

## **Report for Little Abington Parish Council – July 2017**

### **City Deal**

Following on from the A1307 Local Liaison Forum (LLF) workshops last month, the data has now been collated and will be presented, along with another look at the corridor as a whole, at a final workshop of the LLF before the next public meeting. This will be in September, the date TBC. As a Parish Council you are invited to go to these to have input, so please do take up this invitation if you can.

### **Highways**

The way the LHI is set up has now changed, as the County Council refused to increase council tax at their budget this year, we now have to make cuts across the board, with the Highways department not being immune to this. There will now be another cost incorporated to each LHI bid, the officer's time. This isn't an enormous fee, but it's to cover the feasibility work that the officer undertakes whilst aiding with a bid, it's meant to decrease the total number of bids across the county (as there were many) and also to increase the quality of bids that are submitted. There is a new website that details how much each scheme will roughly cost, along with the officers cost, to give an idea of the cost to you before proceeding. Bids are now open for next year, closing date in September 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Highways open days are scheduled for September, but no official date has yet been set.

### **Children's Centre Consultation**

More bad news, again in an attempt to make savings due to a reduced budget, the County Council is proposing to 're-designate' (their term) certain children's centres around the County, including the one in Linton. Re-designation essentially means changing the use of the centre so that it will be less frequently used as for this purpose and therefore not funded from the County as such. These are in place to help the people most in need of the support and there is a lot of cross-party uproar at the County about this. If you as a Parish would like to comment on the consultation you can do so here -

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/children-s-centres/children-s-centres-consultation/>

### **New Committee**

We've previously reported that a new committee has been formed at the County, Communities and Partnerships. This is meant to engage the local communities that the County serves. We, in South Cambs, now have an 'Area Champion' who is a Councillor called Lina Joseph from Hardwick. So if that name pops up, that's her role.

### **Pharmacy**

Some concerned residents in Linton have been in touch with me regarding the livelihood of the village pharmacy. This stems from an independent pharmaceutical company touting for business to home deliver prescriptions in return for a fee. Rest assured this isn't Linton Health Centre or the village Pharmacy doing this, they are perfectly happy operating in the same way they always have done up to now. So I'd kindly ask that people continue to use the village pharmacy and the dispensary at the Health Centre as usual and not any other company, as I'm sure we all support local business.

### **Parking**

Cambs Police has set up a website dedicated to reporting parking issues in villages, pretty straight forward – <http://tinyurl.com/SouthCambs-Parking>

### **Free Childcare**

You may be aware that there the free childcare entitlement is to be extended to 3 and 4 year olds from September this year. To check entitlement of this go to [www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childcare](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/childcare) You need to reconfirm eligibility every 3 months to prove entitlement.