

HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL

**Meeting of Hemingford Grey Parish Council held on Monday 8 March 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: 30 members of the public including Iain Muspratt (Hemingfords Action Group); District Cllr David Keane and Mrs Gail Stoehr (Clerk)

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

The applicant for 1 Lea Road explained the reasons behind the planning application.

Iain Muspratt reported on behalf of the Hemingfords' Action Group. CCC was waiting for information from Mick George about the Astroturf site but the group was in discussion with Highways regarding traffic. The new Minerals and Waste Plan was waiting for the Inspector to report and probably for the end of Purdah. Today three huge trailers bearing a demolition company logo had arrived in the golf course car park, but the reason was unknown.

The resident living adjacent to 14 Church Street reported that HDC had not notified him of the application, and expressed concerns at the proximity to his property. The down pipe was not on the application and he would like a surveyor's view on the party wall before commenting further.

District Cllr David Keane reported on:

- The HDC budget had been approved. It was a sound budget with no increase in the HDC Council Tax portion.
- Covid business grants. HDC were supporting joint projects with other authorities in St Neots.
- The outcome of overview scrutiny of the flooding report was awaited.

Cllr Dew as District Councillor reported on:

- Problems with HDC not consulting on planning applications. Cllr Dew undertook to follow up on residents' earlier comments.
- Cllr Dew indicated he would not take part in the planning application items due to his role as Chair of the Development Management Committee. The Liquid Skillz application had already been called in to the Planning Committee but the date was not yet known.
- The Leisure Centre would partly open soon.
- CCC was providing funding of £12M for the Woodhill crossroads, with HDC funding £0.5M. They were trying to plan the re-routing of roads near St Ives as traffic was increasing.

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 the planning applications as Chair of the Development Management Committee.

Cllr Flint declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 3.1.1 as a nearby resident.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 8 February 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record after deleting “Anthony Browne” under item 6.2. (Prop RA, 2nd TJ, unanimous)

3. To consider planning applications, decision notices and tree works applications or pre-application approaches received

3.1 Planning applications

3.0.1 21/00310/HHFUL – 16 Marsh Lane – Proposed one and a half storey rear extension and loft conversion to domestic dwelling

RESOLVED to recommend approval as it is on a large plot with minimal impact on the street scene, but to comment that changing from a 2/3 bedroom to a 4 bedroom property will contribute to a loss of smaller properties in the parish, and to ask that the planning officers should look at the Juliet balcony to ascertain whether it overlooks the neighbours. (Prop AM, 2nd RW, carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention)

3.1.1 21/00044/FUL – Liquid Skillz, Lake Ashmore, Gore Tree Road – Construction of a second wakeboard line and associated control shed and viewing hut, and erection of a linked detached walkway (to include private use)

RESOLVED to object to the application on the following grounds:

- The application is in the same area as the pending applications for this site and should be considered in conjunction with the other applications for the expansion of the site.
- There will be double the number of spectators and traffic movements.
- The unknown extent of private use, in conjunction with the fishing lake, will increase traffic movements in the area.
- There is an outstanding planning enforcement issue.
- There will be noise issues from users of the site. (Prop RW, 2nd TJ, carried with 8 in favour and 3 abstentions)

The Chairman briefly left the meeting at 8.07 pm and re-joined at 8.08 pm.

3.1.2 21/00102/HHFUL – 14 Church Street – Single storey rear extension

RESOLVED to recommend approval but to comment that the neighbours had not received notification of the application; there is a party wall issue; and the applicant is trying to make the best use of the space available. (Prop RW, 2nd AM, carried with 9 in favour and 2 abstentions)

3.1.3 21/00147/LBC – Limes Park, London Road, St Ives – Retrospective replacement roof finish

RESOLVED to recommend approval. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention)

3.1.4 21/00194HHFUL – 1 Lea Road – Erection of a brick wall to replace existing fence

RESOLVED to recommend approval. (Prop RW, 2nd SD, carried with 8 in favour and 3 abstentions)

3.1.5 21/00234/HHFUL – 6 Apple Orchard – Proposed garden room extension (single storey)

RESOLVED to recommend approval, as the property is not visible from the road and there are no issues with shade or overlooking the neighbours. (Prop AM, 2nd SJ, carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention)

3.1.6 20/00164/OUT – Land West of Wychwood, Church End, Hilton – Outline application for Rural Exceptions Housing for up to 18 dwellings with all matters reserved except access

RESOLVED to comment that the application will not meet Hemingford Grey’s housing requirements. The 2018 Housing Needs Survey showed 12 households as potential candidates, 9 of whom were already living in Hemingford Grey, and 3 with local connections. Seven of the households had children. This housing would result in a need for a change of school from Hemingford Grey and St Ives to Fenstanton and Papworth. The potential candidates wanted to be in the centre of Hemingford Grey. There were still negotiations being undertaken by nominated Housing Association for

land in the parish. This housing would therefore be unlikely to be of interest to Hemingford Grey residents, as evidenced by the 2018 Housing Needs Survey. ^(Prop AM, 2nd RW, carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention)

- 3.1.7 20/01546/FUL – The Willows Guest House, 45 High Street – Proposed change of use from guest house to residential (two dwellings)
RESOLVED to recommend approval but to ask HDC to consider parking and bin storage. ^(Prop RW, 2nd JF, carried with 8 in favour and 3 abstentions)
- 3.1.8 21/80058/COND – Sycamore House, 8 Madeley Court – Conditional information for 19/02559/FUL: Condition 3 (Materials), Condition 4 (Architectural details), Condition 5 (Hard and soft landscaping) and Condition 13 (Bin and cycle storage)
RESOLVED to recommend approval. ^(Prop RA, 2nd AM, carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention)
- 3.2 Decision notices, appeals notices, enforcement notices and planning correspondence
- 3.2.1 20/80321/COND – Water’s Edge, Meadow Lane - Application for approval of details reserved by Condition 3 (Materials) and Condition 4 (Architectural Details) of planning approval reference 19/02087/FUL – Condition reply issued.
Noted.
- 3.3 Tree Works applications
- 3.3.1 21/00355/TREE – 74 High Street
Noted. ^(Prop AM, 2nd RA, unanimous)
- 4. To consider matters arising from the last or a previous meeting for info only unless detailed**
- 4.1 (6.2) Sewage issues in Hemingford Grey – to consider responses from Anglian Water and MP and correspondence from West Deeping Drainage Action Group and also Fenstanton Parish Council – requests for liaison on drainage issues
RESOLVED to delegate to the Clerk and Cllr Jackson to respond to the Anglian Water CEO that he has missed the Parish Council’s point and that it is failing in its duty under S94 of the Water Industry Act, whereby Anglian Water have a duty to maintain and improve the sewage system.
- 4.2 (7.1) Refurbishment of notice board at The Thorpe – update and to consider the cost of a new board
Cllr Elliott declared an interest as a member of Hemingford Hub.
RESOLVED, having considered the cost of £1094.98 for a replacement board 1624mm long to fit on the existing legs, to leave the board as it is, as the cost of replacement was too high.
RESOLVED that Cllr Elliott should inform the Hemingford Hub.
- 4.3 (5.4 of 11.1.21) Christmas lights at Vicarage Fields – to consider cost of feeder column
RESOLVED to apply to Mick George Ltd for a grant to cover the feeder column and the connection, and subject to successful funding, to place the order. ^(Prop RA, 2nd SJ, carried with 9 in favour and 1 against)
- 4.4 (7.2 of 11.1.21) Trimming around street lights – update and to consider the next steps
RESOLVED, given that the Parish Council has reported the trees online to no avail, to pursue the efforts to get CCC to trim back its trees.
- 4.5 (7.3 of 11.1.21) To consider appointment of a Trustee to the Langley Trust
Cllr Elliott declared an interest in this item.
RESOLVED to appoint Cllr Elliott, whose name had been put forward by the Hemingford Hub, as a Trustee to the Langley Trust. ^(Prop RA, 2nd RW, carried with 10 in favour and 1 abstention)
- 4.6 (8.2 of 11.1.21) Resident – complaint about parking in Marsh Lane and request that the Parish Council pursues this again

RESOLVED to write to the London Anglers' Association and to the Fishery Bailiff to ask them to encourage anglers to use the car park wherever possible and to park considerately, and to ask them to place a notice on the notice boards to this effect. ^(Prop RA, 2nd TP, unanimous)

- 4.7 (8.3 of 11.1.21) To consider draft Tree Policy for Hemingford Grey
RESOLVED to defer this item to the next meeting as last week HDC had published its tree strategy on its website. ^(Prop AM, 2nd RA, unanimous)
- 4.8 (8.7.19) Vicarage Fields – unauthorised access prevention
RESOLVED, to note that having considered the results of the survey consultation with residents, the Chairman and Clerk using previously delegated powers and budget would proceed with the installation of posts at Vicarage Fields..
- 4.9 LHI presentation – update
RESOLVED to note Cllr Dew's verbal report on his attendance at the CCC LHI meeting. When all the panel meetings have taken place the Parish Council will be informed of the outcome of its bid. Cllr Dew was thanked for attending.
- 4.10 Hemingford Hub – to consider areas for outdoor exercise sessions
Cllr Elliott declared an interest as a member of Hemingford Hub
RESOLVED, having considered alternative sites including the Pavilion and the offer from Liquid Skillz, to offer the use of Daintree Green to the Hemingford Hub, although it has no toilet and refreshments.
- 4.11 (3.11) To consider training for planning and listed building applications
RESOLVED to approach CAPALC again for training and if there is no response within a week, to appoint Ian Dewar for some general training and listed building training via Zoom. ^(Prop RA 2nd AM 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 RW, unanimous)

Salaries and Pension	£1857.44
CME (Payroll)	£97.20
CAPALC (Affiliation fee)	£659.67
Wave (Allotments water)	£63.58
K Ferguson (Mitchell Close hedge)	£288.00
R Waters (Expenses – Zoom)	£71.95
SSE (Street light energy) (DD)	£151.40
LGS Services (Admin support February)	£2345.66
K&M Lighting Services (Street light maintenance)	£87.88
LGS Services (Zoom licence)	£71.88

RESOLVED to cancel the Response Services Licence from Royal Mail and not to pay the invoice received for £119.40.

Credits, including allotment rents, 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
RESOLVED to note delegated decisions with regard to the Cemetery and Allotment administration as shown in the finance report.
RESOLVED that cancellations and cemetery admin fees should be £50 unless the amount of work is excessive then the Clerk has the discretion to charge a fee of up to 80%.

RESOLVED to update the fees. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

The Clerk used delegated powers to order two signs for the playground at Daintree Green NO DOGS IN THE PLAY AREA at a cost of £48.00 each plus VAT and installation at £110.00.

- 5.3 To consider any matter that is urgent because of risk or health and safety
RESOLVED to note that the gate lock is being replaced by the Handyman and will be claimed under expenses.
- 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 Council notes the report
RESOLVED to note the report.
- 6.2 Finance & Policy Working Group review of budget and recommendation on budgets to be earmarked
RESOLVED, having reviewed the budget including the overspends, to earmark the Community Chest, allotment hedge, Yes Estate play area, new cemetery fund, and drainage provision.
RESOLVED that “No Mow in May” should be an agenda item for the next meeting.
- 6.3.1 Proposal to ask handyman/contractor to improve surface and/or verges to FPs 3,4,5,9,11 and 12 which are all very well used paths within the village that are being heavily used during lockdown. Seek advice from CCC path officer.
RESOLVED to withdraw the proposal in respect of Footpaths 3, 4, 5 and 9.
RESOLVED to ask the Handyman to attend to footpaths 11 and 12 (Prop RW, 2nd RA unanimous)
- On a proposition by the Chairman, unopposed, the order of business was varied.
- 6.3.3 Proposal that Handyman be asked to check bins at least twice a week and empty when necessary
RESOLVED to delegate to Cllr Waters and the Clerk to purchase some replacement larger bins using this year’s budget. (Prop RW, 2nd RA, unanimous)
RESOLVED to update the Handyman’s contract to twice weekly checking and emptying the bins in winter. (Prop RW, 2nd RA, unanimous)
- 6.3.4 Proposal that Handyman be asked to clear rotting leaves from High Street pavements and riverside ramp asap
RESOLVED to approve the proposal.
- 6.3.2 Proposal to review all drainage responsibilities within the parish. Report on apparent condition of drainage “assets” and remind those responsible of their obligations
RESOLVED to receive Cllr Waters’s verbal report that the ditch by Liquid Skillz had been cleared by them and they had been thanked. The other ditches were in hand and Matt Chudley the Operations Manager at HDC was aware.
- 6.4 Flood Group report
Noted.
- 6.5 Proposal that the Council considers re-allocating the vacant ashes plots to the back of the cemetery and also delegates to the Clerk and the Cemetery Working Group the power to allocate spaces generally in the cemetery
RESOLVED that vacant ashes plots at the front of the cemetery be relocated to the rear of the cemetery and that the space be reallocated as full graves NEW 25-28.
- 7. To consider correspondence/communications received**
- 7.1 Resident – offer of two picnic benches for Daintree Green

RESOLVED to accept the Resident's offer and to delegate the Environment Working Group along with the Clerk to identify suitable fixings and a suitable location. ^(Prop AM, 2nd RA, unanimous)

7.2 Footpath No 9 (Long Lane to Gore Tree Road) – Residents' complaints about adjacent tree planting

RESOLVED to note that the Chairman was in touch with the Rights of Way Officer at CCC who has communicated with the owner of the land.

7.3 Combined Authority Mayor – A141 improvement options consultation

RESOLVED to respond that the traffic through St Ives should not increase and preferably should be decreased. The Parish Council's preference is for Option 1 which takes traffic from the Wyton roundabout to the A1307 and Option 5 reducing the traffic. ^(Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

7.4 CCC – Consultation on Draft Local Validation List

Noted.

7.5 MAGPAS – request for donation

RESOLVED to approve a donation of £500 to MAGPAS, which in the opinion of the Council is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants. ^(Prop AM, 2nd RW, unanimous)

8. Closure of Meeting

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.46 pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (Date)