

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**Meeting held on Wednesday 9th May 2018 at 7:00pm at the
Hemingford Abbots Village Hall**

Local Archaeology Report

Report for April 2017 – April 2018

Although I have no information about archaeological activity taking place within Hemingford Abbots Parish I think residents might be interested to hear of the exciting archaeological work taking place very locally on behalf of Highways England.

- Archaeological excavations of the 21-mile stretch of the A14 between Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement Scheme have revealed 6,000 years of history, including nationally significant discoveries to rewrite both the prehistoric and historic records of this area. They are providing new information about the origins of the villages and towns along the A14 today. Finds include a Roman Medusa jet pendant, an Anglo Saxon bone flute and an Iron Age timber ladder.

Events are being run on behalf of Highways England to provide opportunities for people to see the dig in action as well as family activities and much more. Further information about these can be found at www.molaheadland.com/events/A14C2H.

Pamela Dearlove
Parish Representative for Local Archaeology

Footpath & River Warden Report - May 2018

No report available

Hemingford Abbots Village Hall Report

Report for April 2017 – April 2018

Despite a 7% decrease in income the Village hall continues to be in a healthy financial position. As there has been no hire price income since 2013 this is to be reviewed during the coming year with a possible increase coming into force from January 2019.

New 'turbo' hand driers have been installed in both the ladies and gents toilets which has resulted in a drastic reduction in the number of instances of blocked drains.

To monitor and control noise levels sound monitoring devices have been installed which sends an alert to the Chairman's mobile phone. This has resulted in proactive management which has greatly reduced disturbances and complaints.

A loft ladder has been purchased and awaiting instalment to enable easy access to the mezzanine floor.

A new gardener has been engaged and, with the help of Jenny Desborough and committee members, the aim is to keep the gardens looking as good as they have in previous years.

Possible expenditure for the coming year is to replace the dish washer and foyer carpets.

Bob Penney has had to stand down as both a committee member and chairman with Phillip Cooke volunteering and, subsequently, being elected as the new chairman.

Chris Nicol
Parish Council representative.

Report from the Representative of the Hemingford Abbots Parish Council on the Management Committee of the Hemingford Peace Memorial Field

It has been another fairly successful year for the Sports and Social Club. I am pleased to report that the Club, with the usual ongoing maintenance works, has maintained a positive financial balance. Both the Conference and Hall hire are up but the bar takings were slightly lower.

During the year there were various fund raising events such as Sports Day, Summer Festival and Vintage Car Rally. It is planned to hold similar events in 2018 including the Regatta Ball and Sports Day. Several of the events held at HPMP have resulted in extensive car parking on the bends and as a result the police have recently installed yellow lines.

The Hemingford Abbots Parish Council's contribution towards the upkeep of the Hemingford Pavilion and Playing Field was received with thanks. The grounds and surrounding hedges continue to receive considerable attention with greatly improved turf maintenance, trimming of boundary hedges and over hanging tree branches.

The various sports clubs had mixed levels of success over the year. The Football season went well for the First team who managed to stay about mid-table in the Cambs Premier League and become a stronger member of the League. The other teams have not fared so well with several matches being cancelled because of the bad weather.

The Squash Club is having a reasonable season with the Senior team doing well and the Ladies 2nd in their League. Coaching and training camps during the Autumn and Christmas went well. The trip to New York by various club members was a great success over the 9 days. During the year there was small extension to the gym to provide more space for the heavy weights and bars.

The Cricket Club had a successful year. However, it is struggling to find sufficient adult players, apart from Friday night matches, and the junior section is going from to strength.to strength. For 2018, it is hoped to have as many teams as last year and junior coaching sessions.

The Tennis Club had a mixed season with the Ladies A team being demoted with the Men's A team remaining in Division 1 and the 2nd team finishing bottom of Division 3. Adult coaching started this season and was well attended. The Junior section had a great season with over 60 members attending the Saturday morning coaching sessions.

The Bowls Club had a good season with the Men's A, B and C teams all finishing mid-table in the 1st 2nd and 3rd divisions. The Ladies' season was more mixed with the A team top of Division 1 with the B team bottom of Division 1 and the C team middle of Division 3.

The Cinema Club on Fridays reached their 100th screening in January, 2018 and continues to be reasonably well attended.

Ted Burleigh - 9 May 2018.

Hemingford Abbots Neighbourhood Watch Report

For the reporting period there was no central Neighbourhood Watch coordinator for the village in place. One resident expressed an initial interest but subsequently decided against taking this forward. There are 7 local coordinators who continue to support the residents in their vicinity with updates on Neighbourhood Watch matters and my thanks to those individuals for their continued hard work. There are areas in the village which have no Neighbourhood Watch cover but I would hope that this could be rectified in the near future.

All residents have been invited to join a central email distribution list which is used to share weekly policing updates and other issues relating to Neighbourhood Watch.

The year has been fairly quiet with regards to offences and incidents taking place in the village. The weekly updates with specific reference to Hemingford Abbots have reported:-

- Several road traffic accidents and lorry break-ins mostly on the A14

- An argument amongst young people which took place in Common Lane following a party
- Three break-ins to sheds or outbuildings – nothing reported stolen
- One theft of a rucksack from a van and a separate incident some months later of loose change being taken from a car parked on a driveway – in both cases the vehicles had been left unlocked
- Suspicious behaviour of a car occupant trying to flag down passers-by but who had left the scene before officers arrived
- Suspicious behaviour of a man looking into gardens and house windows and who was apparently looking for his dog – police did not respond but logged details for intelligence
- A dog bite incident

The Neighbourhood Watch Team regularly reminds us that it is not just our homes we must protect. I think we are all too well aware of the many scams that can create havoc on people's lives through identity theft and fraud and it is therefore equally important to be wary of virtual intruders into our homes who attempt to gain access to personal sensitive information for illegitimate means.

Whilst it has been a relatively quiet year for Neighbourhood Watch matters it's important that residents remain vigilant and continue to carry out their usual strategies for averting intrusion into their physical and cyber lives.

Erika Brown

May 2018

Hemingford Abbots Tree Warden Report

No report available