



HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

**Held on Monday 28 February 2022 at 7.00 pm at the
Hemingford Abbots Village Hall**

Present:

Parish Councillors: Marcus Whewell (Chair), Zoe Ryall (Vice Chair), Bridget Flanagan, John Peters, Peter Keen, Bob Penney and Phillip Cooke.

HDC Councillor: Sarah Conboy

CCC Councillor: Doug Dew

Clerk: Maxine Blewett

Members of the Public: Nine

MINUTES	
136.	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>a) Parish Sports Programme (PSP): Tom Leonard, Sports Development Officer at HDC, presented a brief report on the PSP. The scheme provides a range of sporting activities for 5-11 year olds during the school holidays and all equipment is provided. Two coaches provide support to a maximum of 20 children. Parents can sign-up their children for either a block of sessions or just one (there is no minimum number of sessions). Parish Councils cover the cost of the sessions which is £22.20 per hour per Coach, plus set up and pack up time.</p> <p>b) Meadow Lane (ML) Parking Issues: Two members of the public spoke about their health and safety concerns for walkers. Walkers are having to move off the road on to CCC's verges to avoid oncoming vehicles. Many homeowners along ML have placed rocks along the verges at the front of their homes to prevent vehicles parking there. The rocks are making it difficult for some people to manoeuvre e.g., those with pushchairs/wheelchairs. Broken wooden posts are also causing the same issue (along the left hand side of ML heading towards the Bailey Bridge). Cllr JP and BF gave a brief account of previous PC actions relating to the wooden posts and the removal of the rocks. HAPC asked CCC to organise the removal of the rocks, but this was not actioned. Cllr DD said that he would speak to his new Highways Officer and arrange a site visit for these issues to be fully considered. Cllr JP is to send DD all previous correspondence with CCC on the removal of the rocks.</p> <p>Drivers of vehicles cannot easily turn their cars around and are making dangerous 'U' turns in homeowners' driveways. A request was made that the Anglian Water area be made a turning point.</p> <p>At night it is very dark near the Bailey Bridge, potentially increasing H&S issues, so would the PC consider putting a streetlight at the end of the lane?</p> <p>c) Red, White and Blue Flowers for the Queen's Jubilee: a member of the public requested support from HAPC, HDC and CCC with village plans to plant wildflowers in block areas in the village, (2 on Rideaway, 1 on Chapmans and 1 on Sunnymead). Also, to fill 8-11 planters which will be placed at the entrances to Hemingford Abbots and in other areas around the village. Work will need to begin soon so that the flowers are in full bloom for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee 2-6 June. If successful the block areas can be replanted, or reseeded and continue beyond 2022.</p> <p>d) Hemingford Action Group (HAG): Iain Muspratt gave an update on the development of the old golf course. HAG are active in opposing the development of a waste recycling plant and continue to seek answers to several questions regarding ownership/previous planning applications and permitted use of the Astro-turf site. IM suggested that developing a Neighbourhood Plan may give control to the Parish to decide on future planning applications. HAPC may also wish to consider having a Repair Shop and a competition for under 16s to reduce household waste.</p> <p>e) A Biodiversity Report for the Hemingford Park Planning Application: A member of the public has been in contact with HDC to draw their attention to the many species of wildlife in the</p>

	<p>area and was advised that it would be appropriate to ask that HAPC request a report on the biodiversity of the area.</p> <p>f) 21/02853/HHFUL Little Oak, 1 Abbots Close, Hemingford Abbots: The owners of the property presented their plans and reasons for why they are wishing to extend the property to HAPC.</p>
137.	<p>To receive reports from County and District Councillors</p> <p>HDC Cllr SC's update included: confirmation that the budgets had been set in February; preparations are underway for the May elections; there are still staffing shortages in Enforcement and Planning which are a cause for concern to delivery of these services and there is a new Code of Conduct for Councillors, which HAPC may wish to adopt. Cllr SC is looking into why HAPC has not been updated on the replanting of trees on private property near to Royal Oak Lane (outstanding from last year). Cllr JP asked why HDC's Constitution including Powers of Delegation to Officers, was not on the HDC website. Cllr SC asked Cllr DD to investigate this and report back.</p> <p>CCC Cllr DD's update included: allocation of the increased budget, highlighting only 10% had been allocated to Highways; some services are to be combined to avoid silo-working; a new Highway's Officer has been appointed; CCC and the Environment Agency to support Flood Action Groups; the Active Travel Initiative will see more walking and cycling routes around Cambridgeshire and COVID cases appear to be reducing in schools.</p> <p>Cllr PK asked if HAPC could be given direct dial telephone numbers into HDC and CCC departments. Calls to the Customer Service telephone number was taking too long to be answered and the call handler, on occasion, was unable to transfer the call because the extension number wasn't available.</p>
138.	<p>To receive Apologies for absence</p> <p>None</p>
139.	<p>Councillors' Declaration of Interests</p> <p>Cllr BP on 140.3 and will leave the meeting before this item is discussed.</p>
140. 140.1	<p>To Consider planning applications, decision notices and tree work applications received.</p> <p>21/02871/HHFUL Alternative Reference PP-10505328. Single storey rear extension, replace porch, convert garage to an annex, construct a detached garage/outbuilding including permeable driveway and changes to access. Kyrenia Royal Oak Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AF. Application Received Thu 23 Dec 2021 Validated 17/1/22 Status in progress. Respond by 3/3/22 (Ext. granted).</p> <p>HAPC resolved to recommend refusal of this application because of issues around the arboricultural report which recommended the felling of the protected cypress tree because of possible infection. Specifically, there is a discrepancy between the words in the summary and the detailed table (which importantly states, 'possible infection' and that the tree is in 'fair to good condition'). In addition, in recent previous applications regarding the site (requests for tree work), no reference was made to any health issues regarding the tree with the TPO protection. It is also understood that the described condition (phytophthora) is a reportable disease. Finally, HAPC also wants to express its concerns regarding insufficient information about flooding and the use of the incorrect reporting form.</p>
140.2	<p>21/02853/HHFUL Little Oak, 1 Abbots Close, Hemingford Abbots. Proposal: Single storey rear and side extension and addition of first floor and garage. Respond by 3/3/22 (Ext. granted).</p> <p>HAPC resolved to recommend refusal of this application as there was important missing information regarding relevant Tree Preservation Orders; specifically, that several trees on the site with TPOs in place were missing from the plans and related report.</p> <p><u>Cllr Bob Penney left the meeting.</u></p>
140.3	<p>21/01768/FUL Hemingford Park. HAPC resolved to write to HDC to request that an appropriate and comprehensive biodiversity survey is carried out to determine the potential impact on the resident wildlife before any decision is reached on this application.</p> <p><u>Cllr Bob Penney re-joined the meeting</u></p>
141.	<p>To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 24th January 2022</p> <p>It was RESOLVED to amend, approve and sign the meeting minutes from the Parish Council meetings held on the 24th of January 2022.</p>
142. 142..1	<p>Action List & Matters arising from the previous meetings:</p> <p>HAPC Welcome Card for new residents - Cllr PC informed the Parish Council that the Welcome Card was ready, but printing had been deferred until the results of the 2022 Elections are known.</p>
142.2	<p>Noticeboards for the Playing field – update (BF) – Coral Walton has confirmed that the cost for installing the notices at the side entrances to the Playing Field is £265 plus VAT.</p>

142.3	Environment Agency/Astro Turf Site – update (MW) – A formal letter of complaint is now ready to be issued to the Environment Agency.
142.4	Replacement Village Gate on New Road – Since the PC meeting on 28 th February, the H/Grey Village Gates have been removed and are awaiting collection and fitting. Clerk to arrange the fitting of the It was reclaimed Village Gate.
142.5	Review the quotes received for the replacement of the U-Bolt on the Standing Swing and decide which company to use – RESOLVED to place the order to replace one U-Bolt with B .E. Welding Ltd, Huntingdon.
142.6	Review the quotes received for the assessment of the streetlights and decide which company to use. RESOLVED to defer this decision until the next meeting. Clerk is to circulate to all Cllrs. a quote that had been received after the notice had been served to attend the PC.
143.	To support to the planting of red, white, and blue wildflowers in specific areas of the village during the month of March. It was RESOLVED that HAPC would support and contribute up to £350 towards the planting of wildflowers seeds and the production of 11 planters filled with flowers.
144.	Active Lifestyles Team (HDC) – HAPC to explore the delivery of multi-sport sessions to young residents during school holidays. RESOLVED for HAPC to contact HGPC to ask if they would be interested in engaging with the Active Lifestyles initiative jointly with HAPC. The Peace Memorial Playing Field, with its good range of facilities, is a suitable venue, if approved.
145.	A streetlight at the bottom of Meadow Lane and the replacement of the damaged wooden posts on the left-hand side verge. Cllrs. agree that parking on Meadow Lane and in other areas around the village is becoming increasingly difficult. RESOLVED for HAPC to take advice from the Highways Authority on the removal of rocks from CCC verges, replacing the broken wooden posts and how to improve parking (bays and turning areas). Clerk to contact Cllr. DD. HAPC RESOLVED to investigate if the Bailey Bridge end of Meadow Lane needs a streetlight. If deemed necessary to position a streetlight in the area it will be included in the 2023/24 budget.
146.	Actions following on from the feedback received at the Open Evening. RESOLVED that all Cllrs. should review and prioritise the twenty-two suggestions from the Open Evening on the grid provided and respond to Cllr MW by w/e 11 th March. The results of the feedback will be discussed and agreed at the next PC meeting.
147.	How HAPC should deal with the continuing speeding in the village. Hemingford Abbots own 2 MVAS cameras which help to slow down speeding vehicles. In the centre of the village the speed limit is now 20 mph however vehicles are exceeding twenty mph. RESOLVED to pursue more information on the availability and training for a Community Speedwatch programme in Hemingford Abbots.
148.	Financial Matters
148.1	RESOLVED to approve all payments (Appendix 4)
148.2	RESOLVED to accept and approve the monthly bank reconciliation.
148.3	RESOVLED to approve the updated Budget for 22/23.
148.4	RESOLVED to approve the funds held in general and ear-marked reserves.
148.5	RESOLVED that HAPC will renew its Affiliation with CAPALC (£351.19 inc. DPO membership) before April 30 th , 2022.
148.6	RESOLVED that the renewal of HAPC’s membership of the Great Ouse Valley Trust, as agreed by the Clerk and Chair (£30.00), is approved for payment, and included on the February payment schedule.
149.	Job Descriptions for the Tree Warden, Footpath Warden and Chair of the Personnel Committee. It was RESOLVED to approve the Tree and Footpath Warden job descriptions and for the roles to be advertised on Facebook, HAPC’s website and on all the noticeboards.
150.	Village Maintenance and Repairs
150.1	HAPC take on the responsibility for the maintenance of all the metal field gates. It was RESOLVED that HAPC would not take over the responsibility for the maintenance and repairs of the gates from CCC but would continue to support the upkeep on an ad hoc basis.
150.2	No new village issues reported.
150.3	RESOLVED that HAPC would purchase 50 (fifty) 20 mph Wheelie-Bin Stickers for free issue to parishioners on request.
151.	Correspondence Received/For Information
151.1	Noted: an email was received requesting permission to plant wildflowers in the village as part of the jubilee celebrations.
151.2	Noted: an email was received pointing out that the planning application for Hemingford Park may have been incorrectly completed, as it states in Section 12 that there will be no biodiversity effects from the proposed development.
151.3	Noted: an email was received from the Hemingford Hub requesting support from HAPC (and other PCs) regarding an application they have submitted to the Department for Transport to fund a trial transport system to help alleviate loneliness in the villages.

151.4	Noted: an email was received from a parishioner informing HAPC that there is a broken post on the guard rail on the footpath by Beechers House, High Street, Hemingford Abbots.
152.	Matters arising/Items for the next PC Agenda:
152.1	Cllr BF thanked parishioners who were involved in the village Litter Pick at the weekend and extended HAPC's thanks to everyone who regularly picked up litter in and around the village.
152.2	Cllr JP reported that streetlight 406 has had a temporary lantern for some time. It was suggested HAPC enquire with K&M Lighting when the correct lantern will be fitted.
152.3	To lessen the workload at the APCM, Cllr MW suggested that HAPC review its policies and procedures in stages over the next three PC meetings.
153.4	Election Notices and nomination forms will be posted on the HAPC website and on noticeboards from 28 th March 2022. Cllrs. wishing to stand for election again are requested to complete their nomination forms as soon as possible after this date.
153.	Closure of the Meeting: The meeting closed at 9.40 pm.
154.	Date of next Meeting: Monday March 28th 2022

Signed.....Marcus Whewell (Chair) Date.....

