

HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL

I hereby give notice that as previously arranged, the Meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 9 October 2017 in the Reading Room, High Street Hemingford Grey at 7.30pm

The Public and Press are cordially invited to be present.

The order of business may be varied at the Chairman's discretion.

All members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend for the purpose of considering and resolving upon the business to be transacted at the meeting as set out below.



Gail Stoehr, Clerk 02/10/17

AGENDA

Comments and observations on agenda items from members of the public and reports from the County & District Councillors

- 1. To approve apologies for absence**
- 2. To receive declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda**
- 3. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting**
- 4. Co-option to fill casual vacancies – to consider any applications received**
- 5. To consider matters arising from the last or a previous meeting for info only unless detailed**
 - 5.1 (5.1) Dogs at Daintree Green – to consider signage or any other action
 - 5.2 (6.4) To consider tree surgeon's report and recommendation on Daintree Green suckers
 - 5.3 (6.5) Cemetery regulations review – specification for height of memorials
 - 5.4 (6.6) Cemetery memorials safety – to consider if unstable memorials should be laid flat by the memorial mason which installed them where the exclusive rights were made out in the memorial mason's name instead of their client's
 - 5.5 (7.4) Proposal for a defibrillator in the village- to consider a report and recommendation about location ^(JB)
 - 5.6 (7.8) Litter bin review including proposal for a new litter bin
 - 5.7 (7.10) Village sign repairs – to consider quotations if received ^(DD)
 - 5.8 (8.3) CCC Invitation to bid for LHI funding 2018/19
 - 5.8.1 To consider options and quotations for speed signs ^(DD)
 - 5.8.2 To consider quotation for through route signage if received
- 6. Finance, procedure and risk assessment**
 - 6.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
 - 6.2 Clerk report on any actions taken using delegated powers or because of risk or health and safety
 - 6.3 To consider any matter that is urgent because of risk or health and safety
- 7. To receive reports and items from committees, working groups and members for information only unless stated**
 - 7.1 (5.3) Whippet Coaches deregistration and the impact on Hemingford Grey to consider the bus survey report
 - 7.1.1 Proposal that the Parish Council adopts the Bus Survey Report (subject to any amendments made at this meeting) and that the report is sent to all relevant town and parish councils ^(AM)
 - 7.1.2 Proposal that the Parish Council authorises the Chair and Vice Chair (in conjunction with the Clerk) to approve expenditure of up to £50 for the printing of material in relation to Parish business ^(AM)
 - 7.1.3 Proposal that the Parish Council authorises the Public Transport Task and Finish Group to work with any appropriate council or organization to develop a transport strategy for the village ^(AM)

- 7.1.4 Proposal that the Parish Council authorises the Public Transport Task and Finish Group to instigate cross council working if St Ives Town Council does not^(AM)
- 7.2 Proposal that the Parish Council considers fencing or bollards at Daintree Green^(RW)
- 7.3 Proposal that the Council does not use Mick George for any of its supplies and removes them from its approved contractors list^(KD, RE)
- 7.4 Proposal that the current website domain is moved to 2commune^(JH)
- 7.5 Proposal that the website goes live in December (date to be confirmed) and that the contract with OneAgency is not renewed; the old site being pointed to the new one^(JH)
- 7.6 HDC – invitation to CCTV Service Meeting on 22nd November^(DD)
- 7.7 Proposal that the Council sets up a working group to make a recommendation on whether the Parish Council should develop a Neighbourhood Plan and if so how expectations should be managed, what area it should cover, and how it should be financed and managed and its terms of reference^(RW)
- 7.8 Proposal that the Council purchases a wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday^(DD)

8. To consider correspondence/communications received

- 8.1 PKF Littlejohn – External audit conclusion
- 8.2 St Ives Town Council position on changes to the bus service and invitation to informal meeting with CCC
- 8.3 Resident – De Vere Close problems with phone and broadband connection difficulties

9. Closure of meeting

Where I have info to support an agenda item this is below.

1. Apologies – any received will be reported to the meeting.
3. To approve the minutes of the last meeting on 11 September 2017 – attached.
4. Co-option to fill casual vacancies –none received at the time of writing
5. Matters Arising
- 5.1 (5.3) Dogs at Daintree Green – to consider signage or any other action
Deferred at the last meeting.
- 5.2 (6.4) To consider tree surgeon’s report and recommendation on Daintree Green suckers if received
Eastern Tree Surgery has advised that they have visited the site and the suckers are caused because the stump of the tree was not treated. There are no suckers on Daintree Green side as the grass is cut regularly. If the resident cuts the suckers encroaching into his garden in time the suckers will cease. They say it is not worth taking any action know but to bear in mind when future trees are felled that certain species of trees throw up suckers if not treated at the time of felling.
- 5.3 (6.5) Cemetery regulations review – specification for height of memorials
Deferred at the last meeting.
Clerk’s advice – the Council is the burial authority for the cemetery in Pound Road and as such it can make any regulation that it sees fit as long as it does not conflict with legislation.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/burial-grounds-guidance-for-managers> contains guidance from burial authorities and covers
 - relevant areas of law
 - service and standards
 - staff training
 - planning
 - finance
 - how to handle complaints
 - cultural, historic and environmental heritage

With regards to 1) it is for the Council to decide the dimensions that it will permit for memorials and whether only ashes tablets or memorials will be permitted and if different areas of the cemetery should be treated differently.

The Council should take into account the sizing of “off the peg” memorials as residents would have to pay substantially more for a custom made memorial. NAMM provides a standard for dimensions of memorials which has already taken into account H&S Regulations, so as long as the memorial complies with current NAMM standards and fixings the Council does not have to worry about H&S.
- 5.4 (6.6) Cemetery memorials safety – to consider if unstable memorials should be laid flat by the memorial mason which installed them where the exclusive rights were made out in the memorial mason’s name instead of their client’s
Raised at the last meeting.
Clerk’s advice – the current situation is that a qualified person has inspected the memorials in the cemetery and found many are unsafe. The Council has taken swift action by trying to contact the exclusive rights holder to ask them to make safe the memorial. The Council has a duty of care to the users of the cemetery but the memorials belong to person who paid for the memorial/exclusive rights holder. Unfortunately for the majority of the unsafe memorials the exclusive rights were in the past incorrectly made out in either the name of the deceased or the funeral director.
The Council agreed that where the exclusive rights holder could not be traced to put a charge on the grave which had to be cleared before any future interments of memorial inscriptions. In this case the

name on the exclusive rights is in the name of the funeral director who has been traced and they have said rather than fixing the memorial may they lay it flat on the grave. The Council should consider the pros and cons of this e.g. how will it affect grass cutting, the look of the cemetery, the cost implications etc.

- 5.5 (7.4) Proposal for a defibrillator in the village- to consider a report and recommendation about location ^(JB)
Cllr Brasnell to report.
- 5.6 (7.8) Litter bin review including proposal for a new litter bin
- 5.7 (7.10) Village sign repairs – to consider quotations if received ^(DD)
Cllr Dew to report on the damage.
- 5.8 (8.3) CCC Invitation to bid for LHI funding 2018/19
- 5.8.1 To consider options and quotations for speed signs ^(DD)
Cllr Dew to report.
- 5.8.2 To consider quotation for through route signage if received
The formal quotation from CCC will be brought to the meeting if received.
6. Finance, procedure and risk assessment
- 6.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills – attached. Any late invoices for payment will be brought to the meeting.
- 6.2 Clerk report on any actions taken using delegated powers or because of health and safety
- 6.3 To consider any matter that is urgent because of risk or health and safety - Is the Council aware of any?
7. To receive reports and items from committees, working groups and members
Planning Committee – minutes of the meetings should be available on the Parish Council’s website.
- 7.1 (5.3) Whippet Coaches deregistration and the impact on Hemingford Grey to consider the bus survey report
- 7.1.1 Proposal that the Parish Council adopts the Bus Survey Report (subject to any amendments made at this meeting) and that the report is sent to all relevant town and parish councils ^(AM)
- 7.1.2 Proposal that the Parish Council authorises the Chair and Vice Chair (in conjunction with the Clerk) to approve expenditure of up to £50 for the printing of material in relation to Parish business ^(AM)
- 7.13 Proposal that the Parish Council authorises the Public Transport Task and Finish Group to work with any appropriate council or organization to develop a transport strategy for the village ^(AM)
- 7.1.4 Proposal that the Parish Council authorises the Public Transport Task and Finish Group to instigate cross council working if St Ives Town Council does not ^(AM)
- 7.2 Proposal that the Parish Council considers fencing or bollards at Daintree Green
Cllr Waters to put forward his proposal.
- 7.3 Proposal that the Council does not use Mick George for any of its supplies and removes them from its approved contractors list ^(KD, RE)
- 7.4 Proposal that the current website domain is moved to 2commune ^(JH)
- 7.5 Proposal that the website goes live in December (date to be confirmed) and that the contract with OneAgency is not renewed; the old site being pointed to the new one ^(JH)
- 7.6 HDC – invitation to CCTV Service Meeting on 22nd November ^(DD)
“Dear Clerks and Chairmen,
As existing partners of the Huntingdonshire CCTV service, or a Town & Parish Councils who have recently expressed an interest in the Council CCTV Service and potential opportunities for your Town

/ Parish I would like to extend an invitation to a meeting on the 22nd November 2017 between 14:00 hrs and 16:00 hrs.

Myself, and Cllr Daryl Brown – HDC Cabinet Member for Commercialisation and Shared Services, would like to update you on the commercialisation plans for the CCTV Service, and the opportunities this presents for enhancing existing service provision, or responding to your requests for new monitoring opportunities.

By hosting the meeting at Eastfield House, we will also be able to make available to opportunity for you to visit the CCTV Control Room and see the work of the team in protecting the safety of our residents, and responding to crime and disorder.

I am hoping that this meeting date will be suitable, and extend the invitation to Clerks and Chairmen, or substitute in the first instance, at 2 places per Town / Parish Council.

RSVP

Kind Regards

Chris Stopford

Chris Stopford

Head of Community

Huntingdonshire District Council”

7.7 Proposal that the Council sets up a working group to make a recommendation on whether the Parish Council should develop a Neighbourhood Plan and if so how expectations should be managed, what area it should cover, and how it should be financed and managed and its terms of reference ^(RW)

Cllr Waters writes “And I would like to propose the setting up of a working group to make a recommendation on whether HGPC should develop a Neighbourhood Plan and if so how expectations should be managed, what area it should cover, and how it should be financed and managed. The working group would recruit non councillors at their discretion”

7.8 Proposal that the Council purchases a wreath to be laid on Remembrance Sunday

8.1 PKF Littlejohn – External audit conclusion

The annual audit has been completed and nothing has come to the External Auditor’s attention giving them reason for concern.

8.2 St Ives Town Council position on changes to the bus service and invitation to informal meeting with CCC - attached

8.3 Resident – De Vere Close problems with phone and broadband connection difficulties

“I am contacting you to raise my concern about the frequent difficulties we have in De Vere Close with phone and broadband connections.

Since February 2016, we have lost either the phone line, or our broadband, or both, on 23 occasions.

This has necessitated 12 Open Reach engineer visits (including four in one month) to restore the service. In total we have been without a landline and a computer for approximately 75 days. Although our supplier has been able to help on a few occasions when the connection has simply been very slow, the problem has on every occasion been caused by Open Reach. Or to put it another way, as the Open Reach engineers tell us every time they come, the real reason is that the underground wires in De Vere Close are so old and crumbling that they are no longer fit for purpose. This of course makes a joke of the fact that fibre broadband is here.

This primitive wiring has been a problem for at least six of our neighbours. The most recent disruption of our line was caused last Wednesday week by an Open Reach engineer who was trying to restore the phone to one of our neighbours who is in her 90s, and who has an emergency alarm which does not work when there is no phone. This could obviously have serious consequences.”

9. Closure of meeting

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10 July 2017

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 10 July 2017 be approved and signed by the Chairman, after an amendment under item 5.1, line 1 to replace the word “bulbs” with “the 50 year old lights.” (Prop DD, 2nd RW, unanimous)

4. Co-option to fill casual vacancy – to consider any applications received or to consider how the seats will be filled

RESOLVED to co-opt Leanne Elmstrom as a member of the Parish Council. (Prop DD, 2nd DC, unanimous) Cllr Elmstrom signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office before taking her seat.

RESOLVED that Cllr Elmstrom be co-opted to the Planning Committee. (Prop RW, 2nd RE, unanimous)

RESOLVED that Cllr Meredith be co-opted to the Planning Committee. (Prop RW, 2nd RE, unanimous)

5. To consider matters arising from the last or a previous meeting for info only unless detailed

5.0.1 (5.2a) Cllr Dew reported that he had found a supplier for a pop up sign for the village market at a discount price.

5.0.2 (5.1) Cllr Waters reported that the lights in Weir Road and Weir Close were now in place awaiting the UKPN connection.

5.1 (5.3) Dogs at Daintree Green – to consider signage or any other action

RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting in Cllr Brasnell’s absence.

5.2 (7.1.8) Pound Road roundabout – to consider quotations to remove the tree in the centre of the roundabout and the whole roundabout rotovated before any small plants can be installed

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from St Ives Tree and Garden Services for £365.00 to remove the tree and stump, and to spray, rotovate and level the roundabout. (Prop DC, 2nd RW, unanimous)

5.3 Whippet Coaches deregistration and the impact on Hemingford Grey

Cllr Meredith circulated a proposal relating to the bus service.

Thanks were expressed to the 80+ residents who completed a survey, demonstrating the importance of the bus service to the village. Positive feedback had been received about Dews.

RESOLVED that the bus survey report should be considered at the October meeting and used in discussions with CCC and HDC. The need to link with other villages was noted. The final report is proposed for April 2018.

RESOLVED to set up a working group with the following membership: Cllr Meredith (Convenor), Cllr Dew and Cllr Elmstrom and that residents who have expressed an interest may be co-opted.

Terms of Reference:

Short term:

- To advertise the Monday and Friday bus service
- To advertise Community Transport Schemes and to invite the Manager of the St Ives Volunteer Bureau to attend the Parish Council stall at a Village Market.

Longer term:

- To monitor the usage and standard of the Monday/Friday service provided by Dews.

- To investigate and assess the need for additional services and methods of providing those services (such as surveys, public meetings, meeting transport providers)
- To work with St Ives Town Council and other relevant Parish Councils to represent the transport needs of the village and work towards a co-ordinated approach to public transport in the local area. Godmanchester, Hilton and Fenstanton and the manager of HACT are also to be included.
- To present an interim report in January 2018 with a final report in April 2018.
- To investigate funding sources having listened to the County Councillor's points.

RESOLVED that there should be a standing item on the Parish Council agenda with notes provided for the meeting.

RESOLVED that provision of £300.00 should be made in the draft budget for expenditure incurred by the Parish Council or for a grant to another organisation. ^(Prop DD, 2nd RW, unanimous)

At 8.27 pm the meeting was suspended to enable residents to comment. The problems of dealing with prescriptions were highlighted. The meeting resumed at 8.30 pm.

6. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

6.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills

RESOLVED to receive the financial report and that the invoices and bank statements be checked before the cheques are signed at the end of the meeting.

RESOLVED unanimously that the payments as listed in the finance report, plus Ibbetts (Galvanised trough) £162.77 and Greenbarnes (Noticeboard) £1563.28, should be paid. ^(Prop DD, 2nd RA, unanimous)

Polar (Website DNS)	£144.00
K & M Streetlights (Streetlight maintenance)	£98.10
Greenbarnes (Notice board handles)	£104.87
Gibbs and Dandy (Gravel)	£117.97
Anglian Water (Allotment water)	£46.97
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1423.16
CME (Salaries) (SO)	£1414.76
K & M Streetlights (Streetlight maintenance)	£98.10
K & M Streetlights (Replacement streetlights)	£7358.76
Hemingfords Directory (Newsletter delivery)	£120.00
Glasdon (Bench)	£500.02
Victoire Press (Newsletter printing)	£390.00
R Waters (Expenses)	£29.12
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1448.34
LGS Services (Admin support)	£1386.81

Credits including bank interest, cemetery fees and allotment rent, were noted.

6.2 Clerk report on any action taken using delegated powers or because of health and safety

RESOLVED to note the Clerk's use of her delegated powers for:

Memorial permissions granted and transfers of exclusive rights between meetings:-

NEW 539 memorial permission given following transfer of exclusive rights

NEW 433 transfer of exclusive rights

NEW 432 transfer of exclusive rights

NEW 432/433 permission given for a replacement memorial to span the two plots

NEW 295 transfer of exclusive rights

NEW 296 transfer of exclusive rights

NEW 295/296 permission given for a replacement memorial to span the two plots

- (7.2) Allotments (mares tail) – The Clerk used her delegated powers to put in place a three year contract to treat the mares tail at a cost of £450.00 per annum. At the end of three years the problem will have to be reassessed to see if further treatment is required.
- 6.3 To consider any matter which is urgent because of risk or health and safety
None.
- 6.4 To consider quotations for carrying out a tree survey
RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Eastern Tree Surgery to carry out a tree survey for the sum of £565.00 plus VAT.
RESOLVED, having considered correspondence from a resident and the report of the Tree Warden regarding suckers from an aspen tree on Daintree Green affecting the resident's garden, to ask Eastern Tree Surgery to take a look and provide quotations for the options for dealing with the tree, including its removal, and a recommendation, for the next meeting. (Prop DD, 2nd RE, unanimous)
- 6.5 Cemetery regulations review – specification for memorials
RESOLVED that the Cemetery Regulations be amended to state that the thickness of the foundation stones should meet the NAMM stability regulations of 3 inches. (Prop DC, 2nd DD, unanimous)
RESOLVED to defer to the next meeting another query raised by a memorial mason regarding the discrepancy between the memorial height of 2'6" specified in the regulations and the standard height of 2'9" for "off the peg" memorials.
- 6.6 Cemetery memorials safety – to consider if unstable memorials should be laid flat by the memorial mason which installed them where the exclusive rights were made out in the memorial mason's name instead of their client's
RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting in order to obtain the advice of the Clerk.
7. **To receive reports and items from Committees, working groups and members for information only unless specified**
- 7.1 Proposal that the Council considers whether to continue with a hemingfordgrey.org.uk email and the arrangements
RESOLVED to extend the current website address for a further 12 months in order to enable the new website to be fully established. (Prop DD, 2nd JH, unanimous)
- 7.2 Proposal that the Council orders a large skip to dispose of old notice boards and other old Council items that have been at Docksey's Farm for a couple of years
RESOLVED to order a large skip from Mick George for the removal of wood immediately and second skip for the other items at a later date. (Prop DD, 2nd JH, unanimous)
On a proposition by the Chairman, it was agreed to vary the order of business to take item 7.9 next.
- 7.9 Proposal that permission be granted to enable the Clerk to order skips for removal of rubbish etc under her delegated powers without having to come back to a Parish Council meeting first
RESOLVED that the Clerk may order skips for removal of rubbish etc under her delegated powers without prior reference to a Parish Council meeting. (Prop DD, 2nd JH, unanimous)
- 7.3 Proposal that the Council authorises the printing and distribution of a village hub survey for the Hemingfords
RESOLVED to approve retrospectively the expenditure by Cllr Elliott of £120.00 for printing the survey and £60.00 for delivery. (Prop RW, 2nd DD)
- 7.4 Proposal for a defibrillator in the village

RESOLVED, noting that there was already a defibrillator at the Pavilion, that Cllr Brasnell should further investigate potential locations including the suggestions of the Parish Centre or the Margetts/Daintree area, and should bring a report and recommendation to the next meeting.

- 7.5 Proposal that the Parish notice board at School is moved to a new location next to the new village sign by the bus stop

RESOLVED, noting that the School were happy with the suggestion, that the Parish Council notice board be moved next to the parish notice board. ^(Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

- 7.6 Proposal for two new legs and stands for this notice board

RESOLVED that two new legs and stands be purchased for this notice board.

- 7.7 Removal of the old notice board from Armes Corner

RESOLVED to note that this notice board had already been removed.

- 7.8 Proposal for a new litter bin at the top of the footpath from Norman Court to the Pavilion

RESOLVED to defer this item to allow the need for additional bins to be considered further so that any other bins found to be needed may be ordered at the same time.

- 7.9 Proposal that permission be granted to enable the Clerk to order skips for removal of rubbish etc under her delegated powers without having to come back to a Parish Council meeting first

Taken earlier.

- 7.10 Proposal that the Council considers the recent damage to the village sign

RESOLVED to ask CCC to reinstate or replace a cycle sign which is lying on the ground, at the junction of St Ives Road with High Street, next to the village sign.

RESOLVED that Cllr Dew will take a look at the village sign so that a quotation can be obtained.

- 7.11 Proposal that the Council investigates and attends to speeding on all main routes through the village

RESOLVED that this item be considered in conjunction with item 8.3.

8. To consider correspondence/communications received

- 8.1 HDC Consultation on Dog Control Orders/Public Space Protection Notices

RESOLVED that the Parish Council supports the proposals. ^(Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

- 8.2 Road safety committee report – to consider matters arising from the report including who should attend the next meeting.

Noted.

- 8.3 CCC Invitation to bid for LHI funding 2018/19

The background to the scheme was outlined. It was suggested that the budget provision of £5000.00 be split between addressing speeding issues and signage for HGV routes.

RESOLVED that more information be obtained on the options available for speed signs, and brought to the next meeting.

RESOLVED that Cllr Dew should obtain quotations for the speed signs and that a formal quotation should be obtained from CCC for the through route signage.

9. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.12 pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (Date)

Hemingford Grey Parish Council

September 11th 2017

Proposal (Draft)

- To appoint a Task and Finish Group; 'Transport and Hemingford Grey'
- To nominate Parish Councillors for the group and authorise the group to co-opt additional councillors, representatives of other organisations and members of the public as appropriate..
- To have a standing item on the Parish Council agenda with notes being provided for the meeting.
- To authorise the sum of ????? 2017-8 either for expenditure incurred by the Parish Council or for a grant to another organisation.
- To make a provision in the draft budget for 2018-9

Remit

Short term

- To advertise the Monday and Friday bus service
- To advertise Community Transport Schemes and to invite the Manager of the St Ives Volunteer Bureau to attend the Parish Council Stall at a Village Market.

Longer term

- To monitor the usage and standard of the Monday/Friday service provided by Dews
- Investigate and assess the need for additional services and methods of providing those services. (such as surveys, public meetings, meeting transport providers.
- Work with St Ives Town Council and other relevant Parish Councils to represent the transport needs of the Village and work towards a co-ordinated approach to public transport in the local area.
- To present an interim report in January 2018 with a final report in April 2018

HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

£

Oct-17

Balance B/ Forward	157128.13
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ADJ'S + Chq's Approved at Previous Meeting		
Adjustments		
Payments		
UKPN	STREETLIGHT WORKS	-9594.00
IBBETTS	TROUGH	-162.77
GREENBARNES	NOTICE BOARD	-1563.28
Receipts		
HDC	PRECEPT	48128.00
PLOTS 265 & 296	TRANSFER FEE	80.00
PLOT 399A	MEMORIAL FEE	112.00
SANTANDER	INTEREST	3.57
<i>Total Fund movement</i>		37003.52
Balance revised after adjustments		194131.65

Bank Reconciliation			
Item	Funds	Statement	Outstanding
Current Acc	152144.9	125669.89	26,475.01
Deposit Acc	41986.75	41986.75	
Total	194131.65	167656.64	26475.01

Expenditure for month		Amount (£)	Chq/ref
FERGUSONS	GRASSCUTTING	5437.20	22524
CPRE	TRAINING	25.00	22525
PKF LITTLEJOHN	AUDIT	480.00	22526
HDC	DAINTREE GREEN RENT	37.50	22527
CME	SALARIES	125.02	22528
HUNTS VOLUNTEER CENTRE	PRINTING	30.00	22529
LGS SERVICES	ADMIN SUPPORT	1391.47	22530
CME	SALARIES	1414.76	SO
Total Expenditure		8940.95	

Balance c/f	185190.70
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Notes:

Late invoices will be brought to the meeting.



Mr Paul Nelson
Cambridgeshire County Council
Box SH
Shire Hall
Cambridge
CB3 0AP

29 September 2017

Dear Mr Nelson

FUTURE OF SUPPORTED BUS SERVICES AROUND ST IVES

The recent changes to bus services around St Ives were discussed at our Planning Committee meeting held on 13 September 2017. Whilst members present welcomed the positive action taken by Cambridgeshire County Council over the summer to maintain bus routes, following the announcement by Whippet to withdraw some services, they wished to be involved in decisions on the future of these bus routes.

Members noted a number of issues with the new service, which could be corrected in the short term. These are:

- Most villages are now served by two operators on which tickets are not interchangeable. This either restricts the journey opportunities available or increases the cost of travel. Both these issues are a disincentive to use the bus.
- Residents in St Ives can no longer use the bus to travel to work in Bar Hill as the first bus does not arrive there until nearly 10.00. There is an earlier departure from Fen Stanton which would could be changed to start from St Ives.
- There is just one bus two days a week from the Hemingfords.
- The morning Stagecoach route A commuter service from St Ives now runs via RAF Wyton and Houghton. The extended journey time, means it no longer connects with the train at Huntingdon.

Members agreed that the following issues need to be addressed to provide a sustainable future for local buses:

- Through ticketing onto the busway and multi-operator tickets.
- Targeted expansion of bus services to provide a real choice of travel rather than continued managed decline.
- St Ives should have regular services throughout the day to adjacent key service centres as defined in the HDC Local Plan.
- Other villages should have services suitable for workers and shoppers.
- Combine existing routes to make efficient use of resources
- Long term contracts with reducing support levels to encourage operators to develop services and promote their use.
- The social cost / and benefit to communities to be considered when deciding on the level of financial support.

The Town Council is aware of the importance that adjacent villages attach to their links with St Ives and some are carrying out bus usage surveys. The Town Council is looking at ways to consult our own residents on this issue.

The Town Council would like to invite you to a meeting in the Town Hall, St Ives to discuss your proposals for how the County Council can address these points. We would also invite representatives from the District Council, the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority and nearby Parish Councils.

Please suggest some dates which are convenient to you for a 7pm meeting and once agreed we would invite the other Councils.

Yours Sincerely

Steve Couper
Town Clerk for St Ives Town Council
clerk@stivestowncouncil.gov.uk

COPIES

The Chief Executive, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority
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