

Kirtling and Upend Parish Council

Chair: Richard Staunton
Clerk: Lisa Brent
Email: clerk@kirtlingandupend.co.uk

Parish Council Meeting

Members are summoned to attend the meeting to be held in Kirtling Village Hall on
Monday 26th January 2026 at 7pm

AGENDA

260126/01	Chairman's welcome and acceptance of apologies
260126/02	To receive any declarations of interest
260126/03	Public Forum Member of the public are allowed to speak on any item on the agenda for no more than 5 minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none">Mrs Kay Wadey
260126/04	Minutes of the meeting held on 24th November 2025
260126/05	Matters arising from previous meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">Village Gates – Response from I&PD Business Operations <i>The Asset Management, Design and Delivery team who usually undertake this work through the LHI scheme have confirmed that this can be done through Maintenance. This has been raised as 14372 and submitted to the Highway Maintenance Officer for review.</i>
260126/06	Planning applications Members are advised to check the ECDC Planning Portal before meeting https://pa.eastcambs.gov.uk/online-applications/ Councillors will have noted the following application and decision: 25/00321/FUL – circulated via email given close date of 12 Jan 26 Provision of Double Garage and hardstanding Innisfree Bradley Road Kirtling Newmarket Suffolk CB8 9JB 25/00371/FUL - circulated via email on 16 Jan 2026 To build a purpose-built Wildlife Veterinary Hospital including residential facilities Land Off Water Lane Long Acre Kirtling Suffolk Decision: Refused
260126/08	Footpaths & watercourses
260126/09	To note correspondence received Parishioners <ul style="list-style-type: none">Email from Christien Ellis re: positioning of the new terminal signs on Woodditton Road – we await the installation date

ECDC

Draft Minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 20 November 2025 have been published online and are available via the link below:

[Full Council 20/11/2025 | East Cambridgeshire District Council](#)

- Finance & Assets Committee 27.11.25
- The Decision List for the meeting of the Finance and Assets Committee held on 27 November 2025 has been published on the Council's website at the link below.
- [Finance & Assets Decision List](#)

The Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

Public Spaces Protection Order Vehicle Related Anti-Social Behaviour

The Council is seeking the views of the public and community representatives on the proposal to implement Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) to address Vehicle Related Anti-Social Behaviour.

On 17 November 2025, the Council approved the draft PSPO; and approved the proposals for public consultation on the draft PSPO. The Committee documents (agenda item 7) are located [here](#). The draft PSPO Vehicle Related Anti-Social Behaviour is located [here](#).

Consultation will commence on 12 January 2026, and close on 16 February 2026 and will be accessible on the council's [website](#) and available to view at the East Cambridgeshire District Council Offices at The Grange, Nutholt Lane, Ely, Cambridgeshire, CB7 4EE.

East Cambs Parish Council Conference - East Cambs Parish Conference will take place on Thursday 12 February 2026 at The Beeches, Isleham.

[Finance & Assets Committee](#) on Thursday 29 January 2026 at 4:30 pm

[Operational Services Committee](#) on Monday 26 January 2026 at 4:30 pm

Rural Settlement List 2025/26 Consultation 8 December 2025 - 8 March 2026

Audit Committee Decision list has been published online and is available via the link below:

[Audit Committee 20/01/2026 East Cambridgeshire District Council](#)

CALPAC

MHCLG announcement on local elections in LGR areas – see attached letter

Royal Garden Party – CAPALC has been allocated 4 tickets (4 tickets means 2 pairs) for Tuesday 12th May 2026. The deadline for submission to the office is Monday, 16 February

CCC

Cambridgeshire County Council has now published the finalised version of the proposal it will be submitting to Government – “Two councils, One fairer future” (also known as Option A) – and an accompanying media release.

You can view these here:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Option A submission • LGR Background • News Release
260126/10	<p>Finance matters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To authorise bank transactions and note current bank balances.
260126/15	<p>Councillors Forum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Edge's January and February update can be found appended below • Cllr James Lay PC Chair meeting 12 March
260126/16	<p>Clerks report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following email agreement, a Precept claim of two payments of £6348.97 has been submitted. • Hedge and verge • Playground maintenance • Planted 20 fruit trees • Defib (Cllr Rickcord) • Register of Interest Form
260126/17	To confirm date of the next meeting as Monday 23 rd February 2026 at 7pm.

Lisa Brent (Clerk)
Email: clerk@kirtlingandupend.co.uk

.....
Chair - R Staunton

.....
Date

Appendix 1

MONTHLY REPORT – Feb 2026

As we progress through winter, many will be navigating the cost of living as their fuel bills increase - *please refer back to my previous articles for advice and support*. This is also the worst time of the year for our roads as weather conditions add to existing road quality. There have understandably been many news programmes on this, as well as a new government rating system placing Cambridgeshire along with most areas as 'amber'.

The drive of the council administration is to move Cambridgeshire back to a preventative, rather than a reactive state and within the scoring system we are 'green' on the funding we are putting in to achieve this. The funding gap is though still considerable, so it will take a bit of time to move and we along with other areas continue to push government for better funding.

For those wanting a wider understanding on this, please refer to <https://substack.com/home/post/p-178301363>

What can I do?

Although we have a council officer inspecting our roads weekly, please don't assume they can identify ever last pothole. If you see a concern on roads or pavements, please use the 'Report It' site to make sure it is not missed. This only takes a few minutes, but be sure to take a photo and capture the location. <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/en-gb>

Kingsway

A new targeted consultation is open until 4 February, which I will continue to engage with in support of our local environment and communities <https://kingswaysolarfarm.co.uk/>

Public health strategic plan

The plan for the next five years outlines how the council will help to improve the health and wellbeing of residents and ensure people receive the support they need; including offering the best start in life, making Cambridgeshire a healthy place to live and work, addressing complex needs, and prioritising the prevention of ill-health.

Some of the key areas of work led by Public Health will include:

1. Mobilising the Healthy Schools service to deliver health improvement education and interventions for school-aged children and young people.
2. Working with partners and planners to improve road safety, increase active travel, and improve access to services for rural communities.
3. Equipping professionals and the public with the skills and knowledge to prevent suicide and improve suicide bereavement support services.
4. Addressing barriers to employment and developing workplace programmes to engage employers and increase access to work across the county, targeting areas with high levels of low pay and low skilled jobs.
5. Developing an alcohol harm prevention strategy and strengthening prevention and early support.

Please do continue to message me with any issues you may need my help with.

Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141, jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

Appendix 2

Cllr Jonny Edge

MONTHLY REPORT – Jan 2026

FULL COUNCIL

The full council met on Tuesday 16 December, to receive annual reports from the Health & Wellbeing Board and Integrated Care Partnership; the Audit & Accounts Committee; and the Pension Fund Board and Committee.

The council also agreed to

1. Appoint a councillor ‘member champion’ to advocate for local care leavers.
2. Work with district and parish councils and the Combined Authority to determine overall management and delivery arrangements for all bus infrastructure, including clarifying responsibility for the management and commissioning of advertising on bus infrastructure assets (bus shelters).
3. Ask Cambridgeshire Culture (a delegated Board of the council’s Children & Young People Committee) to develop a culture and arts strategy for the County Council, serving children as well as adults.
4. Support the UK rejoining the European Single Market at the earliest practical opportunity; and ask the Combined Authority to assess the ongoing impacts of Brexit on the Cambridgeshire economy, develop a local action plan to seize opportunities from re-engagement with Europe, and explore ways the Council can support those most affected by the challenges arising from Brexit.
5. Bring to Highways & Transport Committee a policy for design of new busways which allows for immediate modification during the delivery stage if safety requirements alter during dialogue with the regulator.

STRATEGY RESOURCES & PERFORMANCE

Business plan and budget

The Committee met in December to consider the development of the Council’s business plan and budget for 2026/27.

The County Council must set a legal budget to deliver public services for Cambridgeshire, including social care, highways, education, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), waste disposal, public health, child protection, libraries and community services.

The draft business plan and budget discussed at committee sets out the latest financial position for the year ahead (2026/27). Demand for council services is growing as people live longer, often with multiple long-term conditions that need support from health and social care, and more children and young people are being identified with special educational needs and mental health needs.

Nearly two thirds of the County Council’s spending go toward social care, while other major areas of spending include Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), home to school transport, and highways maintenance.

Since 2019, the council has experienced

- 122% increase in the costs of providing home to school transport
- 76% increase in learning disability related care costs
- 50% increase in the costs of providing care for older people
- 42% increase in the costs of supporting children with SEND
- 99% increase in the costs of supporting children in care.

For the current financial year (2025/26) these pressures are resulting in a forecast overspend of about £10M and a deficit for SEND costs of nearly £100M.

For 2026/27 insufficient Government funding means that once again difficult decisions will be needed. The Council has had to identify £40M in savings or extra income for the year ahead. At the time the committee met, £6.4M of this gap remained to be found. The gap must be closed completely by the time the Council sets its final business plan and budget in February.

Budget timetable

The draft business plan and budget proposals for 2026/27 will be scrutinised by the council’s committees at their meetings in January. Any feedback will be presented to the Strategy, Resources & Performance

Committee on 29 January. At that meeting councillors will also consider the results of the second phase of the council's budget consultation survey and the detail of the Local Government Finance Settlement from Government announced in December, before making final recommendations to the Full Council on 10 February.

ADULTS & HEALTH

Public health strategic plan

The Committee has endorsed key areas of work the council's Public Health team will focus on over the next five years to deliver priorities set out in the Public Health Strategic Plan 2025/30.

The plan outlines how the council will help to improve the health and wellbeing of residents and ensure people receive the support they need; including offering the best start in life, making Cambridgeshire a healthy place to live and work, addressing complex needs, and prioritising the prevention of ill-health.

Some of the key areas of work led by Public Health will include:

1. Mobilising the Healthy Schools service to deliver health improvement education and interventions for school-aged children and young people.
2. Working with partners and planners to improve road safety, increase active travel, and improve access to services for rural communities.
3. Equipping professionals and the public with the skills and knowledge to prevent suicide and improve suicide bereavement support services.
4. Addressing barriers to employment and developing workplace programmes to engage employers and increase access to work across the county, targeting areas with high levels of low pay and low skilled jobs.
5. Developing an alcohol harm prevention strategy and strengthening prevention and early support.

Smoking cessation

In 2024/25, Cambridgeshire met the national ambition to treat five per cent of smokers annually, with 5.02 per cent of smokers setting a quit date in 2024/25. This compares to 4.18 per cent in 2023/24 and 3.38 per cent in 2022/23.

ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT

Park & Ride solar panels help to power Addenbrooke's

Solar panels at Babraham Road Park & Ride have been connected to the grid and creating green electricity to power electric vehicles and Addenbrooke's Hospital. A private wire link the panels to the hospital, allowing the two sites to mutually supply electricity to each other.

The scheme powers 35 new EV charging points at the Park & Ride, plus lighting and CCTV at the site. Surplus energy is sent to the hospital; or if the panels are not generating enough energy for the Park & Ride, it is supplied by the hospital.

Cambridgeshire Digital Inclusion Directory

The Cambridgeshire Digital Inclusion Directory is a practical guide designed to help residents get online, access devices, and build essential digital skills. Developed by Cambridge Online, Connecting Cambridgeshire, and Cambridge City Council, the directory features trusted local organisations offering free support with digital access, equipment, and training. Residents are encouraged to pick up a printed copy from libraries or community hubs, or download it at

<https://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/about/help-to-getonline/digital-inclusion-directory-2025/>

HIGHWAYS

Local Highway Improvements

A reminder that applications for the 2026/2027 LHI round close at 5:00PM on Friday 16 January. See [Applying for a Local Highway Improvement \(LHI\)](#) web page. These applications will then be assigned to an officer and open feasibility conversations with the council dependent on whether they are complex or non-complex.

Application received after the deadline will not be considered for the 2026/27 cycle.

Winter gritting

The winter service has been in operation since 1 November and will continue until 15 April. Several days of continuous low temperatures triggered treatment of secondary gritting routes on Friday 2 January. Gritting information including maps of primary and secondary gritting routes at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-andparking/roads-and-pathways/gritting-roads-cycleways-and-paths>

NEWS FROM THE COMBINED AUTHORITY

Tiger Pass

The Combined Authority has had to turn to Cambridgeshire County Council to secure the future of the Tiger Pass until the end of March 2027. The pass is of huge benefit to many families, enabling young people to travel by bus for £1 per journey. The Mayor is calling on cash-strapped Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council to fund the shortfall.

The future of the Tiger Pass beyond March 2027 remains uncertain, however. The Government's intention is to remove the national fare cap from April 2027, which will increase the cost of the subsidy for each Tiger Pass ticket sold.

It is also important to remember that a Tiger Pass is only useful where there are buses to use it on; and many of our rural areas of Cambridgeshire have few if any buses.

Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141, jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk