



Haughton Parish Council Newsletter

February
2013

Best Kept Village 2013 — Haughton goes for the hat trick !!

The Parish Council is tremendously proud to announce that, following the successes of 2011 and 2012, we are aiming to be awarded the title of **Best Kept Large Village** in Staffordshire for the third successive year.

The success of the campaign depends on the support of everyone who lives and works in the village and the initial meeting gives the opportunity for all ages of the community to meet and discuss ways in which our village can be further improved, so —

You are invited to attend

**The Best Kept Village Competition 2013
Launch Meeting**
to be held at
Haughton Village Hall
on
Friday 8th March at 7.30pm

Please join us at the meeting and help Haughton once again achieve success through combined community effort and pride in our environment.

The key individuals who are contributing to the project this year are:

- ⇒ **Gill Anslow** — who will be looking after publicity for the project.
- ⇒ **Derek Warbrick** — who, as Vice Chairman of the Council, represents the BKV work and progress (and of course ensures funding!) within Parish Council meetings.
- ⇒ **Our Sponsors** — the many local businesses who generously sponsor the BKV work that is needed to ensure success.
- ⇒ **Yourselves as volunteers** — for all of the excellent work that will be carried out over many weeks to make sure that the village looks its best, and — obviously — residents who create some of the fabulous gardens that impress the judges so well.

We would of course like to especially thank **Maxine Hutt** who did a brilliant job in coordinating all of the successful 2012 BKV activities, but who unfortunately cannot be involved in the project this year. **Ken Hewitt** will kindly be taking over this role for 2013.

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Neighbourhood Watch

As many of you will already know, Haughton has an active Neighbourhood Watch programme in place, which no doubt has made the village a more secure and safe place in which to live. However there have been a number of recent criminal activities worthy of mention. These have included thefts from outbuildings on the Church Eaton road, an arson incident at the village shops, the theft of the swing gate into the Jim Jarvis Playing Field and an attempt to steal the large access gate into the Playing Field.

If you have any concerns about anything of a potentially criminal nature, please contact your local Neighbourhood Watch representative or **David Hutt**, the overall Haughton village coordinator on **780455**.

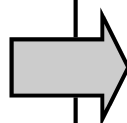
Street Lighting Consultation

In the September 2012 issue of the Parish Newsletter we provided information supplied by Staffordshire County Council regarding Operational Changes being proposed for street and highway lighting, covering both the A518 road through the village and our various residential streets. We have subsequently had a number of contacts from villagers with concerns about these plans, and we would like to emphasise that any changes to the village lighting regime will only be done after full consultation with residents and subse-

quently communicated to the County Council by the Parish Council, under the Government localisation agenda.

One related example to this was that there was a recent request to have one street light at the corner of Brooke End switched off. The Parish Council undertook a mini "referendum" of the residents in the area to obtain their collective views and the outcome of this, by a substantial majority, was that the light in question was left unaltered in terms of times for switching on and off.

Important Date



The **Annual Parish Assembly** evening is now arranged for **Monday 22nd April 2013** which will include the Chairman's Annual Report and a guest speaker. Details will be published in a future Newsletter. Please come along if you possibly can.

Parish Recycling Projects

The Parish Council is currently looking into a Community Parish Recycling project which will facilitate the recycling of textiles, small electrical items and books using local facilities such as distributed yellow bags (which will be distributed with a subsequent Parish Newsletter by the Parish Council) and a central textile bank unit - a convenient location to be arranged.

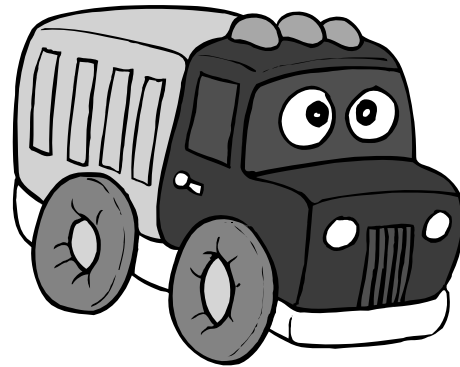
There are a number of advantages to this scheme, most importantly:

1. It actively recycles material
2. It is free to implement
3. It is local to the village
4. It raises notable funds for reinvesting in the village

This scheme has already been piloted with other Staffordshire Parish Councils with very impressive results and the Councils in question have been able to reinvest the gained funds into planned local areas..

Meetings are being arranged with the service provider (European Textile Recycling Ltd.) and other village organisations and we will keep you in touch with progress as soon as we can.

Amenity Van

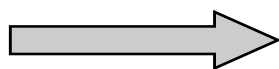


As in previous years, the Borough Council Amenity Van is being scheduled for a visit to Haughton, which will allow residents to dispose — and where appropriate recycle — any large items that would normally have to go to the Council Refuse Collection Centre at St. Albans Road.

The exact dates are not yet confirmed, but they will be during the months of May 2013, September 2013 and January 2014.

As soon as this information is to hand, we will let you know.

Worth Noting !



The Pharmacy at Gnosall Health Centre is no longer open on Saturday mornings, although all other opening times remain unchanged.

February 2013

Another Award for Haughton !!

We are also proud to highlight that Haughton was recently given the Green Award 2012 by Stafford Borough Council under their Community and Wellbeing programme. This was for the wildlife project within St. Giles Churchyard. So many congratulations to **Ken and Veronica Hewitt** who looked after this project on Haughton's behalf.



Adult Exercise Equipment

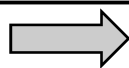
Just a gentle reminder — now that the weather is starting to improve (hopefully !), the adult fitness equipment is waiting and ready for you to use so please come along and take advantage of the kit. Sadly we also have to report that the swing gate into the playing field was recently stolen and an attempt was also made to steal the large metal access gate, although as this is securely chained, this attempt was unsuccessful. Yet another reason for good Neighbourhood Watch activities.

Current Parish Councillors:

Chairman:	Mike Allen	780328	Councillor:	Gill Anslow	780371
Vice-Chairman:	Derek Warbrick	780592	Councillor:	Ian Forrester	780124
Treasurer:	Ian Sunley	780585	Councillor:	Mike Little	780594
Barry Stamp (also Borough Councillor)		822723	Clerk:	Julie Hill	282607



Key Dates:



Parish Council Meeting:

Monday 25th March

Best Kept Village launch meeting:

Friday 8th March

Parish Annual Assembly:

Monday 22nd April

Village Hall AGM:

Friday 26th April