

Hemingford Grey Parish Council Newsletter

June 2024



Notes from the Chair

Welcome to the June edition of the Hemingford Grey Parish Council newsletter.

The Northern Lights that were clearly visible in the sky above village earlier in the month were an amazing spectacle for those lucky enough to see them. Based on all the photo's posted on social media, it appears that many of you were.

June heralds the summer in Hemingford Grey and the start of a fun filled calendar of events that showcase our village at its very best. These events also highlight the great lengths that many volunteers go to make our village such a brilliant place to live. The community matters section in this newsletter highlights forthcoming dates for your diaries and requests for volunteers and helpers. None of those village events or activities would exist without the dedication of people just like you. So, if you have some time to spare, please consider giving a helping hand.

The last couple of months have seen both the Annual Parish Meeting (APM) and Annual Meeting of the Parish Council being held. The APM provides all village groups and the PC with a forum to let residents know what they've been up to over the last year. I'd like to thank all those who attended either to present, listen or ask questions. Meanwhile at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council, held at our May meeting, Councillors agreed who would sit on which of the Council's working groups and/or would represent the Council in various capacities on external bodies for the next year. I was delighted to be asked to Chair the Council for a further year.

If you'd like to get involved, the Council still has three vacancies, so if you are interested in being co-opted on to the Council, please get in touch for more information or pop along to one of our future meetings to learn more.



Cllr Richard Allen
Chair, Hemingford Grey Parish Council

Parish Council Updates

This Summer's community engagement sessions

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the Parish Council have engaged Groundwork East, a community and environment charity working across the East of England, to provide a series of Green Spaces events. Sessions will be run at the Yes Development, Daintree Green and Vicarage Fields. We hope that there will be activities of interest to everyone.

Cub's build dead hedges and bug hotels



At the first of this year's, the Cubs were involved in making two dead hedges for insects, small mammals, and birds to find shelter in at Vicarage Fields. They also made bug hotels out of old tin cans, and "wildlife" crowns. The feedback we've received confirms that the

Cubs really enjoyed themselves. A session for the Scouts is planned for later in the year.

Future events for your diary

Family Wildflower Activity Session

Join us this half term and learn how to make **wildflower seed bombs** and bring some colour to your local community!

Location: Yes Development (behind the playground on Dunnock Way)

Date: **Wednesday 29th May 2024, 10am-11.30am**

Family Wild Play Sessions

Join us with your family to get outside during the summer holidays and learn about nature through **wild play, bug hunting, scavenger hunts, natural arts and crafts** and more!

Location: Daintree Green and the Yes Development (behind the playground on Dunnock Way). Date: **Monday 29th July 2024.**

Times: (Daintree Green) 10am-11.30am, (Yes Development) 1-2.30pm

Further details and dates will be posted on our [website](#) when available.

Dog fouling at the Yes Estate playground



Having received a number of complaints about dog fouling at the Yes Estate playground, the Parish Council have been liaising with Huntingdonshire District Council (HDC) to see how best this could be addressed. We have agreed with HDC's Community Protection & Enforcement Team Leader that the most effective way to prevent dog fouling in the children's play park area is by "excluding" dogs from entering the land as is the case at our children's play parks at Daintree Green and Mitchell Close.

HDC have confirmed that the location meets the definition as a dog exclusion zone as defined in their Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO), and we are therefore planning to erect free-standing signposts on each of the entrances to the park, stating the park is subject to dog exclusion.

Once in place, while HDC's Enforcement Officers who have responsibility for dog-related anti-social behaviour including dog fouling will monitor activity at the play park, but it is essential that offenders are reported to them to enable them to take action.

Update from the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

May's Annual Meeting of the Parish Council allocated roles and responsibilities for our councillors and terms of reference for the forthcoming year.

This year, rather than have a separate planning committee and meeting, we have decided to combine it into our full Council meeting. So, from June onwards meetings will start at 7pm.

Following the very wet start to the year leading to standing surface water, prolonged flooding of the meadows, and drainage issues, we have re-established a Community Resilience working group to be convened by Cllr Tony Jackson. Cllr Anne Meredith will continue to convene the Environment Working Group (EWG).

Both of these working groups can include members of the public.

Full details of the roles and responsibilities agreed can be found in minutes of the May meeting.

Hedges in Hemingford Grey



We hope you have seen the recently re-laid hedge in Braggs Lane that borders the parish owned Vicarage Field. This hedge is a mix of ash, hawthorn and hazel, but there are really nice hedges of many varieties throughout the village. Our Environment Working Group is putting some suggestions for hedging plants on

our web site. These will be suitable for new hedges but also for replacing any 'Box' plants that are dying due to blight or moths. Hedges can be pruned appropriately – at the right time – but may also be a bit wild to encourage our wildlife. The Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) recommends 'mixed native hedging' and buying in bulk from specialist nurseries. Bundles might include Hawthorn, Field Maple, Hazel, Bird Cherry, Blackthorn, and 'dog' Rose. Single species to plant (best time is the autumn) might be Yew, Beech, Privet, Pittosporum, and Cotoneaster. For a low boundary hedge to attract our beleaguered bees try Rosemary or Lavender! The RHS does not recommend either Laurel or Leylandii – they grow fast but often too wide or high – and their cuttings will not compost easily.

Please note, hedge cutting is prohibited between March and September to protect nesting birds and their habitat, but trimming is allowed for obstruction. Therefore, whatever you choose for your front boundary hedge **PLEASE** ensure that it is **TRIMMED** regularly for footpath users.

Asian Hornet Threat



Summer is here, and butterflies and bees can be seen busily feeding in our gardens. One visitor we don't want to see though, is the newly arrived Asian Hornet. It's already in Kent and is expected to spread northward. The Asian Hornet is a ferocious predator of bees and other insects. If you see one,

send a photo to the National Bee Unit (NBU) using the Asian Hornet App available from your app store. The NBU has pictures for reference and explains the difference between it and our own European Hornet which is of little threat.

Summer Sports Programme – book now!

Following the great success of the summer sports sessions provided for local children over the last two years. Hemingford Grey Parish Council will be again offering **FREE** places on this year's Summer Sports Programme to children aged between 5 and 11 living in Hemingford Grey.



The programme will be run at the Hemingford Pavilion in conjunction with Huntingdonshire District Council over five Monday afternoons (2pm – 4pm) during the summer holidays (excluding the bank holiday Monday). The sessions will be delivered by qualified Sports Activity Officers and Leaders and involve multi-sport activity.

Places are limited to 20 children per session, so contact the Parish Clerk (parish.clerk@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk) to **BOOK NOW** and avoid disappointment.

Planning update

For many years HGPC has had a Planning Committee to discuss and make recommendations on planning applications and related matters such as the HDC Local Plan and how it affects the parish. From June this year there will no longer be separate meeting and all planning issues will be on the agenda for the full council. Current planning applications will be posted on our web site with links to HDC's Public Access pages.

Since the current Local Plan was introduced in 2019 there have been no new residential developments in the parish. This is primarily due to most of the village being in high-risk Flood Zones 3a or 3b when Huntingdonshire has plenty of potential residential sites in Zones 1 or 2. Although protected by the 2006 flood bank it is likely that the current revision of the Local Plan will keep this restriction. All indications are that floods will get worse and occur more often and, unfortunately, the Environment Agency cannot currently commit to maintaining our existing defences.

Apart from extensions, the PC is most concerned about flooding and traffic implications of residential development on the old garage sites just over our boundary along London Road.

Community Matters



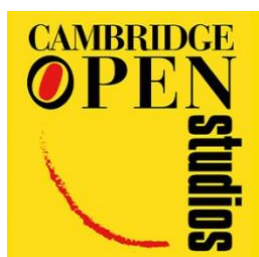
1st Hemingfords Scout Group are looking for at least three new trustees to help with the behind-the-scenes management of the Group – members of our local community who can make a difference to young people’s lives in the Hemingfords.

The Trustees will focus on the governance matters of the Group to ensure that it is well run for the benefit of the young people who are members. These volunteer appointments are for a term of up to three years, with three to four meetings per year.

Please contact: Steve Greenwood on chair@1st-hemingfords-scouts.org.uk for more information.

Hemlocs by *Simon Clemmow, Chair*

Our 2023/24 season of talks is now over. Many thanks to our committee and our many members for making it such a success. We have enjoyed and learned a lot from a fascinating series of speakers on topics ranging from quack doctors and local heroes to Peterborough Cathedral and Ramsey Abbey. We’re now looking forward to our summer activities, kicking off with our annual garden party at Hemingford Grey House. This will be a particularly special gathering because it will mark the Society’s 30th anniversary year. Many thanks to our President, Pam Dearlove, who was so instrumental in getting Hemlocs (est. 1994) started.



Free local Art Exhibitions during July

Come and see eight local artists exhibiting their work for the Cambridge Open Studios at three locations in the village. Weekends 20/21 and 27/28 July. On display will be paintings, printmaking, collage, and glass, all available to buy direct from the artists.

All locations have parking, but it would also make a lovely walking trail.

Hemingford Grey Gardening Society (HGGS)

The Gardening Society had its last speaker for the season in early April, along with a brief AGM. The range of talks and the quality of the speakers over those eight months was, outstanding, and was enjoyed by all of the audiences. We just have to maintain that standard next season which will start in September. The last talk, given by our own local speaker, Bridget Flanagan, brought in the highest attendance level since the pandemic, of about 36 people. In August, we will once again have our annual Boston Tea Party in Diana Boston's lovely garden.

The Hemingford Sports Academy

In partnership with Hunts County Squash Club at The Pavilion, The Sports Academy have squash, training and sports therapy options for the whole community. Coaching programmes cover all ages and standards on the squash court, with free taster and introductory sessions available. Squash Club membership is available, with options for children, adults and families. Our community gym offers nearly 24/7/365 opening and is supported by a professional team of personal trainers and sports injury therapists to cover all your needs. For any enquiries or support, contact:

- The Sports Academy: admin@sportsacademycic.co.uk
- Hunts County Squash Club: gjbremner0516@gmail.com

Hemingfords Bowls Club

Hemingfords Bowls Club opened the new season in mid-April in glorious weather with the traditional ladies v gentlemen friendly, followed a week later by an Open Day, again in lovely spring sunshine, which attracted a good number of prospective new members.

External league games have since commenced with one additional team in each competition, providing new members with a taste of competitive bowling in a friendly, relaxed atmosphere. Friday roll ups for all members continue, with additional coaching and support for new members on Tuesday evenings and Saturday afternoons.

Further details from club secretary johnebatter@icloud.com

<h1 style="margin: 0;">hemingford PAVILION</h1>	<p>www.hemingfordpavilion.com Email: enquiries@hemingfordpavilion.co.uk Tel: 01480 464490 Manor Road, Hemingford Grey, PE28 9BX</p>
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We are looking forward to having a lovely display of flowers again around the balconies, bowls green, car park entrance and on the rest of the building. The Lounge Bar screens all major sports matches and is open weekdays from 5pm to 9.30pm. Saturdays 2pm to 7.30pm. Sunday 2pm to 7pm. The Hemingford Pavilion bar is licenced as a member's club and to comply with the terms of the licence, membership is necessary. A family or single membership is only £5 per year. Get a membership form from the bar or go to our website.

<p>Pavilion Pictures Community Cinema will be screening a compelling new adaptation of HAMLET on Friday 28 JUNE starting at 3.30pm Tickets £5 from Budgens Hemingford or on the door</p>	
<p>SUMMER BBQ FRIDAYS EVERY WEEK FROM 6PM + FRIENDLY EVENING CRICKET MATCHES PLUS FREE LIVE MUSIC ON: 14 JUNE * 5 JULY * 9 AUGUST</p>	<p>VILLAGE SPORTS DAY SUNDAY  21 JULY</p>



Est. 1901

Hemingfords'

regatta

SATURDAY 13TH JULY 2024

ROWING, PUNTING & KAYAK RACES

Practice evenings from
 Monday 17th June 6.30pm for novices
 Monday 24th June 6.30pm for all others

All welcome!



DJ
BBQ ★ Bar

Regatta Festival

until late!

www.hemingfordsregatta.com



Events at your local this Spring & Summer!



- Gigs in the Garden, the last Friday of every month, May to August.
- Fish Night. Thursday 6th June, Three courses, £45 per head.
- Quiz Night, 1st Sunday of the month, raising money for the Hemingford Hub.
- Our Annual Beer Festival 16th, 17th, and 18th August.

For more information, see our website, call on 463609 or just pop in.



Bite-size volunteering — just a couple of hours a month

We offer small but essential tasks for new volunteers. There is no big commitment. We need people to deliver papers (a great excuse for an early morning walk), give the occasional lift to a nearby doctor's surgery or hospital, join in with HubClub (you get a free exercise class every fortnight), give a talk about your specialist knowledge or a scenic holiday (always the most popular events) or bake a cake.

We would love to welcome back previous volunteers, or anyone who's new to the village and wants to make an immediate circle of new friends, and the recently retired who would like to help in a small way.

If you would like to join in and be part of the Hub (the envy of many local villages), we are always happy to hear from you.

HubClub events - 3pm at the Pavilion (subject to change)

- **5th June** Uke Troupe — ukulele entertainment
- **19th June** Film and ice cream
- **3rd July** Games afternoon

Plus, seated exercises 12th and 26th June

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



Hemingford Grey WI meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Reading Room and this year celebrate our 105th birthday. We have interesting speakers and social get togethers and you will be very welcome as a visitor or new member. We also have a book club, walking group and craft group which meet monthly. As a WI member you can attend Federation events in Huntingdon such as literary and science lunches as well as theatre and other outings. **Tuesday, 25th June - Dancing with the Dead** - a talk about a life which combined ballroom dancing and a career in the undertaking business! **Tuesday, 23rd July - The First Women Doctors** - A celebration of the pioneering women who became doctors despite opposition. For more information telephone Phyll on 380240.



Hemingford Ladies Choir's recent joint concert with the Wyton and Brampton Military Wives Choir at the Free Church in St Ives was a huge success. The Church was full well before the concert started so the doors had to be closed and quite a number of people were disappointed. The concert was in support of the Sue Ryder St John's Hospice in Moggerhanger and a massive £1,430 was raised.

Elaine Gunn, the Musical Director of both choirs founded the Hemingford Ladies Choir in 1994 and a 30th anniversary concert is being planned for later this year. The date is to be announced.



Hemingford Colts ended the season triumphantly, with new silverware added to the trophy cabinet! Three teams reached cup finals, with the U7s winning the Hunts Youth League Cup and the U10 Blues winning the Cambs Mini Soccer League knockout cup. Our Under 11s were also Hunts Youth League Cup finalists, commendable runners up against local champions Papworth Blasters.

As this season closes, we bid a heartfelt farewell to our U17s, who played their final game for Hemingford Colts. Their journey, guided by Dave Ranner, began over a decade ago as an U6 team. We thank Dave for his dedication and wish the players every success in their future endeavours.

Helen Hollebon - welfare.officer@hemingfordcolts.co.uk

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 main parish council meeting, including planning.

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 Road 494783		Robin Waters (V/C)	18 Hemingford Road 07833 901680
	Maria Di Gaetano	17 Dunnock Way 07444 330921		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 Road 466813
	Anne Meredith	18 De Vere Close 465774		Stephen Wright	20 Weir Road 07429 956982

All our councillors can be emailed using the following format:
firstname.lastname@hemingfordgreyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk: Ben 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 August 2024

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