

March 2017 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) Elections – Thursday 4 May

Cambridgeshire County Council and the first ever Combined Authority Mayoral Elections are taking place on Thursday 4 May. We have no scheduled elections, but following the resignation of Cllr Mervyn Loynes there will be a by-election for the Bourn ward. The Bourn ward includes the villages of Bourn, Cambourne, Caxton, Croxton and Eltisley.

Residents must be registered to vote by midnight on Thursday 13 April to be able to vote on 4 May. If they were registered to vote in last year's local elections and the EU Referendum, and returned their household electoral form in the autumn, they will still be registered to vote in May. Residents who have turned 18 or who have moved house since June last year should make sure they are registered. It only takes a few minutes to register at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote

For more information about the elections visit www.scambs.gov.uk/elections

Additional information about the Mayoral elections can be found by visiting http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20198/elections_2017/670/elections_2017

Contact: Jo Cox on jo.cox@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713287

2) Community Chest – more funds available

The Community Chest grant fund re-opens on 1 April with £55,000 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 £1,000 per project, up to a maximum of £3,000 per parish in the financial year.

Full details, guidance on eligibility and application form can be found at

www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest. The application form will be available from 1 April.

The first round of grants are expected to be agreed at the Finance and Staffing Portfolio meeting in May.

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

3) New bin rounds – thank you

Thank you for your support in letting people in your villages know about the recent bin changes. We are now one month into the new rounds and the crews are more accustomed to their revised rounds. Most people moved over to the new days without any problems and in general they are bedding in well. The changes will make sure we continue to collect the bins in the most efficient way possible, with our crews driving 20,000 less miles per year.

Contact: Vicky Lacey on Vicky.lacey@cambridge.gov.uk

4) Greater Cambridge City Deal – A10 cycleway

A shared-use foot and cycleway, the first Greater Cambridge City Deal project to be completed on the ground, was opened on Wednesday 15 March. The new path improves links between Melbourn, Shepreth and Foxton. For more information on potential future improvements to links between Cambridge and Royston visit: www.gccitydeal.co.uk/A10-cycleway

Contact: Stuart Rushby on city.deal@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

5) Greater Cambridge City Deal – Greenways and rural transport hubs

On Wednesday 8 March the City Deal Executive Board approved nearly half a million pounds to develop proposals for 12 cycling 'greenways' in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire over the next two years. Greenways are quiet and safer cycling routes. £100k funding was also committed to study the potential of developing rural travel hubs in South Cambridgeshire over the next year.

Information from the Board meeting is available at:

<http://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/ielIssueDetails.aspx?IId=55011&PlanId=0&Opt=3#A168791>

Contact: Simon Manville on city.deal@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

6) Greater Cambridge City Deal – A428

Plans have been announced to broaden the search area for the new Park & Ride site west of Cambridge. Mott MacDonald have been contracted to evaluate areas for a new site, including areas around Scotland Farm and Madingley Mulch as well as others. The contractors will also evaluate the Local Liaison Forum's proposals for an on-road busway. This information will be presented to the Executive Board later in the year. For scheme details, visit:

www.gccitydeal.co.uk/cambourne-to-cambridge

Contact: Ashley Heller on city.deal@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

7) Police parking enforcement in South Cambridgeshire



Cambridgeshire Constabulary have set up a new online parking reporting system. The information that local people send through will be used to identify parking hot spots, with occasional crack-down days run with targeted patrols of volunteer Special Constables and local Police Community Support Officers. Chief Inspector James Sutherland, area commander for South Cambridgeshire, has written a blog post about parking issues and the new reporting system at: <https://southcambscops.org/2017/02/17/parking-a-new-approach-parking-its-a/> and would be grateful if parish councils could share this information locally.

Contact: To log a parking problem visit <http://tinyurl.com/SouthCambs-Parking>

8) Cabinet and parish councils liaison meetings 2017

The cabinet and parish council liaison meetings will be held from 6.30pm to 8pm at South Cambridgeshire Hall on:

- Tuesday 27 June
- Wednesday 29 November

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

9) Community Awards - a big thank you for all your nominations

We would like to thank parish councillors and clerks for all their work completing nomination forms for this year's Community Awards. Eight awards were handed over and runners-up and other nominees received certificates in recognition of their outstanding contributions to community life at a celebration held on 9 March. For the names and photographs of the award winners visit www.scambs.gov.uk/community-awards. Please bear in mind next year's awards as you come across people and organisations doing good work over the coming year. If you have an idea for a new category of award, or any other suggestions relating to the awards, we'd love to hear it.

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

10) Open Eco Homes - SPEP workshop

We're running a workshop on how to set up an Open Eco Homes event in your parish to inspire people to insulate their homes and make other home energy improvements. There will also be information on how to run a village energy day or a thermal imaging project. The workshop is part of our support for the [Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership](#) (SPEP). Everyone is welcome - your parish council doesn't need to be formally signed up to SPEP. The event will be in Cambourne on Tuesday 9 May from 7 to 9pm. More information will be available on the [SPEP webpage](#) in due course. Booking required.

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



11) Mobile visitor centre

Highways England has invested in a mobile visitor centre that will allow the A14 improvement team to visit local communities and events. The visitor centre is a 3.5 tonne vehicle with both ramp and step access. It needs a space of 8m x 4m to be set up. An electricity supply would be an advantage, but is not essential as the visitor centre comes fully self-contained with a generator. The project team want to visit as many towns, villages, business premises, local events, libraries, community and support groups as possible over the next few years, to share information about traffic management, scheme progress, possible job opportunities and other topics of interest. If you'd like to talk to someone about booking the visitor centre please contact Highways England on the details below.

Contact: Highways England on 0800 270 0114 or A14CambridgeHuntingdon@highwaysengland.co.uk