



MILTON PARISH COUNCIL

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TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

You are summoned to the meeting of Milton Parish Council to be held in the

Bowls Pavilion on Monday 13 April 2026 at 7:30pm

Members of the Public and the Press are cordially invited to attend.

Clerk's signature: *Sarah Cooper*

Date of issue: 7 April 2026

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for absence:** to receive and approve apologies for absence.
2. **To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 March 2026 (Pages 3-6)**
3. **Declarations of interest and dispensations:**
To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda;
To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any);
To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.
4. **Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak**
Public Participation of a maximum of fifteen minutes duration for members of the public to address Councillors. A member of the public may speak for up to 3 minutes to make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting in respect of the business on the agenda (Standing orders 3e, 3f, and 3g).
5. **Clerk's/Chairman's Report and see Works Schedule (Pages 7-8)**
South Cambs District Council Green Space – Shared Prosperity Fund – Improving the area on Edmund Green – The pathway issue has now been rectified (by us) and the excess stones removed. Tests show it is now easier for wheeled buggies, trolleys and scooters to use the path.
Phone Box Coles Road – Repainting of the phone box is on hold as a possible new location for the phone box is being considered.
20mph Scheme through Milton – The preferred locations for the start of the 20mph zones are being considered by the Highways Engineers and the outcome to be fed back to MPC in the coming weeks.
Allotment Grant – The works to install an extra water pump on the allotment site should start at the end of March or beginning April 2026. This will be funded by the £3,000 grant awarded and MPC donation of £420.00 towards the overall cost.
6. **Planning (Pages 9-10)**
To **RECEIVE** the minutes of the Planning meeting held on Monday 16 March 2026.
Decisions:
26/00007/HFUL – 1 Fen Road, Milton – Roof extension with raising the ridge heights to create a first floor and single storey rear extension. **Application Permitted.**
New:
25/04982/Ful – EACH, Church Lane, Milton – Replacement of existing outbuilding
Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/25/04982/FUL>
26/01085/CL2PD – Sycamores Recreation Ground, Milton – Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for the installation of a storage container for the sole use of storage of football and sports equipment for Milton Colts Football Club & Milton FC. **For information only.**
Appeals for comment:
EN/0004/26 – Southgate Farm Chesterton Fen Road, Milton – Nature of complaint: breach of conditions to the relevant planning permission to which this notice relates is the planning permission granted by the Council on 12 August 2008 for use of the land for 24 mobile home pitches and 2

chalets for gypsies – S/1653/07/F. The following condition has not been complied with: The condition concerned: Condition 2, 3, 4 and 7 of S/1653/07/F.

EN/00036/26 – 2 West View Chesterton Fen Road, Milton – Breach of condition, residential use by non-approved persons.

EN/00043/26 – Lomas Farm Chesterton Fen Road, Milton – Breach of condition, residential use by non-approved persons.

7. Maintenance (Pages 11-12)

To **RECEIVE** the minutes of the Maintenance meeting held on Monday 16 March 2026.

To **CONSIDER** quotes for purchasing a waste bin for Edmund Green – Square slatted open top litter bin £274.88 + VAT plus £13.14 for set of 4 bolts, Circular slatted litter bin £231.63 + VAT plus £13.14 for set of 4 bolts. **(Appendix 1)**

To **CONSIDER** quote from Wicksteed for resistograph/timber test on 1 bay seat 2 cradle swing at Froment Way £450 + VAT (as suggested in the play inspection report).

To **CONSIDER** purchase of a new allotment gate due to damage. Quote received £585 + VAT for new gate and post, £300 labour and disposal of gate. **(Appendix 2)**

8. CAPALC

To **CONSIDER** renewal of CAPALC membership subscription £927.34 plus £50 for Data Protection Officer. Total £977.34 (without VAT)

9. Bills for Payment and Money Received

To **CONFIRM** and **AGREE** bills for payment. **(Appendix 3)**

To **RATIFY** payment of year end invoices 438 to 443.

To **RECEIVE** net position report. **(Appendix 4)**

10. To REVIEW and CONSIDER the General and Earmarked reserves values in respect of the SAPPF guidance. **(Appendix 5)**

11. Annual Parish Meeting

To **DISCUSS** plans/agenda for the Annual Parish Meeting

12. To CONSIDER rebuild costs revaluations of the MPC owned buildings for insurance purposes. **(Appendix 6)**

A. £4,770 + VAT, B. £750 + VAT, C. £1,420 + VAT.

13. Privacy Notice, Privacy Policy and CCTV Policy (Emailed Separately)

To **CONSIDER** the updated version of the Privacy Notice Privacy Policy and the CCTV Policy.

14. To RECEIVE County Councillor's Report (Pages 13-15)

15. To RECEIVE District Councillors Report (Pages 16-17)

16. To RECEIVE THE Connections Bus Project Report – Jan to March 2026 (Appendix 7)

17. Correspondence (Emailed)

Invitation of briefing on IQHQ's proposals at Cambridge Science Park.

Petition to fund repairs to Cambridgeshire's soil-affected roads (Fen soil subsidence).

SCDC – March 2026 Parish e-bulletin.

SDCD – Zero Carbo Communities Newsletter Spring 2026.

18. Dates of next meetings

Wednesday 15 April 2026 – Community Care Monitoring Group 11:30am

Monday 20 April 2026 – Planning 7pm – Finance & Administration 7:30pm

Monday 27 April 2026 – Approve Year End Accounts 7pm – Annual Parish Meeting 7:30pm

**Minutes of the Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 2 March 2026 at 7:30pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: P Ellwood (PE) (Chairman) HM Smith (HMS), J Windle (JW), R Farrington (RF), D Wildman (DW), D Owen (DO), J Coston (JEC - arrived 7:35pm), A Bradnam (AB - arrived 8:29pm)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Full Council in attendance.

2. To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 2 February 2026

DW Proposed to accept the Minutes as a true record – RF Seconded **AGREED (DO abstained)**

3. Declarations of interest and dispensations

To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda; None.

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None.

To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate: None.

(JEC arrived)

4. Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak

No public in attendance.

5. Clerk's/Chairman's Report and see Works Schedule

South Cambs District Council Green Space – Shared Prosperity Fund – Improving the area on Edmund Green – SCDC to conduct an inspection of the path in the next few weeks. MPC have asked to be present at the inspection to show what difficulties wheelchairs, mobility scooters and pushchairs users are having to access the benches and planted area. **Clerk to chase up a date for an inspection.**

Phone Box Coles Road – Phone box due to be repainted April/May 2026 and with new window panels.

Update of the 6 replacement streetlights: 4 of the 6 replacements streetlights are now completed. The lamps outside 61 Coles Road and 5/7 Willow Crescent still need a UKPN electrical connection. **Update on streetlamps – Lamp outside 61 Coles Road and 5/7 Willow Crescent are now working.**

20mph Scheme through Milton – The preferred locations for the start of the 20mph zones are being considered by the Highways Engineers and the outcome to be fed back to MPC in the coming weeks.

Allotment Grant – The works to install an extra water pump on the allotment site should begin end of February early March 2026. This will be funded by the £3,000 grant awarded and MPC donation of £420.00 towards the overall cost.

6. Planning

The Planning meeting of Monday 16 February 2026 was not required as no planning applications were received.

Decisions:

25/0470/FUL – Unit 3-4 Cambridge Road Industrial Estate, Milton CB24 6AZ – Erection of single storey ancillary building and widening of existing dropped kerb. **APPLICATION PERMITTED.**

New:

26/00440/FUL – 22 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road – Installation of a new plant and erection of fencing. **Has no recommendations.**

26/00249/HFUL – 43 Willow Crescent, Milton CB24 6BY – Single storey front and side extension including sedum roof and conversion of existing garage to habitable space, following demolition of existing conservatory. Two storey rear extension. Erection of detached garden workshop and detached studio in garden, following demolition of existing outbuildings. Installation of PV solar panels to roof. Relocation of front driveway. Alterations to fenestration.

Object: The studio is in a prominent position on the site and in the Conservation Area and appears to be 3 meters high. The current hedge screen is deteriorating/dying and suitable screening replacement (hedge or fence) for this area would be difficult to implement.

7. Staffing

To **CONSIDER** accepting the updated Policies: Internet and Email Acceptable Use Policy, Health and Safety Policy, Lone Working Policy (no amendments required). Recruitment Policy – changes to Item 6.

Clerk to check text alignment in the Policies. To add to Recruitment Policy – Item 4 All vacancies will be advertised - add “or other locations as appropriate”.

PE Proposed to accept the Policies with the agreed amendment – DW Seconded ALL AGREED.

8. Parish Council Dispensations (updated request form)

To **CONSIDER** asking for dispensations for all MPC Councillors to vote on MCC finances.

PE Proposed the Clerk agrees Councillors dispensations for the next 4 years – ALL AGREED.

9. Bills for Payment and Money Received

To **CONFIRM** and **AGREE** bills for payment - **DW Proposed to pay vouchers 381 to 408 and tabled 409 – 416 and voucher 176 to SCDC for the revamp of Edmund Green – HMS Seconded ALL AGREED.**

The net position report was received.

10. Local Highways Improvement Initiative (LHI) 2026/27

To **RATIFY** the decision to spend up to £10,000 (matched contribution) for the LHI fund applied for double yellow lines at The Rowans and The Rowans junctions, High Street/Butt Lane, Fen Road/Coles Road, High Street/Willow Crescent. **PE Proposed to accept the above decision – DW Seconded All AGREED.**

11. To CONSIDER obtaining a rebuild costs revaluation of the MPC owned buildings for insurance purposes.

HMS Proposed to obtain quotes for a full rebuild valuation – DW Seconded ALL AGREED.

Clerk to carry out a survey on MPC play equipment costs.

(AB arrived)

12. Phone Box Coles Road

To **DISCUSS** and **CONSIDER** results from the questionnaire on the future usage of the phone box.

PE suggested that the phone box should be moved to a more suitable location in the MCC car park just outside the PC office. Clerk to investigate and source quotes. PE Proposed this suggestion – JEC Seconded ALL AGREED.

A library was the best supported option from the results of the questionnaire.

13. Privacy Notice

To **CONSIDER** the amended version of the Privacy Notice. **Defer to a future MPC meeting when the Privacy Notice, Privacy Policy and updated CCTV policy are available.**

14. Milton Cemetery

To **CONSIDER** quote of £500 + VAT to lightly rotavate and sow wildflower seeds in the Summer Meadow.

DW Proposed to accept the quote – JW Seconded ALL AGREED.

15. Proposals for Local Government Reorganisation in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

To **CONSIDER** whether MPC wish to complete the statutory consultation on behalf of the village, regarding the proposals that the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) has received, following the Secretary of State's invitation to Councils in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to submit proposals for unitary local government for Cambridge and Peterborough.

Consultation link:

<https://consult.communities.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation/cambridgeshire-and-peterborough/>

Running from 5 February to 26 March 2026. **Councillors to respond individually.**

(Item 21 discussed next)

16. Milton Community Centre

To **CONSIDER** request from MCC, on behalf of the Milton Football and Cricket Clubs, asking if an extra storage container could be placed, next to the current one, in The Sycamores Recreation ground carpark. This will be at the cost of the clubs. **DO Proposed – PE Seconded AGREED (AB abstained). MPC asks that the storage container be an unobtrusive colour and to check that planning permission is not required.**

17. Internal Reports

To **CONSIDER** the proposal that all internal reports to the Council should have the author's name and if AI was used. **PE Proposed that a Usage of AI Policy be put together that would include the above proposal. ALL AGREED. Clerk to source a suggested Policy.**

18. To RECEIVE County Councillor's Report

The County Councillor's Report for March 2026 was received.

A hard copy of the full report can be read in the Parish Council office or on-line at the MPC website.

www.miltonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Milton

River Cam towpath – (Temporary prohibition of use) - Order 2026-10252 – (4 months!) Closure of Milton Footpath 1, Milton and Fen Ditton Footpath 6, Fen Ditton (the towpath) as lies between 200m on either side of the A14 flyover. Purpose: to facilitate bridge maintenance and associated works on A14. Alternative: The alternative route for pedestrians will be as signed. AB has confirmed – a diversion is being constructed to the west of the towpath, which will allow continued use of the route down the river for pedestrians and cyclists.

When: Initial works in February. Main works in June 2026. **It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 4 February and 5 June 2026.**

Milton Interchange A14/A10

Proposed dates for work to repair the failed waterproofing on the lane 1 carriageway on the southbound overbridge: Proposed work dates: **18/03/2026 – 20/03/2025** (2 shifts) (subject to confirmation). Times: **20:00 – 06:00** (overnight)

Milton Detached - Fen Road Chesterton

AB visited Fen Road, Chesterton with the Highways Maintenance Officer and we noted and photographed the location of over 37 serious potholes as well as vegetation to be cut back against the City Council-owned field north of Darrens Farm. The Officer will be taking steps to get this carriageway repair work progressed. AB will be contacting Cambridge City Council to get the vegetation cut back.

Entrance to The Sycamore Recreation Ground - Job 448835

AB is aware that the Community Centre Manager has been requesting updates for this for some time. Works for a new gully have been ordered under Reactive Highways Maintenance: 28522. Apparently, everything is primed to go, but the contractor is struggling to provide a date at the moment with the number of urgent works that are occurring on the network. The Highway Maintenance Officer is following up for a date.

Milton – Fen Road level crossing

AB received advice that the level crossing will be closed overnight but not the date. For now, AB is guessing this will be the same date as Order 2026-20004 (overnight between 23:30 19 April and 05:30 20 April 2026) but will check.

19. To RECEIVE District Councillors Report – Verbal report to be given

Cllr Paul Bearpark has been investigating the ongoing parking issues in The Rowans and is in contact with the Planning Department looking into the parking conditions given with this application.

20. To RECEIVE Community Centre Report

Maintenance/Improvements: General ongoing repairs and maintenance have been completed across the 3 sites including: The ceiling tiles have been repaired/replaced in the entrance lobby, small hall and upstairs rooms at the Community Centre. Gulley covers have been put in at the Community Centre. The adult toilets in the Annexe have been painted. The lower-level guttering at the Community Centre and the Annexe has been cleared. The rear door at the Youth Building has been repaired. 3 additional CCTV cameras have been installed at Coles Road.

Coles Road: The Annexe and the Main Hall remain popular for children's parties and the Main Building is now in use 7 days a-week for regular bookings and was used both on Christmas Eve and New Years Eve. The Hard Courts are in use 7 days a week and Milton Tennis Club continue to use the 3 tennis courts.

We have on average 55 regular weekly groups using the Centre.

Youth Building and Sycamores Pavilion: Eddies Artworks continue to use the building Monday to Friday and Youth Group on a Thursday evening. Milton Football Club and Milton Cricket Club continue to use the Pavilion.

North Lodge: Milton Colts and Milton Cricket still use the pavilion at weekends. We have also had bookings for craft workshops and Inland Waterways meetings at the pavilion.

The National Teachers Association have stopped using the facility as the children they were teaching are now in mainstream schooling.

Vandalism and Crime: We continue to see fly tipping at Coles Road and the Sycamores from both residential and commercial sources.

Dog owners not clearing up dog mess and not having the dog on a lead continues to be a regular issue at all 3 sites.

We continue to see high levels of parking at the Coles Road site for non-site users of the site and this has also started at the Sycamores.

Staffing: We are currently advertising for a new Centre Manager to replace Andy West.

21. Correspondence

(Emailed to Councillors)

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

To CONSIDER response to an 8-week consultation on the Government's proposals to establish a Development Corporation for Greater Cambridge has already started, and end on 1 April 2026. Consultation link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/establishing-a-development-corporation-in-greater-cambridge/establishing-a-development-corporation-in-greater-cambridge>

Clerk, PE and HMS to respond on behalf of MPC.

SCDC January 2026 Parish e-bulletin.

Cambridge to Rede proposed pipeline – public consultation

22. Dates of next meetings

Monday 16 March 2026 – Planning 7pm – Maintenance 7:30pm

Tuesday 7 April 2026 – Parish Council

Monday 20 April 2026 – Planning 7pm – Finance & Administration 7:30pm

Monday 27 April 2026 – Approve Year End Accounts – Annual Parish Meeting 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 9:30pm

Signed: Dated:

Milton Parish Council

Work/Project Schedule List (as of 31 March 2026)

Works Required	Committee	Progress
Removal of Trees by Allotments/A10 and planting of replacement trees (Dec 2020)	Carried out by County Highways	Email received on 2/2/26 from County Highways to say that due to current budget restraints in green infrastructure works, any tree removal work needed will be put on hold while competitive quotes are found for better value. Clerk to send a letter of disappointment in this matter as this was raised back in December 2020. MPC will not take any responsibility should a tree fall either onto the A10 or the allotments. Email response received 10/2/26 – The full tree survey to assess the trees alongside the allotments is scheduled to take place in the next few weeks. This will determine the extent of any maintenance required. I will be in touch once I have received the survey results and will then look to arrange and order and necessary works.
Milton Brook clearance (Jan 2024)	County Highways	Ditch clearance works by volunteers – 27/28 Sept 2025 (as per B Heffernan request) Email sent 15/10/25 asking for B Heffernan to come and check the ditch after works had been carried out. Update: Email received 31/10/25 - My apologies for the delay responding. I will visit the site shortly and report back to you. Emailed received: 11/12/25 (shared with Councillors) – B Heffernan to ask Highways if they are now willing to arrange the necessary works. Follow up email sent 3/2/26 – awaiting a response.
IN PROGRESS		
Power to Edmund Green	Maintenance	On hold until plans agreed

<p>Willow Crescent transfer of deeds</p> <p>Old School Lane adoption of land</p>	<p>MPC</p>	<p>Transfer of deeds completed on 12 August 2024 – Solicitors attending to the land registry (could take 18 months)</p> <p>Ashtons Solicitors putting together an application with information for adoption of land from the Crown HMS and JEC to speak with neighbours. File on hold with Ashtons</p>
<p>Local Council Award Scheme</p> <p>Biodiversity Plan</p>	<p>PE/DW</p> <p>PE/DW (Maintenance)</p>	<p>To put a village action plan together Completed</p>
<p>Replacement of The Sycamores Rec road sign</p>		<p>Local Highways Officer arranging new sign (old sign has been located) Highways now have the sign – new lettering to be put on. Follow up email sent 3/2/26 Response: Apologies its not been forgotten, but no further updates at the moment.</p>
<p>Network Rails to install new sign at Fen Road</p>	<p>MPC</p>	<p>Update from: Community Support Partnership: The current size signs are the agreed size. Bigger signs will not help and could cause more distress. Community meeting to hopefully be arranged.</p>
<p>Phone Box – Coles Road</p>	<p>MPC</p>	<p>On hold due to possible relocation of the phone box</p>

**Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on
Monday 16 March 2026 at 7pm in the Bowls Pavilion**

Present: D Owen (Chair), P Ellwood (PE), H Smith (HMS), J Coston (JEC), R Farrington (RF)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk)

1. Apologies for absence

Full Committee in attendance.

2. To APPROVE the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19 January 2026

PE Proposed to accept the minutes of the meeting as a true record – DO Seconded **ALL AGREED**

3. Declarations of interest and dispensations:

To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda; None

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None

To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. None

4. Public Participation – members of the public are invited to speak

No public in attendance.

5. Decisions Received:

None to date.

Applications Permitted.

None Received.

6. New:

26/00884/OUT – Land north of Cowley Road and adjacent to the Wild Park, Cambridge. Outline application for the construction of a multi storey commercial car park including pedestrian and vehicular access and a standalone amenity kiosk on land to the north of Cowley Road, adjacent to the Wild Park, approved as part of planning permission ref: 22/02771/OUT. **Has no recommendation. Support the use of PV panels on the top floor. Suggest future proofing so that it could become higher in the future.**

26/00249/HFUL- 43 Willow Crescent Milton Cambridge CB24 6BY. Single storey front and side extension including sedum roof and conversion of existing garage to habitable space, following demolition of existing conservatory. Two storey rear extension. Erection of detached garage workshop and detached studio in garden, following demolition of existing outbuildings. Installation of PV solar panels to roof and Air Source Heat Pump to the eastern elevation of the proposed workshop. Relocation of front driveway. Alterations to fenestration. Amendment: Altered description to include Air Source Heat Pump.

Object: Previous comments still stand (The studio is in a prominent position on the site and in the Conservation Area and appears to be 3 meters high. The current hedge screen is deteriorating/dying and suitable screening replacement (hedge or fence) for this area would be difficult to implement). In relation to the air source heat pump – risk of noise disturbance to location residents due to its location.

26/00724/ADV- The Vitrum Building Cowley Road Milton Cambridge. Installation of 3x non-illuminated arrival pylons, 2x non-illuminated glass manifestations, 1x illuminated entrance façade sign and 1x illuminated high level façade sign. **Object to the 1 x illuminated high level façade sign – This sign will face the village and into residential areas and will be intrusive to local properties.**

26/00727/ADV- The Vitrum Building Cowley Road Milton Cambridge. Installation of 3x non-illuminated arrival pylons, 2x non-illuminated glass manifestations, 1x illuminated entrance façade sign and 1x illuminated high level façade sign. **Object to the 1 x illuminated high level façade sign – This sign**

will face the village and into residential areas and will be intrusive to local properties.

7. Applications on Hand:

26/00564/CL2PD 2 Cambridge Square Milton Avenue Cambridge CB4 0AE. Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for Class E (d) for indoor sport, recreation or fitness – excluding motorised vehicles, firearms, swimming or skating. **INFORMATION ONLY**

26/00802/CL2PD 2 North Lodge Park Milton Cambridge CB24 6UB. Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for hard surfaced area to front/side installation of dropped kerb to front and erection of 1.8m fence to side and rear. **INFORMATION ONLY**

Application not on the agenda:

Due to the date give for representation of the application (26 March), the below was discussed. A Licensing Act 2002 – Notification for a new premises licence has been applied for the Post Office, Coles Road, Milton, for the activity of selling alcohol between the hours of Monday to Sunday 8am to 10pm.

The Council had no comment on this application.

8. Dates of next meeting

Monday 20 April 2026 – at 7pm

Meeting closed at 7:37pm Signed:

Minutes of the Maintenance Meeting of Milton Parish Council held on Monday 16 March 2026 at 7:30pm (started 7:37pm) held in the Bowls Pavilion

Present: P Ellwood (PE)(Chairman), H Smith (HMS), J Coston (JEC), D Wildman (DW)

In Attendance: S Corder (Clerk), P Adams (Village Maintenance Person),
J Windle (JW – Non-voting Councillor)

1 Apologies for absence

A Bradnam (personal)

2 To APPROVE the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22 September 2025

Deferred to April MPC meeting.

To APPROVE the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15 December 2025

PE Proposed to accept the Minutes as a true record – DW Seconded **AGREED.**

3 Declarations of interest and dispensation:

To receive declarations of interest from councillors for items on agenda: None

To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any); None

To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate; None

4 Public Participation

No public in attendance.

5 Allotments

Maintenance report shared in agenda papers – Currently have 2 vacant allotment plots.

The damage to the gate bolt has been repaired.

Still awaiting an installation date for the new hand pump.

Clerk to investigate a sturdier replacement gate lock due to the previous ones being broken.

To **CONSIDER** purchase of a new allotment gate due to damage. Quote received £585 + VAT for new gate and post, £300 labour, and disposal of gate. **Defer. Clerk to ask for a more robust gate with pictures of suggestions and more information to be given.**

6 Paddock Wood

Maintenance report shared in agenda papers – The 7 trees have now been planted.

Date to be arranged to plant the Woodland Trust tree saplings after further input from the tree warden.

7 Cemetery

Maintenance report shared in agenda papers – New cemetery path to be laid week beginning 24 March 2026. Spring Meadow has been relocated into the new part of the Cemetery between the Ashes plots and the Traditional section. Spring bulbs have been planted in this area. The Summer Meadow is due to be lightly rotavated and have wildflower and yellow rattle seeds planted to reinvigorate the area.

8 Play Areas

The play inspections reports were received and reviewed. **Clerk to source quotes for repairs required to Humphries Way and Froment Way play areas.**

To **CONSIDER** quote from Wicksteed to replace the play bark with wet pour on Humphries Way Play Park £10,435.59 + VAT. **Defer until above quotes are received.**

9 Maintenance Work Schedule

Received and reviewed works required – **PA to paint the compost bin at the Cemetery. Clerk sourcing quotes for the pump needed for the water tank at the Cemetery. Clerk to source a quote to repair the broken bench seats in the Cambridge Road bus stop.**

10 Faulkner Close Revamp of Play Area (Appendix 3)

To CONSIDER specification required for turning this area into a lawn/flower area.

It was AGREED by Council to renew the area like for like. To reinstate the tarmac area and new fencing. New quotes to be obtained. JEC to ask the Primary School what floor games they would like to see in this area.

11 Biodiversity Policy

To conduct a final REVIEW of the Biodiversity Policy.

Defer this item for Clerk to check for version updates.

12 Dates of Next Meeting

Monday 15 June 2026 – 7:30pm

Meeting closed at 9pm Signed: Date:

County Councillor Report for Parishes – April 2026 – Cllr Anna Bradnam

County Council

On 17 March county councillors approved a series of motions at Full Council aimed at improving the Humphries Way junction on the A10, exploring new anti-poverty measures, protecting local policing, and supporting bids for national cultural recognition.

Humphries Way junction

I'm delighted to report that a motion was proposed and altered, such that all parties were able to support improvements to this dangerous junction. It is recognised as a collision 'cluster site' and a 600-signature petition was also presented.

The council agreed to seek funding from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority for this project and ask the authority to prioritise Humphries Way junction improvements as part of their A10 improvement scheme. If the scheme is unable to be funded via the CPCA or developer contributions, to investigate other capital funding to deliver the improvements needed. Lastly, to bring an update report to Highways and Transport Committee.

Anti-poverty measures

Council approved a motion which highlighted the continued impact of poverty and the cost-of-living crisis on the 25,000 children in Cambridgeshire who receive Pupil Premium support. The amended motion noted that the previous holiday voucher scheme funded through the Government's Household Support Fund could no longer be offered under new Crisis and Resilience Fund (CRF) criteria and stressed the council's belief that no child should go hungry during school holidays.

The Council agreed to:

- Explore targeted holiday support, including the option of a new voucher scheme for specific families experiencing financial shock, aligned with the new CRF guidance.
- Use part of the £5.3m annual CRF allocation, subject to committee approval, to prioritise food and financial support for eligible children and families from autumn 2026.
- Ensure that any scheme developed includes access to financial resilience advice, such as help with benefits, debt, and money management.
- Write to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions to request sufficient national funding for continued holiday support.

Protecting local policing

A strong majority of Councillors approved a motion raising concerns about Government plans to merge the 43 police forces across England and Wales into larger regional bodies. The Council emphasised the importance of visible, community-based policing supported by local accountability leading to greater public confidence.

The Council agreed to oppose proposals to merge Cambridgeshire Constabulary with other police forces; to call on Government to prioritise investment in community policing, improved technology, better data sharing, and stronger national vetting standards; and requested that the Chief Executive write to the Home Secretary and Cambridgeshire MPs to set out the Council's position.

Supporting bids for national cultural recognition

A motion was passed, confirming the Council's support for emerging bids from both St Neots and Huntingdon to become UK Town of Culture in 2028, following expressions of interest submitted by local partners.

Local Government Reorganisation

The initial response from local council leaders is here:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/210325-response-to-jm-lgr-invitation-to-leaders.pdf>

The County Council's assessment of the various options can be seen here <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/lgr/proposal/LGR-Option-A-Proposal-28-Nov-25.pdf>.

We await the government's decision on which option will be taken forward.

Two new Special Schools for Cambridgeshire

On 24 March the Department for Education (DfE), confirmed that the Government will deliver two new special schools in Cambridgeshire. Greensands Academy, Gamlingay, and Lime Academy, March, had initially been approved for delivery by the previous government, and are expected to provide 270 new special school places in Cambridgeshire. However, in December, the DfE offered the council an alternative funding settlement that the council could use to respond to the need for special school places locally in a different way. In February, the council rejected this offer and called on the DfE to continue with delivery of the schools as originally approved. We are relieved that the DfE's Regional Director for the East of England, confirmed to the council in March, that the Secretary of State has accepted our decision and the Government will now continue with the previously approved delivery of both Greensands Academy and Lime Academy. This is great news for parents and carers; although the government aims to support children in mainstream schools, many children with SEND are best supported in specialist settings.

Upcoming Highways work

Cross Drove, Waterbeach - (Temporary Prohibition Of Through Traffic) - Order 2026-20004

To stop any vehicle from proceeding along Cross Drove, Waterbeach as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

Access will be maintained to properties affected by this order.

Purpose - essential maintenance works

When - It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 23:30hrs 19 April and 05:30hrs 20 April 2026.

Station Road, Waterbeach - (Temporary Prohibition Of Through Traffic) - Order 2026-20071

To stop any vehicle from proceeding along Station Road, Waterbeach as lies between Lode Avenue and Whitmore Way. Access will be maintained to properties affected by this order.

The alternative route for vehicles is via Clayhithe Road; High Street; Horningsea Road; A14; A10; Car Dyke Road; Cambridge Road and vice versa.

Purpose - to facilitate chamber repairs and associated works.

When - It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 22 April and 23 April 2026.

Bannold Road, Waterbeach (Temporary Prohibition Of Through Traffic) - Order 2026-20092

To stop any vehicle from proceeding along Bannold Road, Waterbeach as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

Access will be maintained to properties affected by this order.

Purpose - essential maintenance works. When - It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 23:45hrs 4 April and 04:00hrs 5 April 2026.

Fen Road, Milton - (Temporary Prohibition Of Through Traffic) - Order 2026-20006

To stop any vehicle from proceeding along Fen Road, Milton as lies between points 20m either side of the railway level crossing situated there as measured from its gates or barriers.

Access will be maintained to properties affected by this order.

Purpose - essential maintenance works which are being carried out on or near this highway

When - It is anticipated that these works will be carried out between 00:30hrs and 08:30hrs 19 April 2026.

Entrance to The Sycamore Recreation Ground - Job 448835 (repeat from last month)

I know the Community Centre Manager has been requesting updates for this for some time.

Works for a new gully have been ordered under Reactive Highways Maintenance: 28522. Apparently everything is primed to go, but the contractor is struggling to provide a date at the moment with the number of urgent works that are occurring on the network. The Highway Maintenance Officer is following up for a date.

Milton – Fen Road level crossing

I've received advice that the level crossing will be closed overnight but not the date. Believed to be overnight between 23:30 19 April and 05:30 20 April 2026.

Cllr Anna Bradnam

anna.bradnam@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

30/03/2026

District Councillors' Report to Parish Councils – April 2026

Elections: Cancellation of non-responding postal votes

Postal votes now expire after three years.

The Elections Team at SCDC have been working hard to encourage as many affected postal voters to make new applications as possible, but the deadline by which this must happen has now passed. The Council has now cancelled the postal votes of 4,266 residents of the original 15,392 that required renewal. This represents a 72.28% response rate. All affected voters will receive or have received a letter to inform them of this change. This letter will also include details on how they might make a new application to vote by post if they wish. You'll need to apply by 5pm on 21 April 2026 to get a postal vote for the 7 May 2026 elections. Applications can be made here:

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote>

In addition, for proxy votes you'll need to apply by 28 April 2026 to vote by proxy in the 7 May 2026 elections.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-proxy-vote>

For any questions on this, please email elections@scams.gov.uk.

Reminder: If you do have a postal vote and fail to post it in time you can still hand it in at the polling station.

Grants: Zero Carbon Communities (ZCC) Scheme

SCDC has committed another £152,000 to the popular ZCC grant scheme. The amount that applicants can apply for has risen from £15,000 per project to £19,500. Since the scheme was launched in 2019, it has supported 82 different projects, awarding over £855,000 to initiatives across the district including energy generation and efficiency, conservation measures at community buildings, community cycling events, cycle shelters, food waste reduction initiatives, community allotment and gardening projects.

The application window will open on Monday 25 May and close on Friday 24 July 2026. Projects on school sites and by parent / teacher associations will be able to apply – if there is a benefit to the wider community. Those interested in applying for a Zero Carbon Communities grant can join a workshop to find out more. Two sessions are to be held on Wednesday 20 May - one running from 12:30pm to 1:30pm and a second one from 6pm to 7pm. Potential applicants are encouraged to [register for either](#).

AI: SCDC wins funding for AI 'proof of concept' projects

SCDC has successfully secured funding for collaborative work with the University of Cambridge to explore how artificial intelligence (AI) can support councils to improve services and make more effective use of data. The 12 month project is to deliver a proof of concept in five areas:

- Predictive risk intelligence for social housing maintenance (PRISM).
- Human orientated AI – a design framework for reaching vulnerable tenants (housing).
- Map automation for planning and local efficiency (MAPLE).
- AI Enabled surveys (planning)
- Automatic fly-tipping detection using refuse collection vehicle cameras.

More information can be found here: [AI@Cam Local Government AI Accelerator programme](#).

New Towns: The Unity Centre, Northstowe

A couple of weeks ago SCDC and builder Kier Construction celebrated the completion of the Unity Centre – the permanent community centre in Northstowe. This is a key milestone in Northstowe's Phase 1 development and a significant achievement for the Council, setting the

highest possible standards for new community facilities. Northstowe Town Council now have the keys, having taken over the lease, and the doors are due to open to the public from 30 March. The building has been constructed to combine Passivhaus principles (low operational carbon) with low lifecycle carbon materials to deliver a net zero design. Built entirely from timber, the building combines Cross Laminated Timber panels with Glulam beams – a super-structural frame. The exterior is clad with Shou Sugi Ban timber and zinc – both low carbon and low maintenance. It is heated by a Ground Source Heat Pump – making the most of the enclosed garden space to power the building using renewable energy. The centre’s distinctive roof is designed to maximise space for solar panels and also hosts a green roof. Similarly, the pergola that wraps the building is covered by a green sedum roof to maximise the opportunity for biodiversity.

Cllrs Paul Bearpark and Anna Bradnam