

Report for Great Shelford Parish Council:

South Cambridgeshire District Council – September 2020

1. Call for Sites

The development of the combined South Cambs and City Local Plan reached its next milestone this week.

The *Call for Sites* is the first stage in the statutory process of creating a local plan. Anyone can suggest sites – they have no planning status. However, making the longlist of sites publicly available ensures the Local Plan process is transparent.

Over 600 sites of varying sizes were submitted by landowners across the district in response to the call for sites. These sites have not yet been assessed or filtered in any way, and therefore have no planning status. The list is a wish list of potential sites that may be used in the plan making process after the council has decided what spatial strategy to use. This was the same process in making the current local plan.

Following on from the feedback and comments received from the public during the Issues & Options First Conversation, there will now be a process of working out which of the spatial strategies will be selected for providing jobs and homes affordable for people in the district while meeting our zero carbon and sustainable living objectives.

Just as in previous plans where only a small number of sites were selected (34 out of about 400) we envisage that only a very small number of sites on the list will be used in the plan. There will be further consultations with the public later in the process to present and discuss the preferred spatial options. Communities will be fully consulted on proposed sites at the preferred options stage next year, and at further stages as the plan is prepared.

2. Business Support and Businesses reopening

The Business Support team has got into its stride and assisting businesses operating in the district to re-open and providing assistance to help them get through this difficult time. You can read more about the team here <https://www.cambridgeindependent.co.uk/business/the-new-team-helping-south-cambridgeshire-s-businesses-to-recover-9118631/>, and contact via **scambs.gov.uk/business**, email openforbusiness@scambs.gov.uk or call 01954 713 465.

3. Zero Carbon Communities Grant

Round 2 of the SCDC Zero Carbon Communities Grant is open. This year the grant is focussing on three main themes – cycling, community buildings & tree planting and other nature-based initiatives. Applications are invited from parish councils and community groups. The total available is £100,000 with individual grants of £1,000 - £15,000. The scheme opened on Wednesday 1st July and the application deadline is 5pm Wednesday 30th September.

4. Electoral Register

The District Council is doing its annual canvas to get the electoral register up to date. Please do encourage anyone that you know isn't registered to do so and follow the steps laid out in the letters that SCDC are sending out.

5. South Cambs re-opening to public

South Cambs Hall will be re-opening to public **by appointment only** starting on Tuesday 15th September 2020 between 10am-3pm on Tuesdays to Thursdays only. Please go to the website at

<https://www.scambs.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/ways-to-contact-us/book-an-appointment/> to book an appointment. No walk-ins are allowed. Strict social distancing and hygiene procedures will be followed. Visitors will be required to wear face coverings and should take one with them. This is a limited opening and we will be reviewing this regularly.

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

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