



**South
Cambridgeshire**
District Council

May 2016 parish e-bulletin – news and information from South Cambridgeshire District Council

Welcome to the latest parish e-bulletin. As in every edition, this one includes information that parish councils may want to discuss, important notices we want you to be aware of, as well as news from around the district.

1) Boundary review

The Boundary Commission has been carrying out an electoral review of South Cambridgeshire District Council. They recently released their proposed wards that would come into effect in 2018 onwards when the Council will move to all out elections. The proposed changes have a limited impact on parishes. The main change would be how parishes are grouped to be represented by a district councillor. The details, and the Commission's current consultation, can be found on the link below.

<https://www.lgbce.org.uk/current-reviews/eastern/cambridgeshire/south-cambridgeshire>

Contact: Andrew Francis on Andrew.francis@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713014

2) New Council Leader

Cllr Peter Topping has been appointed as the new Leader of the Council. Cllr Topping's appointment follows the former Leader, Cllr Ray Manning, standing down from the role after nine years.

Cllr Topping has made the following appointments to his Cabinet.

Cllr Simon Edwards – Finance and Staffing

Cllr Mick Martin – Corporate and Customer Services

Cllr Mark Howell – Environmental Services

Cllr Francis Burkitt – Greater Cambridge City Deal

Cllr Lynda Harford – Housing

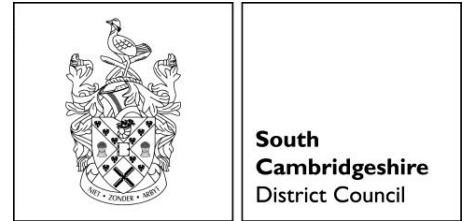
Cllr Robert Turner – Planning

Cllr Tim Wotherspoon – Strategic Planning, Transportation and Communities

Contact: Democratic Services on democratic.services@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713030

3) South Cambs Magazine delivery dates

The Summer edition of South Cambs Magazine, our quarterly residents' publication, is currently being delivered. The deliveries were scheduled to be completed by Sunday 12 June but due to a fire at one of the depots our contractors use a small number of magazines will now be delivered to homes up until Wednesday 15 June.



Contact: Gareth Bell on Gareth.bell@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713289

4) Cabinet and Parish Councils Liaison Meeting

The next meeting is currently being confirmed. The provisional date is Wednesday 13 July from 6.30-8pm at South Cambridgeshire Hall. Once the date is confirmed parishes will be contacted.

Contact: Gemma Barron on gemma.barron@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713340

5) Community Chest 2016/17

The Community Chest grant fund has just been boosted to £80,600 available to help voluntary and community groups, charities and parish councils wishing to improve the quality of life for residents in South Cambridgeshire. Applicants can apply for up to £1,500 per project, up to a maximum of three grants per parish during the year. Full details, guidance on eligibility and an online application form can be found at www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest

The first round of awards were made at the Leader's Portfolio meeting on 19 May. A total of £21,276 was allocated across 16 projects. More information on the awards can be found on [our website](#).

Contact: Nutan Patel on nutan.patel@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713461

6) Elite athlete grants

The Elite Athlete Award Scheme is now open for applications with £10,000 available to help support local elite athletes reach their potential. Grants can be used to fund any aspect of equipment, training or competition costs. The maximum grant award will be £2,000 per applicant. The closing date for applications is 31 July 2016.

Full details and an online application form can be found at <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/eliteathlete>

Contact: duty.communities@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713070

7) Neighbourhood Planning Event: 20 July 2016

If you are already involved in developing a Neighbourhood Plan we are holding a seminar for you on Wednesday 20 July. The Speaker will be Andrew Ashcroft who worked in Planning at Herefordshire Council. He now runs his own company providing planning and training services to the public sector, including bringing forward Neighbourhood Plans to align with Local Plans and those that are emerging. He is a Neighbourhood Plan examiner and is also involved in the development of a Neighbourhood Plan for his own village.

Date: Wednesday 20 July



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Time: 6pm to 8pm

Venue: The Chamber, South Cambs Hall, Cambourne, CB23 6EA

To express an interest in attending this seminar, please email

neighbourhood.planning@scams.gov.uk

Contact: Kathryn Hawkes on neighbourhood.planning@scams.gov.uk or 01954 712932

8) Know anyone who's cold in winter and on a low income?

The Council has government funding to install solid wall insulation, efficient boilers and other energy saving measures in around 20 privately owned older properties occupied by low income households. Owner occupiers and tenants in private rented homes can apply. Enquiries need to be made as soon as possible as applications need to be made and homes surveyed by the end of June.

Householders need to be in receipt of means tested benefits or with incomes under £26,000 for a couple and £13,000 for a single person household. You must also not have of £20,000. Funds per property are limited but the aim is to provide all work needed at no cost to the household where possible.

Contact: Siobhan Mellon on siobhan.mellon@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713395 and Liz Davy on elizabeth.davy@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713111 for more information and to apply

9) Community Right to Challenge

Local groups have got until the end of July to get involved and challenge for the running of our services. The national initiative called Community Right to Challenge was introduced under the government's Localism Act and gives voluntary and community groups, charities and parish councils the opportunity to make formal expressions of interest in running council services if they believe they can provide them in a more efficient, responsive or cost-effective way.

Visit www.scams.gov.uk/content/community-right-challenge for more information.

Contact: Clare Gibbons on clare.gibbons@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713290

10) Parklife – Free Family Fun Day

You can get summer under way in style with a trip to Parklife at Milton Country Park where our free annual fun day is to be held on Sunday 17 July. You can look forward to an exciting mix of sports, dance, entertainment, crafts and stalls and trips across the lakes by hovercraft. Whether you have a go at paddleboarding, canoeing or kayaking, try your hand at fishing or try out climbing or archery, you'll be sure to find something for all the family. There'll be bouncy castles, crafting and balance bikes for



younger children, and with our cycling zone back for 2016, mountain biking and the fantastic pedal powered Scalextric and smoothie maker.

There will be an entertainment area where you can enjoy the excitement of Capoeira, the incredible mix of dance and martial arts straight from Brazil, bringing a taste of the Rio Olympics, and workshops offered you can learn to play or dance along too. With local bands and a selection of stalls to browse, why not bring a picnic or enjoy catering on site, and make a day of it.

Activities are free of charge - simply turn up and take a turn, although for some a booking system will operate on the day and for water sports some pre-booking will be available, see

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/parklife>

Contact: Clare Gibbons on clare.gibbons@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713290

11) Advice Surgery

We have funded Cambridge Council for Voluntary Service (CCVS) to hold a free surgery for voluntary community groups, charities and social enterprises on 21 June at The Sports Pavillion, Back Lane, Cambourne, CB23 6FY. They will be able to help with all aspects of running groups including: charity governance and management; finance and money management; starting up and keeping a group going; fundraising; being a critical friend for grant applications; keeping staff, volunteers and users safe; monitoring and reporting your work; and problem solving.

To find out more information or to book an hour appointment please use the contact details below.

Contact: enquiries@cambridgecvs.org.uk or 01223 464 696 or www.cambridgecvs.org.uk

12) Repair Café in your village

Repair Cafés bring together people who have something that is broken, (think bicycle, torn clothing, small electrical appliance, something that needs gluing, jammed printer, broken toy) with volunteers who like fixing things.

They are great community events and help avoid unnecessary waste, and so, through our Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership (SPEP), we are working to get more of these happening.

If you're interested, see one in action at the Histon Repair Café, St Andrews Centre, School Hill, CB24 9JE on Saturday 18 June, 10.30am – 1.30pm. All welcome, email hisimp@repaircafe.org.uk if you'd like to bring something to be mended.

Contact: Siobhan Mellon on siobhan.mellon@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713395



13) Section 106 update

In September 2015 we advised you that a number of changes had taken effect regarding the use of section 106 agreements. There are 2 main recent updates to provide. Firstly the Government have now successfully appealed a Judicial Review brought by Reading and West Berkshire Councils. As a result the Government has reintroduced the policy which prevent Councils from securing s106 contributions and affordable housing on developments of 10 homes or less, or where the development is less than 1,000 square metres. The Council is currently considering its position on this.

Secondly the s106 pooling restriction is still in force and which is creating challenges in terms of securing developer contributions for our Parish Councils. In simple terms, in order to stand any chance of securing money from development, the Council will need the assistance of the Parish Council to identify the project against which monies will be allocated. This issue is especially relevant for planning appeals where planning inspectors are notoriously hard to convince. We fully understand Parish Council reluctance to participate in discussions when the principle of the development is being objected to. We are also sympathetic to the fact that these projects are often without significant detail.

Nevertheless unfortunately it is the case that no projects means no developer contributions can or will be sought by the District Council.

We have produced a short guide and template to explain what information is considered necessary

[Parish Council section 106 funding template](#)

Contact: James Fisher on james.fisher@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713217