

HAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

2 Ashmore Drive, Gnosall, Stafford, ST20 0RP Tel: 01785 824749

Clerk's Report – February 2016

Planning

Application 15/23374/REM (11 houses on land adjacent to The Rectory on Rectory Lane). At the time of writing this report, the application is still pending. I informed you by email on 3rd February that the parish council's response was submitted on 26th January. The published response from Highways says "*the proposed development fails to make adequate provision for parking of vehicles within the site curtilage resulting in a likelihood of highway dangers. Plots 1, 2 and 5 appear to provide 2 parking spaces for a 4 bedroomed property when standards require 3 per property*"

The planning application at Deerhurst, as reported to you was refused as the application was *excessive in scale and massing and height and would form an over dominant and disproportionate addition unsympathetic to the existing property*. The applicant has now submitted another application **16/23590/HOU** that will be discussed at the meeting on Monday.

Correspondence

- Letter from Village Hall asking Haughton Parish Council to consider moving the defibrillator currently sited at the shops to the village hall. This is in light of an incident at the village hall when someone was taken ill. The Village Hall Committee feel that an incident is more likely to occur at the Hall than at the shops.
- Members Digest no 216 and 217
- Diversion order in respect of public footpath number 4
- Letter from JWH Ground Maintenance with details of mowing at the Village Hall – information passed to the Village Hall as requested.
- Letter from Lloyds Bank regarding changes to the Business Account – from 6 April 2016 all interest will be paid as gross and the parish council will be responsible for tax reporting to HMRC
- Parish Meeting – this will be held on April 25th, the same night as the April Council meeting. Confirmation has been received from Friends of Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archives that a representative will attend the parish meeting as a guest speaker.
- Weekly SPCA bulletins – emailed to cllrs for information
- Letter from Cllr M Winnington regarding the withdrawal of the West Staffordshire Connect Service (Dial a Ride transport service for the rural areas). After 12 months of use, the service has a total of 24 users with only 10 being regular users. The individual passenger cost is £25 per passenger per journey. The most regular user has cost the authority £16000.00 for their individual transport over the 12 month period. The service will stop on 24th March 2016
- Free audit information session delivered by Grant Thornton to be held on 22nd March in Stafford.
- Email from FMB Community Networks regarding a scheme to improve mobile coverage in rural areas with new technology
- Confirmation email from SCC that the greenway issues reported would be investigated
- Thank you email from St Giles Church for the Parish Council's contribution towards grass cutting costs.
- Call from Stafford Rangers enquiring about hiring football pitch.

- Email from Cllr Sutherland with responses from the last meeting regarding money collection and road side advertising
Re money collections it is recommended that the organisers contact Alistair Welch at SBC who will discuss this and advise accordingly.
- *Ranton School Advertising signs - The school may be contravening a signs bylaw which is monitored by our Enforcement Officers. However they will only investigate to see if there is a breach if they get a complaint.*

In previous correspondence to all cllrs, I raised my concerns that meetings are taking too long. There are no statutory provisions governing the length of meetings, but good practice indicates that 2 hours is enough. Therefore we must try and keep discussions brief and to the point. The Public Open Forum will be for a maximum of 10 minutes. Borough and County Cllrs will be informed that they have an agenda item to report issues and unless they are invited to speak, they should not partake in any of the parish council discussions.

Accounts for approval – February 2016

Paid To	Details	Amt	VAT	Total to pay
R Mathews	Salary	£49.21	£0	£49.21
J Cooper	Salary & expenses	£311.19	£0	£311.19
Haughton Village Hall	Hall Hire January 25 th	£23.00	£0	£23.00
A&J Engraving	village map	£132.00	£26.40	£158.40
			TOTAL	£541.80

Jayne Cooper

Clerk, Haughton Parish Council, 19th February 2016