

HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19th November 2024 at the Ron Crascall Pavilion

Present	G Brown (Chairman), Mrs. J Day, A. Flint, Mrs A Pepper, Mrs. T Shaw, M Smith, T Sparkes, Ms. S Swinge, Mrs Y Tricker, District Councillor Janet Pearson and County Councillor Andrew Stringer	
1.	Apologies for Absence 1. The members accepted the apologies: Mr M Bloom and Rachel Eburne	
2.	Declarations of Interest - No declaration of interest was received.	
3.	Dispensations - No request for Dispensation was received.	
4.	Co-option of a new Parish Councillor 1. Tim Peerless has expressed an interest in joining the parish council. G Brown proposed he be accepted as a member. Sarah Swinge seconded with all in favour.	
5.	Minutes All Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes. 1. G Brown proposed to accept the minutes of 15 th October 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. A Flint seconded with all in favour.	
6.	Action log The Councillors noted the action log, and additional comments were made:	
	Item no.	ACTION
	1	Junior Football Pitch
	2	SCC PROW Officer - upgrade of footpath and new footpath (Fishponds Way)
	5	Land adj to The Cricket - register with Land Registry
	7	Posts Project (Consultation)
	13	Bellway transfer of Wildflower meadow

Signed Chairman:

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	15	Greens Policy - second draft			
	20	Register pockets of land in the Parish			
	23	Proposal for email group - residents			
	25	Set up Working Group for 4g Pitch			
	46	Haughley Green - Horse slow signs			
	85	Haughley Green - upgrade Footpath/verges			
	94	Arrange meeting with MP			
	99	PR Campaign suggestions to Mrs. S Swinge			
	100	Kerb and posts - Village Green			
	101	Public open space advice - MSDC Land at Station Road			
	102	Quotes Strimming - HPIB			
	103	Order new Planter			
	104	Arrange for Handy Man to move Grit Bin - Harvest Close			
	105	Application post Haughley Green			
	106	Order Solar SID Device			
	107	Allotment renewals			
	108	SALC - Payroll			
	<p>Updates below:</p> <p>106 – Solar SID has arrived</p> <p>104 – Complete</p> <p>102 – Complete</p> <p>103 – Complete</p>				
7.	<p>Public Forum</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p>				
8.	<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 Andrew Stringer highlighted:</p> <p>Extension of the North Falls Windfarm</p> <p>Cabinet on 8 October also included the council’s response to the proposed wind farm extension at North Falls. This will be off the coast of Essex with no onshore infrastructure in Suffolk, although it still has the potential to affect transport routes, Suffolk ports and the local workforce. It will be visible from Suffolk but the impact of this has been judged as less than significant. The connection for this scheme to the National Grid is planned to be at Lawford, which will only be possible if the planned Norwich to Tilbury grid reinforcement goes ahead. Our group pointed out that consent should not be granted for schemes that depended on other projects which were not yet approved, but it was noted that this was not unusual for the National Grid, which often granted grid connections for projects where there was no guarantee they would proceed.</p>				

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Improving Access to GPs

At October's Health Scrutiny Committee, we heard from the NHS Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) about what they were doing to improve access to GPs in the county. Low numbers of GPs and a high demand for appointments has caused problems recently with many people unable to make appointments to see their doctors. The committee heard how practices were switching to cloud-based telephony to decrease the reliance on a limited number of phone lines (which contributes to the chaos of the 8am rush for appointments each morning), and digital booking so that AI can prioritise the urgency of appointments based on symptoms (it is still possible to book appointments by phone and in person if patients are unable to book online). The ICBs are also making an effort to train GPs and other practice medical staff locally as this means they are more likely to stay in the area. Some services, like blood pressure checks and contraception, can now be accessed at pharmacies. Members of the committee expressed concern that community pharmacies are also under pressure currently, and also that GP surgery buildings were in a poor state, with some plans for new surgeries abandoned due to cost, such as the Cardinal Practice in north west Ipswich. It was agreed that the physical buildings of the NHS – their 'estate' would be looked at in Health Scrutiny at a later date.

Cuts to Winter Fuel Payment

At Full Council on 17 October, a motion was passed that the council would write to the government and ask them to reverse the decision they have made to cut the eligibility for the winter fuel payment for pensioners. It is estimated that this will affect thousands of pensioners in the county. The council also announced a new £3m fund for interest-free loans to residents wishing to undertake energy efficiency upgrades such as insulation, solar panels, batteries, glazing, or heat pumps. The loans (up to £15,000) to be repaid over a maximum of seven years at 0% interest. The scheme will be open to homeowners across Suffolk from November, but you can register your interest now at <https://www.lendology.org.uk/warm-home-suffolk-loan>. Our group are obviously in favour of retrofitting homes to make them more energy efficient, although as the council will be returning an unspent £5m to the government in March from their previous retrofitting scheme, we would urge people to apply if they are eligible - to make sure we are reducing as many energy bills as possible across the county.

Pavement safety and preventing trips and falls

At Council on 17 October our group brought forward a motion that the county review its priorities for repairing pavement defects. Currently, if there is a difference in the surface level of the footway of 20mm or more, this will be repaired, but we argued that in areas of high footfall or where a trip or fall had been recorded, this threshold was too high. Most members of the public who trip or fall are over 65, and in areas outside GP surgeries or opticians it would make sense for the repair policy to be more flexible. The administration at the council did not vote to pass our motion, but reported that a review of their highways processes was being undertaken. Councillors from my group will be taking part in the review to try and ensure that poor quality footways are made safer for pedestrians to use.

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	<p>Suffolk Local Transport Plan</p> <p>A newly-developed plan which details the long-term vision for transport in Suffolk has been launched for public consultation. Local communities helped shape a new draft of the Suffolk Local Transport Plan by sharing their views back in February of this year and the council is now asking for feedback on the final proposed document. The plan details activity between 2025-2040 and sets out a long-term vision for transport in Suffolk, including decarbonisation of transport, strengthening the local economy, promoting health, wellbeing and social inclusion, and creating better-connected places that encourage a range of transport choices.</p> <p>The council has also produced fifteen 'Area Transport Plans' and a 'Suffolk Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan' which are the funded implementation plans for the wider Suffolk Local Transport Plan. These plans outline how the Local Transport Plan's vision and objectives will be delivered in key locations across the county. The consultation is available via www.suffolk.gov.uk/LTP and will close on Monday 25 November 2024. The Local Transport Plan and its associated plans will then be presented to Suffolk County Council Cabinet in 2025.</p> <p>Cllr Stringer highlighted the following additional items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is a primary focus on flooding – and advised viewing the Suffolk County Council website to view the Wetherden report completed last week. Potential flood areas for Haughley to consider are Squires Cros, the ford at Dagworth, and the pumping station at Haughley Green. 2. The event at Haughley Park this weekend is the international dry dogs championship. It is not a public event but has a formal opening this Friday – a member of HPC will attend on behalf of the parish.
9.	<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 Janet Pearson highlighted:</p> <p>Stowmarket Town Centre regeneration Further measures have been agreed by MSDC cabinet, in addition to the £1.5m fund already opened, for Stowmarket Town centre. These include grants to improve the visible appearance of properties in the Town Centre and for research into the demand for, and viability of, hotel accommodation in the town. Once these initiatives take shape, MSDC will be active in liaising with other towns and parishes in Mid Suffolk to see how similar initiatives can support them.</p> <p>Local transport consultation The consultation on the Local Transport Plan has opened. There is a plan for the Stowmarket area stowmarket-area-transport-plan which may be</p>

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	<p>of interest. The consultation (Suffolk's Local Transport Plan) closes on 25th November 2024.</p> <p>Living Well in Winter Grant. The Living Well in Winter Grant Scheme was launched last month. It is aimed at supporting people to thrive over the winter months. The funding is targeted at helping community groups tackle issues prevalent in our communities over the winter months, and exacerbated by the cost of living crisis, such as increased social isolation and decreased physical activity. Up to £2,000 could be applied for, towards new and existing activities to be delivered between December 2024 and March 2025.</p> <p>Other winter support The DWP has issued a reminder that eligible households can receive Cold Weather Payments when the temperature is, or is predicted to be, below zero for seven consecutive days. Taxi bus The Taxibus service, supported by the District Council, has now launched. Haughley is served by the circular route via Bacton (route TB03) and the stops are at Haughley Green and at the Green opposite Palmers. Places can be booked in advance via the website Book Online.</p> <p>Biodiversity The District is continuing the scheme of providing free trees, hedging and wildflower seed to applicants across the district, where doing so will deliver benefits both to biodiversity and the public. Now is a great time to submit an application to allow planting, ideally on publicly accessible land, to take place over the next few months. We are particularly keen to support schemes that help connect up existing habitat or benefit wildlife in more urban settings. For more information visit https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/w/trees-and-wildflowers-scheme</p> <p>Locality Awards 2024/25 We still have funding available for Locality Awards for this year and look forward to receiving more applications from eligible groups within the Parish. https://www.midsuffolk.gov.uk/web/midsuffolk/w/locality-awards</p>
9.	<p>Planning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors to review and approve a response to the following planning applications:

Signed Chairman:

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- a)** 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 Farm, Wassicks Lane, Haughley, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 3NP. It was agreed that the Parish Council would not respond to the application.
- b)** Application No: SCC/0127/23MS Proposal: Northern extension to Lawn Farm Quarry for the extraction, processing, sale and distribution of sand and gravel and subsequent restoration using inert materials. Location: Land to the north of Lawn Farm Quarry Old Bury Road Wetherden Suffolk IP14 3JU We previously sent you a consultation on 22 May 2024 for application SCC/0127/23MS. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council responds to the application, confirming that the previous comments submitted relating to this application remain valid and strongly recommends that the Planning Committee undertakes a site visit, with all in agreement.
- c)** Application No: SCC/0084/20MS/VOC2 Proposal: Variation of conditions 1, 11, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 30, 36, 53, 54, 56 and 57 attached to planning permission reference SCC/0084/20MS/VOC. Location: Lawn Farm Quarry, Old Bury Road, Wetherden, Suffolk, IP14 3JU. Comments as above
- d)** MSDC Planning Consultation Request - DC/24/04899 – HSE. Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of first floor extension to property. Location: Frasers Lodge, Green Road, Haughley, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 3RA. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council supports the application. Mrs S Swinge seconded with all in favour.
- e)** MSDC Planning Consultation Request - DC/24/04811 – FUL. Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection and siting of fibre exchange telecommunications infrastructure to provide a full fibre (gigabit) to the premises service Location: Land At Spikes Farm, Spikes Lane, Haughley, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 3QF. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council objects the application on the grounds that the proposed development is outside the Housing Settlement Boundaries. The proposed area is also close to a known area of flooding – with all in favour.
2. Councillors noted decisions made by the Local Planning Authority relating to the Parish of Haughley
- a) Decision Notice - DC/24/04260. Proposal & Location of Development: Householder Application - Replacement wooden front door with composite door and 2No double-glazed front elevation windows. 28 Old Street, Haughley, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3NX

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11.	<p>Haughley Parish in Bloom</p> <p>1. Discission: Mrs Y Tricker proposed acceptance of the quote of £30 per cut (total of £90 for three additional cuts). Mrs S Swinge seconded with all in favour</p>																																								
12.	<p>Haughley Christmas Event</p> <p>To consider and agree expenditure for an additional grass cutting of the triangular section of the village green - £50.00. G Brown proposed to accept the quote, and Mrs T Shaw seconded with all in favour.</p>																																								
13.	<p>Parish Online annual subscription for Mapping Software</p> <p>To consider renewing renewal of Parish Online annual subscription for Mapping Software G Brown proposed we do not renew this – all in favour</p>																																								
14.	<p>Green Suffolk</p> <p>To consider a request to provide a one sentence bio (maximum 30 words) to support Green Suffolk. An example could be "Green Suffolk help support the Community with renewable energy with our new Community energy scheme. We also have monthly litter picks and wildlife watch meet ups." G Brown and the clerk to review and amend the wording to reflect the parish.</p>																																								
15.	<p>Finance</p> <p>1. Councillors to agree to defer consideration of Bank reconciliation, Budget to actual, Reserves and Receipts received since the last meeting to the December meeting.</p> <p>2. Councillors confirmed the October payments:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Expenditure</th> <th></th> <th>Net</th> <th>VAT</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> <td>£</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mapping software</td> <td>Parish Online</td> <td>80.00</td> <td>16.00</td> <td>96.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Haughley Parish in Bloom</td> <td>Second Life Products Wales Ltd</td> <td>£ 844.00</td> <td>£ 168.80</td> <td>£ 1,012.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Subscriptions</td> <td>Scribe Payment</td> <td>£ 42.00</td> <td>£ 8.40</td> <td>£ 50.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wages</td> <td>Katie Power</td> <td>£ 400.39</td> <td></td> <td>£ 400.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wages</td> <td>Claire Pizey</td> <td>£ 229.32</td> <td></td> <td>£ 229.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Christmas Event</td> <td>School Stamps</td> <td>£ 11.40</td> <td>£ 2.54</td> <td>£ 13.94</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Expenditure		Net	VAT	Total			£	£	£	Mapping software	Parish Online	80.00	16.00	96.00	Haughley Parish in Bloom	Second Life Products Wales Ltd	£ 844.00	£ 168.80	£ 1,012.80	Subscriptions	Scribe Payment	£ 42.00	£ 8.40	£ 50.40	Wages	Katie Power	£ 400.39		£ 400.39	Wages	Claire Pizey	£ 229.32		£ 229.32	Parish Christmas Event	School Stamps	£ 11.40	£ 2.54	£ 13.94
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	Haughley Parish in Bloom	Roots and Shoots: Miscellaneous Bulbs	£ 14.99	£ 3.00	£ 17.99																				
	Parish Christmas Event	Costumes for Haughley	£ 40.00		£ 40.00																				
	Parish Christmas Event	Hoops and cables	£ 14.69		£ 14.69																				
	Parish Christmas Event	Festoon lights	£ 84.95		£ 84.95																				
	Haughley Parish in Bloom	Woolpit Nursery Invoice	£ 275.35	£ 55.08	£ 330.43																				
	Parish Christmas Event	Jonathan	£ 50.00		£ 50.00																				
		Advert for Clerk and RFO	£ 75.00	£ 15.00	£ 90.00																				
	Parish maintenance	J Lawes	£ 72.56	£ 14.36	£ 86.92																				
<p>Proposal to approve all payment by Andy Flint, seconded Mrs Alison Pepper with all in favour</p> <p>3. Councillors noted the receipts received since last meeting:</p>																									
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Receipts</th> <th colspan="2">Cheque / BACS / SO</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Precept</td> <td>BACS</td> <td>MSDC</td> <td>£ 29,277.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Misc. Income</td> <td>BACS</td> <td>PFC</td> <td>£ 170.16</td> </tr> <tr> <td>VAT</td> <td>BACS</td> <td>HMRC</td> <td>£ 2,761.29</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"></td> <td>£ 32,208.45</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>						Receipts	Cheque / BACS / SO		Total	Precept	BACS	MSDC	£ 29,277.00	Misc. Income	BACS	PFC	£ 170.16	VAT	BACS	HMRC	£ 2,761.29				£ 32,208.45
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16.	<p>Chairmans Report</p> <p>The members confirmed receipt of the report. No comment was made.</p>																								
17.	<p>Councillors Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mrs J Day: there was no report from the Village Green Post working group. - Mrs Y Tricker: cones have been put in place to stop lorries parking on the verge at Taylors (Tot Hill). She also reported fly-tipping and was pleased this was collected in two days. - A Flint – the SIDs have arrived; however, only one can be installed as the parish is at max capacity. 																								

Signed Chairman:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A Flint – received a complaint from a resident on the vegetation adjoining Fishponds Way impeding visibility by footpath towards Dagworth lane and the speed of cars coming down this road. - A Flint announced his resignation from the Council
18.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Councillors noted correspondence circulated.</p>
19	<p>Date of next meetings:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parish Council meeting Tuesday 17TH December 2024 at Ron Crascall Pavilion at 7.00 pm
20.	<p>To resolve that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and press be excluded from the meeting due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors to receive and consider confidential matters as Trustee to the King George V Playing Field
	There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 20.32
<p>A copy of any reports or correspondence cited in the minutes can be made available from the clerk on receipt of written application</p> <p>clerk@haughleypc.co.uk</p>	

Signed Chairman:

Date: