

Hemingford Grey Parish Council



Leslie Sims from the Hemingford Art Club sketched the above picture of a river 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
June 2017**

Notes from the Vice-chairman

This is the first Newsletter of the new council year and we hope we will soon have some summer weather to cheer us. We also wish our Chair, Doug Dew, a speedy recovery after his hasty departure from our last PC meeting. Hence the Vice Chair's introduction.

Our parish has about 1350 households and population of just over 3000. Our council should therefore have 13 councillors to represent you to make decisions on village maintenance, waste bins, streetlights, allotments, play areas, benches and more. We can also influence planning decisions; and are in negotiations with the police and the district council to improve our security.

Right **NOW** we need more councillors to give all of these issues the attention they deserve. **PLEASE** consider putting yourself forward or supporting others to do so. You will need some time as well as commitment, patience and perseverance. The reward is knowing that help to spend a small part of your council tax wisely and influencing look and feel of the parish.

We have a budget of just under £100,000 and although we increased our precept by 5% this year, we are still in the mid-range of parishes of our size in Huntingdonshire. We are very much aware of having a larger than average proportion of older residents, and we support efforts to improve services within the village to help those who are suffering from the cutbacks in our health and social services as well as the reduced frequency and convenience of local buses.

As a council, we have tried to become more open in our decision-making and communications but recognise that we are still not reaching out to everyone all of the time. There will be a councillor or two at the new village market on 10th June if you would like to talk to us.

We would like to thank our Clerk, and LGS Services who provide our administrative back up, for all their help last year and of course Terry, our handyman, who empties our bins every week without fail.

Please read the rest of this Newsletter and take note of items on the proposed waste handling site on the old Hemingford Abbots golf course; street lighting; parking on Manor Road; and a new dropped kerb at Vine Close.

And please consider putting yourself forward to join us – but just offering to help keep an eye on your street; providing expert advice; or representing us on other bodies would also be welcome.

Cllr. Robin Waters – Vice-chairman, Hemingford Grey Parish Council

Hemingfords' Regatta

Not long now until the Regatta, which this year is on Saturday 8th July. Put the date in your calendar now!

Rowing and coxing instruction and practice for children and adult beginners will take place at the end of the High Street from Monday 12th June at 6.30pm. General practice is from Monday 19th June to Thursday 6th July.

More details about practice evenings and Regatta Day will be in the Newsletter delivered to all households in the Hemingfords'. Full details will also be on our website (details below) and on our Facebook page (@hemingfordsregatta).

After all the exertion of Race Day there will be Food and Music on the Regatta Field in the evening.

Let's hope for good weather and a great day of fun for competitors and spectators.

E mailbox@hemingfordsregatta.org.uk

W www.hemingfordsregatta.org.uk

The Cock

The Cock is the Cambridgeshire Dining Pub of the Year for 2017 and hold seasonal feasts on the first Thursday of the month. There is a three course seasonal feast including canapés for £35 per person. Booking is highly recommended.

This year the Cock Beer Festival is on from the 18th-20th August. The Beer Festival has become a popular event in the village over the last few years and there will be 25+ real ales, the SmokeWorks BBQ is back and there will be live music over the course of the weekend. For more details, please use the contact details below.

T 01480 463609

E cock@cambscuisine.com

W www.cambscuisine.com



HEMINGFORD GREY NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH – POLICE ADVICE

<http://www.cambs.police.uk/>



Creating a safer
Cambridgeshire

Inspector Paul Rogerson, Huntingdonshire Area Operations & Communities Manager has been working closely with the Hemingford Grey Neighbourhood Watch team and has kindly provided the article below.

Rogue traders

A rogue trader is a tradesperson who exploits their customers in a range of manners, for example:

- Providing low quality, dangerous work
- Not producing work to the standard and/or price that had been agreed
- Inappropriately inflating the cost of a piece of work
- Recommending and/or performing unnecessary work
- Damaging property so they can “fix” the problem
- Undertaking work that they are not qualified to do, for example, working with gas appliances when not Gas Safe Registered
- Committing fraud or burglary
- Bullying or threatening a customer into agreeing to work
- Exhibiting threatening and aggressive behaviour to try to extort money from a customer

Most rogue trader behaviour is illegal and punishable by law. Many rogue traders are able to get away with what they do because they target elderly and vulnerable people who lack a support system and who are less able to defend their own interests.

Distraction burglary

This is where a criminal will try and talk their way into your home, or distract you whilst another person finds a way into your property in order to steal from you. Common methods include pretending to be from the gas, electric, phone/internet or water companies, asking to use your phone, asking for water or directions.

None of the utility suppliers will ask to come inside your home without calling ahead. Meter readers may need to access your home if your meters are indoors and will have ID.

Door step crime

Police advice is not to buy or sell anything at your door. It is generally safer never to allow someone into your home unless you have a pre-arranged appointment.

If you are looking for a reliable tradesperson, please ask family, friends or neighbours for recommendations. If you are NOT expecting a visit from a water, gas, electricity or phone representative etc, please check their ID by phoning their office.

Do not hesitate to phone the Police on 101 if you note anything suspicious, or are uncomfortable with a cold caller, or call 999 for any emergency.

Pedlars

It is illegal to sell door-to-door without a pedlars licence. Door-to-door pedlars can cause alarm to residents as people fear that they may be “casing” or “eyeing up” their property. The truth is that the majority of pedlars are young people who are duped into buying stock, then driven around by a gang master to sell door-to-door.

People falling for this scam to buy and sell such goods can have fallen on hard times and can often look unkempt, or not appear to be very good sales people, thus appearing suspicious. All the time people continue to buy from them, they will keep returning to an area. The best thing to do as a community is to politely decline door step sales.

Door-to-door sales people

These are people who are trying to obtain general leads for a business or charity. Police advice again is that you do not buy or sell at your door. Some are nationally recognised and reputable firms who will send people door-to-door to generate sales leads. As with pedlars, these persons can be young people who have struggled to find other employment and without any disrespect to them, may appear unkempt and not behave like you'd expect a sales persons to act, thus again appearing suspicious to many residents.

In any of the above situations, if you suspect someone is not legitimate, please call 101

www.facebook.com/groups/201688606917538

www.ourwatch.org.uk

For more information on Neighbourhood Watch please contact Esther Harrod on the number below.

T 01480 392991

Parish Council Communications Update

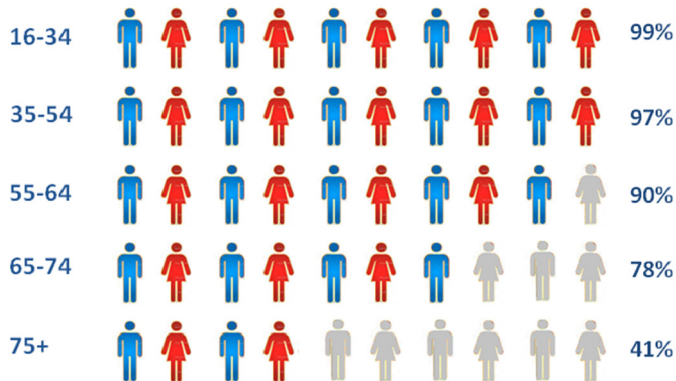
As a Parish Council, we are always looking at ways of communicating with our Parishioners and getting information to as many people as possible.

We now have a presence on the two largest social media platforms - Facebook Twitter. These allow us to send out updates, details of meetings and important information to our Parishioners instantly.



Almost 9 in 10 adults in the UK have recently used the internet (89%)

Almost all adults aged 16 – 54 years have recently used the internet ...



... but just 4 in 10 adults aged 75+ years have used the internet in the last 3 months

Source: Office for National Statistics

The diagram shows that over 78% of all adults between the ages of 65-74 have accessed the internet in the last 3 months so when you are online next, please look at our Parish Council website, like our Facebook page or even follow us on Twitter.

Our Newsletter now comes out 4 times a year and will feature regular articles by the Neighbourhood Watch scheme and the Pavilion. We hope you like the village calendar which will appear in every edition.

If you have any comments or suggestions about us, the website, the Newsletter or something else, please do contact us on the details on the last page.

While we look to increase our presence online, it is important to know that we will of course also continue to publish our minutes and agenda's on the many notice boards around the village.

We have also recently changed the look and feel of our website that we hope you like and are adding more information to the site on a regular basis.

The image on the left is from the Office for National Statistics (ONS) 2017 and shows that internet use for those aged 65 and over is now catching up with the younger age groups.

Hemingford Abbots Flower Festival 24-25 June

The 2017 Flower Festival is nearly upon us and the organisers would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the preparations for the event. Many residents of the Hemingfords are making that extra special effort to ensure that gardens, whether they are open or not, are looking in tip top condition for visitors to the Festival.

So that visitors to the Hemingfords can truly appreciate the beauty and tranquillity of the villages, there are a few pointers that really would help to make the weekend special:

- Please keep the roads clear of parked cars during Festival weekend, and make use of the car parks rather than driving through the village when there are likely to be many pedestrians
- Volunteers should plan to walk or cycle to their duties if possible, rather than drive
- Keep the use of noisy machinery – mowers etc to a minimum when the Festival is open (12-6pm) to ensure a tranquil environment

On the Monday following the Festival, many of the open gardens owners have kindly agreed to re-open their garden gates to volunteers and patrons who are otherwise busy over the Festival weekend itself. Gardens will be open from 5pm to 7pm, after which a post-festival celebration will be held in the church.

General Election

The polling station for this year's General Election for residents of Hemingford Grey is St James Parish Centre on the High Street. Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm on Thursday 8 June.

For information on candidates go to visit - <https://whocanivotefor.co.uk/>

Goldies Club

Following a meeting with the parish centre management, Goldies is working with St James's church, the owners, to discuss how Goldies Club can work alongside the already established community centre. Goldies aims to bring daily pastoral care into the heart of our community. Further updates coming soon.

Village Market

Starting on 10 June the Parish Centre in the High Street will be holding a Village Market. The idea behind the market is to give small local businesses a regular place to sell their goods within the village and give residence who can't get into St Ives farmers market a mini market to visit once a month. The market will take place on the second Saturday of the month from 9am – 1pm.

Stalls will offer Food, Plants, Flowers and Crafts. Refreshments will be available in the "Hemingford Garden Room".

Each month the Village Market will be inviting a Hemingford based charity to have a free stall at the event, there's also a free stall on offer for someone who has started a business in the last six months and has a connection to the Hemingford's. The "Entrepreneur Stall" is kindly sponsored by the Hemingford Directory.

The Parish Council will also have a presence at the upcoming Village Markets so please do come along and speak to us.

Environment Group Report

The Environment Group have been working very hard to conclude some outstanding matters over the last year. Some of the projects due to be completed in the coming months include the bus shelter roof being repaired and the chicanes on the footpath between Apple Orchard and Weir Road are also to be mended. We will also be reinstating the gate and fence at the path from Norman Court to the Pavilion Field.

The original old footpath entrance and sign to the Memorial Field has now been cleared to enable pushchairs and mobility scooters clearer access.

Contracts have been recently awarded for the wooden benches round the village to be renovated.

We have now had agreement from the Police that a short run of yellow lines each side of the bus stop will be a good idea to make driving safer for both motorists and residents. CCC Highways have also agreed and we are now waiting for them to contact us with a start date.

CCC have finally confirmed that the dropped kerbs will soon be installed on Vine Close which will help anyone getting to and from the village via Hemingford Road.

K&M have put in 4 new columns with LED lamps (outside the school car park, Braggs Lane, Church Lane and Daintree Way).

There is a new LEAD lamp attached to 18 Church Street and all remaining lights now have LED bulbs. Tree trimming has taken place in London Road, Manor Road, Apple Orchard and Weir Road. Thanks to David Stewart for his expert help.

We have managed to get the 6ft clearance back between the houses in Sadlers Way and the allotments and have had the trees pruned back and tidied up. The cleared area will be maintained by spraying weeds at intervals.

Three new notice boards have been ordered and will be installed soon at Armes corner, the Parish Centre and The Thorpe.

We have also ordered three new dog bins for the River, Gore tree road and Manor Road.

We have asked that the tree in the centre be cut down to ground level as it has been planted adjacent to a main drain. After the problems at the Apple Orchard being caused by a tree next to a drain we are hoping to avoid another situation like that.

We have allocated a sum of £100 to put plants back in, possibly lavender, which can be trimmed to an acceptable height allowing access for drivers to see oncoming traffic. We would be grateful for any volunteers to help in doing this.

Our thanks to Jane and Don Walton, who are not Parish Councillors, but have agreed to be our footpath monitors. This involves walking the footpaths and logging the dates annually. This is a legal procedure to protect the village footpaths from being closed off at any time in the future either by Highways or private landowners. We all benefit from walking these footpaths and it would be terrible to lose any of them. They will also report any problems back to the Parish Council to action.

If any of you feel that you could help us in any way please get in contact with the Parish Clerk (details on last page).

Summer Junior Squash Camps at the Pavilion

The Sports Academy at the Pavilion is hosting its biggest and best junior squash camps yet. Sessions will run from 10am to 4pm each day (Early 9am drop off is available for £2/player)

- Week One: Monday 31st July to Friday 4th August
- Week Two: Monday 14th August to Friday 18th August

Both weeks will be packed full of squash, off-court training and activities, competitions, fun games and more; concluding with a fun tournament and a BBQ social on the Friday!

We will effectively be running two camps alongside each other to cater for both the improvers and the elite, giving each group of players the balance of 50/50 on-court and off-court activities.

This will allow the squash sessions to be tailored more for each player and with fewer players per court, as well as meaning that the more serious squash players will complete an intense summer fitness training programme and those who're less serious to take part in other sporting activities in addition to some fitness sessions.

With the smaller group numbers, we will also be able to make use of our video analysis equipment to help give the players an outside look at their play!

Over the different days, various guest squash and fitness coaches will be joining us to provide a different look at the training sessions and we will also be taking the players to Gratham Woods to complete some team building and training activities.

Prices for the camps are: £30/Day, £120/Week & £200/2Weeks.

To book your place and for a camp itinerary, contact Rob: robertdadds@hotmail.com

If you book your place before 30th June you will receive a free camp T-shirt!

Summer Festival and Village Sports Day

The Summer Festival is back again and this year it is being held is on Friday 30 June and Saturday 1 July at the Pavilion, starting at 6pm on the Friday and from 1pm until late on the Saturday. You can expect the usual mixture of food, festival ales, fun, live music, stalls and great entertainment over the 2 days.

For more information, please contact the Pavilion directly.

The Village Sports Day returns this year and is being held on Sunday 2 July again at the Pavilion. There will be the usual mixture of children and team games as well as adults and children races for the more competitive villagers amongst us!

Trophies are awarded for all events.

Please come along to what is always a great family day out! Leaflets with more information will be delivered to residents shortly.

T 01480 464490 (after 6pm)
E enquiries@hemingfordpavilion.co.uk
W www.hemingfordpavilion.com

A Classic Affair

The Pavilion is pleased to announce that A Classic Affair will take place again on Saturday 2 September.

Proceeds from the event will be donated to charity.

Following the success of last years's event, Quest Brothers will be hosting an afternoon of classic cars, attractions and picnics in support of MAGPAS.

Don't forget to add the date to your diary and look out for further details on the Pavilion website.

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.

JUNE

- 1 Seasonal Feast, The Cock, Hemingford Grey
- 3-4 First Steps Dads' Camping Trip, Burleigh Farm, St Ives
- 10 Village Market, Parish Centre
- 12 Regatta, adult beginners & children starts, River Ouse
- 14 HEMLOCS - Curiosities of Cambridge, Cambridge
- 19 Regatta, general practice starts, River Ouse
- 24-25 Flower Festival, Hemingford Abbots
- 30 Summer Festival, The Pavilion

JULY

- 1 Summer Festival, The Pavilion, Hemingford Grey
- 2 Village Sports Day, The Pavilion, Hemingford Grey
- 6 Seasonal Feast, The Cock, Hemingford Grey
- 8 Village Market, Parish Centre
- 8 Hemingford's' Regatta, Regatta Field
- 12 HEMLOCS – Stained Glass Museum, Ely
- 16 St Ives 10K and fun run, One Leisure Outdoor Centre
- 27 WI Members mystery tour and meal

AUGUST

- 3 Seasonal Feast, The Cock, Hemingford Grey
- 16 HEMLOCS – The Pathfinder Museum
- 18-20 Annual Beer Festival, The Cock, Hemingford Grey

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.

Planning 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

We are providing updates at each planning committee meeting as our immediate aim is to ensure that residents are kept informed of the latest facts, published information and meetings. There is no formal planning application as yet.

The How, Houghton Road, St Ives

Cllr Brasnell defended our recommended refusal of this application at the HDC meeting at the end of April. We objected on the grounds that houses on the ridge overlooking the meadow would detract from the unique views from the meadow. The decision to approve was only by one vote. We have also agreed to support Houghton and Wyton Neighbourhood Plan revisions which seek to preserve the last part of the same skyline.

Outcomes of recent planning applications

Applications	Details	PC Recommends	HDC Status
16/02125/LBC	78 High Street, Tallis House – demolition of modern chimney. Addition of first floor window	Approval	In progress
16/02662/FUL	Pumping Station, London Road - temporary offices and depot (3 years) for A14 work	Refusal	In progress
17/00243/LBC	38 Victoria Terrace - Proposed two and single storey rear extensions; demolition single storey lean-to; etc	Approval	Withdrawn
17/00399/FUL	12 Priors Rd - Demolition of garage; erection of new dwelling; replacement garage; alterations to existing dwelling	Approval with condition	Refused
1201890/1 FUL	The How, Houghton Hill, St Ives - balloon survey and some amendments to 7/8 proposed houses	Refusal & condition	Approved
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	
17/00513/HHFUL	9 Lea Road - Proposed flat roof side extension and pitched roof rear extension	Approval	Approved
17/00489/HHFUL	4 Church Lane - Rear, side and front extension and alterations	Approval	Permission
17/00492/HHFUL	9 Pound Road - Proposed demolition of existing garage and erection of enlarged garage	Approval	Approved
17/00431/FUL	Field Lodge London Road - To install steel framed glazing balustrade system to the existing timber balustrades	Approval	In progress
17/00532/HHFUL	Willowside, Mill Lane – Garage and fencing	Approval	In progress
17/00716/HHFUL	20 Old Pound Close – ground floor extension	Approval	In progress

VILLAGES SET FOR BATTLE AGAINST GIANT WASTE-HANDLING PLANT

(Please note that this article is authored by the Hemingford Action Group and Hemingford Grey Parish Council will consider its own position at its next meeting on 12th June).

An action group of residents from Hemingford Abbots and Hemingford Grey has been formed to fight Mick George Ltd's proposals to build a giant recycling plant on the 42 acre Hemingford Abbots golf course.

An open meeting at the Hemingford Pavilion on Sunday 14 May revealed details of the proposal that have been discussed with the Cambridgeshire County Council for over 18 months! There was standing room only, with many still unable to get in, and most were furious at the idea of 800,000 tons of waste per year being handled close to the villages rated by The Sunday Times as the eighth best place to live in the East of England.

Almost 100 people have already offered to contribute to a fighting fund. The action group's chair, Paul Smith, said "The community is shocked and angered by Mick George's proposal, which would have an enormously detrimental effect on both of our villages, and others nearby, from the relentless convoy of heavy goods vehicles to the smell and dust escaping from the proposed enormous open-fronted shed – equal in size to 6 football pitches. And with an option to buy further land, it could quickly become even bigger, with even more lorries and increased smell, noise and pollution, as well as attracting vermin."

Residents also expressed concern for local businesses. As one resident said, 'The rural economy needs visitors that our local attractions bring. Our pubs – The Cock, the Axe and Compass, the local caravan parks and B&Bs and maybe even the village shop will suffer.

Two district councillors have already pledged their support, and parliamentary candidates contesting the Huntingdon constituency are receiving emails and letters about their stance on the subject. If you feel strongly about this, then please help by writing to all of those candidates.

Paul Smith said "The meeting clearly showed that residents and business people are not going to sit and wait to see what happens. We are saying loudly and clearly that we will not accept any proposal to turn the golf course into a waste site, and we will fight every step of the way – beginning now."

Mick George Ltd held a public meeting at the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall on Wednesday 17th May when another capacity crowd at the Abbots village hall were not reassured. Some quotes from Mick George himself raised further concerns:

"This site suits us. This is a perfect site."

"We are not here to seek your permission."

"It will cause you no issues at all."

"I have the right to put my business where I want."

"Not a single vehicle will enter the villages."

He has promised a full planning application 'soon'.

To help with the petition or fund-raising, please email info@hemingfordsactiongroup.co.uk

Editors Note

Mick George mentioned at the meeting on 17 May that he would be looking to reduce the amount processed to 200,000 tonnes at the site. He also advised that the most recent plans and had increased the screening to the site and that frontage had been added to the shed.

It remains to be seen if the above amendments are in the Planning Application, which at the time of going to press, had not been submitted.

Voice your concerns and questions to Mick directly via hemingford@mickgeorge.co.uk

The Hemingfords Action Group has set up a JustGiving page where people can donate online, the website for it is <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/SayNo2MickGeorge>

About the Parish Council

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

Planning Committee	7pm	12 June / 10 July
Main Parish Council	7.30pm	12 June / 10 July
Environment Group	7pm	14 June / 10 July

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-Chair)	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

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 September