

FULL COUNCIL

Cambridgeshire County Council By-election results – 4 May

Mike Black (Labour party) and Bill Hunt (The Conservative Party) have been elected to Cambridgeshire County Council following by-elections held for seats in Arbury and Soham South and Haddenham. The composition of the Council remains the same:

- Conservative 27
- Liberal Democrat 22
- Labour 9
- Independent 3

Full Council meeting – 16 May

I will be taking a motion on Childcare on Domestic Premise to CCC Full Council meeting on 16 May following our experiences on the Phase 1 of Northstowe development.

At many new developments, houses are being sold with restrictive covenants in place which restrict homeowners from running a business from their home address. Whilst this may have some benefits, such as the reduction of traffic and associated parking, it also impacts upon childminders and nannies who form a vital part of the childcare sector and who provide flexible childcare to residents.

As a restrictive covenant does not expire, it will be applicable indefinitely even if the building is sold and the ownership changes. Whilst it is acknowledged that homeowners can request to have this revoked, it is a risk to those looking to move, or to start a childcare business, who may need to invest in training and resources prior to a decision being made.

To ensure childminders and nannies can continue to support families, and are not discouraged from moving to such developments, we are proposing that any new homes sold in the county (incl. Northstowe Phases 2 and 3) state explicitly that early years and childcare is excluded from such a covenant. This will ensure that the Council can support childminders looking to relocate, or who are considering a career in childcare within the area.

My full motion can be found on the following link to the agenda paper for our full council - agenda item 16a, page 4 of the agenda deck. [County Council meeting 16/05/2023](#)

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE

Great Gidding School

Following several months of consultation and debate, the decision has been made to close Great Gidding CE (VC) Primary School. Cambridgeshire County Council's Children and Young People's Committee agreed on 25 April that the school should close on 31 August.

The decision was reached as the result of longstanding concerns about the future viability of the school – particularly falling pupil numbers and the financial problems associated with this. Officers were concerned that the low and continually decreasing number of pupils at the school was adversely affecting its ability to provide the breadth of educational experience pupils are entitled to. Furthermore, a number of local primary schools or multi-academy trusts who were approached to work with Great Gidding as part of a federation or academy have chosen not to do so because of their concerns about the school's future viability.

As a church school the recommendation to close was made following close liaison and consultation with the Diocese of Ely. The decision to close the school was reached after a wide-ranging consultation involving staff, children, parents and governors and trades unions, and the local dioceses.

Focus on safety valve news

There has been some more positive news that pressure on school places for children with additional needs will be eased after the County Council secured significant additional funding from the government to deal with it. We were facing potentially widespread cuts in support for children with SEND due to a £58m budget gap. The extra money came through a process known as a 'safety valve' and is worth £49m to the Council.

Under the agreement with the Department for Education, the authority will use the funds to balance its budget for children with additional needs by 2026/7. The government has also allocated a further £11.3m for capital funding to Cambridgeshire to support new SEND provision on mainstream school sites. The funding will help tackle a gap in the budget for SEND provision which is expected to hit around £58m by the end of this month – caused by demand for services far outstripping government funding to Cambridgeshire for SEND services over the past six years. For example requests for Education, Health and Care Plans in Cambridgeshire – the document which describes a young special needs and the support they will need to meet their educational goals – have more than doubled from 3,429 in 2016 to more than 7,000 currently.

Cambridgeshire has historically received less funding per child for education than elsewhere. This is on top of having a rapidly growing population of children with special educational needs and disabilities who are presenting with greater complexities, some of which relates additional social, emotional and mental health arising from the Covid pandemic. To meet these challenges, the Council will use the new funding to create 463 new special school places. There will also be extra support for 105 pupils at mainstream schools by September 2026 through a programme of expanding current sites and building new schools. The council has also applied to the free school programme for two new special schools in Gamlingay and Fenland.

ADULTS & HEALTH

Disappointment as care funding held back

Senior councillors at Cambridgeshire County Council have criticised the Government for failing to address pay and conditions for social care workers to help recruitment. Ministers announced this week that half the £500m promised to help address staff shortages would now be held back.

In a joint statement, the Chair and Vice-Chair of the County Council's Adults and Health Committee, Cllr Richard Howitt and Cllr Susan van de Ven said: "We are profoundly concerned that Government's Social Care Implementation Plan published this week does little to address the issue of pay and conditions for the social care workforce. This will be enormously detrimental to the challenge of sustaining and improving a vital workforce, across all providers including the County Council itself.

"With an average 9.5% vacancy rate in the social care sector in large shire county areas such as ours - higher than the national average - tackling the challenge of workforce capacity was a key plank of these proposed reforms, and a reduction in funding coupled with a lack of focus on pay and conditions will ultimately make it almost impossible to drive forward improvements.

"We are also dismayed that while the White Paper allocated £500m to support this work, the new paper halves this to just £250m over the next two years - an unrealistic figure that simply will not meet need. We call on Government for an immediate rethink."

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

Funding secured for residents to take Action on Energy in Cambridgeshire

Action on Energy Cambridgeshire has been awarded £11.5m from national government to support local residents improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

Action on Energy is a partnership of Cambridgeshire County Council, Cambridge City Council, East Cambridgeshire District Council, Fenland District Council, Huntingdonshire District Council and South Cambridgeshire District Council providing communities with advice and support to maximise the energy efficiency of their homes. The monies were allocated to the area by the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero as part of the second round of scheme called the Home Upgrade Grant.

Running from April 2023 through to March 2025, it is anticipated that the monies will support over 550 properties to reduce their carbon emissions and save money on their energy bills.

A wide range of measures to improve home energy performance are available as part of Action on Energy funding, this includes: the installation of loft insulation, cavity wall insulation, external wall insulation, solar panels and low carbon heating systems. Action on Energy also provide a suitable installer to do the works. All works will be completed to British PAS Standard 2035 with six contractors set to be announced later in April.

To qualify, properties must have no mains gas central heating, and have an Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) rating of D-G if owner-occupied, or D-E for privately rented properties. Park homes are also eligible. Households must either have a combined annual income of under £31,000, be in receipt of means tested benefits or be located in specific areas identified by government.

More information about how Cambridgeshire residents can improve the energy efficiency of their home to cut their bills and their emissions can be found at: <https://www.actiononenergycambs.org/>.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Potholes and the condition of the roads generally

We're extremely concerned about the state of the roads. Our Local Highways Officers are overwhelmed with problems particularly potholes which can be alarming and dangerous. Highways staff are working intensely to address this.

Sadly this is a national problem to an extent although we are in a worse state than some. The root cause is that there has been a gradual deterioration of our road network over many years and strategic investment in maintenance did not happen in better times. Years of underfunding by national government and politically motivated choices by the previous Conservative County administration (which they euphemistically termed 'managed decline') are making it harder to get on top of this. For example for years before the administration changed in 2021 road maintenance (resurfacing etc) in South Cambs has been the least well funded (£ per km) in Cambridgeshire. The effects of underfunding have been exacerbated by drought and soil shrinkage, a deep freeze and periods of persistent wet weather. It takes a long time to create road damage – but it is also very costly to fix.

Thank you to everyone who has highlighted issues, and please keep logging the faults in the County's reporting system as this really helps officers to organise their work

<https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

Local Highways Improvement Schemes

LHI bids being presented to County councillors for recommendation to the Highways & Transport Committee will be considered at panel meetings w/c 8 May. The timetable will be continued as below:

- Report to committee including prioritised lists for approval - June 2023
- Programming, design, and consultation with applicants - July 2023 to March 2024
- Pricing and construction – March 2024 to August 2024.

A boost to biodiversity and wildlife during 'No Mow May'

CCC will again be supporting bees, butterflies and biodiversity by taking part in 'No Mow May' this month (May). The council's Highways Maintenance team will pause mowing road verges during May to allow plants like daisies, dandelions, selfheal and clover a chance to thrive. Letting wildflowers and plants grow freely will provide much needed nectar for pollinators and allow other plants and wildlife to grow and flourish.

'No Mow May' is run by Plantlife, whose mission is to secure a world rich in wild plants and fungi. The organisation encourages garden owners and green space managers to lock up their lawnmower and liberate their lawn for the entire month. More than 700 species of wildflowers grow on road verges in the UK according to Plantlife – this is almost 45% of the total wildflower species found across the country. Road safety is a priority, grass cutting will continue in areas where necessary such as junctions or bends. Road signage will also remain clearly visible.

Guided Busway – Southern Section update

At the Strategy and Resources Committee last week, a finance paper was considered which included a recommendation in relation to the Southern Section of the Guided Busway. Restoring the Southern Section of the busway to full operational use is a priority for us. A precise timeframe is, at present, unable to be provided as it involves complex issues, however we are continuing to work hard to achieve a satisfactory resolution.

An independent report produced by Mott Macdonald on the Busway Southern Section, which was published in June 2022, recommended that 'at a minimum, the existing footpath / cycle path should be widened as much as is practicable' (where not constrained for example by land ownership boundaries). In a news release published at the same time ([Guided Busway independent safety reports published - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)), we stated that 'the County Council is looking at opportunities to improve the quality of cycling and active travel provision along the maintenance track'.

The funds agreed at Strategy & Resources, almost £3m, are for us now to look at the engineering feasibility, design, and then implement widening where reasonably practicable. Any future proposals would be subject to public engagement, but at this stage, we have simply identified funding to progress the recommendation of the independent report from Mott Macdonald.

There continues to be a live Health and Safety Executive investigation, and we remain in communication with them. However, for legal reasons it would not be appropriate to comment further.

Road surfacing treatment to commence across Cambridgeshire

A significant maintenance programme involving road surface treatment will started 3rd April to help maintain and improve the quality of roads across Cambridgeshire.

The Micro Asphalt Surface Treatment Programme and Surface Dressing Programme schemes will take place every year in the spring and summer to keep our roads safe and up to standard.

More than £4m will be invested in the project, targeting 75 sites across Cambridgeshire.

Micro Asphalt is a thin pre-mixed material, whereas with Surface Dressing the binder and stone are applied separately. Both processes are laid over the road surface to prevent damage, improve safety and increase the lifespan of the roads. The process is weather dependent and requires the road surface to be dry. As a result, planned dates for the work may change at short notice.

All roads are required to be closed in order for these works to be carried out, and where possible, a signed diversion route will be in place. Through traffic should follow these diversions. Advanced warning signs will be put out a minimum of 14 days before the works start.

Access to and from properties will be possible during throughout the scheme. This may be affected by the type of work carried out at the time and so local residents will receive a leaflet with more information and are encouraged to speak to teams onsite if they have any questions.

Information relating to these works are available on the Cambridgeshire County Council website using the links below, the list of roads in our ward is the B1050 and roads around Longstanton, see details below.

[Road surface treatment schedule - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Types of road surface treatment - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

ESTATES

Preferred bidder for former Mill Road Library announced

A charity supporting young people throughout Cambridgeshire has been chosen as the preferred bidder for the former Mill Road Library. Centre 33 plans to use the historic building in Cambridge to increase its capacity to support vulnerable young people in the local area. The not-for-profit was chosen as the preferred bidder by members of Cambridgeshire County Council's Strategy & Resources Committee following a tender process between August 2022 and January 2023.

During this period eight bids were received, with the decision on which offer to progress based on a wide range of factors, including promotion of economic, social and environmental wellbeing.

Centre 33's offer is subject to planning permission and feasibilities being agreed and progressed, with a final decision expected later this year. Until that time its offer is not being disclosed. Should the next stage be progressed this will see the Grade II listed building converted, with support from The Evelyn Trust, into a Youth Early Support Hub to offer young people open-access support with their emotional wellbeing and practical needs. Centre 33 already operates five hubs, including in Cambridge, Ely, Wisbech, Huntingdon and from a Grade II listed building in Peterborough. It offers free and confidential support to young people up to the age of 25 with a range of issues including mental health and caring responsibilities. It also offers information on issues including housing, finance and sexual health and will be sharing space with community groups where possible.

Cambridgeshire Matters Newsletter

[Cambridgeshire Matters - March 2023 \(govdelivery.com\)](#)

What's happening in the next few months...

- Announcement by the Government of the East West Rail route
- Publication of the detailed findings from the consultation on the Sustainable Travel Zone
- Outcome of Local Highways Improvement applications

MEETINGS ATTENDED and COMMUNITY WORK 8 March to 6 May 2023 (meetings not reported in April Annual Report)

Local meetings:

Pathfinder pre-school capacity (9 Mar), DEMAT BMO Review conversation (13 Mar), Oakington Parish Council (13 Mar), Over Parish Council (14 Mar), Northstowe Delivery Group (16 Mar), Community Centre for Northstowe (21 Mar), Northstowe Town Council (28 Mar), Northstowe Forum (29 Mar), Oakington & Westwick Parish Council (9 Apr), Northstowe Retail option (5 Apr), Over Parish Council (11 Apr), Northstowe Delivery Group (13 Apr), Sports Pavilion press release Event (18 Apr), Pathfinder CofE Primary School (19 Apr), Oakington Early Years Provider – Little Flames (19 Apr), Quarterly Highways (21 Apr), Oakington & Westwick Parish Council AGM (24 Apr), Northstowe Town Council AGM (25 Apr), Northstowe Childcare (3 May), Exec Directors re: Over Potholes (4 May), SCDC Community Officers (5 May)

Council meetings:

Members Training - Decision Making: Predetermination (10 Mar), Members Briefing on Cambourne to Cambridge from GCP (14 Mar), Highways 20mph Funding Process (16 Mar), Full Council meeting (21 Mar), Monthly catch up with CCC officers Nigel Egger and Tam Parry (17 Apr), Children & Young People committee (25 Apr). CCC and SCDC meeting re: Childcare (27 Apr), Cambridgeshire Music (28 Apr), SARW July opening CCC/Homes England (3 May)

Community work:

Parish/Town Council monthly reports, Column write ups within Northstowe News, Longstanton Life and Oakington & Westwick Journal, Northstowe Town Council Market Working Group – arranging food trucks and volunteers, NSC Fundraising Committee – working on Car Boot Sale (20 May), Northstowe Foodies, Arranging Food Pantry beside the Mobile Library (2nd Friday of the month) and Bar Hill hub on Sundays.

International Women's Day event led with District Councillor Natalie Warren-Green (9 March), Volunteered for tree planting in Longstanton (2 Apr)

Private case work:

Most Councillors will have private case work that they are dealing with, details of which cannot be shared due to GDPR – current themes are Early Years, ASB, Youth, Potholes.

WARD NEWS

South Access Road West (SARW)

At the March Northstowe Forum, Homes England announced the opening of SARW in July, details that we had confirmed soon after were as below:

The road through to A14 will be formally opened in early to mid-July. It is planned that opening will be coordinated with community engagement. The reason for delay to original planned opening are:

- Footpath failure along circa 2.5km, requiring complete reconstruction
- Failure has been attributed as to be increasingly extremes of regional climatic conditions. Failure on other footpaths on other sites across the county have also occurred. Therefore this is not considered a site issue but rather a regional climatic issue.
- As a result Cambridgeshire County Council are in the process of updating their footpath construction design standards to take account of changing climatic factors.
- Whilst Homes England recognise the importance of opening these facilities as soon as possible, it is equally important that this is when the site is ready and safe for public access.

Since this announcement I have put in place meetings with CCC and Homes England to ensure that we can meet these deadlines, as we need to consider any legal contracts, which can take a while to put in place. We had a meeting last week and we will be meeting monthly and will keep each other in the loop in between these monthly meetings. Other items discussed were: speed strategy, Wilson's Road bridge, light pollution at roundabouts, Home England contacts for repairs/maintenance/issues and communications to Parish/Town Councils and the community.

I have also asked for a meeting with CCC officers, Homes England and Longstanton PC, Oakington & Westwick PC and Northstowe Town Councillors – a few dates have been issued for this week, but we are awaiting feedback. If it happens that TC or PCs are unable to attend we can look to reschedule later in the month.

Police – Noisy motorcyclist

As you all know the noisy motorcyclist going around our villages has been ongoing for a while. I managed to get progress on this last month as a local resident managed to get footage of the motorcyclist driving dangerously on the pavements in Northstowe. Having sent this footage to my police contact, they managed to get details and he was paid a visit. The following statement then was shared on social media by the South Cambs Police. It is important to ensure that if the offender returns that we report this as the Police will have powers to seize his motorcycle. Please encourage your residents to do this and if they are able to safely get a video of him driving on paths or going through red lights, then please send them to me.

A motorcyclist causing disruption in a number of villages, including Longstanton, Over, Oakington and Northstowe, has been given an official warning.

He had been riding the noisy modified bike at night, riding on pavements endangering pedestrians and taunting people on local Facebook groups.

The man was issued with a Section 59 notice which gives officers the power to seize the bike or any other vehicles used to cause people alarm, distress or annoyance.

Should this behaviour continue, fines and criminal prosecution could be considered.

We would like to thank the local community for their support and patience in dealing with the rider.

Any further reports of this or similar issues should be reported through the force's webchat on our website:

<https://orlo.uk/97Zoi>

Anyone without internet access should call 101.

Cardinalis Concrete, Longstanton

I contacted Cardinalis last month to discuss the stones that are being scattered on the B1050, as it was reported to me by both Northstowe Town Council and Longstanton Parish Council noticing that they are not using sheeting to cover the stones when leaving site and the possibility of the stones causing windscreen damage to cars. The response from the General Manager is below. I will in the meanwhile pick this up with CCC officers and the relevant officers in SCDC as they do the road sweeping.

I am writing further to our telephone conversation yesterday regarding the aggregate spillages on the roads in Longstanton.

I have spoken to my Transport Manager and whilst the drivers should be using their easy sheets, it would appear that they don't always do it so we will re-iterate to them all that it is essential the easy sheets are engaged before they leave our yard (should anyone spot a lorry without one if they could get a vehicle reg and let me know that would help to identify any offenders). We are also speaking to our yard man to tell him to be careful when loading and instructing drivers to also take care when turning or going round the roundabouts.

Our own road sweeper is unfortunately off the road at the moment but I will speak to the guy who parks in our yard to see if he can help us by sweeping the road.

I apologise for the inconvenience, as a local business we want to work with residents and be aware of the village in which we are based, I know there is a lot of construction traffic driving through Longstanton on a daily basis and I am sure we are not totally responsible but we will certainly endeavour to keep the mess made by our vehicles to a minimum.

LONGSTANTON Incl. B1050 Surface Treatments

- Patching of the local roads below took place w/c 30 January with further patching in March. The next phase dates have been announced for May and June (**weather permitting**)

Surface Dressing Programme

School Lane, Longstanton, starts 26 May for 1/2 day - Road closure

Home Farm Road, Longstanton, starts 26 May for 1/2 day - Road closure

Hatton Road, Longstanton, starts 30 May for 1/2 day - Road closure

Grip Fibre Programme – May/June

B1050 Old Hattons Road, Longstanton, 31 May for 3 days - Road closure and diversion

B1050 Bypass, Longstanton, 2 June for 5 days - Road closure and diversion

Hattons Road A and B, Longstanton, 6 June for 2 days - Road closure and diversion

C192, Longstanton, 28 June for 1 day - Road closure and diversion

Home Farm Road Section 1, Longstanton, 28 June for 2 days - Road closure and diversion

Home Farm Road Section 2, Longstanton, 29 June for 1 day - Road closure and diversion

Please note, all the below will be treated and assessed on a site-by-site basis in accordance with Cambridgeshire County Council's policy which can be found on the website:

- All junctions will be treated with the Gripfibre Dressing
- All white lining replaced within 28 days
- All studs/cats' eyes replacement – this works was started last week

[Road surface treatment schedule - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

[Types of road surface treatment - Cambridgeshire County Council](#)

- New Farm Road drain covers that were stolen have now all been replaced
- It was fabulous to be out planting trees with Longstanton Parish Council and residents. Great organising by Jaymes and Dan and Parish Councillors. The aftercare for these young trees is essential, hoping that we have this in hand. I was able to assist with the leftover trees and connected the Parish Council with David Evans, Chair of the Northstowe Horticultural Society, who planted the spare trees around the outskirts of the allotments.
- Hatton Park Primary school – fond farewell to Mr Aguda, he has been an exceptional Head Teacher at Hatton Park Primary School for the last 8 years. For me personally, he has been a fantastic leader to work with and to tackle challenges. To highlight the great work that Mr Aguda achieved with the County Council's STARS programme, in November the school won the 'Team of the Year Award' at the national road safety and sustainable travel awards and achieved platinum status in a short time, which has only be awarded to a few schools nationally.
Congratulations to Mr Canavan, previously the Deputy Head who is now the new Head Teacher.

NORTHSTOWE

- Transport Assessment & Smart Journeys new team will be attending the Northstowe day event.
- Pathfinder School - I visited Pathfinder School yesterday and met with the Interim Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and Chair, CEO and Hub Director at Diocese of Ely Multi-Academy Trust (DEMAT). I was also shown around the school and popped in and said hello to most of the classes, met a few teachers and spoke to a few children.

In the meeting we discussed, growth in a new community (currently at 450 pupils with a potential to go to 700 pupils), Covid pressures, onboarding staff remotely, teachers' strikes, retaining staff, communication, as well as early years provisions. I think sometimes we forget how the last few years have impacted our schools, staff and children, I know first-hand as my husband is a local school teacher at Hatton Park and I have been sitting on the Children & Young People's committee at the County Council for the last two years.

To iron out some community concerns and hopefully to put some of your minds at rest regarding pupil leavers, the leaver rate for this academic year is only 1.8% (national circa 5%) and is in the lower 20% of all DEMAT schools in this respect. My take away was that a lot of teachers and members of staff live in Northstowe and are part of our very own community, so I ask if you have any concerns please do raise with the school first and foremost, then escalate to Governors and if you are still not happy you can reach out to me or the Trust. Every child's situation is unique and you may only know part of the story and be unaware of what is going on to deal with the situation in the background, so please refrain from commenting negatively on social media.

We agreed going forward that we would meet regularly and discuss any issues and opportunities within the community. I will also look to attend a future Parent Forum's to discuss school travel plans to reduce the congestion around school pick up/drop off times.

Actions since this meeting: Introduced to the Head and Interim Head Teacher: Modelshift STARS – national school travel awards for both the school and the EY provider and the CCC contact, SCDC community team dealing with ASB issues, SCDC Community team.

- Early Years provision meeting with Pathfinder School Interim Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher, NTC Councillors, SCDC and CCC officers. Meetings have taken place both in March and May. An action plan is in place and CCC officers are also talking to Homes England for the next Phases 2 and 3.

OAKINGTON AND WESTWICK

- Early Years Provider in Oakington - We are very pleased to announce that a new provider for Early Years has been approved following a tender process at Cambridgeshire County Council. They will be using the building next to Oakington C of E Primary School on Water Lane (formerly used by Humpty Dumpty). The provider is called Little Flames Childcare Ltd, and they already provide settings at Cromwell Academy Primary School and St John's CofE Primary. <https://www.littleflames.co.uk/> They are in the process of signing contracts with the intention to opening on 1st September, but they were happy to share their name. They have already made contact with Oakington school to begin to develop a relationship. In the last year the County Council have spent £10k to bring these facilities up to scratch so that a new provider can use the space.
On 19 April I met with the Owner of Little Flames and CCC officer: they were at the time recruiting for a manager and are awaiting Ofsted registration to open on 1 September. They will inform us when they look to recruit for nursery staff, also they would be interested to work with EAG for the pupils to do local litter picks. CCC officers will work with them to ensure they sign up for Modelshift STARS – national school travel awards. This was an extremely positive meeting.
- LHI panel interview – this interview will take place on Thursday 11 May at 11am together with Girton Parish Council. We hope the meeting goes well.

OVER

- Stagecoach 5A bus meeting – Cllr Neil Gough and I are still awaiting for possible dates for a meeting with both Over and Willingham Parish Council.
Since the summer term 5A bus is now stopping at the bus park at Swavesey Village College and timings to/from have been amended. I have had no further complaints from the residents.
- Potholes – Cllr. Anne Lythgoe and I met with Frank Jordan on Thursday 4 May in Over, we took him on a pothole route tour that Cllr. Geoff Twiss had kindly prepared. We await further news.
- Pedestrian lights have been reported to me directly as not working on High Street and Willingham Road. CCC officers have investigated this and discovered that the signals engineer attended a while ago and unfortunately, they were unable to program the signs due to a software issue. The latest update on 24 April was that the unit at High Street Over is a faulty unit and needs to be returned to the manufacturer. Luckily, we had a new spare unit and we should have replaced this at the end of April. The unit on Willingham Road CCC had to order a new USB connector. We are currently awaiting delivery and will get it connected as soon as an engineer is available.
- The house on 57 High Street has been suffering from splashes damaging the front of their house by a pothole outside of their house. Highways team have repaired the area twice with no success. The officers are looking to provide a new drain outside of the house and will need to connect to the drain across the road. Contractors are looking at design and costs and then when all agreed a date for the works will be set. Not sure if High Street will need to be closed for the works to be completed.
- The Doles, Fen End, Long Furlong footpaths have been reported as damaged by residents. I am liaising with the Highways officers to see if there are any plans for a slurry seal for these footpaths.

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.

Firouz Thompson, County Councillor for Longstanton, Northstowe, Over and Oakington & Westwick
Email: firouz.thompson@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

For those on social media we have highly active Facebook groups:

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

<https://www.facebook.com/libdems3rdMay18> - Over & Willingham