

**HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Meeting of Hemingford Grey Parish Council held on Monday 8 February 2021 at 7.30 pm Held remotely via Zoom due to the current pandemic**

**Present:** Cllrs: Richard Allen (Chairman) Tony Jackson  
 Doug Dew Sarah Jakes  
 Susan Duma Anne Meredith  
 Riva Elliott Tim Puttick  
 Janice Flint Robin Waters  
 Nick Irish

**In attendance:** 7 members of the public including Ian Muspratt (Hemingfords Action Group); Paul Boothman (Houghton & Wyton Parish Council), District Cllr David Keane and Mr Ben Stoehr (Deputy Clerk)

**Comments and observations from members of the public and from the County and District Councillors**

Ian Muspratt on behalf of the Hemingfords' Action Group provided an update. CCC is awaiting further information from the transport consultants regarding the application for the Astro Turf site.

Paul Boothman of Houghton & Wyton Parish Council asked that he be contacted if anyone had any questions about the Houghton Grange development.

A resident raised the current flooding petition signed by residents and highlighted that as this had happened three or four times a year for 15-35 years, it was not a one-off event due to current weather conditions, but demonstrated that the current pumping equipment was not fit for purpose.

Cllr Dew as District Councillor reported on national and regional issues.

- The business teams were working hard to distribute grants to businesses. They were working on what happens after Covid, including new-look high streets.
- The District Council would be approving their budget at its upcoming meeting. It was looking at releasing reserves to allow a below limit increase.
- Civil parking enforcement appears to be moving forwards, especially if a pavement parking ban is brought in.
- The Directors of HDC were working with Anglian Water regarding various issues.

District Cllr David Keane reported on:

- Parking enforcement.
- HDC is also looking at electric vehicle charging.
- A response had been submitted on the Luton Airport NATS consultation. HDC were not supportive.
- Monitoring the Covid situation. The level was about a third of the level at Christmas. More vaccination sites were coming into operation.

**1. To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda**

Apologies were received from County Cllr Ian Bates.

Cllr Dew declared an interest in item 3.6 as he had spoken to Houghton & Wyton Parish Council about the application, and in item 3.2 as Chair of the Development Panel.

**2. To approve the minutes of the previous Parish Council meeting**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 11 January 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record after an addition under Open Session, paragraph 4, line 2, to read "close the flood gate between the Church and near

Cotmarole.” The Chairman is to forward a signed copy to the Clerk. (Prop RA, 2nd AM, unanimous)

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied.

- 4.1 (6.10 of Nov 2020) To consider quotations and funding for the cemetery gates re-alignment  
RESOLVED having received Cllr Flint’s verbal report that the War Memorials Trust requires pre-application and could fund up to 75% of the cost. And still provide advice even if it does not agree to funding, that Cllr Flint should prepare a pre-application bid from the War Memorials Trust and bring the proposal back when a response is received. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)
- 4.0.2 (7.1 of 11.1.21) Flooding  
RESOLVED to note that John Molyneux had agreed to join the Flood Group, but John Hesp had declined to join in a formal capacity, but was willing to provide support as required.
- 4.0.3 (8.3 of 11.1.21) Resident request that a tree on the allotments is trimmed  
RESOLVED to note that Cllr Waters had visited the resident, who had withdrawn the request.
- 3. To consider planning applications, decision notices and tree works applications or pre-application approaches received**
- 3.1 Proposal that the Council considers whether or not to respond to all future Listed Building consultations due to lack of experience for the term of this Council unless two members request in writing that it be added to the agenda  
Cllr Meredith withdrew her proposal.  
RESOLVED to seek relevant planning and listed building training so that planning and listed building consents can be considered in a more rigorous manner, and to review this again after the training has taken place. (Prop AM, 2nd DD, unanimous)
- 3.2 Planning applications
- 3.2.1 20/02494/LBC – 40 High Street – Retention of replacement window  
RESOLVED to note the application and to respond that the Parish Council does not have sufficient expertise to comment on the listed building application. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)
- 3.3 Decision notices, appeals notices, enforcement notices and planning correspondence
- 3.3.1 20/02297/NMA – Sycamore House, 8 Madeley Court – Non-material amendment to permission 19/02559/FUL – Increased height of gallery windows at first floor level in front and rear elevations; and relocation of pedestrian door to garage from south-east to north-east elevation – Permission granted.
- 3.3.2 20/01950/HHFUL – 7 Dendys – Two storey and single storey rear extensions and part garage conversion – Permission granted.
- 3.3.3 20/00675/FUL – 29 High Street – Change of use of existing dwelling to form three dwellings with minor external alterations – Permission granted.
- 3.4 Tree Works applications
- 3.4.1 21/00146/TREE – 7 Braggs Lane  
RESOLVED to note that the Tree Wardens are currently stood down but Cllr Meredith has seen the trees from the street.  
RESOLVED and is not convinced the work is necessary or how it obstructs visibility. There is no plan identifying the tree or Tree Preservation Order details and no branches at the height shown in the application. The District Council’s Trees Officer should be asked to visit the site rather than relying on the paperwork in the application. (Prop AM, 2nd RW, unanimous)
- 3.4.2 20/02349/TREE – Ruhpolding, Mill Lane  
Noted that this was discussed at the last meeting.

- 3.5 CCC – Marsh Lane quarry – issue of Water Resources Licence to abstract water  
RESOLVED to write to CCC expressing disappointment that the Parish Council had not been consulted before the licence had been issued and highlighting that a condition is needed, to prevent pumping when the water level is high, to prevent water flowing back to the village and flooding.

RESOLVED to write to Tarmac or Land Logical to ask them not to exercise the licence when the water level is high, to prevent the water flooding the village. (Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

- 3.6 Houghton and Wyton Parish Council request for ‘in principle’ support for its aims and objectives regarding the potential for development of the BBSRC ‘gap’ field between its village and the town

RESOLVED to respond that the Parish Council supports Houghton & Wyton Parish Council’s aims and objectives. (Prop RW, 2nd DD, unanimous)

- 3.7 AECOM – Upcoming consultation on proposals for the Houghton Grange field site  
RESOLVED to notify AECOM that Cllrs Waters and Meredith will attend the pre-consultation event. (Prop AM, 2nd DD, unanimous)

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

- 4.1 (6.10 of Nov 2020) To consider quotations and funding for the cemetery gates re-alignment

Taken earlier.

On a proposition by the Chairman, the order of business was varied to take item 6.2 next.

- 6.2 Proposal that the Parish Council writes to Mr Simpson, CEO of Anglian Water, with a letter in its own words, enclosing the petition from Apple Orchard and Glebe Road residents regarding an ongoing serious sewage issue in Hemingford Grey

RESOLVED having considered the draft letter to add the following points:

- Anglian Water’s claims that the issues are caused by the current weather are nonsense. The network should be designed to cope and this is an ongoing issue. The clarification about pumping flood water into rivers is not acceptable and likely to cause further incidents.
- A proper solution is needed, not another stop gap.
- The sewage issue is a disease risk and environmental health issue.
- Tankers are driving over verges in Mil Lane. A hard standing to park tankers on is needed as they are making a mess.

RESOLVED that Cllr Waters should amend the letter to incorporate the additional points, to be signed by the Clerk, Chair and Vice-Chair with copies to County Councillor Bates, District Councillors Dew and Keane, and to the MP. (Prop RA, 2nd DD, unanimous)

**5. Finance, procedure and risk assessment**

- 5.1 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 payments are made at bank.

RESOLVED that the payments as listed in the finance report should be paid. (Prop RA, 2nd SD, unanimous)

Salaries and Pension	£1391.10
Victoire Press (Newsletter printing)	£520.00
NALC (Training)	£38.93
K&M Lighting Services (Street light maintenance)	£87.88
LGS Services (Admin support)	£2204.75

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

- 5.2 Clerk report on any action taken using delegated powers or because of risk or health and safety  
None apart from cemetery as detailed in the finance report.
- 5.3 To consider any matter that is urgent because of risk or health and safety  
None.
- 6. To receive reports and items from Committees, working groups and members for information only unless stated**
- 6.1 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group – proposal that the Parish Council notes the survey reports and the notes from the January meeting of the Steering Group meeting  
RESOLVED to note the report and that that the full report is available on the website.
- 6.2 Proposal that the Parish Council writes to Mr Simpson, CEO of Anglian Water, with a letter in its own words, enclosing the petition from Apple Orchard and Glebe Road residents regarding an ongoing serious sewage issue in Hemingford Grey  
Taken earlier.
- 7. To consider correspondence/communications received**
- 7.1 Hemingford Hub – request that the Parish Council replaces or refurbishes the notice board at The Thorpe  
RESOLVED, that the Hemingford Hub may put notices on the Parish Council notice board in the short term whilst the Council obtains a quotation for a door on the notice board gifted by the WI to the Parish Council or a quote for a replacement notice board depending on costs. (Prop RA, 2nd TJ, unanimous)
- 8. Closure of Meeting**  
There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.39 pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)