

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE

THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING held on

**Monday 26th January 2026 at 7 pm in the Hemingford Abbots Village Hall, High St,
Hemingford Abbots, PE28 9AH.**



PRESENT:

HAPC Councillors: Marcus Whewell, Richard Chamberlain, Rie Hargreaves,
Shaun Reinson, Eddie Halls. **HDC Councillor:** Brett Mickelburgh,
CCC Councillor: David Keane.
Clerk: Maxine Blewett.

Public: 4

Public participation

A member of the public (MOP) asked whether the HDC Meet your Councillor Sessions had been arranged for 2026. Cllr BM said that the 7th February, 2.30 pm in the Village Hall had been pencilled in the HDC diaries and that we would receive confirmation as soon as possible. Due to upcoming elections no other meetings have been planned this year. The MOP also suggested that parishioners **should** be advised how to report pot holes. It was agreed that the Clerk would take both matters forward.

Car drivers are not adhering to the 20-mph speed limit when driving through the village, and a MOP asked if anything could be done to slow traffic down. The Chair said that HAPC had previously looked into having a Speed Watch Group but due to a lack of volunteers the group could not proceed. The Clerk was asked to add a proposal to form a Speed Watch Group on the next agenda.

A MOP told the PC that fly-tipping tipping had occurred in front of the concrete blocks near the old Shell Garage – Clerk to report this to CCC.

2025-2026	Minutes	Meeting opened at 7 pm.
126	Apologies for absence None	
127	Councillors' Declarations of Interest None	
128	Reports from County and District Councillors: CCC David Keane gave his report which covered CCC's budget cycle which will be completed shortly. A large planning development west of St. Ives (300 houses Bellway Houses) has resumed. Cllr DK is concerned about the infrastructure and access roads into and out of the proposed new housing estate. HDC Brett Mickelburgh – Elections are going ahead this year and the Secretary of State has been informed. HDC/CCC/South Cambridgeshire are going ahead with their elections. Peterborough is not proceeding with their elections. Local Government Reorganisation information is being shared between all councils, however central government have not made any comment on the 4 proposals that have been put forward. There will be a formal consultation, probably in February, that will be completed with Parish and Town Councils before the election is called. It was suggested that Parish and Town Councils may have their powers increased. Cllrs BM & DK recommend that HAPC seeks concrete agreement for any outstanding issues we want addressing before the LGR comes into effect.	

129	Presentation by Tom Mosher, HAPC Tree Warden HAPC thanked Tom for his help as HAPC's Tree Warden and for coming to the PC meeting to provide an update on his activities. 1. There is danger of trees falling into the road along Rideaway. Tom told the PC that CCC have marked some healthy trees with a red cross. The Clerk was asked to provide contact details at CCC so that Tom can make contact to prevent healthy trees being removed. Cllr MW is to sit down with Tom to let him know who owns the land on the opposite side of Rideaway. 2. There is a tree on the common which has a fallen limb. There is also ivy growing up the tree that may affect the health of the tree. As the tree borders Hemingford Abbots and Godmanchester, Tom asked who owns the land/tree as the fallen limb needs to be taken away and the ivy removed. Cllr BM believes the tree maybe Godmanchester's responsibility and will look into this and let HAPC know. He will also put GTC's Environment Lead in touch with Tom 3. Planning Application 131c (Rose Cottage), some concerns over the accuracy of the planning application. 4. Invitation and agreement for TM to present again at the next PC meeting.
130	Minutes of the previous meeting Resolved to approve the Minutes from the Extraordinary PC Meeting held on Monday 15th December 2025. Proposed by Rie Hargreaves, seconded by Shaun Reinson, all in favour.
131	PLANNING NOTED - APPROVED PROPERTY a) 25/02169/HHFUL 18 Rideaway Drive Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AQ. Erection of garden room on site of previous shed. b) 25/02028/CLPD The Thatchers View Moats Way Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9HH. Provision of a mobile home (caravan) to provide additional accommodation. NEW TREES c) 26/00026/TREE Rose Cottage Royal Oak Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AF. T1-4 - Beech tree x4: Crown raise to 10m (TPO L/TPO/002). Resolved to recommend refusal of this application on the grounds that we do not understand the measurements given on the application. If the measurements are correct, and the application is approved, the trees vitality/health will be damaged, and the street scene affected. d) 26/00051/TRCA 61 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Proposal: T1 Eucalyptus - reduce by 4m to approx previous cut points at 6m, T2 Cypress - reduce height by approx. 2.5m, T3 Twin-stemmed Robinia - reduce height by 2m, T4 Cherry Plum - reduce height by 1.8m. HAPC was not asked to comment. NOTED - APPROVED TREES e) 25/01981/5DAY 46 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. Proposal: Dead Silver Birch - Fell close to ground level - Will be replaced with a Willow, Birch and an Alder. f) 25/02134/TRCA 1 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AN. 1 (Yew Tree) reduce crown by 3-4 metres. g) 25/02413/TRCA 47 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. Proposal T1 Beech - Crown Lift to 4m (5m where necessary over the road or phoneline). T2 Silver Birch - Crown Lift to 4m. T3 Oak - Reduce several lateral branches growing towards the house by up to 2.5m, crown thin by 10% to remove a number of epicormic branches in the inner canopy. T4 Tulip - Crown thin/Prune to clear phone line. T5 Holly - Reduce by 2m to height of 4m. T6 Oak - Crown thin to remove epicormic growth from central canopy. T7 Horse Chestnut - Reduce and reshape by 1-1.5m with a final height of 4m. NOTED - WITHDRAWN APPLICATIONS h) 25/02263/TREE 37 Common Lane Hemingford Abbots Huntingdon PE28 9AW. T1 Oak: - Remove major dead wood - Crown lift to 4m over driveway by removing one minor branch.
132	Finances / Contracts & Membership Subscriptions a) Resolved to renew the streetlight maintenance 3-year contract with K&M Lighting Services Limited. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour. b) Resolved to accept the recommendation from Clear Utility Solutions and to transfer energy supplier to VALDA on a 3-year contract. Proposed by Cllr RH, seconded by Cllr EH, all in favour. c) Resolved to renew the Clerk's annual membership of SLCC from 1/1/26. Proposed by Cllr MW, seconded by Cllr RC, all in favour. d) Resolved to approve the payments for January (salaries, standing orders and DDMs for payment as listed at the end of the agenda). Proposed by Cllr SR, seconded by Cllr EH, all in favour.

e)	Resolved to approve the December bank reconciliation and accept Q3's Budget Review. Proposed by Cllr RC, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour.
f)	Noted that a PAYE ER's NI overpayment totalling £233.89 was credited to the current account on the 12/12/25.
g)	Noted that the Clerk has requested the 2026/27 precept from HDC for the sum of £36,855.00.
h)	Noted that a VAT reclaim for £973.74 was credited to the current account on the 12/12/25.
133	Appointment of Internal Auditor Resolved to appoint CAPALC as HAPC's Internal Auditor for the next three-years. Proposed by Cllr RH, seconded by Cllr RC, all in favour.
134	Letter from Kastle Solicitors 16/10/25 Noted that Wellers Law Group issued a letter to Kastle Solicitors w/c 12 th January 2026.
135	Update on Training / Meetings and or Training attended Feedback from all Councillors. Cllrs RC and MW have completed their IHASCO online training (GDPR/Cyber Security). Cllrs EH, SR and RH to request another link via the platform and complete the training before the end of March.
136	Noted - Correspondence Received and Response
a)	Email from Jeremy Handel, Moats Way Limited enquiring whether HAPC would like an update on their development plans. Agreed for the Clerk to email JM from Moats Way Limited to suggest they organise the update meeting independent of the Parish Council.
b)	Email from NALC requesting PCs write to HDC.
c)	Letter from The Hemingford's Flood Protection Group (K. Elliott) asking for a volunteer to represent the Abbots. Meetings bi-monthly and last circa 1 hour. Cllr RH volunteered to attend the meetings. Clerk to inform the Chair of HFPG.
137	Resolved to approve the following Policies: a) HAPC IT Policy. b) Data Breach Policy. c) Data Audit Schedule. Proposed by Cllr RC, seconded by Cllr SR, all in favour.
138	Meeting closed at 8.20 pm
139	Date of the next Meetings: Monday 23 rd February 2026 at 7 pm in the Village Hall, High Street, Hemingford Abbots PE28 9AH.

PAYMENTS 132 (d)

Staff Costs					
HMRC					
Clerk's Expenses					
NETNERD (domain name renewal/emails) reimburse CLERK	NETNERD annual domain name renewal (keep for one year only)	£ 56.98	£ 11.40	£ 68.38	
SLCC	Annual subscription to SLCC	£ 158.00		£ 158.00	
K&M Lighting Ltd.	Replacement LED Unit	£ 245.00	£ 49.00	£ 294.00	
		<u>£ 1,133.58</u>	<u>£ 60.40</u>	<u>£ 1,193.98</u>	
Yu Energy Direct Debit Mandate	December supply of electricity	£ 229.96	£ 11.50	£ 241.46	*
		<u>£ 1,363.54</u>	<u>£ 71.90</u>	<u>£ 1,435.44</u>	