

County Council Report May 2021

The outcome of the County Council Elections held on 6th May 21 was Conservatives 28 seats, Lib Dem 20 seats, Labour 9 seats and Independents 4 seats. As a result the council has gone into No Overall Control. Which has led the Lib Dems, Labour and Independents to form a pact to run the Council, which as I understand it lasts for two years with reviews every 6 months.

In the Alconbury and Kimbolton division I was returned with 67.9 % of the vote and a majority of 1874. Which was very humbling, to know that I had received such a large vote of support from the electorate of the division. My thanks go to opponents for the spirit in which they conducted the election. I look forward to working with everyone over the next four years for the benefit the residents and businesses of the division.

One of the Pacts early decisions was to abolish the Health Committee, which is somewhat strange when it along with the Communities committee has been driving the County Councils work on the Covid 19 pandemic. They have also agreed that Committee meetings and Full Council will only meet Quarterly, which is preventing member input into decisions. The first major consequences of this decision is that there will be no County Council member input into the East West Rail consultation as the first meeting of the committee will be after the deadline for submission of views. It also means that formal approval for the LHI Bids at the panel meetings will be delayed, along with the long awaited meeting with Highways England to discuss the unintended consequences of the A14/A1 upgrade and the impact on Alconbury has also been delayed.

Sadly the year 20/21 has been the year of the Covid 19 pandemic which has changed all our lives in so many ways. The County Council along with Peterborough City Council set up the countywide Hub to coordinate the response to the pandemic, which saw the redeployment of 420 staff.

Throughout the last year the Hub has provided regular support to 7800+ clinically vulnerable people, including 31,700+ check in emails, 8480 + check in texts and 15,200+ check in calls.

Worked closely with the British Red Cross to provide 3,590 food parcels. Responded to 19, 433 requests for support, which involved providing practical support, signposting or by offering advice and guidance.

Supported 32000 children and young people with access to food over the Christmas break, through the Winter Support Grant Scheme.

Helped 46 people to self-isolate where the national scheme was unable to assist.

Assisted 3940+ households in providing information and support, as well as offering warm clothes, utilities and hygiene supplies and provide 23 people with access to transport for vaccination appointments, who would otherwise been unable to attend.

The County Council has not held any in person Council meetings for a year, they have all been virtual meetings which have been a challenge in many ways.

The Combined Authority is setting up a Demand Responsive Transport Trial Scheme for West Huntingdonshire, serving St Neots & Huntingdon, as it is now the Authority in charge of Buses. This however may change with the new Mayor.

DRT is a totally flexible service, so it does not have to stick to a specific timetable or route. Using either an App or a phone call to the travel hub customers will be able to book a journey from a location of their choice. The technology will tell passengers where to wait at their virtual bus stop for

pick up and drop off points. This makes it the perfect solution in Rural Areas where a normal bus service would struggle to reach the necessary passenger numbers to remain viable.

The A428 dualling between the Black Cat Roundabout and the Caxton Gibbet is to go ahead

East West Rail has moved to its next stage of consultation the info can be found at <https://eastwestrail.co.uk/consultation> Which will run from the 31 March to 9 June 2021. The two favoured options involve a station north of Cambourne and the A428, with the line entering Cambridge through a new station Cambridge South near Addenbrookes and Bio Campus.

From Bedford to a new St Neots South Station, which would be located to the south of Little Barford. The line will run from Bedford to the south of Clapham and the north of Ravensden, & Wilden villages before crossing just north of the Black Cat Roundabout and onto the new St Neots South Station. Between the new St Neots South station and the new Cambourne Station the route would follow to the north of the new A428 between the Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet

The County Council has filled 63,666 potholes in the year 2019/20 which is up from 58,300 potholes in 2018/19. Implemented a Vision Zero Road Safety partnership strategy to reduce the number of fatalities and serious injuries across the County.

I will continue to support Parish Council bids on behalf of their local community for Local Highways Improvement Grants. I will be arranging a meeting with the Engineers for LHI bids in the near future so that the PC can put forward its proposals for this year's LHI, to enable the PC to determine which is likely to be successful.

I will work with the Alconbury Flood Group to look at and achieve measures to mitigate flooding in the village.

The District Council has confirmed that a f £12.8 million investment will be made into the District's largest market town, St Neots which is made up of £5.9 million from the District Council, £3.1 million from the Combined Authority and £3.8 million from the Governments Future High street Fund, this will see the regeneration of the Old Falcon Inn, Redevelopment of the Priory Centre/Quarter, Improvements to the Market Square, High Street and the St Neots Bridge along with a new waterfront route.

The acoustic fence under the B1043 viaduct should be constructed in the next few months, which will hopefully mitigate the sounds coming from the viaduct. I will continue to work to see if HGV traffic can be directed away from the B1043. We are in discussions with Urban & Civic with regard to an HGV covenant for the Alconbury weald site, to get HGV traffic to use the A141 and then the A1307 from the Brampton Hut Roundabout rather than the A1 & B1043.

Going forward I am to sit on the County Councils Environment & Green Investment, Planning and Pension Committees as well as the Fire Authority

On the District Council I will sit on the Customers & Partnerships Scrutiny Panel, which is reporting on the flooding in the District, as well as the Development Management Committee and the Section 106 Agreement Advisory Group and the Appeals Sub Group.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County Councillor for Alconbury & Kimbolton

Planning Updates May 2021

Profile Details Saved Searches Notified Applications **Tracked Applications**

View	Stop Tracking	Reference ↕	Address ↕	Type ↕	Status ↕
		19/02343/REM	Alconbury Airfield Ermine Street Little Stukeley PE28 4WX	Application	Approved
		20/00745/LBC	Kiln Barn The Maltings Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DZ	Application	Approved
		20/01304/HHFUL	23 High Street Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DS	Application	Approved
		18/01577/REM	Land West Of The East Coast Mainline Railway And North Of Spittals Way Huntingdon	Application	Approved
		20/01898/HHFUL	40A School Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4EQ	Application	Approved
		20/01744/HHFUL	7 Old Glebe Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4EA	Application	Approved
		20/01206/HHFUL	2 Frumetty Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DR	Application	Approved
		20/01186/HHFUL	12 Spinney Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4EB	Application	Approved
		21/00248/FUL	Land At And Adjacent To Alconbury Weald Ermine Street Little Stukeley	Application	Approved
		20/02096/FUL	Shop 1 Bell Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DS	Application	Approved
		20/02526/FUL	Alconbury Services Rusts Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4WD	Application	Approved
		19/80094/COND	Alconbury Airfield Ermine Street Little Stukeley PE28 4WX	Application	Condition Reply
		20/01303/FUL	9 Rusts Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DN	Application	In progress
		18/02499/REM	Alconbury Weald Ermine Street Little Stukeley	Application	In progress
		18/02275/REM	Land West Of The East Coast Mainline Railway And North Of Spittals Way Huntingdon	Application	In progress
		18/01217/FUL	Building 252 RAF Alconbury Ermine Street Little Stukeley Huntingdon PE28 4WX	Application	In progress
		19/01320/S73	Alconbury Weald Ermine Street Little Stukeley	Application	In progress
		19/01341/OUT	Alconbury Weald Ermine Street Little Stukeley	Application	In progress
		21/00597/HHFUL	4 Bell Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DU	Application	In progress
		21/00644/HHFUL	5 The Acre Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4DF	Application	In progress
		20/02242/FUL	Car Park Crown Gardens Alconbury	Application	In progress
		18/00707/FUL	Alconbury Services Rusts Lane Alconbury Huntingdon PE28 4WD	Application	Withdrawn

Alconbury Parish Council
Bank Reconciliation

Total of balances in bank accounts at May 2021	Instant Access	34884.52	
	Unity T1 Current Account	33671.02	
	Lloyds	0.81	
	Total	<u>68556.35</u>	
Less unpresented cheques:			
Payee	Ref	Amount	
C Copley Wages and expenses	BACS	755.67	
HMRC PAYE - Clerk	BACS	129.62	
A Abbs - Grass cutting - 1& 2	S/O	3840.00	
ICO - DPO Renewal	Chq 002	40.00	
Wicksteed - Park Sign	BACS	350.28	
M Badcock - Park weed spray & tidy	BACS	240.00	
	Total	<u>5355.57</u>	
Net bank balance at May 2020			63200.78
Cash book			
Opening balance		54250.07	
Add: Receipts		16000.00	
Less: Payments		7049.29	
Balance as per cash book at May 2021			63200.78

Signed.....

Responsible Financial Officer

Date.....

