

LONGSTANTON WARD DISTRICT COUNCELLOR REPORT NOVEMBER 2023

LONGSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL (6TH NOVEMBER 2023)

OAKINGTON PARISH COUNCIL (13TH NOVEMBER 2023)

NORTHSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL (28TH NOVEMBER 2023)

CLLR NATALIE WARREN-GREEN

Community Hubs

Last winter, 25 Warm Hubs were in operation across South Cambridgeshire in collaboration with Cambridgeshire ACRE. The benefits of these Hubs quickly became clear; not only did they allow a warm space for individuals to go to keep warm but also to socialise with a hot drink and a snack. In the spring of this year, it was decided to continue the Hubs but with some changes to the format in the light of experience. These new facilities have been renamed Community Hubs and 13 are either already operating or will become operational very soon. Grant funding from the ICS has again made this possible. There is sufficient funding for up to 20 Hubs and any villages that wish to bid for funding should do so now via alison.brown@camsacre.org.uk

Flooding advice

The recent storm, Babet was a reminder (if we needed one) of how vulnerable we are to flooding in the Fen-edge villages, with parts of Longstanton Ward being affected, albeit (on this occasion) for a relatively short time. It is worth reminding those who live in high-risk areas of the importance of getting and remaining prepared for flooding in advance of the event.

SCDC has useful advice on the flooding page of its website. [Flooding - South Cambs District Council \(scambs.gov.uk\)](https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/report-a-flood) There is a useful list of things residents can do in advance under the 'Be prepared for flooding' section. This includes signing-up for flood warnings, using the Government's Flood Information Service to check for flooding risk and preparing a flood plan.

There are a number of authorities and companies involved in flood management and it can be confusing to work out who deals with what. On the same SCDC website, there is a list which residents can refer to for help.

Here is a summary:

Flooding from a sewer: Anglian Water. 0345 791 9155

Blocked drain on the road or pavement: Cambridgeshire County Council.

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/business/planning-and-development/flood-and-water/report-a-flood>

Flooding damage at a SCDC property: Housing Services 0800 085 1313

Local authorities do not ordinarily provide sandbags as it is the responsibility of residents to protect their own properties from flooding. However, SCDC will help vulnerable residents, such as the elderly who do not have friends, family or neighbours who can help them quickly in an emergency.

Northstowe Western Park Sports Pavilion

The Western Park Sports Pavilion at Northstowe has been completed and will open very soon. In consultation with NorthstoweTown Council, SCDC has appointed a management company (Elite Sports) to run the pavilion and the associated sports facilities. The pavilion has six large team changing rooms and separate facilities for match officials and will serve a number of football and rugby pitches, a MUGA and a bowling green. It has a large clubroom with well-equipped kitchen which will be suitable for social functions. Longstanton Bowls Club has told me that they are already preparing to operate from the Pavilion from Spring 2024.

Climate Action Conference

SCDC is hosting a Climate Action Conference in Cottenham this month, coinciding with COP28, celebrating net zero action locally. It is being held at Cottenham Village Hall which benefited from a Zero Carbon Communities grant of £15,000 for the installation of solar panels. The event is free and open to everyone and is on Tuesday 28 November 9:30am to 1pm. More details can be found here:

<https://www.scams.gov.uk/cottenham-conference-celebrates-local-climate-action/>

COUNCILS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND KEY GOVERNMENT FUNDED ORGANISATIONS

If you have a problem or concern do not worry too much about who can solve it just ask the question and we will endeavour to signpost to the right person. The organisational structure of Cambridgeshire is complex, but it is important to identify where responsibility lies.

<p>County Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Education, Transport, Highways, Heritage, Social care, Libraries, Trading standards, - Waste management, Maintaining their estate.</p> <p>Some of these services are shared between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council but any concerns should be directed to the county council.</p>
<p>District Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Council tax payments and benefits, Household bin collections, Housing and housing benefits, Council leisure facilities, Environmental health, Residential planning.</p>
<p>Parish/ Town Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Looking after community buildings, Open spaces, Allotments, Play Areas, Bus shelters.</p>
<p>Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP)</p> <p>'The local delivery body for a City Deal with central Government worth up to £500 million over 15 years, to vital improvements in infrastructure (decarbonising transport), supporting and accelerating the creation of 44,000 new jobs, 33,500 new homes and 420 additional apprenticeships.'</p> <p>Partnership between Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, University of Cambridge.</p>
<p>The Combined Authority, Cambridge and Peterborough, our elected Mayor</p> <p>'A combined authority (CA) is a legal body set up using national legislation that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take collective decisions across council boundaries.'</p> <p>What our mayor does – Business support, skills, housing, transport, environment, international, digital connectivity, resilience, research, and strategy. New homes.</p>
<p>Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridge and Peterborough</p> <p>To support and challenge the Chief Constable to provide effective and efficient policing services for the area.</p>
<p>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority</p> <p>The Fire Authority is the governing body responsible for delivering a fire and rescue service to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is made up of Cambridgeshire County Councillors and Peterborough City Councillors.</p>

CONTACT DETAILS

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about the above, or any other matters.

Cllr Natalie Warren-Green for Longstanton Ward including Longstanton, Northstowe, and Oakington & Westwick

Email: cllr.warrengreen@scambs.gov.uk

For those on social media we have a highly active Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/> - Longstanton, Oakington and Northstowe