying 200kW of power to electric motors, making it substantially quieter than existing bin collection vehicles. Fully loaded it will weigh around 26 tonnes and will typically take around seven to eight hours to recharge, easily completing a full day of collection rounds and returning to the depot with charge remaining in the battery.

The new vehicle has cost around £400,000 and while this is more than a traditional diesel bin collection lorry, the Councils expect the whole-life cost to be at the very least the same – if not less – than a diesel vehicle due to reduced servicing, fuel and general running costs.

South Cambridgeshire District and Cambridge City Councils are committed to helping tackle the climate emergency and are working hard to reduce carbon emissions in the delivery of their services. There are already solar panels installed on top of the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service’s Depot at Waterbeach, which are used to charge two fully electric vans used by members of the team.

The Shared Waste service has around 55 collection vehicles which run on diesel and are among the largest emitters of CO2 at both Councils. Currently, the Shared Waste Service uses around 50,000 litres of diesel a month at a cost of approximately £55,000.

South Cambridgeshire's parish councils and community groups can now request additional grant funding from the District Council – to help them respond rapidly if there is a Coronavirus outbreak in their village.

### **C19 Covid Grants**

The Council has set aside £50,000 to support communities. To make sure it can reach people in the greatest need quickly, upfront grants of between £100 to £400 are now being offered to parish councils and community groups that are at the forefront of their village's response to Covid-19.

The amount available will vary according to the number of houses in the area covered. Designed to support the vital work carried out to help vulnerable people and those who need to self-isolate, it can be used to buy items such as sanitiser, print information leaflets, or provide emergency food or electricity top-ups until other support or self-isolation grants can be arranged.

The funding will be made available immediately with the freedom to be used effectively to support what is needed locally on the ground.

The grants can pay for:

- Hand sanitiser and basic protective equipment
- Printing of leaflets to help keep people informed about the work being done and help available
- Paying for a few days' shopping or topping up an electricity meter for people who need to suddenly self-isolate and are in financial hardship

The funds are intended to give initial aid for a few days only until other measures can be put in place, such as a claim for housing benefit, help with applying for Universal Credit, or an application to the Council's own Hardship Fund.

The Council is writing to Parish Councils, community groups and lead volunteers inviting them to apply for the grants.

### **Covid 19 Support for Business in Lockdown 2**

These pages are being updated almost daily so would encourage your village businesses to refer to them as soon as the new regulations are published.

Business premises forced to close in England are to receive grants worth up to £3,000 per month under the Local Restrictions Support Grant.

Business Grants have been announced for businesses required to close in England due to local or national restrictions. Current eligibility criteria are:

- For properties with a rateable value of £15k or under, grants to be £1,334 per month, or £667 per two weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of between £15k-£51k grants to be £2,000 per month, or £1,000 per two weeks
- For properties with a rateable value of £51k or over grants to be £3,000 per month, or £1,500 per two weeks.

South Cambridgeshire District Council will announce further and fuller details and overall eligibility criteria on this grant within the next few days on our website, including any discretionary elements. We will also send out an updated newsletter.

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/coronavirus-information-for-businesses/financial-support-for-business/>

## **Cambridgeshire County Report**

C19 Case & Mortality Numbers Cambridgeshire

### **New Lockdown measures from Thursday Nov 5th 12,01 am**

Information relating to businesses:

To reduce social contact, the Government has ordered certain businesses and venues to close. These include:

- all non-essential retail, including, but not limited to clothing and electronics stores, vehicle showrooms, travel agents, betting shops, auction houses, tailors, car washes, tobacco and vape shops.
- indoor and outdoor leisure facilities such as bowling alleys, leisure centres and gyms, sports facilities including swimming pools, golf courses and driving ranges, dance studios, stables and riding centres, soft play facilities, climbing walls and climbing centres, archery and shooting ranges, water and theme parks,
- entertainment venues such as theatres, concert halls, cinemas, museums and galleries, casinos, adult gaming centres and arcades, bingo halls, bowling alleys, concert halls, zoos and other animal attractions, botanical gardens;
- personal care facilities such as hair, beauty and nail salons, tattoo parlours, spas, massage parlours, body and skin piercing services, non-medical acupuncture, and tanning salons

Food shops, supermarkets, garden centres and certain other retailers providing essential goods and services can remain open. Essential retail should follow COVID-secure guidelines to protect customers, visitors and workers. Non-essential retail can remain open for delivery to customers and click-and-collect.

Playgrounds can remain open. Hospitality venues like restaurants, bars and pubs must close, but can still provide takeaway and delivery services. However, takeaway of alcohol will not be allowed.

Hotels, hostels and other accommodation should only open for those who have to travel for work purposes and for a limited number of other exemptions which will be set out in law.

### **C 19-Related Central Government Business Support**

Financial support:

The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme will be extended through November. Workers in any part of the UK can retain their job, even if their employer cannot afford to pay them, and be paid at least 80% of their salary up to £2500 a month. The flexibility of the current CJRS will be retained to allow employees to continue to work where they can. Employers small or large, charitable or non-profit are eligible and because more businesses will need to close, they will now be asked to pay just National Insurance and Pensions contributions for their staff during the month of November – making this more generous than support currently on offer.

The Job Support Scheme will not be introduced until after Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme ends. Here is a link to the new style Employment and Support Allowance.

The Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) will last for six months, from November 2020 to April 2021. Grants will be paid in two lump sum instalments each covering a three-month period. The first grant will cover a three-month period from 1 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. The Government will provide a taxable grant covering 55% of average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment covering 3 months' worth of profits, and capped at £5,160 in total. The grant will be increased from the previously announced level of 40% of trading profits to 80% for November 2020. This therefore increases the total level of the grant from 40% to 55% of trading profits for 1 November 2020 to 31 January 2020.

The second grant will cover a three-month period from 1 February 2021 until 30 April 2021. The Government will review the level of the second grant and set this in due course.

The grants are taxable income and also subject to National Insurance contributions

Peter McDonald

Nov 6th 2020