

November 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) Christmas advent campaign

On Thursday 1 December we are launching an online advent calendar containing videos with lots of useful information and top tips for the festive season. We would be really grateful if you could like our [Facebook page](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#) so you can help us spread the word by sharing our posts.

Contact: Anna Efford on anna.efford@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713025

2) South Cambs Magazine

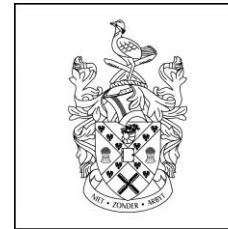
Our quarterly residents' magazine is currently being delivered to all homes in the district. The deliveries will be completed on Sunday 11 December. The deliveries have generally been of a good standard for recent editions but we are grateful to parishes that have been in touch where problems have occurred. This information has proved very helpful. If anyone in your parish has not received a magazine by Monday 12 December please ask them to contact Smart Distribution on scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk or 0800 6444 011.

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

3) Community events

We are looking to add a community event section to South Cambs Magazine to help promote things taking place in local communities. The spring edition of the magazine will be delivered between 28 February and 19 March so we are looking for things taking place between then and mid-June. We are launching the event listing as a trial and reserve editorial right on the events that are included. At this stage we do not know what the level of demand will be. To apply to have your event included please email us the following information: Event name, date, times, address, organisers and contact details (including phone and email), a second contact if applicable, a good quality image of the event taking place (if it has previously), a summary of the event in no more than three sentences, cost of tickets (if applicable) along with where to get them and any website or social media pages.

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



4) Help set our priorities

A consultation on the priorities we should focus on over the next five years launches on 1 December. A draft Corporate Plan has been agreed for consultation by our Cabinet to help people have their say. We would encourage parish councils to feed back on our [draft plan](#) and ask local residents to do likewise. The consultation closes on 20 January.

Contact: Richard May on richard.may@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713366

5) Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Devolution Deal

All councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, as well as the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership, have now signed up to the devolution deal with government. The deal will secure an additional £770 million of investment for the area, including a £600 million transport fund and money for affordable housing. To find out more about what has happened so far, along with the next steps, visit [our website](#).

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

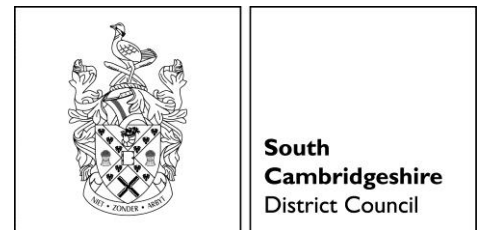
6) Greater Cambridge City Deal

The City Deal has recently carried out a consultation on an eight point plan to tackle congestion in and around Cambridge. Thank you to everyone who took part. The responses are being assessed at the moment and a report will be published in the New Year. The City Deal Board has also recently agreed to fund construction of the Chisholm Trail – a route so those on foot or bike can more easily cross Cambridge. The first City Deal project is also now underway with work taking place on improving the cycle route on the A10 between Royston and Cambridge. This includes many of the South Cambridgeshire villages along the route. For more information visit The Greater Cambridge City Deal [website](#).

Contact: Greater Cambridge City Deal team on city.deal@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or 01223 699906

7) New district wards announced

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has completed its review of our electoral arrangements. The new ward boundaries can be viewed on [their website](#). Elections will take place across the district in 2018 to the new wards, at which point the number of councillors we have will also reduce to 45. We currently have 57. Elections will subsequently take place across the district at the same time, every four years. You will be aware that we have also committed to making an order which will reschedule parish council elections so that they also take place in 2018 and



every four years thereafter. This will ensure parish elections take place at the same time as district elections, thus reducing the cost to parishes and hopefully increasing turnout.

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

8) Review of parliamentary constituencies

The Boundary Commission for England (BCE) is currently undertaking a review of parliamentary constituencies across the country. Under their initial proposals they have suggested fairly significant changes to the constituencies covered within our area (South Cambridgeshire and South East Cambridgeshire). Anyone interested has until 5 December to respond to these proposals. The full initial proposals can be viewed on the [BCE website](#), and comments can be submitted via the same website. The revised constituencies will be implemented at the next scheduled general election in May 2020.

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

9) Local Plan

Some small modifications to our Local Plan have recently been submitted to government inspectors after a report was considered by all councillors. One of the main changes was the inclusion of land to the south of the Cambridge Biomedical Campus at Addenbrooke's to allow it to expand in the future if needed. More information about all the modifications can be found in the [committee report](#). The inspectors' examination hearings are also currently taking place in our offices in Cambourne. More information about those hearings, as well as future hearings once they are published, can be found on our [website](#).

Contact: Planning Policy Team on ldf@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713183

10) Northstowe News

The first homes at the new town have now gone on sale and further housebuilders are expected to begin on site soon. The latest community news can be found on the [Northstowe News](#) page of our website. The updates can be found under the 'Community News and Updates' subheading.

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

11) Neighbourhood Area - Swavesey

Swavesey parish is the latest area to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area. This is the first step before a parish can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. We now have around ten areas that have been designated as Neighbourhood Areas. To find out more about the process visit the Neighbourhood

Planning section of [our website](#).

Contact: Alison Talkington on alison.talkington@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713182

12) Neighbourhood Planning Facebook page

If you are taking forward a Neighbourhood Plan, or are interested in Neighbourhood Planning and would like to discuss the topic with other local parishes, our Neighbourhood Planning Facebook page may be of interest to you. Our staff also use this page to signpost you to information on our website and share other relevant information.

To find us visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/925756057520296/> - send us a request to join the group and we will make you a member. If you have information, pages, links, people or tips that you feel would be interesting to everyone involved in Neighbourhood Planning, let us know by posting them on the group page.

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

13) Christmas bin collections

Bank holidays around Christmas and New Year mean bin collection days are shuffling around a little this festive season. Some collections will be a day or two later than normal due to the bank holidays, but a small number will be brought forward too. Please help us by encouraging people locally to check out the dates on [our website](#). The bin collection calendar on the website has recently been upgraded so you can now see more weeks in advance.

Contact: Jane Hunt on jane.hunt@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713484

14) Draught-buster project

Thermal imaging cameras are once again available to borrow free of charge for the purpose of locating where heat is leaking out of your home, spurring action on insulation and draught proofing. The cameras come with an operating manual, but a brief training session is advised. For details of dates and times please see [our website](#). Places are limited and need to be booked by emailing spep@scams.gov.uk with your name, address and a phone number in case we need to contact you. A camera loan can be booked by calling 03450 450 063 or emailing reception@scams.gov.uk.

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

15) Grant search service



If you are looking for funding for a local project our [self-serve grant search facility](#) might be of interest. It is quick to register and enables you to search through a wide range of funding sources at your own convenience.

Contact: Elizabeth Davy on elizabeth.davy@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713111

16) Mobile warden scheme grants 2017/18

The mobile and community warden grant scheme closes at 5pm on 16 December. This is earlier than previous years. In 2016/17 we supported 12 schemes across the district, covering 22 villages and supporting approximately 300 residents. The schemes support older people to live independently in their homes and the community they know. They are complementary to statutory care services and can help to combat loneliness and social isolation. [Our website](#) has more information about the scheme as well as the application form.

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

17) South Cambridgeshire Community Awards

There is still time to nominate the people and organisations making an outstanding contribution in your village for a community award. The awards celebrate the huge contribution made by volunteers in our communities and will be presented at a celebration evening in our Council Chamber.

There are six award categories:

- Village Hero
- Parish Councillor of the Year
- Outstanding Youth Initiative
- Outstanding Local Service/Amenity
- Environment Award
- Wellbeing Award

You can find out more information and make your nomination [on our website](#). The closing date is 20 January 2017 at 5pm. The awards will be held on 8 March 2017 at South Cambridgeshire Hall in Cambourne.

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

18) Community Chest - now closed

Following full allocation of the funds, the Community Chest is now closed for 2016/17. We plan to reopen the community chest grants in April 2017.

In September and October, three final applications were awarded funding:

	Group	Parish/Villages	Item	Amount Awarded (£)
1	Lettice Martin Croft Community Centre	Whittlesford	A bingo caller machine for regular Bingo evenings which are open to all local residents	245
2	Chapel Orchard Community Group	Orwell	Renovation of pathways and footbridges on the area of land known as Chapel Orchard	1,500
3	Longstanton Air Training Corps	Longstanton, Oakington	Marching band equipment to provide the cadets an opportunity to learn an instrument and develop new skills	1,500

Contact: Elizabeth Davy on elizabeth.davy@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713111

19) BT Telephone Box Consultation: Next Steps

We have now informed BT of our [decision](#) regarding the telephone kiosks that they recently consulted upon. Where the decision was for the parish council, or relevant local group, to adopt a telephone box, contact details have been provided to BT and you should hear from them shortly if you are not already in contact with them.

Contact: Elizabeth Davy on elizabeth.davy@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713111