

## **A meeting of Croydon Parish Council was held on Wednesday 21 July 2021 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm.**

**Apologies:** Mr Wenman, Mr Wheeler - both unavailable.

**Present:** Mrs Slator, Mr Barnes, Ms Newland (later), Mr Brown, Mr Sole, Cllr Williams and the Clerk

**Minutes:** The June meeting minutes were agreed and signed.

**Declarations of Interest:** None reported

### **Matters Arising:**

**Community Group:** The First Tuesday Group for July was cancelled, but is due to meet again on Tuesday 3 August with the agenda carried forward from the cancelled July meeting.

**Housing Needs:** No further information. Mrs Slator will see if she can obtain any information on the progress.

**Defibrillator:** All the volunteers have been instructed in keeping the defibrillator in readiness for use. Clerk asked if Council would give her permission to replace any consumables required (pads, batteries) without the need to bring this to a Council meeting. In this way, immediate ordering of necessary items can be undertaken, making sure the defibrillator is off-line for the minimum time. It was proposed that this would be acceptable by Mrs Slator and seconded by Mr Barnes. All in favour.

**Website Policy:** The Chair explained that there had been a slight, necessary addition to the policy and the reasons why. The policy was then re-circulated for Councillors' approval. It was proposed by Mrs Slator and seconded by Mr Brown that the modified website policy be accepted. All in favour. Clerk will scan the signed policy in and add it to the website.

The Chair reported that, since the inception of the website, the Clerk has received numerous requests for inclusion on the landing page. None of the requests received have been relevant to Croydon and are really only advertising for other sites/businesses. In line with the policy they will not be included.

**New Code of Conduct:** From the Local Government Association website:-

*The Local Government Association (LGA) has developed this Model Councillor Code of Conduct, in association with key partners and after extensive consultation with the sector, as part of its work on supporting all tiers of local government to continue to aspire to high standards of leadership and performance. It is a template for councils to adopt in whole and/or with local amendments. All councils are required to have a local Councillor Code of Conduct.*

Councillors will be sent the link to the new Code, with a view to reading it over the summer and hoping to make a decision in September on whether or not to adopt the Code as it is, with amendments or continue with the Code that Council has already adopted, which is several years old.

**Police and Crime Commissioner Report and Questionnaire:** Mrs Slator attended a virtual meeting with the new Police and Crime Commissioner, Darryl Preston. He outlined his plans for his term of office:-

- Community Priorities
- Crime Prevention
- Supporting Victims & Witnesses
- Ethical policing
- Robust Enforcement

With his £164 million budget, he intends to produce a Police and Crime Plan, which sets out policing and crime priorities for the next 3 years. It will explain how crime will be tackled by the Constabulary and how people affected by issues such as road safety with a view to reducing road deaths, anti-social behaviour and drug dealing will be supported.

Additionally, the Plan will set out how:

- People get the help they need
- The Chief Constable delivers an effective service
- Money is spent to support projects and services
- Decisions are made in an open and honest way, and everyone's needs are considered

Following on from this, Mrs Slator moved to the next agenda item, which links with this.

**Speedwatch:** Speed monitoring is essential to obtain evidence before a decision is made whether to pursue any kind of speed restriction. Currently there are five people in the village who volunteered for Speedwatch training. It would be helpful if a sixth person would volunteer, as two groups of three could then alternate. Apparently, if a car's registration plate is reported for speeding three times, then the police will pay the motorist a visit. Cllr Williams has been trying to organise an area meeting for all her patch's Speedwatch groups, but with the resignation of the previous Police and Crime Commissioner, she has been unable to achieve this yet. Now the new Commissioner is in post she is working on this, and further information will be available as it comes in.

**20 is Plenty:** This is a campaign by a enthusiastic group of people to reduce the speed limit to 20 mph in all villages in Cambridgeshire. They maintain that "20 is the new 30" and it would cut down many kinds of traffic issues which currently affect the roads. Councillors expressed doubts over motorists actually keeping to the limit, and whether there would be enough police to monitor it if it became law.

**Additional Dog Bin:** Further to an outbreak of dog fouling at one end of the village, the local WhatsApp group had been quite active regarding provision of a second dog bin for the village. Several years ago, Council attempted to find a site for a second bin at the west end of the village but none of the suggested sites, which have to be on the roadside to allow the crews who empty the bins easy access, was acceptable to the residents there. A focus group is looking at sites again but as yet, had nothing to report. Council would be pleased to obtain a second bin if a site can be located.

**Trees in the High Street:** CCC Highways has received complaints about overhanging trees in Croydon High Street damaging the school bus, with the possibility of causing injury to passengers. Council was requested to notify the village of the problem, requesting that the owners of such trees would make sure they are cut back.

**Footpath Sign at Wimpole Hall:** The sign for the Clopton Way/National Cycleway, which was reported at the June meeting to have disappeared, has not been reinstated yet. Clerk was instructed to write to Wimpole Estate regarding the missing sign, and copy the letter to Peter Gaskin, Public Rights of Way officer for Cambs County Council.

**Pedestrians:** It was reported that pedestrians walking along Croydon Road from Arrington to Croydon (and vice versa) are walking with the traffic and not against it. This is dangerous for both pedestrians and motorists, especially when it is dusk or dark.

The Highway Code states:-

- *If there is no pavement, keep to the right-hand side of the road so that you can see oncoming traffic.*
- *You should take extra care and be prepared to walk in single file, especially on narrow roads or in poor light*
- *keep close to the side of the road.*

*It may be safer to cross the road well before a sharp right-hand bend so that oncoming traffic has a better chance of seeing you. Cross back after the bend.*

Please remember this, particularly when out walking with children during the school holidays, and stay safe.

**Cllr Williams gave a verbal report:-**

Firstly, she apologised for the lack of reports and communication. Her emails have been working internally, but she has not been able to send or receive any outside SCDC. Because she was not aware of this for some time it was not rectified. She reported that her emails are now in full working order and she now has a backlog of some 5000 to work through, with assistance.

**Appeal:** An appeal on the Land Supply for SCDC has been deferred until September/October. There is a full Council meeting on 22 July, and Cllr Williams will send her report to Council following that meeting.

**Transparency:** Cllr Williams is worried about the lack of transparency in commercial transactions. It is understandable that negotiations must be made in private, but after agreement has been reached, Cllr Williams cannot understand why the minutes of meetings cannot be made public, which at present they are not.

**Council Emails:** For the majority of this month there has been a problem with my council emails leading to some receiving bounce backs, but other emails have never reached me. As this is not the only instance, please do call me if you have not had a response to an email within 48hrs. I hope that this has been resolved for the foreseeable future but please do call if any urgent matters arise.

**Five Year Land Supply:** Recently the District Council published its land supply figures as over 6 years using one calculation method and 5.3years using a second calculation method. There is an appeal against a refused application in Sawston that is challenging the land supply, with a date now given as 24<sup>th</sup> June. Using both methodologies they are claiming the council has a supply of 4.03 on one method and 4.61 on the other. I am pushing for the District Council to robustly defend the land supply, as the consequences of an inspector finding us below the threshold of five years is NOT something any of us want to see. Officers feel that the published figures are accurate and that the council will be successful in the hearing, personally I think we will all feel more confident once the supply has been through the appeal process and successfully defended. If you would like to read any of the evidence submitted in the case there is a link to the application below.

[S/3873/17/OL | Application for outline planning permission for a residential development of up to 40 dwellings with some matters reserved except for Access Appearance Layout and scale. | Land At Mill Lane Sawston CB22 3HY \(greatercambridgeplanning.org\)](https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/S/3873/17/OL)

**Planning Scheme of Delegation:** At the Council AGM, once again the scheme of Delegation was voted on, and again I moved for an automatic call in process for Parish Councils and District Councillors. Beyond my own personal views as to which is the most democratic, I am deeply concerned that what is being practised now has never been consulted on and has never been asked for comment by parish councils. If there was clear support for what the administration is doing, then I would accept that my view was in the minority. But as it stands district councillors have given away decision making powers from elected, accountable councillors and given it to officers who, though this may not be their wish, are marking their own homework.

**First Purchase made by Council in Partnership with Hill (SCIP):** Land on the southern edge of Cambourne Business Park has been purchased for £12.9 million by SCIP, and is expected to lead to around 275 new houses. Only the minimum policy compliance of 40% is due to be affordable housing. There is no current planning permission granted for this site, the partnership will submit a planning application soon to the Planning Authority (run by the District Council). Due to the commercial sensitivity of these deals, councillors are prohibited from disclosing full details of what is discussed in these meetings. What I am allowed to say, is that I voted against as I did not feel that the deal on offer was one the council should make. I think if the council is to become developers, it should provide more than 40% affordable housing or SCIP is just like any other developer running a policy compliant project with nothing extra to offer.

South Cambs is not alone in venturing into these partnerships, and this has drawn attention from National Government. There are fears about the conflict of interests raised with councils becoming both applicant and decision maker on partnership application.

**Council Emails:** To the best of my knowledge my council email is now working again after several interruptions, this has unfortunately meant that an awful lot of emails have come through at once so please if a matter is urgent call me on the number below.

**Five Year Land Supply:** The appeal I reported on last month was postponed and is due to be resolved now in the Autumn. Meanwhile another challenge has been lodged by a different developer. I have kept the link below to the first appeal in case anyone would like to look at the sites that are being challenged. I would iterate that officers feel that the published figures are accurate and that the council will be successful in the hearing, but I still maintain that we will all feel more confident once the supply has been through the appeal process and successfully defended.

**Concern over increased Confidential Meetings at South Cambs:** Over recent years we have seen a steep increase in the number of meetings that exclude the press and public, over the last 3 years over 50% of Cabinet and Council meetings have excluded residents at some stage. While I understand the need for some matters to be discussed in close session for example if it is about an individual who's identity should be protected, however the majority of the meetings are closed due to commercial sensitivity. In these cases, the need to be commercially sensitive is over by the time the minutes are produced. With this in mind, and becoming more and more uncomfortable with the volume of information and decision making being kept from the public I moved a motion at full council calling for more transparency as can be seen below. Unfortunately this was heavily amended by the ruling group which I feel has diluted it somewhat, (also shown below) but I still hope it has acted as a reminder that we do not have to keep such things out of public sight.

**Original Motion:** This council recognises that the minutes relating to private meetings can be made available to the public if the grounds for exclusion of the meeting no longer apply. This council will seek to share the minutes of meetings wherever possible and will only keep them confidential as an absolute last resort, recognising that it is to the public that we are accountable and it is in the public's interest that we are as open and transparent as possible.

**Amended version that was approved below:** This Council recognises that the minutes relating to private meetings of this Council and its Committees can be made available to the public if the grounds for exclusion of the meeting no longer apply. This Council recognises the importance of openness and transparency and will share the minutes of meetings wherever possible in accordance with the provisions of the law and the constraints of commercial confidentiality.

**2018/19 Accounts Audit:** Resource yet again is stated as the main issue while completing South Cambs District Council accounts. I have repetitively raised this since September 2018, with warm words of assurance given and the Audit committee being told capacity and new officers were available, and yet the latest report from the external auditors is that the District Council has failed to meet the deadlines and there will be even further delays. It is not only a lack of staff that is a problem but staff turnover is not only costing the tax payer in gardening leaves and early retirements, but is holding up the production of accounts and resulting in even more money being spent on Auditors fees, often to the cost of a six figure sum per year. We are yet to find out what the bill will be for the 2018/19 accounts. Ultimately, this means that the accounts are taking years rather than months to produce and that councillors have not seen any financial statements for the period post March 2019 (28 months ago). I consider this to also be a big issue with transparency at SCDC.

**Possible Green Bin Delays:** Due to staff shortages the collection of green bins will potentially be interrupted. This is predominantly due to the number of waste refuse collection staff self-isolating and difficulty in getting enough agency support to cover vacancies.

**Cllr Heather Williams**

**SCDC The Mordens Ward**

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**Correspondence:**

**Electoral Register:** No changes

**Highways Events Diary:** Nearest event is in Duxford Air Show 24/25 July, followed by Little Gransden Air Show on 29 August.

**Gambling Principles Consultation:** Circulated - no comments received.

**Anthony Browne July news:** Circulated to Councillors.

**SCDC Village Attraction and Tourism website:** The following was received from SCDC:-

*South Cambridgeshire District Council is embarking on an exciting new project to build a new tourism website to showcase all the wonderful things there are to see and do across the district. The website will be called Visit South Cambs and the purpose is to help promote our local assets - such as places to visit and stay - and will help support our local businesses as they recover from the pandemic.*

*The website is not only to build the visitor and tourism economy, but to also promote staycations and to encourage local residents to spend with our local businesses and utilise the many local features our district offers.*

Council did not feel that Croydon has any visitor attractions and, having recently acquired its own new comprehensive website, did not want to make use of that offered by SCDC.

**Retrofit:** A co-operative working with support from SCDC and the community group Cambridge Carbon Footprint to help homeowners reduce their carbon footprint through low carbon refurbishment. It was not clear from the email what level of support was offered by SCDC. For further information, their website is <https://retrofitworks.co.uk/>

**Combined Authority Update:** The Combined Authority is returning to holding in-person public meetings of the Board and Committee, which will also be live streamed.

All meetings will be in St Ives:-

26 July at 11.00am Overview and Scrutiny Committee

28 July at 10.00am Combined Authority Board

30 July at 10.00am Audit and Governance Committee

**London Luton Airport:** It has been decided to progress Option One, which means minimal changes from today's flight paths below 5,000ft, and greater dispersion of flights above 5,000ft. The location and orientation of the new holding area near the A1-A14 junction has been adjusted and the lowest standard altitude of the hold raised by 1,000ft, reducing potential noise impacts on the residents of St Neots and Huntingdon. This still has to be approved by The Civil Aviation Authority, and if it is, will be implemented no earlier than February 2022.

**A505 Study:** To date the study has recommended a number of options for further investigation, assessment and development, with a view that the next phase of work would move towards selecting a preferred option. The Combined Authority (CPCA) is undertaking an independent review of the study as part of its Assurance Framework to demonstrate that projects the CPCA continues to invest in would offer value for money. This should result in the production of a value for money statement to sit alongside any reporting to the CPCA Transport Committee.

**Subsequent receipts:**

**Cllr Bridget Smith:** A letter was received by Council from Cllr Smith:-

*I have had a number of meetings recently with parish councils in South Cambs and it is apparent that many of you are feeling overwhelmed by the number of major issues that could potentially impact your communities. This includes things like East West Rail, the GCP schemes, the OxCam Arc, the new local plan, various very large planning applications etc. I have been told that parishes are confused about where responsibility rests for some of these schemes and that it is not always obvious what the District Council's role is or indeed if we are in a position to influence schemes that are outside of our direct control.*

*I have also spoken with a number of District Councillors and with the council's Leadership team and it is being suggested that as an initial exercise to sort this issue out we run a couple of infrastructure workshops in September specifically for parish councils. The purpose of this will be twofold: to brief parish councils on all the issues that could impact them and to explain what we are doing in relation to each of them and secondly to establish how you would like us to keep you better informed in the future. In the meantime, if you would like me to come and talk to your parish council on any of these matters, I am more than happy to do so.*

**Highway Events:** The RBL no longer insures parades and traffic management for these events is no longer being undertaken by the police. This will not affect Croydon.

**Local Highway Improvement Applications:** If Council wishes to submit an application to this scheme, it must be done by 30 September 2021. It is quite an involved process and an officer would work with Council initially, and then any bid would be presented to the LHI Member Panel, for scoring and prioritisation. Not all bids are successful.

It was reported that Whaddon Parish Council has recently been successful in achieving a reduction in speed at Whaddon Gap, although this may not have been through the LHI scheme.

**Ely Archives:** Following Covid, the archives are now open for receipt of Parish and Town Council records. Clerk has some very old accounts (1890s) for Council and would like to get these and old minute books archived.

**Taxi and Private Hire Policy:** The proposed amendments to this were circulated to Councillors. No comments received.

**Cambridgeshire ACRE:** This organisation is rebranded as Cambridge ACRE Community Action. It has a new logo as shown below and ACRE also has a brand new website.



<https://www.cambsacre.org.uk/>

### **County Cllr Kindersley sent a written report to the meeting:-**

The Gamlingay Division comprises the Parishes of Abington Pigotts, Arrington, Barrington, Croydon, Gamlingay, Guilden Morden, Litlington, Hatley, Orwell, Shingay-cum-Wendy, Steeple Morden, Tadlow and Wimpole. This report is for all Division Parish Councils but please be aware that it will include items that may have little or no relevance to your particular Parish. Apologies in advance!

**South Cambs Magazine:** The mention of non-delivery last month of the South Cambs magazine has triggered more reports of residents not getting the magazine 4 times a year. Some villages have it hand delivered and some by Royal Mail and we are investigating what is going wrong, but in the meantime do let us know if you are not receiving it. We put a lot of effort into making the magazine interesting and informative and it is now a really good read with lots of information about things that could be of interest to you such as Council grants for community initiatives, when the bins are collected and lots of lovely stories about what is happening throughout the district.

**Covid:** Covid has not gone away. We have seen the largest increase in cases in the County in our district. Most cases are in the 18-25 year old group and although young people do not generally become really ill, some undoubtedly will. There are many new cases a day and currently our rate is around 200 cases per 100k which is the worst we have seen for a very long time and is doubling every 10 days - with a steady increase in hospital admissions. It is vital that people get their jobs and now that the second jab can be given 8 weeks after the first. Lots of new vaccine centres have been opened to get this done quickly.

**Free School meals:** Awful to see a big increase in children in South Cambs in receipt of Free School meals. This is not a surprise as the effects of Covid really begin to hit those who have lost their jobs or their businesses. The County Council's Children & Young People Committee has agreed in principle to provide supermarket vouchers over the summer holidays for families entitled to free school meals with a request for up to £537K to make up the difference between Government funding and the cost of ensuring all eligible families have their needs met. It is also great to see the free food being organised by the community and distributed from the Almshouse Chapel.

**Unemployment:** Unemployment is also going up in South Cambs and our main worry are the 4,197 redundancies affecting largely young people in manufacturing as well as wholesale/hospitality/retail.

**New Business Growth Fund:** The District Council has launched a new fund that businesses looking to grow and expand can now apply for. It's aptly called the 'Growth Fund' and between £1,000 and £50,000 can be applied for at one time. Full eligibility criteria can be found here -

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/business-support-and-advice/growth-fund-grant-scheme> or by email [openforbusiness@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:openforbusiness@scambs.gov.uk)

**Home Improvements:** Every year the District Council completes an annual report showing how many home adaptations for disabled and older people have been completed. You can see it at here:

<https://www.cambshia.org/about-us/plans-and-performance/> .

Given the challenges in 2020/21, it's great that although the number of adaptations completed and the spend was lower than in previous years, we still managed to complete 166 adaptations investing over £2m to enabling residents to live more independently in their own home. Our service works closely with Occupational Therapists who were heavily redeployed to primary care services because of the pandemic – we look forward to a busy year ahead as these critical services resume. If you or a relative needs help to stay in their own home please contact [hia@cambshia.org](mailto:hia@cambshia.org).

**Murfitt Way Paving and Parking:** The work to sort out the pavements and parking in Murfitt Way, Gamlingay is due to start in September. This was delayed due to Covid so it is good news that it is back on the council's plans so quickly.

**Landlord Enforcement:** At this month's cabinet meeting South Cambs DC approved a Private Sector Housing Policy which allows the council to intervene and take action, including fining landlords, if private

rental housing falls below the standards we expect. If you are aware of sub-standard property being rented to friends of family please do get in touch.

**Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document:** The new Biodiversity Supplementary Planning Document from South Cambs is now out for consultation. This is an important piece of work that sets high ambitions for biodiversity in our district. South Cambs is one of the poorest areas in the country with regard to the amount of land managed for nature and for the number of trees. This document, together with our Zero Carbon Strategy and our Doubling Nature Strategy, will go a long way to addressing this.

**Community Flood Planning:** All the district councils are working with the County Council on this important issue. Parish councils (especially those in the 14 'wet' spots) are being asked what we can do to help them improve responsiveness in an emergency situation like the one we encountered last Christmas.

**Combined Authority:** It was disappointing to see a very lightweight response to the East West rail consultation from the Combined Authority at their last board meeting. After a long debate led by Bridget and the leader of the county council it was agreed that it would be 'beefed up' considerably to better reflect the responses that were submitted by both councils

The new mayor is moving forward with bus franchising proposals. Currently 90% of bus services are commercial and councils therefore have no control over their routes, frequencies or fares. We know that we urgently need at least a 24% shift to public transport from cars to reduce carbon emissions significantly. and this won't happen unless we have attractive public transport alternatives.

The draft business case is expected in the autumn prior to plans going out to public consultation. Bridget and the leader of the county council appealed for subsidised travel for young people, as we are well aware that in rural villages getting young people to education or training is a real problem if you don't have access to a car. The Mayor declined to declare a Climate Emergency but has established a Lead Member role for Climate Change and Environment which he has offered to Bridget. The CPCA Board voted, not unanimously, to accept all of the recommendations of the recently completed Independent Climate Change Commission, which focused on moving us swiftly to Zero Carbon. It is extremely disappointing that not all members of the board accepted that rewetting peat is absolutely critical to minimising carbon emissions in our region and that future drying out of peat will in fact cause vast quantities of carbon to be released into the atmosphere with all the dreadful consequences we all know so much about.

The CPCA has been awarded £172k to run a career hub for next year. It will involve 30 schools and colleges and will hopefully help to get our young people into training and jobs that will well support their futures.

**National Air Traffic/Luton Airport Consultation:** With thanks to Cllr Adam Zerny - Luton Airport has now acknowledged the results of the consultation which took place to decide on a new stack for Luton Airport with planes then starting their descent immediately above Gamlingay and Potton. These are the highlights:

- More than 2,400 objections were received. Mostly about noise, environment and air quality.
- 90% did not want any of the proposed options.
- Lots of people objected to the fact both options went over their area and as such there was no alternative option. From the small number of positive comments, the airport acknowledges a preference for Option 1 but it is likely to go with Option 2 regardless. Clearly neither are good for anyone living in our area.

The consultation did not comply with the first Gunning Principle, which states full consultation should take place at the earliest stage. Prior to the consultation, the airport discounted many route options and also turned down using technology to avoid a stack. This technology exists but would require the whole country to adopt it, which would require greater planning at a national level. There has been little evidence the airport had the appetite for such actions.

The environmental impact of 300 planes a day flying over at low altitudes is likely to be significant. It seems we'll soon find out. The airport is planning to push ahead with its proposals, beginning in February 2022.

**South West Cambridge Action Group (SWCAG):** Sebastian writes "Here's a round-up of activity in relation to the speculative developer Thakeham's proposal for a town of 25,000 homes between Meldreth, Whaddon, Bassingbourn, Wimpole, Orwell, Barrington, Shepreth, Foxton and Melbourn.

SWCAG invited Thakeham to a public meeting to answer questions from the public, but Thakeham has so far declined. The May 26th SWCAG meeting for parish council representatives with

Stephen Kelly, Head of Greater Cambridge Shared Planning, focused on the OxCam Arc and juxtapositions of local authority and central government planning powers.

Mr Kelly reported that Thakeham has to date not lodged a submission to the South Cambs Call for Sites, the statutory planning process in the creation of a new Local Plan. The window of opportunity to do so is diminishing - and it was promised by Easter (2021!)

A response has been received on an appeal to a Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government's Freedom of Information Act refusal - the appeal was denied on the basis that it was not in the public interest. This has been posted on the SWCAG website under the News and Events page: [www.swcag.org.uk](http://www.swcag.org.uk)

Thakeham have confirmed that it has commissioned surveillance work on its proposed site and the flurry of helicopters overhead in early June were part of this. A local landowner has shared a copy of a letter received from Thakeham in 2019 in which the developer suggests that compulsory purchase will be deployed if the landowner chooses not to participate in the Thakeham project. A copy of the letter is posted on the News and Events page at [www.swcag.org.uk](http://www.swcag.org.uk)."

**Parliamentary Boundaries:** The Boundary Commission for England has published proposals for new Parliamentary constituencies, which are now open to consultation until 2 August. This is the first stage of a review which will conclude in 2023. For the East of England, the proposals would mean three more MPs, and the effect of this is to create an additional 'St Neots' seat in Cambridgeshire.

**Cambourne to Cambridge:** The Cambourne to Cambridge Better Public Transport Project has been on hold since the summer of 2020 in response to objection from the former Mayor. In order to agree how best to proceed, the GCP Board commissioned an independent audit review of the C2C scheme in December 2020, to be reported back to the Board of 1 July. The conclusion of the audit is that there is no reason why the Executive Board of the GCP should not proceed to the next stage in the development of the C2C scheme.

The results of the audit were discussed by the GCP Executive Board at its recent meeting and the Board approved the Outline Business Case and asked the project team to go ahead with the next stage of the application process: to undertake a full Environmental Impact Assessment.

**Grants:** Congratulations to Gamlingay Parish Council, which has been awarded £2,000 to set up and part fund a Gamlingay Freedom Event and Women of Orwell for getting a grant for £500 - both from the South Cambs Covid Recovery Grant Scheme.

**A603:** Annoying to see the A603 in Wimpole and Orwell has been resurfaced over the new highway safety markings only recently put in. Officers assure me they will all be replaced when the cat's eyes are replaced and the lining redone.

Your Councillors are always ready to help. Please do not hesitate to contact County Councillor Sebastian Kindersley on 01767 651982 or [skindersley@hotmail.com](mailto:skindersley@hotmail.com) or write to the Manor Barn, East Hatley, SG19 3JA

#### **Finance:**

**Bank Statement:** The balance in the current account at the end of June is £5319 - 55.

**Certificate of Exemption:** PKF Littlejohn has acknowledged that the data for exemption has been logged with them.

**Website:** The remaining balance for the website developer is £440-00 and it was proposed by Mr Sole and seconded by Mr Brown that a cheque for this should be raised. All in favour, and a cheque for this amount was signed. Clerk will action.

#### **Planning:**

**Original Application Reference Number: 21/01479/HFUL**

**Resubmitted as Application Number: 21/02500/HFUL**

**Proposal:** Replacement of rear window to bedroom with internal French door and Juliette balcony, and installation of dropped kerb.

**Site address:** 2 Clopton Close, Croydon, SG8 0DT

This application had already been discussed and voted on at a planning meeting in May 2021. It was withdrawn on the same day as Council's meeting, and Council did not find this out until the Clerk tried to add Council's comments on the application to the website. Council was officially informed of the application's withdrawal on the following Monday when the weekly Planning Applications Summary was circulated.



After consultation with District Cllr Williams and the Planning Department, Council was legally allowed to submit the conclusion from the May meeting when the application was resubmitted, which has been done.

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

**Date of the next meeting:**

Wednesday 15 September in the Reading Room at 7.30pm. Any necessary Covid precautions that Council feels necessary will be in place.

As there was no further business, Councillors were thanked for attending and the meeting was declared closed at 8.37pm.

Signed .....

Date .....

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