

Spaldwick Parish Council Meeting – November 23

I am also pleased to report that our new Local Highways Officer Karen Southwell has started in her new role. It has been agreed that we should meet on a regular basis, approx. every six weeks.

Dan Wiggs is the new Public Rights of Way Officer for Huntingdonshire and has just started in the role. I had my first meeting with him on the 2nd November

I have received a large number, of complaints about weeds along the edges of our roads. Following a lot of complaints from Parishes, residents and members, particularly Conservative members. The Joint administration has decided to review its policy of not undertaking weed spraying at either its December or January meetings of the Highways & Transportation Committee.

The HDC Cabinet member for Street Cleansing, Cllr Simone Taylor, who is also a County Councillor and a member of the Joint Administration on the County Council, admitted at HDC's Full Council meeting that the authority was struggling to sweep the roads properly due to the weeds.

With regard, to next year's Local Highways Improvement Bids Parishes will be able to submit applications until 5pm 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.

As of January, Parishes will be able to apply again for a 20mph scheme for their village.

The Green Bin Tax will come into operation on 01 April 24, if you sign up to continue with the service early, residents will receive a discount, the cost will be £50 per annum instead of £57.50.

You will be able to take your green waste to a Waste Freighter on every 4th Saturday of the month in the morning this will be parked in the layby on the Old A604 towards Molesworth. This will be a free service. But will result in more vehicles on the roads, adding to pollution.

HDC will be holding a Climate Conversation Event on Saturday 18th November at Hinchbrooke Country Park for local residents. Which will take place from 9am to 3.30pm and is open to everyone and will be an activity based day, with space to talk about climate. There will be a range of activities on the day, including ways in which we can all lower our household impact on the environment as well as tips on how we can reduce our waste in the run up to Christmas.

The Fire Authority are proposing to close Kimbolton Fire station, so they can better resource St Neots Station on a Seven Day a week basis. The PC and residents will

be able to have their say after the 20th December if the proposal is passed at the next Fire Authority meeting.

Cllr Ian Gardener

County & District Councillor for Spaldwick