

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Ward:
Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford

Report for Parish Councils – October 2019

Housing Trajectory and 5-Year land supply

The government requires all local authorities to have a supply of land for building houses for 5 years ahead. We are now required to report this figure as a joint one with Cambridge City. The new calculation for Greater Cambridge has been published showing a joint figure of 5.3 years for the period of 2019-2024. You can see all the relevant documents including appendices here <http://bit.ly/5YLS-Nov19>.

The government changed the criteria for assessing “deliverable sites”, so we have had to take a very robust and cautious approach in our calculations. This has understandably meant that the figure we now quote is different to the 6 years we had projected in the current local plan.

Consultation on this started on 16 September and will end on 14 October, after which any comments will be considered and incorporated as necessary before publishing the final document before the deadline of 31 October 2019. The figure then becomes effective as of 1 November 2019.

South Cambs Corporate Asset Plan

A report was submitted to Council on the Corporate Asset plan including the South Cambs offices. This plan should be read in conjunction with the Investment Strategy

<https://scams.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s113124/Appendix%20A%20-%20Corporate%20Asset%20Plan%20-%20Report%20to%20Cabinet%20-%20October%202019.pdf>

South Cambs Investment Strategy

The investment strategy covers the money South Cambs is investing in buildings etc

<https://scams.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s113125/Investment%20Strategy%20-%20Report%20to%20Cabinet%20-%202%20October%202019.pdf>

South Cambs Budget Out Turn

This is the estimate of income & expenditure for the current year.

<https://scams.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s113126/General%20Fund%20Revenue%20Capital%20Budget%20Outturn%202018-2019%20-%20Report%20to%20Cabinet%20-%202%20October%202019.pdf>

Community Chest Update

Changes announced to the eligibility criteria of the Community Chest fund will give more Parish Councils in South Cambridgeshire a chance to bid for funding to support their community projects – while at the same time the total funding, available to March, will increase to £49,070.

The Community Chest fund supports Parish Councils and other local groups in their efforts to promote active and healthy lifestyles, build inclusive communities, and enhance the natural environment – and groups can bid for up to £1,000 from the fund towards these projects.

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Each year, the fund is split in half so that groups applying later in the year will still have an opportunity to bid before the funding has all been allocated. Applications for the second half of the pot are now being taken, and [groups can apply here via our website](#). Bids will be reviewed on a monthly basis until March, or until the year's allocated funds have all been awarded.

At the last meeting of the Council's Grants Advisory Committee in early October a decision was taken to expand access to the fund for more small Parish Councils. The Grants Advisory Committee will now have more flexibility around whether to accept and review bids from Parish Councils or Parish Meetings with slightly more than the previous limit of 160 registered electors, or with multiple small settlements. Additionally, a further £20,000 was added to this year's pot, after a separate fund for elite athletes was discontinued earlier this year. [More information about the new eligibility criteria can be found here on our website](#) with both decisions effective, subject to the usual call in process.

Applicants to the Community Chest scheme can be non-profit groups or organisations based in South Cambridgeshire or benefiting the district's residents. The projects must also meet a local need, leave a legacy for the community and ensure equality of access.

The Council has funded the Community Chest scheme since 2011, handing out more than £550,000 in grants to local good causes in that time.

Zero Carbon Grants

Deadline is Oct 31st for submissions. You may submit between £1,000 and £15,000. It will be over subscribed so if you can match-fund it helps.

<https://www.scamb.gov.uk/media/13841/zcc-grant-criteria-guidance-v10.pdf>

Local Developments - Latest Status:

A505 Study

I have been invited to be one of the two SCDC Members of the A505 study group

Agri Tech

I have filed an FoI (Freedom of information) with The Ministry of Housing , Communities and Local Government to check there has been no background lobbying of the Secretary of State.

Wellcome Genome Campus:

Contact Details: E mail: cllr.mcdonald@scamb.gov.uk or telephone 07912 669092

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I attended a site visit October 8th at the Campus and explained to the Planning Committee the concern at the scale of the development and the infrastructure concerns which were appreciated by them especially standing across the A1301 and looking towards Uttlesford. I am sending a copy of the submission I made to the Committee Oct 1st with this report.

Next Steps:

1. WGC Member viability meeting October 18th 2 pm – this is internal.
2. Southern Area Planning Meeting with Parishes & Planners Tuesday Oct 15th 5,30pm
3. South Cambs Planning Committee. Oct 24th welcome to attend and speak.

Local Headline Issues

Babraham: Good discussion in Sawston on possible boundary changes and S106 allocations between Sawston and Babraham. Babraham have justifiably asked for support on the sports pavilion and additional classroom at the school. I had a good meeting at the school to assess their needs.

Duxford: Marshalls Aerospace options to re locate from Cambridge Airport will now not be made until summer 2020. Street lighting: Helen Taylor at South Cambs has now sent us an inventory of works for street and foot lighting.

Hinxton: Good meeting with new Parish Councillors at Hinxton. I pan an orientation for them at South Cambs to give an overview of the Council work.

Ickleton: See above on Genome Campus and Agri Tech. The gulley cleaning has been scheduled.

Pampisford: County Council finally agreed to re paint the junction lines on the A 505.

Peter McDonald

October 10th 2019.