

## **District and County Councillor's Report – October 2021**

### **Call for Sites**

Following the release by the District Council of last month's preferred sites to taken forward for potential development, we now have a date for the public consultation on these sites. This will run from November 1<sup>st</sup> for 6 weeks.

As a reminder, the policy of the council has been to keep large development concentrated in the existing and forthcoming settlements – Cambourne, Northstowe, Waterbeach New Town etc – and leave the villages as they are. If you are supportive of this principle, please do say so in the consultation response, it will be very helpful!

### **Planning Updates - Linton**

Bartlow Road - For those with their ear to the ground, you will have seen that the developers of Bartlow Road, Linton have begun work on the site without the correct planning permission. They were doing this on the assumption that the relevant permissions that they needed would be granted by the District Council's planning committee in September. This didn't happen, in no small part due to some excellent input to the process by the Parish Council as well and John, who all represented the welfare of the village superbly. The next challenge is to get the District Council to use their enforcement powers to either halt or at least temporarily suspend the work happening on the site, before too much irreparable damage can be done.

Horseheath Road – the final two planning conditions, relating to surface water and foul water, will be decided at the District Councils planning committee in November. Many will recall that these are the conditions that should have been agreed, and implemented, before any work started on the site. Had this happened that flooding that occurred in July may have been avoided. More to follow.

### **Afghan Families**

South Cambs DC has responded very fast to the government's call to local authorities to find homes for refugees from Afghanistan who have been supporting us over the past 20 years. By the time you will read this 8 families will be in their new homes and an agreement to find further homes has been made.

### **Visit South Cambs - Business Listings**

South Cambs have launched a new business directory of businesses in the District. This is to try to boost local commerce now that we are coming out of Covid restrictions. Any viable, independent, business in South Cambridgeshire can apply to be listed on the website. It is essentially free advertising! - <https://www.visitsouthcambs.co.uk/>

### **Business Growth Fund**

This is still a live fund, with money still in the pot. Please do apply, and encourage local businesses to do so, if eligible. <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/business/growth-fund-grant-scheme/>

### **New County Council Office**

The County Council's new purpose-built offices are now open in Alconbury. All of their meetings will now take place there.

Councillors Henry and John Batchelor

**Contact Information**

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