

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Harston & Comberton Ward

Comprising Barton, Coton, Comberton, Grantchester, Harlton,
Harston, Haslingfield, Hauxton, and South Trumpington

District Councillors' Monthly Report – June 2022

Election Results

Three new district councillors were elected following the elections on May 5th. Our contact details are as follows:

Michael Atkins:	Cllr.Atkins@scambs.gov.uk	07968264637
Ariel Cahn:	Cllr.CahnA@scambs.gov.uk	07455128924
Lisa Redrup:	Cllr.Redrup@scambs.gov.uk	07855324580

Committees

Harston and Comberton councillors have been appointed to the following committees and bodies:

Audit and Corporate Governance:	Michael
Licensing:	Lisa
Planning:	Ariel
Climate Change and Environment Advisory:	Ariel, Lisa
Comberton Village College Governors:	Lisa

SCDC support for Ukraine Refugees

The most recent data shows that 323 Ukrainian guests have now been welcomed to South Cambridgeshire involving 54 parishes. Supporting the government's Homes for Ukraine scheme, SCDC Officers have already made over 80 welfare visits and more than 400 DBS checks.

Increased financial support

The Government scheme provides £200 per guest as a one-off payment to help with essential costs but gives flexibility to local authorities to decide if additional support is needed. In practice, hosts and guests in South Cambridgeshire have found that this money is insufficient to meet the guests needs between their arrival and when longer-term financial arrangements are in place. SCDC has therefore decided to increase the initial payment from £200 to £350 per guest. This is payable to all guests, including those who have already received the first payment. More information can be found here:

<https://tinyurl.com/5323xi5j> or by emailing ukrainepayments@scambs.gov.uk

Bike scheme

Free, good quality second-hand bicycles are being made available to guests as part of a collaboration between SCDC and two local charities OWL Bikes and Camtrust. Helmets and locks are also being supplied free of charge and the Council will also be providing guests with details of a free Bikeability cycle training course, which will include translation. Once a guest applies for a bike and the Council confirms that they are eligible, they will be put in touch with the supplier nearest to them so that they can arrange to collect their bicycle. Further information can be obtained here;

duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk

Free bus tickets

A county-wide scheme has been agreed that will see guests provided with 10 free bus tickets. Each ticket will allow unlimited journeys within Cambridgeshire for one day and are not time limited. Arrangements with Stagecoach are yet to be finalised but once the scheme is ready, SCDC will contact hosts with details. All guests will qualify and those who arrived before the scheme launched will still be provided with this support. The tickets are being provided to Cambridgeshire councils at a discounted rate by Stagecoach who are keen to support guests and we are grateful for their support.

Help with the English language

English language tuition is available for guests from Cambridge Regional College, Workers'

Educational Association and Cambridgeshire Skills. CamRuSS is offering further support for Ukrainian guests and hosts <https://tinyurl.com/yuu6tn3y>. Cambridge Regional College are offering a range of post-16 and adult education programmes from September onwards which includes English language tuition: <https://tinyurl.com/2p82bktf>

Greater Cambridgeshire Greenways

The Technical Concept Design Stage has been completed for the Comberton, Haslingfield and Barton route alignments agreed by the Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership (GCP) Executive Board.

The Technical Preliminary Design Stage has begun for the Comberton and Haslingfield routes and planned to continue to December 2022. This involves: site walk throughs by the technical teams; topographical surveys; utilities searches; technical assessment of proposed structures; planning and environment strategy; environmental assessments (ecology, biodiversity, landscape, heritage, flooding, noise, carbon); highways and drainage design; lighting approach; cost estimation; stakeholder engagement; and identification of quick wins for delivery.

Public engagement (after engagement with Parish Councils) will be held in the summer for Comberton and Haslingfield, and the autumn for Barton to share the latest designs. Current dates, although subject to change, are:

- Comberton Village Hall: Friday 8 July, 2-7 pm
- Haslingfield Village Hall: Tuesday 12 July, 2-7 pm

East West Rail Face-to-Face Engagement

East West Rail are organising face-to-face engagement sessions in June and July. They state: “While we won’t have any new information to share at these events – as we are still reviewing the responses received during the 2021 consultation and considering how the feedback is used to inform plans for the railway – they will provide an opportunity for us to engage with communities outside the formal consultation process.”

Local dates are:

- Cambridge: Wednesday 29 June, 2-8pm, The Clayton Hotel, 27-29 Station Rd Cambridge, CB1 2FB
- Haslingfield: Tuesday 19 July, 2-8pm, Haslingfield Village Hall, Cambridge CB23 1JP
- Cambourne: Wednesday 20 July, 2-8pm, The Cambridge Belfry, Back Lane Cambourne, Cambridge, CB23 6BW

Markets

SCDC is keen to support and expand the market network in South Cambridgeshire as part of our commitment to grow the local economy, support businesses and ensure a wide choice of products is available for residents. SCDC has launched an online Markets toolkit to encourage and support South Cambridgeshire communities in setting up their own local markets that includes:

- Market Toolkit with information on starting a market
- Market Directory
- Stallholder Directory.

The council plans to work with parishes, community organisations, and local businesses interested in starting a new market. The new resources are available at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business/south-cambridgeshire-markets> and enquiries should be sent to businesssupportkeyprojects@scams.gov.uk.

Fitness and wellbeing grants

South Cambridgeshire District Council is urging instructors to apply for up to £300 to lead fitness and wellbeing activities in their communities.

Anyone who leads an existing group or who wants to set up a new initiative in the District, such as leading a walking group in their local park or running a weekly yoga class in a village hall, could be eligible for the small grant. Providers running multiple groups can also apply to fund multiple programmes.

Activities could range from walking/football/rugby/netball to chair-based exercise classes, diabetes walking groups, yoga for the over 60s, baby yoga classes or more.

The grant, which is funded by Cambridgeshire County Council, is to help deliver physical activity programmes provided by the District Council in partnership with Living Sport. It is designed to cover costs such as venue hire for up to six weeks, with new participants being entitled to four free sessions. Once the free sessions are complete, participants would be expected to begin paying a small fee to continue participation, meaning that the initiative should become a sustainable source of income for the instructor.

Contacting planning

One Parish Council mentioned at their May meeting that there had been some difficulties contacting Planning, so we have raised this issue with the Planning department. It was acknowledged that this is an area they are looking to improve and they welcome feedback and information on what would be helpful for Parish Councils. Planning officers can also attend Parish Council meetings if that is something parishes would find helpful.

The current route for approaching Planning is to email planning@greatercambridgeplanning.org and the Technical Support Officers will answer your questions or pass them onto a member of the team. If you do have problems contacting Planning, please let us know so we can help.

Current consultations

Cambourne to Cambridge, Environment Impact Assessment

- <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambourne-to-cambridge/cambourne-to-cambridge-eia>
- The closing date is Monday 11 July 2022.

A New Road Classification for Cambridge Consultation

- <https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/city-access/road-classification-consultation>
- The closing date is midday on Monday 18 July 2022.

Business Support Webinars

How to attract and retain the best people for your jobs

SCDC are running a free webinar on 15 June from 1-2pm in partnership with Cambridgeshire Chambers of Commerce where Sharon Livermore from award winning agency, Kameo Recruitment will talk you through how, and where, to market your business as an attractive place to work.

You can register for this webinar at: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/how-to-attract-and-retain-the-best-people-for-your-jobs-tickets-310325962307>

How to tender for Council contracts

SCDC are running a free webinar on 27 July from 2-3 pm when our Procurement Officer explains how to write winning tenders for local government contracts.

You can register for this webinar at: [How to tender for Council contracts Tickets, Wed 27 Jul 2022 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)