

South Cambridgeshire District Council – Harston & Comberton Ward

Report to Haslingfield Parish Council July 2020

Keep caring for Cambridgeshire

South Cambridgeshire District Council is supporting Cambridgeshire County Council in a campaign that asks people to keep caring for Cambridgeshire, urging residents to maintain social distancing as coronavirus has not gone away. The campaign is designed to reinvigorate public health messages and remind people that while lockdown restrictions are gradually being lifted, everyone needs to take action to help us all return to a more normal life. It outlines ways that people can take care of themselves and each other, for instance highlighting that:

- Caring is keeping your distance – inside or outside
- Caring is being responsible – staying isolated if you think you have got symptoms, or been close to someone who has
- Caring is covering your face – even with no symptoms you might still spread virus
- Caring is washing your hands – regularly, when you enter or leave a new place

It also points out that:

- Caring is staying and buying local – to support local businesses and jobs
- Caring is being considerate – rubbish destroys our countryside, and puts those who clear it up at risk

Greater Cambridge Partnership

The Executive Board of the Greater Cambridge Partnership met late last month. Among decisions taken were those to approve the Foxton Travel Hub, the Melbourn Greenway and the Comberton Greenway. The Cambourne to Cambridge busway scheme was removed from the agenda prior to the meeting and South Cambridgeshire District Council's GCP Executive Board representative Cllr Aidan Van de Weyer made it clear that the off-road route via Coton should be removed from further consideration.

Full details of the decisions taken can be found at:

https://cambridgeshire.cmis.uk.com/CCC_live/Document.ashx?czJKcaeAi5tUFL1DTL2UE4zNRBcoShgo=jGh%2ba4VHIHulRp%2b%2bb3KJrs9xql6z9puzn38JNoT5ZER0UXhlZtkmaQ%3d%3d&rUzwRPF%2bZ3zd4E7Ikn8Lyw%3d%3d=pwRE6AGJFLDNlh225F5QMaQWCtPHwdhUfCZ%2fLUQzgA2uL5jNRG4jdQ%3d%3d&mCTIbCubSFfXsDGW9IXnl%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&kCx1AnS9%2fpWZQ40DXFvdEw%3d%3d=hFflUdN3100%3d&uJovDxwdjMPoYv%2bAJvYtyA%3d%3d=ctNjFf55vVA%3d&FgPIIEJYlotS%2bYGoBi5olA%3d%3d=NHdURQburHA%3d&d9Qjj0ag1Pd993jsyOJqFvmyB7X0CSQK=ctNjFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNR9xqBux0r1Q8Za60lavYmz=ctNjFf55vVA%3d&WGewmoAfeNQ16B2MHuCpMRKZMwaG1PaO=ctNjFf55vVA%3d

£100,000 further funding to help shape South Cambridgeshire's Zero Carbon Communities

As part of District Council plans for a green recovery as we emerge from lockdown, South Cambridgeshire's communities are being further supported to tackle the climate crisis with £100,000 additional funding for grass roots projects.

Local groups can now apply for grants of between £1,000 and £15,000 under South Cambridgeshire District Council's Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme. The Council, which recently adopted its first ever Zero Carbon Strategy, lists 'being green to our core' as one of its top four Business Plan priorities and has declared both a Climate and a Biodiversity Emergency.

This is the second year that the Zero Carbon Communities grant scheme has been run. Last year, funding was awarded to 19 different community projects delivering an array of schemes covering raising awareness and involving people in issues around carbon emissions, cycling, tree planting, lighting, food production, distribution and waste. This year, following feedback from last year's applicants, local groups can apply for a grant to focus on one of three themes. These are cycling, community buildings and tree planting, and other 'nature-based solutions'.

To be eligible, the organisation must be a non-profit group based in South Cambridgeshire or benefiting South Cambridgeshire residents, or a South Cambridgeshire parish council. Schools and any other organisations can apply for a grant for a project which is accessible to the community and not just for educational or academic purposes. Applications from informal community groups and local businesses are also encouraged, provided they partner with an eligible non-profit organisation as detailed above.

Groups bidding for funding on the cycling theme should seek to reduce private car use in their communities and get more people who would not otherwise cycle on their bikes.

Objectives that need to be met for projects focussing on community buildings include a reduction in the use of fossil fuel energy and increased public awareness of energy improvements available to buildings.

The criteria for projects focussing on the tree planting and other 'nature-based solutions' category include reduced carbon dioxide emissions and new habitats for wildlife along with increased public awareness of the importance of trees.

Groups have until Wednesday 30th September to submit their applications for Zero Carbon Communities grant funding. Guidance and an application form can be found at: www.scambs.gov.uk/zerocarbondgrant

Phased return of sport and recreation

The guidance for the public, providers of outdoor sport facilities, elite athletes, personal trainers and coaches on the phased return of sport and recreation was updated to include new guidance from 4th July. Outdoor gyms and playgrounds can open, as can food or drink facilities inside a clubhouse. Indoor facilities, such as changing rooms, should be kept closed, apart from toilets and throughways. Outdoor and indoor swimming pools will also remain closed to the public. Guidance can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-phased-return-of-sport-and-recreation>

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