Agenda item 0924.069

The Alconbury Brook Flood Group

Some of our work during August and early September 2024

Nuns Bridge clearance increasingly possible.

Meetings convened by Cllr Ian Gardener (many thanks to him) with owners, CCC, the Country Park, Cambs Highways, the idb and National Heritage have agreed that the silt berm blocking 2 of the culverts can be cleared.
Project to be managed by the Flood Group.
Some of the funding necessary for the work has been raised.
Arrangements for silt testing and spoil removal is being undertaken before final costing reached
Various consents necessary before work can start, hopefully in April/May 2025.

Brook maintenance has started

Teams of wonderful volunteers will be out over the next few weekends clearing hard to get to sections of bank to complement the flailing work done by the idb. This is crucial work.

In addition we will be spraying reeds from 1km downstream of Alconbury to Alconbury Weston.

If you are able to help please contact Debbie at info@alconburybrookfloodgroup.uk

Idea for Large Hamerton Pond

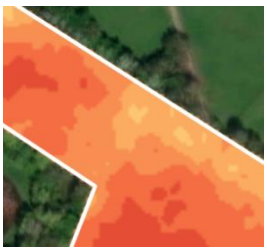
The owner of land east of the Old Rectory in Hamerton has offered the Flood Group a new large pond opportunity.
There are archaeological and heritage complications but these are being resolved.
Silver Fern have dug 11 test pits in the field to assist with design.
Meetings will take place shortly to develop a proposal ready for a planning application

Deep Roots Progress

Data from the herbal ley experiment are showing that some treatments are producing larger roots.

Many dozens of plants and their roots are being measured and tested, results are encouraging.

A new experiment (left) with winter wild bird mix, again with deep rooted plants and special treatments has started in the last few weeks and has germinated well. The experiment can be seen from space (see next item).



Other news:

£1800 grant obtained from Huntingdonshire (many thanks!) Futures Fund to complete the ecological restoration of Alderman's Pond

Our access to a new satellite service will enable us to make remote measurements of soil moisture in areas just over 1m square.

OUR NEXT FARM WALK

Our next Farm Walk is at 6pm on October 9th at Cowpasture Farm, Glatton. Interested? Contact us at info@alconburybrookfloodgroup.uk for more details and a place.

Agenda item 0924.070

Cllr Gardener report Alconbury PC Meeting – September 2024

Good Evening

Regarding your LHI bid for this year, I am delighted to inform you that Alconbury's bid for 2 Mobile activated Speed Signs has been successful in the provisional list. It should be noted that the provisional list goes for approval at the Highways & Transportation Committee Meeting on the 1st October.

Also, our LHO Karen Southwell has moved to become the new LHO for March, as a consequence we have a new LHO Sarah Budd, from 2nd September.

The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority (Mayor) is asking for views on the future of Cambridgeshire Buses with the launch of its bus franchising consultation.

The 14-week consultation will be open until Wednesday 20 November 24 and will inform a decision on how to reform buses across the area.

The consultation webpage is https://cpca-yourvoice.co.uk/bus-franchising-consultation/

There are two versions of the questionnaire – a short version comprising 10 questions and a long version comprising 31 questions. You chose which questionnaire you wish to complete. Details of drop in events around the County will be listed on the website during the consultation.

The District Council has launched its Consultation for Community Input in the Local Plan. The Consultation will run from 18th September to 27th November.

The Local Plan is a Strategic document that outlines the vision and policy framework for sustainable development across the district. It plays a pivotal role in addressing key issues such as climate change, flooding, housing affordability, infrastructure, and employment. The plan identifies key areas for development, specifying the nature of that development and establishing the policies by which planning applications will be assessed.

The goal of the Local Plan is to ensure that Huntingdonshire develops sustainably, meeting the needs of the current community without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

HDC is currently seeking feedback on several key documents that are essential to the plan making process. They are: -

Further Options and Issues Paper 2024 – This document outlines various options for addressing a series of important issues facing the district. It also asks some questions about what is important to you. The final options chosen will guide what kind of policies we may include in our local plan and on what.

Land Availability Assessments – An assessment of sites that were submitted to HDC under the Call for sites to see if they are potentially suitable or unsuitable for development.

Sustainability Appraisals – An analysis of site proposals and options based on their economic, environmental, and social impact.

Feedback must be submitted through the consultation portal, Huntingdonshire District Council Consultation Home- Keystone to be formally considered in the local plan process.

Drop in Events will be held at various locations across the district. The nearest location to us is being held on Thursday 10th October @ Civic Suite, Pathfinder House, Huntingdon between 2pm and 8pm.

For more information on how to participate in the Local Plan Engagement 24 please visit – Local Plan Let's Talk Huntingdonshire (letstalkhuntingdonshire.net) or contact local plan@huntingdonshire.gov.uk

An appeal has been launched by Cambridgeshire County Council to recruit more school governors. There are currently around 50 vacancies that need to be filled in Cambridgeshire. Figures suggest there is a national shortage of School Governors.

The appeals purpose is to increase the number of School Governors from both inside and outside the education sector. The aim is to create a waiting list of applicants, so that as vacancies come up, they can be filled easily.

To become part of a Governing Body and make a positive impact on children's learning and achievement get in touch

https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/school-governors

Lithium-ion Battery caused blazes are becoming increasingly common as we buy and throw away more electronic items.

Never put Lithium-ion batteries into your recycling or household waste bin as they can cause fires. Already there have been several fires in bin lorries this year caused by batteries not being disposed of correctly.

Take your batteries along to a Household Recycling Centre – many shops also have battery banks.

Make sure you are awake when using and charging devices or appliances with lithium-ion batteries.

When buying lithium-ion batteries make sure they have a CE or UKCA mark, which signifies it meets UK standards, buy from a reputable retailer and always use the manufacturer approved charger.

For more information go to the Cambridgeshire Fire & Rescue Website

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury

Alconbury Parish Council

Prepared by: Alison Brown (Clerk & RFO) Date: 18th September 2024

Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)

Approved by: Cllr Tracy Gilbert (Chair) Date: 24th September 2024

Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)

	Bank Reconciliation at 03/09/2024			
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024			70,565.60
	ADD			
	Receipts 01/04/2024 - 03/09/2024			33,759.50
				104,325.10
	SUBTRACT			
	Payments 01/04/2024 - 03/09/2024			27,423.26
A	**Cash in Hand 03/09/2024** (per Cash Book)			**76,901.84**
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash	31/08/2024	0.00	
	Unity Trust Bank Current T1	03/09/2024	40,453.50	
	Unity Trust Bank Instant Access	31/08/2024	36,448.34	
				76,901.84
	Less unpresented payments			
				76,901.84
	Plus unpresented receipts			
B	**Adjusted Bank Balance**			**76,901.84**
	A = B Checks out OK			

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