

## Spaldwick Parish Council Meetings – February 2021

### COVID 19

The County Council would like to remind people that if they need help during this pandemic, they should go onto either the County or District website's or phone the Countywide Hub on 034504552. Free school meals will be provided to those eligible during the February Half term

In the last seven days up to the 13th February the number of new people tested positive for Covid 19 in Spaldwick and Kimbolton area was 21 which gives a rate of 323 per 100,000 of population.

The latest information I have on the Coronavirus in Huntingdonshire for the period from 11th February to 18<sup>th</sup> February, there were 222 new cases over the last seven days. Which equates to 141 cases per 100,000 of population. This is a decrease of 25% compared to the previous seven days. There were 9 more deaths in the last seven days, which were within 28 days of a positive test.

The County Council has approved its budget for the next financial year, which will see 20 million extra spent on footpath maintenance, ie repairs and resurfacing. Along with an additional 2.73 million will be spent on measures to prevent flooding and improve local biodiversity. This will include new measures such as rapid gully cleaning at all known risk sites and better verge maintenance on rural roads avoiding peak flowering times. Plus a series of initiatives to provide both active and practical support for local communities to address flooding.

The County Council is proportion of Council Tax will rise by 1.99% with an additional 1% on Adult Social Care precept. The remaining budget gap is proposed to be filled by deploying 3.8million from the Councils Transformation Fund, thus keeping the increase to a minimum to residents

The District Council's Budget Meeting is next Wednesday Night 24<sup>th</sup> February at which it is proposed to put forward a Nil increase in Council Tax Budget

The Fire Authority has agreed a 2% increase in its Council Tax Precept.

With regard to Flooding HDC & CCC are engaging with other organisations to review the recent flooding events. To identify what could have been done better to support our communities in the event of a flood and what actions can be taken to reduce the risk of flooding

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact me

Kind regards

Ian

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Spaldwick