

**Annual Report to Little Wilbraham in the Fulbourn Division by  
County Councillor Matthew Morgan. 2025/26**



**Many Thanks:**

I will keep the preamble to this report brief. It has been an absolute pleasure to represent Little Wilbraham at the County Council. What makes Little Wilbraham special to me, even within Fulbourn Division, is the incredible community spirit and the amazing levels of volunteering this engenders. It is also a beautiful and laid-back village; Far enough from Cambridge to have its own charm and sensibilities but close enough to attract many interesting characters.

It would be remiss not to mention my incredible gratitude to Claire Daunton, the former County Councillor who is responsible for the Local Highways Initiatives and the Pavement Resurfacing on this list along with the Parish Council, and has acted as a ceaseless guide and mentor in my first year. Thanks also to the retiring District Councillors John Williams and Graham Cone for their dedication to Little Wilbraham. The best of luck to both of them.

## Completed In Year:

### Road Surfaces

Expedited Potholes Repairs of B1303, Little Wilbraham Road, Wilbraham Road, London Road Junction, Rectory Farm Road.

### Pavements

Preparations for footways surface improvements for High Street, Church Road and Rectory Farm Road. Awaiting treatments in 2026/27 year.

### Drainage

After many years Gulleys finally cleaned at the Little Wilbraham Road, Missing Sock Junction. This should reduce flooding at the junction. Gulleys Cleaned on stretch of B1303

### Lighting

Reinstatement of 4 streetlights in Little Wilbraham and Six Mile Bottom, with the kind help of Claire and Richard from the Parish Council, and Alan Hitch from the CCC team.

### Junction Improvements

Wilbraham Road to London Road Village gates and dragons teeth at Six-Mile-Bottom delivered as a local highways initiative

### Walks and Greenery

Vegetation at Fen Walk, the end of Long Drove near the River Cut Cleared  
Extensive vegetation cleared from Caudle Ditch  
Overgrown path to the allotments Six Mile Bottom Cleared by Network Rail at CCC's request

### Consultations

Attending events and writing responses to Newmarket Park and Ride, Lolworth to Rede Water Pipeline, Kingsway Solar, Local Government Reorganisation, Cambridge Growth Company.

## Completed In Year (Continued):

### Committee and Full Council Votes

I sat on the Highways Committee and The Assets and Procurement Committee at the Council. There were many different votes but highlights for me included:

I voted for Option A for Local Government Reform. (Combining Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire and East Cambridgeshire with the County Council to form a local authority). I believe Option B (Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire) is likely easier for Little Wilbraham residents in the short run due to good working relationships and shared services, but Option A is a more sensible geography in the longer term, including more villages and towns that strongly identify with Cambridge and Little Wilbraham, such as Bottisham in East Cambridgeshire.

Almost £60 million funding for highways. Over double the level of investment than when the Conservatives were in situ. Both the Conservatives and Reform Voted against a standalone funding package for longer term improvement roads.

Reports on the new IT system for Highways: Aurora. A key part of improving road repairs and making sure your money is used efficiently. Replacing the 20 odd year old desktop shackled system we were previously using.

Heads of Terms for further development of Cambridge Biomedical Campus, the world important site of Addenbrooke's Hospital and host to research institutions that have developed world-shaking drugs like adalimumab. I was very active in the closed session probing whether the project will have adequate architectural quality, and making sure the financing agreements with the developers allow taxpayers a fair return. There were very good cross-party discussions on protecting nature.

### Others

Mainly Great Wilbraham but it will have direct benefits to Little Wilbraham. I worked with the CCC's digital connectivity team to help Great Wilbraham Church be picked as a trial site for improving connectivity in rural Cambridgeshire. It was picked as a trial site, and work is ongoing for permissions. Several mobile networks are interested, but no definitive funding is in place yet. Thanks to the Parochial Church Council for entertaining this idea from County and CS Net.

Over the half year I have access to my reported faults I have reported around 70-90 faults across the Division using "report a fault" in addition to direct emails to officers about other faults. The vast majority of these faults will be other than potholes, as potholes are often reported very quickly by assiduous residents and visible on the system. Residents can use: <https://highwaysreporting.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/en-gb> as the quickest way to report all highways faults.

## In progression:

### Road Surfaces

Repair of High Street, Little Wilbraham with kerbing to prevent damage from heavier vehicles

Repair of a section of Mill Road, Little Wilbraham, is ordered and hopefully will be delivered in Summer 2026.

Requested surface treatment and white lines and cats eyes improvements for Little Wilbraham Road as part of the annual capital maintenance budget. Frustratingly, I was unsuccessful. I will need to re-request and lobby officers more.

Delamere Close SMB Surface Repairs Planned

### Footpaths

Surface Dressings (Smooth and easier to walk on) for High Street, Church Road and Rectory Farm Road funded in 2026-27 year.

### Cycling Improvements

Despite concerted efforts from the Wilbrahams Joint Cycling Group and Ed Williams from County Council, affordable, viable options to improve cycling toward Fulbourn or Bottisham are frustratingly limited. A 40mph speed limit for Wilbraham Road to Fulbourn and Wilbraham Road to Bottisham is now in development. While not a perfect solution, it should improve safety for cyclists. It should also improve safety for motorists at the blind bridge towards Fulbourn.

### Junction Improvements

More design meetings about Little Wilbraham Road/ Primrose Farm road Junction Safety improvements via Local Highways Initiative. Extra Money also now available from CCC Road Safety Fund.

White Line Repainting of Rectory Farm, Little Wilbraham Junction ordered.

Inspected Six Mile Bottom in person with Senior Highways Maintenance officer Spencer Thatcher-Gray. Flagged multiple maintenance issues. Continuing to push to expedite these vital repairs.

### Drainage

Very slow movement on High Street drainage scheme despite multiple inquiries, confirmed further site meeting will be arranged soon with Parish Council.

## In progression (Continued):

### Walks and Greenery

Funding secured for repairing the boardwalk end of Long Drove near the river.

Investigating adequate reinstatement of normal cross field rights-of-way to the North of Little Wilbraham.

### Consultations

Detailed EWR consultation response on Train Care Centre pending further discussions and answers about site selection that have not been answered at consultation events so far.

Attended events on EWR more widely than Fulbourn and to write a broader response for the entire route, focussing on Cambridge Section.

## To Consider:

### Busses 🚌 📍

Bus services are now managed by the Combined Authority rather than the County Council, and I have found liaison with their team difficult. The Authority is redesigning the network for bus franchising in 2028, but Parish Councils and Councillors might feel excluded from discussions. I will retry arranging a route meeting.

### Lighting 🛠️ 💡

A resident-requested area could not be re-illuminated because no electric cable could be found. The Parish Council could consider asking the resident to provide some lighting instead.

### Nature 🐦 🌱

The County Council will open the Local Nature Recovery Plan to the village in 2027, offering opportunities to identify and improve nature, increase nature dedicated areas, and potentially establish community ownership of natural assets. This could be an excellent grassroots project for both Wilbraham villages. I also plan to spend more time this year understanding the chalk streams and supporting the River Protection Society's quest for properly managed augmentation by the Environment Agency, and I want to liaise with Council Officers and Farmers to see where we might deliver nature corridors.

### Community Housing 🏠 🤝

I look forward to the 125th anniversary of the Alms Houses this, Summer. Although it is outside my remit as a County Councillor, I think that many residents in the village recognise houses are often unaffordable, and rarely available for sale. I've also talked to residents that are concerned about cherished institutions like Great Wilbraham School, which faces falling enrolment numbers. Villages can build rural exception sites that allow for community-led building projects, which I believe can lead to better design and nature provision. ACRE is an organisation that can help develop a rural housing needs survey for rural exception site proposals. Hillary Burton in Great Wilbraham has recently talked to ACRE on the same issue and can be contacted for more information if the Little Wilbraham Parish Council is interested.