

**HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Meeting of Hemingford Grey Parish Council held on Monday 13 September 2021**  
**at 7.30 pm in the Reading Room**

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

**In attendance:**       Julie Sant (People Opposing Woodhurst Incinerator (POWI), District Cllr D Keane, and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services)

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

Julie Sant, on behalf of the campaign group People Opposing Woodhurst Incinerator (POWI), outlined objections to the proposals by a waste management company, EMVAR Composting, to build a medical waste incinerator in Woodhurst. A planning application had been submitted and thousands of objections had already been submitted to CCC. Concerns were expressed that the incinerator would burn tonnes of medical waste, not only from local hospitals but also surrounding areas, resulting in toxic emissions in the air and detrimental effects on local farms and food producers. It would generate a massive increase in traffic due to 33 tonnes a day of waste being transported across multiple counties, and a potential 120 additional traffic movements a day in London Road. There were also concerns about smells, the risk of fire, and the effect on Zero Carbon objectives. The group, which already had 3300 members, was seeking support in fighting the proposal.

The Parish Council asked about the environmental effects of the proposal. Ms Sant explained that there was evidence of harmful emissions, which would not be eliminated. It was noted that HDC Environmental Health had put in an objection based on the likely pollution. The group is now contacting MPs and hoped to speak to CCC's November planning meeting when more objections would be outlined.

County Councillor Cllr Dew reported on:

- The proposed incinerator. CCC is the planning authority for waste. The application has been timetabled for November but will not necessarily come forward that quickly. Similar applications elsewhere had involved a long process. The application affected a wide area and it was important to gain the support of MPs. He highlighted a conflict between the County's efforts to reduce HGV and commercial traffic figures on local roads, and permitting additional traffic movements for such an operation. Cllr Dew could not see any benefit to the local area or residents.
- Two of the three director posts had now been filled.
- CCC is looking at its budget for next year and how things can be achieved more efficiently, such as placing sensors in the drains to help analyse problems and cheaper road surfacing, with a view to ensuring the budget is on target.
- The work of the Committees. Play area grants were available.

A question was asked about flooding. Some parishes wanted to co-ordinate their approach as they shared common issues.

District Cllr Keane reported on:

- Anglian Water was going to address the Council. The District Council had taken on a co-ordinating role and had started a Community Flood Action Group. It had completed its plan, which had been signed off by the

Environment Agency. The EA had also been invited to address the Council. He stressed the need for all bodies to work together.

The Parish Council asked Cllr Keane to send a copy of the finalised flood plan.

- The District Council was trying to return to normal service as much as possible. Concerns about the “pingdemic” were now easing. People were being asked to book a time to telephone, to help the Customer Services function.
- Multiple sports sessions had been held in 6 parishes over the summer.
- Cllr Keane highlighted the “Go Jauntly” walking app which enabled people to explore Huntingdonshire and included many activities.

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

Apologies were received from Cllr Jackson (illness) and Cllr Meredith (venue concerns).

Cllr Jakes declared a possible pecuniary interest in item 3.1.

Cllr Elliott declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6.1 as a member of Hemingford Hub.

Cllr Allen declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 5.10.1

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting on 12 July 2021 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true record after adding two missing full stops and adding “County and” before “District Councillor” in Cllr Dew’s report. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

**3. To consider matters arising from the last or a previous meeting**

**3.1 To consider quotations for re-seeding of the river bank**

RESOLVED, having considered two quotations, to accept the quote from Majestic Garden Services for £280 plus VAT, as the cheaper of the two. (Prop RA, 2nd RE, unanimous)

On a proposition by the Chairman it was agreed to vary the order of business to take item 5.3 next.

**5.3 Proposal that the Parish Council works with Fenstanton Parish Council to jointly submit and equally contribute to an LHI bid to reduce the speed limit on the A1096 (London Road) from Elizabeth Court/Yes Estate to Vindis roundabout to 30mph**

The Chairman gave a presentation with slides on the proposed joint bid with Fenstanton Parish Council for a reduction to the speed limit in London Road to 30 mph. Statistics to illustrate the problem with speeding were provided and the methodology outlined.

RESOLVED that the Chairman should work with Fenstanton Parish Council to jointly submit and make an equal contribution to an LHI bid to reduce the speed limit on London Road to 30 mph from the Vindis Roundabout to Elizabeth Court/Yes Estate. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

Cllr Dew confirmed his support for the application.

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

**4.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills**

Cllr Allen declared an interest in the expenses payment for a padlock for Vicarage Fields.

Cllr Waters declared an interest in the expenses payment for a Zoom licence.

RESOLVED that the payments listed in the finance report should be paid, plus Hemingford Handyman (Gate posts) £652.00 and (Dunnock Way fence) £106.00, Pavilion (Room hire) £54.00, R Allen (Padlocks) £21.12, and Boston Seeds (Snowdrops 1000 bulbs) £216.67. (Prop DD, 2nd TP, carried with 6 in favour and 3 abstentions)

Salaries and Pension	£1626.78
R Waters (Expenses – Zoom)	£71.95
LGS Services (Admin support July)	£2240.71

LGS Services (Admin support August)	£2184.54
CME (Payroll)	£97.20
K&M Streetlights (Streetlight Maintenance)£`	88.74
SSE (Street light electricity) (DD)	£161.61
Payments made between meetings	
Salaries and Pension	£1789.98
Hemingford Handyman (Cemetery gate repair)	£339.00
Stancombe Fencing (Vicarage Field bollards)	£2298.00
K & M Streetlights (Street light maintenance)	£88.74
W Lewis (Internal Audit)	£330.00
Victoire Press (Newsletter printing)	£528.00

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

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

RESOLVED to note that the Clerk had used delegated powers as follows:

The Cemetery and Allotment administration as shown in the finance report.

HDC has been asked to empty the litter bins when the Handyman is on annual leave and bin bags have been ordered.

The Hemingford Handyman has been contracted to repair the fencing at the Yes Development at a cost of £140.

The chicane between Apple Orchard and Weir Road contract is still not been done so the Hemingford Handyman has been contracted ad the previous contract cancelled due to delays in completing the work.

The chicane on FP4 requires a repair/replacement. The Council's Handyman has tidied it away to make it safe but is unable to repair it. The Hemingford Handyman has been asked to quote. Again price dependent this is likely to be accepted.

Cllr Elliott is to attend a NALC training course at a cost of approx £64 and will do a written report for the Council and share best practice.

Order placed with Boston Seeds for 2000 snowdrops as agreed by the Parish Council in November 2020. The cost has risen from £160 per hundred to £216.67/ per 1000 bulbs + VAT.

4.3 To consider any matter that is urgent because of risk or health and safety

The fencing and chicane repairs had been put in hand.

4.4 To consider appointment of Internal Auditor FY2022

RESOLVED to appoint William Lewis as Internal Auditor for FY2022. (Prop RW, 2nd SD, unanimous)

5. To receive reports and items from Committees, working groups and members for information only unless stated

5.1 Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group report

5.1.1 Proposal that the Neighbourhood Plan process is suspended

5.1.2 Proposal that HDC is formally notified along with Cambs ACRE and Natalie Blaken (consultant)

5.1.3 Proposal that the Covid survey is to be sent to local organisations and business, Hemingford Abbots Parish Council. The Covid survey did highlight home working and the desire of residents to have some local facilities for working.

5.1.4 Proposal that the Parish Council should consider the following issues and concerns when determining its priorities: The Natural World, Transport Issues, Physical Indoor Spaces, Emergency response, Play areas and Parish Council to serve all parts of the Parish

RESOLVED that all four proposals as listed above should be approved. (Prop RW, 2nd SD, unanimous)

RESOLVED to record the Parish Council's thanks to all Councillors and non-Councillors involved in the process over the last three years, noting that whilst there was not the appetite to take this forward at present, it was right to have explored the possibilities, and useful information had been obtained.

- 5.2 Proposal that the Council co-ordinates another food bank collection and allocates a budget of £50 for room hire and other expenses (if required) and a report on the 2021 collection

RESOLVED to note the report and that the proposal for another collection and the £50 budget for room hire be approved. (Prop DD, 2nd RW, unanimous)

- 5.3 Proposal that the Parish Council works with Fenstanton Parish Council to jointly submit and equally contribute to an LHI bid to reduce the speed limit on the A1096 (London Road) from Elizabeth Court/Yes Estate to Vindis roundabout to 30mph

Taken earlier.

- 5.4 Proposal that the Council notes the change in storage of some of its assets and reviews if they are still required or should be sold

RESOLVED that the assets currently stored at Docksey's Farm should be removed from Docksey's Farm, having first checked that they are still there, and to accept the Chairman's kind offer to store them in the short term.

RESOLVED to consider selling any saleable items which are no longer used, including the roller in the cemetery, by placing them on the community page.

RESOLVED that the Chairman should liaise with the resident at Docksey's Farm. (Prop RW, 2nd RA, unanimous)

- 5.5 Proposal that the Council reviews its cemetery fees and regulations with regard to wooden crosses, memorials including cleaning memorials and payments and fees

RESOLVED to receive the Chairman's previously circulated report and that the recommended amendments be made to both the fees and also the regulations. (Prop RA, 2nd SJ, unanimous)

- 5.6 Question requesting a progress report for the proposed new play equipment at the Yes Development

RESOLVED to receive the Chairman's verbal report that the Council had made provision for a second tranche of seed funding for the Yes Development and Daintree Green play equipment; that having spoken to Cllrs Jakes and Dew, he had seen the plans for the Yes Development, and contact had been made with Susannah Harris regarding sources of funding, which might also include CCC.

RESOLVED that the Chairman should take matters forward with Cllrs Puttick, Jakes and other interested residents.

RESOLVED to note that Susannah Harris had been in touch with FCC Communities Foundation regarding possible funding. CCC also had grants available. The Chairman of Fenstanton Parish Council was also willing to work with the Parish Council and share their experience.

- 5.7 Application for zero carbon grant

RESOLVED, given that the deadline was very tight, not to apply on this occasion, but funding opportunities would be available in the future. Cllr Elliott offered help on behalf of Hemingford Hub.

- 5.8 Proposal that the Council reconsider the appointment of its representative to the Memorial Peace Fields Trust (Pavilion)

RESOLVED, noting the clash of meetings which would have prevented Cllr Duma from attending, to defer this item to the next meeting to see whether the Trust would be willing to change the dates of their meetings.

- 5.9 Proposal: That the Council consider the preparation of a Personal Flood Plan Card based upon the Environment Agency template (as adapted for the village) for

distribution to householders, and if approved, that the Council commission appropriate art work and printing for the Card

RESOLVED, given that the Parish Council considers this a worthwhile project, to defer further consideration to the next meeting when a proposal for the design and budget will be available. (Prop RW, 2nd NI, unanimous)

5.10 Proposal that any S137 grant applications received are considered at this meeting including rather than in March 2022

5.10.1 Regatta Committee request for financial support

The Chairman declared a non-pecuniary interest as a member of the Committee and spoke only to expand on the request for the grant.

RESOLVED that Cllr Waters should chair the meeting for this item.

RESOLVED to make a donation of £750.00 to the Hemingfords' Regatta, which in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area and its inhabitants. (Prop DD, 2nd SD, carried with 8 in favour and 1 abstention)

An application from the Hemingford Hub is to be an agenda item for the next meeting.

5.11 Proposal that the Council replaces the gateways on Marsh Lane and/or Gore Tree Road

RESOLVED to suspend financial regulations and to consider the one quotation from Glasdon for gateways with or without signage.

RESOLVED to opt for gateways without signage, as the existing signage is in good condition and can be attached to the new gates.

RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Glasdon for a pair of 1.5 metre gates for Marsh Lane, at a cost of £1482.98 plus VAT and a pair of 2 metre wide gates for Gore Tree Road at a cost of £1624.82 plus VAT.

RESOLVED, noting that there is £2000 available in the budget, to take the remainder of the funds from reserves, and to add the items to the assets list when received.

RESOLVED to ask the Hemingford Handyman to install the gates. (Prop RA, 2nd RW, unanimous)

**6. To consider correspondence/communications received**

6.1 Hemingford Hub – offer of help with tree planting

RESOLVED, noting that the District Council was no longer offering trees, and that one more year of agreed budget for tree planting was available, to leave it to the tree group to confirm what planting should be done.

RESOLVED to accept the kind offer from Hemingford Hub to assist with tree planting.

RESOLVED that the Tree Group should liaise with Hemingford Hub.

RESOLVED to note that Hemingford Hub had offered to share some of its A14 funding. (Prop RE, 2nd RA, unanimous)

6.2 HDC – Gambling Act 2005 Statement of Principles consultation

RESOLVED, noting that the proposals look sensible, to make no comments.

6.3 HDC – Consultation on Draft Hackney Carriage and Private Hire Policy

RESOLVED, noting that the proposals look sensible, to make no comments.

**7. Closure of Meeting**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.02 pm.

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