



HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL



Chairman's report

After a turbulent few years when successive wind farm applications dominated Parish Council business and resources it is pleasing to report that the past year has been much quieter. Let us hope that this issue is now laid to rest. A further bonus accompanying the ending of the “turbine years” is reflected in the 40% reduction in the Parish Council element of your 2016/2017 Council Tax bill.

Last year 9 candidates put themselves forward for the 9 positions available on the council. Therefore no election was held. We welcomed the arrival of Councillors Parker and Burley and the return of Hamish Rose after a term of absence. Richard Delf, Liz Allen, Peter Workman, Kevin Cunningham, Mike Turner and I remain as “leftovers” from the previous council. After many years as Vice Chairman I was elected Chairman in June 2015 and at the same time Richard became Vice Chairman.

Our village is set to benefit from a much improved and extended Children's Play Area including a Multi Use Games Area. The Parish Council is offering financial support to this project and I would like to thank Lisa Mathieson and Sharon Howard in particular for their considerable efforts in making this project possible. The MUGA was granted planning permission in November. I would also like to say a special thank you to Richard Delf who has not only been liaising over the new play area on behalf of the council but has also overseen the improvements to the existing facility – a lot of work and an excellent outcome.

I would also like to thank Steve Burley for his work in setting up our speed watch team. The group of volunteers who police this initiative also deserve our thanks for giving their time and energy to helping make Hempnall a safer place. Together with our SAM speed monitoring machine the speed watch team will enable us to assess the extent to which speeding vehicles are the reason why the B1527 in Hempnall is the scene of so many accidents. Many of us suspect that speed alone is not the only cause of a spate of accidents on the bends near Bay Cottages – a location that until recently was not an accident black spot. The parish council has asked the County Council to test the road surface to see if this is a contributory factor. We are also keen to see other measures implemented that will slow down traffic and encourage drivers to progress more cautiously along the B1527. Our request for chicanes has been rejected but we will be exploring how the parish partnership initiative could be employed to make alterations to this increasingly dangerous road.

Rapid and what I consider to be excessive development, particularly in and around Long Stratton (2,300 extra houses by 2026), poses a number of challenges for Hempnall. Traffic through the village will increase considerably as more motorists seek “rat runs” that will avoid the A140. The impact on the Krons and the village street as well as the B1527 will be very noticeable. We have asked NCC if they have assessed this impact and whether a roundabout at the Hempnall Crossroads (A140 / B1527 intersection) is guaranteed as part of the Long Stratton Area Action Plan. Their assurances on the latter fall short of a cast iron guarantee. A roundabout is certainly an aspiration of the plan but the detail of how it is to be paid for is as yet not clearly defined.

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Nevertheless Hempnall remains a very pleasant place in which to live and as the reports you are about to hear confirm it is obviously a very busy place in which lots of good things happen.

I would like to thank my fellow councillors for all the work they have put in this last year and our clerk Ian who ensures that our paperwork and accounting are in “apple pie” order. He really is a treasure – he makes complex sets of figures understandable to us laypeople. A word of thanks also to Alison Thomas who, as both District Councillor and County Councillor, has used her influence on a number of occasions to ensure that our voice is heard in the right places. And finally a big thank you to Geoff Moulton who retired from the council last year after many years of service, several of which were as Chairman.

David Hook - March 2016

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Financial Information – Extract from Full Accounts

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2016

<u>31st March</u> <u>2015</u> <u>£</u>		<u>Notes</u>	<u>31st March</u> <u>2016</u> <u>£</u>
	INCOME		
28,000.00	Precept		28,000.00
2,199.00	Council tax support grant		1,883.00
76.73	Interest on investments		85.12
200.00	Recycling receipts		200.00
16,025.50	Donations		115.00
125.00	Land rent	7	125.00
9,775.50	Loans taken out		-
-	Capital receipts	1b	3,775.40
1,316.29	Playing field Users Assn. Income	6	1,392.25
57,718.02	TOTAL INCOME		35,848.02
	EXPENDITURE		
1,392.49	General administration		1,887.22
4,078.54	Wages		3,675.60
1,765.61	Grass Cutting		1,688.46
563.17	Capital spending	1a	379.05
210.04	Street lighting		222.61
643.39	Annual subscriptions & donations		315.35
630.43	Litter Clearance		640.00
3,720.44	Playground Maintenance		314.39
400.00	Churchyard Maintenance		450.00
16,292.50	Village Hall Car Park repair		-
245.20	Dog Bins		252.56
9,775.50	Repayment of Loan		-
29,876.92	Wind Turbines		-
1,236.00	Playing field Users Assn. Expenditure	6	1,643.38
70,830.23	TOTAL EXPENDITURE		11,468.62
	GENERAL FUND		
39,553.50	General fund at beginning of year		26,924.17
57,718.02	Add total income	35,848.02	
(70,830.23)	less total expenditure	(11,468.62)	
(13,112.21)	Surplus/(Deficit)		24,379.40
26,441.29	General fund at end of year		51,303.57
563.17	Transfers from/(to) Capital Fund		(3,396.35)
-	Transfers from Earmarked Funds		251.13
(80.29)	Transfers to Earmarked Funds		-
26,924.17	Balance at 31st March 2016		48,158.35

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HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL

BALANCE

SHEET

AS AT 31ST MARCH 2016

<u>31st March</u> <u>2015</u> £		<u>Notes</u>	<u>31st March</u> <u>2016</u> £	£
	LONG TERM ASSETS			
5,000.00	Investments - National Savings Bonds			5,000.00
-	Long term debtors			-
<u>5,000.00</u>				<u>5,000.00</u>
	CURRENT ASSETS			
-	Debtors (Net of provisions)	4	125.00	
571.50	Payments in advance		375.25	
271.06	V.A.T. recoverable	4	1,184.72	
-	Temporary lending		-	
<u>27,054.39</u>	Cash at bank and in hand		<u>50,552.48</u>	
<u>27,896.95</u>				52,237.45
<u>32,896.95</u>	TOTAL ASSETS			<u>57,237.45</u>
	CURRENT LIABILITIES			
1,041.50	Creditors		827.60	
-	Receipts in Advance		<u>175.00</u>	
<u>1,041.50</u>				1,002.60
<u>31,855.45</u>	NET ASSETS			<u>56,234.85</u>
	REPRESENTED BY:			
2,244.10	General Fund - Earmarked	6	1,992.97	
<u>26,924.17</u>	General Fund - Not Earmarked		<u>48,158.35</u>	
29,168.27			50,151.32	
2,687.18	Capital Reserve	5	<u>6,083.53</u>	
<u>31,855.45</u>				<u>56,234.85</u>

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