

Hemingford Grey Parish Council Newsletter

October 2022



Notes from the Chair

Welcome to the Parish Council's October newsletter.

While the period of mourning is now over, this is the first newsletter since the passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Earlier this year we celebrated the 70 years that Her Majesty The Queen dedicated to serving our nation. It was therefore with great sadness that we all learnt of her death. Like many Council's, we had contingency plans in place and were pleased to be able to speedily facilitate a book of condolence for the village, as well as an area at St James' Church for floral tributes for those who wanted to pay their respects in this way.

In a more local changing of the guard, Peter Cunliffe, vicar of St James sChurch and his wife Rosie retired at the end of September. On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to thank them for the ministry, service and spiritual guidance they have given to the village, parish, and church congregation for the last 20 years. We wish them well and a happy and enjoyable retirement.

We continue to slowly progress our successful Local Highways Initiative (LHI) bids with the County Council which will result in the implementation of a series of speed reduction measures across the Parish. And while reducing the speed of cars is important, I feel that it's equally important to give a gentle reminder that as the evenings draw in, residents should remember to walk on the right-hand side of the road and face the traffic coming towards them where there is no pavement. While our street lighting has pretty good coverage, pedestrians would also be advised to make themselves more visible with reflective clothing or lights if possible. Cyclists are encouraged to do the same and to use front and back lights.

Keep safe!



Cllr Richard Allen
Chair, Hemingford Grey Parish Council

Parish Council Updates

Reshaping our Green Spaces update

Last year, the Parish Council ran a series of consultation events, which resulted in the development and adoption of a strategy to reshape our Green Spaces over the next few years. The strategy's intent is to develop our green spaces and verges so that we can ensure that residents can use and enjoy them but also to increase biodiversity.

This year we have begun to implement that strategy. As previously reported, we have sited two wheelchair friendly picnic tables in Vicarage Fields and the Yes Development. We have funded a series of community activities provided by Fieldfare (see the article below).



We have planted a new hedge and trees and trialled a series of wildflower beds - one bed of annual wildflowers was sown by a contractor, and two others were planted using plants grown or donated by residents. The grass cutting regime was also altered to encourage wildflowers to grow naturally in several areas across the village. Who would have known when we started that 2022's summer would be drought-hit and be the joint hottest on record. Yet, through the dedication of a small group of councillors and residents the wildflowers and the newly planted trees have thrived and survived.

Over the life of this Council, we will continue to implement and keep you informed about our green spaces strategy. We will be setting next year's budget in November and hope to buy more picnic tables, improve play area provision, and continue our planting programme budget allowing.



A great deal has been achieved, but we have to be realistic. Although we'd like to plant more wildflowers around the parish, we can only do that if we can initially water and care for them. So, the Council always welcomes residents offering to adopt a tree or a wildflower area.

Hedgehogs, Hedgehogs, Everywhere!



The Wild Lives Collective had an exciting August, with bug hotel building at the Yes Development and Vicarage Fields, but also with the installation of Hedgehog houses at Daintree Green, and an investigation into where our local hedgehog population is living.



Fourteen families joined us on Daintree Green to learn how to make hedgehog footprint tunnels and then to distribute them in their gardens. Members of Hemingford Hub also helped to make tunnels and took some home to participate. Excitingly we found the most perfect hedgehog footprints at Daintree Green, but unfortunately most families had no records of hedgehogs, despite setting up their tunnels for multiple nights. So, it seems there is a lot of work to be done, to help the species thrive in the village.

In November, the Collective will be focusing its attention on supporting Bat and Bird populations. 1st Hemingford Scouts will be joining the Collective on Thursday 3rd November, to build bird and bat boxes, which will be installed throughout Vicarage Fields and Daintree Green. Thanks to Parish Council funding we'll also be running drop-in natural bird feeder making and tree decorating sessions, open to all village residents, as follows:

- Saturday 12th November: **Bird feeder making: Yes Development**, 10.30am – 12noon.
- Saturday 19th November: **Bird feeder making: Vicarage Fields**, 10.30am – 12noon.

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>

Join our Environment Working Group

The Parish Council has made a start at reshaping its Green Spaces; enhancing them for residents and encouraging biodiversity, but we need your help and ideas.

These activities are initiated and co-ordinated by the Parish Council's Environment Working Group (EWG) made up of councillors and residents. EWG meetings are held monthly in the Reading Room. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 2nd November between 7.30-8.30pm. Residents are warmly welcomed.

Be extraordinary – become a Hemingford Grey Parish Councillor



The Parish Council currently has four vacancies. So why not get involved and contribute to your community! There is a lot going on that affects the Parish at present and you will be made very welcome as someone who wants to get involved!

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 or speak to a current Councillor.

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 HDC. The next Planning Committee meetings will be at 7pm on Monday 10th October and 14th November 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*
20/00164/OUT	Hilton - Outline PA for rural exception housing	Not for us	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	In progress
22/00006/HHFUL	24 Church Street - two storey rear extension	Refusal	Withdrawn
22/00850.HHFUL	8 Church Street – single storey front extension. Changes to dormer	Approval	Approved
22/00856/HHFUL	5 Lea Road – single story extension, alterations to garage and other parts	Approval	Pending
22/01024/TELDET	Land east of 8 to 32 Dunnock Way, St Ives – Proposed 20m 5G mast etc.	Cond. approval	Approved *** HGPC conds
22/01061/HHFUL	5 St James’s Ct, – single storey rear ext.	Approval	Approved
22/01241/HHFUL	9 Burlington Way – single storey rear ext.	Approval	Approved
22/01412/HHFUL	2 Lea Rd – rear & 1 st floor extension, etc.	Approval	In progress
22/01590/HHFUL	10 Manor Rd – single storey rear extension	Approval	In progress
22/01752/HHFUL	2 Weir Cl – ground & first floor extensions	Pending	In progress
22/01756/HHFUL	1 Manor Rd – Garage/carport in front garden.	Pending	In progress
22/01848/HHFUL	63 Hemingford Rd – Rear ext. & loft convert.	Pending	In progress
22/01872/HHFUL	1 Manor Rd – single storey rear ext., etc.	Pending	In progress
Pre-PA consult.	London Rd (adjacent Brambles & Limes Ct) Retirement bungalows & affordable apts.	Pending	n/a ****

*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.

Both applications still appear to be ‘live’ and will be considered by HDC’s Development Management Committee (DMC) where HGPC can have a spokesperson. There is **still no information as to when this might be

***Condition that mast and cabinets now off the foot/cycle way and in the grass verge as requested by HGPC.

****McCarthy Stone are ‘exploring an option to develop’ land off the London Road cul-de-sac south of Armes Corner. This is a green space next to Limes Court and The Brambles and was rejected for development by the most recent HDC Local Plan. The proposals include 26 retirement bungalows and 18 affordable shared ownership apartments.

Community Matters

The St Ives Car Scheme - Volunteer drivers needed



The St Ives Car Scheme is short of volunteer drivers. Failure of this scheme would severely impact many of our residents who rely on it. If you have a spare hour or two a month, your services would be most appreciated. Please contact Debbie Windsor for details. T: 07990 477552, E: stives@huntsvc.org.uk, St Ives Car Scheme: 07582 211392

Hemlocs by *Simon Clemmow, Chair*

Our new season of talks has started in the Pavilion. September's talk was by Bridget Flanagan, who introduced us to the diaries of four 19th-century St Ivians that she has been researching in the Norris Museum. The talk was very well attended and gave us some fascinating insights into local social history. Special thanks are due to Bridget for stepping in in place of our original speaker, who was indisposed. This month's talk will be more from the Norris Museum, when Richard Carter reveals some mysterious photos to be found there. Intrigued? Then the Pavilion is the place to be, at 7.30pm on Thursday 20th October. New members welcome.



Parish Centre Drop in Cafe

Every Wednesday & Thursday 10am – 12.30pm. Come along for coffee and cake, bring your friends and neighbours, we look forward to seeing you.

If you would like to volunteer, please speak to Rachel in the church office – 467250

Hemingford Badminton Club

The club play every Monday evening from 7 - 9pm at One Leisure St Ives. If you'd like to join or for more details call Sue Crafer 07738 549598.





Hemingford Grey WI welcomes new members and visitors. We meet on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7pm in the Reading Room where you will receive a warm welcome. Our meeting on 22nd November is a talk by Nora Butler entitled "Katharine of Aragon - from Spain to Kimbolton". The WI offers members the opportunity to meet up, make friends, try new activities and campaign on issues that matter to them.

Hemingford Art Club 2022 Winter Exhibition

This year's winter exhibition is being held on Saturday 19th - Sunday 20th November, between 10am to 4.00pm, at the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall. Free Entry and Parking. Refreshments are available. Wheelchair access

A diverse range of original framed art work, from a group of very talented artists, as well as art cards will be available to purchase.

Hemingford Ladies Choir

It is a well-known fact that singing is good for your health and well-being. Hemingford Ladies Choir is a friendly, traditional four-part Ladies Choir. We rehearse every Wednesday morning from 10a.m. to 11.30a.m. in St Ives Free Church under the direction of Elaine Gunn and we sing everything from Bach to Bernstein. We start our new term of rehearsals on Wednesday 7th September so, if you love to sing and would like to join us or would like more information, please contact Viv Oxley on 01480 417925 or vivienneoxley64@gmail.com



Hemingford Grey Primary School

children have enjoyed an active return to school with trips out of school for Key Stage Two. The children in Year 3/4 have been on walks around the village to develop their map skills. The children in Year 5/6 have walked to the Norris Museum in St. Ives dressed as WW2 evacuees to develop understanding of the time. We are delighted to continue use of our allotments and forest area for learning in Foundation Stage and Key Stage One. We hope the weather allows us to continue our learning outdoors as we head into autumn.

Hemingford Pavilion (www.hemingfordpavilion.co.uk)

The Pavilion has had a very busy Summer. The community has welcomed the opportunity to return to the many classes and clubs run there. While our Summer events including Family Fun Days in May and August and Outdoor Music Nights were also hugely popular. The Pavilion was proud to host the annual 'A Classic Affair' car show in September which is organised by Quest Brothers of St Ives who raise funds for The Anglia Air Ambulance.

Autumn/Winter events are planned with Music Nights in the lounge on 22 October and 3 December and a Quiz Night on 15 November.

We plan to screen most World Cup matches starting with the England match on 21st November through to the Final on the 18 December.

We are delighted to announce that the **Annual Village Christmas Carols** on Saturday 10th December, supported by **Hemingford Grey Parish Council**, will now be held at the Pavilion instead of on Vicarage Fields. The brass band is booked, and Festive refreshments and fun will be available.

There will be a Christmas Fayre with Santa's Grotto on Sunday 11th December and Macmillan Christmas bingo on Monday 12th December.

The Pavilion Pictures screening on 28 October is the quirky 'Phantom of the Open' starring award winning Mark Rylance.

See the Pavilion website for more information.

Hemingford Grey Garden Society *by Mike Henderson, Chairman*

Summer was a quiet, and rather dry, period for the garden society. Dry that is except for 25th August when we were due to have our annual Boston Tea Party in Diana Boston's garden. It poured, of course, so we had to cancel. September saw the start of the new season's talks, which was a very good one on hostas given by Mel Mickfield, who is the holder of the national collection. Optimistically, we thought we would have another try at the Tea Party on 21st September. It turned out to be an excellent day with an interesting talk on the garden given by Diana's daughter, Kate.



Keep warm

The Hub is organising casual gatherings in warm spaces at the Reading Room and Parish Centre this autumn. The Cock is open most days for morning and daytime visits. We will shortly publish a gathering guide.

Get Covid boosted

If you need help making this important job appointment or a lift to the vaccination centre, please let us know.

HubClub schedule at the Pavilion

- **October 5** – A talk by Tish Peek on Vietnam and an introduction to local advice service Disability Huntingdonshire
- **October 19** - Local artist Chrissy Wilson helps us dabble and paint
- **November 2** - Find out about AgeUK and how this organisation is helping to make our lives easier
- **November 16** - Enjoy a film (tba) and popcorn
- **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

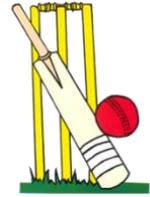
Contact details: T: 07308 035416 E: hemingfordhub@icloud.com,
www.hemingfordhub.co.uk

Huntingdonshire Local History Society

Join Charles Beresford and David Yeandle from the Huntingdonshire Local History Society at 7.30pm on Wednesday 12th October at Hemingford Abbots Church for a FREE talk based on the recently published book “Rectors and Clergy of Hemingford Abbots”. The talk will look at the evolution of the village, with a focus on the lives of several clergy and the parish church from the 12th to the 20th century. Parking available at the Village Hall, with some spaces for the disabled near the church.

Hemingford Park Cricket Club (HPCC)

With the season recently concluded, it is the perfect time to reflect on a most successful summer for the club: the junior and youth sides have all made significant progress, the Friday side has enjoyed social evenings of fun and exuberant cricket and the senior side finished the season superbly, coming 3rd in their league.



In the close season, we will be continuing to develop the club's infrastructure, preparing for next year with winter nets coaching and launching the new season at 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

Hemingfords Action Group update *by Iain Muspratt, Chair*

A summary of our progress since 2017:

- Our sustained objections have resulted in no formal application being made
- Successfully campaigned for Old Golf Club Site to be excluded from the New Waste and Minerals Plan (MWP) which is now adopted
- Ensured MWP limited expansion of Astro Turf Site
- Secured Counsels opinion that Old Golf Club site is Greenfield and HDC view that no development permitted on Greenfield Sites

HAPC continue to press the Environment Agency & CCC to require closure of Astro Turf Site as no permit has been issued.

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 for costs and availability.

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 December 2022