

District and County Councillor's Report – February 2022

Covid Booster vaccinations

There are several walk-in clinics around the county where booster jabs can be had, on the day. Warning though, queues have been notoriously long so far, so expect a wait. Details here - <https://www.thevaccinators.co.uk/>

Community Chest Fund

Another existing fund that is opening a new round of bidding, with some good news, the amount groups are able to bid for has doubled from £1,000 to £2,000 per group. Full criteria and applications can be found at <https://www.scams.gov.uk/community-safety-and-health/grants/community-chest-grants/> - the District Council recently extended the criteria of the grant to allow grants for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations.

Household Support Fund

There is a support fund available from the County Council that is aimed at supporting families with a below average income, through the more difficult winter months. There is a fair amount of money in the pot at the moment and the fund will remain open until March 2022. Eligibility criteria and application form can be found here - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/coronavirus/household-support-fund>

Business Covid Grants

The government have released a new batch of Covid related support grants for businesses, primarily in the hospitality sector, to apply for to assist them 'restarting' after a period of inconsistent trading. Applications are made through the District Council and full detail can be found here - <https://www.scams.gov.uk/business-can-apply-now-for-latest-support-grants/>

Direct Food Vouchers

The County Council is offering some food support to families on low incomes over February half term. Full details are here - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/support-available-again-to-vulnerable-families-during-february-half-term>

County Council Farm Holdings

The County Council owns lots of rural estate in Cambridgeshire. They are now looking for applicants for tenancy on these parcels of land. The main thrust of the lease will be to cultivate some sort of business, not necessarily agriculture related. It's a very interesting opportunity for those that are looking to start their own business. Full detail can be found here - <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/news/applications-open-for-farm-holdings-on-councils-rural-estate>

Parking Enforcement

The County and District Councils have officially begun the process of taking parking enforcement powers away from the Police and managing this themselves, as happens in Cambridge City. This will be a slower burner but will be welcomed if it can be facilitated.

Councillors Henry and John Batchelor

A1307 Upgrades

The next set of upgrades to be implemented on the A1307 is the safer crossing point at the Hildersham junction. This involves putting in a crossing that all non-motorised users (pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders) can use. This will be starting on February 10th, so please do expect delays.

Highway Code

The highway code has been updated as of January this year. There are new rules around which road users should be prioritised. This is an attempt to aid safety on the roads by clarifying who should get priority in certain situations. The full list of changes can be seen here -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/the-highway-code-8-changes-you-need-to-know-from-29-january-2022>

Zero Carbon Events

SCDC is holding its annual online Climate and Environment Fortnight of Events, taking place between the **21st February and the 7th March** held to celebrate climate action taking place in the district, as well as looking at some of the things that the Council is doing to mitigate and adapt to climate change in the future.

Please see the details of the sessions below, including information on how to sign up. Alternatively, visit the website at: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/climate-emergency-and-nature/zero-carbon-communities/zero-carbon-communities-events/>

Contact Information

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