

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL



Winter 2023/24 Newsletter

Affordable Housing in Hempnall *(Please complete the survey – think ahead)*

The parish council continues to take positive action via the planning process in partnership with Saffron Housing to increase the supply of affordable housing in the village. To strengthen this effort, it is important to identify the demand for such housing.



Saffron Housing Trust recently posted out a survey to all homes within the parish seeking responses on the need for Affordable Housing in the local community. Saffron is a registered charity and housing association managing over 6,800 homes across Norfolk and Suffolk and is working in conjunction with Hempnall Parish Council to explore the possibility of providing a small, sustainable development of Affordable Housing specifically to meet the housing needs of the parish. This covers both rented accommodation and forms of affordable home ownership, including Shared Ownership where between 10-75% equity can be purchased (with rent payable on the remainder).

We strongly encourage all households to complete the survey, even if you are not currently in need of Affordable Housing e.g. if you think you may need to move in to a Millfields style bungalow in the next few years please say so, in order that more properties of this type get built. The survey form can be returned using the pre-paid envelope provided, or alternatively can be completed online via the following link <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/affordnewhousing>. Please note the final date for forms to be returned or completed online is 31st March 2024. Additionally, if you are aware of anyone in your family or any previous resident of Hempnall who has left the village in recent years because they could not afford to remain living there they may also be eligible, so please encourage them to complete the online survey or to get in touch with us for a form. Contact details and further information on the types of Affordable Housing and eligibility can be found on our website at: www.saffronhousing.co.uk.

Flood Prevention Update

Following parish councillors meeting with the Environment Agency (“EA”), final design information and all the permissions and consents are being put in place to allow construction of natural flood management solutions along the southern watercourse above Hempnall (leading to the ford on the B1527 Woodton end of the village) with a view to work starting later this year.



A series of “leaky dams” will be used together with extra flood bunds (water collection ponds) together with 6m buffer strips and hedge planting either side of the watercourse. Along the watercourses east of the village, some existing ponds will be enlarged, and extra woodland buffer plots planted. Collectively these should slow down the flow of

water entering the village, thus making it easier for the existing waterways to deal with water flowing through the village and thus reduce flood risk.

We continue to work with the EA for more measures in other areas of the village.

Footpath cutting

Norfolk County Council is legally responsible for footpath cutting however, we have found that budget issues have led to fewer cuts of fewer paths making some unusable at times. The parish council has therefore resolved to undertake extra footpath cutting this year on key paths in the village.



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HPC now available "virtually" all the time at www.hempnallpc.org

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