

From: [Cllr Susan van de Ven](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Fw: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF
Date: 22 January 2024 20:55:38
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Dear Abi and Alex, Sally Ann and Jose,

Please see below - from a resident's query in Clear Crescent. I'm very sorry that the County Council cannot provide the support desired; the LHI route is suggested.

Best wishes
Susan

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 January 2024 15:22
To: Cllr Susan van de Ven <Susan.vandeVen@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>
Cc: Local Highways <Local.Highways@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF

Dear Susan,

Thank you for your e-mail and I have checked our street lighting inventory and as noted by [REDACTED] below, a street lighting column at the side of property number [REDACTED] in Palmers Way was removed as part of the street lighting PFI contract replacement programme in 2013.

Unfortunately, the street lighting service does not have a budget provision or process for the installation of new lighting columns or the funding provision to cover future maintenance and energy costs which would need to be covered should additional lights be installed; therefore we are not able to assist with installing the requested replacement/new streetlight.

It may be possible that funding for the proposed new/replacement streetlight could be obtained from the County Councils local highways improvement (LHI) initiative fund (please see link below to CCC webpage). <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/improving-the-local-highway/local-highway-improvement-funding>

Or possibly the local Parish Council could fund the new street light installation work themselves and retain ownership for the proposed new street lighting column once installed.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Strategic Projects Manager
Highways and Transport
Cambridgeshire County Council
[REDACTED]



From: Cllr Susan van de Ven <Susan.vandeVen@cambridgeshire.gov.uk>

Sent: Sunday, January 21, 2024 8:43 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF

Dear [REDACTED]

I hope all is well with you.

Please see a query from the bottom of the thread below about a lighting deficit in Melbourn around a sheltered housing estate, stemming from the replacement and reduction of street lamps some years ago which created a gap in a neighbourhood that is home to more vulnerable people.

I would be grateful if you could let me know whether there might be a means for addressing this.

Many thanks
Susan

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: Susan van de Ven on behalf of Susan van de Ven <susanvandeven5@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2024 11:35:13 AM

To: [REDACTED]; Cllr Jose Hales (SCambs - Melbourn)

<cllr.hales@scambs.gov.uk>

Subject: Re: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF

Hi [REDACTED],

Thanks and all understood. We will certainly find out if anything can be done.

Best wishes

Susan

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, January 13, 2024 10:28:46 AM

To: Cllr Jose Hales (SCambs - Melbourn) <cllr.hales@scambs.gov.uk>;
susanvandeven5@gmail.com <susanvandeven5@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF

Dear Cllr Jose Hales and Cllr Susan van de Ven

Thank you for your prompt response.

My wife and I had not long moved into Palmers Way when the lamp post was removed and at no time did we receive any notifications that the lamp post was under consideration for removal or the ability to appeal, Apart from the light on our front door, which is movement activated, or if neighbor's have their lights on, the rest of this area is in darkness, I am sure if you walk down our path any time after dark you would appreciate our concerns..

There are 3 lamp posts on the corner of Palmers Way and Clear Crescent that do not afford this group of dwellings any light at all? We realise that we have lived with this situation for a long time but have now reached a stage in our life where we are struggling with the dark paths and trying to find our own gate. June has become very fearful of being out after dark now, aside from the fact she is registered disabled she cannot always safely find the path.

The vandalism to the car seems to be getting more frequent which in itself is concerning as the dark seems to be encouraging these activities. June is having sleepless nights worrying that there are people sneaking around out there and scared in case they become bold enough to break into the property.

There are also young children living in this area, some are of the age to be out visiting their friends after dark. It is surely a worry that they are also at risk in such a dark environment. I do not know what the cost of running one lamp post is but which is more important safety or cost?

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

On Sat, Jan 13, 2024 at 9:11 AM Cllr Jose Hales (SCambs - Melbourn) <cldr.hales@scambs.gov.uk> wrote:

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for writing to me.

I'm sorry to hear about your experiences regarding vandalism against your car.

I recall very well back when the County Council PFI contract (Private Finance Initiative) was first brought forward. It was to reduce the cost, electric usage and maintenance costs. The project was to reduce the lamp posts by a third if I recall, which is why we had so many lights removed, the lamp post you talk of would have been one of those removed.

There was a process that could be adopted early on when the main changes were undertaken, that allowed on appeal for the odd lamp post to remain, however this far along I'm uncertain whether that option still exists. I have copied my colleague Susan van de Ven, our county councillor into this reply to you, as she may well have more information available to her.

Regarding and reduction in council tax, one of the reasons for reduction of lamp posts was cost of running, this question has been asked before and the answer was always no.

I'm sure the question can be asked about reinstatement of a lamp post and Susan will advise on that, however may I offer a health check, that it may well be refused.

Kind regards

Cllr Jose Hales

Mobile: 07703 262649

Email: Jose@josehales.me.uk

Scdc email: cldr.hales@scambs.gov.uk

District Councillor for Melbourn, Meldreth, Shepreth & Whaddon.

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, January 12, 2024 11:16 PM

To: cldr.hales@scambs.gov.uk

Subject: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF

Dear Cllr Jose Hales

For your information please see the below email sent to Cambridge County Council regarding the lack of street lighting outside our home on Palmers Way.

Apologies for not including you in the original message.

We hope that as you are local this might be an issue you are already familiar with and can therefore possibly assist with?

We look forward to your kind response.

Thank you
Kindest regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: [REDACTED]
Date: 12 January 2024 at 15:29:33 GMT
To: street.lighting@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Subject: Ref: Street Lighting - SG8 6JF

I have today spoken to Cambridge County Council and also to Mr. Achi at Balfour Beatty regarding the lack of street lighting on Palmers Way, Melbourn SG8 6JF

My wife and I live in sheltered accommodation at number [REDACTED]. We do not have, either to our left or right, a street light nearer than approx.100 yards. Several years ago there was a light opposite our bungalow but that was removed and for some reason never replaced when the street lighting was all upgraded.

We do not receive any light from the 2 lights either side of us, it is pitch black along the front of the houses at nights, which is probably the reason why our car has been vandalised 3 or 4 times in the last couple of years, costing us serious amounts of [money.in](#) repairs.

Most of these bungalows are sheltered, my wife and I are in our 70's the lady next door is 96, the darkness makes us feel vulnerable. On a moonless night it is impossible to see the footpath

or the gate.

We would like you to look into putting the original street light back and also please can you advise us whether the lack of this street lighting for at least the last ten years should have reduced our council tax?

We look forward to receiving your response regarding any proposed actions to correct this matter.

Thank you for your kind assistance
Kindest regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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