

Agenda item: 1022.94 Cllr I Gardner report

Alconbury Parish Council Meeting – October 2022

With regard to the CIL funding for the Alconbury Flood Group I am sorry to report that the group was unsuccessful in this round of funding. Today, myself Charles from the Alconbury Flood Group, Karen Peck from the EA had a meeting with Clara Kerr, the Chief Planner at HDC.

The meeting I believe was successful as she highlighted that any application would need to be led by the LLFA and would have to show how it would unlock growth in the Alconburys.

The village could obtain more CIL funding through development, if it had a Neighbourhood plan, the suggestion was it should be joint with Alconbury Weston , so that it covered the same area as the flood group. The suggestion by the EA and HDC was to look at the Houghton & Wyton Neighbourhood Plan

I attended a meeting along with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council, with the Tammy Smith, Manager Crown Gardens and Jon Collen from HDC regarding Crown Gardens on 19th October

We were informed that Crown Gardens were still experiencing unauthorised entry to the property. This hopes to be resolved by the replacement of the existing fence at the front with a 6-8foot fence. Jack locks will be installed on Ground Floor windows, which only allow windows to be opened to 10cm, in order to prevent entry.

Currently 18 out of the 22 flats are occupied.

It was reiterated that if anyone sees residents behaving in an anti- social manner, then you should call the police in the first instance and report it to the Community safety and Anti Social Behaviour team at HDC led by Rob Mitchell's. The teams email address is crm_cpe@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

The Sound Barrier on the B1043 viaduct should be installed towards the end of the year, in December

If the Parish Council wants to apply for a weight limit on the B1043 from the A1 to the A1307, the estimate cost is 30K. Which the PC can apply for through the LHI scheme but the CC will only pay a maximum of 25K, so would need to look for other sources of funding

The Huntingdon Market Town Proposals can be viewed on the HDC website up until the 28th October and everyone is invited to comment. The review is looking at the regeneration of the Town Centre with a Food Court, Housing, improvements to the Riverside Park, additional trees, café etc and the removal of the ring road around the Town Centre which deters access to the Town and the neighbouring parks etc.

The Greater Cambridge Partnership along with the County Council are looking to implement a Congestion charge within Cambridge from 2028. The daily charge would be £5, payable by everyone entering Cambridge including residents. There would be exemptions for Blue Badge Holders, buses etc.

The implementation of the congestion charge is linked with improved bus services to Huntingdon, Alconbury Weald, St Neots etc. With costs likely to be £2 each way, with bus services into Cambridge up to every 15 minutes. You can view the proposals for the improved bus services to Cambridge, plus the proposed Congestion charge to pay for it, on The Greater Cambridge Partnership website. The consultation on their proposals runs until midday on 23rd December 22.

It should be noted no Bus services go beyond the A1, therefore all of Huntingdonshire to the west of the A1 is not include in these proposals.

If you have any question's please do not hesitate to contact preferably by email on Ian.Gardener@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury

Agenda item: 1022.093

Alconbury Brook Flood Group (FG)

Report October 23rd 2022

Alconbury Brook Flood Alleviation Scheme.

A meeting took place last week with EA about the Flood Alleviation Scheme ('the options'). These are regular scheduled meetings.

Progress is being made.

EA and FG consensus that national contractors may not be able to price scheme so that cost/benefit ratio of 1 or more is reached.

Good discussion about possible ways forward that may show increased benefit and reduced cost in a different funding framework.

EA have commissioned a Survey Team to 'map' the brook. The resulting data will be the basis for flood models. Work will start in November/December. This new step will cause some delay, but we anticipate will demonstrate greater potential benefit. In the meantime, the 'lived accounts' of flooding will be used.

We are keen that the EA raise the potential storage capacity of the option upstream of AW when calculating the benefit of that option.

We also want the 'benefit' to include the work the FG are doing, which is at no cost to the Flood alleviation scheme.

40 Ponds project (Landscape Recovery/NFM)

- Work on Black Lodge Pond should be nearly complete by the time you read this.
- Application for a Windfarm grant for Buckworth Brook floodplain (scrape) has been successful. Target is to complete work on this by Christmas. We will need help from our lovely volunteers to clear and mark out the site.
- Our difficulties in managing the planning application process for the Alconbury Weston Pond have led us to appoint a planning consultant. Cambridgeshire County Council have agreed to advance us the funding for the consultant and the planning application.
- Ian Gardener has kindly supported setting up a meeting with the Head of Planning at Huntingdonshire District Council to create a policy route through the pond planning process, which is hopefully going to happen many more times. This will be a joint meeting with the Karen Paterson from the EA.
- Karen also has underway 2 new pond projects in the upper parts of the catchment.

CIL funding

Our CIL funding application was turned down. However, again thanks to Ian Gardener, the District Council have agreed to look at ways to achieve the same objective. We have a meeting with the EA, Ian and the chief planning officer next week.

Flyover Gabions

Progress still being made with design work

Volunteers/ Maintenance

Fantastic work by volunteers this month, quality cutting by the IDB drivers

Under permit exemption silt has been removed from the old footbridge in Alconbury Weston and near the fly-over in Alconbury

The internal Drainage Board team have flailed the banks from Alconbury Weston to the lower part of Brooklands Farm (further than previous years). We are very pleased with the work done which has been careful and thorough.

The Flood Group Volunteers have continued to clear brush and bushes from the banks where the tractor mower has been unable to reach including near the start of Brooklands Farm, near the Alconbury Ford footbridge, banks of rear gardens on the High Street Alconbury and Alconbury Weston and several other sections of the brook.

Alconbury Parish Council

Prepared by: _____

Date: _____

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: _____

Date: _____

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

	Bank Reconciliation at 13/10/2022		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2022		58,897.76
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2022 - 13/10/2022		44,760.45
			103,658.21
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2022 - 13/10/2022		25,403.02
A	Cash in Hand 13/10/2022 (per Cash Book)		78,255.19
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash	13/10/2022	0.00
	Lloyds Bank	13/10/2022	0.81
	Unity Trust Bank Instant Access	13/10/2022	34,988.54
	Unity Trust Bank Current T1	13/10/2022	46,581.99
			81,571.34
	Less unrepresented payments		3,316.15
			78,255.19
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		78,255.19
	A = B Checks out OK		