

A meeting of Croydon Parish Council was held on Wednesday 16th November 2022 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm.

Apologies: Cllr Kindersley - unwell, Mr Sole - working late.

Present: Mr Barnes, Ms Newland, Mrs Sole, Mr Buchanan, Mr Wenman, Mr Wheeler, the Clerk and four members of the public.

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

Declarations of Interest: Mrs Sole.

Matters Arising and Village Issues:

Community Reports: None received

Dog/Litter Bin signs: Mr Buchanan obtained a second estimate for the dog bin signs. Although it is £5-00 less than the first quote, it is very basic and the quotation does not include shipping. The original quote is much more colourful and was preferred by Councillors. It was proposed by Mr Barnes and seconded by Ms Newland that the first quotation be accepted. All in favour. Mr Buchanan will liaise with one of the Dog Bin group with a view to ordering the signs through the first supplier.

Speedwatch: One of the volunteers has withdrawn but another has come forward from the village. There is now a total of 6 volunteers, although there is a possibility that one more may withdraw.

London Luton Flight Paths: Council has seen the questions regarding the flight paths that the village would like answered; these will be forwarded to LLA and the representatives asked to attend a meeting and give answers to the questions they were sent. As the representatives pulled out of a previous meeting Council will be pressing them to attend and answer these questions. LLA must be accountable for its actions. Clerk was instructed to copy the email inviting LLA, along with the questions, to Cllr Kindersley, Cllr Williams and our MP Anthony Browne.

Street Cleaning Machine: Cllr Williams was not at the meeting, so no update was available.

Gmail addresses: Clerk is still waiting for some of the Councillors to set up their gmail addresses and waiting for notification of this. As requested, Clerk has also set up a WhatsApp Croydon PC group which appears to be working.

Civility and Respect Pledge: After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that there were more positives than negatives in taking this pledge. It was proposed by Ms Newland and seconded by Mr Barnes that Council signs up to the Pledge. All in favour. Clerk will action this on Council's behalf.

Hastoe - Affordable housing: There was a discussion regarding the proposed housing development in Croydon. The Clerk was asked to seek advice from Cllr Williams and following this, it was agreed in principle that it would be possible to arrange a meeting with representatives from all three sides involved.

Lower Road - accidents: Following the double fatal accident recently, Highways has put up free-standing Bumpy Road warning signs at each end of the undulating stretch of Lower Road. Clerk was instructed to write to Highways and ask that these signs are made permanent by putting them on poles. A resident from Lower Road has asked that Council presses for a 40mph speed limit - although it is unlikely to be policed it may slow traffic down and prevent any further accidents. It would also allow Speedwatch to operate in that area.

Warm Hubs: These are a collaboration between ACRE and SCDC. Warm Hubs are being established in places such as: libraries, community centres, church halls, sports clubs, cafés and other places that promise a warm welcome to anyone struggling to heat their home. Warm Hubs are totally free to use and will provide a warm welcome to all. Warm Hubs bring a new community-led approach to South Cambridgeshire in tackling poverty and social isolation. People can come along to the Warm Hubs on their own, or with a friend, and talk to others over a hot drink, or maybe a hot meal. Those attending the Warm Hubs can get practical tips and advice on saving energy costs and keeping safe and warm at home. They will also be helped to find out about more specialist advice and support available to them, such as [cost-of-living grants or debt advice](#). All volunteers are trained by ACRE - if you would be interested in volunteering to run a Warm Hub in Croydon, please contact the Clerk for details.

Remembrance Sunday: This did not go quite as planned as the order RBL visited to memorials was changed after it had been publicised in the village. An RBL representative apologised and suggested that the timings are confirmed the day before the commemoration just to make sure. He also asked if

Council would consider cleaning the war memorial as it was looking dirty. Council will investigate this and see if it can be undertaken with cleaning Arrington and Wimpole's memorial as well.

Australian inquiry: A lady living in Australia has contacted the village to see if she can find out details of her great grandfather. Clerk has passed this on to two ladies in the village who have extensive knowledge of village genealogy. They have sent details to Australia and the lady has returned some interesting photographs she has of the village properties.

County Cllr Kindersley's 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 & 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!

Warm Hubs and Cost of Living: Gamlingay Eco Hub is one of the first Warm Hubs that are being supported by South Cambs District Council. This will be a warm place that anyone can go to in order to save energy in their own homes or offices. I shall certainly be going down to work there when things get too chilly! There are other things you can do to keep warm whilst saving energy and money. Electric blankets are relatively cheap to run as are slow cookers which can be used to turn cheap food ingredients into warming and nourishing soups and stews. Turning the heating down by quite a small amount can make a real difference to costs as can only heating the rooms you are using. There is a lot more information available on our website and if you need help please do ask for it.

Buses: When the Combined Authority Mayor, Dr Nik Johnson, visited Gamlingay Eco Hub a few weeks ago he heard a lot of concerns from residents about the proposed cuts to the Number 18 bus especially in relation to children attending Comberton VC. We have also had numerous letters and emails from people, especially elderly people, distressed at the prospect of being cut off in their villages without any public transport.

Bus companies only run services that are commercially viable unless they get a subsidy. In the past, this subsidy has come from the County Council but now it is the responsibility of the Combined Authority. The good news is that the Combined Authority (of which Bridget is a board member) has found about £1.5 mil to save those services that were going to be deregulated (axed) by Stagecoach. However, this is just a sticking plaster to take us to April after which subsidies have to be found from elsewhere. It is most unlikely that government is going to provide the money especially as bus cuts are happening all over the country. There are two options being discussed. One is a 'Mayoral Precept' which means that probably £5 will be added to council tax specifically to subsidise bus services. The other option which will provide money for a doubling of the bus network on Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire is to introduce a road charge in Cambridge. This would generate about £50mil per year and is the subject of a public consultation ending December 23rd.

As well as ensuring vital bus services continue between October and the end of March 2023, the Combined Authority is working to put in place a sustainable and affordable bus network from April 2023 onwards. All this is a sharp reminder of the reality of the current deregulated bus system, and the problems caused by sixty per cent of bidding authorities in England, including Cambridgeshire & Peterborough, receiving no Government funding for their Bus Service Improvement Plans (BSIPs). The Combined Authority's Overview & Scrutiny Committee was told in a report from its lead member for buses that two reasons had been given for the failure of the Department for Transport to fund Cambridgeshire's Bus Service Improvement Plan: 1. in DfT's view we had insufficient commitment to road charging, active travel and bus priority schemes in our area; and 2. the DfT subsequently applied a deprivation index score to each BSIP submitted and given our high overall growth, this meant that the money tended to be allocated in the north of England rather than to us.

Making Connections Consultation: The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) has launched the Making Connections 2022 consultation running for 10 weeks until 23 December 2022. The proposals are described as a 'once-in-a-generation opportunity to change how we travel in the Greater Cambridge area, relieving pressure on the network and responding to air quality, cost of living and climate crises for a better, cleaner and safer future'.

The survey, plus information about the proposals, including maps, frequently asked questions, dates of public meetings etc can be found here: <http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/mc-2022>

Residents and those travelling to the area will be asked for their thoughts on the three parts of the proposal. Firstly: transforming the bus network with proposals from mid-2023 to transform the bus network through new routes, additional services, cheaper fares (£2 from Gamlingay) and longer

operating hours. Investing in other sustainable travel schemes Alongside the bus network, GCP is also proposing to invest in new sustainable travel schemes, such as better walking and cycling links.

Later on, the GCP proposes creating a Sustainable Travel Zone which includes a road user charge. Vehicles would be charged for driving within the zone between 7am and 7pm on weekdays, and money raised would fund improvements to the bus network and other sustainable travel schemes. The Zone would be fully operational in 2027/28 but only after the bus improvements are introduced.

I would really encourage you to complete the consultation because even if you do not go to Cambridge the money generated will provide buses for Gamlingay and you can have your say on how frequently those buses should run and how much a ticket should cost. If you are a cyclist then you may want to put in a plea for better and safer cycle links between our village and our neighbours.

Housing Developments: Housing development is controlled by means of Local Plans and Planning Regulations. Local Plans dictate where new development can go and how much development can go there. The rules state that development in villages has to be within the village framework and must not spread out into the countryside - unless the local plan says otherwise. The new local plan for Gamlingay has no housing allocations. The only sites for development have already been approved: Land South of West Rd (30 houses on appeal against local wishes), Downing Gardens (97 houses, allocated in the last Plan), Merton Farm Church End (4 houses, within the framework), Green End (10 houses, on appeal against local wishes). The council will consider small 'Exception Sites' on the fringes of village frameworks for social housing for local people but the value of this land is far less than for commercial developments.

This is a long way of saying that if you have heard rumours of any planning applications on any other site in the Parish please do not panic. There is nothing to stop landowners spending their money on lodging planning applications anywhere but they must be decided by South Cambs in conformity with the Local Plan – which makes no allocations in Gamlingay, as above.

Affordable Homes for Gamlingay Residents: It is tremendous news that South Cambs DC has now exchanged contracts with Morris Homes for the acquisition of the 34 affordable homes in Gamlingay on the Downing Gardens site. These will be delivered as 24 Affordable Rent and 10 Shared Ownership properties.

The new homes will be completed and handed over in phases with the first two Shared Ownership properties likely to be completed in November, with the first Affordable Rent homes completing and becoming available at the start of the New Year. If you are interested in one of these homes and are not already registered on the Council's HomeLink please do so immediately as it takes a bit of time to process applications.

Business Support Newsletter: South Cambs publishes a business focused newsletter every month - There is a lot of information in the latest one about bidding for council contracts, making your business energy efficient, cyber security, support for employers and much more. You can sign up to receive it automatically.

Voneus: The public meeting with Voneus was extremely useful; and they were extremely apologetic about the performance and behaviour of their sub-contractors and undertook to leaflet-drop the village with said apology. The Parish Council has published very full details of the discussion.

Effects of the hot summer on Highways: It is so frustrating to report the very adverse impact that the long, dry summer has had on Cambridgeshire's highways - especially in the Fens and on the clay soils locally. Anyone driving locally will have noticed the considerable subsidence at the sides of the roads; and the return of many bumps and dips. We are also aware that there has also been a major increase in subsidence in housing, and that the same issue has caused huge problems for the water companies as the movement of the ground has led to many more leaks and broken water mains.

The sad fact is that we simply don't have the money to fix this type of damage at the scale at which it is happening. It may be that we may need to introduce far lower speeds on some of our roads, but this is not going to be popular, and by itself won't necessarily lead to drivers slowing down. What it also highlights is that the impact of climate change is becoming very real, very fast. Some roads have already been marked up for repair.

Highway Notices: A new footbridge is planned at Boot Lane, Barrington before year-end. The Local Highway Improvement Scheme is now open: the new timetable is as follows. • Application window opens Monday 31 October 2022 • Application window closes at 5:00PM on Friday 6 January 2023 • Feasibility studies undertaken February to April 2023 • Panel meetings May 2023 • Report to committee including prioritised list for approval June 2023 • Programming, design, consultation July 2023 to March 2024 • Pricing and construction March to August 2024.

Parish Councils are asked NOT to bid for 20MPH schemes as these are being fast tracked via another scheme with proposals for the process to award funding for applications for 20MPH schemes reported to the December meeting of the Highways & Transport Committee.

Advance Warning! The Addenbrooke's Link Road between the Biomedical Campus and Trumpington has always been designated as being for access to the Campus only, and has ANPR cameras on it to detect through traffic. We understand that the police may be once more about to start fining people who use it to drive straight through the Campus, so we'd advise against doing that.

Everyday Needs Grants: The Everyday Needs Grants Programme from the Royal British Legion is designed to assist people who need help in a quick and easy way with essentials such as kitchen appliances, clothes, and energy costs. Providing up to £2,400 a year in £200 monthly instalments, successful applicants receive vouchers for energy and vouchers for food, clothing and white goods. The Legion is dedicated to supporting not only serving and ex-serving personnel but the whole of the Armed Forces community, including families, dependants, and carers – which can include children, current and former spouses and partners, widows and widowers. More at rbl.org.uk/costofliving or call 0808 802 8080

Cultivate Cambs Grants: Cambridgeshire County Council has announced that the next deadline for Cultivate Cambs grant applications will be 16 December, with pre-application advice appointments beginning the month before.

Cultivate Cambs awards grants of £2,000 to £15,000 for new initiatives which support adults and older people with care and support needs, and children, young people and families, to live independently, safe and well in thriving and inclusive communities. The fund is open to voluntary and community organisations and social enterprises based in and outside of Cambridgeshire, and public sector organisations in Cambridgeshire. Project proposals must benefit Cambridgeshire residents and also reduce pressure on council services.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.cambscf.org.uk/cultivate-cambs>.

Household Support Fund: Cambridgeshire County Council is planning to agree eligibility criteria for the third round of the Household Support Fund (October 2022 to March 2023). The amount available for the third round of funding is £3,581,424. This is proposed to be spent once again on school meal vouchers for the school holidays, and on direct one-off grants to eligible households. It is proposed that such grants should be raised from £100 to £110 to reflect increasing inflation.

Community Chest Grants: South Cambs has amended the terms of Community Chest Grant criteria so that Parish and Town Councils of any size can bid for Community Chest grants that provide a benefit to those affected by the cost-of-living crisis and to allow applications for revenue costs or overheads (for example, salaries, rent, advertising, promotional materials) to be included for all projects that provide a benefit to those affected by the cost-of-living crisis.

EV Charging Grants: South Cambs has also agreed to create an electric vehicle charge point grant scheme for parish councils and operators of community buildings for grants of up to £5,000 to support installation of publicly accessible electric vehicle chargers, to support charging infrastructure within the district.

Fostering Unaccompanied Children: The County Council is desperate to find more Foster Carers for unaccompanied children who are seeking asylum in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough – we need carers to meet the needs of children and young people who are often forced to leave their family and country behind to seek protection from violence, persecution, war, detention, climate change, terrorism, or the disappearance of their family.

You will become part of a large local network of empathetic, compassionate Foster Carers who really make a difference to children and young people in care. Our not-for-profit Local Authority Fostering Service offers specialist training which focuses on caring for unaccompanied minors, and its qualified team are on hand to support you and provide all the guidance you need.

If you're passionate about making a difference to young lives, and are at least 21 years-old, have a spare bedroom and be a full-time resident in the UK we want to hear from you.

If you are interested in Fostering and Adoption for unaccompanied minors and want to find out more, please get in touch: · Visit: cambridgeshire.gov.uk/fostering, Email: fostering@cambridgeshire.gov.uk or call 0800 052 0078.

Ivy Farm Bridge new right of way: As anticipated, Hertfordshire County Council, which owns the Ivy Farm Bridge, currently an agricultural bridge over the A505 just west of the A1198/A10 roundabout, has launched a public consultation on the creation of a new public right of way over the bridge. . Essentially, the diversion order has provided a piggy-back for footpath changes further along the route in question,

where it passes over the A505. If the consultation is successful and the new route comes into being, a safe pedestrian connection would be created between Royston and Bassingbourn (and on to Litlington).

Recent unusual rainfall and flooding: The October 20 rain saw household flooding concerns in various parts of South Cambs. This was a truly extraordinary event and has created new concerns. It would be helpful to know where these incidents took place, if people would like to get in touch on a confidential basis, so that we can make the County flood risk team aware. You can report directly here: <https://www.gov.uk/report-flood-cause> - South Cambs has been made aware of the flooding in Arrington's Sheltered Housing scheme.

Community Rail Partnership AGM: This will be held on line Nov 29, 12PM. All welcome - please contact sarahgrove.msfcpr@gmail.com if you'd like to find out more about how we work for improvements to services for Meldreth, Shepreth and Foxton Stations.

Your Councillors are always ready to help. Please do not hesitate to contact County Councillor Sebastian Kindersley on 01767 651982 or skindersley@hotmail.com or write to the Manor Barn, East Hatley, SG19 3JA District Councillor Bridget Smith (Gamlingay Ward, SCDC) is on 07729 836449 or Cllr.BridgetSmith@scambs.gov.uk

District Councillor Williams' written report to the meeting:-

Awaiting receipt

Correspondence:

Electoral Register: None received.

Reading Room: A request for help with funding was received by Council and circulated to all Councillors. After much discussion it was suggested that Council funds the new flooring at a cost of £2850 + VAT and the nett cost will be taken from the Community Benefit Fund. The invoice must be made out to Croydon Parish Council for audit purposes. This was proposed by Mr Buchanan and seconded by Ms Newland. All in favour.

Parish Council Liaison Meeting: The next Parish/Cabinet Liaison Meeting is scheduled for Monday, 12 December 2022 from 18:00 either in the Council Chamber and Microsoft Teams. This meeting will be focussing on the work of our Communities Team, with the agenda being as follows:

- Homes for Ukraine programme update
- Council response to cost-of-living crisis
- Warm Hubs project update
- Community-led Plans
- Community safety and support available from the Council
- Lifeline scheme and opportunities for parishes to support the most vulnerable

Any Councillor who wishes to attend, please respond to this email, and let

jonathan.malton@scambs.gov.uk know if you are attending in-person or via Microsoft Teams.

Bus services: Recently many bus services in the Fenland area were withdrawn, but these have been reinstated, Full details can be obtained from:- <https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/news/details-released-of-bus-operators-and-timetables-for-withdrawn-stagecoach-routes-from-october-30/>

Library at Home: Cambridgeshire Libraries is very pleased to announce that earlier this year our Library@Home Service volunteers were granted the *Queens Award for Voluntary service*.

There is to be an official presentation of this award on Monday 28th November 2pm; at March Library, City Road, March, PE15 9LT and all may attend.

Highway Events: There will be a Winter Market on Mill Road on 3rd December. Details of all highway events are available from:- <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/highway-events/>

Congestion Charging: The Greater Cambridge Partnership consultation on Making Connections is live until 23rd December. Everyone living in Greater Cambridge and the travel to work area is invited to have their say on the Making Connections proposals. The proposals are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to change travel in Greater Cambridge and the wider area, relieving pressure on the network and responding to air quality, cost of living and climate crises for a better, cleaner and safer future.

The survey, plus information about the proposals, including an interactive map, frequently asked questions, dates of public meetings etc can be found here: [GCP Making Connections 2022 | Consult Cambridgeshire \(engagementhq.com\)](#). This consultation does include your comments on the proposed Congestion Charge.

ZCC - a circular economy: Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT), in partnership with BLUEPRINT, hosts a session on what a circular economy could look like in your community. Learn about what the circular economy is, how it helps to reduce waste and contributes to a sustainable future for us all. PECT is a key partner in the BLUEPRINT project. BLUEPRINT is project funded by the European Regional Development Fund, aiming to assist the transition to a circular economy.

Book a place here [ZCC Green Connect: "A Circular Economy in your Community" Tickets, Thu 17 Nov 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Christmas Holiday Activities: The Cambridgeshire Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme offers free holiday scheme places. It is available to eligible primary and secondary school children and young people. It runs during the Easter, Summer and Christmas school holidays. The Department for Education funds The HAF Programme. The next HAF Programme will run between 22 December 2022 to 3 January 2023. Registered holiday schemes will offer up to 16 hours of free attendance. They provide a range of fun experiences, a healthy lunch and snacks.

Eligible families include:

- Families receiving income-related free school meals
- Newly arrived refugee families
- Families struggling financially (subject to referral from school)
- Families in receipt of free school meals will receive an evoucher by email and/or text on Monday 7 November. This will include a booking code.

[Click here to use your booking code with a registered Christmas holiday scheme.](#)

Please contact The HAF Team to find out how to get a booking code if you meet any of the other criteria above. HAF@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Circulated to Councillors:

Cambs ACRE newsletter

Combined Authorities Update

Cambridgeshire Matters

Subsequent receipts:

Anthony Browne: Details of our MP's recent actions, especially his campaign against the Congestion Charge, and notification that the Mayor is taking leave of absence for medical reasons.

Electric Vehicle Charge Point: South Cambridgeshire District Council's new Electric Vehicle Charge Point Grant is offering a grant for Council interested in setting up a EVCP. Up to £5,000 per project is available for publicly accessible EV charger projects at village halls and community buildings, towards capital costs for purchase and installation of EV chargers. Applications will be appraised for their deliverability and positive impact with funding allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis. There is approximately £20,000 available to be awarded before the end of March 2023. The fund is likely to continue after March 2023 with further details coming soon. To be eligible for funding, EV chargers must be publicly accessible, and projects should demonstrate that there is likely demand for an EV charger at the chosen location.

A member of public at the meeting informed Council that an area in the village was due to be surveyed for a Charge Point, so it was decided not to take any action at this time.

Update on the Energy Bill Relief: Utility Aid has been working with suppliers and partners to understand the impact of the Energy Bill Relief Scheme. The scheme affects anyone with a commercial energy contract, including the local (parish and town) council sector. Please complete this [online enquiry form](#) if you want to contact Utility Aid. Utility Aid will offer green tariffs to interested people and continue providing ongoing support with net-zero and energy management upon request.

Rough Sleepers: SCDC has requested the number of rough sleepers in the parish on the night of November 17-18. As far as Councillors were aware there are none in Croydon and Clerk has replied with this information.

Sawston Greenway: The public engagement programme for the Sawston Greenway begins on 14 November with people encouraged to share their views on the proposed designs. The Sawston Greenway will provide safer and better routes for people walking, cycling and, where appropriate, horse-riding between Sawston, Stapleford, Great Shelford and Addenbrooke's/Biomedical Campus.

Engagement on the Greenway began at midday, 14 November - and closes at midday on Friday 9 December. There will be a virtual event on Wednesday 23 November via Zoom and a public drop-in event at Mill Lane Pavilion on Wednesday 30 November. [You can register for the virtual event here.](#) To find out more and share your views please visit the following website:

<https://consultcamb.s.uk.engagementhq.com/gcp-sawston-greenway>

Policing - South Cambs: Council has received guidance regarding e-scooters. For your information:- It is currently against the law to ride an e-scooter on a public road or pavement. The only exception to this is in zones where trials are taking place, such as some areas within the city of Cambridge. In these areas, **hired** scooters can be used on the road and on cycle paths.

E-scooters can never be used on the pavement, and e-scooters you may purchase can never be used: On a public road without complying with several legal requirements, which users will find very difficult. In spaces that are set aside for use by pedestrians, cyclists, and horse-riders; this includes on the pavement and in cycle lanes. E-scooters may be bought from many popular retailers, and your children may report that all their friends already have one. However, the law is clear - the only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land. So, right now, you can buy one, but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement.

If stopped by police while using an e-scooter illegally, they will advise you of the current law about how to use one legally and ask you to take your e-scooter home. They may however still penalise you, depending on the nature and gravity of the offence.

SCDC Free Trees: SCDC is once again offering 6 free trees with a view to making the area net zero by 2050. Council has no land, but a tree from SCDC was planted in the churchyard, so the information about this has been passed to the relevant people.

Christmas Bazaar: Historically, the Reading Room was able to hold fund-raising village events there with no charge. However, following the pandemic and subsequent loss of income for the Room the Trustees feel that this cannot be allowed to continue. A letter from the event secretary was received asking if the Council would be able to fund the forthcoming Christmas Bazaar. Estimated use would be 7 hours at £6-50 per hour. Council considered that as they fund the Croydon Café it would be only right to fund another village event. It was proposed by Mr Buchanan and seconded by Mr Wenman that Council would fund this event. All in favour.

Alternative Fuels Strategy: The Combined Authority launched a consultation on 9 November about a strategy to speed up the switch to electric, hydrogen and other renewable fuelled vehicles in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The public is invited to have their say on a new Alternative Fuels Strategy (AFS) before it is finalised. The AFS aims to help tackle climate change and air pollution by helping Cambridgeshire and Peterborough switch away from petrol and diesel vehicles. The strategy includes alternative fuelled cars, buses, lorries and rail.

The AFS will also support the cleaner growth of the economy and jobs.

Areas the strategy will cover includes:

- Increasing the amount of electric vehicle (EV) charging points.
- Encouraging people to choose an alternative fuelled vehicle (AFV) like an electric car.
- Complement existing work to encourage people to walk, cycle or take public transport as the first choice for journeys, as a way to significantly cut emissions.
- It will form a sub-strategy to the Combined Authority's developing Local Transport and Connectivity Plan, which is planned for adoption in early 2023 as Cambridgeshire and Peterborough's statutory transport plan.

The consultation runs for six weeks and closes on 21st December 2022. To find out more, visit [our consultation website](#) where you can also fill in the survey.

Hard copies of the consultation materials are available on request. Email

transport@cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk or call 01480 277180. These contact details can also be used to ask questions.

Finance:

Bank Statement: As no cheques had been written, there was no bank statement this month.

Charles Arnold-Baker: SLCC Cambridgeshire Branch Committee has agreed to award grant funding of £75.00 each for up to four smaller councils (under £10k precept) to purchase the latest edition (13th) of Charles Arnold Baker. Otherwise known as the Clerk's Bible, Charles Arnold Baker is the font of all knowledge when it comes to local council administration and an essential tool for Clerks and RFOs to

stay up to date on all the latest legislative and regulatory updates. Councillors were informed of this offer and the Clerk has applied and may be lucky. The cost of the book is in the region of £150-00. Council's current edition is the 11th.

Village Christmas Tree: Council agreed to fund at the same rate of £50-00 as last year and has agreed to do the same this year. An 8ft tree is available from <https://www.thestableblooms.com/> in Arrington and can be delivered.

Croydon Cafe invoice: An invoice of £97-50 for rental of the Reading Room for the Cafe was received. It had already been agreed by the previous Chair that Council would fund this community event.

Royal British Legion: An invoice for the village wreath laid on remembrance Sunday was received by Council.

It was resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the parish residents and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure:-

£20 for purchase of the village poppy wreath laid at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

Payments of £50 for the village Christmas tree and £97-50 for the Café rental of the Reading Room were also unanimously approved for payment. Cheques were raised and signed by one signatory, the other signature will be obtained out of meeting.

Hardship Fund: Mr Buchanan was interested to see if Croydon PC would be able to set up a hardship fund. Following investigations, the criteria and amounts available from various organisations and what the money can be used for are very different. Mr Buchanan has volunteered to attend the next Croydon Café on Wednesday 30th November and offer information and guidance on the grants available.

Planning: None received.

Items for next agenda: Christmas nibbles after the meeting. Clerk to invite those who have been involved in village activities to join the Councillors after the meeting business.

Date of the next meeting: Wednesday 14th December 2022 in the Reading Room at 7.30pm

As there was no further business, Councillors and public were thanked for attending and the meeting was declared closed at 8.58pm

Signed Date