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## **May 2019 parish e-bulletin – news and information from South Cambridgeshire District Council**

Welcome to the latest parish e-bulletin. As in every edition, this one includes information that parish councils may want to discuss, important notices we want you to be aware of, as well as news from around the district.

### **1) Chief Executive vacancy and organisational review**

We are currently recruiting for a new Chief Executive to lead the paid service at South Cambridgeshire District Council. More information can be found on the website created for the recruitment process. See contact information below. The closing date is Monday 3 June. Additionally, we are currently undertaking an organisational review. The aim of this review is to ensure we are fit for the future. We are currently consulting on the Director-level posts that would form part of a new structure.

**Contact:** For more information visit [www.southcambridgeshireleadership.com](http://www.southcambridgeshireleadership.com)

### **2) Community Right to Challenge**

A national initiative called Community Right to Challenge was introduced under the Government's Localism Act and gives voluntary and community groups, charities and parish councils the opportunity to make formal expressions of interest in running Council services if they believe they can provide them in a more efficient, responsive or cost-effective way. The period to put forward an expression of interest is now open and local groups have until the end of July to challenge for the running of our services. Visit [www.scams.gov.uk/community-development/community-rights/community-right-to-challenge/](http://www.scams.gov.uk/community-development/community-rights/community-right-to-challenge/) for more information.

**Contact:** Ryan Coetsee on [ryan.coetsee@scams.gov.uk](mailto:ryan.coetsee@scams.gov.uk) or 01954 713 461.

### **3) Cabinet and parish councils liaison meeting**

Come and meet the Cabinet and share your views with them. The next Cabinet and parish council liaison meeting will be held on Wednesday 26 June from 6.30pm to 8pm at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne.

**Contact:** Jay Clarke on [jason.clarke@scams.gov.uk](mailto:jason.clarke@scams.gov.uk) or 01954 713 209.

#### **4) Avoiding trips and falls at home**

It is important for us all to feel safe and secure at home and we may not always be aware of the potential areas of danger which lead to an unexpected trip or fall. There are small things we can do to help prevent these unwanted accidents.

Our handyperson scheme is delivered in partnership with Age UK and is aimed at keeping people safer in their homes for longer. The scheme prevents falls and accidents by offering a FREE Personal Assessment, Home Safety Check and arranging small jobs to be carried out.

If you are over 65 or disabled, you can take advantage of the service through self-referral. You will be visited by an Age UK trusted assessor who will provide information about the support available, make recommendations and, if you wish, arrange for improvements to be made to your home by an approved contractor.

The scheme will fit grab rails, install key safes, hang curtains, put up shelves, build flatpack furniture and much more. Any grab rails that are required will be provided and installed free of charge. Other services will incur a charge of £25 per hour plus the cost of materials used.

For more information visit [www.ageuk.org.uk/cambridgeshireandpeterborough/our-services/our-services/handy-persons-scheme/](http://www.ageuk.org.uk/cambridgeshireandpeterborough/our-services/our-services/handy-persons-scheme/)

**Contact:** To make a referral call Age UK on 01480 700205 or 0300 666 9860 or email [chp@ageukcap.org.uk](mailto:chp@ageukcap.org.uk)

#### **5) Litter-picks - we can help**

If you would like to organise a voluntary litter picking event in your area, we can support you through lending litter grabbers and gloves for the event. We also provide bags for the collection of litter and can collect these after the event.

We are also keen to highlight your community efforts by sharing photos of the amount of litter you collect on our social media accounts. If you have recently carried out a litter pick and would like us to spread the word about your efforts, please email a photo and brief details about what you collected to [communications@scams.gov.uk](mailto:communications@scams.gov.uk)



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Please note that if your photo contains people, we will ask you to fill out a short photo consent form for each person that is identifiable in the photo. This is to ensure we comply with GDPR privacy rules.

Find out more at [www.scambs.gov.uk/environment/litter-picking-community-clear-ups](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/environment/litter-picking-community-clear-ups)

**Contact:** [refuse@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:refuse@scambs.gov.uk) or 03450 450063

### **6) Charge to empty additional green bins**

Do you have more than one green wheelie bin? If so, you now need to pay for a permit to have the additional bin or bins emptied. This costs £20 for the first six-month period of the scheme (April to September 2019), and you will need to re-subscribe each September and pay an annual charge of £35. Extra green bins which don't have a permit won't now be emptied.

To find out more, and to pay for a permit, visit [www.scambs.gov.uk/bins](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/bins)

**Contact:** [refuse@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:refuse@scambs.gov.uk) or 03450 450063

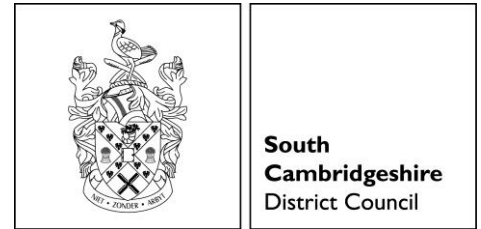
### **7) Refuse loaders trial wearing shorts**

Bin crews in South Cambridgeshire, along with those in Cambridge City and Huntingdonshire, are to trial wearing high-visibility shorts. This follows feedback from staff last summer, when they asked about the possibility of wearing them. Following extensive preparation, a trial allowing refuse loaders to wear high-visibility shorts is starting on Monday 3 June. It will run until October and will be carefully monitored. The risk of wearing shorts while emptying bins has been evaluated as part of this process and residents can play their part by keeping glass inside their recycling bin only and not in additional clear sacks.

**Contact:** [refuse@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:refuse@scambs.gov.uk) or 03450 450063

### **8) Could you help reduce plastic waste by starting a Refill scheme?**

Is there a publicly-accessible water fountain in your village – perhaps one that is in a local business, shop or community building? If so, you could help to reduce plastic waste by joining the national Refill scheme that encourages people to carry re-usable bottles and fill them at fountains. There are now almost 200 Refill schemes across the UK.



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They empower their local communities to act against single-use plastics by signing up businesses as Refill Stations to the Refill app, getting the Refill sticker in windows, encouraging people to carry a reusable water bottle, and hosting local events to raise awareness.

For more information, and to start a scheme in your area, visit the Refill website:

<https://refill.org.uk/start-scheme/>

**For advice on reducing waste, contact:** [refuse@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:refuse@scambs.gov.uk) or 03450 450063

### 9) Waste Collections from Parish Councils

Since the introduction of the Greater Cambridge Shared Waste Service's Commercial Service, Parish Councils may have noticed changes to how and when their recycling and waste is collected.

Collections are no longer monthly, and most parishes should now have an updated schedule. However, if you are unsure about your collection schedule or would like more information, please contact us.

**Contact:** John Caulkett at [John.Caulkett@scambs.gov.uk](mailto:John.Caulkett@scambs.gov.uk) or 01954 713485

### 10) South Cambs Magazine

The summer 2019 edition of South Cambs Magazine is now being delivered to residents. The delivery window for this edition closes on 9 June. Thank you to parishes who have provided helpful information when delivery issues have been identified in the past. Please continue to encourage residents to flag any issues to Smart Distribution as soon as possible, after the delivery window has closed.

You can view an online edition of the latest edition of South Cambs Magazine here:

[www.scambs.gov.uk/the-council/south-cambs-magazine/](http://www.scambs.gov.uk/the-council/south-cambs-magazine/)

**Contact:** [scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk](mailto:scdc@smartdistribution.co.uk) or 0800 6444 011

### 11) Scams training

We have been notified by our colleagues at the County Council that there is some very worthwhile online training available to make us all aware about the dangers of being scammed online. It only takes around 20 minutes to complete. You can access this training by visiting the Friends Against Scams

website at <https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/elearning/Cambridgeshire>



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Additionally, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP) continues to work to raise awareness about the dangers of scams. You can visit their website at

<https://cambridgeshireinsight.org.uk/CAPASP/>

Community groups, parish councils, businesses and anyone else who wants to become a 'supporter' can access, download and use the resources on the website. See the 'Resources' section by scrolling down the homepage of the CAPASP.

The CAPASP is also on Twitter and posts useful information there. You can follow them at

<https://twitter.com/cpagainstscams>

**Contact:** Charlotte Homent at Cambridgeshire County Council on

[Charlotte.Homent@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Charlotte.Homent@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or 01954 284635.