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HEMPNALL
PARISH **C**OUNCIL



Annual report for Hempnall Parish Council, 8 March 2011

Chairman's report / Review of the Year

My report for the year 2010/11 comes at the end of a thankfully peaceful and relatively uneventful year in the life of Hempnall Parish Council.

Probably the only significant change to the format of our meetings has been to meet monthly as opposed to bi-monthly. This now gives us the opportunity to consider and comment on all planning applications which come before us irrespective of submission and closing dates.

We have also moved our meetings from Wednesdays to Tuesdays as the former was sometimes difficult for some members to make due to commitments with other parish organisations. I believe this speaks volumes for the characters of my colleagues who give up their time so freely to contribute to a wide variety of village activities.

The change of meeting night has also necessitated a move from the village hall to the Mill Centre due to other organisation's activities, again this is a good positive reflection of the demand for our fine village hall.

My reports over the last few years have been dominated by the windfarm planning application in Busseys Loke and it came as no surprise when Enertrag (UK) announced their intention to resubmit a further scaled down application for turbines in the same area.

They (Enertrag) held a consultation event in Hempnall last January and it was moving again to witness the hundreds of local people who turned out to leave a very clear "no thank you message" ringing in the ears of the developer even if history suggests that listening to the views of the local population is not one of Enertrag's strengths.

However, the wind of change, no pun intended, could be blowing favourably for the majority of us who recognise the futility of onshore wind turbines as a credible contributor to renewable energy plans.

In last Saturday's EDP, I was delighted to learn that Enertrag (UK) Ltd are now "reviewing their plans" for development in Norfolk as a consequence of their failure to be granted planning permission for any of their onshore windfarm applications in our county.

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Interesting to note that their reasoning appears to focus on “lack of political will” from councils and our MP. This being the case, I applaud our district council for having the strength to oppose the Busseys Loke application on merit and not allow themselves to be swept along with a tide of ill conceived regional targets.

My personal thanks also goes to Richard Bacon, our MP, for his continued support in opposing this scheme.

Since my last report, you will not have failed to notice the change in the landscape along the street. As part of the overall plan to develop the school, the Highways Department in their wisdom, deemed that one of the few specimen Horse Chestnut trees left in the village could not coexist with the new opening to the school playing field and despite fierce opposition from this parish council, the authority was able to hide behind Health and Safety regulations as a means to justifying their decision to remove this fine feature.

In a couple of months time, there will be an election to decide which individuals will comprise your next parish council. Four members of the present council were voted in at the election in 1996, the remainder have been co-opted during the intervening years.

In a sense, I find it rather sad that since 1996, there has not been enough interest from villagers to stand for election and existing councils have been “rubber stamped” for further four year periods. Time will tell whether this trend is to continue and whatever the outcome, I would like to place on record my thanks to members of this council for their support over the years.

It is again a great pleasure to be able to thank Ian Nelson our parish clerk for yet another year’s excellent contribution to the smooth running of parish council affairs. Ian’s attention to detail is a valuable asset in all departments, especially those pertaining to finance. It is also good for me, in my role as chairman, to have a man of Ian’s integrity beside me to give me a subtle kick under the table when on the odd occasion I push protocol to the limit, thanks Ian!!

To Derek Cracknell, my perennial and sincere thanks are extended for his valuable work in keeping our village free from litter with his weekly cleansing sorties, long may Hempnall be fortunate enough to have people like Derek who care enough to make a difference.

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Financial Information – Extract from Full Accounts

HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2011

<u>31st March</u> <u>2010</u> £	<u>Notes</u>	<u>31st March</u> <u>2011</u> £
INCOME		
17,900.00		16,000.00
165.44		83.76
400.00		400.00
-		-
100.00	7	100.00
-		-
-		-
-	1b	-
1,319.12	6	1,490.22
<u>19,884.56</u>		<u>18,073.98</u>
EXPENDITURE		
1,287.34		1,572.26
3,095.30		3,173.04
2,436.79		2,545.40
720.00		510.00
268.00	1a	254.70
253.32		255.31
352.39		341.00
525.00		545.00
479.30		732.19
125.00		200.00
299.96		168.21
14,296.80		-
1,578.42	6	1,557.66
<u>25,717.62</u>		<u>11,854.77</u>
GENERAL FUND		
14,067.08		8,761.32
19,884.56		18,073.98
(25,717.62)		(11,854.77)
(5,833.06)		6,219.21
8,234.02		14,980.53
268.00		254.70
259.30		67.44
-		-
<u>8,761.32</u>		<u>15,302.67</u>
		Balance at 31st March 2011

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HEMPNALL PARISH COUNCIL
BALANCE
SHEET
AS AT 31ST MARCH 2011

<u>31st March</u> <u>2010</u> £	<u>Notes</u>	<u>31st March</u> <u>2011</u> £
LONG TERM ASSETS		
5,000.00		5,000.00
-		-
5,000.00		5,000.00
CURRENT ASSETS		
3.25	4	403.25
17.08	4	425.89
10,487.23		16,240.84
10,507.56		17,069.98
TOTAL ASSETS		
15,507.56		22,069.98
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
714.00		1,057.21
14,793.56		21,012.77
NET ASSETS		
REPRESENTED BY:		
2,156.53	6	2,089.09
8,761.32		15,302.67
10,917.85		17,391.76
3,875.71	5	3,621.01
14,793.56		21,012.77

The full accounts can be found at www.hempnallpc.org or on request from the clerk.

Councillor	Telephone No.
Geoffrey Moulton – Chairman	01508 482467
David Hook – Vice Chairman	01508 498187
Liz Allen	01508 499357
Debbie Ashford	01508 498242
Kevin Cunningham	01508 499502
Richard Delf	01508 499788
David Pointer	01508 498430
Mike Turner	01508 499423
Peter Workman	01508 499729

Ian Nelson - Clerk	01508 498467	theclerk@hempnallpc.org
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