



March's parish e-bulletin – news and information from South Cambridgeshire District Council

Welcome to the latest parish e-bulletin. As in every edition, this one includes information that parish councils may want to discuss, important notices we want you to be aware of, as well as news from around the district.

1) Community Chest Grants 2015/16

The Community Chest grant scheme re-opens on 1 April. It is a first come, first served basis. There will be £72,000 available for community groups and parish councils to bid for in 2015/16, with the maximum award for each application being £1,500. Applications are assessed on a monthly basis. Details of how to apply and the funding criteria can be found at www.scambs.gov.uk/communitychest

Contact: Gemma Barron on Gemma.Barron@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713340

2) Parklife – 19 July 2015

Our free family fun day at Milton Country Park is taking place on Sunday 19 July. Organised in partnership with Cambridge Sports Lakes Trust, Parklife allows visitors to explore a variety of ways to improve their health and wellbeing and gives them the opportunity to try a range of sports with a view to inspiring them to be more active.

- Exclusive to this year's event there will be a Rugby Zone, part of the national [Festival of Rugby](#) marking the year that England hosts the Rugby World Cup
- There will be lots to do, see and try, such as paddleboarding, canoeing, kayaking and fishing on the lake. Plus archery, climbing, inflatables, dancing and an action packed cycling zone. Live entertainment and craft activities will also feature - something for everyone!
- Those interested in having a stall at the event must complete and return the [stallholder form](#).
- We are always seeking more volunteers to support the smooth running of the event

Contact: Clare Gibbons on Clare.Gibbons@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713290

3) Election 2015

All parish councils that are due to hold elections in May this year will have recently been contacted by the elections team with an offer to help to clerks if they require, along with a notice of the election to display in the village. Parish nominations close at 4pm on Thursday 9 April.

On Thursday 7 May we will also be running the parliamentary election along with those for a third of our district councillors.

Contact: Jo Cox on Jo.Cox@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713287



4) Community pubs event

On Wednesday 10 June a session titled 'Keeping pubs at the heart of village life' is being held at The Plough in Shepreth. The session will include:

- Diversification
- The Plough, the path to rejuvenation
- Marketing via social media
- Assets of Community Value listing, Article 4 Directions and permitted development rights
- How to fund a Community Buy-Out

If parish councils, residents or local pubs owners would like to attend the event please contact us.

Contact: Clare Gibbons on Clare.Gibbons@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713290

5) Renewable Energy Events

Find out about the practicalities and economics of renewable energy at two free upcoming events organised by the Sustainable Parish Energy Partnership.

- All about Renewable Heating – Wednesday 29 April, Coton Village Hall, 7.30 pm
- Saving with Solar PV – Thursday 14 May, Girton Baptist Church, 7.30 pm

More information can be found at: <https://www.scams.gov.uk/content/spep-events>

Contact: Siobhan Mellon on Siobhan.Mellon@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713395

6) Solid Wall Insulation funding offer extended

An offer of up to £6,000 per property towards the cost of solid wall insulation through the Council's Action on Energy scheme has been extended. The funding, which comes from government, is now available until the end of September on a first come, first served basis. To take up the offer or find out more, call Action on Energy on 0800 093 3303 or visit www.actiononenergy.net

Contact: Siobhan Mellon on Siobhan.mellon@scams.gov.uk or 01954 713395

7) Community Right to Challenge

The Community Right to Challenge provides a right for voluntary and community bodies, charities, town and parish councils to submit an Expression of Interest to run local authority services, where they believe they can do so differently and better. Expressions of interest can be submitted to the Council between 1 June and 31 July each year. More information can be found at

www.scams.gov.uk/content/community-right-challenge



Contact: Clare Gibbons on Clare.Gibbons@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713290

8) Neighbourhood Plan Area Designation - Gamlingay

On 3 February our Planning Portfolio Holder agreed to designate the Gamlingay Neighbourhood Area. Information about the Gamlingay designation, previously approved designations and general information about Neighbourhood Planning can be found at: <https://www.scambs.gov.uk/neighbourhood-planning>

Contact: Alison Talkington on Alison.Talkington@scambs.gov.uk or 01954 713182

9) Dates for your diary

Wednesday 15 July – Parish Planning Forum, 6.30pm to 8pm

Wednesday 14 October – Parish/Cabinet Liaison Meeting, 6.30pm to 7.45pm

Tuesday 8 December – Parish Planning Forum, 6.30pm to 8pm

Wednesday 16 March 2016 – Parish/Cabinet Liaison Meeting, 6.30pm to 7.45pm

These meetings will be held at South Cambridgeshire Hall, Cambourne Business Park