

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 23rd September 2024 in the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall, High St, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AH at 7 pm.



Present:

HAPC Cllrs: Marcus Whewell, Rie Hargreaves, Glen Perrott, Peter Keen,
Shaun Reinson.

HDC Cllr: Sarah Conboy

Clerk: Maxine Blewett

Members of the Public: 5

2024-2025	MINUTES	Meeting opened at 7.00 pm
85	<p data-bbox="288 775 501 801">Public Participation</p> <p data-bbox="288 831 1318 857">Appeal Hearing (non-determination of a householder planning application for Hemingford Park)</p> <p data-bbox="288 891 767 918">Members of the public expressed concern over:</p> <ul data-bbox="336 949 1382 1234" style="list-style-type: none">- Whether the planning application that had been brought to appeal by the applicant might now be approved by HDC Planning, or whether a full planning application was required for private and commercial use, and would this include the new access road?. HDC Cllr SC suggested HAPC should write to HDC for clarity on what the next steps might be.- The planning appeal process – a) why documents were allowed to be submitted to HDC’s Planning Officer on the morning of the appeal hearing and b) why these discussions were held in private. <u>HDC Cllr SC advised that the applicant was within their rights to comply with the request to make changes to the spa building up until the last minute.</u>- One member of the public commented on the poor performance of HDC Planning over the last few years and would support a judicial review. <p data-bbox="288 1265 395 1292">Rideaway</p> <p data-bbox="288 1301 1382 1413">It was mentioned that the overhanging trees along Rideaway were a serious health and safety concern as drivers were moving across the carriageway to avoid the overhanging branches. Cllr MW informed the public that CCC were aware of the problem and Highways had contacted the owner of the land to request removal of the branches by the 30th September.</p> <p data-bbox="288 1444 440 1471">Meadow Lane</p> <p data-bbox="288 1480 616 1507">Residents of ML commented on:</p> <ul data-bbox="336 1538 1382 1787" style="list-style-type: none">- CCC Highways’ requirement for HAPC to fund 50% of the costs to replace the verge posts. This had not been discussed during the meeting on the 27/8/24. A MOP suggested that the posts were over-priced at circa £333 each.- The time it may take to address all ML safety issues, (as priority had been given to the 20mph zone from High Street to New Road). Cllr PK explained that the 20 mph LHI application had been applied for before the PC became fully aware of the concerns of residents on ML. There are limitations on the PC’s budget, so when considering future LHI applications, changing the verge posts for aesthetic purposes may not be a priority over more important safety issues. HAPC are aware of the other issues, and in due course we will look at these when determining the budget. <p data-bbox="288 1818 1209 1845">Cllr MW added that HAPC will continue to push CCC for quotes to get 'best value for money'.</p>	

86	<p>District Councillors' Reports</p> <p>HDC Councillor Sarah Conboy's report covered the main items below. The HDC Town and Parish Council's full report can be viewed via the parish council website, or through this link: Town & Parish Council Newsletter - September 2024. Cllr SC also responded to questions asked from members of the public.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An update on the Local Plan Consultation is imminent. Proposals for developing two countryside villages (The Lattenburys) is still on the table and statutory timelines are tight, therefore the public are encouraged to view the Call for Sites details and comment via the Planning Portal. If comments are not made within the timeframe the opportunity to do so will be lost. - Wealth building strategy – HDC is working with the public on how to live well in Huntingdonshire (things that make a difference to their lives). This is an opportunity for residents to have their say. - Local growth – plans to bring forward a route beyond Huntingdon to ease traffic is being considered. HDC do not intend to offer up more housing to access funding from central Government to achieve this but may reconsider their position depending on what the offer from Government is.
87	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Apologies received and accepted from Cllr Phillip Cooke</p>
88	<p>Councillors' Declarations of Interest</p> <p>None</p>
89	<p>Planning Applications & Appeals</p> <p><u>Noted as NEW (TREES)</u></p> <p>a) <u>24/01511/TREE</u> 1 Braefield Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9EZ. Proposal: T1 Oak tree in back garden: reduce over-extended section growing towards patio by approx. 2m Reason: to improve shape and allow more light to patio. Status: In progress. <u>Extension to 24/9/24 agreed by HDC Planning.</u> HAPC Resolved neither for nor against this application. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr GP, all in favour).</p> <p>b) <u>24/01483/TREE</u> 3 Abbots Close Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AP. Proposal: T1 Oak <u>L/TPO/146</u> - Reduce crown by 2 - 2.5m - Tree is close to building, overhangs back garden of neighbour will increase light and reduce risk of roof damage to neighbour. Status: In progress. <u>Extension to 24/9/24 agreed by HDC Planning.</u> HAPC Resolved neither for nor against this application. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour).</p> <p>c) <u>24/01438/TRCA</u> Rideaway Drive Hemingford Abbots. Proposal: 1 - Bird Cherry (Prunus padus) - crown raise to 3m and prune to provide 1m clearance from adjacent property. Status: In progress. HAPC was not asked to comment.</p> <p>d) <u>24/01512/TRCA</u> 1 Braefield Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9EZ. 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. Status: In progress. HAPC was not asked to comment.</p> <p>e) <u>24/01680/TRCA</u> 84 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Remove Horse Chestnut tree. HAPC was not asked to comment.</p> <p>f) <u>24/01625/TRCA</u> Riverside House 32 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN G1 2x Cherry Plum - Fell close to ground level - Trees are heavily decayed, Crown of one has snapped off and hanging in an overhead power line. HAPC was not asked to comment.</p> <p>g) <u>24/01612/TRCA</u> 35 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. T1 (Yew) - Fell and grind the stump. This is a small, shaped hedge rather than a tree. T2 (willow) - Re-pollard a single limb that's growing over the fence line and all over their thatched roof. This is about 4m of growth coming of. HAPC was not asked to comment.</p> <p><u>Noted as REFUSED</u></p> <p>h) <u>24/01001/HHFUL</u> 48 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Extension to existing car port.</p> <p><u>Noted as APPROVED</u></p> <p>i) <u>24/01002/HHFUL</u> 48 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Erection of single storey front extension, balcony infill and erection of front porch.</p>

<p>j)</p> <p>k)</p> <p>l)</p>	<p>24/00884/FUL 6 River Meadow Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AY. Erection of a self-build dwelling following demolition of the existing dwelling.</p> <p>24/80157/COND Land Rear Of Royal Oak Corner Royal Oak Lane Hemingford Abbots. Discharge of condition 7 (materials) of 21/01686/FUL.</p> <p><u>APPEALS</u></p> <p>APP/H0520/Y/23/3335992 & APP/H0520/W/23/3335991, Hemingford Park Hall, Hemingford Abbots. Retention of pool building, basement car park, lift and enclosure, external courtyards, pond and associated hard and soft landscaping (revised siting) phased alterations to pool building (reduction in height), removal of staircase, removal of glazed balustrade to pond and alterations to fenestration of main façade.</p> <p>The hearing was scheduled for the 5th and 6th of September 2024. The appeal was withdrawn by the applicant's representative during the afternoon of the 5th September. Records have been updated on the Appeals Casework Portal to show the withdrawal of the appeal.</p> <p>1. Discuss what action (if any) the Parish Council wish to take following the appeal withdrawal. Action 1 - Resolved that HAPC write to HDC to clarify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to understand the likely next steps following the withdrawal of the appeal by the applicant. - to seek confirmation on HDC's position regarding the new access road (which was excluded from the appeal), as the Conservation Officer at HDC questioned its legality and CCC Highways had written to the applicant to inform them that access into Hemingford Park was unsuitable. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour. <p>Action 2 - Resolved that HAPC write to Heritage England regarding the legality of the new access road and also to seek their views on the potential damage caused to historic farmland ridge and furrow (as identified by other Heritage representatives). Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr GP, all in favour.</p> <p>Noted: HAPC thanked our representative from Buckles Solicitors for his thorough preparation for, and presentation at the appeal hearing.</p>
<p>90</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p>	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting and Matters Arising</p> <p>Resolved to approve the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on the 13th of August 2024. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour).</p> <p>None.</p>
<p>91</p> <p>a)</p> <p>b)</p> <p>c)</p>	<p>Administration</p> <p>Under the 2021 Environment Act, to comply with Section 40 of NERC 2006 as amended under Section 102 of the Environment Act 2021, local authorities must consider what can be done to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Proposal that HAPC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifies areas where the PC can conserve and enhance biodiversity and amends and adopts the model biodiversity policy recommended by DEFRA officers and published by both SLCC and NALC (Model Policy - https://www.slcc.co.uk/site/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Model-biodiversity-policy-January-2024.pdf). Resolved to defer this item until the next meeting. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr PK, all in favour. Action – Clerk to issue draft policy wording as would be applicable to HAPC. <p>Proposal to consider moving the PC to a .gov. uk domain. NALC is encouraging PCs to move to a .gov domain (over 500 PCs have done so this year). The Parish Domains Helper Service is offering support to do this and there is potentially funding of £100 plus VAT towards moving costs. Please watch the presentation on https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=891gK5Ew7HE.</p> <p>Resolved to retain the .org.uk domain until such a time that the PC is mandated to do so. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr SR all in favour.</p> <p>Proposal to discuss and agree if the PC will be applying for an LHI in the next financial year. The 25/26 LHI application round opens from the beginning of November. PCs are requested to complete an Expression of Interest <u>before the 11/10/24</u> via this link: (https://forms.gle/f5fzV54Fp2LRozMM8).</p> <p>Resolved that the Clerk submit an expression of interest for an LHI application in 25/26. Proposed by Cllr PK, seconded by Cllr MW, all in favour.</p>
<p>92</p>	<p>Finance</p>

a)	Resolved to accept and approve the invoices for August (a) and September (b), salaries, standing orders and DDMS for payment as listed at the end of the minutes – please note two additional payments to CAPALC are included on the September payments). Proposed by Cllr GP, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.
b)	Resolved to accept the bank reconciliation for July and August. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour.
c)	Noted: That a VAT reclaim for £1357.37 (period April to August inc.) was made on 2/9/24 and has credited to the current account.
d)	Noted: That the quotes to replace the white posts on Meadow Lane were requested from CCC Highways. Action: Clerk to follow up with CCC.
e)	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. Resolved to carry forward this item to the next meeting. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr PK, all in favour.
f)	Consider a request from Cambridge Search and Rescue for a grant of £300 towards the cost of an ‘all terrain rescue vehicle’ (total cost circa £9k). Resolved to refuse this application as HAPC financially support only local charities. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded Cllr SR, all in favour. Action – Clerk to respond to CS&R.
93	Village Matters
a)	Noted: That on the 27/8/24 a meeting was held between residents of H/Abbots and CCC Highways to discuss village safety issues. Following the meeting the Highways Manager, Mr. S. Nicholson, informed the Chair and Clerk that 50% of the cost to replace the posts would be required from the parish council. Noted, chased for quotations and supporting info that HAPC want, and that CCC Highways has responded to the residents of Meadow Lane. <u>Clerk to follow up with CCC Highways</u> to obtain a quote for the replacement posts.
b)	Noted: Over-hanging trees along Rideaway have been reported to CCC Highways. Highways have contacted the landowner to request that this is dealt with by the end of September. <u>Clerk to follow up with CCC.</u>
c)	Noted: Thanks go to Sid Barnett who has cut the hedgerow from alongside the playing field.
d)	Agree if we wish to respond to the NPPF consultation (deadline 24 th Sept). MW, stated that this is a really important document as it sets the rules within which HDC operates with regard to targets and considerations for new housing. It is therefore important that we offer feedback. HGPC has shared its thoughts and MW has added further comments. Resolved that Cllr MW is to respond to the NPPF consultation by close of business 24/9/24. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.
e)	Update on the 1 st review of any relevant ‘Call for Sites’ submissions and agree next steps. Resolved that HAPC prepares a full response to the Call for Sites consultation and that the draft is circulated to all Cllrs before the October PC meeting, where the final document can be approved. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr GP, all in favour. <u>Action – Cllrs MW and GP to prepare the draft.</u>
94	Meetings/Training
a)	Cllr MW attended the public meeting with Anglian Water on the 12/8/24. Notes were circulated to all Cllrs. Cllr MW met with other local Chairs and notes of this meeting will be sent to all Cllrs when they become available. There is growing concern among the group about the state of the sluices in St. Ives and this has been escalated to HDC, CCC and MPs. The CEO of CCC is very concerned and help may be provided by the local authority. Cllr SC said it is the will of HDC and CCC to collectively support the flooding high risk area and there may be some budget available to help with the issues. The Chairs plan to jointly write again to the Environment Agency (who say they don’t have money to fix the sluices).
	Invitations
b)	HDC’s Annual Climate Conversation meeting will take place on Wednesday 6/11/24 at the Burgess Hall, St. Ives. <u>Cllrs MW and RH agreed to attend the meeting.</u>
c)	HDC’s Town and Parish Forum is taking place at Burgess Hall, St Ives on 23 October 2024. <u>Cllr MW and the Clerk agreed to attend the meeting.</u>
95	Matters for future consideration Date of the Annual Parish Meeting Carried forward items from this meeting (91a and 92e)
96	Closure of the Meeting The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.
97	Date of the next Meeting: Wednesday 16th October 2024 at 7 pm in the Village Hall, High Street, Hemingford Abbots PE28 9AH.

Finance

September Payments (92b)

BACS	4055	Viking Limited	Printer Cartridges	£ 107.06	£ 21.41	£ 128.47
BACS	4105	CAPALC	Planning Training for S. Reinson	£ 45.00		£ 45.00
BACS	4105	CAPALC	New Councillor Training for Cllr R. Hargreaves	£ 75.00		£ 75.00
BACS	4000	Staff Costs				
BACS	4060	Working from home allowance				
			Sub Total	£ 775.41	£ 21.41	£ 796.82
DDM						
DDM	4250	Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	August's electricity supply	£ 12.69	£ 0.63	£ 13.32
DDM	4250	Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	August's electricity supply	£ 117.96	£ 5.90	£ 123.86
			Total	£ 906.06	£ 27.94	£ 934.00

(92a - paid in August)

August Payments

4000	Staff Costs					
4060	Working from home allowance					
4300	Dave Cook	Removing overgrown nettles along the footpath between H/Abbots and H/Grey	£ 150.00		£ 150.00	
4065	HAVH room hire	January, February, April and May (18 hours)	£ 108.00		£ 108.00	
4096	Buckles Solicitors	Planning Objection Letter	£ 3,300.00	£ 660.00	£ 3,960.00	
4096	Buckles Solicitors	Planning Appeal	£ 2,275.00	£ 455.00	£ 2,730.00	
4220	Bradgate Ground Maintenance	9/7 strimming and grass cutting and grass cutting on the 15/7	£ 170.00	£ 34.00	£ 204.00	
4065	HAVH room hire	June, July and August (24 hours, includes large hall hire)	£ 84.00		£ 84.00	
			£ 6,635.35	£ -	£ 7,784.35	
4250	Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	July's electricity supply	£ 12.69	£ 0.63	£ 13.32	
4250	Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	July's electricity supply	£ 116.05	£ 5.80	£ 121.85	
			£ 6,764.09	£ 6.43	£ 7,919.52	

Signed.....Marcus Whewell (Chair)

Dage.....