

# Hemingford Grey Parish Council Newsletter

August 2022



# Notes from the Chair

Welcome to the Parish Council's August newsletter.

During the last few months, we've witnessed our village at its very best. The fantastic Queens Platinum Jubilee events, the village sports day and the Hemingfords Regatta have served to remind all of us that this is a fantastic village to live in! All these events were delivered by dedicated teams of volunteers. But it's not just these showpiece events that rely on the generosity of individuals giving up their time. Many of the other activities on offer to us and our families are also provided by volunteers, including the cricket and football teams, the 1st Hemingfords Scout Group, the many clubs and societies, and of course the HemingfordHub.

With our busy lives, sometimes it can be difficult to identify or find time to volunteer. However, the benefits of volunteering can be enormous. Volunteering can not only offer vital help to people in need, worthwhile causes, and the community, but the benefits can be even greater for the volunteer. The right match can help you to find friends, connect with the community, learn new skills, and even advance your career.

Giving to others can also help protect your mental and physical health. It can reduce stress, combat depression, keep you mentally stimulated, and provide a sense of purpose. Volunteering doesn't have to involve a long-term commitment or take a huge amount of time out of your day. Giving in even simple ways can help those in need and improve your health and happiness.

Throughout this month's newsletter, you will find requests for support from numerous village organisations. So why not give it a go!

By the time our next issue is published in October, the Summer will be over, and we'll be heading into the Autumn. So, whether you decide to stay in the village, enjoy a staycation, or venture further afield, I hope you all enjoy the summer!



**Cllr Richard Allen**  
*Chair, Hemingford Grey Parish Council*

# *Parish Council Updates*

## **School zebra crossing and road markings repainted**



Following continued pressure from the Parish Council and our County Councillor, Cllr Doug Dew, we are delighted that Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) have, at long last, refreshed a large section of the painted road markings through the village including the zebra crossing at the school.

We continue to press the CCC to act on clearing vegetation on highways - either directly or by enforcement on property owners.

Meanwhile CCC are planning to repair various cracks and potholes in London Rd (A1096) between the Low Road roundabout and the Galley Hill junction. These have been marked up for treatment and will require temporary traffic lights over the next few weeks.

## **Improving healthy and sustainable travel**

The Parish Council has set up a group to investigate the possibilities for extending our cycle path on the south side of Hemingford Road from Pembroke Close to the school. The existing 700m grass verge should be wide enough for a joint cycle/pedestrian path such as already exists from London Road to Pembroke Close. Our County Cllr Doug Dew intends to put our preliminary proposal in front of the CCC Highways Committee later in the month.

## **Landing stage repaired and extended**

Following the flooding at the end of 2020/early 2001 a section of the landing stage at the top of the High Street had become damaged and unsafe. The Council has therefore funded its repair and extension. The work was undertaken earlier in the summer and we hope that this will enable villagers to access and enjoy the river over the summer and beyond.



## Be extraordinary – become a Hemingford Grey Parish Councillor



The Parish Council currently has four vacancies. So, if you're worried about development and planning; the environment or the quality of life; concerned about flooding or road safety. Or would you'd like to: improve our open spaces and play areas; influence local decisions or give something back to your community. We would love to hear from you - please get in touch to find out more.

## Summer Sports Programme



Earlier this year the Parish Council, in partnership with Hemingford Abbots Parish Council and the One Leisure Active Lifestyles Team, agreed to fund five free two-hour activity sessions for 5-11-year-olds over the school summer holidays.

We've been delighted by the interest and uptake for these sessions which will run at the Hemingford Pavilion on a Monday afternoon. We therefore agreed at our July meeting to increase our funding to enable those who were on the waiting list for three of the sessions to be included. While all sessions are now fully booked, please contact [parish.clerk@hemingford-abbots.org.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@hemingford-abbots.org.uk) if you'd be interested in any last-minute availability.

## Save the date – Upcoming Community Events

Dates for your calendar. Full details in September's newsletter, but if the suspense is too much, for more information, or to volunteer contact [anne.meredith](mailto:anne.meredith@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk) or [janice.flint](mailto:janice.flint@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk) @hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk.



- **Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2pm:** Annual bulb planting, Daintree Green
- **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 11am – 1pm:** Foodbank Collection, Reading Room

## Wildflowers blooming throughout the village



Hedgerow crane's-bill, thyme-leaved speedwell, bladder campion, corn marigold, greater knapweed; over 43 different types of wildflower were recorded across the village by the Wild Lives Collective, during June. And this isn't even a full comprehensive list as there were several types of plants primed and waiting to bloom. We also planted a number of wild and pollinator-friendly plants in the flower bed at the Yes Development kid's playground and in the new wildflower patch at Daintree Green, including fox and cubs, red campion, cowslips and sweet william. A massive thank you to the 70 residents, including the cubs and scouts, who donated and planted plants or came to record the wildflower diversity. A cracking effort, which we can expand upon in August with our insect and hedgehog activities.



### Wild Lives Collective activities in the Summer Holidays:



Thanks to Parish Council funding the following events are open and free for anyone to participate, but we are also looking for volunteers to help with preparing and running the events. Email Jade at [wildliveshg@fieldfarewildlife.co.uk](mailto:wildliveshg@fieldfarewildlife.co.uk) to show your interest.

- Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> August: Yes Development - **Insect Hotel Building and Installation and a Bug Hunt** – 10.30am – 12.30pm.
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> August: Vicarage Fields – **Insect Hotel Building and Installation and a Bug Hunt** – 10.30am – 12.30pm.
- Friday 26<sup>th</sup> August – Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> August: Daintree Green – **Hemingford Grey Big Hedgehog Hunt** – Fri at 4-6pm, followed by Sat at 9 – 10am

Visit: [www.fieldfarewildlife.co.uk/wild-lives-collective](http://www.fieldfarewildlife.co.uk/wild-lives-collective) for more information.

## Planning committee matters

The Parish Council has no direct planning powers but is consulted by, and can make representations to, Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC). It is HDC's responsibility to inform neighbours of planning applications. Residents are urged to make their own comments on the HDC website. Councillors will usually call on the applicant and relevant neighbours to explain how the council considers applications and how residents can make their views known to the parish council and to HDC. The next Planning Committee meeting will be at 7pm on Monday August 8<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Centre, High Street – if required.

### Outcomes of recent planning applications

HDC/CCC ref.	Description	PC Rec	HDC Dec
18/02726/FUL	Former Murketts showroom – development of 49 dwellings	Comments	Approved*
20/00285/FUL	Former Vindis showroom – development of 94 dwellings	Refusal	Approved*
20/01621/FUL	Liquid Skillz, Gore Tree Rd – expansion & change of use including water skiing	Refusal	In progress**
21/00044/FUL	Liquid Skillz, Gore Tree Rd - second wakeboard line	Refusal	In progress
20/00164/OUT	Land west of Wychwood Hilton - Outline application for rural exception housing	Not suitable	Pending
CCC/21/088/FUL	ENVAR, St Ives Rd, Somersham – expansion of waste facility	Refusal	In progress
21/01768/FUL	Hemingford Park, Hemingford Abbots - change of use to mixed	Refusal	In progress
21/02647/PCAPA	The Grey House, Marsh Ln - change of use, one room to Assembly and leisure	Approval	In progress
21/02833/HHFUL	1 St James Court, High Street- various extensions	Refusal	In progress
22/00003/FUL	38 Marsh Lane-demolition of house and replacement dwelling	Refusal	Approved***
22/00006/HHFUL	24 Church Street-two storey rear extension	Refusal	In progress
22/00543/HHFUL	10 Marsh Ln - single storey rear extension, change to roof etc.	Approval	Approved
22/00850.HHFUL	8 Church St – single storey front extension. Changes to dormer	Approval	Pending
22/00856/HHFUL	5 Lea Rd – single story extension, alterations to garage, etc.	Approval	In progress
22/01061/HHFUL	5 St James's Court, High St – single storey rear garden room	Approval	Pending
22/01024/TELDET	Land east of 8 to 32 Dunnock Way – Proposed 20m 5G mast	Approval	Pending****
22/01241/HHFUL	9 Burlington Way – single storey rear extension	Approval	In progress

\*HGPC continue to monitor both sites which have severe implications for both foul and surface water drainage as well as significant traffic and (for Vindis) pedestrian access issues.

\*\*We understand that both of these applications will be considered by HDC's Development Management Committee (DMC) at which we can have a spokesperson. There is **still** no information as to when this might be scheduled.

\*\*\*This new house is a 'Self Build' and therefore attracts no Community Infrastructure Levy which would otherwise have contributed approx. £60,000 to district and parish council.

\*\*\*\* CCC Highways agree with our contention that this 5G mast should be built in the verge rather than on the cycle/footpath.

# Community Matters



## Gold and Silver in Hunts Forum Volunteers Awards



Two Hub volunteers won awards in a county-wide event to reward exceptional people held at the Countryside Centre, Hinchingsbrooke Country Park, on July 14. Denise Felstead was presented with the Gold Award for Rural Volunteer of the Year, plus an invitation from Julie Spence OBE, Lord-Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire, to the Queen's garden party next year. Denise is one of those rare and unassuming people who takes on volunteering responsibilities and sees them through with calmness, friendship and follow-up. Linda Dampney won Silver in the Volunteer Award category for her dedication in rapidly building and managing over 140 volunteers when Covid struck.

## HubClub schedule at the Pavilion

- **August 10** - Dr Jade Gunnell updates us about local wildlife initiatives with news about the hedgehog population
- **August 24** - Join the Sports Academy for a short chair-based demo on how to remain fit and young! Followed by tea and cake, of course.

Contact details: T: 07308 035416 E: [hemingfordhub@icloud.com](mailto:hemingfordhub@icloud.com),  
[www.hemingfordhub.co.uk](http://www.hemingfordhub.co.uk)

## **Hemlocs** by *Simon Clemmow, Chair*

Hemlocs' summer break has been pretty busy so far. I hope lots of you managed to view our displays over the Jubilee weekend showing how our villages have celebrated national events over the last 100 years or so. Since then, we have enjoyed our annual Garden Party and a visit to Burwell Museum. Our final summer outing will be to Bourn Mill in August. Our 2022-23 season of talks kicks off with the ever-popular Eric Sommerville on 'Quacks & Quackery' in the Pavilion on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. See you there.

## **Hemingfords' Regatta** *by Annie Sunderland, Chairman*



This years' Regatta was by any measure a huge success. Thank you to all those who bravely took part, to the unbelievable committee and other willing volunteers (you know who you are!) and the Winter and Keane families who allow us to their land, without which there could be no Regatta.

It was a joy to see so many shy novice children (3 school years intake instead of the usual 1) who'd never handled an oar, coxed a boat or paddled a kayak honing their skills over the 5 weeks of practice until they performed like confident experts in the races on the day. We also welcomed many inexperienced adult rowers who bust a gut to get to the finish line – and then to the beer tent!

The Regatta committee not only run the event and the weeks of practice beforehand, but also organise lots of fundraising – which makes it all happen and enhances life in the villages (the Regatta Ball, the refreshments on the day, the Village Carols etc). People have asked me why that fundraising is needed – so here goes. Staging the event itself costs in the region of £5,000 (loo hire, transport costs, prizes, waste costs etc). In addition we've had to buy endless tents and gazebos to run the day (a new refreshment marquee this year for example cost almost £2,000), and our insurance expenditure runs into thousands. The fleet of 24 boats have been purchased over the years, with considerable repair bills every year and a shelf life of how long they last. Each doubles boat for example costs almost £6,000 to replace, with almost all of the repairs and maintenance being carried out by the volunteers on the committee. So – hopefully, having enjoyed a fabulous five weeks practice on the riverbank and a great village Regatta day, ours being the only surviving village Regatta in the country, you can see that we really appreciate and need your support for all of our fundraising efforts to keep this truly special event going.

See you there next year – on July 8<sup>th</sup> 2023!

## **Hemingford Grey Grandad to walk 2000 miles**

Between 15th June and 31st December, Gary Baker, a grandad from Hemingford Grey, plans to walk 2000 miles – 5 million steps – in 200 days, in aid of East Anglia Children's Hospices. If you'd like to sponsor him, please visit: [www.justgiving.com/walk5million](http://www.justgiving.com/walk5million)

## **Hemingford Pavilion** ([www.hemingfordpavilion.co.uk](http://www.hemingfordpavilion.co.uk))

The Pavilion is operating as normal though we ask all our visitors to continue to take sensible precautions to help prevent the spread of Covid. All summer sports clubs (cricket, bowls, tennis) as well as gym and squash are open and very active with thriving junior sections.

The **Summer Events** at the Pavilion continue with the Big Summer Fun Day on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> August and The Annual Classic Car show on Saturday the 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

'**Pavilion Pictures**' is showing The Electrical Life of Louis Wain on Friday the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Tickets can be bought from the village shop. All welcome.

The Hayward Hall and Chris Page Room are used by many groups and are available for hire ([bookings@hemingfordpavilion.co.uk](mailto:bookings@hemingfordpavilion.co.uk)). Exercise classes include Yoga ([lucyhocknell@icloud.com](mailto:lucyhocknell@icloud.com)), Pilates ([nicolaguitart@gmail.com](mailto:nicolaguitart@gmail.com)), Outdoor exercise ([sabrinasily@gmail.com](mailto:sabrinasily@gmail.com)), Ballroom dancing ([lesleycollier@hotmail.com](mailto:lesleycollier@hotmail.com)), and Tai Chi ([malcolmsavannah233@gmail.com](mailto:malcolmsavannah233@gmail.com)). The Village Lunch is held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday each month (contact Mike Gledhill on 07881 922287 for details).

The Pavilion Bar opening hours are Monday to Friday 5.30 - 9.30pm; Saturday 2.00 -7.30 and Sunday 2.00 – 7.00pm.

For all enquiries email [enquiries@hemingfordpavilion.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hemingfordpavilion.co.uk) or telephone 01480 464490.

## **Hemingford Grey Garden Society** *by Mike Henderson, Chairman*

Hemingford Grey Garden Society has lapsed into the peaceful and quiet (and dry) summer months now. Our AGM was in April and lasted an unacceptably long 5½ minutes, but It was followed by a much more interesting talk on hellebores, given by Joe Sharman which woke everyone up. Talks have now finished until September. Annie and Robin Waters opened their garden on 11<sup>th</sup> June with a plant sale in their front garden, which raised over £200. A dozen of us will be visiting 23A Perry Road in Buckden next week, which is a large and lovely quirky garden featured in Gardener's World.

## Hemingford Park Cricket Club (HPCC)

HPCC has grown and developed over the summer. The junior section now extends through to Under 15s and training sessions have filled the field on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and players from each age group are playing in matches. The u11 team is particularly strong.

The Friday night team, which play friendly 20/20 matches, enjoys the cricket as well as the BBQ and bar! While the senior Saturday side presently sits third in their league and have seen some good individual and team performances ... along with less impressive displays!

We are always keen to welcome both youth and senior players so come and join in the fun! Further details available from Mike at [heminfordparkcricketclub@gmail.com](mailto:heminfordparkcricketclub@gmail.com). Get in touch

### Could you sponsor the Cricket Club's new heavy roller?



Would you, your company or someone you know be willing to sponsor a new heavy roller for Hemingford Park Cricket Club?

The club's current heavy roller has been flattening the square at the Pavilion for the last 40 years. Sadly, it's now on its last legs and can only go forwards. It's only a matter of time before it's written off, as parts no longer available.

Yelcon Homes (now part of Camstead Homes) who originally sponsored the roller had an incredible deal, their brand in full view for over 40 years. Could your company's logo be on a new roller for the next 40?

We estimate that a new or secondhand heavy roller, will cost between £10k - £15k. By sponsoring it, you or your company get in return?

- Your company logo and/or name on the new roller for it's lifetime
- An offer of a Friday night fixture every summer for your company / team to play against our Hemingford social T20 team. This includes a BBQ and is a lot of fun.
- Press and Social Media posts announcing the donation

Please get in touch on [heminfordparkcricketclub@gmail.com](mailto:heminfordparkcricketclub@gmail.com) if you can help. We may be able to support charitable donations and the tax relief that goes with it by partnering with the Sports and Social Club.



The school year has finished, and it has been amazing to see how hard all staff and pupils have worked this year so a huge congratulations to them all. The governing body has been busy supporting the school in

lots of different ways from in person monitoring visits to ensure high quality, to reviewing and approving resources such as new playground equipment and the forest school. Being a governor is a great way to support the school and local children. If you are interested in finding out more about being a governor email [chair@hemingfordgrey.cambs.sch.uk](mailto:chair@hemingfordgrey.cambs.sch.uk)

## Reading Room hire

The Reading Room village charity provides the ideal venue for use by any local organisation, group or individual. Max capacity 50 people, a well-equipped kitchen, tables/chairs, wi-fi, toilet facilities, heating, and new air cleaning and ventilation system. Hire charge from £7ph for residents, and with discounts for regular users. Call Christine on 01480 463283 or email [readingroomhg@yahoo.com](mailto:readingroomhg@yahoo.com) for costs and availability.

**1st Hemingfords Scout Group** *by Tony Rogers, Group Scout Leader, [gsl@1st-Hemingfords-scouts.org.uk](mailto:gsl@1st-Hemingfords-scouts.org.uk)*

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts are now back to normal activities following the Covid disruption. We recently enjoyed a whole Group camp near Bedford and were pleased to be a part in the Queen's Jubilee picnics in both the Abbots and Grey.

All three sections are full or near capacity with waiting lists for Beavers and Cubs. I am sorry that we cannot accommodate everyone.

Later this year we will be celebrating our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary as 1<sup>st</sup> Hemingfords Scout Group although scouting has been active in the Hemingfords for much longer than this. Watch out for special events taking place in the coming months. There are records and photographs of Scouts in the Hemingfords from the 1930's with many well-known faces and names included but if anyone has any stories, or photos of scouting in Hemingford we would be pleased to hear of them.

As always if anyone is keen to get involved with scouting locally, either as a leader with one of the sections or behind the scenes in a support role, please get in touch.

# Hemingford Grey Parish Council

*Proud to serve the people of Hemingford Grey*



The Parish Council now meets at the Reading Rooms on the **second Monday of each month** (except August and December) at 7.00pm for the planning meeting and 7.30pm for the main parish council meeting.

All parishioners are invited to attend the meeting and the first ten minutes or so are open to residents to ask questions or make comments and observations on matters or on items on the agenda (please note that after this time, further comments or questions are not permitted when the meeting is in progress).

Agendas are posted on our website and on the village notice boards. Information is also available on our social media pages:

**Website:** [www.hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/hemingfordgreypc](http://www.facebook.com/hemingfordgreypc)  
**Twitter:** [www.twitter.com/hemgreypc](http://www.twitter.com/hemgreypc)

## Parish councillors:

	Richard Allen (chair)	Maristowe, London Rd 494783		Robin Waters (v/c)	18 Hemingford Rd 07833 901680
	Sue Duma	The Grange, 1b Hemingford Rd 469795		Riva Elliott	38 Church Street 494142
	Janice Flint	30 Marsh Lane 07816 438765		Nick Irish	10 Skylark Place 464665
	Tony Jackson	12 Madeley Court 07973 751679		Sarah Jakes	Meadow View, 99 London Rd 466813
	Anne Meredith	18 De Vere Close 465774			

All our councillors can be emailed using the following format:  
***firstname.lastname@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk***

**Parish Clerk:** Gail Stoehr, 30 West Drive, Highfields, Caldecote, CB23 7NY  
Tel: 01954 210241, Email: [parish.clerk@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:parish.clerk@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk)

***The next edition of the newsletter will be out in October 2022***