



LONGSTANTON WARD DISTRICT COUNCELLORS REPORT JUNE 2026

LONGSTANTON PARISH COUNCIL (15TH JUNE 2026)

OAKINGTON & WESTWICK PARISH COUNCIL (8TH JUNE 2026)

NORTHSTOWE TOWN COUNCIL (23RD JUNE 2026)

CLLR SUNITA HANSRAJ & CLLR NATALIE WARREN-GREEN

It's a great pleasure to have been voted in to represent Longstanton Ward residents in the May 2026 Elections. We are both pleased to have the support of many residents, and whether people voted for us or not, we will work very hard across the ward to support our growing, strong, healthy and connected community.

Sunita brings experience of having served as a councillor in a nearby ward for four years, working closely with residents and community groups. She has contributed to addressing environmental issues, has been a member of several council committees, giving her a strong understanding of local governance and decision-making. In this administration, Sunita is chair of the licensing committee, the vice chair for People & Resources, a member of the Audit and Governance committee and appointed to the Carers Trust Cambridge. As a nurse by profession, with a strong interest in health provision, she joins our ward with commitment to using her experience, local knowledge and healthcare background to support residents with health and wellbeing in addition to having the knowledge of being a councillor.

Natalie (often known as Tilly) has been re-elected and will continue to work across Longstanton Ward. Having been in post since November 2022, Natalie is keen to remain active on the Northstowe Delivery Group, and across the Ward to support residents and the various community groups given the plan for growth. Natalie is on the Cabinet of SCDC too and having had responsibility for Environment for the past 2 years, has moved to the remit of Resources which includes Finance and Local Government Reorganisation. Natalie remains keen to support residents with planning, housing, understanding council tax bands, grant applications, benefits eligibility, environmental concerns and anti-social behaviour issues, plus other concerns that arise.

Together we will continue to work with the planning teams, developers, county councillor, Homes England, the health and wellbeing group, the environment agency, and the various local community groups across the ward.

Our first month has been one of handling case work that carried over from April, and setting up within the new administration. We are now ready to take on more case work so please do contact us when you need support with District Council and wider matters.

Here are some key updates from SCDC this month:

Annual Meeting of South Cambridgeshire District Council

This was largely a procedural meeting where a Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council were appointed as well as the leader of the council. Importantly council member nominations were confirmed and approved for various committees and external bodies including Sunita being on several committees as mentioned above and Natalie continuing as a member of the Cabinet and representing SCDC at the CPCA Finance Committee.

Zero Carbon Communities Grant

Our Zero Carbon Communities grant **opens for applications on 25 May** - a great opportunity for parish and town councils and local groups to bring forward projects that benefit both the environment and their communities.

- Grants from £2,000 to £19,500, with a total fund of £152,000 available.
- Funding supports projects that reduce carbon emissions e.g. from a community building or foster greater community engagement on climate issues and nature, and encourage sustainable behaviour change.

Previous projects have included:

- Improving community buildings (e.g. insulation, heat pumps, solar panels, LED lighting)
- Supporting low-carbon travel (e.g. electric vehicles, cycling infrastructure)
- Community-led initiatives to reduce waste, support nature, or encourage sustainable lifestyles

Please do share this with your local communities, and encourage them to think about whether they might have a suitable project. For full details: [Zero Carbon Communities Grant - South Cambs District Council](#). Our team is happy to help. Email zcc@scambs.gov.uk for advice or to arrange a 1:1 discussion. **Application closing date:** 5pm, Friday 24 July 2025.

Local Government Reorganisation: Where Are We Now?

The four options

Option A
Cambridgeshire

Option B
South Cambs
Cambridge City
East Cambs

Option D
Peterborough
Fenland

Option E
Huntingdonshire

The process of Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is moving forward at pace, with a number of significant milestones ahead.

We are likely to hear the decision made by Government about which unitary mix is selected by Government before summer recess in July 2026. It is anticipated that the transfer to Unitary authority will not impact on Parish or Town Councils, although we are seeking more clarification on this. It is the County and District Councils which will be impacted, and following the announcement, committees will be established at SCDC to manage the change. We will keep you updated on process and progress.

Elections of members to a shadow authority are anticipated for 6th May 2027. The expected vesting day is 1st April 2028.

First Faith and Community Site Allocated in Northstowe

The next steps for the first plot of land made available to faith groups for Northstowe have been outlined, following a public engagement and assessment process. Northstowe Church Network was the highest scoring of two proposals in the faith land bidding process which has been run by South Cambridgeshire District Council. The group is now being recommended for a 999-year leasehold agreement, marking an important milestone for the growing new town. The details will be discussed at Council's upcoming [Scrutiny and Overview Committee](#) meeting on Thursday 4 June before a final decision is made at a Cabinet meeting on Tuesday 23 June.

This is the first of four opportunities for faith and / or community groups to secure land in Northstowe. In future, there will be further land or floorspace within the town centre on phase 2, plus two more opportunities within phase 3.

In 2020, the Council adopted the Northstowe Faith and Community Land Allocation policy which provided a fair and transparent process for land allocation. In December 2024 Cabinet agreed to initiate a bidding round for the first parcel of available land. A bidding window was open for one year from January 2025, during which two bids were received. Two bids were received for the 0.25-hectare plot off Stirling Road - from Hindu Samaj Northstowe and Northstowe Church Network. Support with the application process was available from the Council - both before and throughout the entire year-long bidding window. The two proposals were assessed against the agreed policy and criteria by an eight-member panel, including six District Council officers, alongside two external specialists. The bids were also open for comment in a public survey which received 440 responses, including 14 responses made on behalf of groups. This first parcel of faith land will transfer from developers Urban&Civic, to the Council, who are recommending that councillors grant a 999-year leasehold to Northstowe Church Network. They must commit to meeting agreed project milestones.

High Court Emergency Injunction

Over the May bank holiday, SCDC were made aware of significant works being undertaken at Moor Drove, Cottenham, to build a large traveller site in the green belt. Our lead Planner, Stephen Kelly, worked with the support of external legal advisors to submit an application for an emergency injunction to stop the works. The judge sat on Sunday evening and granted the injunction, and SCDC subsequently worked with the police to serve the notice, and ensure that we have drone footage of the site at the point when it was served. The police were extremely helpful. The link to our press release, and details of the case, is here: [Greater Cambridge Shared Planning: Injunction: Land West of Moor Drove Histon/Cottenham](#). Please do continue to report any concerns of ASB or other concerning behaviour such as this to the police as this helps solve issues fast.

SCDC receive 'Highly Commended' Energy Efficiency Award

We are delighted to share that, following a nomination from Cllr Geoff Harvey to the East of England 2026 Regional Energy Efficiency Awards, South Cambridgeshire District Council was awarded "Highly Commended" at a ceremony held on Thursday 21 May. The Council was nominated in the *Regional Council or Local Authority Body of the Year* category, in recognition of our multifaceted approach to ensuring energy efficiency across all of our operations. This reflects the significant ongoing work across a range of projects to

deliver energy efficiency improvements, including social housing retrofit, the retrofit of South Cambridgeshire Hall, and the Waterbeach Renewable Energy Network (WREN). SCDC will ensure we carry on driving improvements through this work as we continue to embed our “Green to our Core” priority and deliver the new Climate and Nature Strategy 2026–2030. Further details can be found here: [Homepage--East of England Energy Efficiency Awards 2026](#)

Our Member of Parliament

Ian.Sollom.MP@parliament.uk Ian is active across the constituency, and continues to hold regular surgeries which we will keep you informed of for residents. His office staff answer emails as soon as practically possible. He welcomes correspondence from residents requiring his assistance.

COUNCILS, RESPONSIBILITIES AND GOVERNMENT FUNDED ORGANISATIONS

If you have a problem or concern do not worry too much about who can solve it just ask the question and we will endeavour to signpost to the right person. The organisational structure of Cambridgeshire is complex, but it is important to identify where responsibility lies.

<p>County Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Education, Transport, Highways, Heritage, Social care, Libraries, Trading standards, - Waste management, Maintaining their estate.</p> <p>Some of these services are shared between Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council but any concerns should be directed to the county council.</p>
<p>District Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Council tax payments and benefits, Household bin collections, Housing and housing benefits, Council leisure facilities, Environmental health, Residential planning.</p>
<p>Parish/ Town Council</p> <p>Responsibilities: Looking after community buildings, Open spaces, Allotments, Play Areas, Bus shelters.</p>
<p>Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP)</p> <p>‘The local delivery body for a City Deal with central Government worth up to £500 million over 15 years, to vital improvements in infrastructure (decarbonising transport), supporting and accelerating the creation of 44,000 new jobs, 33,500 new homes and 420 additional apprenticeships.’</p> <p>Partnership between Cambridge City Council, Cambridgeshire County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council, University of Cambridge.</p>
<p>The Combined Authority, Cambridge and Peterborough, our elected Mayor</p> <p>‘A combined authority (CA) is a legal body set up using national legislation that enables a group of two or more councils to collaborate and take collective decisions across council boundaries.’</p> <p>What our mayor does – Business support, skills, housing, transport, environment, international, digital connectivity, resilience, research, and strategy. New homes.</p>
<p>Police and Crime Commissioner, Cambridge and Peterborough</p> <p>To support and challenge the Chief Constable to provide effective and efficient policing services for the area.</p>
<p>Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Fire Authority</p> <p>The Fire Authority is the governing body responsible for delivering a fire and rescue service to Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is made up of Cambridgeshire County Councillors and Peterborough City Councillors.</p>

CONTACT DETAILS

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about the above, or any other matters.

Cllr Sunita Hansraj

Email: cll.hansraj@scambs.gov.uk

Cllr Natalie Warren-Green

Email: cll.warren-green@scambs.gov.uk

For those on social media we have a highly active Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2066298150052161/> - Longstanton, Oakington and Northstowe