

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7 pm in the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall, High St, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AH.



Present: HAPC Councillors: Marcus Whewell, Peter Keen, Phillip Cooke, Shaun Reinson, Rie Hargreaves.

Clerk: Maxine Blewett

2024-2025	Minutes	meeting opened at 7 pm
98	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>A member of the public asked when the 70mph limit on the A1307 will be reinstated. The Chair referred to the latest update from CCC Highways, which stated that the 40mph limit will remain in place to allow for further drainage work to be carried out. The work is scheduled to start on the 28/10/24 and is expected to last approximately 16 weeks, meaning the 40mph limit will remain in place until the work is finished. Work to the barriers will also begin once the vegetation has been removed (which may include the removal of some trees). HAPC will ask for an update from CCC Highways and share the information via village noticeboards.</p> <p>Several questions were raised by members of the public regarding the lack of transparency of HDC's Planning process. HDC Planning have approved the application for change of use of an agricultural building to hotel use (C1) at Hemingford Park, ignoring residents' feedback and HAPC's recommendations for refusal. HAPC is also perplexed about this decision. Concerns were also raised about the damage to verges and potential health and safety issues on Rideaway caused by large vehicles turning into Hemingford Park.</p> <p>The new housing developments proposed for inclusion in the Local Plan will require improvements to the A141 road. The consultation period for the A141 and St. Ives Improvements Scheme ends on the 27th November. A member of the public encouraged residents to look at the plans and to have their say. The Clerk has added a link to the consultation page on the HAPC website and arranged for this to be communicated in the village newsletter.</p>	
99	<p>County/ District Councillors' Reports</p> <p>To receive and accept reports HDC Councillor report was circulated to all HAPC Cllrs today.</p>	
100	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies were received and accepted by HAPC Cllr Glen Perrott and HDC Cllrs Sarah Conboy, Debbie Mickelburgh and Brett Mickelburgh</p>	
101	<p>Councillors' Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Cllr PK declared an interest on item 107 (d) and has not commented on HAPC's response on the Call for Sites.</p>	
102	<p>Update from Houghton and Wyton PC on Houghton Grange Phase ii Development. Consider and agree on HAPC's response.</p> <p>Two representatives from Houghton and Wyton Parish Council (H&W PC) gave an update on Houghton Grange Phase ii development and its expected impact on the local area. H&W PC met with Homes England (HE) last year to ask them to modify their plans but HE would not make any changes. The additional 120 new houses proposed by HE exceeds the number of homes specified in the Local Plan. The proposals will impact on services (transport/schools/GPs/other amenities) and the proximity to St Ives will potentially see a coalescence between parishes. H&W PC is being supported by their local MP who has written to HDC Planning objecting to the development. H&W PC wish to make clear that it is not against the building of new houses, only the scale and density of the development.</p> <p>The H&W Councillors' reported H&W PC is also concerned about transparency at HDC. It is felt that there has been an erosion of democracy regarding this application: the consultation period for non-statutory consultees is only 14 days, which is insufficient time given there are over 131 documents to review and comment on.</p> <p>HAPC RESOLVED to draft a response to HDC repeating its concerns from last year, and it will also comment on how the short consultation period they have allowed inhibits the democracy. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr PC, all in favour.</p>	

<p>103</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p> <p>d)</p> <p>e)</p>	<p>Planning Applications & Appeals</p> <p><u>NOTED: NEW</u></p> <p>24/01467/TRCA Selwyn Cottage, Rideaway, Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AG. Proposal T1 Mature Copper Beech - Reduce overhanging limbs by 2.5m. In progress. HAPC has not been asked to comment.</p> <p>24/01791/TRCA 68 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Proposal: T1 Beech tree at side of house - Sectional fell close to ground level and remove from site. In progress. HAPC has not been asked to comment.</p> <p><u>NOTED: APPROVED</u></p> <p>24/01218/P3MPA Barn, Hemingford Park Common Lane Hemingford Abbots. Proposal Change of use of an agricultural building to hotel use (C1).</p> <p>24/01438/TRCA Rideaway Drive Hemingford Abbots. Proposal: 1 - Bird Cherry (Prunus padus) - crown raise to 3m and prune to provide 1m clearance from adjacent property.</p> <p>24/01512/TRCA 1 Braefield Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9EZ. Proposal T2 Willow to right of 'Braefield' driveway, on the boundary with 35 Common Lane: re-pollard to 8m. Reason, to minimise risk of future branch breakage.</p>
<p>104</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p>Resolved to amend item 89(I) and approve the minutes of the last PC meeting held on the 23rd September 2024. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour.</p> <p>Matters arising from the last meeting are included for discussion on this agenda.</p>
<p>105</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p>Items carried over from the last PC meeting</p> <p>Proposal to review and comment on the Draft Biodiversity policy. Resolved to accept the changes as discussed and agreed and for the Clerk is to re-issue the updated policy before adding this to the website.</p> <p>Proposal to consider holding a Parish Meeting in the next couple of months to identify, prioritise and budget for the delivery of agreed important village matters in 2025/26.</p> <p>Resolved that no decision can yet be taken on future budgeting for legal expenses in respect of Hemingford Park until the future need becomes clearer. It was also agreed that it would be prudent, once any future need is known, to try to ensure that any HAPC actions in this respect reflect the level of support in the parish for such expenditure.</p>
<p>106</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p> <p>d)</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>To receive and authorise the invoices for October (salaries, standing orders and DDMs for payment as listed at the end of the agenda). Resolved to accept and approve the October payments. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.</p> <p>To approve and accept the bank reconciliation for September. Resolved to approve the bank reconciliation for September. Proposed by Cllr PC, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour.</p> <p>To receive the budget update for Q2 and to agree the timeframe for preparing and presenting the 2025/26 budget.</p> <p>Resolved to accept the budget update for Q2 and that a draft budget for 2025/26 is prepared and presented at the next PC meeting. Since the PC meeting, the Clerk is able to confirm that the Precept request must be with HDC no later than 17/1/25.</p> <p>Noted: Following receipt of the final tranche of the Precept, £11,000 was transferred from the UTB current account into the savings account on the 7/10/24.</p>
<p>107</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p>Village Matters</p> <p>Noted: CCC Highways confirmed that the trimming of the overgrown hedgerow has been carried out down Rideaway, although there are still some dead trees that need to be removed. The owner has been made aware of this.</p> <p>Noted: CCC Highways wrote to HAPC to ask for a completed a PFHI before they can provide quotes on the replacement verge posts on Meadow Lane. This is the link for the suggested posts: Glenwood™ 150 Post - Glasdon UK.</p> <p>Proposal to discuss next steps. Resolved to report back on the costs and HAPC's decision to the residents of ML.</p>

c)	Noted: CCC's Local Projects Team informed the PC that our bid for LHI funding for an extension of the 20mph zone between Hemingford Grey and Hemingford Abbots has been declined. The LHI budget was limited to £150k and only eight parish councils (out of a total of forty-nine) were successful.
d)	Proposal to Review and Comment on the Call for Sites Consultation. Resolved that HAPC submits a response and it is noted that Cllr PK did not take part in the process. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour.
108	Meetings/Training attended St. Ives Town Council Meeting (MW attended) New Councillor Training (Cllr RH to attend later in October)
109	Matters for future consideration Prepare a draft budget for 2025/26 for presentation at the next PC meeting.
110	Closure of the Meeting 9.05 am
111	Date of the next Meeting: Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 7 pm in the Village Hall, High Street, Hemingford Abbots PE28 9AH.

October Payments 106 (a)

BACS	4220	Bradgates	Strimming and grass cutting on 12/8/24	£ 120.00	£ 24.00	£ 144.00
BACS	4220	Bradgates	Grass cutting 17/9/24	£ 50.00	£ 10.00	£ 60.00
BACS	4315	AskIT	Cloud Backup	£ 18.33	£ 3.67	£ 22.00
BACS	4220	Sid Barnett	Cutting the Playing Field Hedge	£ 120.00	£ 24.00	£ 144.00
BACS	4095	PK Littlejohn	Audit Fees (closure of the AGAR)	£ 210.00	£ 42.00	£ 252.00
BACS	4000	Staff Costs				
BACS	4060	Working from home allowance				
			Sub Total	£1,066.68	£103.67	£1,170.35
DDM						
DDM	4250	Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	September's electricity supply	£ 126.60	£ 6.33	£ 132.93
DDM	4250	Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	September's electricity supply	£ 12.21	£ 0.61	£ 12.82
			Total	£1,205.49	£110.61	£1,316.10