

Agenda item 1222.135

Alconbury Parish Council Meeting – December 2022

The installation of the Acoustic Barrier on the B1043 should be complete by the 29<sup>th</sup> January.

The next meeting at Crown Gardens will be in February. The manager has chased the fencing forefront of the property to prevent illegal access. Crown Gardens continues to provide accommodation for singles, couples and families.

Chief Inspector Paul Rogerson of Cambridgeshire Police has offered an open invitation for him and his team to meet Cluster group of parishes to discuss any specific issue.

This year's applications 23/24 for LHI funding will commence on the 31<sup>st</sup> October and close on 6<sup>th</sup> January 23, with the Panel meeting in May 23

There are some important changes to the LHI process, the process will be amended by the introduction of two process routes i.e., Non-complex and Complex Schemes. Non-Complex schemes would be parking restrictions such as double yellow lines, street lighting, speed limits & MVAS etc. Complex schemes would be raised features, pedestrian crossings, foot/cycle paths etc

The maximum contribution from the County for Non-complex schemes would be £10,000 and for Complex schemes would be £25,000.

The consultation regarding Sustainable Travel and the associated Congestion Charge can be found on the Greater Cambridge Partnership website – <http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022>. The consultation lasts until 23 December 2022.

At the latest consultation meeting for Councillors at HDC, I have asked that they look at providing a bus service to the villages including Alconbury, Alconbury Weston & The Giddings. As none of the villages west of the A1 are included within the Sustainable Travel Zone proposed by the Greater Cambridge Partnership.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership are now saying that residents travelling to A&E at Addenbrookes would not be liable for the Congestion charge but have not said how this would work. The congestion charge will only operate on weekdays i.e., Monday to Friday, 7am to 7pm. All vehicles entering the zone will be charged including Electric vehicles.

The Government has provided funding to enable Cambridgeshire County Council to provide Enriching experiences and a nutritious lunch for children and young people receiving income related free school meals throughout the Christmas Holidays. The programme is available to primary & secondary school children. Eligible children can attend a holiday scheme for up to 16 hours between the 22<sup>nd</sup> December and

January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Cambridgeshire is also funding free access to families struggling financially and to recently arrived refugee families.

The Warm Space Network across Huntingdonshire is continuing to grow, with 40 spaces registered with HDC. Each Warm Space is different, some are providing a meal whereas others have activities and a hot drink.

For up-to-date information on Warm spaces visit:

[www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/warmspaces](http://www.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/warmspaces)

With regard to, the Sawtry Swimming Pool, a committed and passionate petition containing over 1400 signatures was presented to the Full Council, last week. As a result, the District Council is going to try and engage with the Owners Meridan Trust, to see if there is a way of keeping it open.

The District Council are also preparing its Budgets for next year and the likely impact on Council Tax. The Lib Dem lead coalition administration are asking for your feedback on what you would like the Council to spend money on. The consultation lasts until the 30<sup>th</sup> November. One of the areas being looked at is charging for Green Bins, which the previous Conservative administration always pledged not to charge for.

The District Council have decided to increase the fees at One Leisure Centres from 1<sup>st</sup> January by 8.7% on average. Which is hoped will increase revenue to assist in meeting higher costs relating to energy and wages. If this does not materialise, the Portfolio holder who is an Independent Councillor admitted she had no Plan B if this did not work.

Further information can be found at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/haf)

Contact Email on [Ian.Gardener@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Ian.Gardener@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury

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### Alconbury Brook Flood Group Report 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Alconbury Flood Alleviation Scheme:

- Survey is now complete
- Cost benefit ratio has moved a little. Our current contribution to a better estimate of benefit is a further door to door survey for flood depths in '98 and '20.
- Discussion about ensuring best possible and most accurate flow data is available for benefit calculation and modelling estimates.

Ponds Project: Planning permission for Alconbury Weston Pond submitted awaiting response from District Council. Quote for work confirms that this will be an expensive project with flood group fund raising a priority in the new year. Buckworth pond planning application ready and being checked. Landowner has generously offered to submit on our behalf since this increases chance of the application being successful

Volunteer work: A further 8 dead trees removed from near Polecat Lane

Newsletter: December edition of the community newsletter delivered to all households. Many thanks to all who helped.

Data Project: Cambridgeshire CC, and cThings working with us to get on-line flow, soil moisture and rainfall measurements available on-line via 4G. Locations chosen and equipment due for testing after Christmas. Also a bid for £7500 to enTrade for soil moisture sensors for a partnership experiment with Natural England.

Charity Registration application. Submitted.



A Very Merry Christmas from  
the Alconbury Brook Flood  
Group

Huge thanks for your support in  
the last year.

