

# Horningsea Parish Council

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## Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024 7.30 pm Horningsea Village Hall

**Present** Will Neale, Tessa Pleasants, Catherin Morris

**Apologies** Hayley Livermore, Emily Williams

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# Parish Council Chair Report

# **HORNINGSEA PARISH COUNCIL**

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

### **2023/2024**

#### **OPENING STATEMENT**

Good evening everyone, welcome to our Annual Parish Meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to update you on what we, as your Parish Council, have been up to in the past 12 months, it also allows you to ask questions about the services we provide or to raise any other matters that fall within the Parish Council's authority.

This meeting also offers the opportunity for all local groups to present their activities over the past 12 months, so with that it is now my pleasure to present the Annual Report on the activities of Horningsea Parish Council for the Local Government Year 2023/24.

#### **PARISH COUNCILLORS**

I take this opportunity to thank Rob Balm who stood down from the Parish Council and his position latterly as Chair following 12 years of dedicated service, in addition, Cath Martin also resigned from her position and we very much wish her safe travels and the best of luck with her move to Australia.

We also welcome both Chris Coldron and Catherine Morris who have joined the Parish Council and I very much look forward to working with them, this leaves us with 2 current vacancies.

#### **SPEEDING WITHIN THE VILLAGE**

The Parish Council continues to push both the Cambridgeshire Police together with the District and County councillors regarding the ongoing speeding issues we have in the village.

Just in the last three months, we have recorded 2,029 verified speeding incidents in excess of 37mph with the maximum speed record being 69mph, within the 30 mph zone.

#### **GRATER CAMBRIDGE PARTNERSHIP/ HIGHWAYS AND BIDS**

Although we were not successful with last year's 20mph bid we have resubmitted this year taking into consideration the works that Greater Cambridge Partnership "GCP" will be undertaking.

We have also applied via the Cambridgeshire Council Local Highways Improvements "LHI" bid for the north entrance road redesign. We have also been working with the Residents Association to submit a second bid for a new Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign "MVAS" unit.

The Parish Council continues to work with the GCP regarding their planned road calming and cycleway works between Horningsea and Fen Ditton, as part of this we have.

In addition, we have been working with the County Council and Highways regarding the pavements within the village and as can be seen the resurfacing has been completed in the centre of the Village. We are now pushing for improvement works to the pavements from Northgate Farm to the north entrance of the village.

# HORNINGSEA PARISH COUNCIL

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

### 2023/2024

#### SAVE HONEY HILL

We have been working with Save Honey Hill regarding the opposition to the proposed relocation of the sewage plan to Horningsea. As I'm sure the Save Honey Hill's update will state the inspection has now closed and we will hear in October as to the outcome.

#### ANGLIA WATER

We have been pushing Anglia Water to respond and deal with the continuing sewage discharge on St John's Lane which is discharging sewage onto Parish Council land and into the River Cam.

#### PRECEPT

After much debate and having not increased the precept for several years, the Parish Council decided to increase it this year, to allow for not only cost increases but to enable projects we are looking at in the forthcoming years.

#### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We have increased our community engagement to hopefully give transparency on what is going on within the Parish Council and ensure all members of the community have the opportunity to engage. We continue to update our residents via a variety of methods.

These are:

- Our Facebook resident's page
- Our Website - <https://www.horningsea.net/community-parish-council>
- Our noticeboards on the Village Green, Jubilee Gardens and Priority Road
- and finally via the Horningsea Herrold

#### PERSON THANKS

I take this opportunity to thank specifically the following people and groups.

Graham Haynes and the Residents Association for their continuing efforts with village events together with the support shown to the Parish Council.

Chris Lindly and his ongoing work to without failure, publish the Horningsea Herrold together with his work on the Parish Council/ village website.

Save Honey Hill for their amazing effort during the planning and Inspectorate process. The Parish Council are exceptionally grateful for the hundreds of hours spent reviewing and commenting on the documents submitted by the applicant. Without Save Honey Hill we would not be in the position we are going into the final decision.

## County Councilors Reports

# County Councillor Report for Parishes – April 2024 – Cllr Anna Bradnam

## County Full Council

On 19 March we received reports on Council pay, pay policy and pay gaps.

Three motions were passed:

1. To ensure our Armed Forces Covenant Officer is properly resourced; and to seek government support for veterans, Afghan refugees, and dependents of Commonwealth veterans.
2. To ask the government to introduce a proportional voting system for Police & Crime Commissioners and Mayors, and to improve public understanding of tiers of local government and increase participation of young people in local elections.
5. To ask government to commit to making the benefits of growth in Greater Cambridge accessible to all residents of Cambridgeshire, to commit to essential infrastructure and services, to establish ambitious targets for affordable housing, and invest in training and education.

**Council composition:** following the by-election in Yaxley & Farcet, the Liberal Democrat group is now the largest on the council. The composition of the council is as follows. Liberal Democrats 23, Conservatives 22, Labour 9, Independents 4, Non-aligned 3.

## Development Corporation to shape Cambridge

The government has published details of its plans for a huge expansion of Cambridge and the areas around it. 'The Case for Cambridge' contains plans for 150,000 more houses in and around Cambridge. [The Case for Cambridge - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

The Government's spring budget included £10.2M for the Cambridge Biomedical Campus and transport to it, namely the Cambridge South East Transport or CSET project.

Water scarcity has been recognised by the Environment Agency as a major obstacle to growth in this area; the Government's proposal is to pilot a system of 'water credits' where 'developers can offset their development through the purchase and sale of water credits to ensure they have a neutral impact on water scarcity within Cambridge'. Personally I do not find this a convincing solution.

In 2023 the government appointed the head of Homes England, Peter Freeman to lead a **new Development Corporation** called the **Cambridge Delivery Group** to deliver the government's vision for Cambridge. This will add yet another layer to our already multiple layers of governance and will see a new and unaccountable body deciding the future of the City. Some locally elected representatives will be on an advisory board, but it seems decisions will be taken elsewhere.

## STRATEGY RESOURCES & PERFORMANCE Household Support Fund and supermarket vouchers

The government's budget included an extension of the Household Support Fund for six months. This helps the council pay for supermarket vouchers during the school holidays, as well as other payments to households in need. This was not announced in time for local councils to include it in their budgets, so the council has agreed to modify its spending plans. The supermarket vouchers will therefore continue to be issued at the current rate for the next six months.

**ADULTS & HEALTH** Last year the NHS in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough spent an estimated total of £28M on emergency care for 4,500 people who attended A&E 5-10 times a year. The Council will host the 'High Intensity Users' team, working with patients with complex needs, as identifying and supporting them early can save the NHS at least 40% of these costs.

**ASSETS & PROCUREMENT** committee has approved a new Land & Property Strategy to guide the management of its diverse portfolio of land and property. The Council commissioned a CIPFA (Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy) Health Check and this Strategy will undertake actions for change and improvement recommended in that report.

The committee has also approved a Commercial, Commissioning & Procurement Framework and made arrangements to re-procure water and waste water services when its current contract comes to an end in October.

### **COMMUNITIES SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC)**

The Committee has approved an additional £150,000 to Cambridge Housing Society to deliver the Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme, which supports Cambridgeshire residents facing unexpected financial difficulties.

#### Cambridgeshire Local Assistance Scheme - Cambridgeshire County Council

The council has also allocated £400,000 to Citizens Advice to deliver income maximisation across Cambridgeshire.

The council is proceeding with a series of pilot projects to bring decision-making closer to local communities.

The committee has also refreshed its Safe Accommodation Strategy for victims of domestic abuse for the next three years.

### **ENVIRONMENT & GREEN INVESTMENT**

The council has refreshed its policy and protocol for enforcement under the Land Drainage Act 1991.

**Fens 2100+** is a new programme of work launched in 2023 to enable the Fens to adapt to the challenges of climate change both now and into the future. It is a partnership project between the Environment Agency, the Association of Drainage Authorities (ADA), Internal Drainage Boards (IDBs), National Farmers Union (NFU) and Anglian Northern and Great Ouse Regional Flood & Coastal Committees (RFCCs). The programme will develop a Fens-wide flood resilience investment strategy so that Flood Risk Management Authorities can plan for the next twenty-five years.

Over the next 100 years, an additional £4.5B will be needed to manage flood risk in the Fens. Under current flood risk management funding rules half of that investment would be funded, the rest is not. The **Fens 2100+** programme has been developed to address that funding gap. Our villages (Milton, Landbeach, Waterbeach, Chittering and Horningsea are in the Great Ouse Catchment. Fen Ditton is just on the boundary.

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/east-anglia-c-e/fens2100/>

The council is working with partners to develop a **Local Nature Recovery Strategy**. Natural Cambridgeshire is continuing to develop an engagement and communications plan to support it.

#### **Decarbonisation of council buildings**

The council has been awarded a government grant to decarbonise 9 more of its own buildings including libraries and youth centres. This will help the council meet its target of net zero by 2030 for its own operations. Government funding of £1,244,550 will be added to £3,793,741 from the council's own decarbonisation fund. The works to these buildings will reduce carbon emissions by 178.44 tonnes every year.

#### **Clean energy at Park & Rides**

Solar panels are being installed at St Ives and Babraham Park & Rides. These will provide power for the operation of the sites themselves, while also making energy available to commercial customers via a private wire. Electric vehicle charging points are being installed at each site, with some designed for drivers with disabilities.

#### **North Angle private wire**

Work is also finally under way on the project to connect North Angle Solar Farm to the Swaffham Prior community heat network by means of a private wire.

**Swaffham Prior community heat network** has been named as a finalist for an international award, the Ashden Awards, recognising ground-breaking climate solutions. The project won the prestigious Edie Net Zero Award for Renewable Energy Project of the Year in November 2023. The Ashden winners will be announced at a ceremony in London on Thursday 27 June.

**Connecting Cambridgeshire** - Gigabit-capable broadband coverage in Cambridgeshire & Peterborough has hit 85% a year early, meaning we are above the national average and ahead of Government targets. Work is ongoing to bring future-proof connectivity to homes and businesses in harder to reach areas. Connecting Cambridgeshire will be launching its Digital Inclusion Strategy in May 2024. Digital Overview for Cambridgeshire can be seen here <https://www.connectingcambridgeshire.co.uk/about/digital-connectivity-strategy-2021-2025/district-digital-overviews/>

## **HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT**

**Gully clearing** – I receive a regular update on the cyclic gully clearance programme but I've not been advised when gullies in Waterbeach Division will be cleared.

**20MPH schemes** A 20MPH speed limit in Ely went live on 29 March. Applications for new schemes in Cambridgeshire closed on 22 March. Speed reduction schemes such as these are being funded from the CPCA's Transforming Cities Fund allocation from government.

**Hemlock** has been gradually expanding across areas of Cambridgeshire. While it is invasive, and highly toxic to livestock and humans, it is a native plant species. In public spaces under the council's control the council instructs its contractor to treat it using professional equipment and glyphosate.

**Guided buses** have resumed two-way running between Cambridge Railway Station and the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, following installation of a safety fence.

**East West Rail** are planning statutory consultation in the first half of this year. Land Interest Questionnaires have been issued to some landowners. As far as I can tell the southern route still appears to be their preferred route.

**Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation** - The Examination of this application is due to finish on Wednesday 17 April. The Conservators of the Cam have been heavily consulted concerning the new outflow point north of the A14.

**Fens Reservoir** Anglian Water and Cambridge Water are to consult on proposals for two new reservoirs for the East of England region. One is to be in the Fens near Chatteris and the other in Lincolnshire. The non-statutory consultation will start May 2024, and will run for eight weeks.

**The Combined Authority Board** will be tendering for a contracts to run the service 9 bus from Littleport via Ely to Cambridge, to replace the journeys proposed to be cut by Stagecoach in April. The Combined Authority is also working on plans for bus network improvements and £1 youth bus fare, and bus shelter improvements.

**Trinity Hall Farm Industrial Estate, Milton Road** – I attended a local member briefing from the developer about proposals for the estate. Public consultations are due to start soon.

### **Cambridge Biomedical Campus**

I attended a presentation by the Cambridge Biomedical Campus, which explained forthcoming developments (Cambridge Children's Hospital, affordable housing for medical staff).

**Milton Cambridge Road Industrial Estate** – Councillor Rippeth and I have been taking steps at District and County level to deter antisocial parking, which blocks business access.

**Milton Cambridge Road** - I have reported the series of awful potholes from Tesco to One-Stop.

**Milton Ely Road - overnight lorry parking.** Whilst unexpected, parking is not illegal in this location. I have not received any reports of disturbance and lorries seem to leave early in the morning. Please report overnight parking to the Police if it obstructs the road.

**Horningsea Greenway** – works will continue once county footway resurfacing has been completed.

**Landbeach High Street** – I am checking a historic stretch of unexplained dropped kerb.

**Landbeach Beche Way, Fen Ditton High Ditch Road and Fen Ditton Green End** - footway slurry sealing will be done sometime between 1 May and 1 November 2024. Hoorah. I am seeking further details of timing.



# District Councilors Report

## **Annual District report to Parish Council 2024**

I have been a District Councillor since 2015, first representing Fulbourn and then from 2018 the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn ward which covers eight villages Fen Ditton, Fulbourn, Great Wilbraham, Horningsea, Little Wilbraham, Six Mile Bottom, Stow cum Quy and Teversham.

At South Cambridgeshire District Council my role is as an Opposition Councillor and Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview Committee.

I continue to answer resident emails on a whole range of issues locally (maintenance, housing, benefits, speeding, flooding, youth projects, planning – big and small etc). I continue to regularly attend Parish Council meetings across the ward. I also continue to attend community events across the ward such as Patient Participation meetings, library coffee mornings community markets, litter picks and resident group meetings on a range of issues. I continue to do a monthly report to highlight consultations, grants that are becoming available and any information that will benefit residents or Parish Councillors. I am always happy to send these reports out to residents on request.

At the council I continue to work on the following big issues:

### **Planning issues**

Major planning applications within the ward and making representations on the Local Plan. I have made representations on a number of developments such as Marleigh, Cherry Hinton North, Teversham Road (Castlefield site), Ida Darwin, the Water Treatment Plant and the development on Manor Farm in Horningsea. I have chaired every other meeting of the Liaison Group comprising of Morris Homes and Hill (developers), Parish Councillors and Planning Officers to best coordinate the two new developments in Fulbourn and feedback local concerns.

### **Four-day week data finally published**

On 22nd January 2024, the administration finally published the four-day week performance data on the council's website that is being sent to government under the Best Value Notice.

This data can be found by following this link <https://www.scams.gov.uk/your-council-and-democracy/best-value-notice-data-requests/#doc-list-53840-53842>

The publication of the data follows a hard-fought battle to gain access to this information for residents and councillors.

At an Extraordinary Full Council meeting on 20th November 2023, we (the opposition group), asked to see the business case for the four-day week. In January, we still had not had a response to our request to see the business case and followed up on this request. We then learned that there was no business case – only the original proposal agreed by Cabinet on 12th September 2022. Everything the council does has a cost attached – any time spent on projects by council officers is time being paid for and costing residents, which is why it is so concerning that the Cabinet paper said there was no cost associated with the trial.

With no business case to underpin the trial we are very concerned that the true cost of this trial has not been properly considered.

On 4 January 2024, we received word that the Cabinet had decided they would not publish the data until the Best Value Notice was withdrawn. This worried us as we did not know how long this would take and proper scrutiny of the data should be made in a timely manner.

On 8 January 2024, Conservative councillors requested to see the four-day week data under their rights as a member of the Scrutiny committee – to help them properly scrutinise the administration.

It was confirmed that we had a right to see the information being sent to government and following our request, the administration finally agreed to publish the four-day week data on the council's website.

While we have succeeded in getting the administration to share the data they are sending to government, we will not stop here. We will continue to push for more transparency in relation to the four-day week to enable residents to see where their money is going.

We also asked to see how much money the administration has spent on legal advice relating to the four-day week. We are still awaiting an answer about this.

### **Civil parking enforcement**

I have worked with and supported the council in bringing in civil enforcement throughout South Cambs.

### **Campaigned against Congestion Charging**

I have been firmly against the proposals to have congestion zones within South Cambs and the city that would directly affect people in the Fen Ditton and Fulbourn Ward. I have had a huge amount of correspondence from residents regarding this issue. I have done my best to represent resident views on this issue, asking questions at the Council, putting down motions against Congestion Charging and attending and speaking at resident group meetings on this issue. I was very glad to see these proposals finally put on

ice. Let's hope they don't re-emerge in anything like the way that they were proposed.

### **Cycle Greenways**

I have continued to be very vocal on pushing for the Cycle Greenways to be started especially the route between Fulbourn and Mill Road which has taken far too long. I have held meetings with officers from the GCP on this issue and I will continue to push for spades in the ground as soon as possible, for which the funding was agreed in 2016.

### **Investment**

As Chair of the Scrutiny and Overview committee, I have been involved in scrutinising major investments that the Council has made throughout the year including the Council's private housing company Ermine Street Housing, investing in commercial space, re-utilising space within the Council and their investment partnerships.

*Thank you for taking the time to read my report; if you have any questions or want to discuss any of the issues raised email me on [graham.cone@councillor.online](mailto:graham.cone@councillor.online) or ring 07595 361 285 (please leave a voicemail if I am unavailable) Councillor Graham Cone*

## **District Councillor report to Parish Council April 2024**

### **Increased fines for fly tipping**

In July 2023, the government announced that maximum fines for fly tipping, littering, household duty of care offences, and graffiti would be increased to help reduce the issues of environmental crimes and target the worst offenders.

The new fines for South Cambridgeshire which come into force on 1 April 2024 are:

- Fly-tipping Fixed Penalty Notices will increase from £400 to £700. The government maximum is £1000.
- Littering or graffiti fines increase from £150 to £400. The government maximum is £500.
- Breaching a household waste duty of care increase from £400 to £600.

Fly tipping is a blight on our beautiful countryside. We are encouraging people to dispose of their waste responsibly to prevent environmental destruction and landscape damage – whilst also avoiding a hefty fine.

### **Grants for community groups and parish councils**

If you are from a local community group or Parish Council, we are encouraging you to make the most of the council's available grant schemes. The Grant Grabber service helps you search for available grants – all in one place.

For further information on receiving a grant for a community project from the council, please visit the grants webpage:

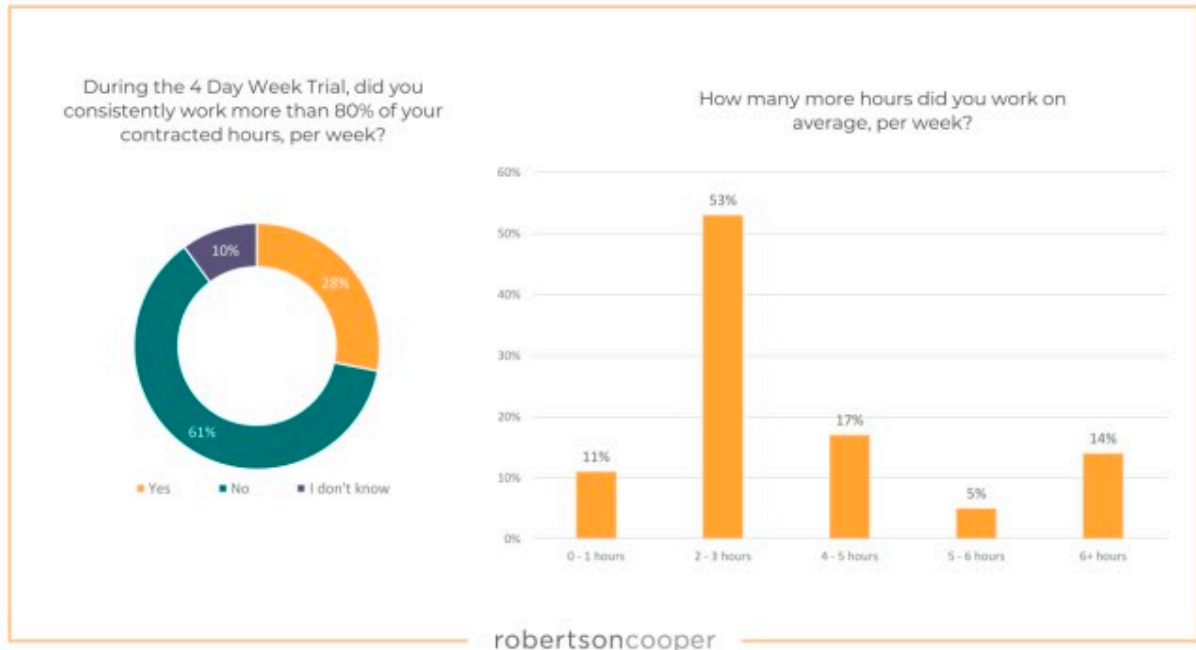
<https://funding.idoxopen4community.co.uk/supportcambs>

### **Four-day week update**

I and my fellow opposition Councillors are continuing to scrutinise the Council's four-day working week trial. A wellbeing survey completed by 328 staff showed that almost 100 staff are working more than four days a week – with 53% working 2-3 more hours a week, and 14% working a 6+ hours a week. This means performance is being propped up by some workers working more than four days a week – which is not right. Performance in seven out of 16 working areas has stagnated or declined during the trial, showing staff are struggling to fit all their work in to four days.

The Council repeatedly assured us that any drop in performance would stop the four-day week trial. And yet on Tuesday 12 March, the Council's Cabinet voted to continue the trial – with desk-based staff working 32 hours a week instead of 30, matching the hours worked by waste crews.

The opposition will continue working hard to ensure residents get what they are paying for – that is, five days' work for five days' pay. We are analysing the data sent to the government each week and will continue to hold the administration to account.



### **Meeting with the senior team at the Biomedical Campus**

Local members were invited to attend a meeting on-site at the Biomedical Campus to discuss how future development may impact the site and the surrounding area. It was really interesting to hear about the new Children's Hospital and Cancer Research Hospital which will be built on-site in the coming years and also how the site was contributing to the economy and healthcare both locally and on a national level. Some of the interesting points around this I have bullet pointed below but I'm always happy to talk more generally about the campus and growth etc.

- The CBC is the biggest employment site in Cambridge, supporting 22,000 jobs including 3,156 apprenticeships in 2022.
- Every 10 jobs on the Campus support a further 9 jobs across the UK
- The Campus contributes £4.2bn to the UK economy each year
- For every £10 the Campus makes, another £10 is made for the UK economy.
- We have three NHS hospitals caring for over 1m NHS patients every year which combine specialist expertise and leading edge science:
  - Lower cancer mortality rates - save an extra 182 lives every year
  - Lower cardiac mortality rates - save an extra 83 lives every year
  - Lower respiratory mortality rates - save an extra 208 lives every year
- Being co-located on the Campus has underpinned the development of new children's and cancer hospitals.

*Thank you for taking the time to read my report; if you have any questions or want to discuss any of the issues raised email me on [graham.cone@councillor.online](mailto:graham.cone@councillor.online) or ring 07595 361 285 (please leave a voicemail if I am unavailable) **Councillor Graham Cone***

## Fen Ditton Primary School

-NO REPORT PROVIDED-

## Quy Fen Trust



**Horningsea Parish Council – Annual Parish Meeting**  
**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2024**  
**Quy Fen Trust (QFT) – Annual Report**

The past 2023 / 2024 year continues to see good progress with normal upkeep of Quy Fen and several works projects:

**Activities:**

Wild flower seed distribution took place near the Frog Pond, thistles were trimmed and seeds spread. Stinger nettles near the Alicky Footbridge have been cut down. The access gate from The Drove, Quy has been replaced.

The location of a new seat in meadow was agreed, to be placed in front of the Woodland Grove, on left looking out over the fen. A third section of fencing was completed.

Three dead trees removed and new trees (one Oak, one Elm and one Ash) purchased and planted. Pollarding of several large willows was vital in maintaining the health of the trees and to mitigate any possible health and safety issues.

Mother Nature made parts of the Fen waterlogged and impossible for any work to be carried out, this resulted in half of the projects being delayed by a few weeks with some postponed to the following year (hedge-trimming for example as this needs to take place within a designated time period so as not to disturb nesting birds).

Fencing off the third section of The Cut from Cattle is still to be implemented when weather permits

As with any small, rural trust the finances are closely monitored. Changes within the rural payments system is resulting in the grazier losing various subsidies over a period of time. The Trust is looking at increasing costs as a result because of additional support to much needed works by grazier. As a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) grazing is required to maintain the fen. It is hoped that a corresponding increase in the payments to QFT for maintenance of the grassland will balance these payments out.

The Trust will be introducing a new website in 2024/25.

**Village Fund:**

The QFT has a fund for each of the surrounding villages from which they may request funding for specific projects. Typically, these tend to be projects that align with the Trusts environmental objectives. Each year QFT contributes an amount to each village fund and as at the last QFT meeting 5 February 2024 the Horningsea fund contained £1,609.25.

Applications by HPC for funding can be made via the Trusts HPC representative.

**Anglian Water Consultation:**

QFT formally submitted its Relevant Representation and continues to object to the Anglian Water (AW) application for a Development Consent Order to relocate the Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant to the area between Horningsea, Fen Ditton and Stow Cum Quy, known as Honey Hill.

The Trustees do not support Anglian Water's interpretation of National Planning Policy set out within Planning Statement document 7.5, the corresponding independent Green Belt Study, or the suggestion that the relocation is of national importance.

QFT representatives also attended the relevant enquiry hearings and submitted further evidence including raising concerns regarding surface water drainage, the risk to Black Ditch and in turn Quy Fen, and the increased visitor pressure that could arise as a result of the proposed new rights of way.

QFT attend an inaugural working group meeting to address visitor pressure. It is noted that once the connection is made between High ditch road and the Fen the proposed developments could add to the pressure significantly (Marleigh, East Cambridge-The airport circa 10,000 homes, North East Cambridge 8000 homes).

**Access to the Fen:**

QFT continues to work with the Land Registry and the current tenant farmer for Quy Estates to formalise vehicle access for trustees, contractors and the grazier etc. All of which is necessary to ensure the Fen can be maintained as required into the future. The land registry application and corresponding formalisation of the access rights has been submitted and is in process.

**Trustees/Secretary:**

Matthew Asplin continues in the role as Chair.

Jennifer Conroy and Eva Dangerfield represent Fen Ditton  
Emily Williams and Matthew Asplin represent Horningsea  
James Heckford and Bill Watts represent Stow cum Quy  
Martin Baker - Ecological Advisor and Deputy Chair

The role of Trust Secretary continues to be ably managed by Tracey Thorby.

## **Bottisham Parish Charities**

-NO REPORT PROVIDED-

## **Horningsea Parish Charities**

## Report to Parish Council May 2024

### from Horningsea Parish Charities

The Pools Land: 201124

#### **The Trustees are Lindsay Davies, John Wilson, Will Neale and Rev'd Nick Moir**

The Parish Charities were established in 1708. The object of the charities is “for the general benefit of poor persons of the Parish of Horningsea” and “for the benefit of such deserving and necessitous persons resident in the area as the Trustees shall select”. The Charity Commission issue guidance as to what constitutes relief for “those in need”.

The Trustees met on 5 December 2023 and had a number of email exchanges during the year.

The Charity filed the Annual return to Charity Commissioners on time

Data Protection Policy & Confidentiality policy is reviewed annually as is the Investment policy

Nat West Bank finally sorted out the digital signatures for three of the Trustees but on-line banking has not yet been set up.

#### **Investments:**

The Charities continue to hold .7acre of Pools Land which is managed by Bottisham United Charities. That produces an annual income from letting to a farmer of £140 pa.

The charity has 614 Charifund units managed by M & G. At 31 12 23 they had a value of £8811. They produce an income of £525 pa

The charity has a savings account with CCLA charities Deposit Fund holding £2267 at 31 12 23. The income from this fund was £95pa

The Charity had been given £1900 worth of shares in the Community Interest Company. This year no dividend was received.

Other income comes from donations from H Parish Council and HRA. This year the Parish Council gave £150. The HRA forgot to give their usual donation but have made up for it in 2024 giving £300. The Trustees consider we need to increase our funding and are happy to accept donations from all sources. If anyone has a workplace charitable giving scheme that might be prepared to give to the Parish Charities please speak to one of the Trustees.

Total income for the year from the above sources was £910

#### **Expenses**

During the year the Trustees provided one parishioner with a slow cooker. At the annual Trustees meeting it was agreed to make cash donations and to provide food hampers to a total of 20 parishioners. The total cost was £408.

Messages of appreciation were received from a number of recipients

Fen Ditton school has asked the Charity to make a contribution on behalf of Horningsea Children to a planned educational outing in the current year and the Trustees have agreed to do this.

The Trustees will speak to Chris Lindley to ask to set up a “page” on the Village website to which this report can be attached.

Contact the trustees via [horningseaparishcharities@googlegroups.com](mailto:horningseaparishcharities@googlegroups.com)

# **Horningsea Village Hall and Millennium Green Trust report.**

## CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT for 2023/4

**1. Recent Past** - The last 12 months have been fairly steady with lettings both within the village and from outside. We appear to have recovered well since the Covid-19 shut down and the revised letting rates have almost been accepted, without losing more than a couple of regular art class lets. Charity Commission Trustee Records and Annual Returns are now up to date on CC new system and we've again obtained NNDR Zero Business Rate exemption. No grants have been awarded to HVHT or HMGT in the past year other than Warm Hub and essential insurance covers and licences are all valid and paid up for the year.

**2. Trustees** - We currently have 8 trustees having warmly welcomed Marilyn Dew last year as the representative of our Horticultural Society, but we still look to recruit an official Toddler Group representative.

**3. Recent Achievements** - Thanks again to John W/Sue for both re-cording the flagpole and refurbishing the flags, Andy Smith repaired the post and rail fences after the intrusion and damage caused by Clarkes huge articulated truck and we now have Cambridge Fibre's improved WiFi installed and working well. We again congratulate our groundsmen for superb grass cutting, along with Marilyn and Gary for our excellent Daffodil display and Richard for tending the orchard, seeding the green and tending the bank beside the pond. John H for fitting the 'Sheffield' cycle stands and placing/securing our new Java Teak garden bench in the orchard, which was kindly donated by Scotsdales to commemorate Coronation of King Charles III. A Wheelchair ramp has been purchased and a quotation for roof repair obtained.

**4. Finance** - Thanks to healthy letting income, along with income from ACRE/SCDC grants for our recently run 'Community Hub' meetings by volunteers: Sue, Marilyn, Maria and Michael, our wealth remains good for the hall, whereas finances for the green remain less wealthy over the last 12 months with no income from marquees, plus a need for pond/ditch maintenance. More information/figures later from both our treasurers. Hall letting fees were increased at the start of 2023 and are to be reviewed more regularly to keep abreast of 'rocketing electricity rates' and new WiFi charges. All HVHT's bank accounts are now with Metro Bank, whereas HMGT's only account currently remains with Barclays

**5. Future Plans** - Our applications to SCDC's Zero Carbon Community Grant (with replacement heaters in mind) were sadly unsuccessful. A quotation for paving the apron in front of hall main entrance was obtained, but not actioned, so other plans / quotes are still needed for more consideration. We fit out a new wall cupboard for sound equipment and generally tidied up our storage facilities. Replacement roller blinds were purchased and some have already been fitted in the hall. A new meter cupboard in cloakroom was purchased and has now been fitted.

**6. Summary** - We remain delighted to continue our close working relationships with HPC, HRA, Parish Church, Horticultural group, Toddlers, Musicians, Artists and all regular hall hirers. We are also more recently giving all support possible our SHH Action group. As chairman, I wish to thank my fellow officers and all fellow trustees for their invaluable input. Although being slightly biased, from the Chair I recognise and thank Pauline on behalf of us all for her continual work with viewings, bookings/cancellations/collection/banking of fees etc. Furthermore, Alan Duffy was



welcomed and deserves our gratitude for grasping the task of keeping the hall clean/tidy over past 12 mths, to now sadly handover to an unknown replacement.

**Michael Hellowell**  
**Chairman HVHT/HMGT**

# Horningsea Residents Association

## **HRA 2024-25**

AGM 22nd January – Years opening bank balance £5,516.34

Financial Commitments for 24-25

£500 speeding camera application for PC.

£100 to Royal British Legion

£300 to Horningsea Charities

International Night 3rd February - 7pm

Biggest turn out ever.

Easter Egg Bingo 15th March - 6.30pm

Biggest turn out ever.

Seniors Lunch 24th April - 12 noon

Was today. 24.04.24

Cinema screening 18th May – Tbc

D day (80) yrs 8th June- T Party - Prosecco - 2-4

D day playlist - possible barn dance tbc

Village Day - 29th June 12 noon onwards Content tbc

Apple pressing - 28th September.

Apples dependant.

Fireworks 03rd November

Bigger and better – 23 was £3804.95.

Christmas tree lighting 01st December

Ho ho ho

AGM 27th January 2025

International Night 08th February 2025

Horningsea Parish Council

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## St Peters Church

Hayley Livermore, 28 Ox Meadow, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB25 9FL  
[clerk@horningsea.net](mailto:clerk@horningsea.net)

Horningsea Parish Council

## **Report on the Church for the Annual Meeting 1 May 2024**

Canon Nick Moir, our Vicar- has built a team who work with him. David Williams, is a Lay Minister (and specialist Vet!) who has responsibility for Horningsea. Sharon, our curate is now living in Fen Ditton Rectory. We have a pattern of services which means we have a service in Horningsea 2 or 3 times each month. Once a month we have an afternoon Village service - that has allowed us to have special services including a pet service, Mothering Sunday, Harvest - all followed by tea and cakes.

We had coffee mornings in the church every other Wednesday morning followed by a time for prayer until the autumn when it became too cold. One of these was a successful MacMillan coffee morning raising about £450. If anyone would like to run a charity coffee morning in the church please let us know. We showed the Coronation on a Big Screen and finished the marathon watch with champagne all round. We had a full house for the Carol Service with a number of the young musicians in the village taking part, playing in the Horningsea Young Persons Orchestra and singing one of the Carols.

We have enjoyed the organ playing of Julian Warren at each of our services - at some point we hope we can afford to get the organ restored to full working order.

The Memorial stone had a number of names added after a gap of years.

Major reorganising of the church porch was completed and we had an afternoon when we celebrated the new look porch which has made the church fully accessible for wheelchairs and buggies. We celebrated the renovation to the Bailey window in the north aisle that was funded by the Friends of Horningsea Church and the Open Gardens organised some years ago by Yvonne Rooke and Pauline Hellowell. We also dedicated the candlesticks paid for from Margaret Dorrington's legacy and designed by Peter Halford.

We hosted an art exhibition, concert and service in celebration of art. The Save Honey Hill campaign used the church to record another song. The bellringers did a special "Ring for the King" and during the winter practiced in Horningsea each week while new bells were installed in Landbeach. Practice in Horningsea is now on the 2nd Wednesday of each month - all are welcome to learn how to ring - come along at 7pm!

There was an afternoon exploring and recording wildlife in the churchyard when we found a hedgehog and evidence of other mammals.

Leah Studdard, a Pilgrim ran a singing workshop, and played her medieval harp and sang about Margery Kemp. The Horningsea Short Story Literary afternoon was hosted in the church.

You can see that the church is a busy place with a lot of activity going on. These events are open to everyone – whether or not you come to church services! The next events are on Sunday 2 June - School Reunion at 2pm; Explore the churchyard at 3pm and at 6pm Six Inches of Soil, the acclaimed film about regenerative farming - details on [Horningsea.net](http://Horningsea.net), A Church near you and posters around the village.

The congregation itself is small but welcoming. We are always pleased to see visitors.

The church is open most days for quiet prayer for anyone in the village to just call in or leave a prayer request in the box in the porch.

The coming year will see us progress urgent work on repairing and replacing the floor in the north aisle (we do not want anyone to fall through!), urgent work on the tower - the access and plaster work inside and the render outside. We need to carry out repair work on the Church End churchyard wall which is

in danger of falling, only once that work has been done can we use new burial spaces at the west end of the churchyard. We have asked the Parish Council to include this as part of s106 funding - if the churchyard becomes full the PC are legally responsible for managing the churchyard, and they would have to fund all repairs. It is in everyone's interest to work together to keep the churchyard open for burials for a few more years and ensure that the wall gets repaired.

Lindsay Davies  
Jennie Pratt  
Churchwardens

# Horticultural Show

## **Horticultural Village Show Update 2024**

Reflecting on the past year, we said farewell to our loved and long-serving chair, Carol Ashman, whose dedication to preserving the cherished traditions of our horticultural show has been invaluable. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for her enduring service. I shall step in temporarily as chair, but the search for a new permanent leader is underway, and we welcome applications for anyone with a passion for the Horticultural Arts, the lovers of crafty kitsch, and of course the culinary arts.

In the spirit of evolution, we've introduced a gluten-free class to our domestic section, catering to diverse tastes and needs. Embracing themes of 'Peace' in flower arrangements the photograph theme will be 'Tranquility' for Adult and Junior classes, we invite participants to creatively interpret these concepts.

While entries have seen a modest rise last year, we eagerly anticipate fresh perspectives from newcomers, especially the children of Horningsea.

We are proud that we continue to be sponsored by Scotsdale's to fund the schedule printing and thank the village for their continued support of the garden centre.

During a period of change we consider how we serve our place in the community and our *raison d'être*. We love how the village comes together for the Horticultural Show, helping to sustain our fantastic community spirit and participate in beautiful age-old tradition that we are so fortunate to be able to continue to uphold. We hope our custodianship of the village show enables us to hand the baton successfully on to future generations.

We are excited to bring you this year's village show on Saturday 13th July and we are taking entries from Wednesday 10th July. Look out for the flyer and the Schedule coming through your door late May/early June.



## Village Website/Herald

## **Horningsea Herald, website and social media: Annual Meeting of the Parish report 2024**

Chris Lindley

### **Horningsea Herald**

The Horningsea Herald is primarily for publicising village events for the coming month. However, anything that is of direct relevance to villagers is welcome too. It's also intended for reports, especially with photos, of recent village events.

### **Publication**

The release schedule is approximately just before the first weekend of a month!

The Herald is published:

- Via an email list as a PDF
- On the village website
- On the village Horningsea Residents Facebook group
- via [@horningseanews](#) Twitter account

If you do not receive the Herald then google "horningsea herald" for instructions (or email [horningseanews@gmail.com](mailto:horningseanews@gmail.com)).

The number of recipients does fluctuate but there are currently 178 subscribers.

### **Submitting items**

The only guideline for news is for events and articles that are of direct relevance to the inhabitants of Horningsea. The Herald does not accept advertising, but one off "news items" may be used to publicise local businesses, including events. To submit news items email "[horningseanews@gmail.com](mailto:horningseanews@gmail.com)". You must submit by the 25th of the month, the Herald being published before the first weekend of the month.

### **Online calendar**

There's an online calendar that anybody can subscribe to for village events (Gmail). The link to subscribe is in each issue. See the website for the links.

### **Horningsea Residents Facebook group**

The Horningsea Residents Facebook group continues to grow in size. There are currently 333 members.

The number of members rose significantly during Covid. That has had a beneficial effect on the group as there is now a fairly healthy mix of posts on various topics by many people. Although the past three years has seen many posts about the sewage works relocation.

As with any small group there is a risk of "irrelevant and repetitive" posts that could bring down the quality of the group. So we the moderators are quite strict (Debs and Chris). We are also quite strict on non Horningsea businesses putting adverts too. However, in general people are friendly to each other.

Also as the Facebook Group becomes the main place to share village information we must always be aware that some residents are being excluded. As not everybody wants to use Facebook. Hopefully with this group and the Herald the majority of residents are covered.

See link above or search Facebook for “Horningsea residents” to join.

### **Website**

There's nothing much to report on the website. Probably it is about time for a revamp as it's over 12 years since Rob, Frank and I redid it. People still contribute and the Horningsea Herald is still published monthly on there. There are also church times. The Parish Council do regularly post agendas and minutes of meetings. There are more photos/reports of events than previously. There's also some historical posts about Horningsea including a page for the “Fallen of Horningsea” (thanks to John Wilson) and various photos that residents have found.

### **Welcome to Horningsea**

On behalf of the PC, the Herald and the HRA there's a single flyer that lists useful resources for residents including how to contact the PC, view social events and more. The idea being to attach it to a copy of the Herald and give to new residents. It's not intended to be as detailed as the “welcome pack”, but it does give some hopefully useful information and show new residents just what a friendly village they have moved into!

## Save Honey Hill

## **Save Honey Hill Report at Horningsea Annual Parish Meeting**

During the last year the group has been preparing for the DCO Examination which started in October 2023. The Examining Authority (ExA), made up of three Planning Inspectors, examined Anglian Water's Application and listened to and read submissions by Interested Parties such as SHH. They were forensic in the questioning of AW and the councils and listened to our arguments very carefully. We made 71 submissions and attended four Hearings.

Although our focus has been to object to the relocation to Green Belt, we also provided comments and questions to provide the best mitigation should the DCO be allowed. This included plans for the construction lorries' route, control of noise and vibration, flood risk and light pollution. Our Submissions can be seen on the Planning Inspectorate website, links for which can be found on Save Honey Hill website.

The Examination ended on 17<sup>th</sup> April and the ExA will have three months in which to write its recommendation to the Secretary of State DEFRA. The SoS should make a Decision by 17 October 2024; however, this may be delayed if there is a General Election at that time.

Over the last four years we have been involved in fundraising, influencing, forming alliances with other groups, such as Friends of the Cam and CPRE and learning about the DCO process. We are grateful to all the donors and to the three Parish Councils, Horningsea, Fen Ditton, and Teversham, who have made it possible for us to have the best legal advice for our submissions and to represent us at the Hearings.

The core team, twelve of us, will continue to raise awareness, especially at decision-making time, and report back to residents and Parish Councils.

Margaret Starkie, chair Save Honey Hill Group