

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held in the Village Hall

on the 25th September 2023 at 7pm

Present:

Parish Councillors: Marcus Whewell (Chair), Zoe Ryall (Vice Chair), Phillip Cooke, Glenda Perrott, Shaun Reinson.

District Councillors: Debbie Mickelbrough

Parish Clerk: Mrs Maxine Blewett

Members of the Public: 9



2023-2024	MINUTES	Meeting started at 7pm
85	<p data-bbox="288 701 501 730">Public Participation</p> <p data-bbox="288 734 1107 763">The Chair, Cllr Marcus Whewell welcomed everyone to the Parish Council Meeting.</p> <p data-bbox="288 790 1362 875">A member of the public thanked HDC Cllrs for coming to Hemingford Abbots and holding a 'Meet Your HDC Councillors' session. The event had been well received and the communication and interaction between attendees and HDC Cllrs was very good.</p> <p data-bbox="288 902 1378 1032">The Parish Council and District Councillors were also thanked for arranging the recent 'Coffee with a Cop' event that took place in the Village Hall, which gave attendees the opportunity to talk to the police officer and report their concerns - including a cyclist seen photographing home security keypads and also an increasing feeling of intimidation from the owner of Hemingford Park mostly related to his recent planning applications.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1059 1075 1088">Members of the public then went on to raise a number of concerns, as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="288 1115 1118 1144">1. Concerns over the Artisan website consultation for Hemingford Park, specifically:</p> <p data-bbox="288 1149 1289 1178">1.1 The four (4) applications (each totalling 125 pages) have irregularities on the plans and drawings.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1182 1174 1211">1.2 The scale, layout and detail of the planning documents are misleading and confusing.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1216 1374 1261">1.3 In order to leave a comment on the Artisan website you must submit your name and address. Many residents feel uncomfortable about leaving their personal details, and this is restricting the level of feedback.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1265 1294 1317">1.4 At the last PC Open Meeting in March, the applicant promised to hold a face-to-face meeting with residents to present his plans for Hemingford Park. Can the Parish Council offer any update on this?</p> <p data-bbox="288 1321 1383 1406">Cllr MW confirmed that HAPC wrote to the applicant on 29/8/23 to further encourage him to hold a public meeting and HAPC received a response on 30/8/23 confirming he would not be going ahead with the face-to-face event. In the applicant's opinion the Artisan website offers a better way to gather public comments.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1411 1326 1440">Since the PC meeting two residents have made a request to see the applicant's response letter to HAPC.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1467 1386 1552">2. Members of the public also raised concerns about the manner in which HDC Planning and Enforcement are carrying out their role in relation to Hemingford Park. The sentiment is that HDC Enforcement are not dealing fairly with the concerns of Hemingford Abbots residents over the development of Hemingford Park.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1556 1358 1641">2.1 The applicant has potentially breached a number of planning laws, so it was asked why Enforcement is not taking the necessary steps to investigate the concerns raised when they can find the time to investigate reports against neighbouring property?</p> <p data-bbox="288 1646 1383 1731">Cllr MW confirmed that HAPC will be issuing a formal letter of complaint to HDC Enforcement regarding the unsatisfactory manner in which the potential breaches in planning at Hemingford Park and Melior Spa have been handled, particularly the poor levels of communication and consultation with the Parish Council.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1758 1383 1843">Cllr ZR added that HAPC has been and continues to be active in seeking answers from Enforcement and that she and Cllr MW had met with Jonathan Djanogly MP to ask for his support in expediting a response from HDC, which he kindly did.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1870 1350 1933">Since the meeting HAPC has issued the complaint letter to HDC Enforcement and copied in senior officers, HDC Councillors and Jonathan Djanogly MP.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1960 1369 2045">2.2 The HDC Planning Portal requires users to leave their name and address (e.g. when submitting comments). Any names are blocked-out before documents are uploaded, but the address can be seen. This means that the applicant knows the address of any person who makes a formal comment. Residents who</p>	

	<p>are against the planning application have reported feeling increasing levels of intimidation by the applicant. If names and addresses could be removed from public access and stored on another page for legal and processing purposes, this would ensure that residents' democratic rights to comment [without intimidation] would be restored.</p> <p>Clerk to follow up and report back to the PC and to residents via the website.</p> <p>A resident asked what ideas the Parish Council had to make Meadow Lane safer (item 98b). Cllr MW responded that all the relevant residents would be written to shortly and invited to attend an open meeting to discuss how Meadow Lane might be adapted, and to try to agree a way forward.</p>
86	<p><u>County/ District Councillors' Reports</u></p> <p>To receive and accept reports. HDC Cllr Debbie Mickelburgh presented her report to the Parish Council and the full report can be found on the HAPC website with the PC Minutes.</p> <p>Cllr PC asked Cllr DM if she could let HDC Enforcement know the strength of feeling among Hemingford Abbots residents regarding the various concerns raised over Hemingford Park.</p>
87	<p><u>Apologies and Vacancies</u></p> <p>To receive any apologies for absence Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Peter Keen (HAPC) and Cllr Sarah Conboy (HDC).</p>
88	<p><u>Councillors' Declarations of Interest</u></p> <p>-To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda - For declarations of interest received, Councillors to inform the Chair if they wish to speak on the matter during public participation and/or at the agenda item prior to discussion. -To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests (if any) -To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.</p> <p>None</p>
89	<p><u>Planning Applications - Noted</u></p> <p><u>NEW</u></p> <p>a) 23/01552/TRCA Rectory Cottage High Street Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AH, Proposal: T1 - Acacia Remove to ground level. HAPC has not been asked to comment.</p> <p>b) 23/01209/S73 1A Pettit Road Godmanchester Huntingdon PE29 2DB. Removal/Variation of Conditions Proposal: Variation of condition 2 (Plans) of 18/01654/FUL.</p> <p>c) 23/01570/TRCA The Coach House 4 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Proposal: T3 - Sycamore Tree - Remove to ground level. HAPC has not been asked to comment.</p> <p>d) 23/01571/TRCA The Old Rectory 2 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Works to Tree in Con Area Proposal: T4 - Yew Tree – North-West limb to be removed and crown raise away from roof of house. Remove ivy covered dead limb from adjacent tree. HAPC has not been asked to comment.</p> <p>e) 23/01602/TRCA Wildwood Rideaway Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AG. Works to Tree in Con Area Proposal: T1 Cypress within Cypress hedge: Reduce height by 5 metres. Officer: Stephen Bones. HAPC has not been asked to comment.</p> <p>f) 23/01639/TRCA 5 River Meadow, Hemingford Abbots PE28 9AY. Works to Tree in Con Area Proposal: Poplar - reduced in height by 9m. HAPC have not been asked to comment.</p> <p><u>Noted as APPROVED PLEASE NOTE IN THE LAST TWO MONTHS HDC HAVE APPROVED A NUMBER OF HISTORICAL PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR TREE- WORKS.</u></p> <p>g) 23/00112/HHFUL Haysel Cottage, Manor Lane, Hemingford Abbots. Two storey side extension and addition of front dormer, plus solar panels to the rear elevation.</p> <p>h) 23/01314/TRCA 42 Common Lane, Hemingford Abbots. T1 Pine. Tree is 80-90% dead. Fell close to ground level.</p> <p>i) 23/01006/FUL Little Oak 1 Abbots Close Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AP. Erection of dwelling to replace existing.</p> <p>j) 20/02279/TRCA Bron-Afon High Street Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AH. G1 is a group of 4 conifer trees that we want to remove the reason my customer wants to remove the tree is they are getting to wide (they have been topped before) and T1 is a silver birch tree that has almost died this year we want to fell it.</p> <p>k) 23/01205/TRCA 6 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. T2. Horse Chestnut - remove ivy and suckers to 2m. T3, Lime - crown lift over road and entrance to Rectory to 4m. T5. Elm - dead - fell. T7. Holm Oak - Shorten selective limbs to counter excessive spread by up to 3m. T13. Elm - dead - fell. T14. English Walnut - Prune to clear roof by removing primary branch originating at 2m next to fence. T15. Yew x 2 - Prune to clear building at rear by 1m . T25. Dogwood - Coppice all stems at around 1m (removing dead stems). T26. Yew - reduce tree to 2.4m. T27. Yew - reduce to 2m.</p> <p>l) 23/01169/TRCA 46 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. T1 Partially dead Silver Birch: sectional fell close to ground level. T2 Japanese Maple at side of pool: reduce side over pool by 50-60cm.</p>

m)	21/00314/TRCA Beechers House High Street Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AH. T1 - Small leaf lime. Reduce by up to 6-7m branches are hanging over fence where a mobile home is situated and tree is now intermingling with... T2 - Silver birch Reduce by up to 3 1/2m branches are hanging over public foot path. Trees have not been pruned for over 15 years.
n)	to excessive shading to the garden and low amenity value, we are proposing the following works - T1, T2, & T3 21/00306/TRCA Four Winds, 54 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Three Rowan trees - fell to ground level and grind stumps. T4 - Indian Bean - fell to ground level and grind stumps. T5 - Black Cherry Plum tree - fell to ground level and grind stumps. T6 & T7 - Two Rowan trees - fell to ground level and grind stumps. T8 & T9 - Two Leyland Cypress - fell to ground level and grind stumps Due to safety we are proposing to remove a large limb off the Lime tree and smaller branches off the Maple & Cherry to reduce the weight in the crown. T10 - One Lime tree - remove large limb which hangs over garden. T11 - Lime tree - remove several small diameter branches from lower crown. T12 - Maple Tree - remove several small diameter branches from lower crown. T13 - Cherry on left hand side - remove several small diameter branches from lower crown.
o)	21/00105/TRCA 50 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. T 1 - Weeping Willow - Reduce the height by 3m and the width in all directions by 2m.
p)	23/01314/TRCA 42 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. T1 Pine. Tree is 80-90% dead. Fell close to ground level.
q)	23/00112/HHFUL Haysel Cottage Manor Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AJ. Two storey side extension and addition of front dormer, plus solar panels to the rear elevation.
r)	20/02330/TRCA The Hermitage Rideaway Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AG. A- 5no Poplars in garden to left (the furthest tree having very little overhang) Prune to drastically reduce overhanging limbs to leave short pollard spurs for regeneration. Primarily upright growth to be retained. B- Ash - remove long primary branch over young Sorbus back to stem. 1. Oak on right hand side of drive to rear of Leyland cypress hedge - crown inspection, remove major dead wood, crown lift 2no low branches over drive to 4.5m approximately. 2. Twin stemmed Sycamore opposite Coach House Annex - remove major dead wood, climbing inspection, remove feathery branches but retain 2ft stub 3. Sycamore to right hand side of Annex (pollarded at 4m) - fell and grind stump 4. Oak - climbing inspection, remove dead wood, crown lift 3 limbs over garden to 4m approximately 6. Poplar on right hand side of Woodland - remove dead branch with hanger. 7. Catalpa - coppice at 1-1.5m 8- Zelkova - prune to clear BT cable, crown lift to 6.5m and crown reduce to reduce overhang and clear new garage 9. Ash infected with Inonotus hispidus - Fell to a 2-2.5m stump 10. Dead Elm - Fell and Grind stump 11. Dying Elm - Fell and Grind stump 12. Poplar - remove hung up large, low limb 13. 2no Poplars fallen and lodged, drop to ground level.
s)	20/01751/TRCA 19 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. T1 Cherry: Largely dead tree: fell close to ground level T2 Cypress: Unattractive tree blocking view down garden: fell close to ground level.
t)	20/01703/TRCA Land Rear Of Royal Oak Corner Royal Oak Lane Hemingford Abbots. 1 Oak - Fell T2 Oak - Fell T3 Elm - Reduce crown by 4m, remove overhanging branches T4 Sycamore - Fell Self Set Sycamores - Thin and/or remove poor quality trees.
u)	20/01571/TRCA 2 River Meadow Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AY. T1 Willow - reduce height to rebalance crown by approximately 4m T2 Silver Birch - fell T3 Acacia - fell T4 Amelanchier (?) - crown lift by approximately 1m.
v)	23/01427/TRCA 25 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9A. Proposal T1 Field Maple in front garden: crown lift to 4m by removing minor branches, reduce largest branches by up to 2m to reduce overhang over front and side hedges, remove minor crossing branches in centre of crown.
w)	23/01620/TRCA The Hermitage Rideaway Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AG. DD. 5 Day Notice. T2. Dead Elm - fell T4. Dead Elm - fell T7. Dead Zelkova - fell.
x)	23/01248/TRCA Park Lodge Rideaway Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AG. T1 is an oak tree - fell.
y)	23/01596/TREE The Hermitage Rideaway Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AG. DD. T1 Oak - reduce to a height of approximately 5m, removing two lateral branches. There are several small branches that we would aim to retain while dismantling the compromised upper crown. These would be useful in aiding regeneration.
z)	23/01193/HHFUL 48 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Construction of car-port and storage structure.
90	<u>Minutes of the previous meeting</u> Resolved to approved Minutes from the PC EO Meeting held on the 9 th of September 2023.
91	<u>Hemingford Hub</u>
a)	Tish Page from the Hemingford Hub gave a presentation to the Parish Council on 'Transport in the Hemingfords': -The Hub was approached 2 years ago by an organisation offering grants to help alleviate loneliness by providing local transport. The Hub applied for the grant but were unsuccessful in their bid.

	<p>-Potential benefits include help for the elderly/non drivers in the community by providing access to transport to enable them to attend events held in the villages/St. Ives/Cambridge, and also to provide a route to Cambridge via St. Ives for students attending college and other members of the community who need support with their travel plans.</p> <p>-A fare of £3 return would make the running of an electric 12-16 seater bus economically viable. The Village Hall in Hemingford Abbots would allow an EV charging point to be installed. The electric bus will be better for the environment overall than multiple private vehicles.</p> <p>-Reducing the number of cars on the road will help to prevent accidents from happening.</p> <p>-A full-time driver and one administrator would be employed.</p> <p>-The Hub wishes to form a working group and requests that a HAPC Cllr volunteers to sit on this group to take the project forward - preferably someone with a background in transport.</p> <p>Question from Cllr ZR: 'Are people aware of the two existing organisations already offering community driving support (St. Ives and Huntingdon Community Ride Service)? Answer: Both of these services are used by the community but the organisations don't have enough volunteer drivers. Question from Cllr MW: 'Will it be an on-demand service?' Answer: Some runs will be timed (so that users can use their bus pass) but the bus can also be called on demand subject to availability. The County Council pay back for users of bus passes.</p>
b)	<p><u>The Hub is putting together a Project Team and invite a member of HAPC to join this group.</u></p> <p>Resolved to defer this item until the Hub responds to further questions which will be sent following the PC meeting, and after all Cllrs have considered the role's accountabilities and level of commitment required.</p>
92	<p>Call for Sites Submissions</p> <p>To understand the process and timings whereby HAPC can comment / input on the recent Call for Sites submissions and to agree who is responsible for following this up and communicating the position. The Clerk received and circulated an email from HDC prior to the meeting saying that they do not expect any action until Spring 2024. It was agreed that HAPC would register as a consultee and so be automatically notified of any changes in status,</p>
93	<p>Administration</p> <p>a) <u>Team Review Day</u> Cllr MW thanked everyone for their input at the Team Review Day and all felt that it had been a worthwhile event.</p> <p>b) Cllr PC gathered feedback on how the website can be improved and has spoken with the website developer. It was suggested that he look at other PC websites for ideas. Cllr MW made a request to Cllr PC that we also look at combining links to the HDC Planning Portal as discussed and agreed at the team review day,</p>
94	<p>Consider making the Civility & Respect Pledge via NALC and the offer of training from Brian Page Mental Health & Safeguarding Advisor, Instructor & Assessor Aquarius Mental Health Solutions (Appendix 2). Resolved against making the C&R Pledge and undertaking training.</p>
95	<p>Feedback on the HDC Sports Programme Cllr PC.</p> <p>Cllr PC reported that the Sports sessions had gone very well. Hemingford Abbots had only a small number of children attending the programme (circa 9 children). Hemingford Grey Parish Council will send their invoice to HAPC (small contribution) in due course.</p>
96	<p>Discuss the registering of any new LHI bid(s) under the simplified process such as linking the 20 mph zones between Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey and also to consider road safety improvements on Meadow Lane. Note: Expressions of Interest from potential applicants must be submitted by the 30th of September via this link https://forms.gle/tOSXXpsbA3T7B58Z6. See 98b - Consultation Invitation with the residents of Meadow Lane.</p> <p>Resolved to register HAPC's intent to submit an LHI application in 2024 by 30/9/23. Also, to apply for the simplified LHI process to link the 20 mph zones between the two Hemingford Villages, if possible.</p>
97	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) Resolved to approve the September payments.</p> <p>b) Noted: The Clerk and Chair, under their authority to spend (Section 4.1 of the Financial Regulations) paid £36 for a year's subscription to CPRE.</p> <p>c) Noted: The SSE standing order stopped being deducted after the June payment (this would have been for May's supply of electricity). HAPC received a statement of account from SSE requesting a payment of £79.23 (assumed to be the electricity costs for June, July and August). This amount has been included on the September payment schedule for authorisation. The Clerk expects the charge for September's supply of electricity to be no more than what has been paid previously by standing order - £48.30 plus VAT).</p>
98	<p>Village Matters</p> <p>a) Resolved that HAPC will not write to CCC regarding the state of verges following a request from Steve Count, Councillor for March North.</p> <p>b) Resolved to write a letter to all residents of Meadow Lane, inviting them to a meeting to consult with them on potential road improvements. Cllr MW will circulate the letter for final approval and arrange for these to be hand delivered. It was also agreed that the meeting will be led by Cllrs MW and PC.</p>

c)	<p>Noted: A resident of Royal Oak Lane emailed the Clerk to report that a large Oak tree on Royal Oak Lane was encroaching on his property and asked if HAPC would arrange for the overhanging branches to be cut-back to avoid damage to his property.</p> <p>Resolved for the Clerk to speak to HDC regarding the tree which is on their land.</p> <p>Noted: Streetlight 110 is not working. K&M Lighting have been notified and a spare part has been ordered.</p>
d)	
99	<p>Playing Field</p> <p>a) Noted: Safeplay Ltd. have replaced the damaged dome to the climbing frame.</p> <p>b) Resolved that no further action will be taken following the Wicksteed Inspection of the Playing Field as only minor issues were identified.</p>
100	<p>Meetings & Training Attended</p> <p>a) There was no feedback from Cllrs.</p> <p>b) Resolved to leave the October PC meeting date as 23/10/23. It was agreed that in the next financial year that the PC will consider changing PC meeting dates when the fourth Monday in the month coincides with the school holidays.</p>
101	<p>Noted that Correspondence was Received/Sent</p> <p>Emails:</p> <p>From:</p> <p>13/9/23 Oana Hughineata HDC invitation to attend a series of webinars on the garden waste subscription service.</p> <p>11/9/23 C. Kerr confirming that she will forward HAPC's planning query to the Enforcement team.</p> <p>11/9/23 Great Ouse Valley Trust invitation to a Water and Wildlife event on Friday 13 October, 7.30pm at Needingworth Village Hall.</p> <p>9/9/23 Simon Rees Democratic Services (HDC) re. a new newsletter.</p> <p>8/9/23 Alison Twyford Enforcement (HDC) responding to emails sent previously.</p> <p>8/9/23 Letter from Frank Jordan Exec. Director for Place and Sustainability regarding CCC's weed spraying policy.</p> <p>7/9/23 Local Projects (LHI) reminder on sending in expressions of interest before 30/9/23.</p> <p>6/9/23 Resident of Hemingford Abbots regarding Artisan Planning Consultation on Hemingford Park.</p> <p>5/9/23 Cllr PK reported streetlight 110 being faulty. Clerk followed this up with K&M Lighting Ltd.</p> <p>5/9/23 C. Kerr (HDC) clarifying planning requirements on agricultural land.</p> <p>1/9/23 Cllr S. Count requesting PCs write to CCC regarding the poor state of the verges/roads.</p> <p>30/8/23 Letter and email from Dr. P. Kaziewicz informing HAPC that he would not be holding a public meeting with residents to present his planning applications for Hemingford Park. His letter included how residents could comment on the proposed planning applications through the Artisan's website and, once applications are validated, through the HDC Planning Portal.</p> <p>1/8/23 L. Short, Artisan PPS requesting to erect a stand in the foyer of the village hall to display plans for Hemingford Park and allow residents to feedback via Artisan's website and via a card submission system. HAPC wrote back with the village hall contact details.</p> <p>28/7/23 S. Nicholson CCC Highways Manager confirming his availability for a meeting.</p> <p>To:</p> <p>14/9/23 PS Caruana confirming the Coffee with a Cop date as Sunday 24/9/23 at 6 pm in the HA Village Hall.</p> <p>11/9/23 Clara Kerr (HDC Planning) re. potential planning breach on agricultural land.</p> <p>6/9/23 Cllr DM (HDC) and PS A. Caruana agreeing a meeting date.</p> <p>5/9/23 HDC Cllrs. Thanking them for holding an open session/meet your HDC Cllrs in the Village Hall.</p> <p>29/8/23 HAPC letter and email to Dr. P. Kaziewicz enquiring about his plans to host a public meeting with residents to discuss his planning applications and future intentions for Hemingford Park, which he agreed to do at the Open Evening held in March 2023.</p> <p>3/8/23 L. Short, Artisan PPS regarding communication with residents on new planning applications for Hemingford Park.</p> <p>3/8/23 Alison Twyford (HDC Planning) requesting a response to previous correspondence on Hemingford Park planning breaches.</p> <p>2/8/23 Liz Burrows, SSE requesting HAPC's account position and confirmation of final payment date as the contract ends on 31/8/23.</p>
102	<p>Matters for future consideration</p> <p>None</p>
103	<p>Closure of the Meeting</p> <p>The meeting closed at 9.20 pm</p>
104	<p>Date of the next Meetings:</p> <p>HAPC Parish Council Meeting, 7 pm Monday 23rd October 2023 in the Village Hall, High Street, Hemingford Abbots PE28 9AH.</p>

Finance 97a

Payments

BACS	4000 Staff Costs	Wages				
BACS	4020 HMRC	PAYE				
BACS	4060 Working from home allowance	4 weeks				
BACS	4220 Bradgates	grass cutting & strimming 6th & 10th July	£ 121.00	£ 24.20	£ 145.20	
BACS	4215 Safeplay Ltd.	repair and replace new dome on play equipment	£ 550.00	£ 110.00	£ 660.00	
BACS	4215 Wicksteed Leisure Ltd.	Annual inspection of the playing field	£ 132.00	£ 26.40	£ 158.40	
BACS	4070 CPRE	Annual membership fee (ends August 2024)	£ 36.00		£ 36.00	
BACS	4250 Electricity Supply	Statement of account (electricity supply for JUNE/JULY/AUGUST)	£ 76.25	£ 2.98	£ 79.23	
			£ 1,471.97	£ 163.58	£ 1,635.55	