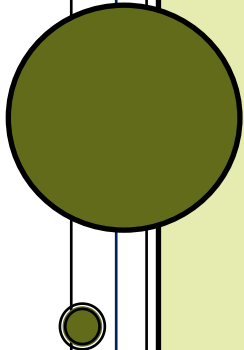


WILLINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

2017- 2018



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Looking back over the last 12 months, I am pleased to report on the continuing solid achievements of the Parish Council. These have included:

1. Taking part with local petitioners in achieving a positive outcome to the District Council's Community Governance Review of the Willingham/Over parish boundary. I was especially pleased that the final decision made for adjusting the boundary originated from proposals made by the Parish Council. These proposals received wide District Councillor support.
2. The defibrillator network within the village has been further expanded. The Parish Council agreed to fund the purchase and siting of an additional defibrillator outside the Library. Training on this new machine has also been organised. The co-operation of Cambridgeshire Library Service in the siting of this machine is gratefully acknowledged.
3. Two successful applications have been made to the District Council Community Chest award scheme. One award enabled work to be carried out on the pedestrian entrance to the Ploughman Hall from West Fen Road. This was designed to improve the poor drainage and the degraded path surface. The second award will fund an upgrade to the Recreation Ground signage.



It is also anticipated that activity highlighted in last year's Report will come to fruition in the coming months. Following an evaluation of a trial of parking restrictions around the Primary School it has been decided that these will be implemented permanently during the summer. The commitment by developers to extend the 30mph speed limit along Station Road is also expected to be met.

These achievements are possible for three reasons. Firstly, the contributions made by Parish Councillors, especially those who accept additional responsibility for specific areas of Council activity. Secondly, the support of Willingham's community groups such as Willingham Action Group (WAG). WAG has continued to provide input to the ongoing development of the QE II Field and the Community Orchard. It received a Community Chest award which has been used to contribute to the purchase and siting of additional benches on the QE II Field. Thirdly, I am indebted to the Council's hard working administrative team (Mandy Powell, Annika Osborne, Sarah Rutherford and Mark Mumford) for the helpful, good humoured support they provide, not only to Councillors but to members of the public. The high quality of the service they provide continues to be recognised by both District and County Councils.

Problems cannot be overlooked. The Parish Office now receives a much greater level of complaint about traffic issues such as congestion, potholes, heavy goods vehicle movements through the village, the development of the Northstowe site and the A14 upgrade. The Council shares the frustrations felt throughout Willingham created by current traffic flows. In the past year it has started to more systematically collect evidence about the impact these are having on Willingham's quality of life. This information will support the Council's case for the improvements it argues for at every opportunity with District and County Council members and officers.

Increased levels of anti-social behaviour have also been observed. Security lighting at the Ploughman Hall and play equipment on the QE II Field have been damaged and needed replacing. Dog fouling on the QE II Field during the summer's lighter evenings has also been frequent. This has required daily clearing to ensure that a public health hazard is not created for Willingham's children.

The Parish Council is required always to seek best value from contractors who tender to provide services within Willingham. This might include items as diverse as cemetery maintenance, grass cutting, cleaning of the Ploughman Hall and the Pavilion, and utilities provision. It was decided to raise the precept for 2018-2019 by approximately 2.25% to £119,950. The Parish Council considered this increase would enable it to continue its current level of service and also be able to address new challenges such as the incoming General Data Protection Regulation requirements.

Both the District and County Council have considerably reduced funds available to support the activities of voluntary and community groups. As a result, during the last year the Parish Council has received an increased number of applications for support from these groups. Awards made to these applicants are listed in greater detail later in this Report. Major recipients have been Over Day Centre, the Library's Summer Reading Challenge, Willingham News, MAGPAS, Relate and the Fen Edge Community Association. The Parish Council now provides additional funding to enable an increased number of villagers to receive Piper Lifeline services.

This year Parish Councillors are required to stand for re-election. In November we will have the opportunity of remembering the end of the Great War one hundred years ago by the placing of a memorial bench in the Cemetery. A further visit by the A14 Exhibition Unit will be pursued following its successful first visit to the village earlier this year.

Whatever the future make-up of Willingham's Parish Council its volunteer Councillors and the Council's administrative team will continue to work, individually and collectively, to make the village as good a place to live in as possible within the resources it has available.

Ray Croucher
Chairman

LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

CEMETERY



Our current grass cutting contractor Fergusons have given us good service for the third year, and we continue to have favourable comments from visitors and residents, saying how pleased they are with the current look of the cemetery.

We continue to search for suitable land for a new cemetery, as our space for new graves continues to diminish year on year. We had found a piece of land off the High Street that was found to be ideal following a successful test dig. However, although the current owner sympathizes with our need for this particular plot of land, he has indicated to us that he was considering the possibility of alternative commercial use, so we continue to search for a suitable plot.

The council commissioned a survey of all the trees on council land and following the recommendations for the trees in the cemetery, 2 were removed during the year, and replaced by fresh saplings.

Steve Mellows
Lead Councillor for Cemetery

GREEN AND BOUNDARIES

This year a Christmas tree was provided by Mr A. Coe free of charge and he has indicated that he is prepared to provide one again for Christmas 2018. It was erected by two men and me thus saving the cost of hiring people to do it. The Christmas lights seemed to stop working towards the end of the period but the junction had been vandalised and uncovered allowing water into the sump. The lights will be checked before use.

The path from Pound Lane to Lord's Ground has been cut back and cleared to improve access and aid it drying out. This should help prevent people using the Recreation Ground as an alternative. Despite this the fence separating the two has been repaired three times. There is a meeting with the County Council to discuss possible improvements to the surface but it is a country footpath and hard surfacing would not be in keeping with a rural area. It would also be very expensive to do and maintain.



As part of the monthly check I visit all the areas around. I have contacted SCDC on three occasions to have burnt out cars removed from either Meadow Road or on Priest Lane. This has been done by the council free of charge. There is a problem with one dumped on the far side of the bund at the community site in Meadow Road as the car transporter cannot reach it to winch it out. I have offered to meet the recovery lorry and hoist with a material handler it out so it can be taken away. It has been difficult to organise a mutually convenient time. The horses fly grazing the site have been removed but will probably return when there is sufficient herbage.

A report of overhanging tree branches and a broken fencing rail at Pyrethrum Way was dealt with by cutting back the trees during the winter and removing the broken fence section. It was decided not to replace it as it might be making it easier for the contractor cutting the grass. It is also being used as a short cut by residents.

There is a continuing problem with fly tipping and rubbish dumping which is dealt with periodically by SCDC but we cannot get it cleared as fast as it is dumped. This is particularly true of Meadow Road and the old road lay by in Earith Road. The surface is also very bad and needs drastic re profiling. The condition of all the fen roads is deteriorating rapidly and sections of Meadow Road are becoming hazardous. The concrete was laid during the war and was never envisaged to take modern machinery and lorry weights.



It is sometimes forgotten that Long Pond belongs to the Parish as a public watering place and that it is also part of the drainage of Rampton Road. The excess water drains along Schole Road and then into the IDB drain. There is a possibility that building work could interfere with this and so the water level needs to be monitored.

In the coming year the Parish Council should decide on whether to proceed with upgrading and with fencing around the Meadow Road site and whether to precept for the costs if there are no grants available. It may be possible to use S106 money for this. A footpath to the Community Orchard is also needed if full use of this asset is to be enjoyed. The trees on the old Landing Ground could be improved by pruning away some lower branches, also those on the old lay by but this is a low priority. All the seats in the village are safe and usable but some may soon need repairing.

Ray Manning
Lead Councillor for Green and Boundaries

LEISURE AND AMENITIES

QEII Field

This continues to be a very popular and well-used facility. Various repairs were needed to equipment following a ROSPA inspection last May. That, together with repairs needed due to vandalism to the trampoline and seesaw, made this an expensive year. Thanks are due to Cllr Anderson for his invaluable help with minor repairs.

New seating has been added by WAG and also a board detailing all the trees that have been planted.



Pavilion



Due to the failure of the hard disc, the CCTV system had to be replaced and there is now an up-to-date digital version. We also took the opportunity to replace the cameras with much higher resolution digital ones with built-in infra-red which show good facial features even in low light. Vandalism to the outside walls is a problem and they will need re-rendering and painting in due course. Littering and general mess round the veranda continues to be very bad, as

youths gather there in the evenings.

Recreation Ground

All the bulbs in the floodlights have been replaced during the year, due to both ageing and vandalism.

Throughout the season the footballers have reported dogs mess on the rec. While there was some improvement following further 'No Dogs' signage and publicity in WN, the problem continues. The broken fence in the SW corner has been repaired, and quotes obtained for properly fencing the North side. Hopefully this will be a strong deterrent, and we are hoping to improve the Pound Lane footpath, which should also help.

The rec was used for a very well-attended children's football festival in June, once again the Willingham School Association organised a successful Fen Gallop in July, and the Scouts held their usual fireworks display in November.

A preliminary investigation has started into the feasibility and cost of a multi-use games area (MUGA) on the rec. Currently, anyone needing an all-weather training facility has to travel to neighbouring villages in the winter.



Clubs

The rec is regularly used by football, cricket and bowls clubs, though sadly not this year for hockey. Willingham Wolves have over 150 children participating on Saturday and Sunday mornings, with the youngest age groups particularly thriving. It is hoped to start a men's team for next season. The cricket club spent last season establishing a regular team and getting interest back in the club, and they are hopeful that in the coming season they will be more competitive. The Bowls club improvement is continuing and membership continues to grow. The green is in much better shape following a lot of hard work from the members. Contact details for all these clubs are given at the back of Willingham News and on the Willinghamlife website.

Linda King
Lead Councillor, Leisure and Amenities

HALLS

Another year as Lead Councillor for Halls has highlighted just how much the two buildings are of great importance to the village as resources; hubs even.



The Ploughman Hall continues to play a key role in the lives of many who choose to hire this as a venue for their personal events, for those regular hall users offering courses, recreational events or sporting activities (ball room dancing, badminton and until recently hot-pod yoga to name a few).

The Youth Trust in addition remains within the upper part of building offering a valuable number of experiences and regular group sessions to those children and young people who attend as well as organising fundraisers to help cover some of the costs associated. The coding club is of a particular success.

Some villagers may have noticed that they are not getting as muddy when walking through the pedestrian gate to access the Ploughman Hall – the redesign and changes to the footpath have significantly reduced the issues with mud and drainage at this point.

Maintenance this year has finally seen the external hall door decoration completed and lighting inside the hall resolved (for now). Regrettably some minor vandalism to the security lights on the side of the building resulted in them having to be fixed and/or replaced and subsequently metal cages fitted over them to reduce continued damage.

Regular inspections of the hall now include temperature monitoring of water outlets and recently work was carried out on the boiler/water heating infrastructure to ensure the system remains satisfactory. Heating was definitely needed over this cold winter and a more up to date control system may be needed in the future as some of the thermostatic controllers have seemingly been suboptimal upon recent inspection- highlighted by the cold snap!

The Ploughman Hall will see a new use this year as a venue for a beer festival- hopefully as with all organised village events this will be well received, well attended and become a regular event to include in the village diary!

1st Willingham Scout Group continues to make good use of the Public Hall and the group have recently seen a change in Group Scout Leader (GSL). The maintenance issues arising are minimal. No further reports of electrical issues since the installation of the RCD board was completed. Damp ingress is still apparent in places but will require significant funding to eradicate. The Public Hall User Committee members are keen to work with the council to access funding to help improve the overall condition of the building to protect it for the future. Currently the Committee is left without a Chairperson following Gary Claypole stepping down in April 2018. A new Chairperson will be sought and it is hoped they will continue to help with monitoring the use of the building in partnership with the Council.



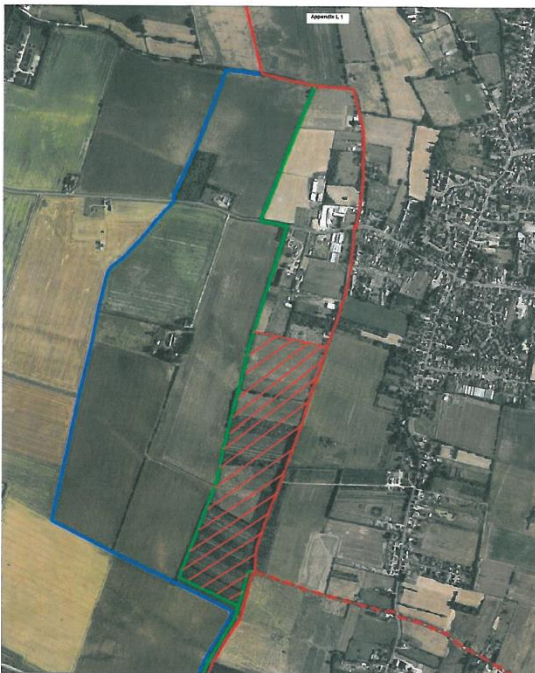
Cllr R Tassell
Lead Councillor for Halls

PLANNING

The Planning Committee met 16 times during the year and considered 60 planning applications, 7 more than the previous year.

These were for: 1 major development, 8 developments, 22 extensions, 13 single dwellings, 2 garages, and sundry amendments and reserved matters.

The committee made no recommendation for 11 applications, recommended 37 for approval and 12 for refusal: of these 12, 3 were subsequently approved by the District Council and 3 refused with the rest still “out for consultation”.



The inquiry into South Cambs’ Local Plan is approaching 4 years but said to be nearing completion. This means local plan provisions, such as village envelopes, green belt and particularly Willingham’s designation as a “Minor Rural Centre” – with a limit on new developments – are all still suspended.

The change of the boundary with Over was eventually approved after strenuous efforts by Over Parish Council to prevent it. The village now includes the businesses at Highgate farm, and thanks are due to the work put into this by Cllr Manning.

Councillor D Law
Chair of Planning

ACCOUNTS 2017-2018

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT – 31 MARCH 2018

INCOME

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Precept | £117,300.00 | |
| Green & Boundaries | £ 111.25 | |
| Leisure & Amenities | £ 1,165.00 | |
| Halls | £ 17,897.63 | |
| Cemetery | £ 1,662.00 | |
| Establishments | £ 0.00 | |
| Section 106 | £ 9,738.59 | |
| Interest Received | £ 82.12 | |
| | | <u>£147,956.59</u> |

EXPENDITURE

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Green & Boundaries | £ 245.83 | |
| Leisure & Amenities | £ 23,295.58 | |
| Halls | £ 21,972.45 | |
| Cemetery | £ 8,253.80 | |
| Establishments | £ 22,530.30 | |
| Salaries | £ 39,442.46 | |
| Insurance | £ 5,685.58 | |
| <u>Section 137</u> | | |
| Piper Lifeline | £ 599.59 | |
| Donations | £ 4,006.03 | |
| | | <u>£126,03.62</u> |

INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE £21,924.97

(Full accounts are available from the Parish Office and on the Council website)

PARISH COUNCIL ASSETS

Property and Land belonging to the Parish Council

Ploughman Hall- West Fen Road, Willingham, Cambs, CB24 5LP

Date Purchased: Year 2000

Purchase Price: £239,304

Unique Property Reference No: 10003188724

Map reference: E544872 N245256

Freehold

The Ploughman hall, houses the Council office and the sports hall and the Youth facility. The sports hall is available for hire by both regular users and one off bookings. The Youth facility is leased to Willingham Youth Trust on a 10 year lease. This lease is due for renewal in 2025. The Parish Office is open to the public Monday to Thursday 10am to 1pm

Sports Pavilion – West Fen Road, Willingham, Cambridgeshire CB24 5LP

Date Purchased: 1972

Purchase price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: 10033035727

Map reference: E540185 N270670

Freehold

The Sports pavilion is a facility provided by the Parish Council in conjunction with a grant awarded by the Sports Council for the use of local clubs and other users and consists of a small meeting room, kitchen and changing room facilities.

The Old Recreation Ground/Community Orchard – Earith Road, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: Not known

Map reference: E540467 N: 271276

Freehold

The Old recreation Ground is situated on Earith Road and was transformed into a community orchard in 2015 in conjunction with Willingham Action Group.

The Recreation Ground – West Fen Road, Willingham, Cambs, CB24 5LP

Date Purchased: Dec 1997

Purchase price: £26,271

Unique Property Reference No: 10003197804

Map reference: E540136 N270691

Freehold

The Recreation Ground is situated behind the pavilion and contains several football pitches, cricket pitch and practice nets. The Recreation ground is available for hire by local groups and other users.

Jubilee/QEII Field – West Fen Road, Willingham, Cambs, CB24 5LP

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase price: £15,000

Unique Property Reference No: 10091623511

Map reference: E540187 N270782

Freehold

The QEII Field sits behind the Ploughman Hall and hosts a large play area which was significantly upgraded in 2015. The Field was registered with Fields in Trust in 2014.

Meadow Road Site – Meadow Road, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: January 2015

Purchase price: £50,000

Unique Property Reference No: 100091654618

Map reference: E541884 N270840

Leasehold

The Parish Council purchased a 125 year lease in January 2015 for the site and it has been agreed to develop the site into a community woodland.

The Cemetery – Church Lane, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: 100091611368

Map reference: E540354 N270612

Freehold

The Parish Council own and operate the cemetery in Church Lane which includes a War Memorial.

The Pound – Pound Lane, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: Not known

Map reference: E540172 N270603

Freehold

The Landing Ground – Bridge Farm, Earith Road, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase Price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: 100091420856 (Bridge farm)

Map reference: E540633 N273279

Freehold

The Green – Green Street, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase Price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: 10090708791

Map reference: E540666 N270486

Freehold

The village Green is located on the junction of Green Street and Church Street. There is a village pump and a village sign located on the Green. The Green is the location for the fair during Feast Week in October.

Public Hall – The High Street, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: 1896

Purchase Price: Donated

Unique Property Reference No: 10003189029

Map reference: E540237 N270406

Freehold

The Public Hall is owned by the Parish Council and is leased on a 10 year lease to the Public Hall User Committee. The lease is due for renewal in 2025

Public Open Space Pyrethrum Way – Pyrethrum Way, Willingham, Cambs

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase Price: Not known

Unique Property Reference No: Not known

Map reference: E540617 N270120

Freehold

The Council adopted and maintains the public open space on Pyrethrum Way

Long Pond – Rampton Road, Willingham

Date Purchased: Not known

Purchase Price: Not known

Unique Property Reference no: Not Known

Map reference: E540874 N270081

Freehold

GRANTS AWARDED 2017 – 2018

Grants have been awarded to the following groups during the last 12 months:

Over Day Centre - £3,000
 Relate - £400
 Bowls Club - £900
 Willingham Library - £500
 Willingham News - £1,757.03
 MAGPAS - £399
 Fen Edge Twinning - £300
 Salvation Army - £250

The Council continue to provide free use of the Pavilion and Recreation Ground for the Youth Teams in the village as well as reduced charges for community and education groups using the Ploughman Hall. Local Groups also benefit from the reduced cost of using the Public Hall which is currently leased to the User Committee and at present is mainly used by the Scout Group and the renovated section of the Ploughman Hall which is leased to Willingham Youth Trust.

In addition to the above, the Parish Council also pay for the provision of fourteen piper-lifeline monitors from the District Council for residents who need them.

THE PARISH COUNCILLORS

| NAME | CONTACT |
|------------------|--|
| John Anderson | cllr.anderson@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk |
| Dave Carlton | cllr.carlton@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk |
| Sara Croft | cllr.croft@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk |
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| Stephen Mellows | cllr.mellows@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk |
| Rhys Tassell | cllr.tassell@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk |
| Jim Watson | cllr.watson@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk |

There are currently two vacancies on the Parish Council. If you would like further information, please contact the Clerk (details below)

Clerk: Mrs Mandy Powell, Parish Council Office, Ploughman Hall, West Fen Road, Willingham CB24 5LP
 Tel: 01954 261027 email: clerk@willinghamparishcouncil.gov.uk

COUNTY AND DISTRICT REPORTS

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

It has been a year dominated by roads. Latterly, following the repeated freeze-thaw winter and the very wet and unseasonal start to spring, the potholes around the country have been particularly bad, and councils across the country are struggling to repair the backlog. Cambridgeshire County Council is investing £90million to arrest deterioration of carriageways, and the government provides a specific pothole action fund. I got our MPs to write to the Department for Transport, querying the cost-effectiveness of repeated patching rather than permanent repair. A minister wrote back agreeing with me that doing the job once and well is far preferable to doing it over and over again. The County Council is shifting its approach from cure to prevention, and the new Highways Operational Standards are changing from “intervention criteria” to a risk-based approach instead. In other words, if the road has started breaking up it is better to seal the cracks to stop the water getting beneath the surface than repair the resulting potholes months or years later. The most recent estimate was that it would cost £18million a year to keep Cambridgeshire’s roads in “perfect” condition. With the prudential borrowing we are spending £14million a year, but when that runs out we will have only £8million a year. Given highway maintenance is a universal service, as a country we may need to change our priorities.

Speeding and volume of traffic worry all of us, but they are proving difficult to tackle. Fast action stopped trucks serving Northstowe going through Rampton, but the bunds at the Cottenham Gun Club still have some way to climb. Andy Preston was well received at a Traffic & Transport Working Group meeting in Cottenham exploring safer crossings and effective ways of taming vehicles in general. “Vertical features” (as the highways engineers call them) are the most effective method of controlling speed – but as we know they can be hugely controversial. Speedwatch works well, but takes the time of a group of volunteers. (I am one of those who have restarted the group in Cottenham recently.) Mobile Vehicle Activated Signs that flash the speed to oncoming drivers but are moved from location to location every three or four weeks are more effective than fixed ones, which tend to be ignored after a while.

The A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme is hugely disruptive, but the end result will be to take plenty of traffic currently diverting through our villages back to the main road. The computer-generated “fly-through” available on youtube is well worth watching to give an impression of what the A14 and local access road will look like when the job is finished - still on target for completion in 2020.

One of the new Mayor’s top three transport projects is to extend the M11 to the A47 at the Guyhirn roundabout. A study on this is expected to report by the end of this year. If the business case is strongly positive (as initially indicated) then this could provide, in effect, the long-awaited Willingham bypass. That would take plenty of traffic, especially HCVs, that currently uses the Willingham-Rampton-Cottenham-Histon route, out of our villages.

Of course, I already knew Willingham “from the outside”, as it were, before being elected your county councillor, through planning committee site visits, shopping (and commissioning specialised glass for my listed building), and an organ recital in the church. But it has been a great pleasure getting to know and understand village life much more by attending parish council meetings and learning from your discussions. Many thanks, then, to the parish clerk for all her assistance, and to the outgoing chairman.

I look forward to continuing to work closely with you in the years ahead.

County Councillor Tim Wotherspoon
Cambridgeshire County Council

DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

South Cambridgeshire continues to be one of the best places to live in the UK, but we cannot rest on our laurels and we must all pull together to maintain that status. Much of the work, however, does fall within the remit of South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) and these are some of the things we have achieved during the last year:

We have saved over £700,000 by managing all refuse and recycling services for Cambridge City as well as our own. That’s amazing considering our teams empty nearly 6 million bins a year! We have also combined services with Huntingdon District Council and Cambridge City in relation to Legal, Building Control and IT, which allows us to have the best people for our back-office services.

The Health and Wellbeing programme has been increased to include a range of additional opportunities including:

- Launching the Active and Healthy 4 Life exercise programme taken up by 300 people
- Offering 10,000 residents the chance to try out new sports at Parklife in July
- Funding 12 mobile warden schemes
- Securing over £1 million from developers for green space play equipment

In addition, we have worked hard to improve our environment by supporting 40 litter picks and we have launched a £56,000 Renewable Energy Grant scheme to support green initiatives in our communities.

The Council has invested significantly in housing for our young people to ensure they can stay living in the village where they grew up. There are 39 new Council houses, over 150 new affordable homes across the District plus we’ve secured more than £45 million towards community and sports facilities for Cambourne. Also, South Cambs is one of the eleven councils selected by Government leading on Right to Build homes, with over 800 people already signed up.

Further funding for housing has been unlocked in conjunction with the Combined Authority which has obtained £100 million for affordable housing.

The 13 villages that are being supported to deliver their Neighbourhood Plans are shaping their future and the Council has launched a grant scheme to help them develop affordable housing schemes in their village. We are also working with over 200 people to stop them becoming homeless and avoiding them having to use bed and breakfast facilities.

We don't just build houses, we want to build communities too, so we were delighted to welcome the first residents to Northstowe at a formal opening ceremony in May. We will continue to invest in and engage with residents on numerous projects, including via our Community Forums currently in place for residents living in the areas around Northstowe, Waterbeach and the A428 development. These meetings are quarterly and open to all members of the public – do come!

Ermine Street Housing is now bringing in £1.4 million per annum as it continues to invest in market housing for rent. This enabled the Council to make a business loan to develop Cambridge Ice Rink, which is expected to open at the end of this year. More on how we are funded and where the money goes can be found in the "Your Place, Our Plan" document on the South Cambridgeshire District Council's website www.scambs.gov.uk

Last but not least, the first of our Business to Business networking events took place recently. Held at the Imperial War Museum in Duxford over 30 SME were represented. We are also allocating 11 new council apprenticeship places each year for the next three years.

South Cambridgeshire District Council is a key member of the Combined Authority, which has £600 million to improve transport links, as well as the Greater Cambridge Partnership, which has plans to improve access to Cambridge via rail, bus, cycle and foot paths. It is clear that both business and communication links are vital to our District and we will continue to support and work on related projects.

District Councillor Ray Manning
South Cambridgeshire District Councillor