

Hinxton Parish Council: Minutes of Meeting held 13th April 2026

Present:

Ceri Williams - Chair

Sarah Robinson- Vice Chair

Mike Boagey

Chris Elliott

Andy Brown

Anne Charteris-Clerk

CLlr Peter McDonald

Members of the Public: 6

	<p>Part 1 : Non confidential information.</p>
2604/0 1	<p>To receive and approve apologies for absence: Hugh Taylor</p>
2604/02	<p>To receive members' declaration of interest for items on this agenda None declared</p>
2604/03	<p>To sign and approve minutes of meeting dated 9th Feb and the Extraordinary meeting held 23rd March 2026 Both sets of Minutes were approved and signed off.</p>
2604/04	<p>Exclusion of the Public. To determine which items, if any, from Part 1 of the Agenda should be taken with the Public excluded.</p>
2604/05	<p>Report from South Cambridgeshire District Councillor P McDonald. (position in the agenda to change depending on P McDonald's availability) <u>Zero Carbon Communities (ZCC) Scheme</u> 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. <u>Cancellation of non-responding postal votes</u> SCDC officers and councillors have, for several months, been campaigning to warn residents of the expiry of postal votes, which is a legal requirement and happens every three years. The deadline to apply for an extension has now passed and the postal votes of 4,266 residents have had to be cancelled (of the original 15,392 that required renewal) which represents a 72.28% positive response rate. All affected voters will receive a letter to inform them of this change and will also include details on how they might make a new application to vote by post if they wish. Applications need to be received by 5pm on 21 April 2026 to get a postal vote for the 7 May 2026 elections. If you have any questions, please email elections@scambs.gov.uk.</p>

New Local Markets Study

New independent research has highlighted the vital role markets play in community life and details steps to help them thrive in Greater Cambridge.

Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils jointly commissioned the [Greater Cambridge Market Economic and Social Impact Assessment](#) which sets out how traditional retail markets contribute to the area's economy, strengthen communities and enrich local culture.

The report reflects extensive engagement with traders, residents, market shoppers, community organisations and local businesses, and demonstrates that traditional markets across the region not only support employment and apprenticeship opportunities, but also enrich local character, strengthen community interaction, and give people access to diverse products - including produce that might otherwise be unavailable locally.

The [Market Traders Growth Programme](#) will support 40 traders with £40,000 allocated for specialist consultancy support, and a further £40,000 set aside for grants of £1,000 per trader - bringing the total to £80,000

The [Future Markets Trader Programme](#) will support 10 new traders, with £25,000 for consultancy support and £5,000 for grants of £500 per trader- bringing the total for this programme to £30,000.

Strategic Vision

Healthy, fair and sustainable – Cambridgeshire County Council's bold new vision for the county launched 1st April, setting out a clear commitment to delivering real outcomes that enhance daily life for people across our county. Approved by Full Council in February, this new direction is informed by resident feedback gathered through the council's annual Quality of Life survey. This vision guides everything the Council does from today until 2028/2029: the decisions it makes, the services it delivers, and the partnerships it works with. It reflects our commitment to having a positive impact on everyone who lives, works and travels in Cambridgeshire, ensuring that the outcomes we deliver genuinely improve people's lives and strengthen our communities. It will help ensure Cambridgeshire is well prepared for the changes and challenges to come including Local Government Reorganisation. The vision is supported by the Strategic Framework and its three key ambitions, which together provide a clear, consistent direction for the years ahead.

Below is the video and the strategic framework slides

<https://youtu.be/sN9oDNwv7do?si=Uu4HuIKrwXcbnVL0>

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/asset-library/business-plan-section-1-strategic-framework-2026-29.pdf>

Highways

CLlr Alex Beckett has published a Substack on the pothole situation

<https://notesfromalex.substack.com/p/why-are-the-roads-so-bad-right-now>

Heating Oil Support

Government funding has been made available for low-income families who heat their homes with oil to help tackle surging prices.

Eligible households in Cambridgeshire can apply for a grant to support with these costs through the Cambridgeshire Community Foundation (CCF).

How to apply

- [Apply online at Crisis & Resilience Fund: Cambridgeshire Community Foundation](#)
- Residents can apply direct.
- Or by a referral organisation that has assessed your circumstances and can verify that you need of immediate assistance.

Who can apply

This fund is targeting Cambridgeshire households on low incomes who are reliant on heating oil and who need to top-up their tanks as a matter of urgency.

Applications to the fund will open on Monday 30 March. In the meantime, please see our webpage [Help with utility bills](#) for other ways to access support.

2604/06

Updates

- a. Wellcome Trust Campus Development.
A ceremony was held with local Councillors when the first earth was broken of the new building. These local Councillors expressed their concerns over the New Road junction
- b. Village Hall extension.
Storage has now been doubled from the existing plan which should now give adequate space, there is also a cleaner's cupboard.
The colour of the shiplap was discussed at the previous meeting; this will remain as black as this fits in with existing shiplap buildings in Hinxton.
We are currently waiting for the Biodiversity Net Gain report, Toni Moses is in conversation with James Tipping from the Council Planning Dept, to see if we can put in the application now. This was not in the pre-app response and cannot be approved until it is done. It is hoped to be submitted within the next few weeks. The delay is in the region of 6 months. An Architect will then take over from the Moses's.
We should get a cost estimate by the end of May, this will be brought to the Parish Council for approval. Construction information by the end of the summer, the work will then be put out to tender, agree on a contractor by the end of the year and then construction begin after Christmas and finished by summer/autumn of next year. This may be earlier depending on availability of the contractor.
- c. Wetlands Committee. Next meeting to be held in May
- d. Playground. There has been a problem with moles, as these are a trip hazard we were advised to close the playground and get in a Pest Control expert to remove the moles. It was unfortunately over the Easter period, but they seem to have gone now so the playground has been opened. If they return, we will have to get the pest controller out again.
- e. Quiet Lanes. A survey is live at the moment -
<https://yourvoice.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/place-and-sustainability/duxford-and-hinxton-active-travel-survey>
There are two options we can explore to improve active travel usage on the road. Option one is to designate the road as a Quiet Lane, which could involve an advisory 20mph speed limit, soft landscaping, road surface treatments and high visibility signage. Option two is to introduce a modal filter preventing through traffic whilst still allowing pedestrians, cyclists, emergency vehicles and agricultural vehicles to pass, for example.
The closing date for replies is the 1st May.
- f. Highways. Clerk has applied again for 20mph speed limit in the village.
Clerk also had a meeting re the one-way system in Hunts Lane, the speed limit will be reduced to 30mph in line with the rest of the village (if we are allowed to go to 20mph through the village, then Hunts Lane will also change to 20. The direction of flow will be from the High St to the A1301, there may be problems of large lorries turning into Hunts Lane eg dustbin lorry; however they may need to use a smaller lorry. The work will probably not be done until next year as there is a backlog.
- g. River/weir report. Nothing to report.
- h. Hinxton News. Mike Boagey reported on the Hinxton News situation. We may not be able to rely on Wellcomes support for printing the newsletter. This is an important way to get information to residents, especially those without a computer,so needs to be continued. This may be in a different format such as an A3 sheet folded to make a 4-page bulletin which will have essential content such as the Church news, smaller adverts, other content and the Diary. There may be then a larger magazine quarterly- similar to the Hinxton Life which was published a few years ago.
It was suggested that Wellcome may want to be involved in providing content such as information on how to use their facilities, after-work activities, trips etc
Existing content could be re-invigorated- articles supplied by residents on a regular or occasional basis.
Stimulate advertising to cover costs.
MB will contact Emma Hardwick from Wellcome as Melanie Pankhurst has left now.

- i. Signposts for speed sign. The Clerk met with highway to see where posts could be sited to mount the speed sign in 4 places – 2 in the High St, one in Duxford Rd and one in North End. As there is only one post at present that could be used, these will need to be purchased at a cost of approx. £1000 each, once a quote has been received, the PC will then decide whether to go ahead.
- j. It was agreed to install the one in Duxford Road as soon as possible, this will let us see how it works and can provide data such as numbers of cars using the road and speeds. Clerk will look for someone to mount this as it is heavy and needs 2 people to lift in place.

2604/07 Public participation time. 15 minutes allowed

2604/08 New items for discussion and correspondence.
 Close Pass campaign- see correspondence below.
 It was agreed to express an interest in finding out more about this.

2604/09 FINANCE
Bank Balances at 5th April 2026
Current A/C : £3539.30
Business /AC : £ 40,935.18
Village Hall sec 106 /AC: £71,952.82
Total: £116,427.30

Payments approved and signed off. 2 months of payments.

Clerk/HMRC	salary/tax/ ink/paper /WFH expenses	confidential
Microsoft	Storage	£70.56
S Lotte	Hinxton News editor	£200.00
Hugo Fox	Website hosting	£72.98
EE	Broadband	£32.99
LLoyds	Service charge	£8.50
LVP	Architects	£990.00
SEE	Streetlighting	£27.74
Hugh Taylor	Planting "Covid Tree"	£25
CAPALC	Subscription	£253.09
SEE	Gas & electric	£147.83
PEM	VAT advice registration	£1160

2604/10

Payments Received		
Lloyds	Interest.	£96.86
Allotments	rents	£10
Village Hall Committee	Gas and Electric	£643.16
HMRC	VAT refund	£606.84

2604/11 Planning Applications Received.
 Local Planning Authority: South Cambridgeshire District Council
 Proposal: Installation of a toilet inside the church vestry (permission being applied for through the Church of England faculty application process) linked to an underground waste holding tank installed within the churchyard and new external doors.
 Site address: St Mary And St Johns Church Church Green Hinxton
 Reference: 26/00737/FUL
 Public Access Link: <https://applications.greatercambridgeplanning.org/online-applications/PLAN/26/00737/FUL>

<p>2604/12</p>	<p><i>PC supported this application</i></p> <p>Correspondence received I am writing to update you on the Close Pass Campaign which will launch end of March / early April and will run for 18 months. The key focus of the campaign will be to raise awareness of Highway Code Rule 163, which states that drivers should leave at least 1.5 metres when overtaking cyclists at speeds of up to 30mph. It will be an educative approach designed to promote safer behaviours and reinforce that everyone deserves to arrive at their destination safely. This includes bus advertising, fleet branding, VMS signage, a promotional video, social media activity, temporary road signs, PR and a website media toolkit. If you have any location suggestions for temporary road signage, I'd be grateful to receive them by the end of June 2026. These would ideally be in locations with a 30mph speed limit, high cycle usage and a higher risk of close passes. We will also promote the broader 2022 Highway Code changes relating to safe overtaking of pedestrians, motorcyclists, horses and horse-drawn carriages.</p>
<p>2604/13</p>	<p>Items to report for inclusion of next meeting Where to plant whips. Playground inspection.</p>
<p>2604/14</p>	<p>Dates of next meetings Village Hall 7.30pm</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May 11th 2026 Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm followed by Annual Meeting of the Parish Council 7.30 approx</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 8th 2026</p> <p>Part II: Confidential Information 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. Signature: <i>Anne Charteris</i> Parish Clerk 14th April 2026</p>