

# Babraham Parish Council: Minutes of Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023

Present:

Stuart Laurie: acting Chair

Jane Goody

Richard Bandy

Charlotte Boast

Denise Dear (arrived later in the meeting)

Anne Charteris: Clerk

Members of the public: 3

	<p><b>Part I: Non-Confidential Information</b></p>
<b>2309/01</b>	<p><b>To receive and approve apologies for absence</b> Cllr Brian Milnes, Cllr Peter McDonald, Chris Chapman (BRC) Denise Dear</p>
<b>2309/02</b>	<p><b>To receive members' declaration of interest for items on this agenda</b> None</p>
<b>2309/03</b>	<p><b>To sign and approve minutes of meeting dated 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023</b> Minutes were approved and signed off.</p>
<b>2305/04</b>	<p><b>Exclusion of the public</b> To determine which items, if any, from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded</p>
<b>2309/05</b>	<p><b>Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald</b> The report can be found in full on the website, but in brief:</p> <p><b>Bin Collection Days</b> Bin collections are going to change for approximately 80% of households in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire from mid-September.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New bin collection arrangements for around 104,000 residents will be introduced from the week beginning Monday 18 September 2023.</li> <li>• Greater Cambridge Shared Waste, a partnership between Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils, is sending a letter in the post to every household affected which will confirm their new collection arrangements.</li> </ul> <p><b>Fly Tipping Campaign.</b> South Cambridgeshire District Council is determined to crack down on illegally dumped rubbish and has prioritised it as a key objective in its Business Plan by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prompt clearance of rubbish to reduce further occurrences at the same site.</li> <li>• Deterring criminal activity using 'fly tip under investigation' stickers to highlight ongoing investigations.</li> <li>• Joint roadside check initiatives with the Police, HMRC and other partners.</li> </ul> <p>Fly tipping is a criminal offence which can result in a Fixed Penalty Notice of up to £400 or could end up in court with fines of up to £50,000 or even a prison sentence. The Council receives around 1,600 reports a year on its <a href="#">online reporting page</a> which amounts to more than four reports a day, every day, throughout the year - including Bank Holidays. Rubbish dumpers don't take the day off, not even for Christmas.</p> <p><b>£500,000 in Zero Carbon Grants</b> The District Council is awarding green grants to 10 South Cambridgeshire community groups marking a £500,000 total since the scheme began four years ago.</p>

2309/06	<p>This year's round of projects, aimed at reducing carbon emissions and engaging communities on climate change, will receive grant funding totalling more than £125,000. The Zero Carbon Communities grants, awarded by South Cambridgeshire District Council, are part of the Council's vision to help the district become net zero carbon by 2050, to create a greener future for local people.</p> <p>The latest round of grants means half a million pounds has been awarded to 71 projects since the scheme began in 2019.</p> <p>Mahesh Hettiarachch, founder of Hope Against Poverty CIC, said: "We are delighted to have recently launched our new Mobile Food Hub, funded by the District Council, to further support communities during the ongoing crises of high living cost. Receiving this grant will make a huge difference as it means we will be able to purchase an electric vehicle for deliveries. This thinking approach aligns with the increasing awareness of issues and the importance of reducing carbon emissions. To find out the scheduled stops in villages across South Cambridgeshire, please follow Hope CIC on Facebook."</p> <p><b>Report from Cambridgeshire County Councillors Brian Milnes and Maria King</b></p> <p>The report can be found in full on the website, but in brief:</p> <p><b>Making Connections update</b></p> <p>Following the publication of the results from the 2022 public consultation on the GCP's proposals for a Sustainable Travel Zone in Cambridge, a revised proposal has been drawn by the GCP officers taking into account extensive feedback from residents of Cambridgeshire.</p> <p>The timetable for consideration of these revised proposals is currently as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thursday 7 September: non-decision making meeting of the GCP Joint Assembly (the pre-scrutiny body of the Greater Cambridge Partnership)</li> <li>• Thursday 28 September: meeting of the GCP Board</li> <li>• Wednesday 11 October: special meeting of the County Council Highways &amp; Transport Committee.</li> </ul> <p>Cambridgeshire County Council is the highways authority, and is the only body with the powers to agree to charge for use of the public highway.</p> <p><b>Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) in schools</b></p> <p>Fortunately as of the start of this month all but three of Cambridgeshire's schools have been surveyed and no RAAC has been found. The Council has no concerns about the remaining schools but at the time of writing each requires a survey to rule out RAAC. Following assessments and surveys, the County Council has also been able to confirm that none of its public buildings have been found to contain RAAC.</p> <p><b>Childminders and restrictive covenants</b></p> <p>A council motion successfully proposed to the County Council by our colleague Cllr Firouz Thompson in Northstowe has prompted change at national level. The motion drew attention to the fact that many new developments had covenants placed on homes so that they could not be used for childminding. This was leading to shortages of childminding capacity in many places.</p> <p><b>Libraries of Sanctuary award</b></p> <p>Libraries throughout Cambridgeshire have been awarded Libraries of Sanctuary status. This national award celebrates libraries that work hard to demonstrate hospitality, solidarity and welcome to new arrivals in the area. The title was awarded by City of Sanctuary UK, a nationally coordinated network of organisations and services, including councils, universities, theatres and libraries that welcome and support refugees and people seeking asylum.</p>
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	<p><b>Carbon footprint</b></p> <p>The Government has recently published new data on the greenhouse gas emissions of each local authority area for 2005 to 2021. This shows that the carbon footprint of the whole of Cambridgeshire was 6.78M tonnes CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2021. Transport is now the highest emitting sector in the county.</p> <p>Work is also still under way collating data on the County Council's own organisational carbon footprint for the financial year 2022-23. This will be presented to the Environment &amp; Green Investment Committee later in the year, alongside further details of the county-wide emissions.</p> <p><b>Weeds</b></p> <p>We are aware of growing complaints about weeds in various parts of the district and across the county. The County Council's current Highways Operational Standards state that the Council will apply weed killer using a targeted approach at agreed locations identified on the basis of risk, rather than cyclically as before.</p> <p>This policy affects about 30% of the highway network in Cambridgeshire, as only kerbed urban areas were previously cyclically treated for weeds.</p> <p>The County Council's policy remains to remove hazardous weeds, or weeds causing safety issues or nuisance. Where the use of chemical weed killer is part of wider maintenance activity it is still carried out—for example weeds should be cleared before slurry sealing footways or surface treating carriageways.</p> <p>A mid-season review of the policy has already been programmed in, and we will certainly be reporting back residents' and parishes' concerns.</p> <p><b>Winter gritting</b></p> <p>Once again the County Council is inviting gritting volunteers for the winter season 2023-2024. Under this scheme, parish councils decide which routes in their area are important to the local community and agree them with the County Council. Local volunteers then grit these as required in freezing weather.</p>
2309/07	<p><b>Report from Babraham Research Campus (BRC) representative</b></p> <p>No report sent.</p>
2309/08	<p><b>Cheveley Park Development Plans.</b></p> <p>The development seems to be on hold, they will probably appeal at some point so need to keep alert as they may do this very close to the closing date.</p>
2309/09	<p><b>Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) Cambridge South East Transport (CSET)</b></p> <p>Officers are recommending that work on CSETS is paused due to the GCP no longer having sufficient funds for all its projects (due to inflation). As we had predicted the CSETS costs have inflated to £160m.</p> <p>This is certainly welcome news, however they plan to try and secure other funding in order to proceed with the project. There is no mention of reverting to their 2018 option (our alternative). At the present time they propose doing nothing and trying to find the funding</p>
2309/10	<p><b>Public participation time – 15 minutes allowed</b></p> <p>Question raised regarding the 2 Facebook pages, one is a Page and one a group. It was proposed that the Group be closed, Clerk will look into this with Brad who maintains the website and FB sites to see what should be done.</p>
2309/11	<p><b>Forest Garden Project.</b></p> <p>The Governance of the FG group has been set up with representatives from the PC, Community, BRC and Project Manager.</p>

	<p>This will look into the long term ownership, running, safety and funding of the project. The trees are doing well, despite last years very dry summer, the cold winter snap and this years changeable weather. Some trees may look dead but they are shooting from the bottom. The fruit trees are fruiting and there are rosehips and crab apples, it is hoped to take some to the Harvest festival. Maintenance, watering and strimming is carried out as required. The grass was left long intentionally to help with the diversity of wildlife and pollination. It is not supposed to be manicured like a lawn. The plan is to mow 2-3 times per year.</p> <p>There is an enthusiastic working group who intend to meet on a regular basis eg 1<sup>st</sup> and third weekends, but this to be confirmed.</p> <p>Jane Goody has stepped down as the PC representative on the steering group, Denise Dear agreed to take over this position.</p>
2309/12	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan</b></p> <p>We now have the further grant to complete the Plan.</p> <p>The feedback from the drop-in exhibition has been collated and published on the NP website. The Design guide and Masterplan can influence further planning applications. Building around here is inevitable but this can influence what is built and where.</p> <p>The draft plan should be ready mid-October and will be submitted to the PC, a 6 week public consultation will follow. We need to ensure that everyone knows what it is about, submitted to the PC and submitted to the Local Authority in Feb approx. There will then be a formal check, the plan may come back if anything needs changing It then goes to the examiner and formulated as the Neighbourhood Plan.</p>
2309/13	<p><b>Gritting Scheme:</b> this is a scheme where Local volunteers can help to keep their community moving in freezing weather. Under this scheme, the parish or town council decides on specific routes in their area which are important to the local community and agrees them with the county council.</p> <p>If you are a parish or town council looking to join the scheme, please send your completed form by 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023.</p> <p>It was agreed to look into this, need to check that if we do this, then the normal gritting will carry on.</p>
2309/14	<p><b>General Village Matters and new items for discussion,</b></p> <p><b>Defibrillator:</b> to confirm who looks after this and if registered on National database. Richard Bandy looks after this and checks it regularly.</p> <p><b>Local Highways Improvements-</b>applications will be going in shortly- do we ask for the pavement to be repaired under this scheme? It was agreed to express interest in this scheme and find out costs of this path repair.</p> <p><b>State of the village:</b> village looking very untidy, this is due to CCC not weedkilling this year. Clerk has sent in complaints and filled in Survey about this. This is a UK wide policy for this year and every village is having problems with weeds,</p> <p>Ask contractors if they can strim weeds from the pavements- get a quote.</p> <p>Grass verge between the Memorial and the bridge- getting a quote to see about taking off the top layer, putting topsoil down, reseeding and planting wildflowers along the wall.</p> <p>Clerk to contact BRC re ivy coming over the walls.</p> <p>Dog poo bins- they have been overflowing lately and the new bin has not been emptied- Clerk to contact them about this.</p> <p>Vegetation/flowers hanging in the road near the river bridge.</p> <p>Comments have been received re the overgrown state of the Forest Garden, may be useful to make a sign explaining what is happening in that area and why the grass was left,</p>

	perhaps the perimeter of the garden could be strimmed so that people could see in, also could the garden now be opened up so that people could walk around there and sit on the new seat? A Forest Garden takes time to develop and has several layers ie planting the bigger trees, then small trees, bushes and wild flowers.																											
	<b>FINANCE</b>																											
<b>2309/15</b>	<b>Receipts and Transfers (as of 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023</b> <b>HMRC Reclaimed VAT £2406.82</b> <b>Transfer from savings to current account £5000</b> <b>Groundwork UK NP £6235.00</b>																											
<sup>w</sup> <b>2309/16</b>	<b>Payments (as of 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023)</b>																											
<b>2309/17</b>	<b>Paid</b>																											
	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Clerk</td> <td>Salary/Tax/Expenses</td> <td><b>£956.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hugo Fox</td> <td>Website provider</td> <td><b>£71.98</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ionos</td> <td>Email subs</td> <td><b>£45.60</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Babraham School</td> <td>School Hall hire</td> <td><b>£360.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drax</td> <td>Street Lighting</td> <td><b>£22.60</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>CAPALC</td> <td>Cllr Training</td> <td><b>£50.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>SLCC</td> <td>Subscription</td> <td><b>£72.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HCR Hewitsons</td> <td>Legal fees re Village Hall</td> <td><b>£3300</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Brookfield</td> <td>Bins/grass x 2 months</td> <td><b>£792</b></td> </tr> </table>	Clerk	Salary/Tax/Expenses	<b>£956.00</b>	Hugo Fox	Website provider	<b>£71.98</b>	Ionos	Email subs	<b>£45.60</b>	Babraham School	School Hall hire	<b>£360.00</b>	Drax	Street Lighting	<b>£22.60</b>	CAPALC	Cllr Training	<b>£50.00</b>	SLCC	Subscription	<b>£72.00</b>	HCR Hewitsons	Legal fees re Village Hall	<b>£3300</b>	Brookfield	Bins/grass x 2 months	<b>£792</b>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A full list of payments was circulated, approved and signed off at the meeting</li> </ul>																											
<b>2309/18</b>	<b>Balances and Bank Reconciliation at 8<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023</b>																											
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<b>2309/19</b>	21/03607/CONDF Information only Site: Land At Babraham Research Campus High Street Babraham Cambridge Cambridgeshire CB22 3AT Proposal : Submission of details required by condition 6 (Archaeological work with a written scheme of Investigation) of planning permission 21/03607/FUL <a href="https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/21/03607/CONDF">https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/21/03607/CONDF</a>																											
	23/02719/S106A Pending Decision Site H/1:B - Land North Of Babraham Road Sawston Cambs Proposal: Modification of planning obligations contained in a S106 Agreement dated 23 August 2019 made between (1) South Cambridgeshire District Council, (2) Cambridgeshire County Council, (3) Waterbeach Instruments Limited and (4) Hill Residential Limited to change the ratio to 45 rented and 18 Shared Ownership. Principal planning ref, S/3729/18/FL.																											

	<p>Web Link <a href="https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/02719/S106A">https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/23/02719/S106A</a></p>
2309/20	<p><b>Planning decisions: None</b></p>
2309/21	<p><b>Correspondence.</b></p> <p><b>Bin collections are going to change for</b> approximately 80% of households in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire from the week beginning Monday 18 September 2023. This could be a change to the bin day or to which bins are collected on a particular week. Bins may also be emptied earlier or later than they are now, so all bins need to be out by 6am on your collection day. The frequency of collections will not change. If your bin collections are due to change, you will receive a letter in the post. You can find out more and check when your collections will be at <a href="http://www.scambs.gov.uk/binchanges">www.scambs.gov.uk/binchanges</a>.</p> <p><b>Email received via website:</b></p> <p>I emailed the parish Council about a couple of years ago about the brambles growing over the wall near Rowley lane and the danger they might cause to the public walking by. You dealt with the matter very quickly thank you. Reason I'm re emailing you is because this morning walking to school my granddaughter's face got scratched by them. Would it be possible to have them cut again please.</p> <p>Thanking you in advance BRC have been informed and they have said they will action getting this cleared.</p>
2309/22	<p><b>Items for inclusion in the next meeting</b></p> <p>Litter pick.</p> <p><b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm</p>
2309/23	<p><b>Part II: Confidential Information</b></p> <p>Exclusion of the Press and the Public: To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 8.45</p> <p>Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i>      <b>18<sup>th</sup> Sept 2023</b> 10 Duxford Road, Hinxton, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB10 1RB 01799 531827</p>