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## Regular Dates for Your Diary

Mon	9:30-11:30am	Fun for 1s & 2s	Playgroup
Mon	9:45am	Comberton Walkers	Baptist Church
1 <sup>st</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> 4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	7:00pm	Carpet Bowls	VH
3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	7:30pm	Wine Makers	VH
Tues	10:30-12noon	Village Cafe & Crafts	VH
Tues	6:30-8pm	Keep Fit	CVC
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues	7:45pm	Women's Institute	VH
4 <sup>th</sup> Tues	8pm	Antiquarian Society	VH
Wed	10-11:30am	Baby & Toddler Group	VH
Wed	12:25-1:10pm	Lunchtime Badminton	CVC
Wed	2pm	Bridge Club	VH
Wed	After School	Tang Soo Do	Meridian School
Wed	6:30-9pm	Tennis Mix-In Session	Tennis Club
Wed	8-10pm	Shuttles Badminton	CVC
Wed (term)	2-3:30pm	Bumps and Babes	Baptist Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	7:30pm	Parish Council	VH
Thurs	9:30-11:30am	Fun for 1s & 2s	Playgroup
Thurs	9:30am-12:15	TumbleTots	VH
Thurs (term)	4-6pm	EDGE Youth Club	Baptist Church
2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	2:30pm	Friendship Club	VH
4 <sup>th</sup> Thurs	2:30pm	Oasis Teas (55+)	VH
Fri	6-9pm	Tae Kwon Do	Meridian School
2 <sup>nd</sup> Fri	8pm	Custard Comedy	CVC
3 <sup>rd</sup> Fri	7pm	Bingo Party	VH
Sat	10-11am	Park Tennis	Park
4 <sup>th</sup> Sat	9am	Selah	VH

VH = Village Hall

CVC = Comberton Village College

## Advertising Rates

Size	mm (w x h)	Annual	Single Edition
Whole Page	122 x 183	£400	£44
Three fifths	122 x 109	£240	£27
Two fifths	122 x 72	£160	£18
One fifth	122 x 35	£80	£9
	60 x 72	£80	£9
One tenth	60 x 35	£50	£6

## Upcoming Events

### **April**

5	Cricket Nets	Leys School
10	Opera	VH
11	Friendship Club	VH
13	Get the Groove	CBC
21	Bowls Open Day	Rec
24	Bowls Open Day	Rec
24	Annual Parish Meeting	VH
25	Oasis	VH
27	Selah	VH
28	Bowls Open Day	Rec
29	Rhymetime	Library

### **May**

13	Rhymetime	Library
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## Comberton Contact Team

<b><i>Editor and Designer</i></b>	Chris Balding	07746 668140 editor@combertoncontact.org.uk 43 St Thomas Close
<b><i>Treasurer and Advertising</i></b>	Terry Coad	01223 263264 treasurer@combertoncontact.org.uk 38 Westlands
<b><i>Distribution</i></b>	Marian Dymott	01223 263292

Please supply copy via email in a plain text format and images in jpg, png or pdf with 300dpi. Please send any submissions for the May magazine by 14th April.

## From the Editor

Dear Comberton,

I write this on the day of the spring equinox. This always comes as such a turning point in the year. The days are now longer than the nights, the plants are starting to bud, spring begins. There is much change afoot.

In my little family, we've just welcomed our second child, a little girl, into our world. She's doing very well, and is a rather delightful addition to the family.

We're still on the lookout for a new editor for the magazine. Please do be seriously considering if you are able to serve the village in this way. You won't be signing up for the rest of time, but for as long as you want.

Do enjoy this edition of the Conact.

Yours,

Chris

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## Important People for the Village

<b><i>Parish Council Chair</i></b>	Mr Hywel Griffiths	263390
	18 Barrons Way, CB23 7EQ	
<b><i>Parish Council Clerk</i></b>	Mrs Gail Stoehr	01954 210241
	30 West Drive, CB23 7NY	
<b><i>District Councillors</i></b>	Ian Sollom	07722 065475
	Cllr.Sollom@scambs.gov.uk	
	Philip Allen	07963 526137
	Cllr.Allen@scambs.gov.uk	
	Tony Mason	07432 779551
	Cllr.Mason@scambs.gov.uk	
<b><i>County Councillor</i></b>	Lina Niento	07402 351821

# The Parish Church of St Mary, Comberton

In the Lordsbridge Team Ministry     [www.combertonchurch.co.uk](http://www.combertonchurch.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook: St Mary's Church, Comberton

Vicar: Rev. David Newton, 92 Swaynes Lane, CB23 7EF,  
[davidnewton@lordsbridge.org](mailto:davidnewton@lordsbridge.org)

Churchwardens:

Chris Westgarth	263242	<a href="mailto:chris.westgarth1@btinternet.com">chris.westgarth1@btinternet.com</a>
Mary Jenkins	263751	<a href="mailto:maryjenkins18@gmail.com">maryjenkins18@gmail.com</a>

Services and Events in April (at St Mary's Comberton unless noted)

Saturday 6 April	10am – 12am	Easter Craft and Trail at St Mary's
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Sunday 7 April	9.30 am	Holy Communion
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Wednesday 10 April	8 pm	Compline
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Saturday 13 April	10.30am	Easter Coffee Morning at the VH
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Sunday 14 April	8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am	Morning Worship for Palm Sunday

Thursday 18 April	tbc	Passover meal at the Village Hall
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Friday 19 April	9.30 am	Good Friday Meditations
	11 am	Children's Good Friday Trail at Toft St Andrew's

Saturday 20 April		Church open for silent prayer
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Sunday 21 April	9.30 am	All Age Holy Communion
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Thursday 25 April	2.30 pm	Oasis Tea in the Village Hall
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Saturday 27 April	9 am	Selah in the Village Hall
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Sunday 28 April	8 am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	9.30 am	Morning Worship followed by APCM

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## New Editor Wanted

Due to the current editor moving up North, the Contact is looking for a new editor.

The Contact has been published for the last few decades, with the object to inform the village of local happenings. There have been a variety of successive editors, each serving their turn and making their own mark on the production of this vital piece of village life. The magazine is a vital channel of information and entertainment for the whole village.

There is a wonderful team of folk who deal with the advertising and the distribution of the magazine, and many people who contribute different parts of the magazine,

from articles to the challenge puzzle. The skill is not writing articles, but in arranging other people's efforts in the most efficient manner. It probably takes 10 hours per month to produce.

Maybe you've read through a copy in the past and thought 'That's not how I would do it', then this is your opportunity to give it a go. Or perhaps you want to learn a new skill and have a little bit of time to offer back to the community.

If you're interested in stepping up and serving the village in this way, please do get in touch with the current editor by email [editor@combertoncontact.org.uk](mailto:editor@combertoncontact.org.uk)

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## Volunteer Drivers Scheme

To book transport please see the dates below and call the appropriate number for the following weeks:

25 March 2019	Margaret Storey	01223 262748
01 April 2019	Margaret Storey	01223 262748
08 April 2019	Joan Wells	01223 262746
15 April 2019	Joan Wells	01223 262746
22 April 2019	Gill Redman	01223 262246
29 April 2019	Gill Redman	01223 262246
06 May 2019	Margaret Storey	01223 262748

More drivers are URGENTLY required for this essential service. For more information please contact Mrs Gill Redman as above

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## Perspective - Rev. David Newton

I write this before that date etched in our minds – the 29th March.

Will we have left the EU by the time you read this? Right now, we don't have a clue.

Every morning I turn the radio on and all I hear is ever more commentary on Brexit. I turn it on in the evening and all I hear is satire about the said commentary on Brexit. I listen for a moment, then promptly turn the radio off.

I can't really imagine that the scene will be very different come 1st April. I anticipate all sorts of Brexit related April Fools jokes. In part, I turn the radio off again so quickly because I'm just plain bored of the debate. But I also do so because the way in which the noise of Brexit drowns out all other tunes has been irking me for some time now.

Whatever one's views on the debate, one down side of this entire episode of British History concerns all the many other issues which have been side-lined or forgotten about in the process.

The surge in knife crime, the continued increase in food poverty, the huge issues in Social Care, the famine gripping Yemen,

the political crisis in Venezuela, all get scant air time (or civil service time) in comparison to this momentous political upheaval.

Needs must, but we should not miss all that has been necessarily pushed to the side-lines because of it. Not least amongst such items is the recent international summit on climate change, which would have been hard pressed to lay out the challenges before us in any starker terms.

I have no idea where we will be when you read this. But I am pretty sure wherever we are, we could do worse than searching for a bit of perspective.

First, by remembering the many other issues facing our nation and our world today.

And second, by being grounded in the love that sustains us in motion; only in that Love do we find a rock which can weather every storm.

Rev. David Newton

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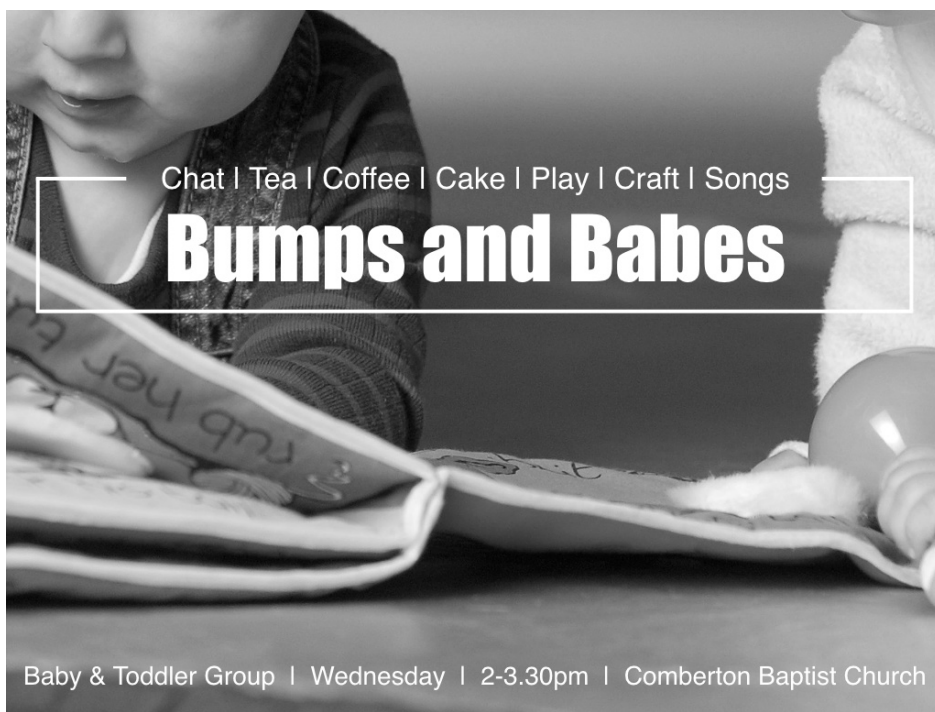
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## Comberton Bowls Club Open Days

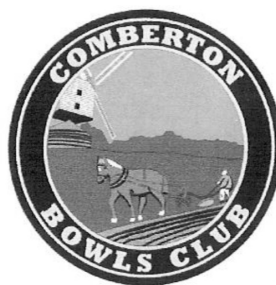
The 2019 bowls season is nearly upon us, so why not come and try your arm at bowling as well as having fondant fancies and fun!

Sunday 21st April 2.30pm-5:30pm

Wednesday 24th April 6.00pm-8.30pm

Sunday 28th April 2:30-5.30pm

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# Comberton Library

Opening Hours:      Monday:      10am – 1pm  
                                 Wednesday:      10am – 1pm      2pm - 5pm  
                                 Friday:      2pm - 5pm  
                                 Saturday:      10am – 1pm

More details can be found on the Library Service website at:  
[www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library](http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/library)

If you are wondering where you can access information and support to help you, or someone you know, to live an independent, safe and fulfilled life, we have copies of the 2019 'Guide to Independent Living in Cambridgeshire' available in the library.

The publication is full of useful information and tips ranging from staying independent at home, coming home from hospital to housing options, and has been produced by Care Choices in association with Cambridgeshire County Council and the NHS.

Please do pick up a copy from the library, if it will be of use to you, a relative, friend or neighbour.

During the school Easter holidays, we will be holding the following events in the library for families:

Tues 9th April 10.30 -12 noon –  
Family Lego Session (50p per child)

Fri 12th April 2.30 -4.30pm –  
Easter Craft Session (£1.00 per child)

These activities, together future events, will be advertised in the new 'What's On in Cambridgeshire Libraries' brochure, for the months April to June, available to pick up from the library.

Upcoming Rhymetime sessions: 29th April and 13th May (10.30 -11.00 am). Please note that although these sessions are aimed at very young children we welcome older siblings and pre-schoolers who enjoy singing too!

The library will be closed on Good Friday, 19th April and Easter Monday, 22nd April, but will be open as normal on Saturday 20th April.

We wish you all a very Happy Easter.



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## Friends of St Mary's Church Comberton

The Friends continue to fund-raise for the fabric of St Mary's and promote it as an historic building in the service of the community.

For those who would like to visit, St Mary's is open 7.30 am – 4.00 pm daily throughout the year.

The car park next to the church is in urgent need of improvement and as a start, we are working to provide a hard-standing area for disabled parking in the corner of the car park nearest the church.

Comments, suggestions and donations related to this proposal are most welcome – please contact Brian McCabe or any other member of the Friends.

We welcome help of all sorts and are particularly keen to do more on publicity - if you think you might be interested in this, please get in touch.

Brian McCabe  
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*Pressing Pause on the Noise of Life*

*Selah*

**Next Session: Sat 27<sup>th</sup> April.  
9am – 10am. The Village Hall.**

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## Grant Funding for Small and Medium Businesses

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businesses for energy efficiency improvement measures such as LED lighting, heating, insulation and solar PV.

The pot of grant funding is limited and businesses are urged to register their interest by 30th June 2019 at [www.beecp.org/sign-up](http://www.beecp.org/sign-up) or call 01733 882549 or email [info@beecp.co.uk](mailto:info@beecp.co.uk)



### Oasis Tea 25 Apr - 2.30pm

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- Doing more to help people stay well.
- Providing better support for

people with cancer, mental health conditions, heart and lung diseases, and other long-term conditions.

- Providing better support for people as they get older and experience conditions such as dementia.

Share your ideas

Your local NHS needs to hear from you about what it should do to make care better for your community.

Feedback online at

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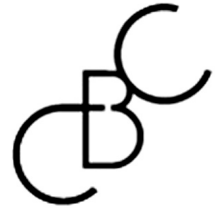


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Minister - Revd Keith Tarring - (01223) 264 707  
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# Parish Council Report from the Clerk

The Parish Council met on 13 March 2019.

## ***Vacancies on the Parish Council***

There are vacancies on the Parish Council. If any members of the public are interested in undertaking this role, please contact the Clerk at the address below.

## ***Village Pond***

The Parish Council has set up a pond management working group to manage the pond and surrounding area. The organisation Frog Life has approached the Council to carry out a survey, and they have been asked to provide information for a future issue of Contact. An item on pond management will be included at the Annual Parish Meeting.

## ***Annual Parish Meeting***

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on Wednesday 24 April 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Village Hall. The Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting for the whole village to receive reports from the County and District Councillors, Police and other village organisations on their activities over the preceding year, and to give residents the opportunity to raise and discuss any issues or concerns, and make

recommendations.

## ***Comberton Swimming Club***

The Parish Council was pleased to be able to support Comberton Swimming Club with a grant of £2000.00.

## ***New Recreation Ground Co-ordinator and Village Handyman***

The new Recreation Ground Co-ordinator and Village Handyman is Jeremy Graham, who started on 18 March. He can be contacted by email at: [rec-coord@comberton.org.uk](mailto:rec-coord@comberton.org.uk).

## ***Parish Council meetings***

The Parish Council would like to make everyone aware that all its meetings are open to the public to attend, all agendas are available on the website ([www.comberton.org.uk](http://www.comberton.org.uk)) and on the notice board at the cross roads.



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## Comberton Friendship Club

In February our guest speaker was Emma Sanders from Magpas who gave a very interesting talk complete with video on the Magpas Air Ambulance Team.

This service relies on voluntary donations to help specially trained doctors and paramedics treat serious accidents, complete with general anaesthetics and surgical procedures which are usually only available in hospitals. A very worthy and we'll run charity.

After the talk our members very generously supported the Magpas stall which displayed many types of gifts. All monies going to the charity.

A letter was received from Magpas thanking us for monies spent plus a donation which added up to £150.

Thursday March 14th  
Speaker Jackie Reeve, who came to update us on Estate Planning, Taxes, Care, Lasting powers of Attorney and Funeral plans. All very informative and the "pros" and "cons" of the various options. It gave us all food for thought.

Next meeting Thursday April 11th at 2.30pm. Speaker Hilary Richie "History of Addenbrooks Hospital" new members welcome to join us.

---

## Heidi Allen MP Newsletter

As you probably now know, on the 20th February I announced my resignation from the Conservative Party and joined The Independent Group of MPs.

This was an incredibly difficult decision but I believe our country deserves better. More competence, more collaboration, more expert analysis, more transparency, more care, more fairness and less entrenched political ideology. So I have joined, alongside 10 other MPs of

both Conservative and Labour backgrounds, The Independent Group.

In time, our intention is to form a new political party, positioned in the centre ground of British politics. More information, including my resignation letter and statement can be found on my website - [www.heidiallen.co.uk/](http://www.heidiallen.co.uk/)  
I know that not everyone will be happy, but I can honestly say I have been bowled over by the overwhelming support that literally



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## Heidi Allen MP Newsletter

thousands of my constituents have shown for my decision. It means so much to me to know that my decision, hard though it was, has been received so well locally.

I became an MP in 2015 as I wanted to serve my country and give a voice to those who did not have one - that has not changed. It remains a great honour to be your Member of Parliament and although I may have lost my party label, I have not lost my determination to serve you with everything that I have.

I'll continue to fight for the very best for South Cambridgeshire: providing excellent local services, ensuring fairer funding for those services, delivering on the vital infrastructure projects we need and continuing to be a voice for the vulnerable in our community.

I'm still "Heidi" and whenever you need my help or are concerned about a local or national issue, to coin a phrase, "nothing has changed!" You can still contact me as you always have.

I'll be organising some public meetings and get togethers in the coming weeks and months so you can talk to me about my decision

and learn more about my ambitions for this new political party.

However, for now - back to the day job!

There have been some important developments on transport infrastructure in recent weeks. These vital announcements will shape our local infrastructure and transport for many years to come so please do have your say! Grab a cup of tea and a few minutes to look at the following plans and make your voice heard!

East West Rail - For the last year, East West Rail (EWR) has been developing route options for the Bedford to Cambridge section of the new railway and they now want to hear your views on the five options available.

Between now and the 11th March, you can contribute to the consultation in a variety of ways. Full details are available here – [eastwestrail.co.uk/haveyoursay](http://eastwestrail.co.uk/haveyoursay)

From my point of view, I am pleased to see that Cambourne features as a location for a possible new station. As we have good railway connections in the South of the constituency already,

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## Heidi Allen MP Newsletter Cont

I really do feel we should be concentrating our priorities in the North. These are very early scoping corridors and we all have a role to play in feeding in our views!

And now from rail to buses and cyleways! The Greater Cambridge Partnership has published its consultation on phase 2 of the Cambourne to Cambridge Better Public Transport Project. The consultation seeks views on the link west of Madingley Mulch roundabout to Bourn Airfield and on to Cambourne, and a new Park & Ride facility.

The consultation is open until the 31st March and includes public events in Caldecote, Hardwick and Dry Drayton during March. Full details are available here - [www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambourne-to-cambridge/cambourne-to-cambridge-phase-2/](http://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/transport/transport-projects/cambourne-to-cambridge/cambourne-to-cambridge-phase-2/)

Finally, it's the turn of the A428! Highways England has published their long-awaited proposals for the A428 between Black Cat and Caxton Gibbet. Full details are available here - [highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a428-black-cat-to-caxton-gibbet/](http://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a428-black-cat-to-caxton-gibbet/)

The "orange route" has been chosen by Highways England, which runs north of the current A428 in contrast to the two southern options considered. Having supported this route with local residents and parish councils for the last two years, I am relieved! The plans also outline how improvements will be made to the Black Cat roundabout.

The consultation on the A428 will take place later this year. I have made it clear to Highways England that it is important they complete these final stages of consultation and get on and deliver this major improvement urgently. I am committed to doing everything in my power to ensure construction starts as soon as possible.

As I said at the beginning, it's business as usual and if there is anything you would like to talk to me about, my upcoming surgeries are:

Friday 5th April between 3.30 and 5pm, I'll be at Bar Hill Tesco, CB23 8EL.

Saturday 6th April between 10.30 and 12.30pm is a "Drop in" surgery at Abbeyfield, Girton



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## Heidi Allen MP Newsletter Cont

Green, Wellbrook Way, Girton  
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necessary!

If you would like an appointment,  
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830037.

If you would like an appointment  
to see me, my next “by  
appointment surgery” will be on  
Thursday 2nd May between 3.00  
and 5pm at my office in Hardwick.

In the meantime, if you would like  
to contact me, please email  
[heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:heidi.allen.mp@parliament.uk) or  
call my office on 01223 830037.  
See you next month!

---

## Lina Niento County Councillor Report

Dear all,

I started to speak with some of  
the Chairs before their Parish  
meeting. I would like to make this  
a regular 1:1 time for your Chair to  
highlight any county issues. Of  
course, any other Councillor can  
contact me. Please please please  
do get in touch if you have a  
question, issue, project you would  
like me to know about.

Think Communities and Spokes  
model

The Cambs 2020 programme:  
Vision: “A dynamic  
accommodation solution that  
facilitates the delivery of better  
and integrated services closer to  
our communities; a solution that  
embraces change and equips a  
flexible workforce to deliver  
efficiently and effectively from  
multiple, welcoming locations.”

Two primary workstreams: (i) the  
disposal of Shire Hall and the  
creation of a new ‘hub’ at  
Alconbury Weald; and (ii) the  
establishment of a place-based  
approach to service delivery  
including the creation of ‘spokes’  
as bases for our staff to operate  
within communities

Good progress is being made to  
confirm our spokes arrangements,  
which align completely to the  
Think Communities approach  
To support our approach to Think  
Communities, the ways in which  
we use our buildings is pivotal to  
a successfully reformed public  
service delivery model.

We want our staff to be based in  
the heart of the communities they  
are here to serve, to fully  
understand the needs and assets

## Lina Niento County Councillor Report Cont

within those communities, and to be best placed to achieve the key objectives of Think Communities – improving outcomes and delaying or preventing demand for statutory services.

Good news:

Working with SAT providers.  
Making sure the routes are updated and Heavy Commercial Vehicles follow the right route and not going through our villages routes which are not adequate for this movement.

They continue to work on the Strategic Bus Review. Rural network should be operated through either 'enhanced partnership' arrangements or, if unsuccessful, franchising powers.

I raised also that they need to consult closely with parishes for routes as you are the local experts and it's extremely important your knowledge is used!

Meeting local businesses:

This year I will be going around and visiting more local businesses. I believe we should buy local and support them. Otherwise, local businesses will close down and will be dearly missed. They play a very important role in our communities

and it's a responsibility of all. However, it is also about sustainability. Local businesses are much more sustainable than larger corporations. If you haven't heard about Cambridge Sustainable Food then please take a look at their website. I am involved with them indirectly and they are fantastic!  
[www.cambridgesustainablefood.org/directory/](http://www.cambridgesustainablefood.org/directory/)

I use local businesses in my area and I started chatting with someone who works in one of the businesses and they see the bus route with positive eyes. They believe it will boost their trade and this is good news for them. Just another perspective that I haven't come across.

Local proposals/events:

The Dragon Patcher has been repairing our roads in my division. Maybe you caught them on the spot. They are saving money, time and allows us to do many more potholes!

Most of my parishes now have defibrillators. If you are in the process, I am sure one of your neighbouring parishes can help with information and advice on what has worked for them.



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4.CALAMITY JANE	Wild bill Hickock
5.CAROUSEL	Billy Bigelow
6.CATS	Mr. Mistoffelees
7.CHICAGO	Roxie Hart
8.EVITA	Che Guevara
9.FUNNY GIRL	Fanny Brice
10.HAMILTON	Marquis De Lafayette
11.THE KING AND I	King Mongkut
12.LES MISERABLES	Fantine
13.MATILDA	Miss Trunchbull
14.MOULIN ROUGE	Satine
15.OKLAHOMA	Jud Fry
16 PHANTOM OF THE OPERA	Christine Daae
17. 7BRIDES FOR 7BROS	GideonPontipee
18.SHOWBOAT	Magnolia Hawks
19.SOUND OF MUSIC	Mother Abbess
20.SOUTH PACIFIC	Bloody Mary
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## The Challenge Sponsored by Budgens of Comberton

“Where have all the flowers gone”?

Each of the words below is a “graft” from a plant (flower, shrub or vegetable). Can you find the plant in question? Eg Tent(not shown) can be found in Potentilla.

nun.....	peri.....
deli.....	nicer.....
eme.....	chill.....
mat.....	anthem.....
clam.....	vend.....
gel.....	rig.....
para.....	round.....
ladder.....	sop.....
ram.....	drag.....
abba.....	lard.....
pan.....	elian.....
erato.....	lend.....
love.....	nemo.....
tone.....	ease.....
ran.....	burn.....

Entries please to Budgens. The Library or Green End Surgery no later than the 14th April The prize of £10, generously donated by Budgens, is to be spent in store.

Name.....Address.....

# Comberton Village Hall Lettings Charges

## ***Village and Affiliated Community Group Use***

### Main Hall

Private (except evening social events)	£15
Affiliated Group (except evening social events)	£12.50
Weekday evening social events (M-T)	£30
Weekend evening social events (F/S/S)	£60
Wedding reception (all day - midnight)	£200
Meeting Room or Community Room	£10
Committee meetings in Meeting/Community Room	£5

## ***Non-Village and Non-Affiliated Community Group Use***

### Main Hall

Private (except evening social events)	£25
Non-Affiliated Group (except evening social events)	£20
Weekday evening social events (M-T)	£40
Weekend evening social events (F/S/S)	£90
Wedding reception (all day - midnight)	£300
Meeting Room or Community Room	£15

Community Commercial and Commercial Letting charge on application to the Lettings Secretary.

Sessions run from 9am-1pm, 2pm-5:30pm and 6pm-10:30pm.  
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Annual affiliation fee of £10 is due on 1st January

Community Group Use means local groups operating on a non-commercial basis

Groups working with children or vulnerable adults will need to have Child Protection and Vulnerable Adult policies in place

Booking should be made with the Lettings Secretary, Mrs Stephanie Young on 01223 971006 or 07773 085479 between 9am-9pm.

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