

Haughley Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting 9th May 2022

Haughley Village Hall

Chairman's Annual Report

Good evening, Residents, Members and Officers.

As the Council has been unable to hold its Annual Parish Meeting since 2019 my comments span the last three years.

It has been such a difficult period for so many, but it has been wonderful to see the strong sense of community that has come to the forefront since the pandemic began. Voluntary groups and organisations have worked extremely hard to support those who have been struggling to cope or have needed someone to talk to in these difficult times.

With emergency legislation allowing the Council to continue its meetings via Zoom, the work of the Council continued during 2020 and 2021, returning to face to face in the second half of 2021, albeit at times with face masks and 2m separation of attendees. I can only thank all Members of the Council for their attendance and in particular our Clerk, Claire Pizzey, who was pivotal in translating and implementing the Covid legislation and guidance so that we could continue business.

Coronavirus played a large part in curtailing any plans made by the Council. But despite this, the Council has achieved so much. In no chronological order:

Since May 2019

1. Neighbourhood Plan
2. Village Maps Display Boards
3. Parish Notice Boards
4. Benches (CIL) – made from reclaimed and recycled plastics
5. Flower Planters – made from reclaimed and recycled plastics (CIL & Locality Award))
6. Ditch dredging - allotments
7. Allotment fencing
8. Allotment water cabinet
9. Hedge cutting
10. Pavilion car park resurfacing (PC Contribution, MSDC CIL & Capital Grant)
11. Pavilion storage facility (PC Contribution, Locality Award, MSDC CIL & Capital Grant)
12. Church clock face refurbishment (CIL) and automation of winding mechanism
13. Bowls Club irrigation (CIL)
14. Play Group play-house roof renewal (CIL)
15. Village maintenance (railings, pump, benches, bus shelter)
16. Tree planting
17. Fishponds Way footpath
18. Cricket - moles
19. Cricket - trees maintenance and footpath clearance
20. Gallowsfield Wood shelter
21. Weight limit Station Road
22. Haughley Green 'gates'
23. Christmas Tree Lights Event
24. Traffic Public Consultation Drop-In Event
25. Dog bins / litter bins
26. Parish Infrastructure Improvement Plan (PIIP) - plan and process
27. Complete set of Council Policies and Procedures
28. Parish Council website
29. Community litter picks
30. Chairman's Column in H&WPN
31. HGV Count
32. Beacon Brazier (CIL)
33. Prevention of unsustainable housing development at Haughley Park
34. Gallowsfield Wood Working Group
35. Tree inspections
36. Biodiversity and Wildlife Conservation Working Group
37. Regular litter picking (Community Caretaker)
38. Footpath clearance
39. Haughley Wildlife exhibition
40. Liaising with Bacton PC and developers re traffic management
41. Salt and grit bins
42. Councillor training
43. Consideration of planning applications

Throughout the hardship over the course of the last three years it is wonderful to have achieved so much as a Council and once again my thanks to Members of the Council for their contribution. However, we haven't stopped and there is so much more to do!

Planned for 2022/2023

1. War Memorial refurbishment (CIL)
2. Zebra crossing
3. SID units
4. Village Hall Garden (CIL)
5. HGV Counts
6. Junior Football Pitch
7. Pond Posts at The Cricket
8. Upgrade of play areas at the Playing Field and at The Cricket (CIL)
9. Protecting the Village Green from further erosion
10. Haughley In Bloom Summer displays
11. Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
12. High Ball Stop Nets (Grant(s) PFC)
13. Pavilion Public Consultation

In Planning for future

1. Footpath surfacing
2. New footpath
3. Siege of Haughley celebrations
4. Review of the Neighbourhood Plan

Financial

All Council financial matters can be found on the Council website

<http://www.haughleypc.co.uk/finances/>

The parish coffers are in a very healthy state due to income from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) arising from the two housing developments in Green Road and Fishponds Way. I should like to remind everyone at this point that the CIL income was greatly enhanced, from 15% to 25% because we had a Neighbourhood Plan. This Plan was instrumental in denying the unsustainable planning application for a housing development at Haughley Park.

The Bank Reconciliation for the period ending 31 March 2022

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Barclays Current A/C | £202,866.84 |
| Barclays Deposit A/C | £ 55,991.20 |
| Nationwide | £ 85,113.94 |
| Plus Uncleared Deposits | |
| Less Unpresented Cheques | |
| | |
| TOTAL | £343,971.98 |

Balance at 01 April 2022

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|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Balance as of 01 April 2022 | £149,472.25 |
| Receipts | £312,583.43 |
| Payments | £118,083.70 |
| | |
| TOTAL | £343,971.98 |

Conclusion

Changes in Council membership during the past three years has seen councillors come and go. I have pleasure confirming our newest Member. Cllr. G. French. It's fantastic to see the commitment and enthusiasm already shown by him. I have no doubt he will be a welcome asset in the Council's commitment to keep Haughley a great place to live. There were four resignations in the last three years, all due to the pressures of full-time work. Consequently, the Council currently has four casual vacancies.

With restrictions now lifted, I hope we can look forward to better, healthier, and more exciting times in Haughley.

Councillor Alf Hannan
Chairman of Haughley Parish Council
9th May 2022