

January 2021 parish e-bulletin

News and information from South Cambridgeshire District Council

Welcome to the latest e-bulletin. We hope you and your communities are well and are coping with the current lockdown. We will continue to send parish councils the latest information related to the pandemic response on a weekly basis. This bi-monthly parish e-bulletin instead covers important notices we would like to draw your attention to from other teams in the Council.

Climate and environment fortnight 2021

Commencing on Monday 22 February, the Council will be marking Climate and environment fortnight 2021 with a series of webinars to help people think about how to live more sustainably, reduce carbon emissions and in turn help tackle climate change. All are welcome to join any of these free online events:

- *Greener businesses*, Thursday 25 February, from 1pm to 2pm
- *Sustainable farming in Cambridgeshire*, online film premiere and discussion, Friday 26 February, from 9am to 10am
- *Greening your older home*, tips and inspiration, Tuesday 2 March, from 1pm to 2pm
- *Shrinking your carbon footprint*, Wednesday 3 March, 7.30pm to 8.30pm
- *Food for our Future workshop*, Thursday 4 March, from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

For more information, please visit our website from next week where we will be updating information about [how to join these events](#).

Elections in May

Elections are due to be held on 6 May 2021. This will include the postponed Police and Crime Commissioner polls, which were originally scheduled for last year, along with elections for the Mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and elections to Cambridgeshire County Council. There will also be several district council by-

elections where we are carrying some vacancies, and there will be elections in a handful of parishes and probably two neighbourhood plan referendums.

We are working really hard to make polling stations as safe as they can be. It is likely that more people than usual will have to queue outside for short periods. When the time comes, please encourage your residents to wear a mask and to bring their own pen or pencil where they can. Above all, we need residents to help us by distancing themselves from other electors, and to be patient with our staff as we work to make these elections a success. We will also promote these messages on our social media channels over the coming months. [Visit our website](#) for more about these polls, or to find out how to apply to vote by post or proxy, or contact elections@scambs.gov.uk.

Census

The Census is scheduled to continue as planned, with Census day due on 21 March 2021. Letters will start to hit doormats in mid-March. This Census will be digitally-led, with letters asking households to complete their form online where they can (paper versions will be available if needed). Please encourage your residents to respond quickly to the letter they receive, as the Office for National Statistics will be sending field agents out to those households that don't respond. It would be particularly helpful if you could work to raise awareness of what the Census is, especially amongst groups of residents that may not be familiar with it. Your local Census Engagement Manager is Colin Lippitt. You can [email Colin](#) if you need more information or visit the [Census website](#).

Mobile Wardens – deadline to apply for funding 29 January

A final reminder that the Mobile Warden grant scheme is [open for applications](#) until 5pm on Friday 29 January 2021. This year, funding is available for a three-year period (2021-2024) instead of just one year, and the level of funding available per year has increased from £27,000 last year up to £52,255. For more information please [email](#) or call Robyn Kerrigan: or 01954 713254.

Supporting local businesses: please share our survey

Last summer we sent out surveys to find out how residents and businesses felt about visiting local businesses during the pandemic. These surveys were very useful in helping us plan an approach to support businesses and residents in safely reopening. We now have an updated version of the survey, which will help us to compare how attitudes have changed and identify how best to support South Cambridgeshire's local businesses as they continue to navigate this challenging time. Both surveys (for residents and business owners) can be found on [South Cambridgeshire COVID-19 surveys](#) page.

Your help in sharing these surveys on your own parish and local social media platforms would be much appreciated. For more information, please [email the Reopening the High Street Safely team](#).

LGBTQ+ History Month

The Council will be marking LGBTQ+ History Month during February with a series of online events and recommended reading and watching, supported by Encompass Network Cambridgeshire. The events will explore the history of the LGBTQ+ community within Cambridgeshire and the United Kingdom, encouraging education, knowledge and acceptance in accordance with the 2021 theme of Mind, Body and Spirit. Everyone is welcome to participate. More information will be available from Monday [on our website](#).

Green Homes Grant

The deadline for the Government's Green Homes Grant has been extended until March 2022, so there is now a more reasonable time frame for residents to investigate the possibility of making improvements to their home's efficiency and having the work either part or fully-funded by Government vouchers.

Carbon Neutral Cambridge undertook some work to create heatmaps and detailed postcode maps showing areas that have concentrations of homes with either "poor" or "very poor" loft insulation, or uninsulated or partially insulated cavity walls. You

can view information for South Cambridgeshire on the [Carbon Neutral Cambridge website](#). You may be interested to learn that the top 21 'hotspot' villages identified in South Cambridgeshire are: Over; Bar Hill; Bassingbourn; Caldecote; Cambourne; Duxford; Fen Ditton; Fen Drayton; Foxton; Girton; Great and Little Shelford; Hardwick; Hauxton; Histon; Linton; Melbourn; Milton; Sawston; Stow cum Quy; Teversham; and Waterbeach.

Food Waste Action Week 1-7 March

We are joining a national week of action to highlight the link between wasting food and climate change. We'll have new artwork on our bin lorries and be posting lots of content online, along with lots of social media influencers across the country. We'll be sending posters to parish clerks to display on notice boards, but if you have additional places that you can display these, like in High Street windows, please [email our waste team](#), who can either send you artwork to print off, or paper copies.

Parish waste / recycling collections

If you have a commercial waste bin service, such as from an office, village hall, sportsground or somewhere else, please could you [email our trade waste team](#) to let them know the frequency of collections you'd like for the next year? This will help ensure you're paying for only what you need, and will help the team to check they have your latest contact details. Please include your full name and contact phone number, as well as the location of your bin(s).

Become a partnership supporter

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Against Scams Partnership (CAPASP) invites you to become a partnership supporter. Partnership supporters include local councils, community groups, businesses, schools, housing associations and keen individuals, and supporters share scams awareness and prevention information as far and wide as possible within your community/networks.

CAPASP makes it easy for supporters to build local resilience through providing supporters with:

- a monthly newsletter (here's [January's newsletter](#) as an example)
- interim scam alerts (notifying supporters about scams occurring between newsletters e.g. [eBay PS5 scam](#) and [NHS vaccine scam](#)).
- social media content to easily share
- scams prevention resources e.g. CAPASP's library of self-serve resources including posters, leaflets and guidance documents on their [webpage](#).

There is also an e-learning version of [Friends Against Scams training](#), and the [5 Simple Steps](#) document which may inspire your support.

Development Management planning teams

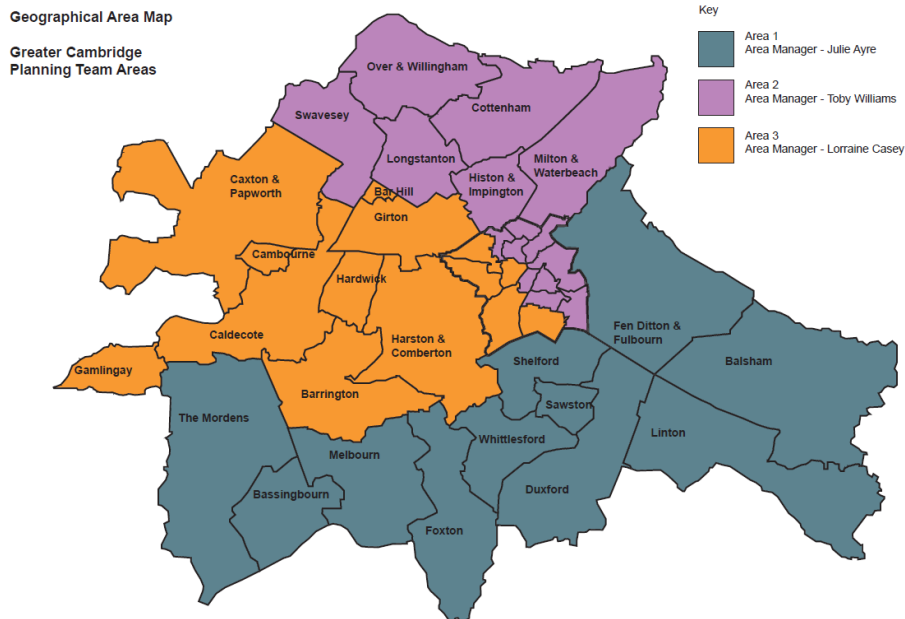
In March 2020 the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service created three geographical area-based planning teams, which cover the Greater Cambridge area for the development management service (dealing with planning applications, appeals, pre-application requests and discharges of conditions). These are:

- Area 1, covering the southern part of South Cambridgeshire, with Julie Ayre as the team manager
- Area 2, covering the north and north east parts of South Cambridgeshire and the Cambridge City wards on the east. This team is led by Toby Williams
- Area 3, also covering some of South Cambridgeshire's northern districts, north west and the Cambridge City wards to the west. Lorraine Casey is the team manager.

The reason for having area-based teams is to provide a more responsive and focused service to the local communities and planning agents/applicants within those areas, given the large size of Greater Cambridge. This includes building closer relationships with the parishes and local communities to develop improved understanding of local issues and for the local communities, providing [named officer contacts for the individual areas](#).

We recently, made some changes to the team areas that were originally set in March, to even out the distribution:

- Fulbourn and Fen Ditton have moved from Area 2 to Area 1
- Barrington and The Mordens have moved from Area 3 to Area 1



Defibrillators

London Hearts, a heart charity that supplies and procures defibrillators and cabinets across England through the use of grants, has asked us to share some information with you. The organisation offers a discounted package to parish councils to help obtain this equipment. A heart defibrillator used within 3-5 minutes of a cardiac arrest increases the chance of survival from 6% to 74%.

If this is of interest to your parish council, you can [email London Hearts](#) or call 0207 043 2493 to access a £200 council grant.