

Hemingford Grey Parish Council Newsletter

December 2022



Notes from the Chair

Welcome to the Parish Council's December newsletter.

I can't quite believe that this is the last newsletter of the year and that 2022 is nearly over. It's certainly been a year of change, with both highs and lows, celebration, and sadness.

Personally, I always enjoy this time of year and the build-up to Christmas. This year's annual carol concert, which the Parish Council are once again pleased to support, will be held at the Pavilion, rather than at Vicarage Fields, on Saturday 10th December at 5pm. Mulled wine, hot chocolate, and mince pies will be available. The Parish Council have purchased additional lights for the village Christmas tree on Vicarage Fields and we hope that you will take time to go and see them.

At the November Parish Council meeting, we discussed and agreed our budget and precept for the next financial year. As I'm sure you can imagine some hard decisions about priorities were needed, but this year has been particularly difficult due to the spike in inflation and electricity prices. However, we continue to make our decisions based on the themes identified during the various village engagement exercises undertaken during the last few years i.e., improve our built and natural environment, help reduce climate change, improve biodiversity, and reduce speeding.

The Parish Council also reviewed our maintenance contract at the same meeting, having now had our new contractor in position for a full mowing season. This tied in with our continued review of the action plans which underpin the Council's Green Spaces strategy. As a result, several small tweaks will be made to the maintenance contract for next year.

On behalf of Hemingford Grey Parish Council, I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Cllr Richard Allen
Chair, Hemingford Grey Parish Council

Parish Council Updates

20mph zone extended

We've previously confirmed that Parish Council was successful in its Local Highways Initiative (LHI) bid to implement a 20mph zone within the centre of the village. After further consideration, the Parish Council approached the County Council and asked them to extend this zone to the whole village and have agreed to cover the additional costs that this will entail. The County are currently consulting on this scheme, and we hope that it will be implemented in early 2023.

Grants available for local organisations

The Parish Council has a limited amount of money available to award grants to local groups, charities or organisations for "purposes, which may bring a direct benefit to the area or any part of it for some or all the inhabitants". To be considered for an award, please complete the application form available from the Parish Clerk.

Grants awards are made at the Council's March and October meetings. Any payments made are subject to the normal budgetary constraints and only one grant is available to an organisation in any financial year.

Food Bank Collection - Thank You

Community support for foodbanks is vital, particularly in these tough times, so a massive thank you to residents for your generosity in donating to October's Community Foodbank appeal.



We're told by Godmanchester Food bank that the 615kg of food donated is equivalent to sufficient food to provide around 21 family parcels (2 Adults and 3 Children) or 50 parcels for a single person. A parcel contains enough food to provide 3 meals a day for 3 days.

The Parish Council would like to give a special thank you to the 20 or so volunteers who helped us organise and collect the food donations.

Our community supporting local birds this winter



Back in November the Wild Lives Collective project, an initiative funded by the Parish Council to support residents in engaging with our local wildlife, rounded off the year with activities to support our village's bird population.

The 1st Hemingford Scouts joined Dr. Jade Gunnell, for the second time this year, to build bird boxes for blue tits, coal tits, great tits and house sparrows. Made from recycled and reclaimed materials, 13 boxes were painstakingly assembled by the Scouts and then installed around Daintree Green and Vicarage Fields, with the intention of not only supporting breeding birds next year, but also providing safe shelter during the winter.



This was followed by two bird feeder making activities, one at the Yes Development and one at Vicarage Fields (the second yet to take place, at the time of writing). The first event, at the children's playground on the Yes Development, saw 11 households come together to make 40 decorative bird feeders from natural materials, such as local apples, sunflower seeds and mealworms. The feeders were distributed across the playground, but also across residents' gardens, where households were encouraged to try to identify the different species that visit their feeders.

The Parish Council would like to thank Fieldfare / Dr Jade Gunnell for the excellent sessions that have been run this year. We hope to fund a similar project next year, but in the meantime you can:

Join the Wild Lives Collective newsletter here:
<https://fieldfarewildlife.co.uk/wild-lives-collective>

And the Facebook group here:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/wildlivescollectivehemingfordgrey>



Active for Health sessions available

The One Leisure Active Lifestyles Team run a range of activities in the village:

Walking Football - The ideal opportunity to get out in the fresh air, meet people, play a bit of gentle sport, and get active! Targeted at the over 50s, male or female, experience not essential, walking football is non-contact, no run, fun sport. £2.00 per session.

- Tuesdays 10am–11am, Hemingford Grey Pavilion

RightStart 3 - Combining strength, balance and coordination exercises to target and improve mobility, agility and flexibility. £4.20 per class or 10 for £37.

- Tuesdays 10:45 – 11:45am, Hemingford Abbots Village Hall
- Fridays 3:00pm – 4:00pm, Hemingford Grey Pavilion

Book online www.oneleisure.net/outdoor-activities, via the One Leisure app, or phone 01480 388111.

New larger litter bins

The Parish Council have recently undertaken an audit of the litter bins that it provides. As several of the smaller bins across the village are getting full very quickly, we have decided to replace them with larger ones. We will also be moving the position of a few others.

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 January 9th in the Reading Room, High Street.

Outcomes of recent planning applications

HDC/CCC ref.	Description	PC Rec	HDC Dec
18/02726/FUL	Murketts showroom London Rd – 49 dwellings	Comments	Approved*
20/00285/FUL	Vindis showroom, Low Rd – 94 dwellings	Refusal	Approved *
20/01621/FUL	Liquid Skillz – expansion inc. water skiing	Refusal	'Unknown' **
21/00044/FUL	Liquid Skillz – 2 nd wakeboard line, etc.	Refusal	'Unknown' **
CCC/21/088/FUL	ENVAR, St Ives Rd, Somersham – expansion of waste facility inc. incinerator	Refusal	In progress
21/01768/FUL	Hemingford Park – change to mixed use	Refusal	In progress
21/02833/HHFUL	1 St James Court, High Street- various extensions	Refusal	Pending
22/00856/HHFUL	5 Lea Road – single story extension, etc.	Approval	Approved
22/01590/HHFUL	10 Manor Rd – single storey rear extension	Approval	In progress
22/01752/HHFUL	2 Weir Close – ground & first floor extensions	Part approval	Approved***
22/01756/HHFUL	1 Manor Rd – Garage/car-port in front garden	Refusal	In progress
22/01848/HHFUL	63 Hemingford Rd – Rear ext. & loft convert.	Refusal	In progress
22/01872/HHFUL	1 Manor Rd – single storey rear ext., etc.	Approval	In progress
22/00306/EXTDET	16 Hemingford Rd – single storey rear extension	n/a	Refused****
22/02258/HHFUL	2 Vine Close – 2 storey side, 1 storey rear extensions	Refusal	In progress
22/01993/HHFUL	7 Mill Lane – Single storey front & rear extensions	Approval	In progress
22/02328/HHFUL	Weir Side, Apple Orchard – replace 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. Demolition of the Vindis garage is almost complete.

**We understand that both of these applications will be considered by HDC's Development Management Committee (DMC) at which we can have a spokesperson.

***Approved with PC comments fully incorporated.

****This application was made in January 2022 but was not notified as being outwith the 'permitted development' rules until October. It would not have needed to come to the PC but is now likely to reappear as a regular planning application.

Community Matters

A purple poster for the Scouts Christmas Post 2022. The background is purple with white snowflake patterns. In the top right corner, the word "Scouts" is written in white with a fleur-de-lis symbol to its right. The main title "Scouts Christmas Post 2022!" is in large, bold, white letters. Below it, the date and time "Sunday 11th December, 9.30am to 1pm" and the location "At Hemingford Grey Reading Rooms" are written in white. A line of text says "With Cake Stall, Raffle and Tombola!". A circular logo on the left features a white polar bear wearing a green scarf, set against a blue background with white snowflakes, all within a red border. To the right of the logo, the text "Only 25 pence per card" is written in white. Below this, the drop-off location and contact information are provided: "Early drop-off at 6 Green Close, Hemingford Grey tel: 464266 until 10th Dec - exact change please". At the bottom, a list of delivery locations is given: "Deliveries to Hemingford Grey and Hemingford Abbots, London Road, Elizabeth Court, Maytrees, Greenfields, Limes Park, the Brambles, Bridgefoot, Bridge Terrace, Mill Quay, Hemingford Road, Victoria Terrace and the Yes development".

Scouts 

Scouts Christmas Post 2022!

Sunday 11th December, 9.30am to 1pm
At Hemingford Grey Reading Rooms
With Cake Stall, Raffle and Tombola!

Only 25 pence per card

Early drop-off at 6 Green Close, Hemingford Grey
tel: 464266 until 10th Dec - exact change please

Deliveries to Hemingford Grey and Hemingford Abbots,
London Road, Elizabeth Court, Maytrees, Greenfields, Limes
Park, the Brambles, Bridgefoot, Bridge Terrace, Mill Quay,
Hemingford Road, Victoria Terrace and the Yes development

Hemingford Ladies Choir

Hemingford Ladies Choir invite you to join them for “Music for an Autumn Afternoon”, Sunday November 27th, 3pm at St Ives Free Church. Refreshments available. There will be a cash only retiring collection in support of St Ives Free Church.

Hemlocs *by Simon Clemmow, Chair*

Hemlocs is very pleased to be holding a Christmas Party this year, after a couple of years without one. We will be back at Hemingford Abbots' Village Hall on Wednesday 14th December. The fun kicks off at 7pm with pre-dinner drinks courtesy of the Committee, followed by a turkey supper. There will be a raffle and quiz, both with prizes. Just remember to bring your own wine for the meal. Tickets are £15 per person. If you would like to come along and have not already let Karen know, please contact her on karenpartridge@hotmail.com. Happy Christmas!

Hemingford Pavilion (www.hemingfordpavilion.co.uk)

Don't miss the Festive Fun at Hemingford Pavilion this December.

The **Annual Hemingfords' Christmas Carols**, this year accompanied by Huntingdon Town Band, has moved from Vicarage Fields to the Pavilion so come and enjoy Mulled Wine, Hot Chocolate, Mince Pies and more around the Christmas Tree and inside the Pavilion on Saturday 10th December at 5pm. This event is supported by the H G Parish Council. The main car park will be closed for this event so please try to walk there.

The **Hemingfords' Christmas Fayre** with Santa's Grotto will be at the Pavilion from 11am - 3pm on Sunday 11th December. Gifts, Crafts, Decorations, and Refreshments will be available and the bar will be open.

Macmillan Christmas Bingo 12th December with eyes down at 7.30pm.

Pavilion Pictures will be screening 'Fisherman's Friends-One and All' to give you a 'feel good' evening on Friday 23rd December.

All key **Fifa World Cup** matches will be screened in the Lounge and throughout the Pavilion. Come and enjoy the atmosphere.

Christmas Church Services

Christingle at St Margaret's
Sunday 11th December 9.30am

Carol Service at St James'
Sunday 18th December 7.00pm

Midnight Communion at St James'
Christmas Eve 11.30pm

Christmas Day at St James' 10.00am

St James' Parish Centre is now a registered warm space. Everyone is very welcome to join us on Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 10.00am – 12.30pm for coffee/tea/hot chocolate and cake.

Donations only.

St James' Parish Centre will be closed from Friday 16th December to Tuesday 10th January.



Hemingford Grey Garden Society by *Mike Henderson, Chairman*

The days are short and getting shorter making it more difficult for the keener gardeners to get out and do something. We're making up for it by diverting some of our attention to the evenings where we have started our season of monthly evening talks. So far, we have had two interesting ones with the most recent on succulents given by the daughter of Julie Pepper, one of our own members virtually in progress as the HGPC newsletter goes to print. We're now looking ahead to January when we hope to have our annual social, the first for three years.



Hemingford Hugs publishes a new Handbook

The new *Hemingford Handbook* details all you need to know about the Hemingfords. Families, children, newcomers and people wanting to expand their friendship group are welcome to join us monthly on Sundays from 2pm in the Pavilion bar. Our next meeting is due to be held on January 8, 2023.

Volunteering for the Hub

If you are interested in becoming more involved with your community, please let us know. We only need an hour or two a month (or more) to help make a difference to many people's lives. And if you'd like to be considered for a trustee post, we'd be delighted to hear from you.

HubClub schedule at the Pavilion

- **November 30** - A talk by Duncan Hall on Grey Hall. Learn about the history of this magnificent home in the High Street
- **December 14** - The History of Hemingford Grey House. A talk by Liz and Simon Clemmow, kindly hosted in their historic home

*Numbers are restricted please let us know by 30 Nov. Regulars given priority.

Contact details: T: 07308 035416 E: hemingfordhub@icloud.com,
www.hemingfordhub.co.uk

Hemingfords Action Group update *by Iain Muspratt, Chair*

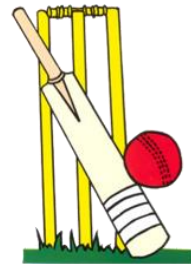
Astro Turf Site: There is no evidence this site is owned by MGL. We continue to press the Environment Agency and CCC to require closure of the site as no permit has been issued.

Golf Range: We have established that American Golf have a 10-year lease to August 2030 with the right to renew

Golf Club: No developments – the old Club House continues to be used residentially without Planning Permission.

Hemingford Park Cricket Club (HPCC)

Whilst the dull days and dark nights persist, we content ourselves with reflections on a successful season past and comfort ourselves with thoughts of exploits yet to be achieved in the summer ahead.



So it is that we are already planning for the Friday side to enjoy more good cricket and social evenings of fun and for the senior side to build on last season's significant progress and push again for promotion in the league. The juniors and youth too have much to whet the appetite in 2023.

Behind the on-field heroics, we have a bold yet attainable development plan in place and so we are very much looking forward to the new season which begins in the New Year with winter nets and the annual ball in March.

We are always keen to welcome both youth and senior players and supporters so please do get in touch with Mike at heminfordparkcricketclub@gmail.com

Hunts Waste Busters top tips for saving money, getting creative and reducing waste this Christmas

The Hunts Waste Busters team believe in sustainable living, making minor changes to reduce our carbon footprint. Christmas is a time where our waste increases dramatically, with the bulk, ending up in landfill. We have compiled a few thought-provoking ideas, that can assist you in reducing your waste this Christmas, in addition to saving money and creating memories.

There is an abundance of ways to seek **presents that are pre-loved**, finding the ideal gift at a fraction of the price. Support local charities or make use of modern websites, apps or local buy and sell pages, saving you money and rehoming a good product whilst reducing the amount of unwanted gifts/clothing sent to landfill. The best present may be right around the corner from you...

Get creative with your menus! Save money by utilising end of life food or leftovers to create a unique meal, reducing your food waste as well as trying something new. The internet is full of festive food ideas and recipes with the ability to input your available ingredients to make a dish that not only tickles the tastebuds but impresses guests with your cooking skills. If you don't get through it all, freeze it for a later date, giving you a much-needed night off cooking.

*Please remember all **food waste** including peelings and even bones, can be put into your garden waste bin, which is processed for composting.

You may find the least expensive way to decorate is right under your nose, with items such as twigs, fir cones, and holly and willow wreaths being just some of the examples, our great outdoors has to offer, to create the ultimate in **Christmas decorations**. Many examples, tutorials and inspirational ideas can be found online, offering a great conversation starter for any guests.

Advent calendars are a major contributor to plastic waste over the festive period, with the bulk having plastic inserts that cannot be recycled with ease. Say NO to disposable and YES to reusable, making your own tasty treats, offer another fun activity for children or a perfect opportunity to show off your creative side.

Always check if what you are throwing away can be **recycled**. For any items not **recyclable** through your **recycling** bin, check your local supermarket, most have dedicated recycle points for items such as soft plastics and batteries, making it easy to bring with you when doing your food shop. In the case of many electrical stores, they will also accept e-waste such as TV's, PC's, Laptops and phones.

Inspired? We hope you are... every small change makes a difference to our environment. All we can ask this year is to THINK, ACT, CHANGE and assist us in reducing waste, maximising recycling and creating a sustainable Christmas ethic that can live on for generations.

Hemingford Grey Parish Council



Proud to serve the people of Hemingford Grey

The Parish Council now meets in 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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/hemingfordgreypc

Twitter: 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

The next edition of the newsletter will be out in February 2023