(Appendix:B)

Ellington Parish Council Meeting – January 24

Happy New Year

Cambridgeshire County Councils New Public Rights of Way Officer, Dan Wiggs has agreed to visit Ellington on 01 February 24 to meet with the Parish Council and myself to look at the Rights of Way footpaths.

Regarding the Local Highways Improvement Bids, parishes have until 5pm On Friday 12th January 24 to submit their application.

The Mushroom Farm has had an Enforcement Notice served on it, which has been appealed. The County Council is now awaiting, for the Planning inspectorate to give a date as to when the appeal will be heard.

With regard to the Motocross Site, Grove Lane the County Council is looking to serve a Planning Contravention notice on the site.

The County Council is proposing a 4.99% increase in Council tax for 24/25 with a total of 2% of this dedicated to Adult Social Care Services. The CC has launched a budget consultation survey go to www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/budget-consultation-2024-5

The Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel is looking for enthusiastic individuals who are interested in becoming a co-opted independent member for the next four years. Being an independent member is an exciting opportunity to get involved in making suggestions for improving policing, community safety and crime issues across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. The Closing date for applications is the 12th January.

Get involved in Buy Nothing New Month – Its that time of year when many of us are making New Year Resolutions. So, this January why not try Buy Nothing New Month. The campaign is run by Keep Britain Tidy, the campaign challenges us to prevent and reduce waste, by making use of the things we already have.

Free Outdoor Learning experiences for disadvantaged young people at Grafham Water Centre after the County Council secured £42,375 of funding. The fully funded residential and day visits are being made available to groups of under-represented young people throughout January, February & March 24. The money has come from the UK Youth Charity. The places are going to groups such as young people living in poverty, young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) young carers and looked after young people. The Young people must be between 11 & 18 or up to 25 for those with SEND.

The Fire Authority are proposing the closure of 3 On Call Fire Stations one of which is Kimbolton, the other two being Manea & Sutton. The reason for this change is

because the Fire authority cannot attract sufficient staff to provide operational cover particularly during the day. The FA say they can only get cover for 2 days per week. The Fa would be looking to have a roaming fire engine covering the area of the Kimbolton Fire Station

The FA will be looking at the feasibility of this proposal in the New Year, to see if the proposals will deliver the improvements to the service the FA thinks it will. The FA will be consulting with residents in the areas most affected, listening to concerns and explaining the proposal in more detail with local data.

Cllr Ian Gardener

County Councillor for Ellington