Statement from the Chair of HPPC

Parish Council have attempted for the previous year to collaborate with the Community Garden Chair and Committee to produce a future plan for the use of this land; addressing various contraventions of the lease by CGC on this land and working amicably within a working group. It is unfortunate that invites by the PC were not accepted by the CGC.

The terms of the lease were outlined clearly when the PC agreed to allow CGC access to use the land and provided no formal agreement/sublease/tenancy.

HPPC have been transparent in plans; the land is to be returned to the permitted planning state alongside health & safety concerns being addressed. We are legally bound to abide by and uphold the law for such spaces.

Whilst the PC accepts that some members of the community may not agree with the decision, this situation has been marred by online misinformation surrounding this topic. To be clear; the plans to return the land to planning permitted are going ahead as a duty to the residents and compliance.

Moving forward, anyone will be welcome to put proposals forward for ideas to make the area more welcoming to all residents. These proposals can be discussed in a future monthly meeting.

Please bear in mind that the current lease terms stipulate that the PC is the sole occupier of the land to avoid further confusion of legal occupancy.

HPPC are committed to provide a safe and tranquil space to be enjoyed by residents and visitors of Heyford Park.

HPPC will no longer be engaging in communication regarding leaving the land in its current state for the reasons already outlined.