

HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 17th December 2024 at the Ron Crascall Pavilion

Present	Mr G Brown (Chairman), Mrs. J Day, Mrs A Pepper, Mrs. T Shaw, Mr M Smith, T Sparkes, Ms. S Swinge, Mrs Y Tricker, Mr M Bloom, Mr Tim Peerless, District Councillor Janet Pearson and County Councillor Andrew Stringer															
1.	Apologies for Absence 1. District Councillor Rachel Eburne . The members accepted the apologies:															
2.	Declarations of Interest No declaration of interest was received.															
3.	Dispensations No request for Dispensation was received.															
4.	Minutes All Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes. Mrs S Swinge proposed to accept the minutes of 19 November 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. Mr M Smith seconded with all in favour.															
5.	Action log The Councillors noted the action log, and additional comments were made: <table border="1" data-bbox="311 1355 1489 1973"> <thead> <tr> <th>ACTION</th> <th>COMMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Junior Football Pitch</td> <td>On-going</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCC PROW Officer - upgrade of foot-path and new footpath (Fishponds Way)</td> <td>On-going</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Land adj to The Cricket - register with Land Registry</td> <td>04.10.24 - Solicitor requires further supporting evidence from the Council on each land parcel so they can analyse the strength of each possible application for ownership based on either lost title deeds or adverse possession.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Posts Project (Consultation)</td> <td>On-going. Proposed agenda item</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Bellway transfer of Wildflower meadow</td> <td>On-going</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Greens Policy - second draft</td> <td>On hold - until the Post Project has been completed</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		ACTION	COMMENT	Junior Football Pitch	On-going	SCC PROW Officer - upgrade of foot-path and new footpath (Fishponds Way)	On-going	Land adj to The Cricket - register with Land Registry	04.10.24 - Solicitor requires further supporting evidence from the Council on each land parcel so they can analyse the strength of each possible application for ownership based on either lost title deeds or adverse possession.	Posts Project (Consultation)	On-going. Proposed agenda item	Bellway transfer of Wildflower meadow	On-going	Greens Policy - second draft	On hold - until the Post Project has been completed
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Register pockets of land in the Parish	As 5. above
Proposal for email group - residents	Awaiting costings for the proposal
Set up Working Group for 4g Pitch	Hold
Haughley Green - Horse slow signs	On-going
Haughley Green - upgrade Foot-path/verges	Awaiting date for meeting with Andrew Stringer
Arrange meeting with MP	Mrs. A Pepper has agreed to follow this up
PR Campaign suggestions to Mrs. S Swinge	Awaiting proposal
Kerb and posts - Village Green	Date rescheduled to allow for road closure order
Public open space advice - MSDC Land at Station Road	On going. Janet arranging meeting for Chair with MSDC
Application SID post Haughley Green	In progress
Order Solar SID Device	Received
Allotment renewals	Feedback report
Tim Peerless - welcome. Acceptance of office and Register of Interests	In progress
Parish Online annual subscription for Mapping Software	Completed
Green Suffolk - agree wording of sentence and submit	Completed
Grass cutting at chutrchyard services - forward to Church	Completed
Andy Flint - resignation. Notify MSDC, post Notice on notice board	In progress
Haughley PC website -	In progress
Parish Website	In progress
Planning application - DC/24/04768 - Hill House, Haughley Green	Extension requested
Station Road development - naming	Correspondence
Pride in Your Place - application for Grant Funding	In progress
VE day and VJ 20 Anniversary commemoration	In progress

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6.	<p>Public Forum</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>
7.	<p>To receive written reports from County Councillor Andrew Stringer</p> <p>The members confirmed receipt of the report prior to the meeting. County Councillor A Stringer highlighted:</p> <p>Flooding Investigations and Prevention</p> <p>At Cabinet on Tuesday 5 November, a decision was made by the council that it would allocate £1.5m from its reserves to deal with the recommendations which have come out of the flood investigation (Section 19) reports following Storm Babet last October. The money will mostly be used for highways flood mitigation and drainage work but some will be put aside to develop longer-term schemes and accessing funding for further flood protection for the county. The money will not fix all problems with flooding in the county and the £1.5m relates only to the recommendations from the reports published so far (10 reports out of the 48 commissioned). The works funded via this decision will be carried out between now and March 2026, and additional funding is required because the council would ordinarily only carry out three or four investigations a year – Storm Babet means that nearly 50 will be needed. Flood investigations are prioritised in locations where five or more properties have been flooded, or flooding to major infrastructure for 10 hours or more.</p> <p>This page on the SCC website gives information on the locations that will be subject to flood investigations as a result of Storm Babet: https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/storm-babet</p> <p>This page contains links to all of the flood investigation reports published so far by the council (not just for Storm Babet reports from 2024, reports from previous years are also included): https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/flooding-and-drainage/flood-management-in-suffolk/flood-investigation-reports</p> <p>Please see links at the bottom of this report on how to protect your property from flooding and advice on how to deal with the aftermath of flooding.</p> <p>Loft Insulation Offer for Suffolk Residents</p> <p>For the second year running, Suffolk’s Public Sector Leaders are providing funding to help Suffolk residents make their homes warmer and save money on their energy bills by providing discounted loft insulation - an uninsulated home can lose up to a quarter of its heat through its</p>

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roof. The Suffolk Loft Insulation Offer enables homeowners in Suffolk to receive a 50% discount (up to £200) and free delivery on orders of 200mm or 370mm wide eco-friendly thermal insulation rolls from High Loft, the UK's leading eco loft insulation brand. Last year, the project enabled the insulation of over 5,000m² of roofs in Suffolk, and this year the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership wants to double that figure. The offer is open to anyone in Suffolk and will only close once the allocated funding has been spent. Visit <https://highloft.co.uk/pages/suffolk-council-200-loft-insulation-contribution> and fill in the form to receive your discount code.

More Home Energy Efficiency Schemes

The council's new £3m fund for interest-free loans to residents wishing to undertake home energy efficiency upgrades that was mentioned in last month's parish report is now active, and applications can now be made at <https://www.lendology.org.uk/warm-home-suffolk-loan>. Energy efficiency upgrades such as insulation, solar panels, batteries, glazing, or heat pumps are possible with loans from £2,000 to £15,000 to be repaid over a maximum of seven years at 0% interest. A Suffolk Retrofit Assessment Voucher Scheme is also launching, funded by Suffolk Public Sector Leaders, whereby homeowners in Suffolk will be able to apply for a voucher that covers the cost of a professional retrofit assessment on their home property. These assessments are the first step towards making their home more energy-efficient, lowering their bills and reducing their carbon footprint. Residents who own a home with an EPC band of below C can take up the offer of a voucher to claim an assessment from a PAS 2035 Retrofit Assessor who will identify the best measures for their home, for example insulation, draft proofing, ventilation repairs, low carbon heating or solar panels. The assessment report will also incorporate analysis of the cost vs benefit of implementing the suggested improvements. The assessment is free for those with properties smaller than 98m², with a maximum additional charge of £30 for larger properties bigger.

Homeowners can check to see if their property has an existing Energy Certificate with an EPC band and record of their property size at gov.uk/find-energy-certificate. They can apply for the vouchers by visiting suffolkenergyassessment.co.uk. Applications are open now, and vouchers will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

Devolution Deal

Following the new governments shelving the previous devolution deal for Suffolk, the Government has published a white paper outlining the approach they wish to see in reforming local government, including the abolition of District Councils. Elected Mayors and large (500,000) Unitary

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	<p>authorities are the goal for the largest local government reform since 1972, when the two (3 including parish councils) tier local governance structure was introduced.</p> <p>While there are obvious benefits to having a one stop for all things local government, but if this is to be introduced without losing the “local” from local government the minimum resident number needs to be more flexible, With the current figure of 500,000 residents per council this means only one council for the whole of Suffolk would fit this requirement.</p> <p>Lawn Farm Quarry Planning Application</p> <p>The Planning Application to extend the size and working life of Lawn Farm Quarry Wetherden is now not being heard today (17.12.2024) the application is now being heard in early February 2025, after a site visit on Friday January 31st 2025.</p>
8.	<p>To receive written reports for information only from District Councillors Rachel Eburne & Janet Pearson</p> <p>The members confirmed receipt of the report prior to the meeting. District Councillor J Pearson highlighted:</p> <p>Pride in your Place</p> <p>This grant has just been launched (1st December) for a second year. The the application window will remain open until the annual £50,000 budget is fully allocated across the district. Grants of between £250 and £5,000 may be applied for and eligible projects include, but are not limited to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planting • The development of local history, heritage culture • The purchasing of village signs • The purchasing of seating and benches for community spaces • Maintenance or enhancement of open public spaces • The purchase of equipment to enable the maintenance of open public spaces, including community litter picks. <p>Applications can be submitted via the Community Funding page of the Council’s website:-Mid Suffolk District Council Funding - Mid Suffolk District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk</p> <p>Waste collection over Christmas and New Year</p> <p>Details of the waste collection schedule over the holiday period, including real Christmas tree recycling, are available at Christmas waste collections - Mid Suffolk District Council -</p>

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	<p>babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk.</p> <p>Devolution</p> <p>There has been speculation in the press recently about the possibility of the two-tier local government system in Suffolk being abolished. It is, at the moment, speculation. There has been no information or guidance issued to the Council although a White Paper is expected this month. However our stated position is that, if a single-tier local government model were to be pursued then we want to ensure that whatever arrangements are introduced have the interests of our communities and residents at their heart. District councils are close to their communities and any reorganization must maximise the benefits for residents of Suffolk with real local democratic accountability at the forefront.</p> <p>Planning matters0</p> <p>The Council has just (11th December) published its Five Year Housing Land Supply Position Statement (Report) . This calculation is based on the Annual housing requirement of 535 per year set out in the current Joint Local Plan Part 1(babergh-and-mid-suffolk-joint-local-plan-part1-nov-2023) whereas the government has recently announced an annual requirement of 734 dwellings per year for Mid Suffolk. However the Position statement shows a sufficient Land Supply of 10.46 years.</p> <p>Taxi bus</p> <p>Now that the new service has been launched it is important that residents' views and comments are submitted via the website (Stowmarket Circular via Bacton Mid Suffolk Taxi Bus) so that they can be taken into account when the initial review is carried out at the end of the year.</p> <p>Locality Awards 2024/25</p> <p>We still have a small amount of funding available for Locality Awards for this year and look forward to receiving any final applications from eligible groups within the Parish.</p> <p>https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/mid-suffolk/w/locality-awards</p>
9.	<p>Planning</p> <p>Councillors to review and approve a response to the following planning applications:</p>

Signed Chairman:

Date:

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/24/04768

Proposal: Planning Application. Conversion of annexe into 1no separate dwelling

Location: Hill House, Haughley Green, Haughley, IP14 3RR

Agreed – no response

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/24/04890

Proposal: Planning Application - Erection of a Class E(g) commercial building

Location: **Land At Stag Cafe, Old A45, Woolpit, Suffolk**

Response

Haughley Parish Council **OBJECTS** to the proposal.

Haughley New Street in particular would be adversely affected by the increased number and noise of vehicles passing through the hamlet. Other roads nearby with weight restrictions. Various other roads nearby are subject to with weight restrictions

Copy of traffic count report recently received to be attached. We request that District Council considers in particular the following reports

- “2285 Haughley New Street, Haughley”,
- “2287 Stowmarket Road, Haughley” and
- “Sites 281024 October 2024 - ATC Summary”.

The following two paragraphs are extracts from the Consulting Engineer to Haughley Parish Council.

- ‘It’s interesting to note on page 5 of the Summary (Sites_281024) that regardless of the A14, the trend in the volume of traffic (dotted line) on Haughley New Street and Stowmarket Road has increased at a greater rate than that of the other roads in the study.’
- ‘Similarly, on page 6 of the Summary, the trend in the percentage of commercial vehicles (line) on Station Road, The Folly and Stowmarket Road have increased at a greater rate than that of the other roads in the study. It should also be noted that all roads in the study have a percentage of commercial vehicles in excess of what would be expected for the national UK average for the road type (Rural Minor Road).’

Haughley Parish Council requests that an effective traffic management plan be agreed and followed to cover areas away from the proposed site to include Haughley New Street during the construction phase and subsequently during occupation of the premises.

We recommend that west bound HGV to the site turns at Junction 47, rejoins A14 east bound and leaves A14 at Junction 47A to approach the premises.

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APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/24/05359

Proposal: Householder application - Erection of ground floor extension and alterations

Location: **Stansfield House, Wetherden Road, Haughley**, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 3RE

Agreed response – Haughley Parish Council SUPPORTS this application

APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION - DC/24/04412

Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of 1no. Dwelling (as Previously approved under DC/20/01118)

Location: **Old Bells Yard, Wassicks Lane, Haughley**, Suffolk

Given that the District Council has recently advised that Prior Approval requested under DC/24/04323 has been REFUSED and that Formal Approval is Required, Haughley Parish Council

OBJECTS to the Application **DC/24/04412**.

1. Access is very poor, there being a very long distance between the application site and a metalled highway and/or pavement
2. The proposal is for very large residential unit which is considered to be overly large for the area and location
3. The site with parts of the homestead is used for commercial purposes
4. The property is contrary to the adopted Haughley Neighbourhood plan, being outside any Housing Settlement Boundary and therefore within the Countryside
5. If approved, this application together with others submitted for this farmstead would establish a community of houses outside any Housing Settlement Boundary

APPLICATION FOR RESERVED MATTERS - DC/24/05355

Proposal: Submission of Details (Reserved Matters) Application relating to DC/19/03851. Appearance, Layout and Scale of 2no buildings for development comprising a mixture of B1/B2/B8 uses.

Location: Plot 4, Land At Lawn Farm, Warren Lane, Woolpit IP30 9RS

Haughley Parish Council **OBJECTS** to the proposal.

1. Haughley New Street in particular would be adversely affected by the increased number and noise of vehicles passing through the hamlet. Other roads nearby with weight restrictions. Various other roads nearby are subject to with weight restrictions
2. Copy of traffic count report recently received is attached. We request that District Council considers in particular the following reports

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10.	<p>Haughley Christmas Event</p> <p>Councillors discussed the positive feedback received and agreed to start preparations on next year’s Christmas Event early in the New Year. Suggestion: possible charging for commercial stalls to attend.</p>
11.	<p>Pride in Place Community Grant</p> <p>Councillors discussed and agreed to apply for grant funding. Cllr Janet Pearson was asked to confirm available funds and closing date. Subject to these outcomes, Ms S. Swinge, Mrs Y. Tricker and Mrs A. Pepper to lead on drafting an application.</p>
12.	<p>Traffic Count Information</p> <p>Councillors confirmed receipt of reports and discussed the significant findings. Further traffic calming measures may assist.</p>
13.	<p>Station Road Development: Name Suggestions</p> <p>Councillors discussed the request from Flagship Homes for a recommendation for the naming of</p>

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	the new Station Road Development. Suggestions of 1. Gooseberry 2. Wiseman in the name were proposed by Mrs T. Shaw, seconded by Ms S. Swinge with all in favour.																									
14.	<p>VE Day Commemoration Preparations</p> <p>In preparation for the 80th anniversary of VE Day, councillors discussed potential awareness raising and community engagement activities. These included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liaison with the local British Legion and others 2. Picnic on the village green with support from the local pub 3. Lighting of the village beacon 4. Engagement with the local scout group <p>A working party will be established in the new year, with Ms S. Swinge and Mr G Brown leading.</p>																									
15.	<p>Suffolk Wildlife Trust Report</p> <p>Councillors noted receipt of the report</p>																									
16.	<p>B&MSDC Housing Supplementary Planning Document</p> <p>Councillors noted receipt of the report</p>																									
17.	<p>Finance</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors noted receipts received since the last meeting 2. Councillors reviewed and approved the 2025/26 draft budget. Proposed-Approved by Mr M. Smith and seconded by Mr M Bloom, with all in favour. 3. Councillors confirmed the November payments: <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Expenditure</th> <th></th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Beaver & Macaw</td> <td>- Day ATC Surveys - Various location in Haughley</td> <td>£ 1,280.00</td> <td>£ 256.00</td> <td>£ 1,536.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Beaver & Macaw</td> <td>1. Analyse July traffic counts and produce initial advice</td> <td>£ 590.00</td> <td>£ -</td> <td>£ 590.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>2. Analyse October traffic counts and produce initial advice</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rougham Estate</td> <td>17-18ft Norway Spruce</td> <td>£ 163.21</td> <td>£ 32.64</td> <td>£ 195.85</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Expenditure		Net	VAT	Total	Beaver & Macaw	- Day ATC Surveys - Various location in Haughley	£ 1,280.00	£ 256.00	£ 1,536.00	Beaver & Macaw	1. Analyse July traffic counts and produce initial advice	£ 590.00	£ -	£ 590.00		2. Analyse October traffic counts and produce initial advice				Rougham Estate	17-18ft Norway Spruce	£ 163.21	£ 32.64	£ 195.85
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	Parish Christmas Event	Fuel for the generators	£ 31.50		£ 31.50
	Parish Christmas Event	Actual Equipment Hire	£ 83.10	£ 16.62	£ 99.72
	Parish Christmas Event	Chocolate Father Christmas	£ 117.81		£ 117.81
	Parish Christmas Event	Printing Costs	£ 68.99		£ 68.99
	Scribe	Monthly Subscription	£ 42.00	£ 8.40	£ 50.40
	Wages	Joe Winter	£ 685.08		£ 685.08
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	Wages	Katie Power	£ 400.39		£ 400.39
	Wages	Claire Pizzey	£ 51.46		£ 5.45
			£ 4,198.62	£ 313.66	£ 4,466.27
	Proposal to approve all payments by Mrs T Shaw and seconded Ms S Swing with all in favour.				
18.	Chairmans Report The members confirmed receipt of the report. No comment was made.				
19.	Clerk's Report The members confirmed receipt of the report. No comment was made.				
20.	Councillors Issues No issues raised.				
21.	Correspondence Councillors noted correspondence circulated.				
22.	Date of next meetings: 1. Parish Council meeting Tuesday 21 st January 2025 at Ron Crascall Pavilion at 7.00 pm				
	There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20.54				
<p>A copy of any reports or correspondence cited in the minutes can be made available from the clerk on receipt of written application clerk@haughleypc.co.uk</p>					

Signed Chairman:

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