

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Held on Monday 23rd of June 2025 at 7 pm, in the

Hemingford Abbots Village Hall, High St, Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AH.

Present:

HAPC Councillors: Marcus Whewell, Rie Hargreaves, Richard Chamberlain and Shaun Reinson

County and District Councillors: David Keane (CCC) and Sarah Conboy (HDC)

Clerk: M. Blewett.

Members of the public: 3



Public participation

A parishioner asked whether Moats Way Limited's proposal under the Call for Sites (referred to as the Lattenburys) had been approved. Cllr SC responded and said that not all of the suggestions on the Call for Sites need to be developed to meet the government requirements, and that the consultation period is still open. No final decision has been made in relation to this development. MWL is known to HDC as they have developed other sites within the district.

Cllr MW asked if the local government reorganisation will affect the call for sites. Cllr SC said this was a possibility, but HDC were continuing to develop the Local Plan to ensure there would be a starting point following the LG reorganisation.

A parishioner at the meeting kindly shared a notice from Anglia Water announcing the installation of new sewer piping across Godmanchester Common. Anglian Water's pipeline project SEW-12319 will support new developments in Alconbury Weald by upgrading the sewage network with twin 400mm pipelines over 7.4km, including 1km through Eastside and Westside Commons. Consent for this work is required from the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) under Section 38 of the Commons Act 2006 due to the land's designation as common land.

A MOP asked why mature trees were being removed without any consultation in a conservation area and highlighted the importance of retaining riverside trees which offer defence against flooding. Cllr MW explained that the planning department at HDC had stopped consulting on tree-work with PCs over two years ago (HAPC continues to be notified on TPO tree-work only). Cllr MW added that it would be better for HDC to consult with HAPC on every tree application, as the PC have local knowledge and are well-placed to support the process.

2024-2025	Minutes	Meeting opened 7.15 pm
38	<u>Item 38 brought forward by the Chair.</u> Iain Muspratt presented a summary of the work carried out by the Hemingford Action Group (HAG). The company was established with the objective of opposing the development of a recycling centre on land that was formerly the Hemingford Abbots Golf Course. IM explained that the work of HAG is now complete and offered HAPC all the information that HAG had accumulated over the years. In response to a question raised in the public participation session, IM said that a QC, with whom HAG had engaged with, had advised them that the Old Hemingford Abbots Golf Course is classed as greenfield and could not be developed. Cllr MW thanked Iain and the board of HAG for their excellent work on the project, Resolved for HAPC to take on the responsibility for HAG's accumulated records and for Cllrs MW and SR to liaise with IM. Proposed by Cllr RC, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.	
32	Apologies received from Cllr Eddie Halls.	
33	Councillors' Declarations of Interest None.	
34	<u>To receive reports from the County and District Councillors</u> CCC Cllr David Keane gave an update on his first few weeks' activities in post, which included attending many meetings and undertaking a number of statutory training events. DK is involved in the Local Government	

	<p>reorganisation and has sent out details/maps of the proposed structures. Full details can be found in the Minutes section of the HAPC website.</p> <p>HDC Cllr Sarah Conboy encouraged everyone to look at the HDC website to review the feedback from the last Town and Parish Council event.</p> <p>On Local Government reorganisation Cllr SC said there was only so many ways to re-shape the areas into new unitary bodies, but all the options must include the basics of financial viability – a unitary body has to be financially viable and each must have a minimum population of 500,000 people. Option A would be to link with Peterborough and Fenland, Option B to go South with Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire, or Option C – everywhere in the ‘horseshoe’, excluding Cambs. and South Cambs. HDC has gone out to consultation to find out what the public want. HDC is having to take legal advice as all areas have different legal constitutions. November 29th 2025 is the date for submission to central government.</p> <p>The result will be a brand new unitary authority, which may involve central government needing to make changes to the boundaries.</p> <p>NEW SURVEY coming! Local Nature Recovery Survey – there will be a short window of opportunity to have our say.</p>
35	<p>Tree Warden</p> <p>Noted with thanks and HAPC is very pleased to welcome Tom Mosher as the Hemingford Abbots Parish Council Tree Warden.</p>
36	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting</p> <p>Resolved to approve the Minutes of the APC meeting held on Thursday the 22nd of May 2025. Proposed by Cllr SR, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.</p>
37	<p>Planning Applications</p> <p>NEW (PROPERTY)</p> <p>a) <u>25/01090/HHEUL</u> 13 Rideaway Drive Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AQ. Proposal: Demolition of garden shed and erection of garden room outbuilding and summer house. HAPC Resolved neither for nor against this application. Proposed by Cllr SR, seconded Cllr RH, all in favour.</p> <p>NOTED -NEW (TREES)</p> <p>b) <u>25/00993/TRCA</u> 76 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Proposal: Beech - Remove limbs, lift canopy by 2.7m clearance. <i>HAPC has not been asked to comment on this application.</i></p> <p>NOTED -APPROVED</p> <p>c) <u>25/00618/TRCA</u> 49 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Magnolia - After flowering, reduce Eastern side of tree by 1 metre to balance tree. The Eastern aspect is twice the width of the Western. Trim some upward growing shoots by 75cm to restore the shape of the crown.</p> <p>d) <u>25/00497/TRCA</u> 11 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Sycamore T1 - Reduce height from 10m to 3m - Pollard tree by driveway, poor specimen Sycamore T2 - Reduce height from 10m to 3m - Pollard tree by driveway, poor specimen Sycamore T3- Reduce height from 10m to 3m - Pollard tree by driveway, poor specimen Silver Birch T4 - Fell to ground - Diseased/dying and poses risk to houses if it falls over in storm. Plane T5 - Fell to ground and replace with magnolia or flowering Cherry.</p> <p>e) <u>25/00779/TRCA</u> Land Rear Of 76 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots. Removal of 4no. trees (Horse Chestnut, Lawson Cypress, Apple and Holly) within the rear garden and grind out their stumps to return the area to lawn.</p> <p>f) <u>25/00216/TRCA</u> 3 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9ANP1. (Lombardi Poplar) - Fell. L1 (Lime) - Remove deadwood, laterally reduce by up to 3m to re-balance canopy, crown raise to 4.5m, no reduction to height.</p> <p>g) <u>24/02348/TRCA</u> 60 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. T1 Fir -Reduce laterally 1-2m. T3 Pine -Remove hanging branch in lower canopy.</p> <p>NOTED - REFUSED</p> <p>h) <u>25/00546/FUL</u> Land Adjacent Ridgeway Farm Rideaway Hemingford Abbots. Erection of 3 barns for storage of thatching materials with hardstanding for vehicles. <u>The meetins was ssuspended to take a public participation</u></p>
38	<p>Presentation by Iain Muspratt - See above.</p>
39	<p>Update on the Former Little Chef</p> <p>Police have visited the site and found no commercial issues on site. They did find a container that looked to have been inhabited. It was reported that 3 Police cars were on site at 6 am this morning (23/6/25).</p>

40	<u>Finances</u>
a)	Resolved to approve the invoices for June (salaries, standing orders and DDMs for payment as listed at the end of the agenda) Proposed by Cllr SR, seconded by Cllr RC, all in favour.
b)	Resolved to approve the May bank reconciliation. Proposed by Cllr RC, seconded by Cllr MW, all in favour.
c)	Resolved to approve the grant request for £700 from the Hemingford Peace Memorial Field and for the payment to be sent with the June payments. Proposed by Cllr SR, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.
41	<u>IT Hardware and .gov.uk domain name</u>
a)	Resolved that HAPC purchase a new lap-top from AskIT for the clerk. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour; also that Cllrs SR and MW will investigate and report back at the next PC meeting regarding the best option for installing Windows Software on to a new laptop. Cllrs SR and MW will also review the proposals from AskIT and Town and Parish Council Websites and recommend the best route for moving HAPC on to a .gov.uk domain. Proposed by Cllr RC, seconded by Cllr RH, all in favour.
42	<u>Playing Field</u>
a)	Noted that an updated Risk Assessment [for use of the Playing Field] has been provided by the Flower Festival organisers. The report confirms HAPC's requirements have been fully met. Noted that D. Cook tidied-up the playing field last Saturday and removed and replaced the broken seat. DC disposed of the old seat and has been asked to complete a few other tasks this week in readiness for the Flower Festival.
41	<u>Review and approve new policies and/or agree next steps:</u> Resolved to adopt the Data Breach Policy and for Cllr MW and the Clerk to draft and present their proposal for the new IT Policy and updated Data Audit Schedule at the July PC meeting. Proposed by Cllr RH, seconded by Cllr RC, all in favour.
43	<u>Training</u>
a)	Noted that all Councillors and the Clerk has access to the online Cyber Security and GDPR training modules and were asked to complete the training modules by the end of August..
b)	Feedback on any training or meetings attended – n/a.
44	<u>Noted - Correspondence Received</u> 9/6/25 email from Police – Quarterly crime statistics update. 9/6/25 email from Local Highway Improvement (LHI). Notification of the Member Panel Day on the 4th July 2025. (Cllr MW & Dr. J Wills to attend the online meeting). 2/6/25 email from HDC - COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY (CIL) FUNDING: JUNE 2025 2/6/26 email from HDC- invitation to a forum on 10/7/25 covering Water System Management (Cllr RH attending). 17/6/25 NALC news (Clerk accessed online) announces that the government has voted positively on allowing remote council meetings. Date tbc.
45	<u>Matters for future consideration</u> Hemingford Action Group – Handover to HAPC New IT Policy and New Data Audit Schedule Windows Software recommendations Move to .gov.uk domain
46	The meeting closed at 8.30 pm
47	Date of the next Meetings: Monday 28 th of July 2025 at 7 pm in the Village Hall, High Street, Hemingford Abbots PE28 9AH.

Finance item 40 June Payments presented for approval

Additional payment was approved (40c) – Grant to Hemingford Peace Memorial Field of £700

BACS ✓	4000 Staff Costs				
BACS ✓	4020 HMRC				
BACS ✓	4060 Working from home allowance	4 weeks	£ 16.00		£ 16.00
BACS ✓	4250 Bradgates Ground Maintenance	March Gras cutting/trimming	£ 170.00	£ 34.00	£ 204.00
BACS ✓	4250 Bradgates Ground Maintenance	April Grass cutting/trimming	£ 250.00	£ 50.00	£ 300.00
BACS ✓	4250 Bradgates Ground Maintenance	May Grass cutting/trimming	£ 150.00	£ 30.00	£ 180.00
BACS	4305 Sloane & Sons Ltdq	New 4-seater bench for the Playing Field	336.75	£ 67.35	£ 404.10
BACS	4065 HAVH	HAVH hall hire April, May and June	135.00		£ 135.00
BACS	4070 Great Ouse Valley Trust	Annual subscription	40.00		£ 40.00
BACS	4105 IHASCO Training Ltd	On-line training packages for GDPR and CYPER SECURITY for HAPC	340.40	£ 68.08	£ 408.48
			£ 2,024.23	£ 249.43	£ 2,273.66
DDM	4250 Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	May's supply of electricity	£ 127.45	£ 6.37	£ 133.82
DDM	4250 Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandage	May's supply of electricity	£ 12.64	£ 0.63	£ 13.27
			£ 2,164.32	£ 249.43	£ 2,420.75

Total Payments (including HPMF Grant) **£ 2,864.32 £ 256.43 £ 3,120.75**

Signed.....Cllr Marcus Whewell, Chair Date.....