

1121.371 COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

Alconbury Parish Council Meeting – November 2021

Myself and the Chairman had a meeting with the Assistant Highways Director, David Allatt, Sonia Hansen and Mary Joyce and Eddie from Lordsway Park on 23 November. Residents explained the persistent noise problem to the officers, with regard to HGV's using the B1043. It was noted that the Acoustic fence and planting work is planned to commence on 25th January 22. It was suggested that the PC amends its LHI Bid to look at measures to deter HGV's using this route. A meeting to be arranged with a Highway's Engineer to discuss.

I had a meeting with Alan Trille, National Highways Route Manager for Cambridgeshire who will be investigating Black HGV signs to route HGV's via the A141 and A1307 from the Brampton Hut Roundabout to Alconbury Weald and in reverse. He also thought that a weight limit on the B1043 might prove to be effective.

Alan Trille has also informed me that the Alconbury Brook scheme beneath the A1 viaduct will go before the National Highways stage gate procedure for scheme appraisals and then onto preliminary design options. It is a long process , but its moving forward.

The County Council have completed the repairs to the Rust Lane pumps under the A1 viaduct, so hopefully this route should not become blocked by floodwater as occurred last Christmas.

The New LHO Sharon Middleton is looking into putting a bollard on the footpath joining Alconbury to Alconbury Weston top prevent vehicular traffic on the footpath section.

The public consultation for the latest revised reversion of the Cambridgeshire Flood Risk Management Strategy has now commenced. The consultation can be accessed on Consult Cambridgeshire.

I attended a meeting at Crown Gardens on 23rd November with Tammy Smith from Places for People. With regard to noise from children playing and balls going into gardens and then being retrieved by climbing fences. I am informed that residents have been informed to supervise children at all times when outside. To prevent balls from banging on fences etc and to stop children climbing fences. Within the area behind Mr Flack's property measures will be taken to deter ball games in this area, such as a raised planting areas for children and families to grow their own veg and the provision of wildflower borders

It has been agreed to hold regular meetings with the Parish Council, so they can be kept updated on Crown Gardens and to allow the PC an opportunity to raise issues.

The County Council are asking for your views on the Councils spending direction for its Business Planning 2022/23. It is looking at whether Cambridgeshire residents would support Congestion charging in Cambridge, the delay in spending money on highways projects and whether to increase Council Tax and the Adult Social Care Levy from no increase to a 6% increase ie 3% Council Tax and 3% Adult Social Care which would equate to a £ 83.97 increase per annum on a Band D property. I would ask residents to complete the survey on the County Council website

The County Council has announced Stephen Moir as its New Chief Executive for the Authority following County Council Meeting last week. He will take over from the existing Chief Executive Gillian Beasley in February of next year.

The Chairman of the County Council Derek Giles who represents St Neots, Eaton Ford & Eaton Socon Division has sadly resigned as Chairman of the Authority due to ill health.

The Demand Responsive Bus Service for West Huntingdonshire known as Ting has now started. It is a service for all residents and I would urge everyone to use the service. The service costs £2 per trip, £4 return and is free for all Bus Pass Holders.

The Government has announced a £500m support for vulnerable households over the Winter months, which will be distributed to local councils, of which £3.4 million is coming to Cambridgeshire. The County Council is currently reviewing how best to spend this money, it will be by providing small grants to meet daily needs such as utility bills, clothing and food. If you know anyone in the village that may benefit from the scheme, they can find out details on the County Council website.

The District Council is also looking at its Budget for next year.

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury

Alconbury Brook Flood Group Report 21st November 2021

Volunteers have now cleared 600m of brook bank and bed including most recently:

- 100m Bank 750m downstream of the flyover
- Bank just upstream of the flyover, both sides
- Bank near the Heritage Bridge
- 4 fallen trees between Alconbury and Alconbury Weston

The Environment Agency have carried out their annual maintenance of banks and reed spraying. In many places this has been done reasonably well but a number of stretches are less well done or have been missed altogether. We walked the brook from 800m downstream of Alconbury to Alconbury Weston with Chris Collin the EA manager. Chris Collin has committed to doing much of the outstanding bank clearance by Christmas, while Flood Group volunteers will do several other smaller sections.

An application for a grant has been made to the County Council for the Flood Group to clear banks adjacent to 2 and 6 High Street Alconbury and a brook bank common land strip adjacent to 2,4,6,8,10,12 and 14 High Street Alconbury Weston.

The County Council have let us know that work will start on the Rusts Lane pumps on November 25th.

Volunteers dug out 4 grips on the School Lane ditch.

The Flood Group have adopted a 7 year plan which will be shared with Parish Councils as soon as possible for them to also adopt.

The Flood Group have worked with several farmers upstream of Alconbury Weston. A plan including a number of leaky dams and off-line storage has been submitted to the internal drainage board for comment. Once all consents have been acquired the Flood Group hope to start work in January.

The Flood Group has a web-site (still being developed) and an email address:

info@alconburybrookfloodgroup.uk.

The group will be circulating their first newsletter before the end of November to all residents in Alconbury, Alconbury Weston and Hamerton.

Alconbury Parish Council
Bank Reconciliation

Total of balances in bank accounts at 24.11.21	Instant Access	34884.52
	Unity T1 Current Account	35181.17
	Lloyds	0.81
	Total	70066.50

Less unrepresented cheques:

Payee	Ref	Amount
C Copley - Wages and expenses	BACS	722.31
HMRC PAYE - Clerk	BACS	92.55
Savills - Hall rent	BACS	91.20
Terrys Electrical - Christmas tree lights	BACS	59.60
wicksteed	BACS	144.00
ASSC - S137 donation	BACS	1000.00
Parrot Print	BACS	68.69
Office World	BACS	59.33
	Total	2237.68

Net bank balance at 24.11.21 £ **67828.82**

Cash book	
Opening balance	54250.07
Add: Receipts	41649.09
Less: Payments	28070.34

Balance as per cash book at 24.11.21 £ **67828.82**

Signed.....

Responsible Financial Officer