

A Meeting of GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue:	Village Hall
Date:	23 rd February 2023
Time:	7:30pm
Vice Chairman:	Cllr Dring
Parish Councillors:	Ridge, Leitch, Hall, Hatt
Clerk / Proper Officer:	Sarah Scott
County Councillor:	Cllr McDonald
District Councillor:	Cllr Hobro
Members of the Public:	1 Member of the public
Start Time:	7:30pm

1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Cllr Pine – previous engagement. This was accepted by the Parish Council.

2. To receive any declaration of Pecuniary and non-Pecuniary Interest of Councillors

There were none received.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting on 12th January

Cllr Clements has some amendments which the Clerk had received earlier in the day and had not had a chance to insert them into the minutes. This will be done after the meeting and the minutes will be signed off at the March meeting.

4. Public Participation.

Gordon Brown introduced himself to the Council and said he wanted to attend as an observer.

5. Correspondence Received (already circulated) – 5 Minutes

There were no comments received about the communication circulated.

6. District and County Councillors Report (already circulated)– 10 Minutes

Cllr McDonald spoke about the new CCC budget. Extra funds are going to adult social care and Free School Meals which will be available in the holidays. Cllr Leitch asked how these will be distributed. Post Meeting Comment: These can be redeemed at supermarkets. Significant funds were also assigned to highways, flooding and libraries. There is an additional tax on the council tax bill which is to make up the shortfall for subsidising bus routes.

Cllr Hobro said that battery collections on bins are now weekly and they are to be put in a bag on any bin handle. The clerk to put this in the newsletter. He spoke about funding sources for AED units, funding for Coronation events. There is a consultation out on the national planning policy which could devolve some power to the local authority. Further Census information has just been released. Cllr Hall asked about a bin trial in Wales whereby bins are emptied less, he said he did not know about this and at the moment there are no plans for this in SCDC, but he would check.

7. Planning – 15 Minutes

- LDF – nothing as yet
- Rectory Farm, Little Chishill. Nothing to report as yet as we have been focusing on the other issues.
- North Hall Farm – The Clerk has chased the information she is waiting for from SCDC
- Bridgefoot Farm – Legal are still looking at it because the owner threatened a judicial review. An enforcement decision should be in place by Monday. The Council are taken aback by the lack of sense of urgency from SCDC and will write to express their frustrations. In time there will be a fresh planning application will be forthcoming for retrospective applications and the new access. Cllr McDonald to check with highways. Cllr Hobro will chase legal on Monday

8. Finance – 5 Minutes, Clerk

- Finance Sheets (already circulated) These were signed by Cllr Leitch. There were no comments

9. Highways – 10 Minutes

- Outstanding highways issues in Great Chishill (drains, floods, potholes, New Road, Footpath). It was reported that there were 14 potholes marked-up on New Road and they will be done within 10-14 days. Bitumen sealed potholes are a more effective fix and this is being done. Highways are to come and look at B1039 when there is rain, the Clerk believes it is not a water leak just lots of field run off and blocked drains which causes the issues.
- Outstanding highways issues in Little Chishill - (Cllr Ridge) The potholes have not been marked. The road sweeper has come through and swept but the drains are still not done.
- Straw lorries are not so much of an issue now but a resident has reported grain lorries damaging the roads. Cllr McDonald reported that the traffic commissioners need to know this to take action against the haulage companies.

10. Speed and safety - 10 Minutes, Cllr Hall / Clerk

- The Council spoke about instilling a mirror at the crossroads. Cllr Ridge will meet with the Clerk to look at this as it is not as straightforward it seems.
- There were concerns about car parking around the Church. The Clerk to write to the Church Warden / Benefice Office

Cllr Hall reported that he had met with the Chairman of Heydon PC and they are beginning to work together to address speeding issues. They have spoken about Speed Watch and sharing the kit and training people. They have looked at the entry points into both villages and these seem to be the pinch points. They are looking at reducing the speed limit between Heydon and Great Chishill to 40mph. The Clerk to ask for volunteers to help with speed watch in the newsletter. The Clerk asked Cllr McDonald if he can obtain the speeding data received from the police van and he said that he would try.

11 Cambridge Acre Survey

Some of the Councillors were disappointed with some of the wording. This could be addressed at the meeting when the results are shared.

12. AED Unit

The Clerk received an email with concerns of the position of the AED in the village. It was felt that it really is in the correct place and the only other place would be at The Pheasant. The Clerk to speak to Meg and explain the match scheme and see if they were of interested.

13. Dog Poo

The Clerk recounted the terrible mishap a parishioner had suffered. There was a discussion about signs and the different type of animal mess which is around. It was decided to put this on the agenda for the Annual Meeting of the Parish.

15. Lock-Up

The planning has expired and needs reapply for. Cllr Hatt thought a surveyor should be engaged and it was decided not to take this route. The Chairman to contact James Coney and also Mark Columbus.

16. Children's Playground

There is a new committee who are meeting to work on plans to update the playground.

17. County Broadband

Cllr Clements reported that he'd heard nothing back from County Broadband. BDUK is still expected to announce the winner of the Project Gigabit Lot 5 very shortly.

18. Promotion of Parish

The clerk had sent out a 'working document' to the Council. No one made comment on it. She has set up a twitter account. Cllr Hall would like to see some positive tweets and he will send through some ideas.

19. Coronation Celebrations / Gifts for Children

There are planned celebrations taking shape in the village. The Clerk to carry on looking for a suitable gift for children as more items are forthcoming now the official logo has been launched.

20. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda

Please note that no decisions can lawfully be made under this item. LGA 1972 s12 10(2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for discussion.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:51

Councillor McDonald Report for Parish Councils – Feb 2023.

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%. 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 \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)
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.

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxtton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heathfield, Heydon, Chishills, Whittlesford

Contact Details: E mail: cllr.mcdonald@scams.gov.uk or peter.mcdonald@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Telephone 07912 669092

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-cost-of-living-payments-from-spring-2023>

District Council Report for February 2023

Councillor James Hobro

District Councillor for the parishes of Foxton, Fowlmere, Heydon, Great Chishill & Little Chishill.

I am always happy to hear from residents with any questions about these or other issues relating to the District Council. Please contact me by telephone on 07768 706670 or by email at cllr.hobro@scams.gov.uk.

Bus service update

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. Following an outcry from residents who were no longer able to get to work, school or doctors appointments, the Mayor, Combined Authority and local politicians reacted quickly and decisively to protect these services. A rapid re-tendering exercise resulted in all services being partially or fully continued, avoiding significant hardship on the residents who rely on them.

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.

More generally, the Combined Authority's central funding source is from 'Gainshare' funding secured from Government as part of the devolution deal. It is £20m per-year for 30 years and because this amount is fixed it buys less each year due to inflation. Currently inflation is in the double digits and so the effective amount the Combined Authority can provide is eroding faster than it has in the past. Historical underfunding in our area also has a part to play in this. Sadly, Government spends only £16 per head on public transport in the East of England as opposed to £32 per head in Yorkshire and Humber or £36 per head in East Midlands.

The responses to the Medium Term Financial Plan survey were carefully considered as part of the debate. The Combined Authority knows that this is an incredibly difficult time for everyone, and that during a cost of living crisis adding a precept of even £12 for a band D property will be hard to hear. However, we also know that buses have a great impact on the region as a whole and even those who do not use their services reap their benefits. For every £1 invested in local bus priority measures, up to £7 of net economic benefit is delivered.

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.

Melbourn Greenway progress

After analysing feedback from the consultation conducted in October, the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is due to submit detailed plans for the Melbourn Greenway to its Joint Assembly on 16 February. If approved, they will then be considered by the GCP Executive Board on 9 March. This will allow the next stages of the project to go ahead, including construction work on sections where only council land is required and where no additional planning permission is needed.

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.

Disabled Facilities Grants

Cambs Home Improvement Agency (HIA) offers a range of grants available to people with disabilities living in South Cambridgeshire, to help adapt homes. This may be particularly relevant to those who are elderly, vulnerable or have family members with disabilities, friends or neighbours in their local communities and for the diverse groups with which you may work.

The Disabled Facilities Grant is a mandatory Government grant aimed at people with disabilities and older people on low incomes or low-income benefits, which helps towards the costs of making changes to their home to allow them to continue living there safely and comfortably. Each year Cambs HIA enables around 300 older people and people with disabilities to adapt their homes. Although some work such as ramps, stairlifts, specialist toilets, automated door entry systems and level access showers require an Occupational Therapist's referral, other work such as new boilers, roofing repairs, new doors and windows do not. The agency can help homeowners or those in housing association properties make a wide variety of adaptations and repairs. We can also help self-funders who are unable to organise and oversee the work themselves.

You can reach Cambs HIA colleagues at hia@cambshia.org or via their Facebook page.

Planning sought for major sustainable development in Cambourne

The South Cambridgeshire Investment Partnership (SCIP) has submitted a planning application for 256 new low carbon homes in Cambourne – including more than 70 affordable, net zero homes.

SCIP is a (50:50) partnership between South Cambridgeshire District Council and The Hill Group. The planning application is for a new, sustainable residential development with community amenities and public open spaces within Cambourne Business Park in South Cambridgeshire.

The application site area extends to 9.64 ha in total and is within walking distance of the centre of Cambourne. The proposed scheme includes 256 new, low carbon, homes, ranging from five-bedroom houses to one-bedroom apartments, of which 40% (102 homes) would be affordable. 70% of the affordable homes would be earmarked for affordable rent, with the remaining 30% of them being available for shared ownership. 72 affordable homes at the development will achieve net zero carbon. This will be accomplished through high levels of insulation, airtight construction, air source heat pumps for heating and hot water, photovoltaic panels, and energy efficient building services and

controls.

The whole development will be entirely gas-free, and each home is designed to help reduce water usage to not exceed 99 litres per person per day, lower than the 110 litres standard required by national building regulations.

The design includes a proposed change of use of the existing vacant marketing suite in the Business Park to a new community café, to provide a local hub for the new community. The community-centric design also incorporates playground amenities and a wealth of green open spaces, prioritising and preserving biodiversity through Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems, informal woodlands, greens, and watercourses.

A strategy would be secured that aims to deliver 20% biodiversity net gain – which is double the 10% required by national planning legislation. The landscaping within the development would enhance wildlife, with new trees, hedges, wildflowers, a pond, and swales – along with the preservation of the existing woodland, while off-site biodiversity improvements would also be funded. Also included in the plans are new pedestrian, bus and cycle lanes connecting the new community to the developing Cambourne West site nearby. The plans incorporate electric vehicle charging points or provision for them at every property, and space to store over 800 bicycles.

Reforms to national planning policy consultation

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) launched a consultation to seek views on the department's proposed approach to updating the National Planning Policy Framework. DLUHC is also seeking views on preparing National Development Management Policies, how we might develop policy to support levelling up, and how national planning policy is currently accessed by users. The consultation closes on 2 March.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/levelling-up-and-regeneration-bill-reforms-to-national-planning-policy>

Combined Authority awarded £822k funding for cycling and walking plans

A bid for active travel funding from Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority has been successful. Funding of £822,920 for technical expertise to help and inspire more people get walking or cycling short distances has been awarded to the Combined Authority and its delivery partners Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council. The support means delivery partners Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council can develop active travel projects from the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plans and produce a plan of one, three, and ten year projects to foster more active travel.

Changing travel behaviour is key – two out of every three personal trips are within five miles, an achievable distance to cycle for most people. For school children, the opportunities are even greater as more than 90% live within a 15-minute walking catchment from a primary school.

By encouraging active travel and supporting initiatives that create behaviour change, health and wellbeing of communities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will be improved and the area's net zero carbon ambition made more achievable. Schools, workplaces and the wider community will benefit from programmes to encourage active travel and proposed cycling and bike maintenance training.

Once the infrastructure plans are developed – by the end of 2023 – Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will be placed in a strong position to bid for future Government capital funding to deliver these projects.

The work that would be carried out will support Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's Active Travel strategies, its Joint Health and Wellbeing Integrated Care Strategy, and contribute to achieving carbon zero pledges.

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-cost-of-living-payments-from-spring-2023>

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-new-funding>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/every-school-will-have-a-life-saving-defibrillator-by-2023>

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.

Funding for farmers who protect and enhance the environment

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs announced on 5 January that farmers will receive increased payments for protecting and enhancing nature and delivering sustainable food production under the government's Environmental Land Management schemes. The government announced funding for farmers and landowners through both the Countryside Stewardship (CS) and the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) schemes, which will provide support to the industry.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-to-pay-more-to-farmers-who-protect-and-enhance-the-environment>

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/countryside-stewardship-get-funding-to-protect-and-improve-the-land-you-manage>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sustainable-farming-incentive-guidance>

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-discount-scheme-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/attachment_data/file/1128068/CX_Letter_to_Jonathan_Breareley_0901.pdf

Supporting people to vote in the 2023 English local elections

The government has introduced a requirement for voters to show photo ID when voting at a polling station at some elections. From 4 May, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections. This will apply to:

- Local elections
- Police and Crime Commissioner elections
- UK parliamentary by-elections
- Recall petitions

From October 2023, it will also apply to UK general elections. Individuals who don't have an accepted photo ID can apply for a free voter ID document, which is known as a Voter Authority Certificate. Further information about accepted forms of photo ID, how to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate, and what to expect on polling day can be found below.

The Electoral Commission is aware that some groups are more likely to experience barriers with this change and may need support to access photo ID. Organisations working directly with voters, including councils and charities, are encouraged to help voters make sure they have photo ID ahead of the elections. The Electoral Commission has produced partner packs for organisations in England, including councils, to help them raise awareness and support voters with applying for a Voter Authority Certificate. The packs also include information on voter registration. The Electoral Commission has also produced resources to help those who are likely to need support with the requirement.

More information:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/voter-id>

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

Resources:

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/partner-charity-or-local-council/voter-id-resources>

<https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/welcome-your-vote/resources-educators>

Net Zero Review published

On 13 January the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy published an independent review of the government's approach to delivering its net zero target. Mission Zero, the Net Zero Review, makes 129 recommendations covering areas including making better use of infrastructure, delivering more energy efficient homes, centring net zero in the planning system at local and national level and supporting businesses to go green. The review was informed through a call for evidence and direct engagement with local government, businesses, organisations, academia and the public.

Announcement: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/net-zero-review-uk-could-do-more-to-reap-economic-benefits-of-green-growth>

Report: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/review-of-net-zero>

Applications for the Turing Scheme will open shortly

The government provides grants for study and work experience abroad through the Turing Scheme, with £110 million government funding for this academic year. Pupils could study or work anywhere in the world, subject to Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office travel advice. Applications for the Turing Scheme will open shortly. The programme is open to students of all ages and a programme guide on the scheme is linked below. <https://www.turing-scheme.org.uk/>

Charity regulator consulting on new social media guidance

Yesterday the Charity Commission is seeking views from charities, their trustees, staff and supporters, representative bodies and the wider public on its new draft guidance, which is intended to help trustees use social media appropriately and with confidence. The guidance is designed to help trustees understand their responsibilities and manage the risks; it encourages them to adopt a social media policy for their charity and outlines what can be included in the policy. The consultation will run for eight weeks and closes at 5:00pm on 14 March, with the final guidance due to be published in the summer.

Announcement: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/charity-regulator-seeks-input-into-new-draft-social-media-guidance>

Consultation: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/draft-guidance-charities-use-of-social-media>

Census 2021: How an area has changed in 10 years

The Office of National Statistics has updated their local Census 2021 articles showing how life has changed for people living in different local authority areas in England and Wales. Every one of the 331 local area reports now includes a section on housing tenure, health, disability and unpaid care. Councils can also find out about the change in population size, average (median) age, ethnic groups, religion, national identity and work. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/articles/howyourareahaschangedin10years2021/2022-11-08>

The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort

On 21 January, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport announced a programme to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort. The Coronation will take place on the morning of 6 May at Westminster Abbey, London, and will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. On 7 May, a Coronation Concert at Windsor Castle will showcase the country's diverse cultural heritage in music, theatre and dance. One of the highlights of the concert will be "Lighting up the Nation", in which iconic locations across the UK will be lit up with projections, lasers, drone displays and illuminations. The concert will be staged and broadcast by the BBC in front of an audience selected for free tickets via a public ballot. Throughout the UK, Coronation Big Lunches will bring communities together on 7 May. Street parties will also take place across the weekend.

The weekend of celebrations will end with the Big Help Out on 8 May, which will highlight the impact of volunteering. This will encourage people to get involved with activities run by local community groups, organisations and charities. Organisations already signed up include The Scouts, Royal Voluntary Service, National Trust and RNLI. Volunteer-involving organisations wanting to join in can sign up at the link below.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/coronation-weekend-celebrations-that-will-bring-communities-together-announced>

Coronation weekend plans:

<https://www.royal.uk/coronation-weekend-plans-announced>

The Big Help Out:

<https://thebighelpout.org.uk/>

The Coronation Big Lunch:

<https://www.edenprojectcommunities.com/the-big-lunch>

Guidance for councils and business owners on tackling graffiti and flyposting

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has recently published advisory guidance for all land managers responsible for managing graffiti and flyposting. The new guidance has been developed primarily for councils, Business Improvement Districts and business owners, but will also be relevant to transport network providers, utility providers, and other land managers that are responsible for the management of graffiti and flyposting on their land. The advisory standards currently contained within the Code of Practice on Litter and Refuse have been incorporated into the new guidance. The document provides recommendations for good practice in graffiti and fly-posting management. Case studies, examples of good practice, and practical considerations are also highlighted.

Please contact litter@defra.gov.uk if you have any questions.

Guidance:

<https://randd.defra.gov.uk/ProjectDetails?ProjectId=20773>

JCVI advises an autumn COVID-19 vaccine booster

On 25 January, in its interim advice to the government on the COVID-19 vaccination programme for 2023, the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) advised that plans should be made for those at higher risk of severe COVID-19 to be offered a COVID-19 booster vaccination this autumn. The JCVI also advised that for a smaller group of people, such as those who are older and those who are immunosuppressed, an extra COVID-19 booster vaccine dose in the spring should also be

planned for. Advice regarding the spring 2023 COVID-19 programme will be provided shortly.

Announcement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/jcvi-advises-an-autumn-covid-19-vaccine-booster>

COVID-19 vaccination programme:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/covid-19-vaccination-programme>