

Hildersham Parish Council  
Clerk: Mrs. PM Harper  
17 Lewis Crescent, Great Abington, Cambridge CB21 6AG

**A Meeting of Hildersham Parish Council**

To be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2024, **starting at 7.30pm at the Hildersham Village Hall.**

**41. Sarah Sanderson Catchment Projects Officer for Cambridge and Staffordshire Water**, is leading Cambridge Water's chalk stream restoration programme in Cambridgeshire. Will talk about their flagship project which is on the River Granta **40.Open Forum** - Parishioners can raise any matters of concern.

**42. Apologies**

**43. Councillors to declare any interests in the items to be discussed during the meeting? Has the Clerk granted any dispensations under section 33 (1) of the Localism Act and the basis is set out under section 33(2)?**

**44. Approval of the minutes from the last meetings on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 11<sup>th</sup> June & 17<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**

**45. Report from District Councillor John Batchelor**

**46. Report from County Councillor and District Councillor Henry Batchelor**

**47. Feedback on actions from the last meetings**

- a) Is there sufficient interest in holding resuscitation training session in the village hall to make it worthwhile to arrange a training session?
- b) Requesting a new dog poo bin installed near the A1307.
- c) Council insurance claim for bus shelter panel paid.

**48. Biodiversity responsibility**

Under the 2021 Environment Act, public authorities (including town and parish councils) operating in England must consider what they can do to conserve and enhance biodiversity. Government guidance published on 17 May 2023 clarifies that, as a public authority, town and parish councils must (before January 2024):

To comply with the guidance, town and parish councils could as a minimum:

- have biodiversity as an agenda item for a meeting (if not already, as soon as possible).
- note what action they are already taking to conserve and enhance biodiversity.
- agree what further steps they should take to conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Such steps may include:

- reviewing what biodiversity or nature recovery plans are already in place from other local authorities, e.g. potential for jointly-supported wildlife corridors.
- **making contact with local voluntary groups working on nature conservation.**
- **carrying out a biodiversity audit of council landholdings** and/or the whole council area, potentially involving residents in a "BioBlitz"
- gathering expert advice on possible actions in support of biodiversity, such as from Caring for God's Acre and the Eco Church initiative in respect of churchyards

• **drafting an action plan that covers action that the council will take** itself as well as support for the actions of other local bodies.

**49. Neighbourhood Plan.**

a) Update

**50. Review and adopt the new Financial Regulations**

a) A new revised template was issued by NALC in April – Are councillors happy to adopt the tailored version of this document?

**51. Further recommendations from the Internal Auditor**

a) Reclaim VAT

b) Adoption of a publication scheme.

**52. Correspondences**

a) Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority bus franchise consultation will be held at IWM on 10<sup>th</sup> October between 6-8pm.

b) Complaint about the quality of the verge grass cutting.

c) History Group to be start in Hildersham.

**53. Finance**

a) Can the Council authorise the payments and approve the financial statement dated 24.09.2024?

**54. Open Forum for Parishioners to make comments or raise items**

**55. Items for the next meeting's agenda on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

## **Agenda for the Hildersham Land Management**

This meeting follows the Parish Council meeting

### **1. Maintenance of the new plantation-**

- a) Grass cut between the trees
- b) A gate for the new plantation so a ride on mower can access
- c) Maintenance of the plantation going forward

### **2. Allotment**

- a) Four plots let to new tenants with 3 remaining, but one has large tree that may need to be cut back or down.
- b) Allotment charges for the next year?
- c) When will the allotments be inspected?
- d) Queries from new allotment holder: can they fix new fencing, can they install a pond and can deliveries of compost come down Blench Land or should they barrow it in?
- e) Could the council arrange/facilitate the creation of an allotment WhatsApp group?
- f) Reducing height of the boundary hedge at the far end of the allotment and reducing or cutting down an ivy-covered tree in that location.

### **3. South Holding**

- a) Stolen bollards – an alternative to bollards at the entrance?

### **4. Recreation Ground**

- a) Loose fence post near village hall has been repaired.
- b) Tree over hanging at far end of Rec has been cut back.
- c) New Gate post required for gate by the bridge from the Rec
- d) Pollarding 2 willow trees near the bridge, Jon Watkins said they need doing (do we agree?).

### **5. Finance**

- a) Update

### **6. Update on actions from RoSPA Report**

- a) new swing and chains and Spring guard.