

VILLAGE VOICE

BRINKLEY.....BURROUGH GREEN.....CARLTON.....WESTLEY WATERLESS

MARCH 2026

BRINKLEY COFFEE AND CAKES

MONDAY 9th & 23rd March 2026

10.30 am to 12.00 noon

at Brinkley Memorial Hall



Please join us for Tea, Coffee and Cake and an opportunity to catch up with old friends and meet new ones.

Any Queries: Caroline Egar - 01638 507418

07976 250961

BRINKLEY MEMORIAL HALL

QUIZ NIGHT,

Friday, 20th March 2026

7pm for 7.30 start

£15 per person to include a delicious 2 course meal of cassoulet (sausage casserole), baked potato and veg followed by apple cake and custard.

Bar and Raffle

Book your team(s) of 6 or come along and join another team to make up numbers.

It's always a great night out.

To book please contact/text

Franca on 07765 435776.

IN AID OF BRINKLEY MEMORIAL HALL



EASTER TEA

GOOD FRIDAY 3rd APRIL

3 - 4.30 pm

BRINKLEY MEMORIAL HALL

Come and join us
for TEA - HOT CROSS BUNS

HOMEMADE EASTER CAKES FOR SALE

GAMES - RAFFLE

*** CHOCOLATE TOMBOLA ***

ALL AGES WELCOME

Free entry

In aid of St. Mary's Church,
Brinkley



RECYCLING

Carlton & Willingham Green - WEDNESDAYS :

Black bin - 4th & 18th March 2026.

Green & Blue- 11th & 25th March

Brinkley, Burrough Green, Westley Waterless -
MONDAYS

Black sacks weekly.

Blue Lid - 9th & 23rd March

Green Lid - 2nd & 16th March

MOBILE LIBRARY



The Mobile Library will be at
BURROUGH GREEN by the BUS STOP
on 3rd THURSDAY of each month at
3.50 - 4.10pm

BRINKLEY Memorial Hall on the 4th THURSDAY of
each month between 1.10pm - 1.50pm.

They stock a great selection of books for all
ages, plus NHS hearing aid batteries. They
can even check and replace the ferrules on
walking sticks.



Make use of this wonderful resource.

POSTIE - CAROL

Our lovely post lady Carol, who has delivered our post
for many years in Brinkley, Willingham Green & Carlton
is retiring at the end of March. She is always so kind,
and helpful, keeps an eye on people and has a friendly
word for everyone.

It would be nice to show our appreciation in some way,
and perhaps present her with a gift, at one of the
Brinkley Coffee mornings in April.

Please contact me on 01638 507495, or via the Village
Voice e-mail - villagevoicenewsletter@btinternet.com

Alternatively come along to one of the March Coffee
Mornings in Brinkley Memorial Hall to let me know your
thoughts.

Trish

BRIDGE AFTERNOON and GAMES EVENING

Sheriff's Court in Burrough Green host a Games
Evening every Tuesday evening from 7pm.

Come along and play Scrabble, Rummikub, Upwords,
Boggle or Mahjong for example. No expertise
required! Tea & biscuits included. £2 ALL WELCOME



They also hold a Bridge session on a
Tuesday afternoon and would love some
new players, experienced or wanting to
learn to play. (Kathie 07923 526555)

**UNDER 25?
Live in
Brinkley?**

**DO YOU NEED
UP TO £500 FOR
A PROJECT?**

The **Elizabeth March Charity** helps young people like you fund projects for school, college, apprenticeships or university.

We consider all sorts of projects, but they need to have some **educational** purpose.

For example:

- pay for a class trip
- buy special learning equipment and materials such as books and IT
- help you with course fees
- fund your transition to college or university

This is how it works:

- **You email us** and explain what you would like the money for - give us details.
- **We decide** if we can support you and how much we can afford to give you. This could be up to a maximum of £500.
- If your project matches the aims of the charity, we give you the funds and **you complete your project**.
- **You send us details of how you spent the money** – we expect you to show evidence of what you did with it.

Not sure if your idea is suitable? Have any questions?

Before you apply, just email the Charity's Trustees (Belinda Hull, Judith Haste, Marina Ballard and Agnès Aubert) at elizabethmarchbrinkley@gmail.com.

We can consider applications at any time.

Email us your idea now:

elizabethmarchbrinkley@gmail.com

SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING

**Do you love dancing?
Why not try Scottish country dancing.
It's great fun, excellent exercise and you
don't need a partner!**

**If you'd like to give it a try, come and join
our friendly group of dancers who meet
each Monday between 2.00pm and 4.00pm
at Great Bradley Village Hall**

Beginners are very welcome

If you are interested and would like to know
more, please contact Diane Fraser

cambridge.rscds@gmail.com or have a chat with

Helen Smith 01440 783278

or Pauline Broad 01440 783215

FOR SALE

4 WHEELED WALKING AID

With seat and bag

£30

Contact John on 07900 282206

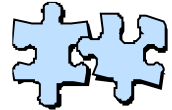
(Carlton)

BOOK AND JIGSAW EXCHANGE - BRINKLEY



Please pop into the church porch to use
the book and jigsaw exchange.

Feel free to borrow a
book or jigsaw and return it when
you have finished or replace it with
another.



Donations of clean, readable modern or classic novels
and auto/biographies would be greatly appreciated.
Complete jigsaws only please. Please seal the boxes
so pieces don't get lost.

Any questions please email
denisehrebenaik@yahoo.com

DULLINGHAM COMMUNITY LUNCH

Every first Tuesday of the month, 12 -2pm, at the
Taylor Hall, Dullingham.

This is a free lunch, although we do ask for a donation.
So come along and meet your neighbours. If you have
any allergies or if you want any further information,
or would like to volunteer, contact me on 01638
507736 - Ann Johnson

NEWS FROM BURROUGH GREEN PARISH COUNCIL

A Thank You to the Burrough Green MVAS Volunteers
and Congratulations to the New Speed Watch Group.

The Parish Council would like to extend its sincere
thanks to the dedicated village volunteers who give
their time to move and manage the MVAS (Mobile
Vehicle Activated Sign) units around the village. By
regularly relocating these signs, our volunteers help
ensure they remain effective in encouraging drivers to
slow down and take extra care on our roads. Their
efforts play an important role in improving road safety
for everyone, and we are extremely grateful for their
continued commitment.

Burrough Green and Burrough End Speed Watch Group

We are also delighted to congratulate the new Village
Speed Watch Group, who are now fully trained and
operational. This is a fantastic achievement and a
great example of the community coming together to
make a positive difference. The group will help support
the ongoing use and management of speed-monitoring
equipment, further strengthening our efforts to keep
the village safe.

If you would like to get involved or find out more about
volunteering with the speed watch group, please email
Councillor George Emms

george.emms@burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk.

New volunteers are always welcome, and full training
and support is provided.

Thank you once again to everyone who contributes
their time and energy to making our village a safer
place to live.

Karen Peck PSLCC

Clerk & RFO Burrough Green Parish Council

PETER & RUTH LLOYD TRUST

FINAL CALL - applications for pupils starting university in September 2026 are still invited. Normally one scholarship is awarded each year to the amount of £1000.

Broadly speaking the degree course should be from one of the following:- Architecture, Engineering, Geography, History, Law, Mathematics, Sciences, Education, Medicine, Nursing and Veterinary Medicine. But all will be considered.

The applicant should be living in one of the parishes bordering the old RAF Wrattling Common airfield - Great & Little Thurlow, West Wickham, Carlton cum Willingham, West Wrattling, Weston Colville and Withersfield. The award is intended to be of assistance in the purchase of books, materials, equipment etc. The final decision and award will be made immediately after 'A' Level results & University offer are confirmed.

For further information about the trust and award please contact: Jonathan Drury 01223 290087

For an application form please apply via email to: peter.ruthlloydtrust@sky.com

The application form & supporting documents must be received by 5th April 2026.

BRINKLEY RED LION

Are we seeing the early signs of Spring? Bulbs in the garden and warmer weather, there is positivity in front of us!



We have a challenging month ahead of us at the pub as we wait for some chef recruitment, but there's a plan in place so we will still be trading 7 days, on our usual hours. Do please come down and join us for drinks or a meal at any time.

We have a couple of notable events in March, with **Mother's Day on Sunday 15th**, when we will be adding a roast lamb option alongside our usual pork and beef. We are also doing a **Burger Night on Friday 20th** so do please get your bookings made soon.

The new year has seen us make a real effort on social media and online presence including reviews, so do please interact with us where possible and we would be hugely grateful for any google reviews as well.

I appreciate the amazing support we have had over the first couple of months of the year; do please keep it coming and let me know if there are any suggestions for improvement.

There is now a notice board to the right of the bar in the pub, so do please put any relevant leaflets on the board to advertise upcoming local events or other local interests.

George

www.redlionbrinkley.com

info@redlionbrinkley.com redlion_brinkley

01638 650879

FROM THE ELLESMERE CENTRE

SAVE OUR POST OFFICE

Please Sign our petition to stop the closure of our village Post Office!

This is an important step in protecting a service that matters to all of us, both now and for future generations. By adding your name, you are helping to show how strongly people value this vital village asset and sending a clear message that it deserves to remain at the heart of our community for years to come. <https://c.org/LPGjMFWqNC>

MOO MUSIC - New Sessions

Starting Wednesday 25th

February

10.45-11.25 - Mixed Moo

11.40 - 12.15 - Baby Moo

Friday Sessions

27th Feb, 6th March, 20th and 27th March

Mixed Moo - 10:00 - 10:40

<https://www.facebook.com/moomusicely/>



LIVE MUSIC

With
Around Midnite



Pop, Rock, Tamla & Soul

7th March - £8 per ticket

Doors Open 7.30pm

Licensed Bar & Raffle

INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE

Sunday 22nd March

8am - 11am

Set Up from 7am

£6 includes table

Please book with the office By 16th March

COFFEE WITH A COP AT OUR COMMUNITY HUB

on Wednesday March 11th.

Come along and put any queries you may have to our friendly local police.

VILLAGE HALL WEEK 16TH- 20TH MARCH.

Monday - Free Table Tennis & refreshments.

Tuesday - Community Hub Cream Tea.

Roller Disco

Wednesday - Hub Sports. Lunch Club.

Thursday - free Badminton slots am. Tots of Fun

Free taster sessions. Tasters for Pilates low

impact pm or try joining our Healthy Walk at 2pm.

Friday - Community Hub with Homemade soup. Free

taster for Chair Based Yoga.

TBC - Please check our website or contact us in

the office for more details

Email: office@ellesmerecentre.org.uk-

Web Site www.ellesmerecentre.org.uk

Call us on 01638 508212

KINGSWAY SOLAR COMMUNITY ACTION KSCA)

March Newsletter Update

AGM and next steps

Thank you to everyone who attended our AGM on Wednesday 11th February. It was encouraging to see such strong community support.

The evening opened with a short campaign film created by Bob Coates in collaboration with members of our local community. Tony Day, Chair of KSCA, then outlined what has been achieved over the past year, where matters currently stand with the Kingsway proposal, and what lies ahead.

If Kingsway keeps to its current timetable, a **Development Consent Order (DCO) application is expected at the end of March 2026**. Once submitted, the Planning Inspectorate has 28 days to decide whether the application is "fit to be accepted." If accepted, the proposal moves into the Examination phase – the most important stage of the process. Parish Councils, community groups and individuals can register as Interested Parties and submit representations. We will provide clear guidance on how to do this when the time comes.

Our immediate priority is fundraising. We need to support our legal team in appointing independent experts in hydrology, BESS, landscape and related areas. Their evidence will be essential to presenting robust, well-founded arguments during the Examination phase. **Please consider pledging funds using the QR code below.**

Community Walk – Saturday 21st March

Join us in Weston Colville for a 2.2 mile (approximately one hour) community walk along a well-loved local circular route that would be significantly affected by the proposed development. Plans include solar panels up to 4.2 metres high and a haul road running parallel to the existing byway, cutting across footpaths and the River Stour. Dogs are welcome on leads. Routes may be muddy, so please come prepared.

Free refreshments and a talk will be available at the Reading Rooms from 2.30pm (open to all). From 5pm there will be music, a bar and food available.

Stickers Available

If you would like to continue showing your support for KSCA by displaying a sticker on your bins or elsewhere, please complete the form using the QR code below.

Stay Updated

Please follow the News page at kingswayaction.org to stay up to date and access links to the AGM presentations and campaign video.



1 Request a sticker

2 Contribute to the campaign

3 Pledge money to the legal team

4 Join KSCA

BALSHAM PICTURE HOUSE

THE BALLAD of WALLIS ISLAND (12A)

A recent (2025) British comedy which won BAFTA awards and was written by a local comedic playwright, Tim Key, who has been seen in BBC programmes and has been a regular participant on the Edinburgh Fringe circuit.

Eccentric, widower lottery winner Charles Heath (Tim Key) living alone on the remote Wallis island off the coast of Wales tries to make his fantasies come true by getting his favourite musicians to perform at his home. Musician, Herb McGwyer (Tom Basden) - half of former folk duo McGwyer Mortimer - arrives but is surprised by the arrival of Nell, the other duo member (Carey Mulligan) and new husband.

Charles is thrilled to have reunited the duo, but tensions flare and relations are complicated by Amanda a single mother who runs the island's only shop!

Doors open 7pm and film at 7.30 in Balsham Church Institute

Dave's bar will be open for pre-show drinks and nibbles as normal.

Join the Picture House with annual membership of just £12 or come as a guest member at £3/film show

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



BURROUGH GREEN FETE

Sunday 7th June 2026

25% of proceeds to be donated

to Burrough Green School who are saving up for a minibus.

Plans are going well, however we would be delighted with further help to plan for a very special day again for our village.

We are always looking for new ideas for this event. We will need help with setting up and running stalls on the day and can find a suitable job for anyone willing to help!

If you are unable to attend but can offer any support, please contact Lucy on 07910 158463 or email peterandlucy@btinternet.com

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 will be on sale in the Ellesmere Centre Village Shop

MARSH MAIL News from Linton Village College

At Linton Village College, student wellbeing is central to our caring ethos. We are proud to offer a broad range of support for learners with diverse needs to support all of our students to feel understood and ready to succeed.

Our Wellbeing Mentor, Mrs Hill, is working in partnership with The Beacon Youth Trust and Romsey Mill to deliver a range of one-to-one mentoring, group sessions and a recent initiative run by Cambridge United Foundation with a focus on developing positive, respectful relationships.

Mrs Hill also leads our Wellbeing Hub, a calm space which is open at break and lunch for students seeking a quieter environment. Activities such as "Knit and Natter" and weekly yoga sessions offer time for creativity and reflection. Mrs Hill offers mentoring support for young people alongside a YMCA counsellor who supports students with more complex emotional needs.

Our Henry Morris Centre (HMC) is another key provision, where a dedicated team of Learning Support Assistants supports our students with additional needs. The HMC coordinates initiatives including The Dog Mentor programme, with Ralph, our school dog, offering emotional and sensory comfort to students who benefit from his gentle presence.



The HMC also works with Woodventurers to run our Forest School programme, helping students reconnect with learning through the calming and motivating effects of nature. The photo is of Ralph at Forest School. Looking ahead, plans are in place to renovate the site house to provide an alternative provision space featuring sensory areas, smaller learning environments and outdoor-based opportunities.

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

ARTICLES FOR APRIL VILLAGE VOICE

To

villagevoicnewsletter@btinternet.com

before 20th MARCH 2026 please

ELLESMERE GARDEN CLUB

Our next talk is by Fiona Rose on "William Morris in the Garden". Please note the change of date of this meeting to Wednesday 4th March at 7.30 pm because of room availability in the Ellesmere Centre.

Back to our regular schedule for April we welcome Greg Veness on Wednesday 15th April to talk about "Delphiniums". Greg comes from his Front Gardens Nursery at Glemsford and will be bringing plants for sale with him - so be sure to bring your wallets!

There will be the usual raffle and refreshments at the meetings, and any prizes for future raffles would be very welcome please - bring them along.

From then on until September our talks are paused whilst we enjoy our spring and summer events. Firstly, the Plant Sale on Saturday 9th May and the NGS Open Gardens in Stetchworth and Dullingham on Sunday 10th. Keep that weekend free and look out for more news next month!

Everyone is welcome and we hope to see you soon. Any queries about the Garden Club call Sandie on 07903 584676 or speak to someone at a meeting.

THE BULL BURROUGH GREEN



March is a busy month for lots of people, let's hope it's the beginning of the nicer weather.

Our speed quizzing is on Wednesday 4th March.

On **Mother's Day on March 15th** we're doing 'a free bottle of house wine for mum' if booking Sunday lunch, 1 per table.

Happy St Patrick's Day to all on the 17th March.

Check out our Facebook page for promotion. Then officially at the end of the month British summer time begins...

This year is already going fast.

Danny and Tina

The Bull Burrough Green

01638 476424

REPORT FROM CHARLOTTE CANE. MP

When I'm out and about across the constituency, two concerns come up time and again - police response times in our rural communities, and the future of Arthur Rank Hospice.

The Home Secretary has set out plans to reform policing, including a proposed target police response time of 20 minutes for rural areas. Many residents and local businesses tell me how frustrating it can be when help takes too long to arrive after a 999 call, and I fully agree - it should never have reached this point. Setting clear targets is a step in the right direction. However, when I speak to our local police officers, they are very honest about the challenges they face. Covering a large rural area with limited staff and resources makes meeting these targets extremely difficult. If the Government is serious about improving response times, it must also provide the

funding and resources to make this achievable. As these proposals are rolled out, I will be calling on Government to equip rural police forces like ours with the additional resources needed for faster response times.

I also want to update you on our ongoing campaign to protect Arthur Rank Hospice. Alongside fellow Cambridgeshire Liberal Democrat MPs Ian Sollom and Pippa Heylings, I recently met Care Minister Stephen Kinnock and the CEO of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Integrated Care Board Jan Thomas to press the case for restoring funding to hospice beds. After funding was withdrawn last year, a powerful public campaign saw more than 16,000 people sign a petition to save the nine vital beds which are under threat. Thanks to incredible community support, enough money was raised to keep them open for another 12 months. This breathing space is invaluable, but it must now be used to secure a long-term solution. We have urged the Minister and the ICB to take an evidence-based approach when assessing end-of-life care needs locally, as we firmly believe the case does not justify closing these beds. Arthur Rank must remain a cornerstone of compassionate care in our area, and we will be meeting the ICB again in two months to follow up.

Finally, I've now helped with over 12,000 individual constituent cases where residents have come to me for support, advice, or information - if there's ever an issue I can help you with, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Warm wishes,
Charlotte

P.S. This is just a snippet - to keep up with everything I'm doing, sign up to my newsletter at bit.ly/newsfromcharlotte

Charlotte Cane, MP for Ely & East Cambridgeshire
charlotte.cane.mp@parliament.uk | 020 7362 1601

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**COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**Make sure you have your say on the future of Cambridgeshire**

The government has launched a public consultation on how local authorities in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough should be reorganised—a decision that could shape our area for the next 50 years. Only **Option A** keeps us aligned with Cambridge; every other option places us under a Peterborough-facing authority. It's vital that local residents speak up to show why this would be the wrong fit for our communities. You can respond to the consultation here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough>

Leaders in Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire support staying together, while East Cambridgeshire District Council's leader is advocating for us to be tied

to Peterborough, Fenland and Huntingdon, which does not reflect the strong views residents in our area have already shared. Ultimately, ministers will decide—so this consultation is our opportunity to make our voices heard.

All 12 parish councils in the Woodditton division, along with neighbours in Burwell, have already written jointly to ministers. Now we need as many individuals as possible to respond and support the option that best reflects our communities' needs.

Cambridgeshire County Council has submitted the business case for Option A, the only proposal offering a cohesive approach for the whole region.

Option A may mean a modest council tax rise of around £17 a year for a Band D household and may revive long-standing development proposals, such as in Six Mile Bottom. But ensures we have a seat at the table to shape development in our own interests—something far less likely under a Peterborough-led authority, where we would be a small voice in a large, distant authority with limited influence. It would create a predominantly rural authority centred on Cambridge, giving our communities stronger influence and a structure that better reflects how we live. Please don't miss your opportunity to help shape our future as you believe it should be.

**Ellesmere Post Office**

Before taking a break with family, I heard the news of the notification received on the intended closure of our much needed and treasured Post Office, I immediately contacted Post Office Affairs to raise my concern, insisting they postpone their decision, giving our community the opportunity to make a case to save this service.

Since then, Charlotte Cane has also written to put on pressure requesting a meeting of key stakeholders and Cllr Alan Sharp as a trustee of the Ellesmere Centre has directly engaged the Post Office. At the time of writing, it appears the combined pressure has resulted in The Post Office giving members of the community, who have suggested they are willing to take on the role that Sally Mann delivered so well for so many years. Let us now hope this brings forward a fresh start we can all get behind.

**HIGHWAYS**

**Kings Head to Eagle Lane update**

Frustration over this road rightly remains high. The road continues to be monitored regularly, and work orders have been placed to improve the remainder of the current surface before the scheduled surface treatment in the spring.

I know many feel things aren't moving quickly enough. There is a lot to do across Cambridgeshire, not helped by over a decade of underinvestment and the relentless rain and varied weather conditions that have been opening our roads across the country at an unprecedented rate. Since the New Year, Cambridgeshire already has twice as many crews

working on road maintenance and are planning to increase this further.

The County Council have just agreed an additional £20m to be spent on our roads next year, meaning a total of £73m to move us slowly back to preventative rather than reactive maintenance. We need more funding from government to make a real difference. We also need a vastly improved contract with the highway's contractors, M-Group, which is being worked on.

I will continue to keep pressure on the council to do more, quicker, proactively and with proper quality checks in place. The efforts of many local residents are also keeping the pressure on. It does appear in the short-term we will have to continue to make do with temporary repairs to the worst potholes. I will continue to check in with officers before the main work is undertaken on this stretch of road late spring, to be sure we receive a permanent solution that removes the historical issues in this location.

#### **Railways**

Greater Anglia have announced an additional Mon-Fri morning and evening service on the Ipswich to Cambridge line, commencing in May. This is the first stage in a series of priorities as we anticipate the eastern leg of East West Rail greatly improving our rail connectivity in both directions.

*Cllr Jonny Edge, 07974 348141,  
[jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:jonny.edge@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)*

#### **DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**

##### ***Bottisham Ward***

##### **Operational Services Committee 26<sup>th</sup> January**

Roll out of the new Waste Collection project remains on budget and on track. Further information will be sent to all residents to prepare them for the change. It was noted that discussions on collecting waste from flats and shared bins were ongoing, and that the operating crews were being consulted on the changes which was sadly lacking when the collection rounds were last changed.

The Committee approved the RECAP Waste Strategy; a joint document produced by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Partnership. Unfortunately, we are still locked into a contract for dealing with waste which is no longer suitable for us.

##### **Local Government Reorganisation**

There is a public consultation on this issue with a closing date of 26 March - <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/local-government-reorganisation-in-cambridgeshire-and-peterborough>

This is your chance to tell Government whether you want East Cambs to go into a Unitary with Cambridge and South Cambridge or with Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and Fenland.

##### **Finance and Assets Committee 29 January**

The East Cambridgeshire Biodiversity Report was presented and discussed. Some members felt that it had not enough detail; reports will be submitted bi-annually in the future.

The revenue budget for the next year was presented, but there was little debate as the major discussion will be at Full Council on 24 February.

The contingency budget for the Mepal Crematorium has been fully committed since more subterranean structures were encountered despite assurances that full ground surveys had been done before the project was costed. There was some concern that this was a fixed cost agreement with the construction company, and that we should not be giving more money. With the Chair's casting vote, it was agreed that an additional £300,000 should be made available for the project to go ahead. No other option, e.g. reducing some of the facilities, was presented to the committee.

##### **Greater Cambridge Development Company**

There is a consultation about the powers and area of responsibility for the Cambridge Growth Company. As with the GCP, this company is likely to have a significant impact on our area. This consultation closes on 1 April -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/establishing-a-development-corporation-in-greater-cambridge>

##### **Surgery**

The next surgery will be on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March at the Swaffham Bulbeck Pavilion from 6.30pm and socialising at the Black Horse in the same village an hour later.

*Cllrs Charlotte Cane MP*

*([charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:charlotte.cane@eastcambs.gov.uk))*

*John Trapp ([john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk](mailto:john.trapp@eastcambs.gov.uk))*

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Woodditton Ward

Highways

The standard of some of the work that has been done is very poor, I was contacted by a resident, about Station Road Dullingham and the junctions with Balsham Lane and Eagle Lane. Resurfacing work was done there last year and already it is starting to wear away. I know that junctions, with the changing of direction creates the largest amount of wear and tear on a road surface, but I would not expect the wear to be as bad as it is, after such a short passage of time. I have raised this issue with Highways and will continue to pursue this.

If there is any work that you believe 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

There is currently a Statutory Consultation being undertaken around the options submitted. The consultation runs until 26th March, so please make your

comments about the reorganisation. One of my major criticisms of the reorganisation is the lack of public consultation, so I would encourage everyone to participate. The decision on what the Council area will look like, is expected in the summer.

Buses

I am still waiting for further details on the prospective bus services that I mentioned last month. I will update as soon as I have more details.

The Ellesmere Centre Post Office

Residents will be aware of the potential closure of the Post Office at the Ellesmere Centre, after Sally Mann, the current post mistress had to give up the post due to ill health.

The Post Office served notice that the branch was permanently closed, and all the equipment would be removed on 24th February. As a trustee of the Centre, I could not accept that and have negotiated with the Post Office that because of the nature of the closure, due to Sally's ill health, we would be given the opportunity to get the Centre running with a new incumbent. Post Office management are currently sifting through the names of applicants that I have submitted to them. The process of selection and training will take a considerable amount of time, and the Post Office will not be open during that time.

A mobile unit with limited opening hours, will visit the Ellesmere during that time, to service resident's requirements.

We have made a big step forward, but there are several hurdles to clear before the Post Office is back functioning in the village. I will keep residents informed of the progress over the coming months.

In closing on this subject, I would like to thank Sally Mann for her service to Stetchworth and the surrounding villages over the last 30 years, which was previously recognised with the British Empire Medal. 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 . E-Mail: alan.sharp@eastcambs.gov.uk
Telephone: 07794292941

**IN NEED OF A TRUSTWORTHY
HOUSESITTER?**

Look no further!
- Katy Ensich -

I work remotely so can easily work from any home. I have experience with dogs, cats, and other animals. I hold a full DBS check for your peace of mind.

Competitive rates on request.

Contact me at earthandensch@gmail.com or
07768 957778.

DULLINGHAM FLOWER CLUB

Thursday 12th March 2026 at 8pm

The Taylor Hall, Dullingham CB8 9XE

Come & enjoy a fun evening with a Demonstration

By Debbie Bull

entitled

'Remember When'

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

DATE FOR DIARY : Next meeting

Thursday 9th April 2026 — Demonstration by Brenda Tubb

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CATHOLIC PARISH SERVICES:

Newmarket: Saturdays 6pm & Sundays 11am

Kirtling: Sunday 9am.

For a full list of weekday services, the newsletter & other information please visit the website.

<http://www.olise.co.uk/wordpress/>

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VILLAGE WEBSITES

www.westleywaterless.com

www.burroughgreenparishcouncil.org.uk

www.brinkleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

carltoncumwillinghampc.org.uk

Information on the facilities of each village and also 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

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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](mailto:bgreadingroom@yahoo.com)

**Westley Waterless Village Hall** - For more  
information please go to  
[www.westleywaterless.com/hall](http://www.westleywaterless.com/hall)

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