

Dry Drayton Newsletter

May 2023

Issue Number 469

Dry Drayton
Village Hall



Dry Drayton
S & VA

A day of food, music & activities

King's
CORONATION

Saturday 6th May 2023
Dry Drayton Village Hall

Join us to watch King Charles' coronation, with a pop-up bar by Lord Conrad's, children's activities, face painting, a colouring competition, a Treasure Hunt trail, coronation gift for children Y6 or below who live in the village, and more!

From 8:30:

Bacon or veggie baps, hot drinks, children's crafts and activities with live viewing of the coronation on the large screen.

13:00 - 15:00:

Bring your own picnic lunch and a food bank donation for the Trussell Trust, continuing children's activities, and ice cream available from 'Ice Cream Dreams' bicycle.

14:00 - 16:00:

Live music

17:00 - 20:00:

Food truck, with beer sales continuing until 21:00.

DRY DRAYTON NEWSLETTER

VILLAGE CONTACTS

FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/groups/262736127959062/>

DRY DRAYTON WEBSITE www.drydrayton.net

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www.acny.org.uk/7965

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Pat Carter. Tel: 780917

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<https://www.combertonandeverdensurgery.nhs.uk/>

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Treasurer: Roger Swain Tel: 780409

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Coordinator Chris Turner. Tel 07766 255637

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www.drydraytonvillagehall.org.uk

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Email: drydraytonhallbookings@gmail.com

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Derek Evans: 07464 052 521

Lizzie Coe: 07387 395296

Sheila Stephenson: 01954 210638 (*for queries / emergencies only*)

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

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PRIMARY SCHOOL

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School Office email: office@drydrayton.cambs.sch.uk

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NEWS in Brief

The Easter coffee morning was a busy one.

An amazing £250 was raised for Riding for the Disabled through items purchased from their stall at the coffee morning. Thanks to everyone who donated crafts or bought items on the day. Keep a lookout for their plant sales which they will have as usual during May.

The next coffee morning will be on **Wednesday 3rd May, 10 -12 at the Village Hall**. Enjoy a hot drink and a piece of homemade cake for just £3. There will be selection of toys and free juice and biscuits for the little ones.



Join the Marquee Team for Free Beer & Stakes!

Did you know that the School & Village Association has marquees that it rents out during the summer months? And that they are put up and taken down by a volunteer Marquee Team?

Marquee Team coordinator Neil Harris says: "Why don't you come and try it out? Hit stakes into the ground, put up or take down the marquee, and have a marquee pint in the pub at the end of it."

"It is fun – and is a great way to meet people after work. It's also the main source of income for the S&VA and enables our donations to the school."

Interested? Please contact Neil Harris at nrp.harris@gmail.com to arrange a trial. All adults welcome.



Dry Drayton Friendship Club

At our April meeting, members enjoyed an easy quiz organised by Fred Northrop.

This was followed by afternoon tea prepared and served by Angie Martin and Carol Doyle. Our next meeting will be held at 2.30pm on Wednesday 17th May.

Everyone, whether you have been before or not, or whatever your age, will be very welcome.

Marlene Northrop
01954 789525
marlene.northrop28@gmail.com

Pre-School children say 'thanks'!

"Thanks to all the people who came to support us at our Winter Fair last November," writes *Little Owl Pre-School Manager Margot Wolton-Carr*. "With the generous donations we received we have been able to book Super Star Sports for a weekly session during the summer term to engage the children in team sports and fitness activities."

We have also started to update the Little Owl garden area by adding a construction area with foam bricks and wooden shapes for all the budding builders. Other things we have bought with part of the money raised are math resources and some trampolines.

Little Owl Social event, Saturday 13th May

We are holding a Social event on Saturday 13th May for all existing and future Little Owl families. The Social starts at 3 pm. If you have any questions, please email me and my team at littleowlpreschool@outlook.com We are looking forward to hearing from you!"



Community Car Scheme

Caldecote, Dry Drayton and Hardwick

This Car Scheme is available for anyone requiring transportation to essential medical or social destinations and has no other means of transport.

To book a driver, please contact one of our Co-ordinators below:

Gill Stott	07464 069 483
Lizzie Coe	07387 395 296
Derek Evans	07464 052 521

**Please call between 8.30am – 6.00pm,
Monday – Friday only**

To enable a suitable driver to be arranged, please call at least 48 hours before your appointment. Please do not call on weekends and bank holidays.

For each journey, passengers pay £3.50 for a local journey and for longer trips, 30p per mile is charged, (calculated from start of journey at the driver's door to

the end of journey, at the driver's door). Please pay by cash, our drivers cannot accept card payment.

The Scheme is run entirely by a dedicated team of local volunteer drivers and co-ordinators, kindly offering their services to help those in need of transport.

If you would like to join our wonderful supportive team serving our community or have any queries or problems, please contact Sheila Stephenson on 01954 210638 or email on sheila1pc@yahoo.co.uk

For all drivers, mileage costs are reimbursed at 45p per mile, part paid by the passenger and a subsidy from Cambridgeshire County Council.

Please note:

Our drivers will not tolerate any verbal abuse or other bad behaviour. We reserve the right to refuse further help in such cases.

News from the pub for May...

There are three Bank Holiday Mondays in May! For each, the pub will be open from 11-3pm starting with Monday 1st May, so come down for a bite to eat or just a pint and enjoy the outside spaces, assuming the weather allows!

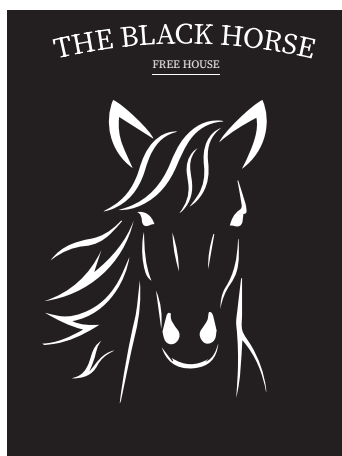
CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

We will open from Thursday to Monday for this weekend and we'll be celebrating the Coronation with a special menu for the event.

The pub will be open at the usual times all weekend, providing our normal menu on Thursday and Friday then switching to a three-day celebration of food and drink to mark the King's Coronation. We have Coronation Ale and specially distilled Silent Pool Gin (the bottle itself is a masterpiece of design!)

There will be brunches including Eggs Royale, lunches of the Coronation Quiche and Coronation Chicken amongst other things, afternoon Cream Teas with Scones, Duchy Preserves and Clotted Cream, Pimms Cake and Ice Cream Sundaes - full details of what we'll have and at what times are on the website and also on the notice boards. Please note that we will not be serving a Roast on Sunday 7th but other delicious things instead. We trust you will find something to suit whenever you choose to come!

On Saturday 6th, talented Dry Drayton musician Alex



Chadwick will be playing an acoustic set of well-known covers from 6-8pm, hopefully in the gazebo in the garden. Do come and support this accomplished musician on his first local gig!

From Saturday 13th May, our Sausage Saturday breakfasts will switch to lighter Saturday brunches of French Toast, Bacon and Maple Syrup (well, sort of lighter...) and Pancakes with fresh fruits and sauces for the summer months,

what a good way to start your weekend!

Our lovely Pizza Passione food truck will be with us on Saturday 20th May, from 5-8pm. Please order directly with Sandro in the usual way and book a table with us if you'd like to eat in.

As mentioned previously, the pub will be open for the last May Bank Holiday on the 29th, Whit Monday. Do call in if you are free and want some relaxed eating and drinking.

Lastly, as we celebrate being here at the pub for five years this month, we'd like to thank those of you who have given us such great support through some very challenging years - we're still going strong because of you!

Amanda and Colin

June newsletter deadline

The next issue of the Dry Drayton Newsletter will be the June issue. The deadline for that is 20th May. If you have any contributions (text and/or photos), please send them to drydraytonnews@gmail.com to arrive by 20th May at the very latest. Thank you.

Many thanks also to all the Newsletter production team, regular contributors, and the volunteers who deliver the monthly Newsletters to your door. We couldn't do it without you!

Sunday Services in May

St Peter & St Paul

St Peter & St Paul is part of the Lordsbridge Team of Churches and the Diocese of Ely.

Lead Minister: Revd Clare Coates

Tel: 07818 618795. Email: clarecoates@lordsbridge.org

Assistant Minister

Revd Canon Sue Wyatt

Tel: 01954 780775. Email: sue.e.wyatt@btinternet.com

Revd Lynda Taylor

Tel: 01954 269 563. Email: lyndabtaylor7@gmail.com

Sunday Services in May

Sunday 7 May

5:30pm A special Choral Evensong to celebrate the coronation of Charles III, with Revd Lynda Taylor and with Revd Clare preaching. All welcome.

Sunday 14 May

9:30am Baptism of Luna Honey Carman, led by Revd Clare. All welcome.

Sunday 21 May

11am Morning Worship led by Canon Sue. All welcome to join us for this service of the word suitable for families and all ages.

Sunday 28 May

9:30am Holy Communion for Pentecost led by Revd Clare. All welcome.

Coronation Prayer

Gracious God,
in company with our King,
we rededicate ourselves to your service.
Take our minds and think through them;
take our lips and speak through them;
take our hearts and set them on fire
with love for you and your kingdom;
that here we may have your peace,
and in the world to come may see you face to face;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Message from our Minister

St Peter and St Paul's Dry Drayton *A small church with a big heart*

Dear Friends, May has always been a favourite month for me. The days lengthen, pretty pink and white blossoms and tulips appear, and the promise of more warmth and sunshine! This May we will be celebrating our new King's coronation. For many of us, this moment in our nation's history will be our first experience of such an occasion. At its centre will be a Christian service in which His Majesty will be anointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury as king. It is a ceremony rooted in longstanding tradition and Christian symbolism. Part of every Christian's life is the commitment to a life of service to God and to one another; a commitment the King has exemplified throughout his life.

At St Peter and St Paul's we will be celebrating this historic occasion with a special Choral Evensong on Sunday 7 May at 5:30pm. All are welcome to join us, people of all faiths or none, as we pray for the King and our nation as we start a new chapter in our history. And as we celebrate, let us give thanks to God, for His steadfast love and faithfulness.

God Bless, Clare

Revd Clare Coates, Lead Minister for Dry Drayton, Hardwick and Caldecote with Childerley
clarecoates@lordsbridge.org 07818 618795

Dry Drayton Village Newsletter is published on behalf of Dry Drayton School and Village Association (a registered charity, number 269765). Copies are delivered to houses in the village and the Newsletter is also published on the Dry Drayton website newsletter page: www.drydrayton.net/newsletter.asp

Please note, the Editor reserves the right to accept, edit or reject any material for publication and to exclude from publication any remarks which may be construed as personal criticism of other residents. The views expressed in the newsletter are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the editorial team of the School & Village Association, or of Victoire Press, the printers.

In between the monthly Newsletters you can keep up to date on village news by subscribing to the village e-mails created by our Dry Drayton webmaster. To do so, e-mail: webmaster@drydrayton.net

DRY DRAYTON CORONATION MUGS



**BUY YOURS AT THE
CORONATION PARTY
DRY DRAYTON
VILLAGE HALL**

06.05.2023
DRY DRAYTON SCHOOL &
VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

*ARTIST REPRESENTATION

Summer Sizzler — save the date!



Dry Drayton on YouTube

Fragments Of Time: Dry Drayton In The 1900s

The video 'Fragments of Time Episode 7' will be uploaded to YouTube in May, writes **Alec Hawkes**. This episode is the final part of an interview with long-time resident **John Hacker** in which he remembers the days of pubs and poaching and when there were many farms. It can be viewed by typing into YouTube 'Fragments of Time Episode 7' on or soon after May 14th. The YouTube link will be posted on the Dry Drayton village news blog (<https://drydrayton.wordpress.com/>) and on the Dry Drayton People Facebook page.

Fragments of Time Episode 8 will also be uploaded to YouTube in May. This episode is the final part of an interview with long time resident **Sid Martin** in which he recalls life as a Bee Disease Officer, village wells and allotments and hard winters and a dry summer. It can be viewed by typing in to YouTube: Fragments of Time Episode 8 **on or soon after May 28th** The YouTube link will be posted on the e news (*DryDrayton.net*) and on the Dry Drayton People Facebook page.

In June Fragments of Time Episode 9, the last episode in the series, will be uploaded to YouTube. This episode is the last of three featuring **Joy Dunn and Violet Hawkes** in which they discuss the houses and buildings that existed in the 1940s and 1950s and some of the residents. It can be viewed by typing in to YouTube: Fragments of Time Episode 9 **on or soon after June 11th.** The YouTube link will be posted on the e news (*DryDrayton.net*) and on the Dry Drayton People Facebook page.

In this series, hear about memorable Dry Drayton characters and snapshots of their lives. Among those a three bedroom house with an acre of land for £350; a perilous pony and trap ride from Madingley; stories about the former pubs, post offices and shops in the village; beekeeping; the village in the war years; leaving school at 14; working on local farms; the digging of village wells; electricity and mains water arriving in the village and many other anecdotes from the past.

The recollections are illustrated and brought to life in the videos with photographs and information, much of which can be found in the **Local History and Family History** pages on the village website.

Previous episodes featuring **John Hacker** can be found

by typing in to YouTube: Fragments of Time Episode 1 and Fragments of Time Episode 4.

Previous episodes featuring **Sid Martin** can be found by typing in to YouTube: Fragments of Time Episode 2 and Fragments of Time Episode 5

Previous episodes featuring **Joy Dunn and Violet Hawkes** can be found by typing in to YouTube: Fragments of Time Episode 3 and Fragments of Time Episode 6

Bin Days

All dates on Thursday unless otherwise noted.

Source: www.scambs.gov.uk

May		June	
5*	blue/green *Friday	2*	blue/green *Friday
12*	black *Friday	8	black
18	blue/green	15	blue/green
25	black	22	black
		29	blue/green



Dry Drayton Book Group

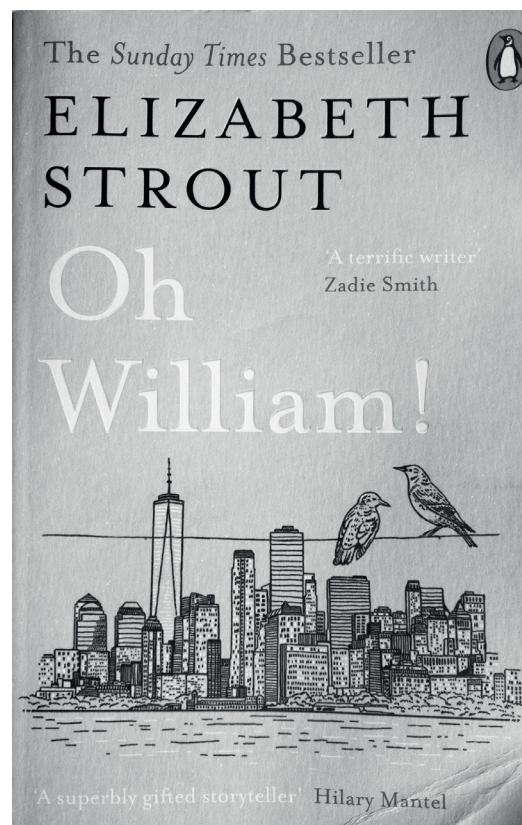
April Meeting

OH WILLIAM Elizabeth Strout

This month the book reviewed by the Book Group was *Oh William* by Elizabeth Strout. Elizabeth Strout is a Pulitzer prize-winning author and *Oh William* was short listed for the Booker Prize 2022.

This is the final book in a trilogy about Lucy Barton who is a successful novelist, living in New York. She is now in her 60s, has been married twice and is recently widowed following the death of second husband. William is her first husband by whom she has two daughters and with whom she remains friends despite their divorce several years previously. When William's third wife leaves him unexpectedly William turns again to Lucy for support and asks her to join him on a trip to investigate his family history and potentially meet a half sister who he has just discovered. Lucy agrees to go because she still cares for William and welcomes the distraction as she deals with her grief and new status of widowhood. When they arrive in Maine, William puts off meeting his half sister, Lois, and he and Lucy drive around the desolate landscape where Lois grew up and raised her family. They go to the local library where the librarian shows them pictures of William's father Wilhelm during his POW years. Lucy, who grew up in a tiny house in the middle of an Illinois soybean field, is reminded of the isolation of her unhappy and impoverished childhood. Even though she is a successful writer who has lived in New York most of her adult life, the return to a rural setting inspires the same feelings of invisibility and worthlessness that predominated her childhood. Lucy realises that while her education and association with William's family gave her middle-class privileges, her inability to stay in touch with her original family has caused a form of isolation and depression. On this trip, Lucy discovers that William felt rejected by his mother, Catherine, and this in turn has influenced his relationships with women. It goes some way to explaining why he feels rejected by women whilst continually seeking their comfort in his three marriages and extramarital affairs.

The conversational style of writing, reminiscent of the works of JG Salinger, meant that this novel was an easy read. However, the group was split on how much they enjoyed this story and some members of the group found the style irritating and repetitive. The group agreed that the characters were well drawn and their flaws realistically portrayed. The various threads of the story were drawn together well and demonstrate that we are all affected and shaped by our background and family members, even if we do not know them. As the discussion developed the group was able to appreciate some of the sharp perspective and deeper moments that the story covered such as how the characters chose partners with similar traits to their parents without realising they were making these choices. However, the complexities of the characters personalities were described without the associated



emotions and for some of the group this made it more difficult to relate to the characters. One area where the group did identify with Lucy was with her feeling of being invisible which is a theme that replays throughout the book. There is a generation that were raised not to stand out or behave in a way that would bring attention to themselves and some members of the group found this resonant of their own background.

At the meeting in May, the book group will review *The Descent of Man* by Grayson Perry. Grayson Perry has been thinking about masculinity; what it is, and how it operates, since he was a boy. Now, in this funny narrative, he looks at men and asks, what sort of men would make the world a better place, for everyone?

If you would like to find out more about the group please contact *Hilary Smith* hilary.smith@xtranex.co.uk
07786 073220

Parish Council update

The latest on the cycle path

In the following two articles, Parish Council Chair Stephen Aldersley and County Councillor Edna Murphy discuss the latest on the funding and development of the much-wished-for village cycle path — or 'Non-Motorised User' (NMU) route — and offer differing views of the situation. Below is Chair Stephen Aldersley's report on the April Parish Council meeting. County Councillor Edna Murphy's article follows on the next page.

There are draft minutes of the discussion that took place about this at the April Parish Council (on the 'Meetings' page of the Parish Council website at http://www.drydraytonpc.org.uk/Meetings_26385.aspx). The full minutes will be available on that page after the next Parish Council meeting on 9 May.

Although other items were covered and discussed, writes Stephen Aldersley, the April Parish Council meeting continued the discussions about the Non-Motorised User (NMU) Access and this proved to be the main topic of the meeting. I think it is fair to say the discussions were lively, as they had been at the March meeting. The following is a brief summary of the NMU discussions along with some of the other points covered.

NMU (Non-Motorised User) Access — Update

It was mentioned at the last meeting by Grant Weller, Team Leader – Project Delivery for Cambridgeshire County Council, that there were two land transactions required for the acquisition of the necessary areas by the side of Oakington Road for the NMU. Subsequent to last month's meeting, further enquiries have been made by the Parish Council and it has been confirmed that National Highways has to transfer quite large areas of land to Cambridgeshire County Council before they can attempt to acquire the land by the side of Oakington Road from PX Farms through a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process. The reason why the two processes cannot be carried out at the same time is that the CPO must demonstrate that the full project will be delivered in its entirety. This could not be done if some areas of land which would be part of the NMU were not owned by Cambridgeshire County Council.

This information was a surprise to the Parish Council who had not been advised that the NMU was reliant upon the acquisition of land by the County Council.

In fact, we had been told by our County Councillor at a meeting towards the end of last year that the CPO process was going through; no mention was made of the need for any land from National Highways.

Funding of the project had always been assured and ringfenced as far as the Parish Council and residents of Dry Drayton were concerned. Our former County Councillor had often told us that the monies for the NMU were in place and that the only issue was the acquisition of the land, which would happen through the CPO process. The last few weeks have been eye-opening as our current County Councillor has now told the Parish Council that there was never any guarantee that the funding of the NMU was assured, and certainly not ringfenced. It is disappointing that she made no mention of this even when, as part of the annual budget process, she was asked whether any contribution to the project was expected from the Parish Council. (The answer was “no”.)

As National Highways has withdrawn its funding, there is now the issue as to who will provide the money for the NMU. Whilst there are statements that the A1307/Oakington Road NMU in Dry Drayton is considered to be a part of the Active Travel Scheme, there is no mention as to whether it will be funded by this scheme. On the chance that it might be, and the project is forthcoming, there is no mention of any timeframe for its completion.

In the meantime, Dry Drayton is without any safe route in and out of the village for pedestrians, cyclists, and horse riders, which is an iniquitous situation. The Parish Council does not believe that it has the full support of the necessary people to bring the project to fruition and we cannot let the issue rest without a satisfactory resolution. The Parish Council will take things further and fingers crossed that someone in government or the County Council takes notice of the situation and helps to move the project further for the benefit of all of the residents of Dry Drayton.

Potholes

The appalling condition of the roads through the village was raised by a resident during the Public Forum section of the meeting. Sadly, the maintenance of the roads through Dry Drayton does not fall into the remit of the Parish Council but is the responsibility of the County Council. Our County Councillor, Cllr. Murphy,

was present at the meeting, and I asked her to provide the answer to the question.

In essence she replied that this is a county-wide problem and is the result of a programme of managed decline in the conditions of the roads over recent years. She appreciates that the road conditions are bad and stated on more than one occasion that "they are in crisis". She emphasised again the importance of reporting potholes at the link I shared in last month's newsletter (<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults>). As I said last time, there is also information about making a claim for damage to your vehicle, should this be necessary.

As mentioned previously, I hope to meet with Cllr Alex Beckett, Chair of Highways and Transport, during May. The aim of meeting is to walk the roads so Cllr Beckett can see for himself the issues, and he can explain exactly where Cambridge County Council are regarding the maintenance and upkeep of our village roads.

As mentioned last month, an application has been made for a village-wide 20mph zone. The closing date for applications was 30th April 2023 and successful applicants should hear by the end of July. There is nothing to report regarding the application for the 40mph buffer zones which was the subject of this year's Local Highways Improvement (LHI) application.

LHI application – Parking by Oak Crescent

After several months of hearing nothing, the Parish Council was advised that the project as designed by Highways has been costed and approved. The timeframe for the work has yet to be confirmed, but once a delivery date for the project has been agreed with the contractor, local residents will receive letters to advise the planned works.

- The next meetings of the Parish Council will be Tuesday 9 May and Monday 12 June at 19.00 (please note the earlier start time and change of day).

Cllr. Stephen Aldersley
cllr.aldersley@drydraytonpc.org.uk

County Councillor's report

Potholes, flooding and the cycle path

We're extremely concerned about the state of the roads, writes *Edna Murphy, our County Councillor*. Our Local Highways Officers are overwhelmed with problems, particularly potholes which can be alarming and dangerous. Highways staff are working intensely to address this.

Sadly this is a national problem to an extent although we are in a worse state than some. The root cause is that there has been a gradual deterioration of our road network over many years and strategic investment in maintenance did not happen in better times. Years of underfunding by national government and politically motivated choices by the previous Conservative County administration (which they euphemistically termed 'managed decline') are making it harder to get on top of this. For example for years before the administration changed in 2021 road maintenance (resurfacing etc) in South Cambs has been the least well funded (£ per km) in Cambridgeshire. The effects of underfunding have been exacerbated by drought and soil shrinkage, a deep freeze and periods of persistent wet weather. It takes a long time to create road damage – but it is also very costly to fix.

Thank you to everyone who has highlighted issues, and please keep logging the faults in the County's reporting system as this really helps officers to organise their work <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/>

Flooding

There have been a number of flooding incidents in the County and so I was pleased to review the situation in Scotland Road with a newly appointed County Council



Picture shows Scotland Road grip and ditch which should support drainage

flood risk management officer. He has commissioned work to do a full jetting of the drain structures under Scotland Road, along the length of it from the roundabout to the mini roundabout in the village. This will also include a camera inspection to see if there are faults to be fixed. The hope is that during jetting water will emerge in a particular part of the ditch running alongside the road.

If not then the ditch may need to be dug out for the drainage to work properly, as well as 'grips' (small gulleys to train the water off the road surface into the ditch) needing to be cut. He has ensured that Scotland Road has been added to the safe and dry sites for grip cutting this year. There is more to do to strengthen flood resilience but this is a helpful step.

Oakington Road Cycle path (NMU) – the facts and the future

The Parish Council's report in the March edition of the Dry Drayton news was unfortunately inaccurate and it is important to clarify what has happened.

The report states that funding for this scheme had 'suddenly been withdrawn'. This is not correct. The fact is funding had never been in place. As was explained to the Parish in February in a full account of the scheme's funding history, the County was able to get the scheme to the point of being ready to construct, but it has always been the case that it would need funding from either National Highways or other sources of funding for the NMU to be built. To this end, earlier this year County officers made an application to National Highways for funding for this scheme and a dozen others in the same situation, and it was unsuccessful. National Highways is not the only source of funding for these type of schemes. In short, there was no withdrawal of funding, but rather an unsuccessful application for funding.

It also states that the Parish Council had 'been assured on a number of occasions by our County Councillors that funding for the NMU was ringfenced and was, therefore, safe'. This is not correct. I have never assumed that this NMU was funded, and believed that funding would need to be secured (which is quite normal for this kind of scheme).

Unfortunately, it seems that my predecessor gave an inaccurate picture to Parish councillors and residents. The Parish minutes from 2 February 2021 state that she 'has assured that County monies are secured' for the NMU, and in her own report in the Dry Drayton Parish News in February 2021 she states that 'you can be reassured that the funding is secured. Some of it is coming from Highways England [now National Highways] designated funds and members of the Highways and Transport Committee approved this allocation at its January meeting'.

A simple check of the papers for, and minutes of the Highways and Transport committee meeting on 19 January 2021 shows this is not what happened. The County Council had received some funding from National Highways to spend on a number of NMU schemes. However the amount received was not sufficient to fund them all. So the Highways committee selected some schemes which would receive the funding, which did not include Dry Drayton, and the remaining, unfunded schemes would have to seek funding by applying in the future.

My predecessor was a member of the Highways Committee and attended the meeting, approving the decision. In their briefing paper to the Parish Council in February, the County officer was clear that while they had been hopeful of further funding from National Highways, it had never been guaranteed.

The future

Fortunately, and despite the difficulties around land acquisition, the County Council remains committed to pursuing the scheme. Funding for this kind of scheme, like major roads or significant capital schemes, would almost always come from Government. The theme of 'active travel' is important and increasingly funding streams are opening up, for example a new funding body Active Travel England (<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/active-travel-england>) which supports exactly this kind of scheme. However locally we have the Greater Cambridge Partnership, which holds £500m to spend on local transport infrastructure, who are planning an NMU along Scotland Road.

Along with District Council colleagues I am pursuing the possibility that we may both 'join up' the NMUs and get funding for the Oakington Road NMU in the process. I will report on progress on this in future editions.

What's happening in the next few months....

- Announcement by the Government of the East West Rail route
- Publication of the detailed findings from the consultation on the Sustainable Travel Zone
- Outcome of Local Highways Improvement applications

Please don't hesitate to get back to me with any issues or queries: edna.murphy@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Oakington Road Bus Shelter survey

Dry Drayton Parish Council has made provision in its 2023-24 budget to carry out work on the Oakington Road bus shelter and would like you to express your preference on the available options for the bus shelter. All responses are anonymous. The three options we have are:

Option 1 — Remove the bus shelter

Option 2 — Repair and refurbish the bus shelter

Option 3 — Do nothing for now

Note: Options 1 and 2 will cost broadly the same. Option 3 is likely to incur a significant future cost and the shelter will continue to be an eyesore.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey. *Stephen Aldersley, Chair, Dry Drayton Parish Council*

Please indicate your preferred option:

- Option 1 — Remove the bus shelter
- Option 2 — Repair and refurbish the bus shelter
- Option 3 — Do nothing for now

The survey will also be available through the following channels:

Online via Dry Drayton Parish Council www.drydraytonpc.org.uk

Online via DryDrayton.net <https://drydrayton.net>

Directly online at <https://forms.gle/3mdsrwB3r1qu1uCW7>

Dry Drayton People Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/262736127959062> (NB: comments posted on Facebook will not be treated as valid responses to the survey.)

Deadlines:

Hard copies should be posted through the letterbox at 5 High Street **by 5 pm on 21 May 2023.**

The survey will be open to online responses **until 23:59 on 21 May 2023.**

District Councillors' report

Cost of Living

A further cost of living support package for residents, worth more than £200,000, has been agreed by South Cambridgeshire District Council.

The plans include a roadshow of cost of living talks, increasing awareness of Council Tax support, more free energy saving appliances and the creation of a South Cambridgeshire Sustainable Food Network.

The roadshow of cost of living talks, organised in partnership with parish councils, will see a rolling programme of events designed to highlight support available to the most vulnerable. This will aim to improve reach and uptake of grants and other support services that many don't know are available to them.

Are you claiming for Reductions in Council Tax?

A large-scale Council Tax communications campaign

will take place to increase the number of eligible people who are aware of, and subsequently claim, financial help towards their Council Tax bill e.g. a reduction is available if you are a carer. Ring 01954 713000 for more details.

Free energy-saving appliances to those residents who are only just about managing

South Cambridgeshire District Council's scheme to provide free energy-saving appliances to those residents who are only just about managing will be expanded into next winter. So far this winter, more than 400 South Cambridgeshire residents have been provided with either a slow cooker, electric blanket, or both by the Council. A charitable giving fund, which residents who are able to can donate towards as part of this scheme, has raised nearly £2,000 and remains open. Ring South Cambs District Council on 01954 713000 for more details.

District Councillors' report

£1.7 million Government funding to continue work to decarbonise Council homes

The Council has successfully bid for £1.7 million from the Government's Social Housing Decarbonisation Fund. This funding will go towards some of the projects we have already started to improve the fabric of our Council homes. It will also support other measures being put in place to help the Council achieve its own and the Government's Net Zero targets.

Make Things Right campaign to empower social tenants to make complaints

On 6 March, the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing & Communities, Rt Hon Michael Gove MP, launched the government's 'Make Things Right' advertising campaign which urges social housing tenants to complain about substandard housing.

Residents are being encouraged to make a complaint to their landlord in the first instance and then escalate to the Housing Ombudsman if they are unhappy with the

landlord's final response website: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/make-things-right-introduction-and-how-to-help>

More on East West Rail (EWR)

We now know that the government will announce the route of EWR in May. EWR has failed to categorically say that it would be electrified.

A14 Tree Planting

Thanks to Edna Murphy, our own County Councillor, we now have a commitment from National Highways regarding the replanting of thousands of trees along the A14 standard trees be replanted to replace the dead ones. National Highways will look after them for 5 years.

Cllr Corinne Garvie 07780 932267
cllr.garvie@scambs.gov.uk

Cllr Richard Stobart 07950 934793



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