

# Cogenhoe & Whiston Parish Council

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## Community Infrastructure Levy Policy

The **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)** is a charge that Local Authorities can make on new developments in their area. It was introduced by the Government in April 2010 under the CIL Regulations 2010. The CIL is essentially a pre-set charge that can be applied to new developments and collected by each local authority. CIL is intended to be used to help towards funding a range of infrastructure that is needed as a result of new development, for example road schemes, schools and community facilities.

At a meeting of South Northants Council on 21st October 2015, Councillors agreed to adopt the Community Infrastructure Levy, with effect from 1st April 2016. The CIL will contribute towards providing the necessary infrastructure that assists the delivery of future growth proposed through plan making. This will also ensure that more development contributes to the infrastructure needed to mitigate and reduce the impact on the communities in which the new development is taking place. The CIL gives the Council greater control and flexibility over where and on what developer contributions are spent, to benefit local communities.

A proportion of CIL income will go directly to Parish and Town Councils, where new development is built to spend as they wish on their local infrastructure needs. Each year, Parish and Town Councils will be entitled to up to 15 per cent of the CIL collected from liable developments within their Parish/Town (capped at a maximum of £100 per existing dwelling in the Parish/Town).

See the following for further details-

<http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/7143.htm>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/community-infrastructure-levy>

### **WHAT CAN CIL MONIES BE SPENT ON?**

CIL monies can be spent on the provision, improvement, replacement, operation or maintenance of infrastructure, or anything else that is concerned with addressing demands that development places on an area. This gives communities freedom and power to spend the money on a wide range of things, in consultation with the community.

The wider definition means that the neighbourhood funding pot can be spent on things other than infrastructure (as defined in the Community Infrastructure Levy regulations). For example, the pot could be used to fund affordable housing where it would support the development of the area by addressing the demands that development places on the area.

Where community priorities for infrastructure are the same as those of the local authority, for example if they are agreed a new school or road is needed, the community can agree that the local authority will keep all or part of the 15% funding element to ensure maximum funding is enabled.

Other community groups can apply to the Parish Council for consideration of funding of an infrastructure project (in a similar way to a S137 grant application) at anytime. Such an

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application will be considered by the whole council but it must be an 'infrastructure' project and for the good of the whole community.

### What is infrastructure?

'Infrastructure' is broadly defined in the Town and Country Planning Act 2008.

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/216>

There are typically 3 broad categories of infrastructure: -

Physical infrastructure: e.g. highways, transport links, cycleways, energy supply, water, flood alleviation, waste management

Social infrastructure: e.g. education, health, social care, emergency services, art and culture, sports halls, community halls

Green infrastructure: e.g. parks, woodlands, play areas, public open space

### SPENDING CIL

Parish Councils should spend their local CIL monies within 5 years of receipt. Where money is not used to support development of the area within five years of receipt, or is used for other purposes, the regulations give charging authorities the power to recover those funds. This is to ensure that money is spent, and spent effectively, to benefit the local community.

### MONITORING

Just like the charging authority, Parish Councils will have to produce a publicly available annual report on the use of their share of the CIL receipts. This will include the total receipts for the reported year, the projects CIL has been applied to, and the amount of expenditure on each item. The report should be publicly available and published on the Parish or Borough Council website.

### RECEIPT OF MONIES

Monies will be transferred to the Parish Council twice yearly by South Northants Council. Upon receipt, these monies will be 'ringfenced' by the Parish Council and only spent on projects already identified in the council's 'infrastructure projects list' (see appendix 1), subject to full council approval and in accordance with council Financial Regulations, i.e following process for quotations etc.

Signed..... Date.....

Chairman Cogenhoe & Whiston Parish Council

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### Appendix 1

Identified infrastructure projects for financing through CIL monies;

- upgrade village bus shelters
- replace concrete lighting columns as the need arises.
- replace village noticeboards.
- upgrade streetlights, provide additional lighting if need arises
- upgrade VAS signs (newer models also gather data).