

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting



Held on Monday 27th February 2023 at 7.00pm

at the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall

Present:

Parish Councillors: Marcus Whewell (Chair), Zoe Ryall, Phillip Cooke, Peter Keen, Glenda Perrott.

HDC Councillor: Debbie Mickelburgh, CC Councillor: Doug Dew.

Parish Clerk: absent (Chairman deputised for the meeting).

Members of the Public: 1.

2022-2023. MINUTES	
162	<p><u>Public Participation</u></p> <p>A representative from PROVE gave the Council a detailed update on Hemingford Park, including reporting a large attendance at the recent village meeting, and that the NMA (retrospective application) has been refused by HDC. The LBC application is still listed as 'In progress' on the HDC planning portal, as is the C3a ('Change of Use') application, despite the appellant withdrawing his appeal from the Planning Inspectorate. The outcomes therefore remain unclear, and PROVE's work will be ongoing until the C3a is dropped or fully withdrawn. The Council asked Cllr DM why the C3a application was still marked as 'In progress' on the HDC planning portal despite the appellant withdrawing their related appeal (which is generating confusion amongst parishioners), and she agreed to query this with the HDC Planning Department.</p>
163	<p><u>County/ District Councillors' Reports</u></p> <p>Cllr DM gave a verbal report as follows:</p> <p>Public engagement has commenced regarding updating the local plan, which will take several years to complete. The current plan runs to 2036. A balanced budget has been announced (no cuts to services and no use of reserves), with a planned council tax increase of 3.1% or avg. £5 per week. HDC has adopted a new climate strategy including improving the energy efficiency of HDC itself (buildings, vehicles etc). Annual climate conversations will be held with citizens and local groups. The current M.D. of HDC (Jo Lancaster) has announced her departure, and an interim has been installed from the existing Executive team (Oliver Morley: Corporate Director of People). Cllr DM will forward her written report to the clerk for dissemination.</p> <p>Cllr DD's verbal report included the following:</p> <p>The county had agreed a budget increase of 3.1%, plus another 2% for adult social care. There is still no permanent Highways Officer, so existing resources are being shared amongst different areas. The LHI scheme has changed, to allow bids for 20mph zones to be managed via a new subcommittee which will utilise 'lump funding'. Better electronic processes are to be introduced for fixing potholes (in 2024) which will introduce more flexibility into the work schedules. The land comprising of the old Golf Course adjacent to the A1307 is likely to be included in the local plan, which forms part of the selection of sites for the construction of new housing.</p>
164	<p><u>To receive apologies for absence.</u></p> <p>No apologies received.</p>
165	<p><u>Councillors' Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>No declarations were made.</p>
166 a)	<p><u>Planning Applications</u></p> <p><u>NEW</u></p> <p><u>22/02453/HHFUL</u> Hemingford Park Common Lane Hemingford Abbots. Proposal: Erection of a greenhouse (retrospective). The council queried the lack of clarity / information regarding the planned use of the building. It was discussed that the apparent use of tinted glass and the lack details of any roof ventilation has created questions about how the building will be used. It was RESOLVED that HAPC will write to HDC stating that we cannot make a recommendation until there is greater clarity over the intended use for the</p>

	<p>building, and to ask for more information. MW will circulate a draft to the councillors for approval so HAPC can submit its response by close of business on the 28th Feb.</p> <p>23/00236/S73 3 Barnfield Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon. Proposal: Removal of Condition 3 (Joinery Details) of 21/02882/LBC.</p> <p>HAPC RESOLVED NEITHER FOR NOR AGAINST THIS APPLICATION.</p>
b)	<p>NOTED AS APPROVED</p> <p>23/00028/TRCA Melrose High Street Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AH. T1 - English Oak - Reduce by approximately 1.5m in height and spread in all directions (N,S,E,W) to result in a well-balanced crown approximately Height 8.5m Spread 6m. 30% Thinning. T2 - Dogwood - H 6m S 4m - Pollard to 2.0m T3 - Bramley Apple - Reduce by approximately 1.5m in height and 1.0m -1.5m spread in all directions (N,S,E,W) to result in a well-balanced crown approximately Height 5.0m Spread 5.0m. 30% Thinning. T4 - Field Maple - H 6m S 4m - Pollard to 2.0m T5 - Walnut - H 10m S 10m - Fell and Remove T6 - Field Maple - H 7m S 7m - Re-Pollard to 2.5m T7 - Goat Willow - H 5m S 4m - Re- Pollard to 2.0m T8 - Paperbark Birch - H12 S 6 - Remove one small lower limb.</p> <p>22/02229/TRCA 5 Riverside Quiet Waters Caravan Park Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AJ. T1 Sycamore: fell to ground level</p> <p>22/01650/TRCA 55 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Cut down laurel trunks (L1-L4) and treat the resultant stumps with stump killer. Hazel (H) will be coppiced, to bring all stems down below 0.5m in height. Stems of the remaining laurel (L5) will be cut down to 1.5m Walnut (W) needs to be completely removed.</p> <p>22/01566/TRCA Ash Meadow, Meadow Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AR. T1 Ash (previously reduced to 4m stump): Fell and grind out stump. Replace with Hornbeam to match other trees planted in the same area.</p> <p>22/01041/TRCA 5 River Meadow Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AY. Felling of the sycamore, Large sycamore (approximate height 18m, trunk diameter 0.58 m, measured 1.5 m above ground. This tree is located 8 metres from our bungalow. It has previously caused blockage of pipework from gutter downpipe to soakaway. Now has blocked main drainpipe from toilets and is infiltrating voids in the concrete foundations adjacent to the broken drains. Our insurers have arranged repair of the drains, The advice from our local builder and tree experts is that roots from this tree poses a continuing and serious danger to the fabric of the bungalow. We have not at this stage commissioned a formal structural survey and would be grateful for advice on what is required.</p> <p>22/02477/HHFUL Sycamores Manor Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AJ. Erection of a single storey rear extension.</p> <p>22/02347/HHFUL Willows Meadow Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AR. Erection of single storey rear extension.</p>
c)	<p>NOTED AS REFUSED</p> <p>22/02454/NMA Non-material amendment for 1400578FUL to vary the floor plans and elevations in respect of the pool house. Hemingford Park Common Lane Hemingford Abbots.</p>
167	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting</p> <p>To agree and approve the draft minutes from the PC Meeting held on the 23rd of January 2023 (Appendix 1). RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the PC Meeting held on the 23rd of January 2023.</p>
168	<p>Open Evening 8th March 2023</p> <p>It was agreed to extend the communication of the event to include using various social media groups across the village. It was also agreed that each councillor would approach friends and neighbours to encourage attendance.</p> <p>A task list was shared to ensure that all preparation can be completed in good time.</p> <p>There is still some work to do regarding the final format for the evening, and it was agreed to resolve this in the next 48 hours.</p>
169	<p>Internal Auditor Appointment</p> <p>RESOLVED to accept the CAPALC offer and appoint them as our new internal auditor.</p>
170	<p>Review and update the Action Plan</p> <p>Cllr ZR reported that these has been received and actioned.</p>
171	<p>Supporting the Hemingford Abbots Litter Pickers</p> <p>It was agreed to contact former Cllr BF to ascertain what equipment and materials may still be held from previous events. The council can then decide what additional resources may be required. It was mentioned by Cllr DD that some assistance may be available.</p>
172	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) RESOLVED to approve the February payment of bills and standing orders (see Appendix 3 and below).</p> <p>b) RESOLVED to accept and approve the monthly Bank reconciliation.</p> <p>c) RESOLVED to transfer £25,000 from the current account to the savings account.</p>

e)	RESOLVED to move £20,000 from the General Reserves to the Light Sinking Fund, and review this again at the end of the Financial Year.
f)	NOTED that a VAT claim for £310.69 has been made and paid into the current account.
g)	REVIEW OF INVENTORY OF LAND AND ASSETS: There was a discussion regarding whether changing the insurance value of certain items (e.g. streetlights) might affect the potential payout (s) on any future claims. Cllr PK to liaise with the Clerk to clarify this and report back.
h)	RESOLVED to accept and action the Insurance Renewal for 2023-24.
i)	RESOLVED that a budget of £150 will be allocated for providing refreshments at the Open Evening.
173	Assets of Community Value It was agreed to explore submitting an application for the Axe & Compass pub and the Regatta Playing field as potential assets. The next step is to speak with the owners and secure their permission and agreement.
174	Administration RESOLVED that MW, ZR and PC review the policies and procedures ahead of the April meeting.
175	Councillor Recruitment It was agreed that the Open Evening represents a timely opportunity to showcase the Council's recent work and successes to help attract potential applicants.
176	Councillor Training Cllr PC commented on the quality of his recent New Councillor Training.
177	Correspondence Received NOTED: Emails: 2/2/23 From HDC'S J. Lancaster attaching a letter entitled HIS MAJESTY KING CHARLES III'S CORONATION and is dated 26 January 2023. The letter details a number of events likely to be happening across the country, and the Managing Director has asked if you'd be kind enough to share any events or activities being planned by your council. <u>Note:</u> subsequent to this email, two parishioners have announced that they intend to organise a river flotilla and also a street party on Church Lane to as part of the Coronation celebrations. The Parish Council has not been asked to help at this stage but has offered its assistance if required. 1/2/23 Email and letter received from Dr Kaziewicz regarding Hemingford Park Planning Applications. 26/1/23 From CCC: regarding PR0903 Proposed Reduction of 40mph Speed Limit to 30mph - A1123 Houghton Road, St. Ives and Houghton & Wyton. Any comments to be sent to CCC by 17/2/23. 26/1/23 From Gallagher: regarding HAPC's insurance renewal questionnaire. 26/1/23 From HDC: The Government's Community Ownership Fund is designed to provide £150 million over 4 years to support community groups in taking ownership of assets and amenities at risk of being lost. voluntary and community groups can bid for match funding to acquire important assets and run them for the benefit of the local community. The fund will run until 2024/25.
178	Flower Festival (parking) It was agreed that with respect to the recent request to use the Playing Field for resident parking, whilst the Council would like to be helpful and supportive, the Flower Festival Committee should be invited to present to the Council at its next meeting in March , so it can fully understand the proposal (who would be included, duration of the parking, access and security, risk assessments, any insurance implications etc.).
179	Village Maintenance a) Proposal from a resident to cut the hedgerow on Royal Oak Lane: IT WAS AGREED that this needs to be done, but time is of the essence due to the imminent bird-nesting season. Appropriate plans will be made with the relevant contractor. b) Proposal to repair the kissing gate on the Regatta Field: IT WAS AGREED to secure quotes for this work and progress as quickly as possible, but it was also agreed that the Parish Council needs to establish ownership of the various gates across the parish to aid future maintenance.
180	Matters for future consideration Sports Day (HDC): potential plans for 2023 Review of the Parish Website (potential improvements)
181	Closure of the Meeting The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.
182	Date of the next Meetings: HAPC Full Parish Council Meeting, Monday March 27th, 2023, at 7 pm at the Village Hall, High Street, Hemingford Abbots.

172a Table 1 – Approved Payments and Standing Orders for February 2023

			Net	VAT	Total
BACS ✓	4000 Clerk's wages	Wages 30 hours @ £15.02 (5 weeks)			
BACS ✓	4060 Working from home allowance	Working from home allowance			
BACS ✓	4315 NetNerd renewal of domain licence	Reimburse Zoe Ryall (paid for one year's licence to 17/1/24)	£ 56.98	£ 11.40	£ 68.38
		Herringford Abbots Parish Council - approved for payment			
		Payment method - BACS			
		Dated.....	£ 523.58	£ 11.40	£ 534.98
S/O ORDER	4250 Electricity Supply	Signed.....	£ 48.30	£ 2.42	£ 50.72
		Signed.....	£ 571.88	£ 13.82	£ 585.70