



**Meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
to be held on Monday 13 July 2026 at 7.30pm**

To Members of the Public and Press

8 July 2026

You are invited to attend a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
to be held in Christchurch Community Centre
for the purpose of transacting the following business.

**Members of the public and press are invited to address the Council
at its Public Time from 7.35pm to 7.50pm**

Dave Gibbs

Parish Clerk

AGENDA

**Members are reminded that they need to declare any personal or prejudicial interest
and reason before an item discussed at this meeting, under the
Model Code of Conduct Order 2001 No 3576**

048/26-27 Apologies for Absence

To receive and consider apologies from those not present.

049/26-27 Chairman's Announcements

To receive such announcements as the Chairman may wish to make to the Council.

050/26-27 Public Time

To receive representations from members of the public regarding issues pertinent to the Council.

051/26-27 Confirmation of Minutes

To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 8 June.

052/26-27 Matters Outstanding

- a) Fenland District Council Infrastructure Plan
- b) Parking outside Townley School
- c) Former Memorial Hall site
- d) Sewage treatment plant at The Croft
- e) Streetlight PC3 Crown Road
- f) Support Fenland survey
- g) Crown Drove signage
- h) Tiger T7 to Manea Station

053/26-27 Police Report

To receive a report on policing matters in the area since the last meeting.

054/26-27 County & District Councillors Reports

To receive reports from Cllrs Fisher, Galbraith, Roy and Summers.

055/26-27 Clerk's Report

To receive a report on meetings attended and correspondence received.

056/26-27 Members and Residents Issues

To consider any matters raised by Members of the Council and local residents.

057/26-27 Recreation Ground

To receive a report on matters relating to the Recreation Ground and play equipment.

058/26-27 Nature Park Project

- a) To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.
- b) To consider quotes for the planting of the hedgerow and installation of the gate.

059/26-27 Village Centre Regeneration Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

060/26-27 Clarion Garden Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

061/26-27 Green Lane Project

To receive a report on progress since the last meeting.

062/26-27 Planning

To consider the following application and to agree a response to the planning authority:

F/YR26/0441/F - Erect a single-storey side extension to existing dwelling - Hackney Cottage, Padgetts Road, Christchurch

063/26-27 Highways

- a) To receive a report from Cllr Feeney on matters relating to the condition of the local roads network.
- b) To receive an update from the Clerk on the 2025/26 Local Highway Improvements project for Wayside Estate.

064/26-27 Finance

To consider and resolve on the following matters:

- a) To receive an updated financial statement for the period to the end of June.
- b) To receive and note the quarterly financial reconciliation
- c) To note the following sums received:

Fenland District Council (concurrent functions grant).....	£	2,567.00
Barclays Bank (interest).....	£	77.17
NatWest Bank (interest).....	£	25.07

- d) To approve the following payment:

Clerk salary and home office allowance.....	£	397.95
Middle Level Commissioners (drainage rates)	£	54.74
Upwell IDB (drainage rates).....	£	53.53

065/26-27 Consultations

- a) Fenland 50 Local Plan - Early Stakeholder Input.
- b) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority - Bus Network Review Engagement.

066/26-27 Three-Year Plan

- a) To receive a report on the submission of an application to the Whitemill Environment Fund.
- b) To agree a date for a meeting of the Projects Working Group.

067/26-27 Matters for Next Meeting

To discuss future agenda items from Councillors.

068/26-27 Date of Next Meeting

To confirm the date of the next Meeting of the Council as Monday 10 August or 14 September.



**Minutes of a meeting of Christchurch Parish Council
held in the Community Centre on Monday 8 June 2026 at 7.30pm**

Present Cllrs A Sparrow (Chairman), J Bliss, B Burfield, R Feeney, J Hughes (from 031/26-27(a)), S Potter, Cllr D Roy (FDC), D Gibbs (Clerk), one parishioner

027/26-27 Apologies for Absence

Cllr J Hayes, Cllr S Fisher (CCC), Cllr M Summers (FDC)

028/26-27 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman announced that The Heron committee had decided to end publication of the magazine, with a final retrospective edition to be published in the autumn. He recalled his experience of the magazine throughout his life. He thanked the many volunteers past and present who had contributed so much to the publication and distribution of The Heron, but explained that digital news and social media had rendered it largely redundant for the majority of residents.

029/26-27 Public Time

A resident asked why the traffic lights remained on the Sixteen Foot Bank approaching Chatteris long after the roadworks had finished. The Clerk will investigate.

030/26-27 Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 11 May were correctly recorded and signed as being a true record.

031/26-27 Matters Outstanding

- a) Fenland District Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan - Cllr Roy explained that the Infrastructure Plan sits within the Local Plan, so the existing plan will become part of Fenland 50. It was last adopted in 2016 as part of the 2014 Local Plan, so recent work to update the plan will be refined for the new plan. It is acknowledged that Christchurch needs enhanced mobile phone signal. Mains gas provision is being explored. Improvements to the mobile library service are also being considered.
- b) Public defibrillators - The new defibrillator is being placed outside the Community Centre replacing the existing one. The new cabinet has been installed in Padgetts Road ready for the old defibrillator from the Community Centre.
- c) Parking outside Townley School - No update.
- d) Overhanging vegetation - A number of hedges have been cut back. Members agreed to reconsider this in the autumn.
- e) Townley School heat pump - Cllr Burfield confirmed that the plan appears to be to install an acoustic box around the heat pump.
- f) Former Memorial Hall site - The new site owner has now contacted the architect who has suggested that he makes contact with the Parish Council.
- g) Sewage treatment plant at The Croft - Cllr Hughes will contact the last known member of the Residents of The Croft Management Committee.
- h) Streetlight PC3 Crown Road - The light is still not working. Upwell Road PC7 and PC9 and the light outside 42 Church Road are not working. The tree obscuring Crown Road PC2A needs to be cut back or removed. A conversation with the resident will be required. There is also a tree obscuring Upwell Road PC9 outside the Community Centre.

- i) Support Fenland survey - Members discussed the need for additional questions but agreed that all essential issues were already included. The Clerk will contact Support Fenland to ascertain whether they wish to distribute the survey with the final edition of The Heron.
- j) Crown Drove signage - The Clerk has contacted the local highways officer and is awaiting a response.
- k) Community Centre signage - Members suggested that the Community Centre Management Committee considers attaching signs to the plastic entry gates outside the Centre.
- l) Tiger T7 to Manea Station - No update.

032/26-27 Police Report

No report received.

033/26-27 County and District Councillors' Reports

Cllr Roy reminded Members that the latest Fenland 50 consultation is open. Agreement has been reached with the landowner to remove the fence adjacent to Syringa House to access the land to clear it. Christchurch now has a Neighbourhood Watch scheme, with Cllr Burfield as the Coordinator. Cllr Roy offered to supply and install lamp post signs for the scheme.

034/26-27 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported on correspondence received, including a reminder about the District Council Chairman's Reception to which all Members are invited. The District Council has successfully prosecuted two people for false Council Tax Support claims. The next Golden Age Fair takes place in Whittlesey on 19 June. Information has been circulated on the food waste recycling scheme launch. The annual testing of the street lights has been completed. Norfolk County Council has issued a traffic order for a closure of March Road, Tipps End from 15 to 26 June. The LEAP free appliance scheme for residents in receipt of means-tested benefits has been relaunched.

035/26-27 Members and Residents Issues

- a) Cllr Hughes mentioned the traffic lights on the Sixteen Foot Bank previously discussed during the Public Time.
- b) Cllr Potter enquired about grass cutting on verges around the village. The Clerk explained that these areas are included on the County Council's village grass cutting contract, but will only be cut three times each year.
- c) Cllr Feeney raised the issue of a noisy car driving around the village. The Clerk asked for details of the vehicle and a recording of the noise.
- d) Cllr Bliss reported long-standing problems with the road surface in Ha'penny Toll Road from the junction with Upwell Road to the County boundary.

036/26-27 Recreation Ground

Cllr Hughes reminded Members of the live music event on 4 July. The Car Show was a great success. The Clerk reported that he is negotiating the delivery of the Pride in Place project for the skatepark with the District Council.

037/26-27 Nature Park Project

The contractor has cultivated the field and is awaiting some rain before sowing the grass. Cllr Hughes mentioned overhanging trees along the access into the Nature Park from Upwell Road. Cllr Sparrow noted that the Drainage Board had asked who was responsible for maintaining the trees.

038/26-27 Village Centre Project

Cllr Sparrow reported that he is refining the plans and identifying challenges for the project to provide clarity.

039/26-27 Clarion Garden Project

An application has been submitted to the Whitemill Environment Fund for the cost of transforming the site. If successful, the construction elements of the project will be delivered by a single contractor, leaving the planting and similar for the Council or residents.

040/26-27 Green Lane Project

Cllr Sparrow reminded Members that they resolved to engage a contractor to cut back the overhanging tree branches. The Clerk tendered this work and circulated a summary of the four quotes received. Members considered the four quotes and resolved to appoint Hamilton Treeworks Ltd to undertake the work.

041/26-27 Planning

a) Members considered the following applications:

- i) F/YR26/0363/F - Erect 5 dwellings - Land South of Illizarov Lodge, Padgetts Road, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection.

- ii) F/YR26/0400/F - Change of use to include pub/restaurant and rural tourism involving the erection of a single-storey side and rear extension, a detached outbuilding involving the demolition of existing outbuilding, and change of use of land to campsite including the siting of 3 x glamping pods and erection of a washing facilities building - Dun Cow, Green Lane, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection however they noted that the proposed development includes the retention of the two caravans to the rear of the building. These were granted temporary permission in November 2022 for a period of three years under reference F/YR22/0900/F which has now expired.

- iii) F/YR26/0409/F - The siting 2 x mobile homes for use as annexes ancillary to existing dwelling - Hackney Cottage, Padgetts Road, Christchurch

They resolved to offer no objection.

b) Members noted the following application:

- iv) F/YR26/0396/TREEEX - 5 day notice: Works to 1x Willow tree covered by TPO8/2001 - Rallingham Hall, Mumbys Drove, Three Holes, Upwell

042/26-27 Highways

a) Cllr Feeney reported that he had spoken to many people including Cllr Kiddell, the new Norfolk County Councillor. He will be attending meetings of other Parish Councils in the area to discuss the idea of collaborative action regarding the duty of care enshrined in the legislation. He is also collecting documentary evidence through Freedom of Information requests.

b) Wayside Estate Local Highway Improvement project 2025/26 - no update.

043/26-27 Finance

a) Members reviewed and adopted the final budget for 2026/27 including the sums carried forward from 2025/26.

b) The management accounts as at 31.5.26 showed income of £16,269.19 and expenditure of £5,732.49, resulting in a surplus of £10,536.70 and total funds held of £62,507.44.

c) Members noted the following sums received since the last meeting:

Fenland District Council (recycling credits)	£	125.45
NatWest Bank (interest).....	£	23.14

d) Members noted the following debit card payment since the last meeting:

Tesco (refreshments).....	£	14.85
e) Members approved the following payments:		
Clerk salary and home office allowance (precept instalment).....	£	398.15
Recreation Ground (recycling credits).....	£	125.45

044/26-27 Three-Year Plan

- a) The Clerk reminded Members that they had resolved to submit an application to the Whitemill Environment Fund for costs associated with the Nature Park, including the planting of a native hedgerow along the northern boundary and elements of the Clarion Garden project. The maximum grant available from the Fund is normally £15,000, however following the last meeting, it became clear that larger applications would be considered. As a consequence, the application was expanded to include the preparation and sowing of the Nature Park, installation of a gate on the vehicular access and the full cost of engaging a contractor to undertake the structural elements of the Clarion Garden project, increasing the application to just over £26,000. The Fund's Panel will meet shortly to assess the applications.
- b) The Chairman reported that the first meeting of the Working Group had been very productive and had provided an opportunity to make progress on all of the projects. He proposed another virtual meeting for which 30 June was agreed.

045/26-27 Public Time

No matters raised.

046/26-27 Matters for Next Meeting

None.

047/26-27 Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the Parish Council will be Monday 13 July.

Agenda Item No.	055/26-27	 Christchurch Parish Council
Meeting Date	13 July 2026	
Report Title	Clerk's Report	

1. Purpose of Report

To report on correspondence received.

2. Report

Cambridgeshire County Council

Roadworks and events bulletins
Cambridgeshire Matters newsletter
Holiday Activities and Food programme

Fenland District Council

Fenlander newsletter
Fenland 50 Local Plan - early stakeholder input
Whitemill Environment Fund application outcome
Changes to Register of Interests publication
Pride in Fenland awards ceremony

NALC - Events update, Chief Executive's bulletin, Star Council awards

CAPALC - Bulletin, Great Collaboration update, Martyn's Law webinar

Cllr Roy - Healthy Living training webinars

Cambridgeshire ACRE - Staying in Touch newsletter, Rural Housing Week, landowner contact

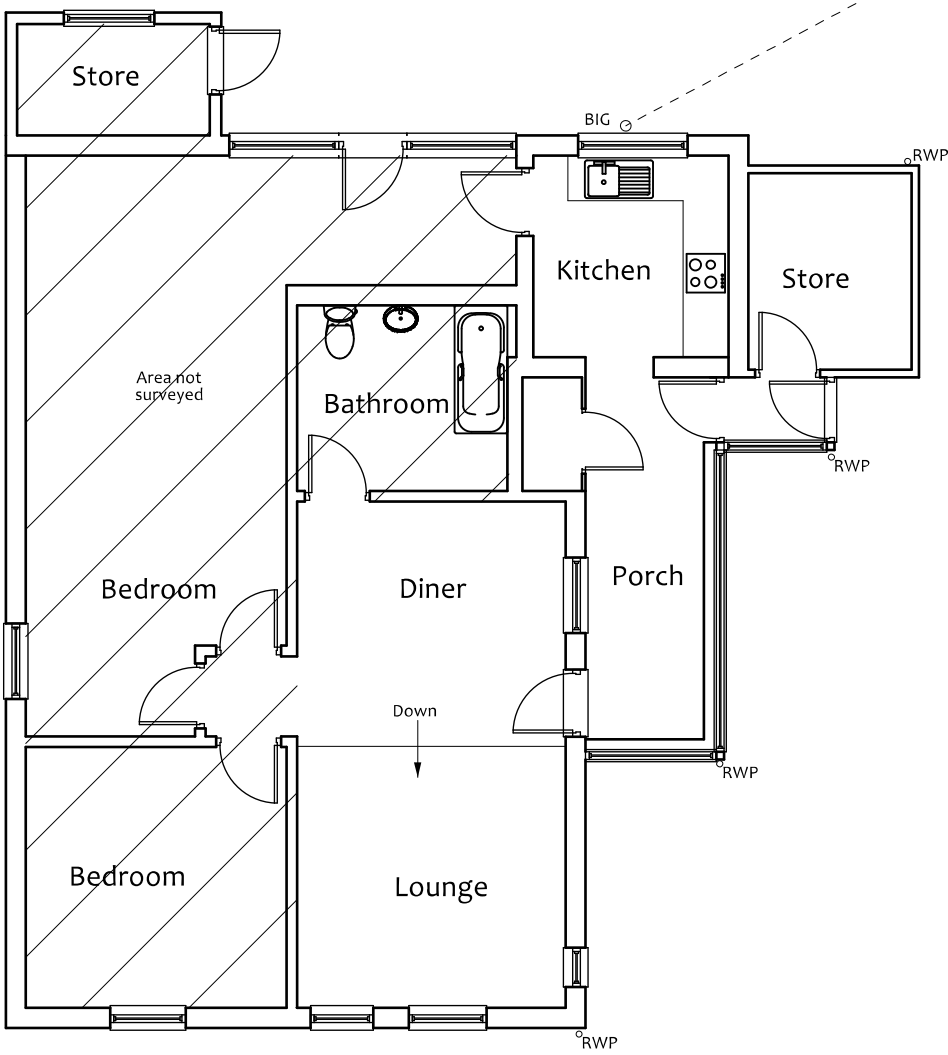
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority - Bus network review

Anglian Water - Fens Reservoir update

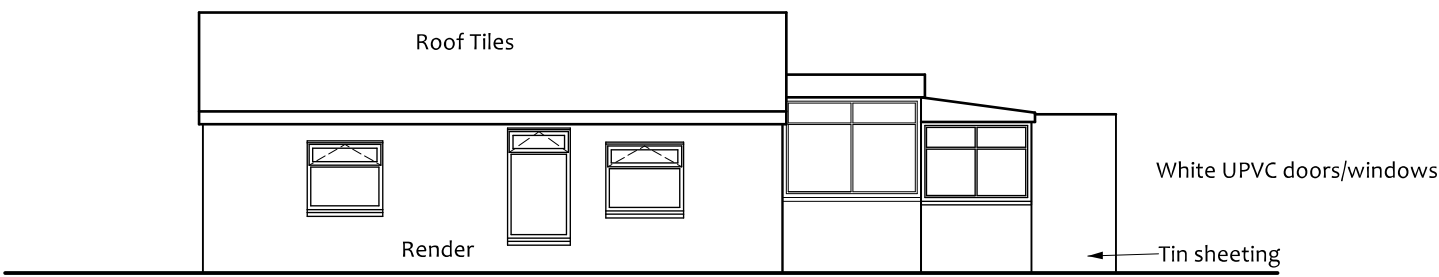
3. Recommendations

Members note the report.

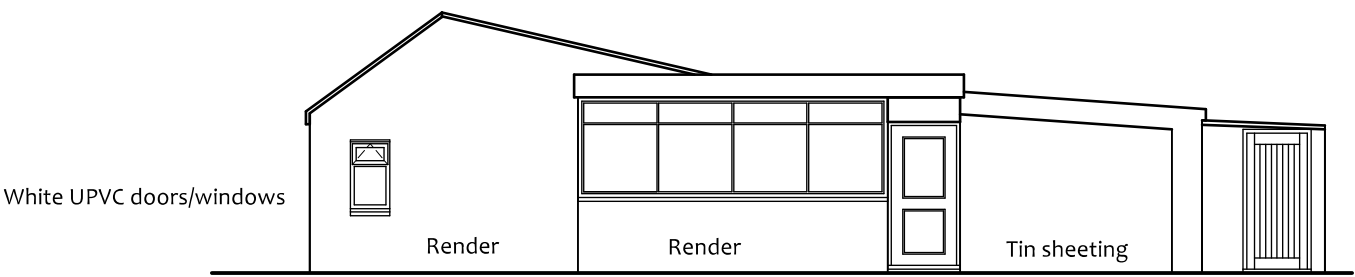
Report Author	Dave Gibbs
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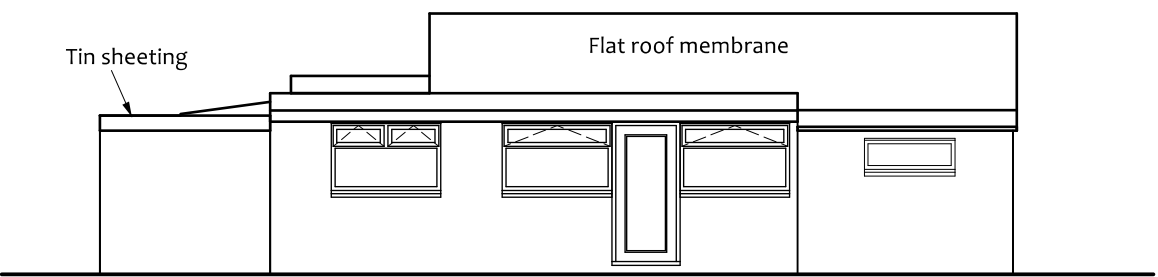
Floor Plan



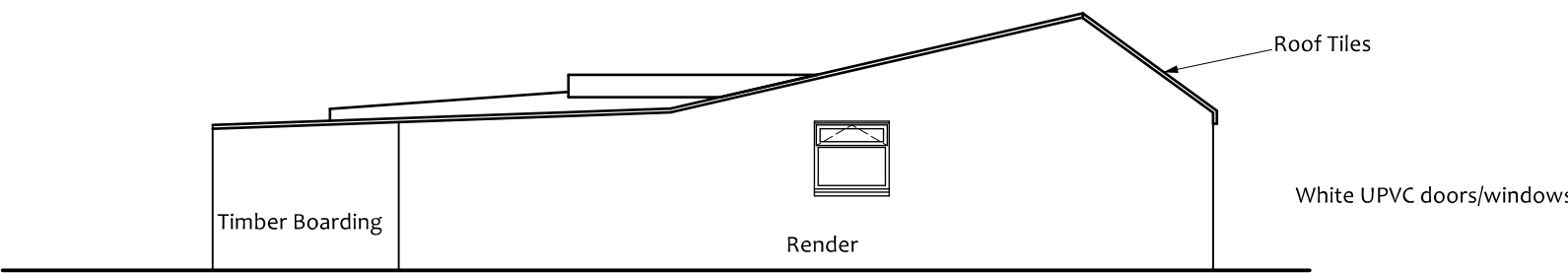
Front Elevation



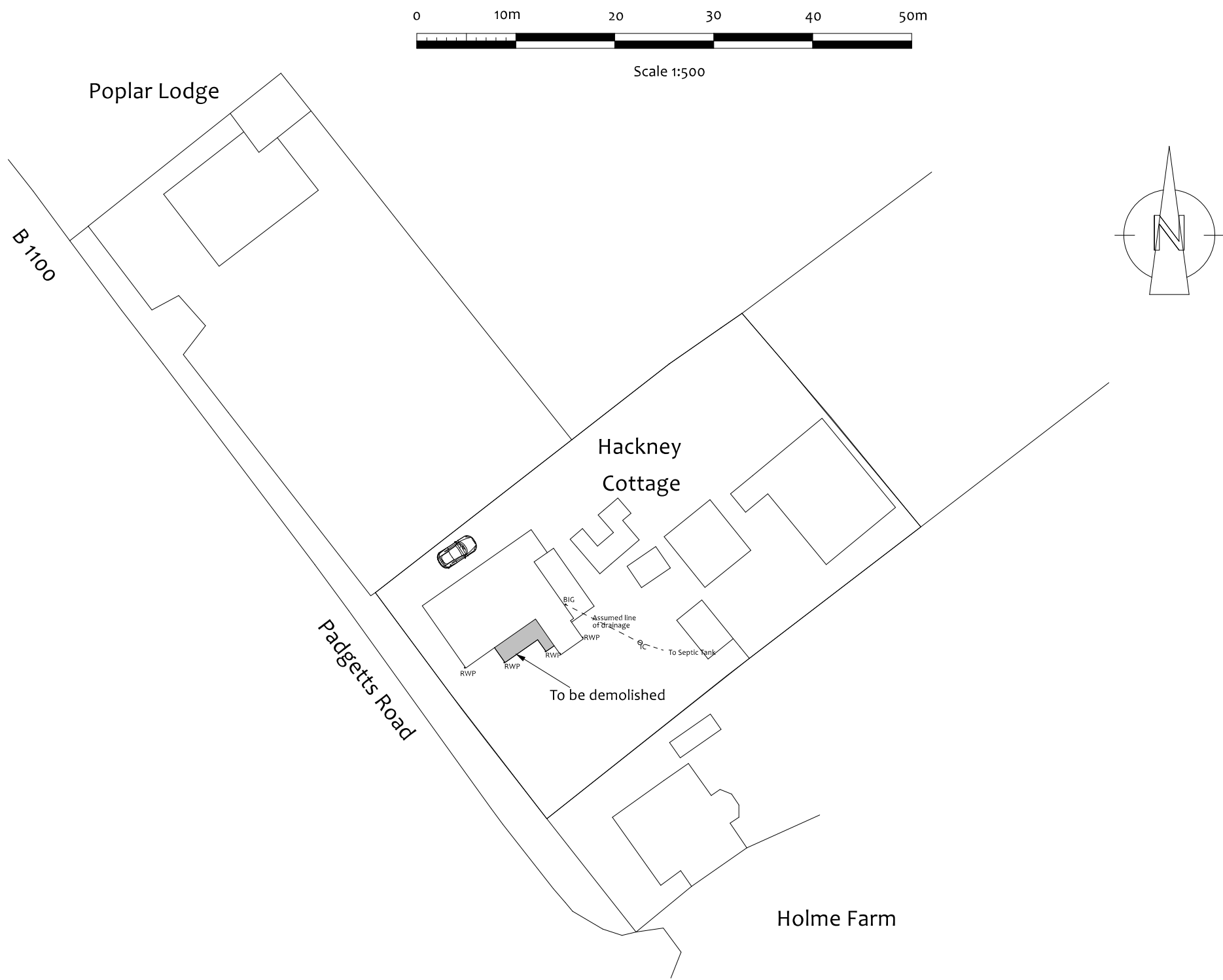
Side Elevation



Rear Elevation



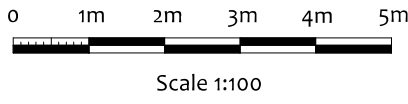
Side Elevation



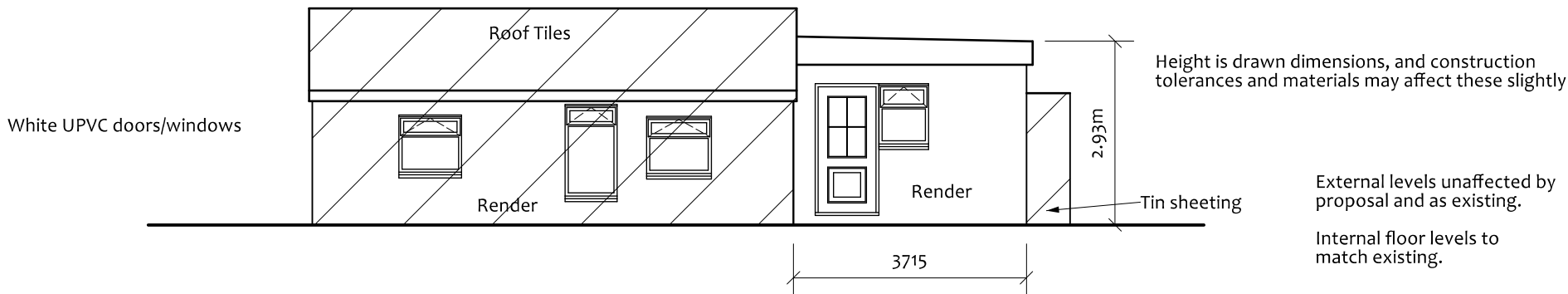
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Site Plan

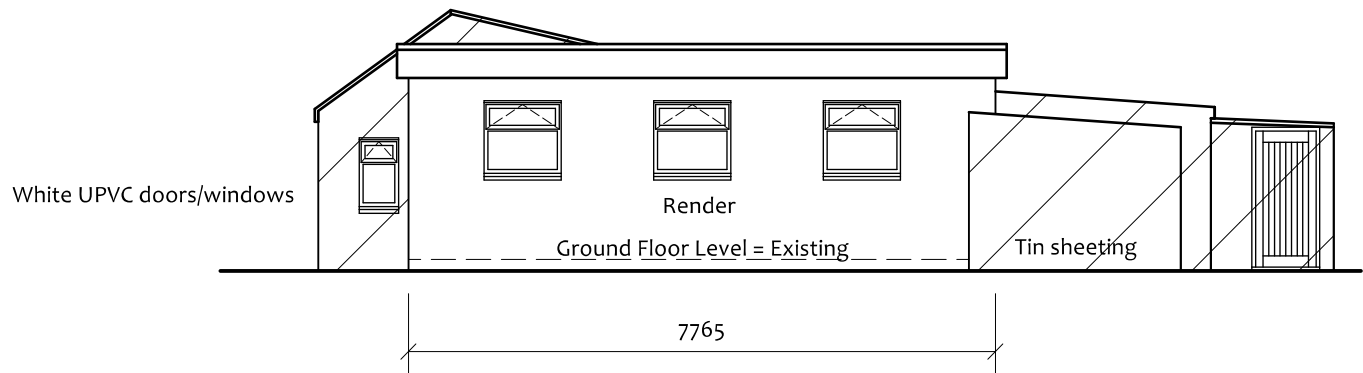
No	Date	Revision
Issue: For Planning Approval		
Site: Hackney Cottage, Padgetts Road, Christchurch, Cambridgeshire, PE14 9PL		
Project: Extension		
Drawing Title: Existing Plans		
Client: Mr and Mrs Griffiths		
Date: May 2026		
Scale: 1:100 and 1:500 at A1		
Drawing Number: P-26-2557-2		



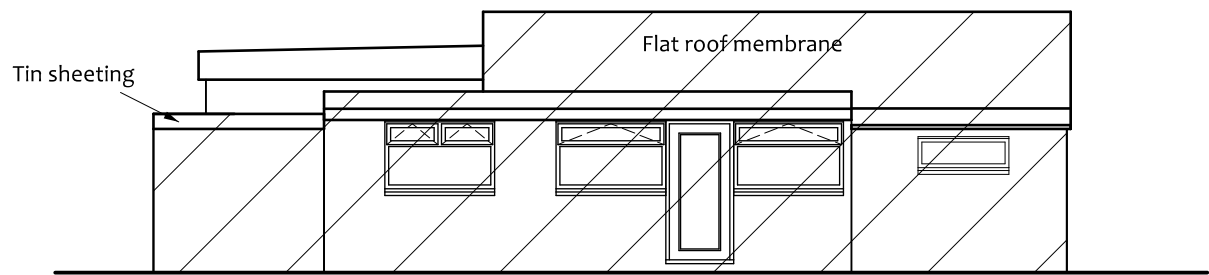
Materials
Walls – Rendered to match existing
Roof – Flat
Doors and Windows – UPVC to match existing



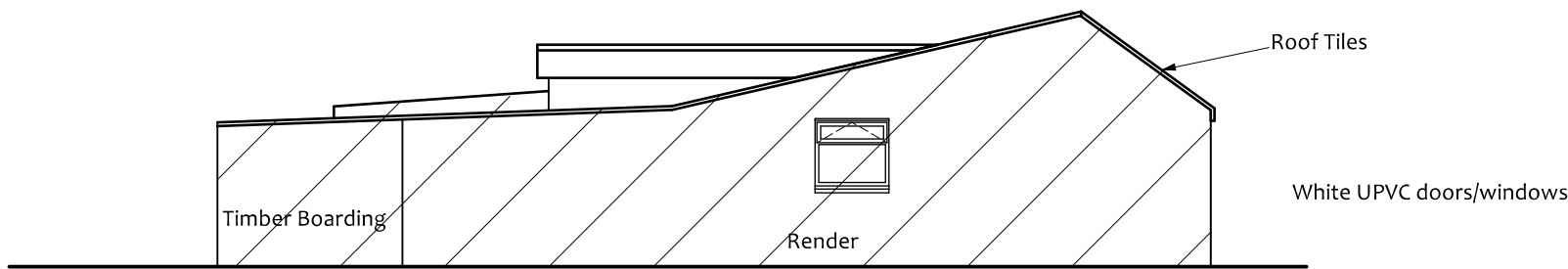
Front Elevation



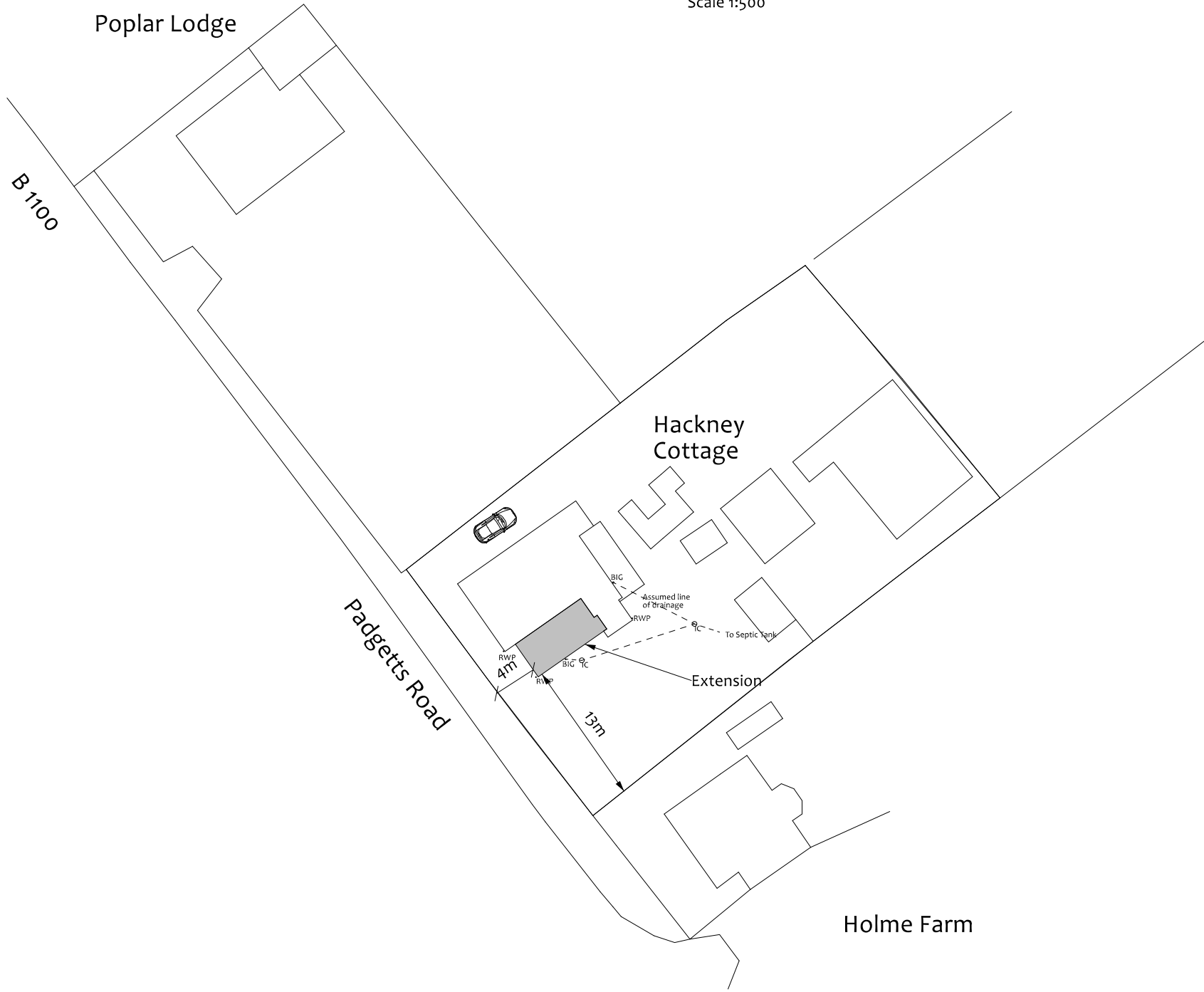
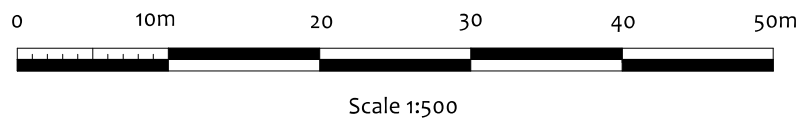
Side Elevation



Rear Elevation

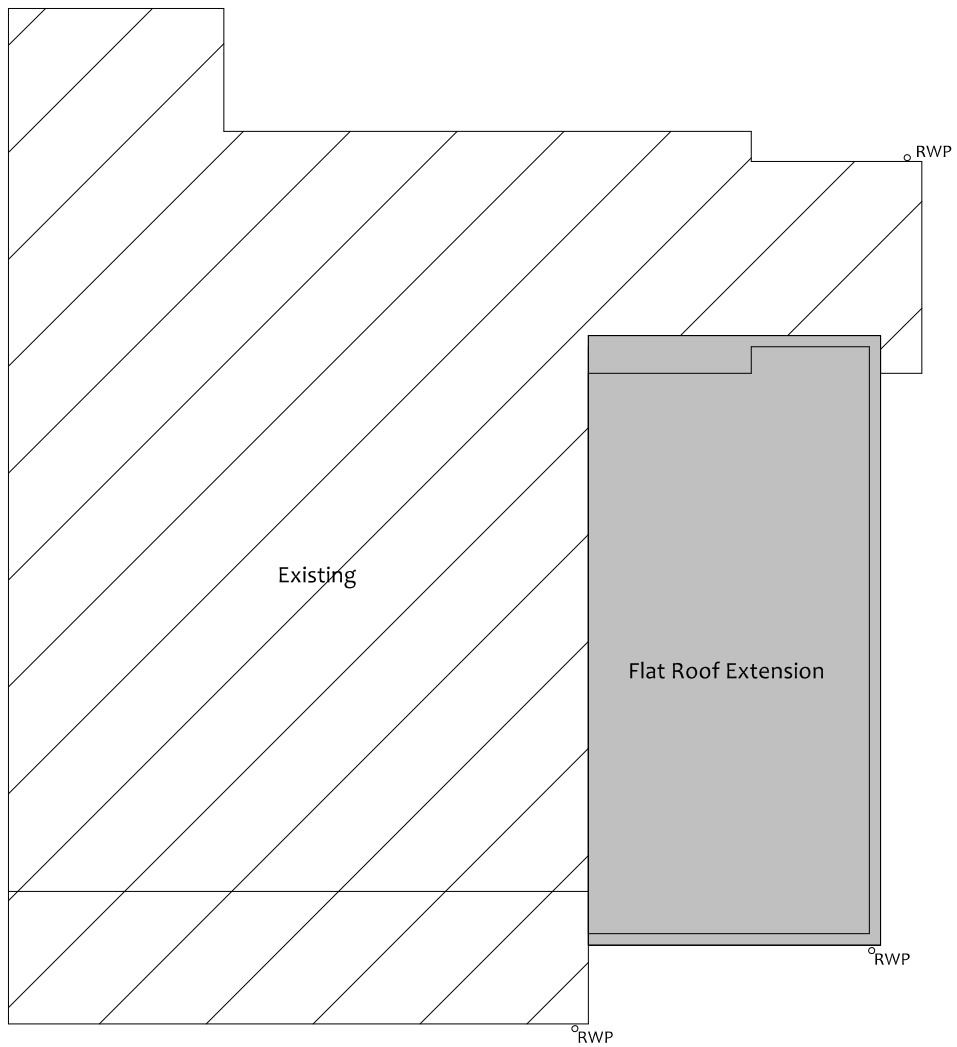


Side Elevation

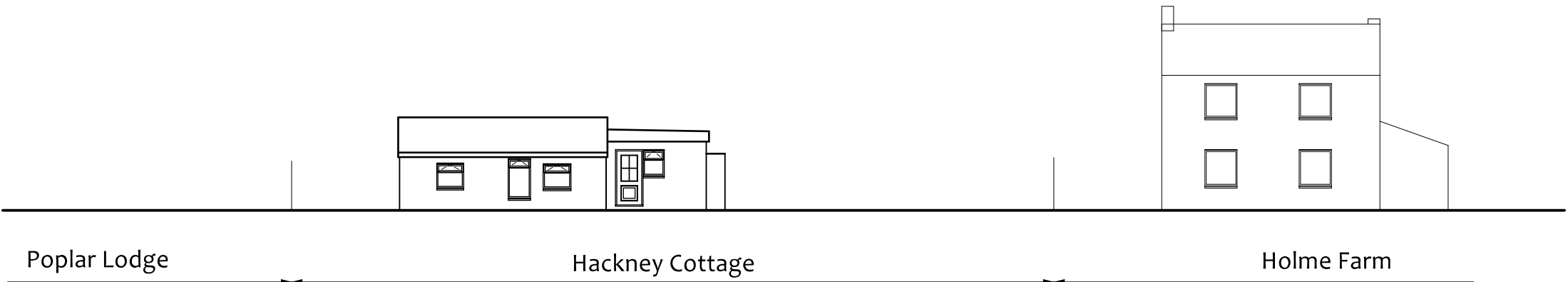


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Site Plan
Scale 1:500



Roof Plan

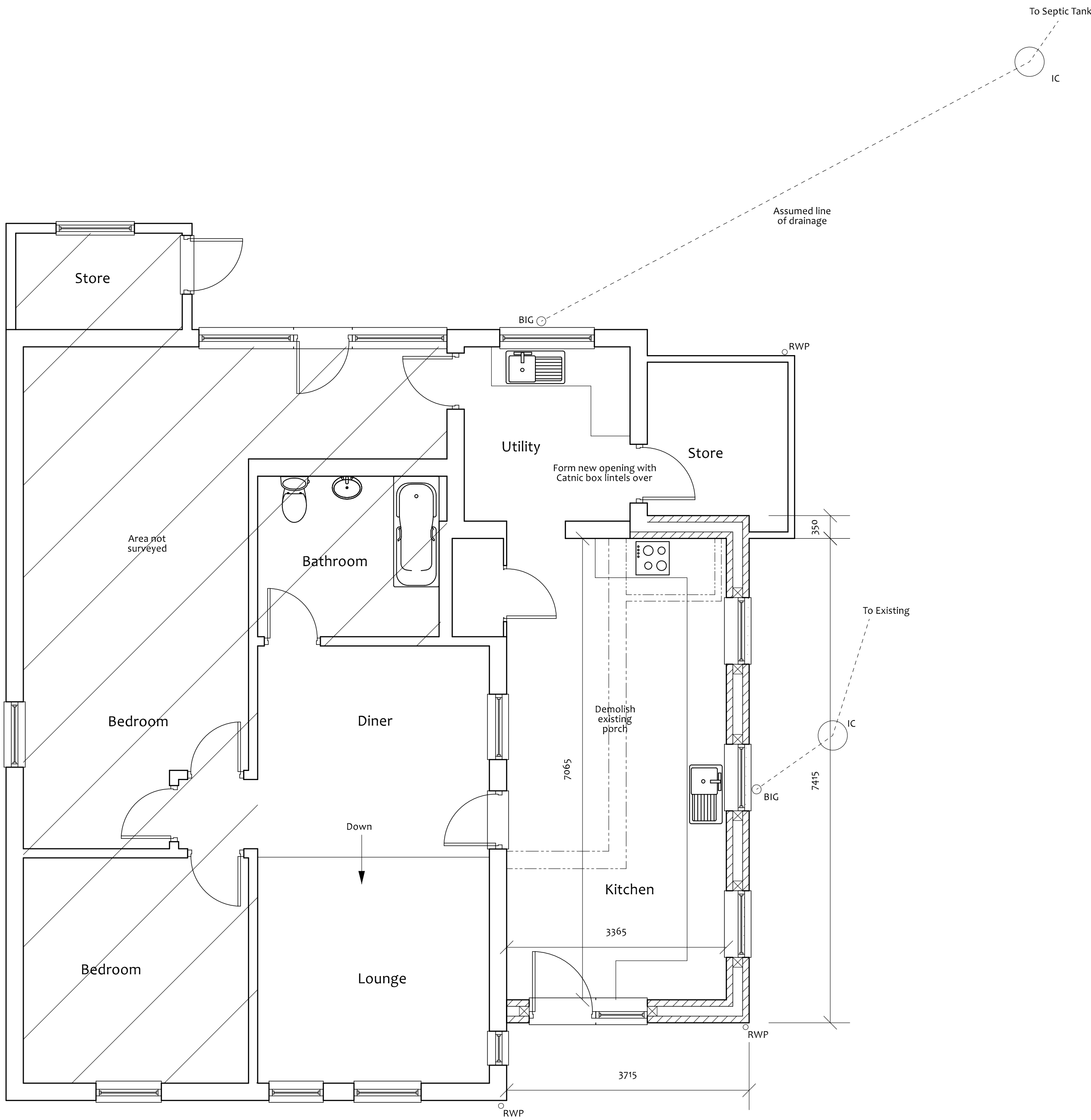
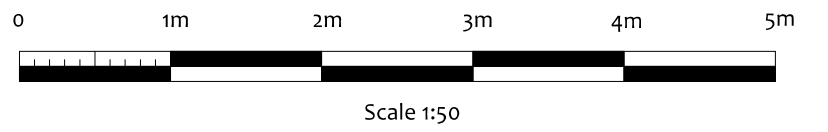


Street Scene
Scale 1:200



Villeneuve - Basin Road - Outwell
Norfolk - PE14 8TQ
07748970781
www.angliabuildingconsultants.co.uk
info@angliabuildingconsultants.co.uk

No	Date	Revision
Issue: For Planning Approval		
Site: Hackney Cottage, Padgett's Road, Christchurch, Cambridgeshire, PE14 9PL		
Project: Extension		
Drawing Title: Proposed Elevations, Roof Plan, Site Plan and Street Scene		
Client: Mr and Mrs Griffiths		
Date: May 2026		
Scale: 1:100, 1:200 and 1:500 at A1		
Drawing Number: P-26-2557-4		



Villeneuve - Basin Road - Outwell
Norfolk - PE14 8TQ
07748970781
www.angliabuildingconsultants.co.uk
info@angliabuildingconsultants.co.uk

No	Date	Revision
Issue: For Planning Approval		
Site: Hackney Cottage, Padgetts Road, Christchurch, Cambridgeshire, PE14 9PL		
Project: Extension		
Drawing Title: Proposed Floor Plan		
Client: Mr and Mrs Griffiths		
Date: May 2026		
Scale: 1:50 at A1 or 1:100 at A3		
Drawing Number: P-26-2557-3		

Christchurch Parish Council - Receipts & Payments Summary as at 30.6.26

Income	Year to Date		Budget	%
FDC Precept	£	16,100.00	£ 32,200.00	50.00
FDC Concurrent Functions Grant	£	2,567.00	£ 2,567.00	100.00
Community Centre	£	-	£ -	0.00
Grants	£	-	£ -	0.00
Donations	£	-	£ -	0.00
Recycling Credits	£	125.45	£ -	#####
Bank Interest	£	145.98	£ 400.00	36.50
VAT Refunds	£	-	£ 2,236.34	0.00
Miscellaneous	£	-	£ -	0.00
Total Income	£	18,938.43	£ 37,403.34	50.63

Expenditure				
Clerk's Salary	£	1,529.09	£ 6,300.00	24.27
Fees	£	269.00	£ 530.00	50.75
Subscriptions	£	455.99	£ 590.00	77.29
Admin Expenses	£	1,711.45	£ 1,400.00	122.25
Insurance	£	-	£ 2,450.00	0.00
Drainage Rates	£	-	£ 110.00	0.00
Recreation Ground	£	1,525.30	£ 2,690.00	56.70
Nature Park	£	-	£ 9,945.00	0.00
Village Centre	£	-	£ 5,000.00	0.00
Churchyard	£	-	£ 1,245.00	0.00
Community Centre	£	-	£ 2,000.00	0.00
Street Lights	£	-	£ 5,000.00	0.00
Section 137 Payments	£	-	£ -	0.00
Highways	£	-	£ 6,000.00	0.00
Recoverable VAT	£	642.06	£ 1,750.00	36.69
Tree Works	£	-	£ -	0.00
Miscellaneous	£	125.45	£ -	#####
Total Expenditure	£	6,258.34	£ 45,010.00	13.90

Summary

Total Income	£	18,938.43
LESS Total Expenditure	£	6,258.34
Net Surplus or Deficit	£	12,680.09

Balance Sheet

Balance B/fwd	£	51,970.74
Surplus or Deficit	£	12,680.09
Balance C/fwd	£	64,650.83

Represented by

Barclays Community Account	£	658.23
Barclays Business Premium Account	£	27,161.73
NatWest Current Account	£	3,338.69
NatWest Deposit Account	£	33,492.18
Cash / Cheques	£	-
	£	64,650.83

Christchurch Parish Council
Bank Reconciliation as at 30.6.26

Cash Book

Balance brought forward from 31.3.26	£	51,970.74
<u>ADD</u> Income received	£	18,938.43
	£	70,909.17
<u>LESS</u> Expenditure incurred	£	6,258.34
	£	64,650.83

Bank Accounts

Barclays Bank Community Account	£	658.23
NatWest Bank Current Account	£	3,338.69
<u>LESS</u> Outstanding Cheques		
	£	-
	£	-
	£	-
	£	-
	£	-
Barclays Bank Business Premium Account	£	27,161.73
NatWest Bank Deposit Account	£	33,492.18
	£	64,650.83

Signed:

Date:

From: [Fenland District Council - Local Plan](#)
To: clerk@christchurchparishcouncil.org.uk
Subject: Fenland 50 Local Plan – Early Stakeholder Input
Date: 08 July 2026 14:10:34



Dear Sir/Madam,

We are at an early stage in preparing a new Local Plan for Fenland, known as Fenland 50, which will guide how the district grows and changes up to 2050.

Following the decision to begin again under the updated planning system, Fenland 50 provides an opportunity to take a fresh, forward-looking approach, working with partners and communities to shape a plan that reflects what matters most to Fenland.

At this stage, we are not consulting on specific sites or policy options. Instead, we are seeking early, high-level input from key stakeholders to help us understand the challenges, opportunities and priorities that the Local Plan should address.

We would welcome your views on the following:

1. Challenges and Opportunities
What do you see as the most significant challenges and opportunities facing Fenland over the next 15–20 years that the Local Plan should respond to?
2. Issues for Further Exploration
Are there specific issues, trends, or emerging changes that the Local Plan should explore in more detail as it develops?
3. Priorities for the Plan
From your perspective, what should be the key priorities or areas of focus for the Local Plan?
4. Engagement and Participation
What would be the most effective ways for us to engage with you

and the communities or interests you represent during preparation of the Local Plan, and are there any capacity constraints or barriers that could affect your ability to participate?

5. Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Review

The Council is currently refreshing the 2025 Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. Are you aware of any plans, strategies, programmes, evidence or legislative changes published since 2025 that the Sustainability Appraisal and Fenland 50 Local Plan should take into account?

Your input will help shape the scope and direction of the plan before more detailed work begins.

You can find more information about Fenland 50, including the current consultation activity, on our website:

<https://www.fenland.gov.uk/Fenland50>

If you would prefer to discuss these questions directly, we would be pleased to arrange a meeting.

Please send any responses to planningpolicy@fenland.gov.uk by close of play Monday 20 July 2026.

Thank you in advance for your input and continued engagement.

Kind regards

The Planning Policy Team
Fenland District Council

<https://www.fenland.gov.uk>

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Fenland Area Proposed Changes

These bus service proposals are ideas we are consulting on, rather than final decisions. They are being shared so we can hear your views and better understand what matters most to people and communities across the region.

We have developed these proposals to try to meet the needs of the region as a whole, improve connections, and make the best use of available resources. However, they are not set in stone, and we will continue to review and refine them in light of the feedback we receive.

We really welcome your views and very much appreciate you taking the time to look through the proposed changes and complete the survey. Your feedback will play an important role in shaping the final proposals.

Services Before:

- T7: Wisbech to Chatteris
- 46: Wisbech to March
- 56: Wisbech to Manea or Benwick
- 60: Wisbech – Three Holes – Downham Market

Services After:

- Fenland Revised Service A: Wisbech to Ramsey
- Fenland Revised Service B: Wisbech to Chatteris
- Fenland Service 60: Wisbech – Three Holes – Downham Market

What these changes mean:

More buses between Wisbech and March: The current service between Wisbech and March will become hourly. It will be renamed (currently service 46) to avoid confusion with another service 46 that runs to King's Lynn. Together with the new Fenland Revised Service B, there will be two buses per hour between Wisbech and March.

New direct links to Ramsey and Doddington Hospital: The new Fenland Revised Service A will continue beyond March to Benwick and Ramsey. This will provide faster and more direct connections to Ramsey and Doddington Hospital.

Better connections between March, Manea, and Chatteris: The current 56 service will be extended from Manea to Chatteris and become hourly. Residents will benefit from improved links between March, Manea and Chatteris.

T7 will be replaced: The existing T7 route will be withdrawn and replaced by the new Fenland Revised Service A and Fenland Revised Service B network. The aim is to provide a simpler and more sustainable service focused on journeys within Cambridgeshire.



Christchurch will lose its regular bus service: Christchurch will no longer be served by a fixed-route bus. Instead, passengers will be able to use the Fenland Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service, which must be booked in advance. The change is proposed because current passenger numbers on the T7 through Christchurch are very low.

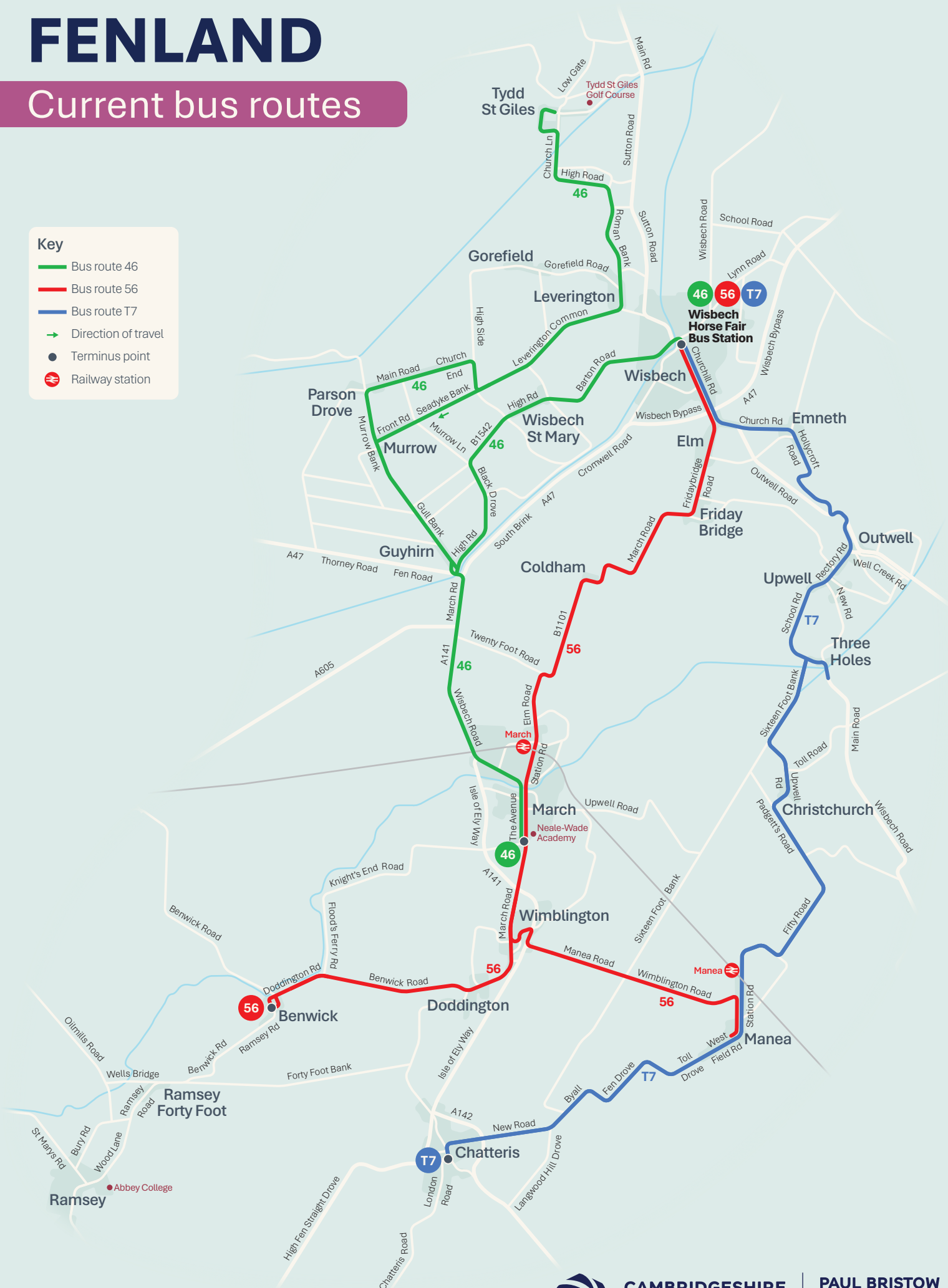
Pros	Cons & Mitigations
• Significant improvements to services across Fenland • Linking into Manea Rail Station for connections from Chatteris • New fast and direct connection to Ramsey for Doddington Hospital, March and Chatteris • Improved frequency between March and Manea to hourly • Connections between Wisbech and March enhanced to two coordinated journeys per hour in each direction.	• Loss of scheduled bus service to Christchurch • Loss of links to Norfolk from Chatteris and reduced service level to villages in Norfolk.

FENLAND

Current bus routes

Key

- Bus route 46
- Bus route 56
- Bus route T7
- Direction of travel
- Terminus point
-  Railway station



FENLAND

Proposed bus routes

Key

Proposed bus route A

Proposed bus route B

Direction of travel

Terminus point

Railway station

