


HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL

I hereby give notice that the Meeting of the Parish Council will be held
on Monday 10th October 2022 at 7.30pm
in the Reading Room, High Street, Hemingford Grey

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

The Public and Press and County and District Councillors are invited to be present and Members of the Parish are welcome to attend and may speak under the Open Public Session item and make representation to the Council on items on the agenda during this section of the meeting

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 hereunder



Mrs Gail Stoehr, Clerk
3/10/22

AGENDA

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

- 1.
2. **To receive apologies for absence and declarations of interests from councillors on items on the agenda**
2. **To approve the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting**
3. **To consider matters arising from the last or a previous meeting and the Council's postponed September meeting**
4. **Finance, procedure and risk assessment**
 - 4.1 To receive the financial report and approve the payment of bills
 - 4.2 Clerk report on any actions taken using delegated powers or because of risk or health and safety
 - 4.3 To consider any matter that is urgent because of risk or health and safety
 - 4.4 Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements
 - 4.5 Street lighting energy from 1st November 2022
5. **To receive reports and items from committees, working groups and members for decision**
 - 5.1 Proposal that the Hemingford Grey defibrillator is registered on the new database "The Circuit" and that new replacement pads are purchased ^(NI)
 - 5.2 Proposal that the Council review LHI bids and consider the next steps to get a cycle path along Hemingford/St Ives Road ^(RW)
 - 5.3 Proposal that the Council approves covering the shortfall from the Parish Council's Big Green Project's budget if the CCF grant for the proposed hedge along the Yes Development frontage is awarded. ^(AM, RA)
 - 5.4 Environment Working Group report and proposals: ^(AM)
 - 5.4.1 Proposal that the Council obtains quotes to remove the tree and large bramble patch on plot 10. In addition to obtain quotes to cover plots 9 and 10 with durable weed proof membrane (water permeable) on the 4 half plots.
 - 5.4.2 Proposal that the Clerk is given the flexibility to offer plots 9 a and b and Plots 10 a and b to a new tenant rent free for a year- based on either current status or after the tree/brambles and weed suppressing membrane has been laid.
 - 5.4.3 Proposal that the Council agrees the formula for the allotments water charges to the allotment tenants. Proposal that the Council's water usage August 21-September 22 should be regarded as that of 4 half plots and this to be used in the calculations for charging the tenants and PC for their water usage. Clerk requested to inform all the tenants that each year the PC will 'pay' for the water it uses (this will vary from year to year).
 - 5.4.4 Proposal that the Council seeks quotes to trim the yew bush on the verge left of the vehicle access to the allotments. This quote to be for the remainder of this council's term of office.
 - 5.4.5 Proposal that the Council seeks quotes for the cutting back of the Mitchell Close shrub line (at southern boundary of play area, and in addition the shrub -a type of laurel?- on western boundary fence to be reduced in height to level with fence). As the shrub line is of mixed

planting (such as buddleia, viburnum tinus and hazel) the quotes should include information on how the shrubs will be dealt with. The brambles should be cut back severely where needed. As this will need to be done annually the quotation should be for the remaining life of the current Council.

- 5.4.6 Proposal that the Parish Council applies to HDC for Asset of Community Value Status (ACV) for two open green spaces in Gunnings Way. Councillors Waters and Meredith being appointed to submit the application on behalf of the Council.
- 5.5 Proposal that the Council approves the detailed design for the 20 mph scheme in Hemingford Grey as presented to the Council by Matheus H Souza, of Cambridgeshire County Council ^(AM)
- 5.6 To consider a report from Cllr Jackson on the slipway and if any further action is required
- 5.7 Proposal that the Parish Council works with the environmental group to help people engage with their village environment and history by installing strategically placed lecterns around the parish ^(RE)

6. To consider correspondence/communications received

- 6.1 Resident request to remove leylandii trees in her garden on the boundary with Daintree Green
- 6.2 VMO2/Ontix – request for deployment of 4G outdoor small cells on Parish Council lighting columns
- 6.3 Hemingford Hub – Request for Parish Council representative on Transport Scheme Group ^(RE)
- 6.4 Environment Agency bins –the Parish Council to consider the response from the Environment Agency about the lack of Riverside Bins
- 6.5 CCC – Transport Strategies 2022 – Public consultation
- 6.6 CCC – Community Gritting Volunteers
- 6.7 Commonwealth War Graves Commission – installation of signs indicating War Graves at Hemingford Grey Cemetery

7. Closure of meeting

CLERK REPORT TO HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING 10 OCTOBER 2022

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

Please note that this meeting will take place at the Reading Room, High Street, commencing at 7.30 pm following the Planning Committee meeting.

Peter Hollebbon of VMO2 has sent his apologies that he is unable to attend the meeting to give a presentation on the possible deployment of 4G outdoor small cells on Parish Council lighting columns. Cllr Waters will brief the Council instead.

County Cllr report. Cllr Dew reports “I have been in contact with both The Highways officer and with Lizzie Pink the ‘Street Works Officer’ [regarding the works by Cadent]

Lizzie has told me that she has advised that the licence for the works is not going to be extended and that all debris will be cleared on Tuesday 20/9, if not before.

She has also requested that the large welfare unit be removed from the site.

Although I understand that the works Cadent have carried out has been necessary, I do hope that the village will soon be able to return to some normality.”

1. To receive apologies for absence – Apologies and reasons if received will be reported to the meeting.
2. To approve the minutes of the last meeting – attached.
3. Matters Arising from the last or a previous meeting

4. Finance, procedure and risk assessment

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

Attached.

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

The Clerk has used delegated powers to:

- Accept a quotation from Buchans for £12.50 plus VAT to trim the north-south path at the allotments.
- The Clerk and Chair used delegated powers to accept a quotation from RPM for £630 plus VAT to repair the Daintree Green cableway. Three quotes were obtained and the Clerk consulted with the Chairman before placing the order.
- To place a contract with pest control to clear a wasps nest in an allotment tenant’s compost bin after she failed to take action herself. Any deposit (unlikely) on the plot will be forfeited as the plot was left with a problem. The Parish Council might like to consider if further action to recover the £58.33 plus VAT is required.

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

This relates to any matter relating to Parish Council land or business only.

- 4.4 Option to opt out of the SAAA central external auditor appointment arrangements

“Under the Local Audit (Smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015, SAAA is responsible for appointing external auditors to all applicable opted-in smaller authorities, for setting the terms of appointment for limited assurance reviews and for managing the contracts with the appointed audit firms. Smaller authorities are those whose gross annual income or expenditure is **less than £6.5 million**.

The next 5-year appointing period runs from 2022-23 until 2026-27 and SAAA has undertaken a procurement exercise to appoint auditors to each County area from 1 April 2022. Now that the submission deadline for the 2021-22 Annual Governance and Accountability Returns has passed, this is to advise you of the option to opt-out of the next round of 5-year audit appointments.

All authorities require an appointed external auditor even if the authority meets the criteria to qualify for exemption, as a Certificate of Exemption is required to be submitted to the external auditor and the auditor must be in place in case of objections from local electors

During the previous 5-year period **all** smaller authorities were 'opted-in' to the central procurement regime managed by SAAA - no authority decided to 'opt-out' and follow the various complex procedures required under statute to appoint their own external auditor. **If you wish to continue as part of the SAAA sector led auditor appointment regime then no action is required, you will remain part of central scheme.**

However, all authorities must be given the option to opt-out of the central procurement and appointment scheme and appoint their own external auditor for the next 5-year period, although the process is onerous for smaller authorities.

This communication is to advise that whilst all smaller authorities are opted into the central procurement of external auditors by default, any authorities who do not wish to be part of the SAAA arrangements must formally notify SAAA that they wish to opt out within **8 weeks** of this communication but no later than **28 October 2022**; this decision must be communicated to SAAA via e mail to admin@saaa.co.uk.

If notification of your decision to opt out is not received within this 8-week period, then your authority will be regarded as opted-in for the next five-year period beginning on 1 April 2022 and ending on 31 March 2027.

Opting-out

Opting out is a significant decision which requires careful consideration; to assist authorities considering opting out further guidance has been developed to clarify what opting out means in practice. This detailed information can be found at www.saaa.co.uk

An authority that wishes to opt out must formally reach and record that decision in a way that meets the requirements of its own governance framework, by convening a full council meeting or an extraordinary council meeting.

Key implications are:

- an opted-out authority regardless of size (including exempt authorities) **MUST** appoint an appropriate external auditor;
- the appointed auditor **must** be a registered auditor as defined by the Companies Act and a member of Institute of Chartered Accountants (England and Wales).
- an opted-out authority **must** convene an appropriate independent auditor panel which meets the requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 (LAAA). Detailed guidance on auditor panels is available in Schedule 4 of the LAAA Act and from CIPFA;
- an opted-out authority will need to develop its own specification for its external audit contract, will need to negotiate the price for this work on an individual basis and will need to manage the contract, including any disputes, and any independence issues that may arise;
- an opted-out authority must ensure full compliance with the relevant requirements of the Local Audit and Accountability Act and supporting Regulations;
- any opted-out authority that does not successfully appoint an appropriate external auditor in the correct manner and notify SAAA who their external auditor is by **30 November 2022** will have an external auditor appointed for it by the Secretary of State through SAAA. **This will result in additional costs of £300 which will have to be met by the authority.**

4.5 To note the conclusion of the Annual external Audit by PKF Littlejohn,

The audit has been completed and no matter have come to their attention either giving cause for concern or needing action.

5. To receive reports and items from committees, working groups and members for decision

5.1 Proposal that the Hemingford Grey defibrillator is registered on the new database “The Circuit” and that new replacement pads are purchased ^(NI)

A resident has written:

“I have recently registered the Pavilion Defibrillator on ‘The Circuit’. This is a central register of the location of Defibrillators which is available to the emergency services.

I don’t think the defib. located at the school is on the circuit so it may be something the School/Parish Council may want to consider..

Click on this link for more information <https://www.thecircuit.uk/Home/About>”

Cllr Irish has responded:

“I thought that the Defib was already registered with the ambulance service but I gather that the circuit is a new initiative which supplements this. In my conversations with the School they are pleased that we are looking after the DeFib and I think it unlikely that they will raise an objection. However I will mention it when I next visit and am certainly happy to make a proposal at the next meeting.”

The Clerk confirms that the defibrillator is registered with the Ambulance Service.

Following a recall from the manufacturers, Cllr Irish has written:

“We now have the Defib back in the cabinet and I am about to send the loan one back today. So all done.

I note the Pads will be out of date in January 2023. Could we please order two sets to replace them.”

4.5 Street lighting energy from 1st November 2022

5.2 Proposal that the Council review LHI bids and consider the next steps to get a cycle path along Hemingford/St Ives Road ^(RW)

5.3 Proposal that the Council approves covering the shortfall from the Parish Council’s Big Green Project’s budget if the CCF grant for the proposed hedge along the Yes Development frontage is awarded. ^(AM, RA)

Cllr Meredith reports.

“I had a preliminary phone call for our grant application this afternoon. Luckily they had few questions to ask.

The application will now go to the relevant panel.

I was asked theoretically would we accept a proportion of the grant. I said yes but it would cause some problems.

The latest we would hear is the end of November but it could be the end of September.

So can we at the September council meeting consider the following. I will in the meantime ask the companies that quoted if they can hold their prices and one omitted to quote for watering (essential after this summer). I will also check availability to plant this winter.

£5,525 + VAT was the lowest quote and included all we wanted and we have asked for £4,000.

So there are 3 scenarios to consider

1. We get £4,000 and have about £1,500 to find
2. We get a proportion of the grant- how much can we add to it
3. We are declined and so what can we spend on planting some of the hedge”

The Council budgeted £5000 in FY 2022 (in earmarked reserves) and a further £5000 in FY 2023. To date £2880.01 has been spent with a further £2345+ outstanding. (plus some trees to be ordered by AM in September)

Whilst the transfer of the land is being handled by the Parish Council’s Solicitor HDC has not as yet responded to the request for permission to plant the hedge.

5.4 Environment Working Group report and proposals ^(AM)

Updated log attached.

5.4.1 Proposal that the Council obtains quotes to remove the tree and large bramble patch on plot 10. In addition to obtain quotes to cover plots 9 and 10 with durable weed proof membrane (water permeable) on the 4 half plots.

“The plots are proving hard to let with applicants declining them. The condition of the plots especially 10 a and b is more than a tenant can reasonably be expected to take on. With the plots covered with a membrane this should kill off the grass and weeds and enable a new tenant to cultivate the plot.”

If agreed the Council to decide if this is delegated to the Clerk to progress or if it wishes to see the quotations at the next meeting. How long before the plots may be let if a membrane is used?

5.4.2 Proposal that the Clerk is given the flexibility to offer plots 9 a and b and Plots 10 a and b to a new tenant rent free for a year- based on either current status or after the tree/brambles and weed suppressing membrane has been laid.

“This is in recognition of the poor state of the 4 half plots and concern over further deterioration of the plots.”

5.4.3 Proposal that the Council agrees the formula for the allotments water charges to the allotment tenants. Proposal that the Council’s water usage August 21-September 22 should be regarded as that of 4 half plots and this to be used in the calculations for charging the tenants and PC for their water usage. Clerk requested to inform all the tenants that each year the PC will ‘pay’ for the water it uses (this will vary from year to year).

“Tenants have informally spoken to a councillor about the PC use of the water. The water has been used to water the new hedge, fruit trees and wildflower beds. Since EWG met the following information has been obtained from the Clerk’s office. The water usage is usually divided between the occupied plots and the council pay for the water usage on vacant plots. Currently the calculations are based on 60 half plots. The Parish Clerk’s office advised that ‘If the Council split the water between 64 half plots it will bring the per half plot water rate to 6.25 per plot (from £6.67). The current tenants will pay a total of £350 and the PC the remaining 8 plots (4 additional and 4 vacant/unused) at £50.’ The parish council will need to determine what is a fair amount for the water used by the council.”

5.4.4 Proposal that the Council seeks quotes to trim the yew bush on the verge left of the vehicle access to the allotments. This quote to be for the remainder of this council’s term of office.

At the last meeting in agenda item (5.6.5) Vehicle access to the allotment verge etc the Council agreed subject to views from residents it would seek quotes to remove shrubs and brambles on the verge. Cllrs Meredith and Waters visited residents. Due to strong objections from residents about the planting of trees on the verge, they have been assured that no trees will be planted. The shrubs also are not now being removed. An alternative proposal is no put before Council.

“This yew bush has historically been trimmed so that there is a clear gap between the bush and the neighbour’s fence. The bush only requires a light trim to remove this year’s growth. This work will need doing annually so the Clerk (if suitable quote received can add to the mowing and hedging contract).”

If agreed the Council to decide if this is delegated to the Clerk to progress or if it wishes to see the quotations at the next meeting.

A resident has written regarding the original proposal to plant trees

“I understand that there are plans to plant a number of trees on the grass adjacent to the road leading to the allotments at the end of Sadlers Way?

I understand that the trees are going to be planted to prevent people parking on the grass verge?

However the only people that currently park on the grass verge are us when we are swapping cars over or people who are visiting our house when both of our cars are on our drive, to avoid blocking the cul-de-sac end of the road. We also reverse out on to this grass because the turning off our drive is

much too tight and requires us to reverse on to that part to exit our drive safely (the drive was built prior to us purchasing the property).

I understand further that the reason that the trees are to be planted is because we have had planning permission accepted (which the parish council gave their blessing to) and the council are concerned about workmen parking on this patch during the work? Why did the council endorse our planning application if they then wanted to make it as difficult as possible for us and our workmen?

The work will only be carried out for a few months and if the workmen cannot park there they will find other places to park including blocking the ability to u turn at the end of Sadlers Way, or parking in the allotments.

The bushes on this verge are already not cut back regularly enough to prevent them growing through to our, and our neighbours' gardens and with the coming recession I sincerely doubt that there will be sufficient funds to maintain more greenery. Of note, the trees that are reported to be planted are Rowan trees which require significant maintenance in their sapling years until established and it's highly unlikely that this will happen. Rowan berries are also toxic to dogs, we have a dog and would be very upset if anything happened to her. For this reason alone we would contest any of these trees being planted.

We have spoken to some of the other neighbours and we all strongly oppose this plan.”

- 5.4.5 Proposal that the Council seeks quotes for the cutting back of the Mitchell Close shrub line (at southern boundary of play area, and in addition the shrub -a type of laurel?- on western boundary fence to be reduced in height to level with fence). As the shrub line is of mixed planting (such as buddleia, viburnum tinus and hazel) the quotes should include information on how the shrubs will be dealt with. The brambles should be cut back severely where needed. As this will need to be done annually the quotation should be for the remaining life of the current Council.

“This is a complicated request for quotation as it is not a hedge but a line of different shrubs which have different pruning need for example the buddleia should be reduced to about 2ft from ground but the viburnum may not need much work. The brambles do need to be cut back as they are encroaching on a children’s play area and invading the shrubs. The parish council will also need to decide whether the shrub line is added to the mowing/hedge contract or regarded as a separate piece of work.”
If agreed the Council to decide if this is delegated to the Clerk to progress or if it wishes to see the quotations at the next meeting.

Grass cutting of various areas remains under review with an aim, if necessary to bring a proposal to the Council at a future meeting for next season.

- 5.4.6 Proposal that the Parish Council applies to HDC for Asset of Community Value Status (ACV) for two open green spaces in Gunnings Way. Councillors Waters and Meredith being appointed to submit the application on behalf of the Council

“It has become known that HDC are selling off small areas of land for housing. These two green spaces are well used by the residents and are an important amenity for the local community. It is a cul-de-sac so ideal for children to play safely outside. The areas are also used for community social events.”

- 5.5 Proposal that the Council approves the detailed design for the 20 mph scheme in Hemingford Grey as presented to the Council by Matheus H Souza, of Cambridgeshire County Council ^(AM)

CCC write “We have progressed the scheme’s detailed design. Please find all relevant design documents attached.

You will note that most of the new repeater signs are proposed to be mounted on existing lighting columns. This was the chosen approach on environmental grounds, reduction of street clutter and budget. You will also note that speed roundel markings are not proposed as part of the new 20mph limit, this again, is due to limited budget available, and the standards do not specifically call for roundels to be provided as part of the new TRO.

As you are aware, the new 20mph TRO will need to go through a formal consultation period before it can proceed through to construction. Also, our proposals of using existing lighting columns for mounting of new repeater signs will need to be approved by the Street Lighting team.

Whilst bearing the above in mind, please do let us know if the Parish Council approve of the proposals. Please feel free to share and discuss these plans with the relevant stakeholders as necessary before making your decision.

In the meantime, I would be happy to answer any question you may have on the proposals..

5.6 To consider a report from Cllr Jackson on the slipway and if any further action is required

An update has been received on the proposal for the new slipway.

“It is still in hand, but not strong. Whilst I do not know why, this matter has been left unpursued for over 15 years. Such a delay is more than sufficient for any practical legal leverage based on the prior state of things to be lost. The EA say they have no record of any agreement or obligation on their part to recreate a soft landing. Although I have sifted through the correspondence your office kindly provided and have traced and downloaded the constructional plans for the defences, they give no indication that the soft landing was a factor at the time, or even of its existence. I have tracked down several hundred photos of the area through books, private contacts and the Norris Museum, but have not been able to find any photos of the original landing area prior to its loss to the defence construction. Hence I do not even have evidence to give the EA of what has been lost.

Although I did get near to having a possible meeting with someone from the EA, they then defaulted to the paper-shower approach of saying in effect "fill in this pile of forms and send us your detailed proposals and plans". Since anything we might do at the end of the High Street will inevitable need work undertaken to the defence banking, which without prior consultation with the EA would imply a significant cost without any certain prospect of success, this is unappealing. Without direct help from the EA this is potentially a very difficult and significantly expensive undertaking.

Currently a more oblique approach has been suggested, essentially abandoning any hope of getting a soft landing at the end of the High Street, and considering getting other organisations (such as Great Ouse Valley Trust and other PCs) to advocate for a landing on our side of the river near the Dolphin Hotel at St Ives. This suggestion arose last week, and has yet to be actioned.”

6. To consider correspondence/communications received

6.1 Resident request to remove leylandii trees in her garden on the boundary with Daintree Green

“Our garden borders Daintree Park. There is a small fence and a line of huge leylandii. We are proposing to take down the run of trees as they have been left to grow too big and unmanageable. (We had our side trimmed a few weeks after we moved here at the cost of £1100. The roots would appear to be on our land but the trees border the park. According to HDC we are in our rights to remove them without planning permission as long as we replace with a fence/border that is no higher. HDC suggested we talk to Hemingford Grey Parish Council in respect of these trees before taking action. Your comments would be most welcome and, should you wish to do so, you are welcome to come and take a look.”

Cllr Meredith has written:

“Martin Collings and myself have both been to look at the hedge and have no concerns about the hedge being removed as the Leylandii hedge is difficult and expensive to maintain, nor is it of much value for bio-diversity. We would suggest that they replace with a fence-similar to other ones along the southern boundary. There is the container for the football club adjacent to the property so not attractive to look at.

If the football club is able to relocate and the container is removed then the PC could then consider some appropriate planting to hide the fence and create a green boundary to Daintree Green and would welcome the householders involvement in this.”

6.2 VMO2/Ontix – request for deployment of 4G outdoor small cells on Parish Council lighting columns

Peter Hollebbon of VMO2 writes “I would like to table a proposal with the PC about helping to improve the connectivity within the village for the residents. I am a local resident, so know the challenges Mobile Network Operators (MNOs) have with providing coverage/service in the area. Most people do seem to complain about the level of service for all operators in the village. I would like to engage with the PC and get your feedback on the feasibility of VMO2 deploying 4G outdoor small cells on a few of your PC own lighting columns. I’m the delivery lead for outdoor small cell

deployment in the London and South-East Region for VMO2. Ontix are an infrastructure provider we instruct to engage with local authorities and to deliver outdoor small cells for our Network. Ontix are currently engaged locally in dialogue with Cambridgeshire CC, about getting a contract in place to enable deployments in Cambridge City Centre on behalf of us. I've included Richard (Allen) and Jamie from Ontix on this email, as way of an intro.

I've attached a couple of photos of typically deployments with the small cell highlighted. I've also included a DCMS "intro" video to provide an overview to help explain."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skql-RRpOXY>

At his request Mr Hollebon has been provided with a copy of the Hemingford Grey parish lights inventory and maps of the lights locations in the village centre and the lights in the east of the Parish.. Cllr Waters has had a preliminary discussions with Ontix to ensure the Council has the information it needs for its consideration.

6.3 Hemingford Hub – Request for Parish Council representative on Transport Scheme Group

"Hemingford Hub failed to qualify for a Department for Transport grant for an electric bus for the two villages. Apparently 95% of applicants failed, which shows what a huge demand there is for an improved transport service.

We have lobbied our local MP to join the TING scheme in west Huntingdonshire, but their reply was that they have no funding to extend this trial scheme to the Hemingfords.

We would be open to lobbying and fund-raising with representatives from both Hemingford Parish Councils. We are setting up our own external transport group to drive this project and would welcome the services of one PC councillor from each council with transport knowledge and/or project management skills."

6.3 Environment Agency Riverside bins – Proposal that the Council considers the response from the Environment Agency about the lack of Riverside Bins ^(RW)

"I am writing to you following your emails of 27 June, 12 August & 17 August and our recent telephone conversation.

I wanted to begin by giving you some background to the situation and how a difficult decision was reached to remove the waste containers at Hemingford Mooring along with several other sites on the river Gt Ouse system.

To explain the reason why Anglian Waterways took the decision to remove the waste containers from Hemingford Moorings, I would first of all like to give you a bit of background as to the reasons why the waste containers were removed amongst other sites along the river Gt Ouse. This is because after experiencing many years of poor service from a variety of commercial waste suppliers in terms of misbilling and missed collections, the Environment Agency Waterways Team had no option but to withdraw bins from sites owing to the costs being incurred, the environmental, health and safety issues and the fact that not just boaters waste was being left in the bins. Over the years many commercial waste companies have been tried including, more recently Amey Cespa & Veolia, in the past we have utilised Biffa, Donarbon and then since the problems with the current collections and many of them being stopped we explored the possibility of using a broker. Overall, the costs of these were slightly higher but we had hoped by having a specialist waste firm (Acumen) acting on our behalf many of the problems being experienced could be avoided and it would save staff time in trying to resolve problems which amounts to many hours. In the end though Acumen tried all the local commercial collection companies and they all refused to collect the bins from the sites where they have been removed from. In addition as I advised in our recent telephone conversation, we did have some discussions with Huntingdon District Council but cost returns for Hemingford and the fact their terms are so much more restrictive in that you must have bins for 52 weeks of the year, the costs are so much higher and multiplied across all sites could double which isn't a valuable use of registration fees. One thing we couldn't continue was paying upwards of £10k a year using river user registration fees on bins when the companies would still happily take the money but then refuse to collect the rubbish.

Believe us when we say we have spent many months and much effort and time trying to come up with a solution, but all have been dead ends to date. This is the reason behind the bins being removed at Hemingford 48 Hour Mooring and as well as other locations. They are still present at some sites where collections are being made such as Hermitage Lock for example. We do appreciate that there has been an informal arrangement over the years for the Waterways Team to pay and arrange for collection of waste at Hemingford Parish Council Moorings with no formal agreement/contract ever been entered into, however the Environment Agency have no statutory obligation or any other obligation to provide bins. In fact the Great Ouse is the only Anglian Environment Agency navigation where bins are provided and utilising registration fees to do so that are collected to keep the navigations functioning. Our hand has been forced in this instance as we are physically unable to provide the service hence the bins have had to be removed and there are no plans for them to be replaced.

We do recognise that this is not an ideal situation and we appreciate the frustration and difficulties this causes when bins have previously been provided but as with many other organisations we have been forced to adopt 'the take your litter away with you' stance under the current circumstances. That said, following on from your emails sent earlier this month, the Parish Council have sought to obtain your own quotations for waste collections at the mooring, and in principal, we are open to partnership options and contributing to waste collections at Hemingford but on a contribution only basis. The proviso is this has to work for boating customers and potentially also be something that the Parish Council would manage and negotiate.

Clearly the Parish Council will need time to consider the contents of our response and whether it is willing to explore the possibility of setting up and managing your own waste collection service at this site with and subject to further negotiation a possibility of the Environment Agency making a contribution. In the meantime as I have advised previously if you find excess waste/fly tipping accumulating, as has occurred recently then please report via our incident number on 0800 80 70 60 anytime and we can make the necessary arrangements. It would also assist us if photos can be provided.”

Fay Summers
Waterways Support Officer
(River Great Ouse and River Stour)
Environment Agency

6.1 CCC – Transport Strategies 2022 – Public consultation

“The Transport Strategy team at Cambridgeshire County Council has developed three draft transport strategies that will set the County Council’s transport policy approach for the districts of Fenland and Huntingdonshire, and for active travel across the whole county. We are now consulting with all stakeholders and the public on the draft strategies to give you the opportunity to input into them before they are finalised and recommended for adoption in Spring 2023. We would welcome your comments on the following strategies, and also ask for your help in spreading the word.

- Draft Fenland Transport Strategy
- Draft Huntingdonshire Transport Strategy
- Draft Cambridgeshire’s Active Travel Strategy

The public consultation survey is now live and can be accessed on our consultation website here <https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/>. Please select which strategy you would like to find out more, read the draft strategy and provide your views by completing the online survey. The survey will **close on Monday 7th November 2022**. We welcome your response for any combination of the three strategies dependent on your interest.

A paper version of the survey is attached if this is preferred, and please return a copy by reply to this email to transport.plan@cambridgeshire.gov.uk by the deadline. If the this will not be possible, please inform us when we should receive your response to consider if we can accept a late reply.

We want to ensure we reach as much of the general public as possible so we also ask that you display/share the promotional materials attached, or the link to the survey to your contacts, or add the information to any newsletters/social media pages you produce. If you would like printed copies to be sent, please get in touch. Alternatively, watch out for the County Council's social media posts and share as appropriate.

We will be holding a number of events, and paper copies of the strategies are available at selected libraries, all listed in the leaflet attached.

If you have any questions please do get in touch. We thank you in advance of your support in spreading the word, and hope you will take time to respond to the surveys.

Kind regards,
Transport Strategy Team
Transport Strategy & Funding
Cambridgeshire County Council
Email: transport.plan@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

6.2 CCC – Community Gritting Volunteers

“This is a request for winter volunteers for this winter season 2022-2023.

We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to all the volunteers that took part in our Community Gritting Scheme last winter.

For those hearing about the Community Gritting Scheme for the first time, this is a scheme where Local volunteers can help to keep their community moving in freezing weather. Under this scheme, the parish or town council decides on specific routes in their area which are important to the local community and agrees them with the county council.

If you are a parish or town council looking to join the scheme, please send your completed form by 31st October 2022.

I will need a form for each of your volunteers, including those who have volunteered before. The form is required annually ensure our health and safety standards are being met.

See below for a link to the Community Gritting registration form:

http://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Community_gritting_registration_form

For further information please see our web page:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/gritting-roads-cycleways-and-paths/help-with-gritting-and-clearing-snow/>

If you would prefer a paper form please let me know.

If you spot a grit bin that is empty or running low, please let us know through our [online reporting tool](#).”

Catherine Howes
Business Support Officer
Highways and Transport
Cambridgeshire County Council

6.7 Commonwealth War Graves Commission – installation of signs indicating War Graves at Hemingford Grey Cemetery

“Commonwealth War Graves Commission – installation of signs indicating war graves

Ref No:	Cemetery Name	No. of casualties
3890	HEMINGFORD GREY CEMETERY	4

I am writing on behalf of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission to enquire if Hemingford Grey Parish Council would be interested in having a sign at your Cemetery to let the public know there are war graves situated there. The Signs project commenced as part of the centenary of the First World War and it is hoped that we can erect signs at as many churchyards, cemeteries and burial grounds as possible that contain war graves. The aim of the initiative is to increase awareness of war graves in the UK and to remind the public that they need not travel abroad to find Commonwealth commemorations.

If you would be interested in having a sign installed, please complete and return the attached ‘**CWGC Sign Application Form**’ for each site, together with a photograph showing the desired location of the sign at that burial ground. All signs will be installed (unless by prior agreement), paid for and maintained by the Commission on a permanent basis.

If two signs are required at one burial ground (different entrances), please note this on the application form, together with details of which entrance, the appropriate size & fixing method for each sign and a separate photo showing the desired location of each sign and then send completed application (with photograph) to ukna.signs@cwgc.org.

Once we have received your application we aim to install the sign(s) at the agreed location(s) as soon as possible, within a maximum of 12 months. If however, you would prefer to install the sign yourself, this is an option, although we would still require the details requested on the application form & a photo of the proposed location. This is in case the sign needs to be replaced at some point in the future (as a result of damage, theft, etc.).

I have also attached a FAQ sheet for your information, and some suggested fixing options, however if you have any further questions about the application process, or if you would like any other information about the Commission, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you would like to find out more about the casualties buried in your burial grounds, please visit our website at www.cwgc.org, where you can search our database.

Juliet Hunter
Project Administrator
Commonwealth War Graves Commission

7. **Closure of meeting**

HEMINGFORD GREY PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

£

Oct-22

Balance B/Forward	251075.70
--------------------------	------------------

ADJ'S + Chq's Approved at Previous Meeting/Between Meetings		
Adjustments		
ST JAMES CHURCH	CANCELLED	100.00
Payments		
LGS SERVICES	ADMIN SUPPORT JULY	-2250.54
LGS SERVICES	ADMIN SUPPORT AUGUST	-2217.41
ST JAMES CHURCH	ROOM HIRE	-120.00
FIELDFARE	COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT	-1300.00
CHRISTMAS DIRECT	CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	-343.98
CME	PAYROLL	-97.20
SSE	STREETLIGHT ENERGY	-166.98
GALLAGHER	INSURANCE	-683.17
UNITY TRUST	SERVICE FEE	-18.00
Receipts		
HDC	PRECEPT	63032.00
PLOT 299A	TRANSFER AND CHARGE	212.00
<i>Total Fund movement</i>		56146.72
Balance revised after adjustments		307222.42

Bank Reconciliation			
Item	Funds	Statement	Outstanding
Unity Trust Current Acc	116511.18	120,405.49	-3,894.31
Unity Savings Acc	80122.59	80,122.59	
Santander Current Acc	68202.79	68,202.79	
Santander Deposit Acc	42385.86	42,385.86	
Total	307222.42	311116.73	-3894.31

Expenditure for month	Amount (£)
SALARIES & PENSION	1435.07
LGS SERVICES	2242.44
K&M LIGHTING SERVICES	88.74
BUCHANS	1464.00
PKF LITTLEJOHN	480.00
DRE PEST CONTROL	70.00
Total Expenditure	5780.25

Balance c/f	301442.17
--------------------	------------------

Notes:

Late invoices will be brought to the meeting.

THE PAYMENTS LISTED ON THE LAST FINANCE REPORT (EXCL. LATE PAYMENTS) ARE SHOWING AS OUTSTANDING AT BANK AND WILL BE REUPLOADED FOR PAYMENT WITH THE PAYMENTS AGREED AT THE OCTOBER MEETING

LEEDS DAY HAVE INVOICED 408.00+VAT WHICH HAS BEEN DEDUCTED FROM THE ACCOUNT BALANCE