

## Alconbury Weston Parish Council Meeting – July 23

The District Council has appointed a New Manging Director, Michelle Sacks who will be taking up her post in October.

I can inform you that HDC's Joint administration Cabinet, made up of Lib Dem, Independent, Labour and Green councillors, on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July agreed unanimously to introduction a Green Bin Subscription service from 01 April 24.

The Conservative councillors on Overview and Scrutiny Panels have Called this decision in, which will mean the decision will be discussed again by councillors, but not by the Full Council as it should be.

The cost of the Green Bin tax will be £57.50 per annum and £30.00 per annum for each additional bin up to 4.

From the 01 April 24 you will be required to put all food waste into your Grey Bin, as HDC cannot charge to collect, you can also put Green waste in the Grey bin as some residents already do.

This will lead to more waste going to landfill and thus higher Methane emissions, more vehicles on the roads leading to more pollution and congestion at HWRC's. It may also lead to greater fly tipping and more bonfires. Which fly's in the face of the Council's decision, to call a Climate Emergency. HDC will also have to pay higher costs for the disposal of the waste, due to the increased quantities going for disposal

This is a regressive tax on residents as no account is taken of the ability to pay. This tax will affect the poorest, those living in lower band properties, the elderly and resident's living alone to a greater extent.

There is a proposition to send waste freighters around the District on Saturday's to collect garden waste at certain collection points, from people. We don't yet know where and how frequent the collections would be in villages. Residents will also be able to save money by one resident paying for five bins and then distributing to 4 neighbours as the total cost per household will be £35.50. Each household would then pay their neighbour £35.50 instead of paying £57.50 each. The bins would require to be put outside the residents house who paid for the five bins on collection day.

Regarding, HDC's Local Plan Update, I can inform the PC that Full Consultation on the sites submitted and HDC's assessment will form part of the Further Issues and Options Engagement which is scheduled for spring/summer next year. It is anticipated Parish Councils along with all other interested parties will be given 10 weeks to consider these, thus giving plenty of time for full engagement. This will be the first of at least three more phases of engagement

Details of the sites submitted during the Call for Sites, can be found on the HDC website. The sites are in Parish order on a spreadsheet, which includes information on how to find the reference number for any site of interest. This will in turn assist in identifying the submission on the Engagement Portal/Call for Sites – Spring 23

It should be noted that submission under the Call for Sites does not confer any planning status at all on a site.

I would like to thank those residents that attended the Ting Roadshow on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.

With regard, to the proposed Congestion charge in Cambridge, the Greater Cambridge Partnership are reviewing the findings of the consultation which saw 58% against the charge. It is currently expected that the GCP will present its proposals on a Congestion charge to the October County Council meeting.

The consultation showed residents did not like the Addenbrookes, the Royal Papworth and Rosie Maternity Hospitals being in the zone, as well as charging those residents who were leaving the zone to get to work, along with the cost and size of the zone.

I have on behalf of the Parish Council chased CCC Highways to get the Public footpaths cut.

With regard, to next year's Local Highways Improvement Bids Parishes will be able to submit applications from Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 23 until noon on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 24. The County Council will undertake feasibility studies between February and May.

The LHI Panel meetings will be in June /July 24. With the report to Committee in September 24.

It looks as if there will be another opportunity next year to bid for a 20mph schemes, although last year's applications will still be on the list. I have asked for a copy of the ranking list of schemes already submitted. Future LHI bids for Buffer zones will receive a higher score.

The County Council has this week launched its Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund, which is a million pound fund. The fund is open for Stage One (Expression of Interest) applications. The fund is open to Parish Councils, community organisations and public bodies. etc The fund will award grants of up to £40,000 to support with the capital costs needed by an organization to make a community building or to make an existing community asset better.

All proposals will need to demonstrate that they can contribute to at least three of the County Council's seven ambitions. The deadline for submission of an Expression Of Interest is 24 September.

The Boundary Commission have submitted its Final Report to the Speaker and is to be laid before Parliament, regarding the new Parliamentary boundaries. Alconbury Weston will remain in the new Huntingdon Constituency.

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Alconbury Weston