

Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting – July 23

I can inform you that HDC's Joint administration Cabinet, made up of Lib Dem, Independent, Labour and Green councillors, on Tuesday 18th July agreed unanimously to introduction a Green Bin Subscription service from 01 April 24.

The cost of the Green Bin tax will be £57.50 per annum and £30.00 per annum for each additional bin up to 4.

From the 01 April 24 you will be required to put all food waste into your Grey Bin, as HDC cannot charge to collect, you can also put Green waste in the Grey bin as some residents already do.

This will lead to more waste going to landfill and thus higher Methane emissions, more vehicles on the roads leading to more pollution and congestion at HWRC's. It may also lead to greater fly tipping and more bonfires. Which fly's in the face of the Council's decision, to call a Climate Emergency as well as higher costs to HDC from the disposal of the waste.

This is a regressive tax on residents as no account is taken of the ability to pay. This tax will affect the poorest, those living in lower band properties, the elderly and resident's living alone to a greater extent.

There is a proposition to send waste freighters around the District on Saturday's to collect garden waste at certain collection points, from people. We don't yet know were and how frequent the collections would be in villages.

I would like to thank those residents that attended the Ting Roadshow on Friday 2nd June.

Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service are currently preparing its next plan for 2024 -28 and are seeking the views from people across Cambridgeshire to help shape how resources are used across the county.

The plan will identify the fire and rescue related risks in the County and how the Service will mitigate them, as well as the opportunities that exist to continue improving services to local communities

You can access the survey at <https://www.cambsfire.gov.uk/about-us/consultations>

The survey is open until the End of July 23 and will take 10-15 minutes to complete

Three £50 shopping vouchers are up for grabs for completing the survey.

With regard to the proposed Congestion charge in Cambridge, the Greater Cambridge Partnership are reviewing the findings of the consultation which saw 58%

against the charge. It is currently expected that the GCP will present its proposals on a Congestion charge to the October County Council meeting.

The consultation showed residents did not like the Addenbrookes, the Royal Papworth and Rosie Maternity Hospitals being in the zone, as well as charging those residents who were leaving the zone to get to work, along with the cost and size of the zone.

With regard, to next year's Local Highways Improvement Bids Parishes will be able to submit applications from Friday 27th October 23 until noon on Friday 12th January 24. The County Council will undertake feasibility studies between February and May.

The LHI Panel meetings will be in June /July 24. With the report to Committee in September 24.

It looks as if there will be another opportunity next year to bid for a 20mph schemes, although last year's applications will still be on the list. I have asked for a copy of the ranking list of schemes already submitted. Future LHI bids for Buffer zones will receive a higher score.

The County Council has this week launched its Cambridgeshire Priorities Capital Fund, which is a million pound fund. The fund is open for Stage One (Expression of Interest) applications. The fund is open to Parish Councils, community organisations and public bodies. etc The fund will award grants of up to £40,000 to support with the capital costs needed by an organization to make a community building or to make an existing community asset better.

All proposals will need to demonstrate that they can contribute to at least three of the County Council's seven ambitions. The deadline for submission of an Expression Of Interest is 24 September.

The Boundary Commission have submitted its Final Report to the Speaker and is to be laid before Parliament.

Spaldwick will become part of the new Huntingdon Constituency

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Spaldwick