

Parking on Manor Road: The Parish Council and Trustees of the Hemingford Peace Memorial Field have met with Highways and discussed with the police safety issues arising from the parking of cars along Manor Road. As a result of our discussions it is proposed that the section on the playing field side of Manor Road near the bus stop be marked with yellow lines to provide a pull in area to allow cars to pass.

We would like to consider residents views, particularly those living on Manor Road. Please contact the Parish Clerk if you wish to comment on this proposal. Contact details can be found on the back page.

The British U23 National Squash Championships is one of the most prestigious events in the UK squash calendar. The Sports Academy @ Hunts County Squash Club, based at the Pavilion in Hemingford Grey, became the home to the tournament for the first time in 2009 and has hosted the competition ever since. The 2016 Championships will be held on 8th to 10th April.

Weekend ticket (Fri' & Sat') £10.00 **Finals Day** (Sunday only) £8.00, Juniors: £4.00

Family Discounts & Pavilion members discounts available.

Website: www.thesquashsportsacademy.com (BU23 tab)

Email: colin@theuksportsacademy.co.uk

Tel: 07899 651192

For tickets or details contact: colin@theuksportsacademy.co.uk or Tel. 07899 651192

Hemingford Grey Open Gardens 2016: Hemingford Grey Gardeners' Society are organising Open Gardens again this year on Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th June from 2pm to 6pm. Please consider opening your garden for this weekend. For those who have never done it before and might consider it, talk to one of the committee members who can tell you what is involved.

Two years ago we raised £2,800 which was divided between Hemingford Regatta and the Woodland Trust at Hinchingsbrooke Hospital. So, apart from giving many people pleasure from seeing gardens, the proceeds will go to a local deserving cause.

Think about it, or talk to Fran Williams, Kate McMaster, or Raksha Solanki.

Initial enquiries, phone me, Annie Waters on 01480 467077

Hemingford Regatta Ball: The Regatta 2016 ball will take place in a Marquee at the Hemingford Pavilion playing fields on Friday 10th June 2016. There will be a live band, Disco and Licensed Bar. Tickets cost £35.00 each (tables of 10/12) including the venue, entertainment and set table. Guests are to bring their own dinner. For further details or to book a table contact:

Pam pam.bartlett@me.com 01480 301136

Isobelle isobellet27@virginmedia.com 01480 354134

All proceeds go to supporting Hemingfords' Regatta

Hemingford Grey Resident recognised for his service on Arctic

convoys: Jack Millard, The Apple Orchard, received a surprise visit from a military attaché from the Russian embassy who presented him with the Medal of Ushakov for the part he played in the wartime arctic convoys. Following the presentation Jack was invited to the Russian embassy to tell his story for future generations.



Neighbourhood Plan: Huntingdonshire District Council will be running a workshop on Neighbourhood Plans for parish councils during March. Councillors on our Neighbourhood Plan working group have attended meetings at which nearby NPs have been discussed and are now inviting a councillor from Houghton and Wyton to present their experience to a public meeting in Hemingford Grey, probably in late April.

Watch this space and please contact Robin Waters (see list of councillors) if you can offer special expertise relevant to the Neighbourhood Plan process and/or you have a particular issue that you believe would help us decide how to proceed. We need help with project management, publicity, digital mapping, planning experience, etc. **NOTE: the parish council will not be able to go ahead with the Neighbourhood Plan process without considerable help from other residents who are committed to contributing to the future of our village.**

Village Lighting: All orange sodium lamps along our through routes are being replaced with white LED's this month. These new lamps are brighter and pay for themselves in 2-3 years through reduced electricity and maintenance. They fit in the existing lanterns. In the new Financial Year we should be able to replace all remaining

orange lamps and we will also replace some broken or damaged lights, including columns if necessary.

Drains: At long last Cambridgeshire County Council Highways have agreed to 'permanently' fix the drain in Apple Orchard that flows out, eventually, to Marsh Lane Lake. The Parish Council has also been in contact with the owners and users of that lake to try to check the drain out of the lake into Lake Brook. If this does not have a working flap valve then flooding downstream of St Ives Lock can eventually come up in The Apple Orchard which was the site of the old village pond!

Footpaths: Cambridgeshire County Council should be resurfacing the pavements in Weir Road and Sadlers Way areas this summer. White markings may be seen on these pavements already.

Lottery Grant Success: The Hemingford Pavilion has been successful in its National Lottery grant application to fund the installation of a stair lift and other improvements to enable less able users to enjoy all the facilities the Pavilion has to offer.

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 Hemingford Grey Parish Council normally sends Councillors to look at the property concerned and call on neighbours for their views.*

Long Lane Lake appeal: Contrary to our expectations in December, there will now be a public hearing on March 15th, 10am in the Civic Suite next door to Pathfinder House, Huntingdon. We will be emphasising our opposition to the proposed wakeboard development. Your attendance is encouraged.

Lest We Forget: This application for the change of use of the Hemingford Abbots Golf Course to the National Centre for the Great War (NCGW) was discussed at our January meeting where we recommended refusal. We do not yet know when it will come before the Huntingdonshire District Council Development Management Panel.

The Hemingford Grey Neighbourhood Watch Scheme: (NHW) now has 38 street schemes covering 50 roads in the Parish! If you wish to join but do not have a computer, please phone Esther on the number below. Alternatively, you can visit www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk Follow the joining instructions and find the street scheme nearest to you. Even if you already subscribe to E Cops, you can still register. Some home insurers offer a discount if customers are members of a local NHW scheme.

We will be holding an informal **pop-in NHW 'surgery'** for those residents who do not like attending evening meetings. This will take place between 10.30am – 12.30pm at the Reading Room, High Street, on Thursday, 7th April. Come and have a chat with PCSO Hannah Shepherd from St Ives Police, Village NHW Co-ordinator Esther Harrod and other street co-ordinators over a cup of tea. If you don't have transport, we will do our best to help. Please contact the number below.

There will also be a **Village Neighbourhood Watch Meeting at 7.30pm, Thursday 5th May** at the Pavilion, Manor Road.

From 1st Jan-31st Dec 2015 there were 11 dwelling burglaries and 13 shed/garage burglaries. In the last quarter of 2014 alone, there were 13 dwelling burglaries. For this reason, the Hemingford Grey NHW presented a report to the Parish Council last month to ask if they would look at the feasibility of installing CCTV cameras at the four entrance/exit roads into our village. Councillors have agreed to visit HDC's CCTV centre to see how such a system might be of benefit to the community. If the Parish Council agree in principle to funding CCTV, there will be an open consultation with villagers. For information on any of the above please contact **Esther Harrod, Tel 01480 392991 or esther.harrod@ntlworld.com**

Allotments: We currently have three full plots and four half plots available for fruit and vegetable growing. If you would like to take over one of these please contact the Clerk. **Parishioners:** Full plot £25.50 per year, half plot £12.75 per year. **Out of Parish:** Full plot £30.50 per year, half plot £15.25 per year. Plus water approx. £4.00 - £6.00

Parish Council vacancies: Do you want to work together with our residents to achieve changes that make a real difference to the quality of our lovely village? Do you have some spare time to get involved? If you do, we would be delighted to meet up with you. You can contact our Parish Clerk: parishclerk@hemingfordgrey.org.uk or telephone 01954 210241

Finance and Policy Group

Parish Clerk Pension: In October 2012 your Parish Council resolved to enrol the then parish clerk into the Local Government Pension Scheme (**LGPS**). When she resigned in January 2015 we had no other employee in the scheme and assumed that we would cease to have any further responsibilities. Not so! Although the scheme is a very beneficial scheme for employees it is also very expensive and ‘open ended’ for employers. It would now cost the Parish Council over 30% of any employee’s salary and the Parish Council would still be responsible for part of the underfunding of the scheme.

We have taken advice from pension experts and lawyers and have determined that our best course of action, in the long run, is to exit the scheme by requesting an actuarial valuation of our potential future costs which are likely, with the £4,500 cost of the valuation itself, to amount to anything between £10,000 and £30,000. We are obliged to use the scheme’s own actuary under the rules to which we were committed.

The total will be determined on the basis of the individual member concerned (Inc. age, length of membership of the scheme, salary) and on the funding of the scheme and various estimates of future returns on investment, inflation, etc. We are advised that challenging either the cost of the valuation or the resulting lump sum would be very difficult though we will record our extreme dissatisfaction at this sort of imposition on a small parish council with only one scheme member for just over two years. We do not believe that the Parish Council at that time was fully aware of the implications of joining the **LGPS**.

In August this year the Parish Council will have to put a ‘Qualifying Workplace Pension’ scheme in place for any employee under the mandatory legislation. We will take professional advice which is likely to recommend a defined contribution scheme with a minimum employer contribution of 8% of the employee’s salary from 2018, compared with the **LGPS** contribution rate of 32%. This should be a much better deal for Hemingford Grey residents.

More information on this subject can be found on the Parish Website www.hemingfordgrey.org.uk

Outcomes of recent planning applications

Applications	Details	PC Recommended	HDC Status
14/02055FUL	1 Hemingford Road – amended application	Approval	Approved
15/01487/FUL	Houghton - Change of use: mixed equestrian field & stables	Approval	Approved
15/01731/FUL	Daintree Green - Continuation of use of storage container	Approval	Approved
15/01951/PMBPA	Long Lane Farm - Change of use of agricultural buildings to 3 dwellings	Comments	Approved
15/01829/HHFUL	32 Weir Road - One and two storey extension to the rear	Approval	Approved
15/01898/NMA	4 Gore Tree Road - Amendment to alter windows.	Approval	Approved
15/00185/FUL	14 Pound Road - Proposed detached bungalow	Refusal	Approved
15/01997/HHFUL	18 Hemingford Road – Single storey porch and utility extension	Approval	Approved
15/01563/FUL	Fairways Lodge, Cambridge Road, Hemingford Abbots – Change of use of golf course to National Centre for Great War	Refusal	In progress
15/02090/HHFUL	18 Church Street – Single storey rear extension and alterations for extended kitchen and breakfast room	Approval	Approved
15/02085/HHFUL	1 Meadow Close –Two storey front extension	Refusal	Withdrawn
15/02347/FUL	21 Marsh Lane – Erection of dwelling (existing dwelling to be demolished after completion)	Approval	In progress
16/00023HHFUL	7 Braggs Lane – single and one and a half storey rear extensions	Approval	In progress
1501981/FUL	Land between Dene End and Greenfields St Ives (Fenstanton parish) – erection of detached dwelling	Refusal	In progress
15/02246/HHFUL	Haverford, London Road, St Ives –Two storey rear extension	Approval	In progress
16/00171/FUL	The Willows Guest House, 45 High Street –extension for manager’s accommodation	Conditional approval	In progress
16/00144HHFUL	8 The Thorpe –Single storey extensions to front of property	Approval	In progress

Parish Council meetings

All meetings are held in the Reading Room, High Street, Hemingford Grey and start at 7:00pm. Agendas are posted on village notice boards and at the village store. Minutes can be inspected at the Post office and on the Hemingford Grey Parish Council Website www.hemingfordgrey.org.uk

Mon, Mar 14th	Planning	Parish Council meeting	
Mon, Mar 28th	Planning	Finance and Policy meeting	Environment meeting
Mon, Apr 11th	Planning	Parish Council meeting	
Mon, Apr 25th	Planning	Finance and Policy meeting	Environment meeting
Mon, May 9th	Planning	Parish Council meeting	
Mon, May 23rd	Planning	Finance and Policy meeting	Environment meeting

Contact information

Website www.hemingfordgrey.org.uk

Facebook www.facebook.com/hemingfordgreypc

Twitter <https://twitter.com/hemgreypc>

Parish Councillors

Doug Dew (Chair)	4 Weir Road	469814
Robin Waters (Vice-Chair)	18 Hemingford Road	467077
Janet Brasnell	1a Pound Road	492033
Derek Clifton	Dockseys Farm,	463365
Richard Allen	Maristowe, London Road	494783
Don Costello	7 The Apple Orchard	469296
Riva Elliot	38 Church Street	494142
Jason Hall	3 Gunnings Way	395567
Steve Herring	21 Weir Road	392991
John Jenkin	Tanglewood, 4 Mill Close	465092
Peggy Seamark	8 Victoria Terrace	497384

Parish Clerk: Gail Stoehr **Tel:** 01954 210241 **email:** parishclerk@hemingfordgrey.org.uk

Editor: John Jenkin

Hemingford Grey Parish Council

www.hemingfordgrey.org.uk



**Parish
Newsletter
March 2016**

We are now all looking forward to spring following on from a relatively mild winter.

There are three major issues I would like to bring to your attention.

The first is the relocation of the Post Office. Whilst many of us did not wish it to move for reasons to do with Post Office Counters it could not remain where it was. The Village Shop has stepped up to take the facility on for the village, and I am sure that we will all offer our full support. We must of course thank those that have run this for us in the last few years.

The second is the re-establishment of our Neighbourhood Watch scheme in the village and once again our thanks to all concerned. We are looking to work closely with them and I will be arranging a visit to Huntingdonshire District Councils CCTV suite to see if this could help us. My Deputy has recently met with the Police and Crime Commissioner on our behalf.

Last you may have noticed that work has started on the long awaited improvements in London Road, which will result in an updated Pedestrian Crossing and the widening of the pavement at the front of Limes Park. This is the latest in many Highway, Cycling and Pedestrian schemes that we have supported with the County Council.

Until the next issue may I wish you all good health.

Cllr. Doug Dew – Chairman, Hemingford Grey Parish Council