

Parish Council and Supporters Update as at February 8th 2021

Covid-19 and Current Lockdown

We trust everyone remains well

We continue to maintain very close contact with all our Parish, District and County Councillors and are grateful to them for their on-going help. We will continue with these monthly newsletters until such time as we can arrange a further public meeting and rely on reactions from everyone to help keep us up to date.

Please do let us know if there is anything you become aware of which would be helpful. Our general e-mail address continues to suffer an access fault so please feel free to contact me direct:

iain.muspratt@hemingfordsactiongroup.co.uk

Astro Turf Site – Planning Application Reference FMW/072/19

On 3rd February I received the following further update from CCC regarding their consideration of the points we made at our informal meeting on 28th October which resulted in senior CCC and HDC Officers visiting the site on 27th November :

We are still awaiting some additional information from the transport consultants employed by Mick George Limited, to be able to inform our consideration of the red line issue. This information has been sought directly from the consultants by highway colleagues as part of their highway review, which will need to be considered before we are able to respond formally on this matter.

We can confirm that this outstanding information has been chased up again today by the Highway Authority directly with the consultants. Once received, meetings are already planned into our diaries to review this matter, so I can assure you that your concerns are not being ignored.

It is most unfortunate that CCC have not had the response they are seeking and until they hear we will continue to monitor the situation and remain confident that the points we raised regarding the 'red lines' to be both entirely valid and critical to the long term activities on the whole site

CCC also confirmed that permission had not been obtained for the traffic measurement devices which were in place for a short time in late November/early December and which were removed on December 7th

We intend to leave the remaining large banners in place until this matter is resolved.

As a result of the withdrawal of an objection by CCC Highways we wrote to the officer concerned pointing out that the transport assessment we commissioned and submitted was not referred to. We received a confirmation that it would be receiving attention.

We also drew CCC Highways attention to the unprecedented flooding on December 23rd which led to the full closure (amidst many abandoned cars) of A1307 at Hemingford Abbots junctions

We asked our lawyers again write to CCC on 11th February to ask why the 'red line' point could not be determined and received the following reply

The work being undertaken by the Council, which includes the assistance of highway asset and development management colleagues, is to ensure that the tracking is showing the existing access on the ground (with the widening already having taken place to implement the extant permission in line with the approved drawing referenced under condition 3), which would not rely on the widening of the access already there. As such the reference in my e-mail below to "i.e. that the tracking document is within the red line and highway improvement boundaries that were required as part of the original planning permission" was made to clarify this very point.

In the event that the access road would need to be widened to accommodate the proposal as a result of the tracking document, then I agree we would be in a position to defend a recommendation to withdraw the application or to refuse it based on the red line issue raised. However, from the information I have to date, I have no evidence that such a widening is required, and until I have sufficient information to confirm it either way, I am unable to provide a definitive answer on this matter.

Wider points raised in your correspondence and our earlier meeting will be taken into account in the officer report, if the proposal can be considered as a Section 73 planning application, and I have therefore focused on the red line issue for the benefit of your client in making this response.

I hope that this helps to clarify the current position.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS GOLF RANGE, SHOP & CONFERENCE CENTRE

American Golf's new venture remains closed during the most recent lockdown and hope to meet with them when operations recommence

NEW DRAFT WASTE AND MINERALS PLAN

The Waste and Minerals Team have submitted their final draft to the Inspector which incorporates to some extent (but not all) the last point we made. The Inspector will decide whether this change is adequate.

The deadline for responses was 15th December 2020

We decided that there was nothing to lose by asking for our concern re co-location and the new specific requirement re the advantage offered by existing highways and CCC/Peterborough have confirmed that our submission has been forwarded to the Inspector. In our view it is increasingly unlikely that the new Policy will be adopted before the County Council Elections

HEMINGFORD GOLF CLUB CAR PARK

There has been no change since my previous update on January 11th

SUB_COMMITTEE TO ASSIST WITH THE PROCESS OF PREPARING A DETAILED PROPOSAL FOR THE HEMINGFORD GOLF CLUB TO BE GRANTED THE STATUS OF COMMUNITY ASSET et seq

This matter remains outstanding and will not be progressed until we have established a dialogue with American Golf

COMMUNICATION

A link to these updates appears under our listing as an Organisation on the HA Website and a Summary is sent to HGPC for incorporation in their regular newsletters

LOCAL ELECTIONS May 6 2021

Our Current County Councillor, Ian Bates, is retiring at the next election. As well as serving our constituency with distinction Councillor Bates has been enormously helpful to us in our Campaign for which we are very grateful The nature of our organisation is that we are non-political and we shall be in contact with all candidates to ensure they understand the concerns we represent.

On the same day the election for the Leader of Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Combined Authority will take place. We shall brief all candidates standing for this Mayoral position

As a result of the Election CCC contact with elected representatives will be subject to restrictions from 25th March although CCC may continue to determine planning applications, even if they are controversial but major policy decision, including the adoption of the new Waste and Minerals plan would have to be deferred

E-mailing lists

We are rationalising these to minimise duplications. If you know of anyone who would like to be added please e-mail Audra Green at audra.green@hemingfordsactiongroup.co.uk. Please also let us know if your e-mail address has changed

Can you help please?

We remain anxious to strengthen our Board and would be pleased to hear from anyone who has experience in local planning and land development matters. If you are interested please e-mail: ian.muspratt@hemingfordsactiongroup.co.uk

Stay Safe and Keep Well everyone

Iain Muspratt – The Hemingfords Action Group

February 8th 2021

Green additions reported to HAPC at 22 February meeting