

## A meeting of Croydon Parish Council was held on Wednesday 16 September 2015 in the Reading Room at 8.00pm.

**Apologies:** Mrs Slator - late arrival, Mr Sole - unwell. Cllr Kindersley - attending other meeting earlier

**Present:** Mr Martin, Mr Wheeler, Mr Brown, four members of public and the Clerk.

**Minutes:** of the July meeting, previously circulated, were agreed and signed.

**Declarations of Interest:** None received.

### **Matters Arising and Village Issues:**

**Queen Adelaide:** The refurbishment is making progress, and the kitchen remains to be fitted. The upstairs flat that used to house the licensees and their family, and the chef's flat, have both been renovated and are advertised as available for rent.

**CLP:** Cathy Brant (Co-Chair - Steering Group) reported that the Plan had now been distributed to the parish and the Steering Group would like to publicly record their thanks to Claire Hurst for her work with the survey results. There was a good response from the village and the resulting Plan is comprehensive. There has been good feedback from both SCDC and CCC and the Plan is due to be formally presented to SCDC shortly. Now that the Plan is finished there will be a joint Launch with the Parish Council and following on from this, the establishment of an Implementation Group which will work with the Parish Council to pursue (where possible) the parish's requirements. The forthcoming presentation by Bidwells in October regarding a housing development in the village was mentioned. Exception sites (those outside the village envelope) do not have to be all affordable housing, there may be some marketable stock. It was stated that the use of the Plan requires interpretation, patience and motivation.

**Solar Farm:** Planning permission is apparently not required for the satellite dish at the Solar Farm. The access road has been passed by CCC Highways, but there may still be conditions to be met from SCDC Planning Department - hedging, gate etc..

**Dog Bin:** Heidi Duffett from SCDC will visit Croydon to meet with parishioners regarding the erection of the new bin by the footpath between Bedlam Cottages and the Crail site.

**Transparency Code and Costs:** A NALC report has indicated that funding for legislation that became statutory in April 2015 may be applied for in November 2015!

**Lower Road Speed Limit:** The signs have been erected - hopefully this reduced speed limit will prevent any further deaths from road accidents on Lower Road.

**Village Printer:** Mr Wheeler has obtained some details on the printers and laminators that Council might like to consider, if a place to site them can be agreed.

#### **Inkjet**

#### **Epson WorkForce WF-7110DTW**

A3 Duplex Business Printer with Front-loading  
Tray - (Wi-Fi, Ethernet and Double-sided Printing)

£120



- A3 duplex printer - print A3-sized business documents
- Fast print speeds - business-quality 18 ppm printing
- Connectivity - Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct and Ethernet
- Dual paper trays - two A3 250-sheet capacity trays

#### **Epson Connect - freedom to print from anywhere Brother MFC-J6520DW**

A3 Colour Inkjet Wireless Multifunction All-In-One Printer

£130

- Fast colour printing - print speeds of up to 20 ipm (colour) and 22 ipm (mono)
- Built-in networking - share with your workgroup via Ethernet or wireless 802.11 b/g/n
- Mobile printing and scanning - support for Brother iPrint and Scan, AirPrint and Google Cloud Print



#### Laser

#### HP CP5225dn Colour A3 LaserJet Professional Printer

£870



- Print speed black (normal A4): Up to 20 ppm
- Print speed colour (normal A4): Up to 20 ppm
- First colour page out (A4) As fast as 17 seconds
- Duty cycle (monthly, A4) Up to 75,000 pages
- Duplexer included as standard

#### HP Color LaserJet 5550dtn - Printer - colour - duplex - laser

£280



#### HP Color LaserJet 5550dtn (Used Good Condition)

Office - printer - colour - laser - duplex

A3, ledger - A4

600 x 600 dpi

Up to 28ppm (mono) - Up to 28ppm (colour)

#### Laminators

#### Fellowes Venus A3 Laminator 5702001

£250



- Interactive LCD interface for ultimate user-friendliness
- Manual reverse function ensures safe operation at all times
- Active cooling system enables rapid shifts from hot to cooler settings
- Unique 'easy cleaning' system ensures continuous lamination quality
- User friendly modern design

#### Fellowes Cosmic 2 A3 Home Office Use Laminator with HeatGuard Technology

£70

- 100% Jam Free - when used with Fellowes branded pouches
- HeatGuard Technology ensures the surface of the laminator is always safe to touch
- Laminates up to 100 microns (per side) pouches
- Features a release trigger for retrieving and re-aligning misfed documents and a carry handle for easy transportation
- Cold lamination capable and includes a 10 document starter kit

**Community Benefit Fund:** The first instalment for the Fund has been received from Push Energy. Clerk to make enquiries regarding the deposit accounts available for Councils and report to the October meeting.

**Fibre Broadband:** Mrs Slator reported that she has upgraded to a part-fibre/part-copper service with BT and is receiving speeds of up to 10 MBs. The upgrade is not available on their website but can be accessed by telephoning them.

**Register of Electors:** An alteration to the Register was received.

**Reading Room Status:** Work is on-going for conveyancing, charity status and a rate rebate.

Verbal report - Cllr Kindersley:-

**CCC** Chief Executive is going as he has been promoted. He will not be replaced as CCC will share Peterborough's Chief Executive. CCC is to be considered in the next batch for devolution. If granted then CCC will be responsible for the NHS, Fire and Police.

**Bassingbourn Barracks:** Cllr Kindersley asked what the Council thought about the potential use of the Barracks for refugees. Mr Tomkys was asked for his opinion, as he had worked in these countries, but his advice was ignored. The military felt it is not right to lock people on the Barracks. It is important that, if refugees do come, they must be suitable for integration into this country. They should be bona fide refugees and not economic migrants. Cllr Kindersley pointed out that eventually the Barracks may become a small town, as the need for housing increases.

Report from Cllr Smith:-

**Calais:** An optician's shop in Cambridge is collecting tents, clothing and toiletries to send to Calais for those in camps at the port trying to get to Britain.

**Boundary Review:** Is trying to reduce the number of councillors from 57 to 45, and also even out their "patches" so that the number of parishioners each one represents is roughly equal. Cllr Smith is not in favour of this reduction as District Councillors are already stretched with the work they do at present. Elections have been recommended to be held once every 4 years and not the part-election system currently used. It is likely that Croydon may be separated from the Gamlingay Ward, Cllr Smith asked Council to object strongly to this, and Croydon would like to stay in Gamlingay as it is a 2 member ward.

**SCDC:** Is not going to build any more Council houses. There will be a 1% decrease in rents in the next 4 years and the Right to Buy has been extended to Housing Association properties. SCDC is only just able to keep on top of the homeless problem now and this means that the housing stock available will be reduced even further. A large proportion of the Council house rents used to go to the Government.

**Local Development Plan:** This should be resolved by Autumn 2016. Speculative developments will be rife until then.

**Planning:** The District Council has agreed to consult on removing the rights of Parish Councils to refer planning applications to the planning committee. This will now only be possible if the referral comes from the local member and has to be on firm planning grounds. If a PC's recommendation results in an application going to the Planning Committee, the expectation is that a councillor or clerk is sent to explain their position and to answer the inevitable questions from committee members. Not sending someone has always been frowned upon and actually results in the PC's opinion not getting as good a hearing as it should.

August Report from District and County Councillors:-

**Planning – can there possibly be more?!** Some good news to report this time re Planning. The Government announced in November that with immediate effect developments of 10 houses or less would not have to pay contributions towards the provision of affordable housing or parish facilities - a decision that cost South Cambs upwards of £1.6m and led to a number of developers to renege on their planning obligations. Happily a Judicial Review has struck this out with immediate effect on the grounds that it was unfair and unlawful (etc...I'm sparing you the detail) so we are back to requiring contributions from all development of 3+ homes. Those who tried to dodge this payment have already had letters...

South Cambs has received a response from the Inspectors in relation to the Local Plan about which we've written so extensively before (sorry!). The Inspectors have recognised that the Councils are taking a positive approach to addressing the concerns they have raised. They make the point that

whilst it is difficult to comment on the level of detail required as part of this work, they consider that the scope of the work proposed provides a sound rationale for suspending the examinations and moving forward, and they have now formally suspended the examinations until March 2016. Just as an aside we put people on the Moon faster than these Local Plans are getting delivered...

**Supporting scam victims:** July was National Scams Awareness Month (of course you knew that) and this year the theme was "Don't be Rushed, Don't be Hushed". The campaign aims to stop people being rushed into hasty decisions by scammers and to end victims being hushed into silence by a sense of shame, foolhardiness, or weary acceptance. Every year, more than three million people in the UK fall victim to scams, resulting in the loss of hundreds and often thousands of pounds. Anyone who thinks they may be a victim of a scam can get advice from the Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 03454 04 05 06. Report scams or suspected scams to Action Fraud on 0300 123 2040.

**Superfast broadband roll-out:** Well it's all happening - we're on track to exceed target numbers and reach over 97,000 premises across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough with fibre broadband by the end of 2015. However, there is still more to do as the project has identified further areas with gaps in connectivity (eg Hatley). Planning is underway for a second phase of the roll-out from 2016 through to 2017 with additional Government/EU funding to extend fibre broadband to harder to reach areas and new developments (hopefully Hatley). The County Council expects to have more information available shortly.

Excitingly we've been chosen to host two national technology trials, which could herald a new era of ultrafast broadband speeds. BT is preparing to trial 'G-fast' broadband (up to 500 Mbps) in parts of Huntingdon later this summer and Virgin Media has also been trialling narrow trenching techniques for rolling out superfast broadband in Papworth Everard that aim to bring speeds of up to 1GB for its customers.

For businesses the Destination Digital project has been inundated with applications for broadband connection vouchers of up to £3000 to install superfast broadband. **Charities, (including village halls that are registered)**, are also eligible to apply for connection vouchers. Find out more and apply online at [www.destinationdigital.info](http://www.destinationdigital.info).

**What does the County Council actually do?** We're taking advantage of the quiet local government landscape in August to answer one of the perennial questions – what does the County Council actually do? This is more and more pertinent as we make more and more cuts and do the same amount of work with fewer and fewer officers. So here it is - enjoy!

The County Council provides the framework for people to lead healthy and productive lives and oversees the strategic plans for economic and housing growth in Cambridgeshire. We lead the work on transport strategies for the county as a whole, which includes maintaining 2,800 miles of roads, 2,400 miles of footways, 1,500 bridges and 55,000 street lights with winter gritting of around 1,300 miles of roads and footpaths. Last year we invested £1.5 million in community developed transport schemes, enabled approximately 3.7 million single Park and Ride bus journeys and 3.45m journeys on the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway and transported 15,000 children to school every day. We manage almost 320,000 tonnes of waste, of which over 55% is recycled, We intervened in rogue trader cases involving over 180 victims and in excess of £500,000 and helped 20,000 people benefit from adult learning. 85 highway improvement schemes were delivered working with local communities (including locally, believe it or not).

We welcomed 2.55 million visitors each year to our libraries, registered 15,200 births, marriages, civil partnerships and deaths and supported over 10,000 young children aged 0-5 through our network of 40 children's centres. When it comes to education we worked with more than 250 schools to ensure over 80,000 children get the high quality education to which they are entitled as well as supported more than 3,000 children with statements of special educational need. We provided more than 1,000 disabled children and young people with short breaks, including more than 50,000 hours of individual support and around 4,600 overnight stays. Importantly our job includes safeguarding children at risk of harm and helping vulnerable families to improve their situation.

We look after children in care, finding them adoptive parents and supporting around 500 children at any one time in foster and residential care and alongside that we care for over 7,800 older people in their own homes. The County commissioned around 1.4 million hours of care for older people in their own home, provided social care services to over 13,900 people and a further 2,900 people following discharge from hospital. We provide packages of care and support to 1600 people

with learning disabilities, around 775 people with physical disabilities and over 500 people with sensory impairments every year.

Cambridgeshire County Council handles 220,000 phone enquiries a year, ranging from applications for school places through to enquiries regarding social care; deals with 86,000 non phone contacts, manages 3.5m visits to our website a year - with services like renewing library books and concessionary bus passes available online. We had 1,150 Freedom of Information Requests and 115 Subject Access Requests (and this is likely to rise year on year)

Of course, we also now have an important Public Health role. We commission a range of preventive services which help people to stay healthy including 17,000 health checks for people aged 40-74, 35,000 appointments with sexual health and contraception services, CAMQUIT support for over 2,000 people a year to quit smoking and over 10,000 one to one and around 3,500 group contacts with school nurses to support children's health and wellbeing.

And that's all in the context that Cambridgeshire is the fastest growing county in the UK, as confirmed by the 2011 census which evidenced a growth rate of 12%. When this level of demand is combined with reductions in funding being able to balance our resources will become increasingly more challenging. Other pressures such as inflation (£9.7million), a growing demand for services (£9.6 million), increases in statutory responsibilities in areas such as Adult Social Care, Special Educational Needs and mental health, as well as capital spending (building new schools etc.), creates an overall savings requirement of £29.8million. Over the next five years (2016/17 to 2020/21), it is estimated that the savings will need to be as high as around £101.2 million. This is on top of savings in excess of £115.3 million that have been made over the last three years.

So now you know. Bet you wish you hadn't asked...

**Trains:** Lots of people are interested in trains so you might want to attend an Open Day at Barrington Quarry on September 26<sup>th</sup> which will include train rides from the Quarry to Foxton and return. This will enable visitors to see the journey from the rail perspective and also view the unloading facility.

On a more macro level Network Rail is leading early development work for an east-west railway as part of its long term planning process to identify future investment options. It has identified two potential corridors for the proposed 'Central Section' of East West Rail to link Bedford and Cambridge, via Hitchin or Sandy, for further consideration.

The study shows that the corridors connecting Bedford and Cambridge via Sandy or Hitchin offer the best value for money at this stage of development. Network Rail will evaluate these corridors further in order to identify a single preferred corridor and then consider routes within that corridor. Will this mean the re-opening of Gamlingay or Lordsbridge stations? Unlikely for several reasons - the areas of substantial growth are along the A428 and secondly the rail-bed at Potton has been built on and lastly the track in Haslingfield/Eversden has giant telescopes on it.

**Schools in Gamlingay:** A number of residents have been in touch about the consultations that are or have just taken place about the future of schooling in Gamlingay. As community representatives we are, of course, deeply interested in the issues facing the Village College and the First School. However - changes to the way schools operate that were implemented over the last few years mean that - bottom line - schools are now effectively independent and can do what the Governors deem appropriate for that school. The County Council has no input other than to provide help and advice if asked. Whatever the outcomes and decisions made by the Governors we offer what help we can.

September report from District and County Councillors:-

**Housing:** We have written a lot about Planning recently so it is with a heavy heart that we turn to another key issue - that of housing. South Cambridgeshire District Council is predicting that homelessness will rise significantly as a result of various steps taken by the Government. With house builders fighting hard not to have to build affordable homes in new developments the council's own home building scheme was a life line to those on low incomes struggling in the over-heated Cambridge sub-region. Plans were being prepared and a Business Case accepted which would have meant the Council was going to start to build council houses again. Hurrah!

Sadly it's now a dead duck. So what happened? Firstly, the Government's latest financial Budget Statement required us to reduce council house rents by 1% a year for 4 years. Lovely for

tenants but this means a huge reduction in the amount of money we had available to build new homes. The Business Plan very severely holed below the water line.....

However, worse was to come. Previous governments had actually stopped Councils building homes and encouraged Housing Associations to fill the market gap – which they gladly did, using a combination of borrowing from banks and grant aid from the Government. They knew banks would lend because the houses were collateral and the rent every month was sufficient income and so the percentage of funding (in these days of austerity) was pretty much all from banks.

The Government is now extending the Right to Buy to Housing Association tenants. Obviously this is good news if you are a HA tenant especially as you'll be able to buy the house at about 70% of market value. But what of the Housing Association – which owes the bank the other 30%? Consternation all round - ship listing badly now....

So what will happen is the Housing Association will reclaim the remaining 30% from the Government. As we know money doesn't grow on trees so where is the Government going to get this very considerable sum, in these times of austerity? Yes, you've probably guessed it. South Cambs will be forced to sell off high value council properties as they become vacant in order to pay that 30% to HMG who will pass it on to the HA. In South Cambs of course ALL our homes are high value – which is rather the problem in the first place. We have about 150 'voids' per year, the majority of which are used for families who otherwise would be homeless - those in Band A of need. Those homes will no longer be available to our needy families and in addition of course we lose the income from rents as well.

Oh and let us remember that South Cambs still has the £205million loan to repay which it took out to enable it to use rent money - previously given to the government - for council house building. In addition to all of this many small landlords will be selling up as a result of the changes to the tax rules on "buy to let" properties. Ship sunk.

We fought so hard to keep our Housing in South Cambs. We've fought so hard to ensure as much affordable housing is built as possible and we've spent a great deal of time and money making sure our housing stock was kept to a very high standard. It seems extraordinary to think that all that effort has been destroyed and at the same time our list of families in housing need grows longer and longer.

**Local Plan Update:** The inspector dealing with our stalled Local Plan is refusing to give any early indication about the 5-year housing land supply – the problem that opened the door to so many speculative planning applications. It now looks as though the situation will persist until at least Autumn 2016. Will she ask for additional housing to be added to the plan? How many? It's likely that an extra 10,000 houses will be required and where they go we do not know.

What is a great worry is that South Cambs and Cambridge will look for solutions in the Green Belt. Our position is quite clear - the green belt surrounding Cambridge City has the highest level of protection because it is so important. Not only does the green belt protect us in South Cambs from urban creep but it also provides a very accessible 'green lung' for the City itself. If any of you know Oxford, you will be aware what uncontrolled development can do to a medieval town.

There is further threat to the Green Belt from the City Deal which is tasked with sorting out all the congestion and commuting problems in the City. The easy option is to run huge roads around the City and to cut busways through the Green Belt into the City. We believe that with imagination and effort there are better ways of dealing with this.

**City Deal:** The 2 main projects being progressed through the City Deal are the A428 Madingley Rd project and City congestion. The A428 project is looking at a new Park and Ride and potential for a sprinter bus lane and new dedicated cycle routes. The other project is trying to solve the City centre congestion or at least maintain the problem as it is now and prevent further deterioration. This will probably involve 'solutions' including bollards, closed streets and congestion charging.

**Robinson Court Gamlingay:** We are assured that despite the house building crisis referred to above, that South Cambs are still going to be demolishing Robinson Court and putting up new affordable homes for Gamlingay people. But it is taking ages and we have no idea why. Getting quite grumpy about it.

**South Cambs Boundary Review:** The recommendation is that we move to all out elections every 4 years and the number of councillors drops from 57 to 45. Why you may ask are we losing councillors when there is so much growth in the district? It is the expectation of the Boundary Commission that when a review takes place numbers go down in response to greater efficiencies and also to reduce costs. The next stage is a new ward boundary consultation.

**Superfast Broadband:** Despite us pointing out to the Connecting Cambridge people some years ago that they had missed Longstowe off their list of villages it is still not there. In all there are 13 'lost' villages. We are trying to find them. Oh dear. The Connecting Cambridgeshire roll-out has reached more than 84,000 premises with take-up of fibre broadband well above average at 24 per cent and rising rapidly. As a result of the higher than expected take-up, £5.3million is being made available by BT via Broadband Delivery UK for Connecting Cambridgeshire to reinvest in extending high speed broadband to even more premises. Planning is now underway to find the best solutions to connect as many places as possible during follow-on phases of the roll-out starting in January 2017. Nonetheless investigations continue as to how to get villages such as Hatley connected sooner than currently scheduled.

**Community Assets:** A number of pubs locally have been listed as Community Assets – the Wheatsheaf in Gamlingay at the request of Hunts CAMRA; the Hare & Hounds and the Wheatsheaf in Harlton and so on...

This will give the pubs some level of protection if the owners want to change their use and it also gives the community an opportunity to intervene should it come to it.

**West Road Planning & planning (generally):** Negotiations regarding community benefits have been progressing with Endurance Estates. Gamlingay Parish Council are due to make a final decision at their meeting on 13th October though there will be a public meeting to gauge the community's feelings on Monday 5th October, 7.30pm at the Eco Hub. The full application is likely to be decided by the planning committee at South Cambs on 4th November. Now while having promised to keep off Planning this month we can't avoid mentioning that the Planning team is 7 officers members down at the moment.

**Woodhenge:** Bridget met with residents of Blythe Way to discuss the rather controversial bollards which popped up all over the place some time ago. The residents agreed a proposal to remove some of them and make the remaining ones a bit safer. We await the response from the council.

**Collective Switching :** Do you think you are paying a lot for your energy? Well find out! Registration for collective switch run by Cambridgeshire County Council is now open! This is an opportunity for you to use your collective bargaining power to negotiate new tariffs for energy bills. Currently energy companies have simplified their fees to four tariff levels – collective switching provides the energy companies the opportunity to provide market leading deals. To date over 600 households in Cambridgeshire have switched saving on average £150-224 per household per annum. **Registration is completely free with no obligations to switch supplier.** You can register online at [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/switch](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/switch) or contact us for help at [energy.switch@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:energy.switch@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or call on 01223 703874

**Health:** The County Council now has a substantial Public Health responsibility so with that in mind here is some interesting information (we thought). Expert evidence review on e-cigarettes has concluded that using current best estimates e-cigarettes are around 95% less harmful than traditional tobacco cigarettes, that nearly half the population (44.8%) don't realise e-cigarettes are much less harmful than smoking, and that there is no evidence that e-cigs are acting as a route into smoking for children or non-smokers. We also were not aware that effective 01/10/15 smoking in private cars when children (under age 18) are present will be prohibited.

Flu is horrid - so good news that vaccination for all children is being introduced and this year, all children aged two, three and four, and those aged two to 18 in at-risk groups are eligible for the nasal spray vaccination, with no need for an injection. Children aged six months to two years are offered the vaccination by injection. Available from all good GPs..

**Schools in Gamlingay:** As everyone knows by now Gamlingay First School are consulting on whether to become a primary school and an academy. All the documentation is available on their website but for those without computers there are printed copies available in the school office and the Eco Hub. The FAQs are updated every Monday. We realise that this is of interest to very many people and we thank those of you who have taken the time to write to us. As we wrote last month the Education and Schools world has changed dramatically since this issue was last aired in 2011 with Schools basically having become Independent with Governors entitled to do what they consider best for the School and the education of the children in their care.

A wide range of village organisations have been individually asked for their feedback and the website allows anyone with an interest to submit their views – parent or not, resident of Gamlingay or not. The consultation closes on October 9<sup>th</sup> so please get your views in quickly!

**Meldreth Manor:** You may know that Meldreth Manor is scheduled to close. A number of parents have been in touch about future quality care for children who have been attending Meldreth Manor School and Orchard Transition Service. The trend over the past ten years is for increased placements at local authority special schools. Meldreth Manor is one of four Scope schools across the country and most children and young people attend Meldreth from out of county. Scope has also cited the difficulty of staff retention and recruitment, due to competition with Cambridge area health providers. We're pleased that Scope has extended its consultation deadline to October 2. Please contact Kathryn.jefford@scope.org.uk.

**Refugees from Syria:** Many of us are asking – what can we do? If you have accommodation you could offer then Dr Zoe Fritz has a Petition on change.org which – at the time of writing - has over 4,000 offers of accommodation. South Cambs will also shortly debate this matter as a result of a Petition from residents. A number of us have asked people generally what the view is on using Basingbourn Barracks as a temporary base for refugees. Given that we spent £14m on refurbishing the Barracks for the Libyans who were then sent home in disgrace the question is whether this would be suitable for people who are fleeing soldiers rather than actual soldiers.

Obviously there are profound sensitivities in relation to what happened. However, we'd be interested in your views about it **as a concept**.

### **Correspondence:**

**SCDC:** Parish Councils in general are pleased with the work their District Councillors do for them, and their attendance at Parish Council meetings.

**SCDC - Elections and Ward sizes:** These are yet to be finalised. Information received has been circulated to Councillors.

**SCDC:** The Duty Planning Officer can only be seen by appointment. Appointments are 15 minutes long and must be booked through the SCDC switchboard.

**SCDC Local Plan update:** Extract from SCDC's response to the Inspector:-

#### ***Joint Housing Trajectory***

*You advise that you did not comment on the issue of the joint housing trajectory in your letter because any questions regarding five year housing land supply are inextricably linked to the objectively assessed need and housing requirement. We agree entirely that, as further work on the objectively assessed need for housing is being undertaken during the suspension, it would not be possible to comment on the issue of whether the Councils are able to demonstrate a five year housing land supply at this stage. We also recognise that examination of housing supply will not be completed until hearings on the site allocations and omission sites have been held later in the examination process.*

*However, the question raised in our letter of 30 June 2015 was directed at the soundness of the principle of the use of a joint trajectory rather than the detail of five year supply and more general matters of quantum in terms of housing supply.*

*We consider the soundness in principle of the adoption of a joint trajectory should be capable of being considered separately from the assessment of whether a five year housing land supply can be demonstrated and from more general matters concerning the quantum of supply. Our position, as presented to the examination, is that the principle of the joint trajectory is a logical response to the development strategy and development sequence across the Greater Cambridge area and the consequential phasing of development.*

*We remain of the view that the principle of the joint housing trajectory could be addressed at this stage through the issuing of a partial report. The Councils would therefore be most grateful if you would be prepared to reconsider issuing a partial report limited to the soundness in principle of the joint housing trajectory. Such a partial report would plainly be without prejudice to future consideration of the soundness of the submitted plans in respect of general housing supply matters and all other relevant matters. Our offer to undertake early public consultation on our proposed modifications in relation to the housing trajectory remains.*

*It is important to the Councils to have an understanding about the joint trajectory at this stage. The principle of the joint housing trajectory is directly relevant to our consideration of any wider modifications arising from the work undertaken, which you have agreed should be addressed as part of the current process. To reiterate, we are not asking you to indicate your view on whether a five year supply has been demonstrated, or indeed to comment on the basis on which a five year supply should be calculated (including the appropriate buffer and the method of dealing with any shortfall from the early part of the plan period). You will of course appreciate that the joint trajectory has significant*

*implications for housing supply over the next few years for South Cambridgeshire, in view of the anticipated trajectory for delivery of strategic sites. This is particularly relevant to the joint sites on the edge of Cambridge and when they will start to deliver housing in significant numbers on the South Cambridgeshire side of the administrative boundary. If we are to address any wider modifications at this stage to avoid later delays in the examination process, it would be of great assistance to understand your conclusions on the principle of the joint trajectory now so it can inform our current work.*

*Furthermore, and as made clear in our letter of 30 June 2015, the principle of the joint housing trajectory is also relevant to development control decisions presently needing to be made in South Cambridgeshire on speculative applications until the five year housing land supply situation is resolved*

**Police - Modern Day Slavery Summit:** Mrs Slator has agreed to attend on behalf of Council. These  
**Police Panel - Nuisance Parking:** The last Police Panel meeting was mainly about nuisance parking in the villages. Several suggestions to prevent or deal with this were suggested to the Police, none of which were able to be supported by them.

***Could the Police provide a form of words on headed notepaper that could be printed and placed on offending vehicles.***

I do not support this;

Volunteers would be acting without support or the sort of protective equipment that PCs and PCSOs wear.

Some people become irrationally violent when they see strangers touching their vehicles.

There was a high likelihood of an ugly confrontation in the street – I would hate for a well-meaning volunteer to be assaulted because of a process that I put in place.

There is the possibility of allegations of criminal damage made against volunteers.

Potential for discord within the community.

One area thought they might still do this albeit they accepted they would need to come up with the format themselves and take appropriate precautions.

***Could the Constabulary create a parking version of Speed Watch whereby we are sent an image of an illegally parked vehicle and we write to the RO.***

We cannot support this option;

We would be overwhelmed by images of vehicles which may not actually be illegally parked (waiting, actually still moving but doesn't appear so, not showing restrictions in images etc etc)

We would be overwhelmed by images of vehicles belonging to neighbours in the middle of neighbour disputes.

We might have to employ someone to administrate the checks, the letters and the subsequent complaints and appeals processes.

The use of PNC for this purpose might not be lawful – access to the data on the system is only accessible for a policing purpose and for each check the officer conducting the check is personally liable.

***Could the County take over responsibility of parking as in our major urban areas.***

We approached DC. At this time there are no plans to take this on.

Enquiries with County reveal;

A Parking Enforcement Officer costs about £30k PA when taking into account salary, employment, administration, pension costs etc.

+ Office Costs

+ an appeals and admin process team

+ Vehicle

The County Council estimate a scheme for an area the size of SC would cost £150k PA. Initially this would need to be met by a rise in the precept.

Long term it might self-fund as unlike with Police, ticket revenue does not go direct to the Chancellor and can be used to self-fund the scheme. Long term you would all need to be sure that it could consistently issue 100+ tickets a week or inevitably there would have to be a rise in taxes. Personally I think that would be achievable initially but I doubt it would beyond six months.

Moving responsibility for parking enforcement to County is a legal process involving ministerial support. It would not be simple to reverse (I'm not sure it's ever been done) and once it's gone across Police/ PCSO cannot continue to issue tickets for offences other than obstruction.

***Can Parishes buy a PCSO just to do parking complaints – Could we hire a PCSO on overtime.***

PCSO costs about the same as PEO with on costs too. Additionally they're over-qualified for the role of

simply disrupting nuisance parking.

PCSO normally cost about £45 an hour if required for an event – this is partly due to administration costs.

An option may be the offer from the parishes of a conditional grant to a Community Parking Fund. This would allow the Constabulary to consume the administration costs and do its bit to help.

A grant of £1k would allow a PCSO to be deployed for 42 hours outside of their normal duties on voluntary overtime.

Some of the parishes are quite small and perhaps they could join a syndicate with others - we would prefer it not to be more than 4 to a syndicate and remain within the geographic Policing Panel Areas to make it manageable and give value.

We would recommend that the hours are spread over 6 months. This makes finding volunteers easier and also would tend to make the period of enforcement longer to potentially change behaviours.

Areas for attention should be determined by the parishes however ultimately discretion of whether to ticket or educate remains with the PCSO.

Would be managed by their area Policing Team and a breakdown of activity would be given to the parishes.

Revenue generated would not go to the Police or parishes but still go to the Chancellor.

Overtime would include travelling to the parish – the Constabulary would do its best to ensure the PCSO started at the local Police Station.

Should the PCSO be taken away for a major incident that time would not be deducted from the parishes' hours.

**CCC Local Highway Improvements:** Any suggestions for this need to be raised at the October meeting, as the deadline is in November and the application requires Police approval before it's submission. Council's last application was successful and the reduced speed limit on Lower Road has now been applied.

**CCC - e Bulletin:** The first edition of this has been received and circulated. A very nice report, but not necessary if your local County Councillor is doing their job.

**CCC - Draft Flood and Water supplementary planning document:** The consultation on this ends on 16th October and may be accessed at <http://consult.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/portal/pp/spd/fw>.

**ACRE:** The office has moved to Ely from Littleport.

**Electronic Correspondence:** All circulated - nothing raised.

**Subsequent receipts:** A letter from Croydon PCC was received thanking Council for their generous contribution to the upkeep of the churchyard and its extension. It was also reported that there is some minor exploratory work at the crypt underway as there are cracks in the floor of the chancel.

#### **Finance:**

**Bank Statement:** July and August bank statements were presented. The balance at the end of August, which includes the Push Energy first instalment, is £7106 -17.

**Website Invoice:** Mr Wheeler has paid £10-00 for domain renewal and requested that Council reimburse him for this. All in favour and a cheque for £10-00 was raised and signed.

**Items for the next agenda:** None put forward

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 21 October 2015 in the Reading Room, starting at 8.00pm.

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 9.27pm.

Signed .....

Date .....

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