

HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 20th February 2024 the Ron Crascall Pavilion

Present	M Bloom, G Brown (Chairman), Mrs. J Day, A Flint, Mrs. A Pepper, Mrs. T Shaw, Mrs. Y Tricker, County Councillor Andrew Stringer, District Councillor Janet Pearson, Mrs. C Pizzey (Clerk via Zoom) and 2 members of the public								
1.	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. S Swinge and District Councillor Rachel Eburne 2. The members accepted the apologies. 								
2.	<p>Declarations of Interest</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest received.</p>								
3.	<p>Dispensations</p> <p>There were no requests for Dispensations received.</p>								
4.	<p>Minutes</p> <p>All Councillors confirmed receipt of the minutes.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mrs. A Pepper proposed to accept the minutes of 16th January 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. M Bloom seconded with all in favour. 2. A Flint proposed to accept the meeting of the Extra Ordinary meeting of 30th January 2024 as a true record of the meeting and decisions made. M Bloom seconded and all were in favour. 								
5.	<p>Action log</p> <p>The Councillors noted the action log, and no comments were made.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 50%;">ACTION</th> <th style="width: 50%;">COMMENT</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Junior Football Pitch</td> <td>Agenda item</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCC PROW Officer - upgrade of footpath and new footpath</td> <td>On going</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Land adj. to The Cricket - register with Land Registry</td> <td>Meeting arranged with Birketts Solicitors to understand the procedure and</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ACTION	COMMENT	Junior Football Pitch	Agenda item	SCC PROW Officer - upgrade of footpath and new footpath	On going	Land adj. to The Cricket - register with Land Registry	Meeting arranged with Birketts Solicitors to understand the procedure and
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		cost involved. Teams meeting 5 th March 2024
	Posts Project (Consultation)	Consultation to be written
	Quote for Signs for The Cricket	Request to be made to the Maintenance Officer to look at the signs and advise
	Consultation SCC Haughley Green traffic calming	Awaiting report from SCC Community officer
	Contact Bellway and start legal procedure for Wildflower meadow	On going
	Greens Policy - second draft	On going
	Application made to SCC for installation of EV Charge Points at the Pavilion Car Park	Application in progress
	Registers pockets of land in the Parish	As above
	Proposal Email group residents	On going
	Proposal for public event community broadband	On going
	Report on WG for 4g pitch	Ongoing
	Haughley Green - Slow horse signs	Email sent to Andrew Stringer
	Gateway Haughley New Street	Gateways installed
	Application to move Solor post HNS	Completed
	Allotment – Purchase chain and lock	
	Agree date with adjoining parishes for meeting	Agenda item
	Contact Diaper Poultry	The cost for the storage for the defibrillator has been sent to Sisks to agree before this can proceed
	Arrange meeting with Suffolk Highways Community Self Help Officer for HNS	Agenda item
	Repair shed roof	Handyman has agreed to carry out the work
	Tidy allotment carpark	John Sisks have been approached for help
	Meeting with Promotor of Land at Fishponds	Agenda item

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	Way		
	Advertise Litter Picks	Completed	
	Recruitment of Councillors	Advertised in Parish Magazine, notice-boards and Facebook page	
	Data download of SID devices		
6.	<p>Public Forum</p> <p>A resident reported concerns on the replacement of the trees on the Bloor Homes development. A good number of the dead trees throughout the estate have been replaced. Unfortunately, it does not seem that Bloor Homes have replaced all the dead trees around the attenuation pond which is a big disappointment as biodiversity wise this has the potential to be a very worthwhile area for nature within the village. It looks like 2 or maybe 3 trees have been replaced out of the 13 or so that are present. A resident raised concerns around application DC/23/05721 and the issues around social housing, the number of lorries that come through the village that are damaging the verges and kerbs and the amount of mud on the road from the Aggmax site. The members advised the resident that this can be reported on the Suffolk County portal.</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 Andrew Stringer highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council Budget: At Council on 15 February, Suffolk councillors met to discuss and vote on the administration's budget proposals. The council is borrowing heavily from its reserves to meet the growing demand for social care for adults and children, and council tax is due to rise by £74 annually for Band D properties from April this year. There will also be cuts to Family Hubs (children's centres) and Housing Related Support, which supports vulnerable people like care leavers to find accommodation. Funding for arts and museums will be maintained for 2024-25 but not from SCC core funding, and subject to a bidding process for grants from April 2025. The Bury St Edmunds and Lowestoft local archives will be moved to The Hold in Ipswich, which like the arts funding changes has been controversial. • Sizewell C: Construction begins this month of the controversial new power station at Sizewell, a project that is forecast to take 17 years to complete. This will have a massive impact on local communities, the coastal environment and transport routes in the county. Suffolk County Council has secured £250m in mitigation monies for Suffolk communities, but this will still create a lot of upheaval in the county and the council has a 		

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	<p>role to play in making sure Sizewell C make every effort to minimise its impact and listens to the concerns of residents and local businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding Resilience: Those whose homes or businesses were flooded by Storm Babet and have not yet applied for the initial £500 flood recovery grant payment should do so as soon as possible as this is the first step in applying for the further £5,000 for flood protection from the government’s Property Flood Resilience (PFR) Grant. The application process for the latter will begin in early 2024 and after initial eligibility checks by SCC, property owners will be responsible for sourcing an independent surveyor and PFR contractor. Payment of up to £5,000 including VAT will be paid retrospectively to the property owner once the Council receives proof of the completed installation and invoicing for the approved measures.
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 Janet Pearson highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget: The budget for 2024/25 is due to be discussed on 22nd February. This includes a 2% council tax increase to ensure financial stability for day to day services in the wake of shrinking government grants. <p>A financial reserve has been built up over the last eight years and this will be spent on areas to benefit Mid Suffolk residents including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bringing disused land back into use for amenity or other uses - Land for biodiversity and to meet Biodiversity Net Gain - Stowmarket town centre regeneration - New foot/cycle paths to improve connectivity <p>In the housing budget, to be able to fund improvements to the Council’s housing stock, it is proposed that rents increase by 7.7% (in line with the Government formula – CPI+1%). Many tenants receive housing benefit or universal credit and due to recent increases in the rent portion of this, most tenants will not see an increase in rent. We are also reviewing our resources for those more vulnerable residents who are struggling with the cost of living.</p>
	<p>Planning</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Councillors to review and approve a response to the following planning applications:

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DC/24/00065 - Proposal: Householder Application - Erection of Home Office Building 3m x 3m Location: 62 Old Street, Haughley, Stowmarket, Suffolk IP14 3NX. A Flint proposed that the Parish Council SUPPORTS the application. M Bloom seconded with all in favour.

- **DC/24/00629** - Proposal: Notification for Prior Approval for a Proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwellinghouses (Class C3), and for Associated Operational Development under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2015 Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q - Creation of 5no dwellings. Location: Rookery Farm, Haughley Green, Haughley, IP14 3RR. G Brown proposed that the Parish Council OBJECTS to the application on the following issues:

- Contrary to Haughley Neighbourhood Plan,
- Outside Housing Settlement Boundary and therefore deemed to be in the Countryside,
- Space between some building and plot boundaries inadequate for normal access.
- Lack of provision for visitor parking.

Mrs. A Pepper seconded with all in favour. A Flint abstained.

DC/23/05721 - Proposal: Full Planning Application - Erection of 29no. dwellings and associated infrastructure. Location: Land On the North Side Of, Station Road, Haughley, Suffolk. It was agreed to make the following comments to the application:

- The Parish Council acknowledge that the development is identified in the Haughley Neighbourhood plan
- The development is contrary to the following points on the Neighbourhood Plan Policy HAU4:
 - The mix of dwelling types and sizes across all tenures including bungalows
 - The development will include 35% of affordable housing to address local housing needs
 - New pedestrian linkages to enable residents to walk to all facilities in the village centre
- The Parish Council would like to see a stronger “gateway” approach into Haughley from Old Newton and would like the developers to consider putting some trees in the south-east corner of the site (the corner of Station Road and the field edge, around where the pumping station is shown and along Station Road)
- The Flagship Construction and Transport Management Plan is agreed with the Parish Council prior to the start of the development

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EPR/EB3800FS/V003 - Environmental permit application received from Aggmax Transport Limited, Lawn Farm Quarry, Old Bury Road, Wetherden, IP14 3JU. G Brown proposes that the Parish Council OBJECTS to the application on the following grounds:

- The original planning application conditions were not fit for purpose or adhered to.
- The application is contrary to the Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan G4 policy:
 - a) vehicle movements, access, and wider highways network: The Parish Council has concerns that if the applicant is merging the phases, this will increase vehicle movements when working in more areas at the same time. If this is the case then this will have an impact on traffic movement for the residents of Haughley New Street. The requirement to turn left out of the quarry site is not always followed, with some aggregate vehicles using Warren Lane to enter and pass through Elmswell. Warren Lane, Elmswell and Park Road, Wetherden are subject to 7.5 tonne weight limits and a NO left turn for quarry vehicles into Stowmarket Road from Haughley New Street. Vehicles from the quarry frequently ignore the weight limits and condition.
 - c) landscape character, visual impact setting and designated landscapes including areas of outstanding natural beauty and the broads:
 - d) biodiversity including Nutra 2000 sites, ancient woodland, and trees: Habitats that will be lost to the development including 400m of hedgerow and two mature oak trees and the Parish Council note the report of two red data book bird species that were recorded at the site.
 - g) public rights of way: Footpath 21 as identified on the Definitive Footpath Map (SCC) runs through the application and this has a heavy footfall of use from Haughley and neighbouring parishes. It is noted that it is proposed to divert this path around the application site.
 - k) air quality including dust and odour: Concerns on the effect of health including in relation to the PM 10 and PM 2.5 particles of silica that are microscopic airborne and linked to various lung disease. The Parish Council note that in January 2022 a parliamentary debate on the issue of locating sand quarries close to residential housing concluded, recorded as public record that the parliamentary group of MPs leading this debate were very concerned for any residents living

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	<p>within 1.5 kilometres of a sand quarry due to the health risks associated with invisible airborne silica particles.</p> <p>q) mud and aggregate on the road: Concerns over the level of mud on Old Bury Road and Haughley New Street. This has an impact on the blocking of the drains on the roads causing issues for residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Safety around the site is a Health and Safety concern. The site is currently open for individuals to access the quarry site with security fences in disrepair in several locations around the quarry. • The planning application makes no mention of St John’s Mead Development in Elmswell (roads include Lea Close, Furlong Close, Bere Road, New Beck Road, Jervises Croft and Procession Way) or the open public space that borders the site. <p>A Flint seconded with all in favour.</p> <p>2. Councillors noted the decisions had been issued by Mid Suffolk District Council.</p> <p>DC/23/05654 - Notification under Schedule 2 Part 3 Class Q of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 Proposal: Application to determine if Prior Approval is required for a proposed Change of Use of Agricultural Buildings to Dwellinghouses (C3) and for building operations reasonably necessary for conversion. Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 as amended Schedule 2, Part 3, Class Q - Conversion to form 1No dwelling. Location: Old Hall Farm, Haughley Green, Haughley, Stowmarket Suffolk IP14 3RR. Prior approval has been <u>GIVEN</u>.</p>
10.	<p>Biodiversity & Wildflower Working Group</p> <p>Councillors noted the report from the meeting of 15th January 2024 and no comments were made.</p>
11.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan Working Group</p> <p>The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council agrees the quote from Lucy Batchelor-Wylam of £1,200 to carry out a Views Appraisal for the Neighbourhood Plan and this is funded by Parish CIL. A Flint seconded with all in favour.</p>
12.	<p>Junior Football Pitch</p> <p>Mrs. T Shaw proposed that the Parish Council accepts a commuted sum from Bloor Homes to</p>

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	<p>carry out the lining of the junior football pitch and purchase the goal posts once the site is in a condition to be handed over. Mrs. Y Tricker seconded with all in favour. The Clerk to contact Bloor Homes to obtain permission to use a metal detector on the site.</p>
13.	<p>Community Self Help Scheme</p> <p>Mrs. Y Tricker proposed that the Parish Council agrees the agreement between Suffolk County Council and Haughley Parish Council to undertake the activities in accordance with the Community Self Help Scheme and by its community volunteers and that the document is signed. The Chairman seconded with all in favour.</p>
14.	<p>Meeting with nearby Parishes</p> <p>Councillors noted the report from the meeting of 23rd January 2024 and no comments were made.</p>
15.	<p>Meeting with Richard Brown Planning Limited</p> <p>Councillors noted the report from the meeting of 23rd January 2023 in relation to land North of Fishponds Way and Councillors were reminded that this site is not included in Haughley's Neighbourhood Plan and that it is linked to a call for sites from Mid Suffolk District Council.</p>
16.	<p>Policies and Procedure Review</p> <p>Councillors received the policies and procedures document and agreed members to review ready for the March meeting.</p>
17.	<p>Internal Auditor</p> <p>The members were satisfied that Hellis and Lodge were suitable independent of Haughley Parish Council, holding no role within the Council and having no connection with any current member. The Chairman proposed that the fee of £370.00 is accepted for Hellis and Lodge to undertake the 2023-24 Internal Audit. Mrs. J Day seconded with all in favour.</p>
18.	<p>Annual Parish Meeting</p> <p>Councillors agreed the date of Monday 13th May 2024 for the Annual Parish Meeting.</p>
19.	<p>Finance:</p>

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1. The Council confirmed receipt of the finance report for January 2023 prior to the meeting including, Bank Reconciliation, Budget to Actual, Reserves, since the last meeting. No questions or comments were made.
2. Councillors noted no receipts had been received since last meeting.
3. Councillors confirmed the February payments:

Expenditure		Net	VAT	Total
General Exp.	Claire Pizzey	£ 85.65		£ 85.65
Village Maintenance	P Garrord	£ 177.00		£ 177.00
Village Maintenance	J Lawes	£ 14.95	£ 2.99	£ 17.94
Grass Cutting	MSDC	£ 849.75	£ 169.95	£ 1,019.70
Grass Cutting	MSDC	£ 2,081.11	£ 416.22	£ 2,497.33
Computer Cost	Faxbase Ltd	£ 80.00	£ 16.00	£ 96.00
Wages	Claire Pizzey	£ 713.72		£ 713.72
Wages	Katie Power	£ 364.70		£ 364.70
		£ 4,366.88	£ 605.16	£ 4,972.04

The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council accepts the payments. A Flint seconded with all in favour

4. Mrs. Y Tricker proposed that the Parish Council agrees to purchase 30mph Wheeli Bin Stickers for Haughley New Street Residents at a cost of £47.97. Mrs. A Pepper seconded with all in favour.
5. The Chairman proposed that the Parish Council accepts the quote from RSA Pest Management Services of £350.00 to clear the moles from The Cricket. M Bloom seconded with all in favour.
6. It was agreed that the Parish Council rejects the quote from RSA Pest Management Services of £80 for a monthly contract to keep The Cricket clear of moles.

20. Clerks Report

The members confirmed receipt of the report and no comments were made.

21. Councillors Issues

Mrs. A Pepper raised her concerns over the standing water/flooding on the Old A14 near Gallowsfield wood and along with Mrs. Y Tricker thanked the Parish Council for the installation of the gateway sign at Haughley New Street. Mrs Y. Tricker reported that she had spoken to Haughley Crawford's School regarding a French exchange with the Haughley Twinning Association and

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	<p>it was agreed that the school would consider this for future years but currently they do not have the capacity to add it into this year's curriculum plans. A Flint reported that the Solar device will be fitted on the new post that has been erected in Haughley New Street by the end of the month. Mrs. T Shaw reported that Haughley Block Plant have donated £2,777.00 to the Playing Field Committee to help towards the repair of the play park equipment and thanked the Clerk for sending the email. Mrs. T Shaw had also been approached by a resident who asked that the Parish Council look at the accessibility issues for those residents wanting to attend the meetings. The Chairman reported that the National Highways A14 Junction 47a-49 February newsletter is available, has contacted Network Road regarding the Proposals to upgrade the Ely and Haughley Junctions and they have agreed to keep the Parish Council updated and has updated the safeguarding training.</p>
<p>22.</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Councillors noted the correspondence already circulated and considered the following action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resident: Disappearance of parking bylaw notice: It was agreed to contact MSDC to ask them to provide a replacement sign. 2. MSDC: Mis-use of Dog Waste Bin - Denny Avenue: The Clerk reported that this had been sent to the parish magazine to report. 3. Allotment Tenant: Allotment gate chain and trees: The Clerk to arrange to get a new chain and to look at the mechanism of the gate. 4. Resident: Pavement parking: It was agreed to respond to the resident that the Parish Council are unable to police this at the moment. 5. Resident: Permanent Christmas tree and replacement lights: It was agreed to give permission for replacement lights to be purchased. Mrs. J Day agreed to approach a company to consider donating a permanent tree for the village green. 6. Resident: Fly tipping Steggall Road: Information only. 7. Resident: Haughley Green footpath: It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk arrange a meeting with Suffolk Highways to discuss if a scheme would be possible. 8. Resident – Damage to village green: The Clerk reported that she had contacted XPO and their claims handlers had been in contact about the claim for the damage.
<p>23.</p>	<p>Date of next meeting:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Biodiversity & Wildflower Working Group Monday 4th March 2024 at the Maxwell Charnley Room

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	2. Haughley Parish Council Meeting scheduled on Tuesday 19 th March 2024 at Ron Crascall Pavilion at 7.00pm
24.	<p>Councillors agreed 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> <p>1. Parish Handyman/Maintenance Officer.</p>
	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</p> <p style="text-align: center;">clerk@haughleypc.co.uk</p>	

Signed Chairman:

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