

BG COLOUR RUN

Get ready for the biggest, most colourful event of the Burrough Green C of E Primary Academy PTA calendar! Come and take part in the BG Colour Run around the beautiful village green and enjoy a fun, family- friendly run filled with laughter, music and clouds of colour.

Saturday 27th June

Please scan the QR code below to launch the event website!



KNIT & NATTER

Every Monday from 1:30 to 3.30pm

In the Community Room at Sheriff's Court Burrough Green. All knitters or potential knitters are welcome.

Bring your own knitting or we can teach you to make squares for the local neonatal unit or knit for other charities. We have odd bits of wool, patterns and needles etc. There will be a small charge for refreshments.

Any donations of wool would be greatly appreciated.

ALL WELCOME



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the **Kitchen** Choir

.....is busy mixing up fresh repertoire for its next concert. Keep the date to enjoy a varied menu of musical treats!

Saturday  
30<sup>th</sup> May, 7.30pm,  
Taylor Hall,  
Dullingham

Tickets will go on sale in mid April,  
with proceeds going towards  
renovations at St. Mary's Church,  
Dullingham.

Look out for posters  
Don't miss it!

Save  
the  
Date!

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CHARLOTTE CANE MP -newsletter

Fixing Our Roads & Supporting Rural Households

Like many residents, I share the frustration with the state of our roads — it's something I experience myself every day.

One of the biggest challenges specific to our area is soil-affected roads. In our part of the world, many roads are built on peat-based soil that expands and contracts with the weather. This leads to cracking, sinking and rapid deterioration. Around 40% of the

county's roads are affected, and they can cost up to four times more to maintain than those built on stable ground.

This isn't just an issue for rural lanes. Some of our key routes used by commuters, farmers, businesses and emergency services — are among the worst affected.

Cambridgeshire County Council is taking action, including trialling longer-term solutions to properly rebuild and stabilise the most damaged roads. But the scale of the problem is far beyond what local council budgets can cover alone. The total cost of fixing these roads properly is estimated at around £500 million.

That's why I'm calling on the Government to step in with dedicated funding to help bring Cambridgeshire's soil-affected roads back up to the standard we deserve. If you'd like to support this campaign, please sign my petition here:

www.bit.ly/fixoursoilaffectedroads

Separately, I know many households locally rely on heating oil and are concerned about rising costs. I wrote to the Minister earlier this month to press for support, and while I welcome the Government's subsequent £53 million package, it does not go far enough.

Unlike households on the gas grid, those using heating oil have no price cap protection and remain exposed to global price spikes. I am continuing to push for stronger action — including a temporary VAT cut and a proper price cap — so rural families are not left behind.

As always, I will keep working to ensure our area gets a fair deal and the investment it needs.

If there's ever anything I can help you with, please do get in touch via charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk or +44 20 7362 1601. You can also keep up to date with my work through my fortnightly newsletter — sign up here: www.bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte

COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Local Government Reorganisation

When reading this, the government consultation will have closed, and we will have to wait until the summer to know the future of how our part of the world will be governed at local level. Thank you to everyone that has engaged with the process, responded to the consultation, and all the hard work undertaken by every parish council in representing the collective views of our area.

Budget

In February council passed the budget and business plan for 2026 to 2029. The proposals for a 'healthy, fair and sustainable Cambridgeshire', include record spending on roads, thousands of extra school places, and support for vulnerable residents.

The nearly £1.3 billion business plan and budget include several investments aligned with the council's three new ambitions.

Supporting a green and sustainable county

- An additional £20 million for highway maintenance.
- Delivery of the council's Climate Change and Environment Strategy.
- £11 million to upgrade Household Recycling Centres at Milton and March.

Enabling full and healthy lives for all

£14.7 million of additional funding for adult social care providers to help them manage rising costs and ensure care workers are paid the Real Living Wage, improving stability and quality for those who depend on care workers for their support.

Ensuring fairness and opportunity

Continuing holiday food vouchers until the end of summer 2026 for those children most in need, despite the Government withdrawing funding. Helping transition to new wider ranging of anti-poverty measures.

- 3,500 new primary school places, and £72 million over five years to increase secondary school places.
- £780,000 a year to run a children's residential home in South Cambridgeshire, along with continued funding for the Families First early intervention programme that helps keep more families together.
- More than £1.2 million will be invested in libraries and archives over the next two years.

Rising costs in social care and special educational needs are putting enormous pressure on council finances. These statutory services for our most vulnerable residents now account for by far the largest part of our budget. Despite these national pressures we are still managing to invest in key priorities.

Thousands of people depend on our roads and paths every day and residents tell us repeatedly that highways are their top concern. We are continuing record levels of investment in maintenance.

We will continue to challenge Government to recognise they are short-changing Cambridgeshire and to provide the right level of funding for services our residents deserve.

The plans include an increase of council tax by 4.99%, the maximum permitted by Government for county councils, as is the case in nearly all councils across England, and the level assumed by Government in setting its grant allocations. This will generate around £21 million in additional funding and help the council continue providing the essential services people rely on.

HIGHWAYS

Highways Committee, of which I am a member, passed this year's Capital Maintenance and Improvements Programme at the beginning of March. A third of the programme in East Cambridgeshire covers roads and footways in our division. This is a real step in the right direction, but I will continue to push for further work

next year in areas I strongly feel have wrongly missed out this time round.

Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141

jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

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**DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

**Bottisham Ward**

Licensing Committee 11 February

There was an item on a consultation to a proposal by the Government to transfer responsibility for taxi and Private Hire Vehicles to Local Transport Authorities (the Combined Authority in our area) to save money; however, the safety and the protection of the public or drivers was not considered.

Full Council 24 February

This was quite a long meeting and the budget for the forthcoming year was put forward.

The increase of £300,000 to the Mepal Crematorium contingency budget was brought forward from the last Finance and Assets meeting and was approved with the Chair's casting vote.

The Lib Dem & Independent group proposed in the budget for next year that funds should be given to:

- Establish Civil Parking Enforcement in the District (which 97% of other Councils have) to tackle the blatant illegal parking in most of our towns and villages,
- Encourage tourism in our District; the only tourism effort in the District is done by Ely City Council and is, obviously, Ely-biased,

- To increase the Environmental spending by £100,000,

- To help reinstate the Ely Citizen's Advice Bureau, restoring a much-needed independent advice service in Ely and taking some pressure off the CAB in Newmarket,

These proposals, which would have still been within budget and not require a rise in Council Tax, were defeated by the casting vote of the chair.

As you are probably aware, the District Council Tax remains the same.

Bins

The new bins will soon be delivered to residents; there will be information on the procedure to be followed how and when the new bins are to be used.

Surgery

It has not been possible to find a date in April for our evening surgery. However, we are always available on the telephone or via email. John has discovered that his landline is not working, so includes his mobile phone number instead.

*Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP*

*(charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk) 07976 607512 and*

*John Trapp (john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk)*

*07942 685599*

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DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT

Wood Ditton Ward

Highways

The poor workmanship of repairs continues to be a huge issue, as the standard is poor and is wasting Council Taxpayers money. The County Council needs to quickly improve this issue, to protect our money.

If you believe there is a pothole or road defect that requires work, please contact me and I will raise this with Highways and aim to get it done to address the neglect that has happened over the last 5 years.

Council Reorganisation

The Statutory Consultation ended on 26th March, so we now await the decision, probably in the summer.

Council Tax

East Cambridgeshire District Council met on 24th February and voted for a nil percentage increase, which is the 13th year in succession that East Cambs has frozen its part of the Council Tax bill.

The Ellesmere Centre Post Office

The trustees of the Centre, continue to work with the Post Office management to get the Ellesmere Post Office open for business. This is going to take some time, but we are working for residents to get the service reinstated. I will update accordingly.

Forest City

The proposal that has been floated across social media of a new city of 400,000 houses between Newmarket and Haverhill has caused concern amongst some residents.

It has been floated by two individuals without any logical plan. They are trying to get traction through social media and having attended a meeting held by one of the individuals in Kirtling recently, this is opposed by most residents.

I will continue to be vigilant around this proposal to ensure that our wonderful countryside is not ruined. Please contact me if there is any issue concerning you.

I have not done surgeries previously, because I am able to visit residents or meet them, wherever is suitable for them, rather than making residents come to me. I am available to all.

Alan Sharp

East Cambridgeshire District Councillor - Woodditton Ward

VILLAGE WEBSITES

- www.westleywaterless.com
- www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk
- www.brinkleyparishcouncil.gov.uk
- carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk

They contain information on the facilities of each village and back issues of Village Voice newsletter and the adverts.

RADDESLEY BENEFICE WEBSITE

On the website you can find out more about our churches, services, what's on and useful information about baptisms, funerals and weddings; www.raddesley.com

VILLAGE HALLS

Brinkley, Burrough Green and Westley Waterless have excellent village halls, all beautifully refurbished over the last few years; and all available for hire at reasonable rates.

Information on their facilities and availability can be found by contacting them on:

Brinkley Memorial Hall - Contact: Susie Shuter on 01638 508729 : 07836 656643

Burrough Green Reading Room - Please contact Joanne Harrison on 01638 508888

E mailing bgreadingroom@yahoo.com

www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk

Westley Waterless Village Hall - For more information please go to

www.westleywaterless.com/hall

ELLESMERE ARTS PRESENTS

'ALLO 'ALLO 2

'The Camembert Caper'

at The Ellesmere Centre, Stetchworth
on Thursday 14th, Friday 15th & Saturday 16th May
at 7.30 pm £12

Tickets on sale in the Ellesmere Centre Village Shop

DULLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB

Thursday 9th April 2026 at 8pm
The Taylor Hall, Dullingham CB8 9XE

**Come & enjoy a fun evening
to Celebrate our 24th Anniversary**
With a demonstration by Brenda Tubb
entitled
'Many Happy Returns '

Admission £8
Includes Tea/Coffee and biscuits
Raffle

The Raffle will include all the arrangements made on the evening

Please contact Lesley Bird
Tel: 01638 507658 or 07786 817154

Next Meeting 14th May 2026 - Demonstration by Wayne Bailey.

