

Hemingford Grey Parish Council



Leslie Sims from the Hemingford Art Club sketched the above picture of a street scene. The Art Club meets every Tuesday from 1.30pm to 4.30pm in the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall.

For more information, please contact Jean Kitchiner via jeankitchiner@gmail.com

**Parish
Newsletter
September 2017**

Notes from the Chairman

I am pleased to be writing to you, as our Parish Council Chairman.

Can I start by stating that once again the village events over the summer, have been a huge success as always. It would be remiss of me not to thank the many volunteers who make these possible on all our behalves. As usual as a community we exceed ourselves.

Unusually, we have had not one, but two major issues on which we have had to exercise ourselves as a Parish Council.

As most of you will know Mick George Ltd to have plans for the Golf Course in Hemingford Abbots. As yet no formal planning application has been made to the County Council. Once it has you can be assured that we will act with vigour to ensure the right outcome for our community.

The second was the possibility of the total loss of our bus services following Whippets withdrawal. We have been working closely with the County Council to provide alternative services.

The County Council have just confirmed that Service 1a will be run by Dew's Coaches as from the 3rd September on a weekday and Saturday service offering 6 buses either way. Dew's are also running the Service 9 route offering a bus service into St Ives and back on Mondays and Fridays.

This is not perfect but is far better than we were anticipating even a week ago. We now have 9 months to work with the County Council to put together a long term solution. We will be debating this at our meeting of 11 September.

I finish as always by offering you and yours my best wishes for an enjoyable late summer into Autumn.

Cllr. Doug Dew – Chairman, Hemingford Grey Parish Council

Bus Survey Update Tuesday 22 August

Thank you to almost 100 residents who completed the bus survey. The results sent a salutary message to local district and county councillors. Hopefully it is informing some positive permanent revisions to the cessation of our bus services.

The most important finding was the catastrophic effect it would have on stopping people accessing vital healthcare services. The majority of those replying to the survey have no alternative transport, and they felt they would be 'marooned' with many social and health consequences.

There will now be a temporary bus service restored from September 3rd for the Hemingfords. The Parish Council will continue to campaign to restore permanent bus services to the village.

Meanwhile local residents can use the following community transport schemes –

HACT Huntingdonshire Association for Community Transport

Ring a Ride/Ring a Car

Information on this scheme can be found on the noticeboards, in the Village Stores, Garden Room, Village Market on September 9th and Parish Council meeting on September 11th. Contact details are below.

T 01480 411114

W www.hact-cambs.co.uk

The Parish Council will formally discuss the results of the bus survey at its meeting on **Monday 11th September (7.30pm at the Reading Room)**. Please do come along to the meeting and hear about the survey results and tell us what bus services the village needs.

Dropped kerb at Vine Close

We are pleased to report that the County Council has completed the dropped kerbs where Vine Close meets Hemingford Road. This is particularly important for all of the school children and their parents who walk or scoot to school from the London Road end of the parish.

Volunteers Wanted!

The Parish Council is looking for volunteers who would be willing to report any damage to village footpaths, potholes, safety issues and signage to the County Council using its online reporting site.

If you are interested in this voluntary role please contact the Clerk (details on the last page of the Newsletter).

The website for reporting to the County Council is below and is also on our website and Facebook page.

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/roads-and-pathways/roadworks-and-faults/

Hemingford Grey Primary School and Hemingford Gardeners' Society

This year the school has been really fortunate in having the support of the Hemingford Gardeners' Society. They are helping us make a series of improvements to the school grounds giving the children a fantastic range of opportunities.

Donated logs have been used to create seating around our fire pit allowing children to take part in outdoor learning, such as fire lighting and cooking. The children have worked alongside the gardeners to cut back our willow tunnel, and to reclaim the raised Memorial Garden.

We have also received donations of fruit trees and soft fruit plants, which will hopefully provide us with fruit in years to come, and a range of flowering plants to improve our beds.

The kind financial donation from Bridget's Bursary via the Hemingford Gardeners' Society has also allowed us to invest in more gardening equipment, and will enable us to make further developments in the coming years.

Looking forward, we hope to develop our wildflower mound further (currently 27 different species), and we will be joining Hemingford Open Gardens in June next year to display all of the children's hard work. As a school we are very grateful for the continued support of the Hemingford Gardeners.

Nick Churchill, Science Lead

Fireworks in Hemingford

Plans are underway for another fireworks spectacular, with 'Fireworks in Hemingford 2017' being held on Saturday 4th November. The annual show and bonfire will be held in the Big Field off London Road, St Ives. Come along and join the family fun, with the gates opening at 5pm.

The event is organised by village volunteers and it raises funds for local charities and not-for-profit groups. It also facilitates local service groups to raise funds for their own cause.

For more information contact the organisers on the details below

E fireworksnhem@aol.com

W www.fireworksnhemingford.uk

Village Market

Since the Village Market was launched in June this year it has been a great success. The aim of the market is to give small local businesses a regular place to sell their goods within the village and give residents a mini market to visit once a month. The market takes place on the second Saturday of the month from 9am – 1pm in the Parish Centre on the High Street.

The Parish Council has a presence at all Village Markets so please come along and meet us.

Goldies Club update

This newsletter contains a brief questionnaire to find out what activities and services villagers would like to have co-ordinated in a village hub. It allows the parish centre and the parish council to plan a club with the confidence it's what is needed and desired. So please take a couple of minutes to complete the survey and pop it back into the appropriate box in the village shop or the parish centre.

Hemingford Grey Neighbourhood Watch



Some good news - burglaries and anti-social behaviour in the village since the last Parish Council Newsletter are down.

The Hemingford Grey Neighbourhood Watch scheme was highly praised by the Chair of Cambridgeshire's NHW at their recent executive group meeting and it continues to be well respected by Huntingdonshire Police from the Area Commander down. We have a good working relationship with Cambridgeshire's Police & Crime Commissioner, Jason Ablewhite, and we liaise regularly with Inspector Paul Rogerson and with staff at St Ives Police station. We also continue to be supported by our Parish Council.

Eddie Cloke, the Area NHW Coordinator, is compiling a list of residents in the District with CCTV who would be willing to share footage with the Police if a crime occurs in their street. It is useful for the Police to know where residential CCTV is in place. Please contact me on the details below if you would like to go on the list, details of which are strictly controlled by Eddie.

330 households are currently registered with our village Neighbourhood Watch scheme and there are 40 street co-ordinators. A few months ago a Hemingford Grey Neighbourhood Watch Facebook page was set up and now has 329 members and still growing. This page is proving to be very successful and popular with residents. It is an excellent way of sharing information and being vigilant if there is any live, suspicious activity in the village. Anyone living in the Hemingfords is welcome to join the page.

Maria Needham of the Hemingford Village Market, has provided HGNGHW with a stall on Sat 14 Oct 2017 at the Parish Centre and we will be there with a PCSO from St Ives Police station and some useful NHW literature. Please come along and say hello and feel free to ask any questions while you are enjoying your shopping.

Esther Harrod
Village NHW Co-ordinator

T 01480 392991

E esther.harrod@ntlworld.com

The Internet is changing the nature of crime

The last few months have thankfully seen little reported criminal activity within the village, but we all need to remain vigilant, because the Internet is "changing the nature of crime" in the UK.

While the Internet and the growth of the use of smart devices has undoubtedly benefitted us all, the Crime Survey for England and Wales (CSEW) published at the end of July indicates that offences enabled by the Internet are growing at a rapid rate and now account for almost half of all crime in the country. More than five and a half million cyber offences are now thought to take place each year and online fraud is now the most common UK crime, with almost one in ten people falling victim.

So how can you reduce the risk of you or your family becoming a victim? Firstly, stay alert to the risks, and then do the following:

Protect your accounts with different and strong passwords - Strong passwords can be created in many ways, but some useful tips when constructing a password are:

- Make it unrelated to you personally - no names of spouses, partners, children, pets, or birthdays etc.
- Make it 8 characters or longer
- Include at least one number
- Use upper and lower case letters
- Put some symbols in (! \$ £ & * etc.)
- Make all of your passwords different – hackers will try to reuse a password on other accounts once it's been hacked
- Never disclose your passwords to anyone

Some good examples are to use a sentence from a favourite book, or the first character of each line of a song, e.g.: "Tiger, tiger, burning bright in the forests of the night" is 1TTbbITfoTN\$.

The latest guidelines suggest that passwords shouldn't be frequently changed, as people tend to respond by making only small alterations to their existing passwords - for example, changing "\$ummer1" into "\$ummer2"- which are relatively easy to deduce.

Furthermore, it has been demonstrated that it takes longer for computers to crack a random mix of words - such as "horse coffee walked blue" - than it does for them to guess a word with easy-to-remember substitutions - such as "Ch4n6ed!".

It is also vital to remember that one of the most important passwords you have online is your email account password, as this will often be used to reset your other passwords.

Never respond to unsolicited emails, or click on suspicious links – ‘Phishing’ emails are designed to appear as though they are from trusted sources such as Apple, Amazon, Banks, Facebook or retailers. Their aim is to dupe consumers into revealing personal details. These emails often contain links or attachments which when clicked on download malicious software or take users through to a spoofed website where details are requested.

Consider how you use Social Media - Check the settings on your social media profiles to make sure they are set to ‘private’ and that you are only sharing information with people you know. Specifically, don’t:

- Accept invitations from people you don’t know
- Post your current location.
- Post information that would make you or your family vulnerable, such as your date of birth or address.

Be cautious when using public Wi-Fi - Internet hotspots offered by coffee shops, libraries and bars etc. may be incredibly convenient but are also often insecure. Criminals are also able to set up fake hotspots. So don’t use them to access sensitive websites or apps such as mobile banking.

Only use online retailers you trust and make sure the site is secure. - Always access the website you are planning to buy from by typing the address into your web browser. If you’re buying an item made by a major brand, you can often find a list of authorised sellers on their official website and never buy from a site that doesn’t have ‘https’ at the start of the URL. There should also be a green padlock to the left of the browser URL.

Letter to the Editor

I would like to express my appreciation to the inhabitants of both Hemingford villages, many of whom were extremely kind and supportive between 19th June and 7 July when my husband was in Papworth Hospital.

During that period I was accommodated in both villages (three venues) and in each case the kindness extended was heartwarming to say the least. I also dined most days at The Cock pub and its delicious food played a major contribution in keeping up morale! I also enjoyed the simple but excellent fare at your community centre cafe, plus its superb macchiato coffees!

All of the above, combined with the loveliness and the riverside situation of the villages, poured balm on a stressful few weeks. I am most grateful now, and will continue to be so in the future.

Kind regards,
Paula Ashworth (nee Tebbs!)

Environment Group Report

It has been a busy couple of months for the Environment Group with the following actions either being completed or currently in hand –

- New bins on Gore Tree Road at the junction with Long Lane footpath and Manor Road at the entrance to the footpath to Memorial Field
- New dog waste bin at the far end of the river path
- New parish and village notice board at Armes Corner
- New village board at the Parish Centre
- New parish board at The Thorpe
- A new village notice board is to be purchased for outside the school
- All the wooden benches are being refurbished
- Chicanes on the footpath between Weir Road and Apple Orchard are being replaced
- Entrance gate repaired and sign reinstated on the footpath from Newman Court to Memorial Field
- The Bus Shelter roof is also to be repaired

We have new spray cans to mark uncleared dog waste. The spray has been tested and is biodegradable. It is sprayed directly onto the offending pile (not onto the pavement) so that it disperses quickly and does not mark the pavement. Contact Janet Brasnell if you require one.

Hemingford Pavilion - Defibrillator

Three years ago a defibrillator was purchased jointly funded by The Gardeners Societies Open Gardens Event and the Peace Memorial Field Trustees. Whilst one hopes that it will never be used, there was an incident in July where a visitor to the Pavilion suffered a heart attack following a game of racket ball. The defibrillator was used on two occasions to revive him before the medics and ambulance arrived. I am pleased to say that following a time in intensive care he is now home and recovering.

The defibrillator is located in a large green plastic case on the front of the Pavilion. Should the need to use the equipment arise no prior training is required as it gives clear, audible instructions and will analyse the patient's condition before applying a shock. The Trustees wish to make residents aware of that we do have this equipment on site and that it can be used by anyone visiting the site.

Planning Committee Matters

The Parish Council has no direct planning powers but is consulted by, and can make recommendations to, Huntingdonshire District Council. It is HDC's responsibility to inform neighbours of planning applications, but the Parish Council normally sends councillors to look at the property concerned and call on neighbours to ensure they are aware. Residents are urged to make their own comments on the HDC web site.

Hemingford Abbots Golf Course

The Hemingfords Action Group has been formed to oppose the Mick George proposal (not yet an application) to build a waste recycling facility. Hemingford Abbots PC have challenged the Cambridgeshire County Council decision not to require an Environmental Impact Analysis for this proposal and Hemingford Grey PC have supported this challenge. A decision by the Secretary of State is awaited.

Gravel extraction near Marsh Lane

We have learnt that there is still existing permission for gravel extraction and processing between the existing Marsh Lane lake and the A14. We are asking the County Council to clarify the conditions that apply to the permission – especially related to lorry movements onto Marsh Lane and maintenance of Long Marsh Brook and Lake Brook which are essential for village drainage.

HDC Local Plan to 2036

This will set the context for any planning decisions during that period. The Plan allocates no specific areas for development within Hemingford Grey parish although the derelict Murketts site and the Vindis van centre on London Road are both allocated for residential development. Two smaller sites, on Cullums Farm and north of The Brambles, may be subject to 'further assessment'. Smaller applications in HG would be assessed on a case by case basis. The Parish Council is generally supportive of the relevant parts of the Local Plan but, based on recent experience, we would like to see much more consistent application and enforcement of the planning conditions that should follow from the proposed policies.

Outcomes of recent planning applications

Applications	Details	HGPC Recommended	HDC Status
16/02125/LBC	78 High Street, Tallis House – demolition of modern chimney. Addition of first floor window	Approval	Approved
16/02662/FUL	Pumping Station, London Road - temporary offices and depot (3 years) for A14 work	Refusal	Withdrawn
17/70051/SCRE	Hemingford Abbots Golf Course – Environmental Impact Analysis (EIA) Screening - CCC gave opinion that there would be ‘no significant environmental impact’.	Being challenged by H. Abbots	
17/00431/FUL	Field Lodge London Road - To install steel framed glazing balustrade system to the existing timber balustrades	Approval	Approval
17/00532/HHFUL	Willowside, Mill Lane – Garage and fencing	Approval	Approved
17/00716/HHFUL	20 Old Pound Close – ground floor extension	Approval	Approved
17/00934/LBC	33 High St, (Parish Centre) Internal modifications to a listed building	Approval	Permission
17/01042/FUL	1 Hemingford Rd - Extension to garage of approved dwelling	Approval	Approved
17/01048/HHFUL	38 Church Street - replacement garage and extension (also 1047/LBC)	Approval	Permission
17/01276/HHFUL	53 High Street – Replace single storey rear extension with 2 storey version	Approval	Withdrawn
17/01338/FUL	14 De Vere Close – Proposed detached 3 bed bungalow	Refusal	In progress

Hemingford Pavilion - Summer Festival

After a wet start on the Friday night we enjoyed lovely weather on the Saturday and it was good to see so many people turn up to this popular annual village event. There was a great mix of activities on offer from Friday evening through to late Saturday which were enjoyed by all ages. The Sports Academy provided a delicious BBQ on Friday evening and, with live music and a range of festival beers on offer, we made sure the wet Friday evening did not spoil the start to the weekend.

On the Saturday Huntingdon District Council came along with their lifestyle team and organised plenty of activities for the children and it was good to see the Norris Museum ‘on the move’ team come along and support the event. We welcomed a number of beautiful Classic Cars to the festival and our thanks go to Quest Brothers Classic Cars for their help in organising this. With the cricket challenge, rowing machine racing, bowls experience, zorbs, foot darts and Table Tennis and lots more on offer there was something for everyone. A hog roast and the fish and chips in the evening made sure that no one went hungry.

This event is organised by volunteers, not just from the Pavilion but from a number of village organisations, and the Trustees would like to express their thanks to all those who gave up their time to make the 2017 Summer Festival such a success. See you next year.

Hemingford Pavilion - Village Sports Day

On a glorious summer's day the children and the families of Hemingford enjoyed a wonderful Sports Day at the Hemingford Pavilion. There were sprint races for the very young and for the adults, and even for those who believed they could still do it, obstacle courses, BBQ, Cream Teas and a refreshing beer festival.

It all started with a fantastic warm up given by Claire on the balcony to the many on the field. Then there were exciting team races which included relays and obstacle races, culminating at the end of the day with the children playing the water and sponge game.

A game which was supposed to be about transporting water via a sponge from the pool to a bucket but instead provided the children with a great opportunity to cool themselves and others down by splashing around in the water.

All the races were well supported by friends and families, and the true spirit of having fun was witnessed throughout the day. Whether you were first, second or a finisher it was encouraging to see everyone being cheered on. For those who were lucky enough to finish first, a magnificent and historic trophy was given to 10 years and over to adults (to be returned), and the children upto the age of 9 received sparkling new trophies to keep.

Our thanks go to the Sports Committee for the planning and organising, the Sports Academy for their excellent input to the event, Woman's Institute for the refreshing teas, the Pavilion staff for their assistance and to all the volunteers who helped in many ways to make the day a great and successful occasion, including Mr Liuni for giving all the children a free ice cream sponsored by the Sports Committee.

THE SPORTS ACADEMY



Developing opportunities in sport by providing a professional environment where all can reach their full potential

The village Sports Day is over 30 years old and from the fantastic support this year we are confident it will continue to run for the coming years. So put in your diaries for the next Sports Day in the first week in June.

Pidley Mountain Rescue Team and 20th Pidley International Teddy Bear Freefall Competition

The Pidley Mountain Rescue Team aims to improve the quality of life and independence of disabled and disadvantaged people within Huntingdonshire.

Examples of the equipment we have purchased for people are specialised trikes to enable children to get out and about more and mobility scooters for the older generation.

There is no age limit, and whilst we advertise that we support people in the old Huntingdonshire District, if we had a worthy application from anywhere in Cambridgeshire, and have the funds we would support it.



On Saturday 9th September, we have our annual fundraising event - the Pidley International Teddy Bear Freefall Competition. 10 of the bravest Teddy Bears will "jump" out of a small plane to see who can land closest to the Honey Pot landing zone winning them the prestige of being the best Bear in the Woods, and their sponsor a small prize too. (We also have Honey Pots with raffle tickets so people can select the bear they think will get closest, and three lucky winners pulled out at random get a prize.)

As this is our 20th anniversary of the event, we really need support from our neighbours, as this could very well be the last time the competition happens as the committee is down to three people, and the money could run out very quickly with all the rescues (applications) we already have.

Please come along to support us from 10am at Rookery Farm, Pidley and find out more about what we do.

W www.pidleymountainrescue.org.uk

W www.facebook.com/PidleyMountainRescueTeam

Village dates for your diary

We are lucky to live in a village with a thriving social scene. With this in mind, we are working with Pat and Sarah in the village to get the calendar up and running. We are hoping this will feature in every parish newsletter as well as on the parish website.

If you use Facebook then please search for and 'like' the following pages 'Our YES Estate' and 'Hemingford Grey Community page'

Below are upcoming dates for the next few months.

September

- 2 A Classic Affair, Hemingford Pavilion
- 6 Autumn term starts, Hemingford Grey School
- 7 Seasonal Feast, The Cock, Hemingford Grey
- 9 20th Teddy Bear Freefall Competition, Pidley
- 9 Village Market, Parish Centre

October

- 11 Hemingfords Regatta AGM, Church Rooms, High Street Hemingford Grey 8pm
- 14 Village Market, Parish Centre
- 21-29 Hemingford Grey School closed for half term
- 30 Hemingford Grey School closed for training

November

- 4 Hemingford Fireworks, London Road, St Ives
- 11 Village Market, Parish Centre
- 11-12 Hemingford Art Club Winter Exhibition, Village Hall, Hemingford Abbots 10am-4pm

For more information, including contact details on any of the above events please check the Parish Council website.

If you would like your event to be included in the village calendar, please contact the Parish Clerk — details on the last page of the Newsletter.

Update on the Hemingfords Action Group

There has been steady progress opposing the proposed Mick George waste management site at the Abbots golf course. At the last Parish Council Planning Committee on 14 August at the Pavilion, chair Paul Smith reported that fund raising is off to a healthy start. The committee is continuing to raise awareness and more funds to fight this planning application when it is submitted. He reported that waste bin and window stickers have been circulated to all households, and banners are being erected throughout both villages. For more information go to the website

W www.hemingfordsactiongroup.co.uk

Are you interested in becoming a Parish Councillor?

If you have an interest in where you live then it is certainly worth finding out more. The best way to find out what is involved is to talk to someone who is doing it now. Come along to a Parish Council meeting or speak to one of us (our contact details are on the last page).

There are around 8500 Parish Councils in England, representing 35% of the population and they are the most local level of government.

Typical issues that Hemingford Grey Parish Council can get involved with are planning applications, highways, traffic, community safety, housing, street lighting, allotments, cemeteries, playing fields, litter, war memorials, seats and shelters. Parish Councils also play a vital part in representing the interests of parishioners to higher authorities. Parish Councils are mainly funded from the local Council Tax (the precept) and have a range of powers to spend money to benefit the local community.

Being a Parish Councillor for Hemingford Grey brings no special privileges other than the satisfaction of working on behalf of the village and residents. As Parish Councillors we receive no payment – our time is given up voluntarily.

There are a few requirements such as being 18 or over, but please contact the Clerk for more information. We look forward to meeting you!

About the Parish Council

All of our meetings are held in the Reading Room on the High Street, Hemingford Grey and the upcoming ones are listed below.

Planning Committee	7pm	11 Sep / 9 Oct / 13 Nov
Main Parish Council	7.30pm	11 Sep / 9 Oct / 13 Nov
Environment Group	7pm	20 Sep / 18 Oct / 15 Nov

Our agendas and minutes are posted on village notice boards, at the village store as well as on the website. Information is also available on our Facebook and Twitter pages.

Website www.hemingfordgrey.org.uk

Facebook www.facebook.com/hemingfordgreypc

Twitter www.twitter.com/hemgreypc

Parish Councillors

Doug Dew (Chair)	4 Weir Road	469814
Robin Waters (Vice-chairman)	18 Hemingford Road	467077
Richard Allen	Maristowe, London Road	494783
Janet Brasnell	1a Pound Road	492033
Derek Clifton	Dockseys Farm	463365
Keith Duncan	2 Payn Close	385108
Riva Elliott	38 Church Street	494142
Jason Hall	3 Gunnings Way	395567
Anne Meredith	18 De Vere Close	465774

We currently have vacancies for Parish Councillors. For more information on joining the Parish Council, please contact our Parish Clerk at the details below. We would particularly like to hear from you if you live on the YES Estate or the London Road end of the village.

Parish Clerk: Gail Stoehr

T 01954 210241

E parishclerk@hemingfordgrey.org.uk

Editor Jason Hall

Sub Editor Riva Elliott

The next edition of the Newsletter will be out in December