

HAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Clerk's Report – January 2016

Planning

Application 15/23171/HOU at Deerhurst, Newport Road. Refused permission

Application 15/23374/REM was received before Christmas and details emailed to all councillors.

This is for Reserved Matters for the 11 houses on land adjacent to The Rectory on Rectory Lane. The outline planning application, number 13/19305/OUT is approved therefore we are now being asked to comment on the detail.

Correspondence

- SBC letter – The Plan for Stafford Borough Part 2, this is a crucial part of the new Local Plan for Stafford Borough to which all subsequent planning applications must conform. This consultation provides an opportunity to provide representations on the Plan for Stafford Borough Part 2 before the Submission document is prepared for examination. Following this consultation, publication will be reported back to Borough Council members and a summary published and made available on the Borough Council's website. The Council will then prepare The Plan for Stafford Borough for submission to the Secretary of State in the spring of 2016.
- SBC letter regarding Civic Amenity Visits for 2016/17. Charges are £82 for a 1 hour visit, £115 for 2 hours and £170 for 3 hours. Every third visit will be free of charge. *Cllrs to agree how many visits are required.*
- Letter from Parochial Church Council requesting any further contributions towards mowing costs and thanking the parish council for its support. *Cllrs to consider further contribution.*
- Members Digest numbers 214 and 215
- Email from SCC regarding signage for Christmas lights event
- Letter from the Chairman of Friends of Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Archive Service (FoSSA). This charity is raising funds to enable the digitisation of the tithe maps of Staffordshire parishes. The purpose is to make these maps more readily available and save originals from wear and tear. The request is for Haughton PC to make a donation of £40 which would enable the tithe map of the parish of Haughton to be digitised as part of the project. In return for sponsorship one of the members would be happy to give a talk about tithe maps or would provide a copy of the digitised map on cd. *Cllrs to consider this request*
- Best Kept Village 2016 Entry Forms
- Staffordshire in the Great War : Impressions of War to be held on Saturday 5th March 2016 at National Memorial Arboretum, Croxall Road, Alrewas – details emailed to cllrs previously
- Email from local Sustrans volunteer regarding the Staffordshire County Council Countryside Estates Review, one of the areas runs through Haughton Parish. Request for Haughton PC to complete the consultation. Link below:

<https://consultation.staffordshire.gov.uk/insight-planning-and-performance/countryside-estate-consultation>

Councillor Training

- Another training session for councillors on the role of a councillor has been arranged by SPCA and will be held on Monday 15th February from 7pm-9pm. This would be very useful for newer

councillors but also for other councillors should they want to attend. Cllr Grattage will be attending. If any other councillor would like to attend, please let me know.

- A new training session on Land Use and Management – to be held on 10th February 2016

Meetings

The regular date for March Council meeting will clash with Easter Monday therefore will be held on Wednesday 23rd March at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Parish Meeting – this will be held on April 25th, the same night as the April Council meeting. We need to think of a guest speaker. Could cllrs give this some thought please.

Reports from Councillors

Cllr D Warbrick

1 Playing field December 2015

I met representative with Peter Lawrence from the Staffordshire Football Association together with an expert groundsman to inspect and give report of the state of the football ground pitch. A full written report together with diagrams and photos have been issued and copies available for file.

General summary: Pitch in relatively good shape considering little or no fertilizer maintenance or drainage having taken place for 25 + years. However if it is to be played on regularly it would require drainage action as outlined in the report and also a regime of graduated grass cutting, the cost would be aprox. £3000 initially and then more regular cutting than at present, grants may be available but we would need to have a regular registered football team playing on the pitch.

I would suggest in the present fiscal climate we leave things as they are and leave the pitch as a “knock about” pitch. We have received a request from a team who wish to use it for 3 or 4 warm up games in March. Would the Council please advise on what action I should take as the pitch will need the grass cutting.

2 Chairman’s Training Course December 2015

I attended a Chairman’s Training Course at Stafford Place. Very good course well attended and informative.

3 B.K.V 2016

Awaiting a volunteer to come forward to take this project on, monies left over from 2015 available, the Clerk has details.

4 Grass Cutting Contract 2016/18. January 5th 2016

I accompanied a representative from A.M.S. Landscapers around the village prior to them submitting a Tender.

5 Christmas Lights 2015/16

Several verbal complaints received of villagers concerns regarding traffic issues and pedestrians with children crossing the roads adjacent to Station Road. Many villagers think that the lights display is organised by the Parish Council, I think for next year clarification is required that it is not organised by the Parish Council.

6 Bus Shelter Damage November 2015

Repairs not yet started.

Cllr I Forrester

1 Allimore Green

Nothing to report with connection to Allimore Green Common except that the common is extremely wet! Access to the common at the moment is very difficult. I am waiting to hear from the wild life trust as to any plans for the common for the next year.

Cllr G Anslow

1 Village Hall Committee

The Village Hall Committee is considering options with the grass-cutting. The Committee would be interested to know the annual cost to them for 12 cuts, and the price for any additional cuts. The committee would also like it cut to lawn standard, with the grass cuttings removed. There will be a reduction in the area to be cut when the car park has been resurfaced in the spring. The car park resurfacing is expected to be completed in the week beginning 28th March, with the hall back in use on 4th April.

Cllr T Grattage

1 The War memorial project

I have had a very detailed email from the Small Grants Trust. They require another two comprehensive quotes. I now have to find two more specialist contractors, and then send all photographs detailing the work required. The Trust has recommended the work be done in two parts. This is an ongoing project and will be completed as soon as possible.

2 Haughton Christmas Lights

Over the period the Christmas Lights were on, my wife and I had delight and pride in walking through the village. The praise visitors and locals expressed to us was really heart-warming and knowing that charities were to benefit from such a fantastic display was a bonus. This is a credit to the village and the memory of Bert Moore. I would also like to add that at the times of our walks, pedestrians and traffic were showing a duty of care and consideration. If anything the lights acted as a sort of traffic calming measure, even quite late into the night, we were not hearing the regular speeding cars that generally disturb our peace in the evening. Now knowing the final money raised is £8,000 - Well done Haughton.

Accounts for approval – January 2016

Paid To	Details	Amt	VAT	Total to pay
R Mathews	Salary	£49.61	£0	£49.61
J Cooper	Salary & expenses	£349.78	£0	£294.79
SPCA	Chairman's training	£20.00	£0	£20.00
Staffordshire FA	Pitch Inspection	£50.00	£0	£50.00
Stafford B/Council	uncontested election expenses	£110.51	£0	£110.51
			TOTAL	£424.91

Jayne Cooper

Clerk, Haughton Parish Council, 15th January 2016