

Report for Parish Councils - March 2019

Greater Cambridge Partnership

The GCP are holding (another) consultation until March 31st to try to get some thoughts on public transport, as the purpose of the GCP is to improve public transport times and get people out of cars. There are also public pop up events around the county, you can see a list of these here - https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/choices-for-better-journeys/key_dates?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery

Parish Planning Training

Your parish clerks should have been emailed about this, but South Cambs is holding some parish planning training sessions at the Cambourne office. These are to be held in the evenings of 7th, 21st and 28th March.

Council Tax

Both the County and District Councils have the ability to raise council tax each year to pay for the services they provide, they (almost) always take this option up and have both done so this year. With the District raising their rates by 3.56% and the County raising their rates by 4.98%.

Neighbourhood Plan

Congratulations to Great Abington Parish Council for being the first parish in South Cambs to get their Neighbourhood Plan adopted. This is no small feat as many of you will appreciate. The process for creating, and getting a Neighbourhood Plan adopted is a long and arduous path. We will be meeting with the Cabinet Member responsible shortly to see if there are any prospects of simplifying and speeding up the process.

Shire Hall

As previously reported, the County Council is relocating to Alconbury, in an attempt to save money by not using the expensive Shire Hall location. The plans for the new offices are available for the public to view, should there be any interest there. They are available from March 1st - 13th in Shire Hall, just ask for them at reception.

Councillors Geoff Harvey and Henry Batchelor