

Councillor Peter McDonald Duxford Division & Ward:
District Councillor for Parishes of Duxford, Hinxton, Ickleton, Babraham, Pampisford.
County Councillor also for Foxton, Fowlmere, Shepreth, Thriplow, Heathfield, Heydon, Chishills,
Whittlesford

Report for Parish Councils – March 2023.

South Cambs District Council

Further £200,000 proposed for cost of living support

Plans for a further cost of living support package for residents, worth more than £200,000, have been published by South Cambridgeshire District Council. The proposals include a roadshow of cost of living talks, support to transform some Warm Hubs into Community Wellbeing Hubs, increasing awareness of Council Tax support, more free energy saving appliances and the creation of a South Cambridgeshire Sustainable Food Network. The plans will be presented to Cabinet on 20 March.

The proposals build on a package of almost £400,000 of support agreed by the Council in November. Just over half of that initial funding came from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care System (ICS) to support community-based programmes. The new plans set out the Council's next steps for cost-of-living support. The ICS have indicated that they will provide further grant funding that the Council will bid for, to continue projects for the next financial year. These will continue to focus on prevention of poor health resulting from financial hardship and living in cold homes.

Housing plans for 2023/24

The Council's Housing Revenue Account is ring-fenced and used to maintain its stock of around 5,600 Council homes. Plans for housing include:

- Having doubled the number of new Council homes built from 35 in 2019/20 to 70 in 2021/22, the new target is for at least 75 new energy-efficient Council homes to be delivered every year.
- During the next two years, more than £2 million has been allocated to continue to upgrade existing housing stock, as part of continuing carbon reduction efforts.

Asylum Seekers Hotel Housing

The Home Office has informed local councils that they are now using the Cambridge Bar Hill Hotel as accommodation for asylum seekers. This is part of a national programme throughout the UK to deal with an increase in the number of people arriving in the UK and the decision by the Home Office to 'disperse' asylum seekers across the country.

The hotel, which has 136 rooms, will be used to house a maximum of 272 people who have arrived in England after crossing the Channel by boat. The Home Office has informed the Councils that the new arrivals will be families and single females. However, the people who stay in the hotel is determined by needs and pressures within the asylum system and is a Home Office decision.

If the hotel is used for mainly families, the number of people at the hotel will be less than the maximum capacity. The hotel will not be open to other guests for overnight accommodation.

South Cambridgeshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Integrated Care System are now working together to provide support, including:

- Applying for school places

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- Ensuring appropriate healthcare is available
- Keeping the local community informed of the Home Office's plans
- Considering the social needs of asylum seekers and working with the voluntary sector, Bar Hill Parish Council and other groups to address these where possible

Those staying at the hotel will remain there as asylum claims are assessed. During that time, the Home Office will provide them with three meals a day, toiletries, a laundry service and £9.10 per week.

The day to day arrangements at the hotel in Bar Hill will be overseen by Serco, who are working with the Home Office to deliver the asylum accommodation scheme. There will be security provided at the hotel for 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Children who arrive at the hotel in Bar Hill will be given access to education, as anyone arriving in the area would be. This could be through attendance at local schools and colleges. Asylum seekers will apply for school places for their children in the same way as all other residents. Support will be provided.

Asylum seekers will also be able to access local health services in the same way that any person visiting South Cambridgeshire on a temporary basis would. Health partners are working on the best way to accommodate this locally, whilst considering and being conscious of existing demand for local services.

Following their time at the hotel, the asylum seekers will be moved to other temporary dispersal accommodation provided by the Home Office as it becomes available. This could be anywhere in the country. This future accommodation will not be provided by local Councils.

Cambridgeshire County Report

Secondary School Places

The number of pupils offered a place at one of their preferred Cambridgeshire secondary schools has risen. In total, 6459 pupils have been allocated a place at their first-choice secondary school for September 2023, compared to 6285 last year.

This represents 87 per cent, compared to 90 per cent last year – but the total number of places allocated has increased from 6983 last year to 7413 this year. The percentage of pupils offered a place at their second or third choice school has also risen – from 7.2 per cent (501 pupils) in 2022 to 8 per cent (619 pupils) in 2023. Year 6 students will hear 1st March which secondary school has offered them a place for September 2023.

Highways Update

The March Highways Committee has a number of updates relevant locally:

https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/ccs_live/Meetings/tabid/70/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/397/Meeting/1925/Committee/62/Default.aspx

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1. Civil Parking Enforcement

Final stages of this now being implemented and so we will write to the SoS to ask for implementation this year.

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

As discussed the Enforcement Team from Cambridge will enforce parking regulations.

2. Highways Capital Programme

The proposed programme for 2024/25 is as below:

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

South Cambridgeshire Works Programme

Carriageway & Footway Maintenance including Cycle Paths

Road Number	Parish/Town	Street	Location	Works	Budget 2023/24 £	Budget 2024/25 £
Contact Officer: Josh Rutherford						
Drainage schemes						
C232	Fulbourn	Station Road	Various locations through road	Drainage investigations/design	included	£ -
Unc	Fulbourn	Geoffrey Bishop Avenue	Throughout road	Drainage investigations/design	included	£ -
A1198	Shingay cum Wendy	Ermine Street	At Shingay turn	Drainage improvement scheme	included	£ -
B1053	Linton	High Street	Nr PH and no. 54	Drainage improvement scheme	included	£ -
Unc	Linton	Lambsfair	Throughout road	Drainage improvement scheme	included	£ -
C186	Willingham	Over Road	Various locations through road	Drainage improvement scheme	included	£ -
C210	Waterbeach	Chapel Street	From Londis	Drainage improvement scheme	included	£ -
Footway/Cycleway schemes						
C210	Hormingsea	High Street	Through village	Footway resurfacing	£ 180,000	£ -
Unc	Willingham	FP6 at rear of church	Full length of footway link	Footway resurfacing	£ 30,000	£ -
Unc	Castle Camps	High Street	Through High Street	Footway resurfacing	£ 90,000	£ -
Unc	Swavesey	Whitton Close	Full estate	Footway resurfacing	£ 220,000	£ -
Unc	Horseheath	Haverhill/Linton Road	Full length	Footway resurfacing	£ 110,000	£ -
Unc	Cottenham	Pelham Way	All length	Footway resurfacing	£ 92,000	£ -
C284	Whittlesford	Duxford Road	Village to Royston Rd crossroads	Footway resurfacing	£ -	£ 190,000
A1303	Bottisham	Newmarket Road	Bell Road to High Street	Footway resurfacing	£ -	£ 200,000
C236	Fulbourn	Cow Lane	full length	Footway resurfacing	£ -	£ 175,000
B1102	Stow cum Quy	Church Road	From traffic signals to/including Orchard St	Footway resurfacing	£ -	£ 105,000
C273	Steeple Morden	Station Road	From Ashden Road to end of houses	Footway resurfacing	£ -	£ 23,000
A1307	Little Abington	Cambridge Road	From 17 to 49 and from 10 to 6	Footway resurfacing	£ -	£ 130,000
Carriageway schemes						
A10	Milton	Milton Interchange/Bypass	Interchange over A14 to Butt Lane	Carriageway resurfacing	£ 1,458,406	£ -
A1307	Little Abington	Cambridge Road	Between speed limits through village	Carriageway resurfacing	£ -	£ 433,000
A10	Milton	Ely Road	From Denny End to just past Waterbeach Lodge	Carriageway resurfacing	£ -	£ 425,000
					£ 2,180,406	£ 1,681,000

Additionally there will be surface treatments for Whittlesford (Church Lane) Fowlmere (Chrissal Rd) and Footway Slurry sealing in Foxton (Station Rd).

3. Highways Maintenance Programme

The works programme for S Cambs for 25/56 is as follows:

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 Telephone 07912 669092

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South Cambridgeshire Works Programme

Carriageway & Footway Maintenance including Cycle Paths

Road Number	Parish/Town	Street	Location	Works	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Contact Officer: Josh Rutherford							
Drainage schemes							
Further highway drainage and flood prevention schemes will be identified and programmed following assessments of flood reports and drainage investigations							
Footway/Cycleway schemes							
Years 3 to 5 of the footway and cycleway programme are being developed to identify and prioritise those busier routes in poor condition							
C232	Fulbourn	Station Road	From bend to level crossing	Footway resurfacing	£		110,000
Unc	Barton	Kings Grove		Footway resurfacing	£		88,000
Carriageway schemes							
B1050	Willingham	Earith Road	From Caravan Pk to village	Carriageway resurfacing	£		558,000
A1303	Madingley	St Neots Road	At A428 roundabout, approach and old alignment	Carriageway resurfacing	£		345,000
A1301	Great Shelford	Tunwells Lane/High Green	From Grahams Road to traffic signals junc	Carriageway resurfacing	£		351,000
A505	Pampisford	Causeway	From Pampisford junc to joint nr Babraham junc	Carriageway resurfacing	£		470,000
A603	Barton	Cambridge Road	From layby past B1046 junc	Carriageway resurfacing	£		290,000
C178/Unc	Bourn	Alms Hill/High Street/Caxton End	Various sections of failed carriageway	Carriageway resurfacing	£		258,000
C186	Over	Station Road	Traffic calming at busway to Church End	Carriageway resurfacing	£		380,000
Unc	Croydon	Croydon Hill	From High St to reservoir on top of hill	Carriageway resurfacing	£		335,000
C192	Longstanton	School Lane	From village to B1050	Carriageway resurfacing	£		250,000
C184	Boxworth	High Street	From traffic calming to Manor Lane	Carriageway resurfacing	£		71,000
C178	Bourn	Broadway	From Sunday Market to FILCRIS	Carriageway resurfacing	£		130,000
					£		3,636,000

There will be re surfacing of Pampisford Causeway in this programme.

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

4. County wide Programmes

There is £41m allocated to County wide programmes:

Countywide Works Programme

Carriageway & Footway Maintenance including Cycle Paths

Works	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28
Contact Officer: Jon Clarke			
Countywide capitalised road patching	£		2,474,312
Minor capital schemes	£		1,546,785
Countywide Surface Treatment programme - current schemes listed under District/City areas. Schemes for future years to be confirmed	£		8,056,524
Preparation for surface treatment schemes, as above	£		1,726,398
Additional surface treatment programme - Schemes being identified	£		5,802,808
Countywide Retread programme - Schemes being developed	£		2,855,600
Countywide safety fence renewals - programme for future years to be developed from latest condition inspections	£		1,200,000
Countywide footway slurry seal programme - current schemes listed under District/City areas. Schemes for future years to be confirmed	£		1,500,000
Additional footway slurry sealing programme - Future schemes being identified	£		6,000,000
Additional footway resurfacing programme - Schemes for future years to be confirmed	£		6,000,000
Contact Officer: Josh Rutherford / Barry Wylie			
Drainage Improvements - Schemes listed under District/City areas. Schemes being designed or under development for later years.	£		3,000,000
Survey, Investigation and design for schemes	£		960,000
			£ 41,122,426

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5. 20 MPH Programme

Details of this has been published. There will be £100k in 2023 and £150k in the following 2 years. <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-the-local-highway/20mph-funding>

6. Other Work

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There will be £40k for improvement access to Whittlesford Station.

[Document.ashx \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

7. **Active Travel Strategy**

There is a new Active Travel Strategy for the County including a Strategy for New Developments.

[ATS \(cmis.uk.com\)](#)

Great Chesterford Hardcore Site : ESS/109/22/UTT

This was again refused. Planning Appeal:

<https://acp.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/ViewCase.aspx?CaseID=3306988&CoID=0>

Peter McDonald

March 5th 2023