

A Meeting of GREAT AND LITTLE CHISHILL PARISH COUNCIL

Venue:	Village Hall
Date:	13 th January 2022
Time:	7:30pm
Chairman:	Clr Dring
Parish Councillors:	Ridge, Wiseman, Pine, Clements, Hatt
Clerk / Proper Officer:	Sarah Scott
County Councillor:	
District Councillor:	Clr Roberts
Members of the Public:	
Start Time:	7:32pm

1. Apologies for Absence (and reasons)

Clr Harrison – previous engagement. This was accepted by the council.

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

There were none declared.

3. Approval of the Minutes of 18th November 2021 (already circulated)

The minutes of the meeting of 18th November 2021 were approved as an accurate account of proceedings and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Public Participation.

There were no members of the public present.

5. Correspondence Received (already circulated)

There was a discussion about the straw lorries and the emails that the Clerk received. The Chairman to follow up his letter to the power station at Ely.

6. Planning

- LDF. The consultation is in and the Parish Council had submitted their comments. As this consultation was a new interim one, the Clerk asked Clr Roberts if there would be another one (as per previous LDF's). Clr Robert to check. She went on to say the plan had provision for 55K houses when the minimum requirement was 38K. There was great concern re water supply and its viability going forward.
- Rectory Farm, Great Chishill (Clr Ridge). The Clerk had followed up with the planning department and had heard nothing more.
- Campsite, Lynchets Farm. The Clerk had followed this up with planning and was hoping to speak with Clr McDonald this evening.
- North Hall Farm – There had been no response from the planning department on the question of holiday lets / home lets. Unfortunately, Julie Ayre who had been really helpful throughout her time at SCDC is leaving. The Chairman to write to her. We will follow all the above up once we know who the replacement is.
- Land in village. Nothing further had been heard since the meeting last year.

7. Finance

- The Parish reviewed the budget (already circulated) in order to set the Precept. After discussion it was proposed and unanimously agreed to keep the precept the same at £23,500. The Clerk to submit the paperwork to SCDC.
- The Council reviewed the finance sheets (already circulated) and these were signed by Clr Pine.

8. Highways

Clr McDonald was not present at the meeting so some of the items could be elaborated on.

- Outstanding highways issues in Great Chishill (path, white lining, drains). The Clerk to email Clr McDonald.
- Outstanding highways issues in Little Chishill - removal of bollards. The Clerk to email Clr McDonald.
- 50mph signs have gone at Flint Cross – the Clerk to email Clr McDonald.
- Straw lorries from Langley. This is ongoing and Langley Parish Council are also chasing their authorities about this.
- Speeding – investigate possible 20mph limited in Hall Lane. No further information on this as the new process has not yet been sent to us. Clerk to chase.

9. Jubilee Tree's Initiative

It was suggested by the Clerk that as the theme for the Jubilee was to plant trees that the Clerk investigate obtaining tree plugs and these would be presented to Primary School aged children in the village. Clr Pine to contact The Pheasant to see if they are planning an event. The Clerk to contact Islay Dring for a list of children. Clr Wiseman mentioned a Morris Men team was being put together. A discussion took place about previous events held in the village for these celebrations.

10. Lock-Up

A meeting is taking place tomorrow (14th January) with a builder,

11. Bench Near Chalk Pit

Clr Hatt to chase the contractor up. Clr Ridge said we can order the bench and store at this house. Clerk to organise.

12. Book Exchange

The Clerk spoke about the dumping of books (as well as CD's, magazines) in the book exchange. She pointed out that volunteers keep it tidy and we had removed the plastic boxes. If this continued, we might have to repurpose its use going forward.

13. District and County Councillors Written Reports

Clr Roberts reported that mostly employees at SCDC are working from home and there are building works (rewiring and installation of heat pumps) going on.

She said that Heydon Parish Council have concerns about what might happen to the Wood Green Site as it had been sold.

As present there are only a handful of covid cases at Addenbrookes.

Clr McDonalds monthly report is below.

14. To Accept Notices & Matters for the next Agenda – 5 mins

Clr Clements noted that Lot 5 of the Project Gigabit broadband subsidy programme (which includes Cambridgeshire) has been issued for tender by Building Digital UK (BDUK). The tender is expected to be awarded by November 2022. More information can be found here: [Project Gigabit Delivery Plan: winter update - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/projects/project-gigabit-delivery-plan-winter-update) (www.gov.uk)

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 20:08.

Report for Parish Councils – January 2022.

South Cambs District Council

Resumption of green bin collections

Collections are planned to resume next week, on Wednesday 12 January, in-line with the previously published Christmas bin collection schedule. We are working on the plan for that resumption, and communicating it, now.

Business grants update 1: Hospitality and Leisure Grant and Additional Restrictions Grant (ARG) top-up

On 21st December The Chancellor, Rishi Sunak announced £1 billion in support for businesses most impacted by Omicron across the UK. Amongst other support, businesses in the hospitality and leisure sectors in England will be eligible for one-off grants of between £2,700- £6,000 depending on premises rateable value. Additional discretionary funding will be made available for Councils to support other businesses affected.

My best guess is currently that businesses will be able to start applying during the latter part of January / early February. We are in the process of updating our website to reflect this information.

Business grants update 2: Coronavirus Additional Relief Fund (CARF)

Back in March of this year, the Government announced funding for a new business rates relief to help those business that had been impacted by Covid in 2020/21 but had been ineligible for the other business rates reliefs. The announcement was made in response to a number of businesses submitting appeals to the Valuation Office Agency (VOA), as they believed the pandemic constituted a “material change of circumstances” in relation to their premises’ rateable value. Before the relief would be made available, Government first wanted to pass legislation to prevent Covid from being a reason for an appeal to the VOA. This legislation received royal assent on Wednesday 15 December.

S Cambs have now received guidance from Central Government regarding a new rates relief scheme – the Coronavirus Additional Relief Fund (CARF), along with a funding allocation of up to £6.3m for us at South Cambridgeshire District Council. The guidance sets out that we should design a new local relief scheme to distribute the funding, which is available to reduce the 2021/22 business rates bill. The guidance states that the scheme should:

- Not award relief to ratepayers that are, or would have been, eligible for the Extended Retail, Hospitality and Leisure Discount, or the Nursery Discount
- Not award relief in respect of a property when it is unoccupied
- Direct support towards ratepayers who have been adversely affected by the pandemic and have been unable to adequately adapt to that impact.

We are currently exploring options for scheme design to ensure support is targeted to those impacted, and will then need to turn our attention to the administrative details. This is a considerable piece of work and it may take some weeks before the scheme is launched. Please be assured that we will endeavour to launch the scheme as soon as possible. Details of the relief announcement are on our website.

Business support events and webinars

S Cambs is offering a series of free to attend events and webinars that provide a chance for local businesses to engage with Council services and develop skills to help you run your business successfully.

Looking after your mental health

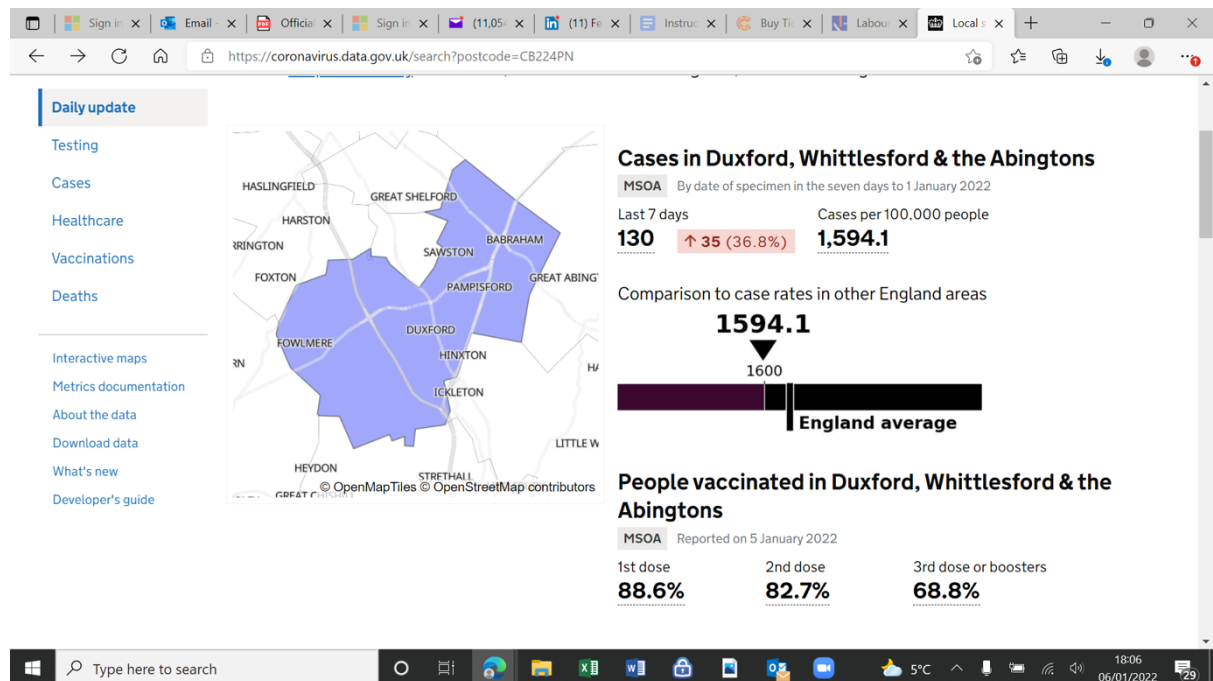
The past year has been a difficult time to run a business and many people's mental health has suffered as a result. We are running a free webinar on 20 January from 12 noon to 1pm exploring how to look after yourself as well as your business.

In this inspirational and solution focused sessions, our guest speakers Nick Elston and Zoe Thompson will talk through their lived experience and ways to help you cope in these challenging times. Themes include:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- 'What you do next that counts'
- Resilience, positivity and aspiration
- Acceptance and awareness.

Cambridgeshire County Report

Current Covid & Vaccination Status Locally



Confirmatory PCR tests to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow test results.

From 11 January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow device test results for COVID-19 will be required to self-isolate immediately. They will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK. Whilst levels of COVID-19 are high, the vast majority of people with positive LFD results can be confident that they have COVID-19.

Stay at home guidance for households with possible COVID-19 infection

The self-isolation advice for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days, following 2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day. COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

Other Covid Updates

Visiting arrangements in care homes

On 30 December, the Department of Health and Social Care updated the guidance on how care homes can support families and visitors to visit residents. The guidance has been updated to reflect that resident lateral flow device testing following visits out of the care home is required every second day for ten days, and to add that nominated visitors should remain the same wherever possible.

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/visiting-care-homes-during-coronavirus>

COVID-19: guidance for grassroots sport participants, providers and facility operators

On 23 December, the Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport updated the guidance on COVID-19 measures for grassroots sport participants, providers and facility operators.

The guidance sets out information for the public and sport providers on how to organise and participate in grassroots sport and physical activity as safely as possible. This includes advice on steps people can take to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission within the sport environment. The update includes new information on face coverings, who should work from home, and the types of venues and events that are required by law to check visitors' COVID status as a condition of entry.

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-coronavirus-covid-19-measures-for-grassroots-sport-participants-providers-and-facility-operators>

Find help and support if you have long COVID

On 24 December, the Department of Health and Social Care updated the guidance for those who have long COVID. The guidance has been updated with advice for those who have signs and symptoms of long COVID, those who have long COVID and are unable to work, those who have long COVID and need support to find, return to or stay in work, and for those who have a child with long COVID.

Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/find-help-and-support-if-you-have-long-covid>

Household Support Fund

A reminder on the new support fund which aims to help those struggling to pay for food, energy or other essential items this winter has been launched. Cambridgeshire County Council has been allocated £3.58 million as part of the Government's Household Support Fund to help people who need financial support.

Household Support Fund – letter to residents

From early next week, colleagues will be sending letters to approximately 6,000 residents who have been identified as being likely to be eligible for Household Support Fund grants. The letter will include reminders of existing financial support that is available during the year (such as our Discretionary Housing Payments to provide financial support towards housing costs, or our Council Tax hardship fund to provide support to those who are struggling financially because of the pandemic). Additionally, information will be included to encourage residents to contact our Welfare and Money Maximisation Officer, Lucy Tompkins, who can discuss residents' circumstances and identify any support that may be suitable.

The Household Support Fund itself is a new one-off grant, which is live until 31 March 2022. This usually provides £49 (for a family) or £29 (for an individual) to cover food or household energy costs, but more funding may be available for people who can demonstrate a higher need – for instance for higher costs of filling an oil tank or buying a new cooker. To be eligible for the Household Support Fund residents will need to earn less than £17,940 or receive any of the following: Income Support; Income-based Job Seekers Allowance; Income-related Employment and Support Allowance; Pension Credit; Universal Credit; Working Tax Credit. Residents can find out more, or apply online, on Cambridgeshire County Council's website. Details of how to access the scheme are available at: <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund>

County Highways Issues

The Jan 25th committee will look at:

- Civil Parking Enforcement
- 20 mph scheme funding & principles

Peter McDonald
January 6th 2022