

Report for Great Shelford Parish Council:

South Cambridgeshire District Council – September 2019

Household Details

South Cambs has to annually ask people for their updated household details (should there be any changes), they do this via letter. The council is urging people to respond online to this, so they don't have to send out a paper letter, which carries a cost, both financial and environmental. If possible do urge those who haven't responded to do so online here <https://www.householdresponse.com/Home/Welcome>

Ice Rink

As previously reported the ice rink in Cambridge, next to the Newmarket Road Park & Ride site, was built using a loan from various parties, including the District Council. The work is now complete and the ice rink opened to the public over the August bank holiday. Do use it! Tickets can be booked here -

<https://better.legendonlineservices.co.uk/enterprise/onlineticketing/browse>

Zero Carbon Grant

As previously reported, SCDC has a new grant with £91,000 available for community groups to bid into. Grants are between £1,000 and £5,000 per group. Full criteria on what can be bid for can be seen here - <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/bid-now-for-cash-to-spend-on-zero-carbon-community-projects/>

Sustainable design and construction of new buildings:

The draft Greater Cambridge Sustainable Design and Construction Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is out for public participation until 24th September. See <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/planning/local-plan-and-neighbourhood-planning/sustainable-design-and-construction-consultation-spd/>

The purpose of the SPD is to assist with the implementation of policies related to climate change, sustainable design and construction and wider environmental policies contained within the adopted 2018 Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire Local Plans.

New Council Houses

South Cambs bought 144 new houses last month, 81 at Northstowe and 63 in Sawston. The money for this came as a 'reward' from central government, generated from the new homes bonus and right to buy receipts. Good news as the council's target is to acquire 70 new homes each year.

Brexit Advisory Group:

The prospect of leaving the EU without a deal has not been prevented by the "Ben Bill" (Withdrawal No 2 ACT) which requires the PM in some circumstances to seek a further extension of the Article 50 period. The continuing uncertainty makes it more difficult for businesses to plan.

The Brexit AG (which Peter chairs) is all-party and focuses solely on advising the Council on helping local businesses and citizens to prepare for EU exit, whatever form it will take.

SCDC works closely with The Chamber of Commerce, Federation of Small Businesses and the NFU (representing farmers and food producers), as well as with the Combined Authority.

Information and support from SCDC is available here

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/brexit-support/>

The Chambers of Commerce has a useful Brexit Hub on its website which is updated daily. The Combined Authority will be running a series of meetings, through its subsidiary body 'Signpost2grow', called Brexit Basics. See <https://www.cambridgenetwork.co.uk/news/event-focuses-brexit-basics-deal-or-no-deal> for the first meeting, further meetings to be announced shortly. We would urge Businesses in our area engage with this, to ensure they are prepared for leaving the EU.

Finally we would encourage EU27 citizens living here to consider applying for settled status if they have not already done so. More information here:

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/housing/brexit-information-for-residents/>

New Chief Executive

New SCDC Chief Executive Liz Watts, formerly of East Herts DC, starts work at the end of this month

Please contact District Councillors Nick Sample or Peter Fane if we can help with local council matters.

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