

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Caldecote Ward

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

Councillor's Monthly Report – May 2022

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.

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.

District and Parish Council Elections 2022

The District Elections took place on 5th May as expected and results published on 6th May 2022. I was returned as the Caldecote Ward District Councillor for the 2022 to 2026 period, with a 3-to-1 share of the votes cast (909 to 314). I want to say a big thank you to all the residents in Bourn, Caldecote, Childerley, Kingston, Little Gransden and Longstowe who went out to vote, and to those who voted for me. The vote share was exciting and humbling at the same time, indicating a vote of confidence in my service to communities in the Ward.

One other good piece of news is that the Liberal Democrats are still in administration, having increased out seats from 31 to 37. The Conservatives lost 3 seats and are down to 8 and are the only opposition team now.

The turnout was about 43% across the district, and that is mirrored by the Caldecote Ward turnout too. It was a bit worrying but understandable as many are "fed up" with politics due to the current national picture. You can read more about the results on the SCDC website at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/our-district-election-results-2022/>. I have put some of my thoughts together and you can read it on my blog at <https://tumihawkins.org.uk/district-council-elections-2022/>

Green To Our Core – Zero Carbon Communities Grant

Green issues were raised a lot during the past month, and I was pleased to be able to share with more people some of the good things that we have done on this. including creating and adopting the Doubling Nature and Zero Carbon Strategies. For more practical steps, we created the **Zero Carbon Communities Grant** in 2019, and so far allocated £314,415 to 51 different community groups to support carbon reduction projects. This grant is open for the fourth round of funding from a pot of £120,000! Community groups can apply for funding up to £15,000 for projects which reduce carbon emissions and engage communities on Climate change.

To learn more and find out how to apply, please visit this webpage on SCDC website <https://www.scams.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-grant/>. If you have any questions please contact zcc@scams.gov.uk.

Deadline for applications now extended to 5pm on Friday 17 June 2022.

Zero Carbon Events

If you want to find out more about Zero Carbon events that SCDC has held in previous months,

including on 19th April, then check out <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-events/>.

Solar Together

This is the joint programme with Cambridgeshire County Council that provides cost effective opportunities for residents to have Solar Photovoltaic panels installed. The number of households to accept their offer has reached 701. This is out of a total of 1,820 acceptances across the County since registration for the scheme closed on 1st April. Also, 434 households have accepted the offer of added battery storage, meaning that they will directly benefit from the solar energy produced on their property which would otherwise have gone into the national grid. This scheme plays an important role in encouraging the uptake of Solar PV across the district to reduce reliance on fossil fuel energy. If you want to register your interest for when the scheme next opens, go to <https://solartogether.co.uk/cambridgeshire/home>

Planning Policy & Delivery and Building Control

Parish Councils Planning Meetings/Trainings

Reminder that the Caldecote Ward villages are in Planning Area 3, and the second Quarterly Meeting between parishes and the Area 3 team is on Thursday 16th June 2022. I encourage parish councils to please nominate at least one person to attend, councillor or parish clerk or both and respond to the invitation when you receive it.

5-Year Housing Land Supply 2022-2027

Reminder also that the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service published on 1st April the latest situation with the 5 Year Housing Land Supply. The published figure is **6.5 years** for the period 2022 to 2027. Please take note this is valid for the next 12 months, protecting our villages from speculative developments using current planning policies.

Neighbourhood Planning

As I previously reported, we have also adopted 9 Village Design Guides and 5 Neighbourhood Plans over the past 4 years. We have just heard that “Government is extending support for neighbourhood planning groups, increasing funding by over £8m to £40m in total. This new funding will support the government’s plan to level up the country by empowering communities to make decisions on future development in their area.” according to the tweet by Housing Minister Stuart Andrew! Check out this Planning Resource article on my blog at

http://tumiawkins.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/220413-Neighbourhood-Watch_-Last-minute-extension-for-neighbourhood-plan-grant-programme_-Planning-Resource.pdf .

Communities that want to create Neighbourhood plans should talk to our Planning Policy officer and you can check out this site too <https://neighbourhoodplanning.org/>

3C Building Control – Training

3CBC is the Shared Building Control Service of South Cambs, Cambs City and Huntingdonshire DC. It is hosting a FREE online session on 'An Introduction to Approved Documents F, L, O and S' on Tuesday 17th May 2022, 9.00am – 11.00am. If you are interested and want to sign up, email 3bccevents@3csharedservices.org to get details.

Solar Farm at Childerley

A 50MW solar farm on Childerley Estate was given planning permission by the SCDC Planning Committee at its meeting on 13th April. The benefits/merits of the application was discussed in detail and on balance the committee decided the benefits of providing green solar power to around 14,200 homes outweighed the loss of agricultural land. There will also be creation of a woodland, landscaping and biodiversity enhancements to the area. Full committee report is at https://scambs.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s126731/Childerley_Solar_Farm.pdf

Council Finance and Business Support

Council Tax Rebate

I hope that the explanation of the Council tax figures I provided last month showing that the SCDC component of your tax bill was on average just 7.8% was helpful. SCDC collects for all the other authorities and pass it on to them, including parish councils.

The Council is now implementing the Government scheme of giving £150 council tax rebate to owners of properties in Bands A-D. This money does not have to be paid back (unlike the energy loan). If you pay your council tax by direct debit, then you should have received your payments by now. Those that do not pay by direct debit need to complete a short application form. Please email energyrebate@scams.gov.uk or go to <https://www.scams.gov.uk/energy-rebate> to apply online

Health and Wellbeing

The Action for Happiness theme for this month is **Meaningful May**. The calendar is at <https://www.actionforhappiness.org/calendar>. This month's focus is "Let's find ways to be part of something bigger".

Wild Minds Program

SCDC has so far run 7 Wild Minds schemes for young people, and the next one is now open for applications. It is a programme of free nature-based wellbeing activities for 12-17 year olds to support those experiencing mild to moderate mental ill health. Young people, or their parents or carers, can register now for one of our three summer 2022 eight-week programmes, which start on 7, 8 and 12 June. It is run in partnership with Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust at Milton Country Park, and Find Your Wild at Wandlebury Country Park, and is supported by a Clinical Psychologist. To find out more and apply, do go to <https://www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/health-and-wellbeing/wild-minds/>

May half term sports camps for children

Our [school holiday sports camps](#) run for children in school Year 3 to Year 9, from 10am to 3:30pm. Children can attend either a netball or athletics camp, or both. It costs £25 per child per day, or £22 per child per day if more than one child is attending, or for a child attending multiple days. Athletics is at Wilberforce Road Athletics Track, Cambridge, CB3 9AD. Netball is at Impington Sports Centre, Impington, CB24 9LX. Dates for May half term are as follows and bookings can be made online.

- Athletics: Monday 25 and/or Tuesday 26 July
- Netball: Wednesday 27 and/or Thursday 28 July

Run For Your Life are offering free, weekly beginner running sessions in the district. You can find out more and the nearest session to you at <https://www.runforyourlife.co/>

Support for Refugees - Ukraine

South Cambs continues to support to Ukrainian refugees. It is worth noting that, as of 6 May, South Cambs had the highest number of visas issued under the sponsorship scheme (435) for any district in England, which is a testament to the generosity of our communities. The Council has set up officer teams working on themes - data management; accommodation checks; DBS checks; welfare checks; payments to guests and hosts; community, information and communications support. So there's a lot of work going on behind the scene to help them get here and settle in. There's useful information on the webpage at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/support-for-ukraine/>. FAQs are available here on the Homes for Ukraine scheme - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/homes-for-ukraine-scheme-frequently-asked-questions>.

The Queen's Baton Relay is coming to South Cambridgeshire

Queen's Baton Relay for Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games is coming to South Cambridgeshire this summer, before going on to the games destination. During its time in South Cambridgeshire, the Baton will first pass through the Wellcome Genome Campus in Hinxton, where an event will be held to bring together local communities to celebrate the Baton relay, science and sport. The ticketed event is free, will bring together local communities, school children and Campus staff, and will have a range of entertainment, locally sourced food vendors, plus science and sporting activities.

There will be a range of activities for children and families to explore areas of the genetic research that takes place on the Campus. As well as this, there will be a variety of sports games, a family fun run, and local talent providing entertainment, including performances from nearby sports groups.

Read more about it at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/birmingham-2022-queen-s-baton-relay-to-visit-wellcome-genome-campus-as-full-england-route-revealed/> and watch out for further details.

Local Issues

Caldecote – Liaison Meeting with Balfour & Linden

The next liaison meeting with the developers Linden and Balfour Beatty is taking place on Wednesday 18th May. If you have any points you want to raise, please email me directly.

Jubilee Celebrations

There are some Jubilee events happening in the Ward villages during the period 2nd to 5th June 2022. Good luck with all the arrangements and I hope the weather turns out to be sunny for the weekend.

Casework

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. Keep the **Hands – Face – Space - Fresh Air** maxim as much as you can.

Tumi

Tumi Hawkins
10 May 2022

Email me @:	tumi@tumihawkins.org.uk
Read my blog at:	http://www.TumiHawkins.org.uk
Twitter:	@CouncillorTumi
Facebook	@itsCouncillorTumi
LinkedIn	TumiHawkins
Call me on:	07802 323269