

# South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward

(comprises the Parishes of Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston, Bourn, Longstowe & Little Gransden)

## Councillor's Monthly Report – December 2021

This report of previous month events is for all the Ward, so please be aware that some of the content may not be relevant to your particular Parish.

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### General

Please contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services. These are housing need, housing repairs for council tenants, planning, benefits, council tax, bin collection, environmental health issues etc. Don't fight on your own. I am available to help you to get the best outcome possible for your situation.

Check out articles on my facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi> and my blog <http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk>. What I post on there is my view and not LibDem or South Cambs official policy unless I state that it is.

### COVID19 UPDATE

I am beginning to sound like a broken record on this topic, so I will keep it short and sweet. Omicron variant is now in the UK. Scientists are trying to grapple with its composition, how it transmits, its effects and all that. New Covid laws in place as of 04:00 on 30<sup>th</sup> November – masks must be worn on all public transport and in shops. Hospitality venues not affected. (2) All international arrivals must take day 2 PCR test and self isolate until they receive a negative result (3) all contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status. Check out government website <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/prime-minister-sets-out-new-measures-as-omicron-variant-identified-in-uk-27-november-2021>?

South Cambridgeshire now has the highest infection rate in Cambridgeshire County and increasing. Now stands at 562 per 100,000 as of 26<sup>th</sup> November. Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are still classified as an Enhanced Response Area (ERA) for at least the next week but I am expecting that the classification will be extended for a further period of time.

Please work from home if you can, if not, remember Hands-Face-Space-Fresh Air. If you have not been vaccinated, please do so now. If you need to get your booster, book it now or find one of the walk in centres. Taking a free rapid lateral flow test before a period of high risk will give you peace of mind that you are unlikely to be infectious with Covid-19 and it is unlikely you will spread the virus. Pick up home test kits from pharmacies and libraries, order online.

[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/rapidtesting](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/rapidtesting)

### Greater Cambridge Local Plan – First Proposals

We are now in the last fortnight of the consultation – **it closes at 5pm on the 13<sup>th</sup> December**. So please get your responses in by the deadline, it really matters!

Thank you to those that attended the online and in-person events.

- Local Plan homepage - [www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan](http://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/localplan)
- [Interactive map](https://bit.ly/GCLP-InteractiveMap) is at <https://bit.ly/GCLP-InteractiveMap>
- [Full version Digital plan](https://bit.ly/GCP-DigitalPlan) – <https://bit.ly/GCP-DigitalPlan>
- [Document library](https://bit.ly/GCLP-DocumentLibrary) - <https://bit.ly/GCLP-DocumentLibrary>
- [Quick questionnaire](https://bit.ly/GCLP-QuickQuestionnaire) - <https://bit.ly/GCLP-QuickQuestionnaire>
- Webinar recordings and videos are all on the [SCDC YouTube playlists](#). I found the climate change webinar very insightful.
- Check out the one on how to comment and what makes a good comment on [SCDC channel](#).

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Thanks to those that attended the zoom times I set aside for the Ward residents. I've put a short summary and video on my blog at <https://tumihawkins.org.uk/first-proposals-consultation-for-local-plan-have-you-had-your-say/> and on my facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/itsCouncillorTumi/videos/213241510964397/> Please check them out.

## **Transport**

The Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) is running a public consultation titled **Making Connections** -setting out ambitious plans to transform public transport, including a future bus network which would deliver faster, frequent and reliable bus services with cheaper fares. The proposals, which are out to consultation until 20 December, include:

- Services running from 5am until midnight, with frequent buses to key destinations.
- More frequent services between 7am and 7pm, with buses every few minutes in the city, every 10 minutes from towns and larger villages, and hourly in rural areas.
- Express and direct services to the city centre, Cambridge Biomedical Campus, Cambridge Science Park and West Cambridge, and links to local rail stations.
- Small villages will have opportunities to 'plug into' the network through a regular connecting bus service, a demand responsive bus service, or access to a travel hub.
- Cheaper fares, such as a flat rate for trips in the city, daily and weekly tickets for regular users, hopper tickets, and cheaper family fares.

A transformed bus network could cost up to £40m per year to run and people are asked to consider how to both reduce congestion and raise funds to support such a scheme. Making Connections consultation closes at 12noon on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> December, whilst the Cambridge Eastern Access consultation closes at 12noon on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021.

To read and respond, go to <http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/cea-and-city-access-2021>

## **South Cambs at COP26 Glasgow**

The Council Leader Cllr Bridget Smith attended COP26 in Glasgow last month and an opportunity to really see history in the making. She went as part of a Local Government Association delegation whose job it was to ensure that the final deal included the important role of local government including parish councils in getting us to Zero Carbon as quickly as possible. Also in attendance was Cllr Pippa Heylings in her role as Deputy Chair, Environment, Housing & Transport Board at LGA. In her speech to the conference, she made the case powerfully for including all tiers of local government to be acknowledged and included as playing a key role in the drive to resolve the climate crisis. It is within the powers of local government (parish, district and county) to reduce our carbon emissions by 30% so it is vital that we have the powers and the money to be able to do this.

## **South Cambs New Golden Telephone Number**

South Cambs DC has introduced a single Golden Number to be used to contact the council. This should help you to be able to talk to the best person within the council more effectively. We have also introduced a call back facility so that you don't have to hang on the phone during busy periods. The new number is: **01954 713000**.

## **Disability History Month 2021**

This is an annual heritage month from 18 November to 18 December 2021 to celebrate the lives of disabled persons both present and past, but also to document the continued struggle for equality in life and legislation. Disability as defined by the Equality Act 2010, as a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial or long term (negative) effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

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SCDC is holding a series of events to celebrate. You can find out more on our website at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/equality-and-diversity/equality-activities-and-events/> and also check out the short video on digital accessibility at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-DZR5U7FCnk>

## **South Cambridgeshire Outdoor Christmas market**

This is THE Christmas event of the year, held in collaboration with Cambourne Town Council on Sunday 5 December 12 noon to 6PM on the High Street. There will be 100 stalls, including food vans, market stalls, craft marquee and funfair. Put it in your diary to attend – you will no doubt find lots of stuff to get as Christmas gifts. I am one of the stall holders – so come say hello. ShopLocal for the festive season. To keep the event safe, face covering will be compulsory. Please do a rapid test before attending and get your jabs. Read more at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business/south-cambridgeshire-outdoor-christmas-market/>

## **"On Your Doorstep" Promoting Local Businesses**

Don't forget, South Cambridgeshire District Council's 'On your Doorstep' social media campaign to help showcase local shops, hospitality, businesses, attractions and outdoor spaces- providing residents with inspiration for different activities and treats that can also help to support the local economy. We would appreciate Parish Councils sharing this campaign on their own social media platforms to help promote our wonderful district.

Follow SCDC social media accounts on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to find out what's on in our local high streets and green spaces throughout the autumn, and in the run up to Christmas. Or search our hashtag **#OnYourDoorstepSCDC**. For more information, please visit <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business/coronavirus-information-for-businesses/reopening-the-high-street/on-your-doorstep/>.

## **Visit South Cambridgeshire website**

The new Visit South Cambs website is now up and running. Please use it if you would like to discover new places to visit, eat, for shopping. If you are a food outlet, B& B or pub please do put your details on the website so that we can help you to grow your business.

The website is at <https://visitsouthcambs.co.uk/> so check it out to explore, discover, enjoy everything South Cambridgeshire has to offer.

## **Greater Cambridge Shared Waste (GCSW)**

The GCSW service has secured new funding (£50,000) for additional collection banks where residents can drop off small household electricals like kettles and toasters. Work has started to identify where these new collection banks will be. Did you know that households in Cambridgeshire are throwing away an average of 2.6kg of electrical items in their black bins each year!! It adds up to 320 tonnes of e-waste that could otherwise be recycled. The banks are suitable for collecting most small items which have a plug or a battery, including phones, toys, kettles and many more. Read more about it at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/boost-for-electrical-recycling/>

## **Community-led Plan Toolkit**

SCDC are delighted to announce that our [Community-led Plan Toolkit](#) is now live on our website. The Community-Led Plan process enables communities to ask local people what they want and produce an action plan that helps people to take realistic and concrete steps towards the change they want to see. If you know of a community group wanting to take community action in your ward, please could you direct them to this [webpage](#). Please contact the Council on [CLP@scams.gov.uk](mailto:CLP@scams.gov.uk) if you have any further questions.

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## Free Trees schemes

This year's Six Free Tree Scheme run by SCDC has been a success with applications from over 70 parish councils who could choose between 6 small trees or one whopper – so this year a total of 420 new trees will be planted. Combining this with the three free trees scheme run previously, over 580 trees have been offered to parish councils and community groups. We are keen to see the tree cover in south cambs increase as part of our journey to achieving net zero carbon. Trees play a very important role in that journey.

## Health and Wellbeing

The Action for Happiness theme for December is **Do Good December**. The calendar is at <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/december> This month's actions are encouraging us to carry out small acts of kindness. Let's be generous with our time and attention, rather than money.

## A428 Development Corridor Meeting:

Took place as planned on 24<sup>th</sup> November 5.45pm to 8pm and was well attended by people from villages along the corridor and surrounding as far as Coton! The recording will be made available soon. Discussion centred around how the forum should be organised and a draft template Terms of Reference

## Caldecote Liaison Meeting

This quarterly meeting between Caldecote PC, Developers Linden and Balfour Beatty and Council officers took place on 17<sup>th</sup> November. A reminder that the meeting was set up to help mitigate any disruptive impact of construction on residents, promote the integration of new residents into the community, engage residents with the new development and the associated facilities.

The Balfour development on Grafton Drive have completed the show home , and have 2 new houses occupied at front of site in October. They are on target for end 2022 completion due to national shortage of labour and materials supplies. The minimal signage to the development was discussed and BB confirmed they are only allowed 2, but trying to get a more prominent one. Linden Homes not in attendance. However we know they have also had new occupations at the front of the site and their show homes were completed a few months ago.

## Casework

Irrespective of the current Covid19 lockdown, please do feel free to contact me with comments, questions, problems, reports, suggestions or complaints to do with SCDC services. I will help as best I can.

You will find the current and past reports at <https://tumihawkins.org.uk/2021-22-monthly-reports/>. Feel free to read, share and/or download.

Please stay safe. The maxim **Hands – Face – Space - Fresh Air** is still very much the rule.

*Tumi*

Tumi Hawkins  
1 December 2021

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