

## Haughton Parish Council Newsletter

### September 2015

#### **A Message from the Chairman of the Parish Council**

Welcome to the first Newsletter from the new Parish Council elected in May this year. I hope you will find it useful in introducing the members of the parish council, our new district councillors and our new clerk. We have also some information on some parish council initiatives and give you a chance to suggest some items you would like to happen in the village.

#### **Parish Councillors.**

All the Parish Councillors are volunteers, receive no attendance allowances and give of their time freely. They are:

##### **Mike Allen**



As a lifelong member of the village I have been a member of the Parish Council for around 25 years and have yet to miss a meeting. I am currently the Chairman of the Parish Council and as such coordinate all its activities in conjunction with the Parish Clerk.

##### **Gill Anslow**



I was born in Staffordshire and moved to Haughton in 1997. I became a Parish Councillor in 2011 and am currently the council's representative on the Village Hall Committee. I am interested in protecting the environment and in improving and promoting the amenities of the local area to help make it enjoyable for everyone.

##### **Ian Forrester**



I have recently retired from a firm of solicitors where I worked for many years in residential conveyancing. My special responsibility as a councillor is looking after the common land which the parish council owns. I am always keen to ensure that the views of the people of the parish are heard at both parish council and local authority levels so that they can be taken into account when decision making and planning for the future of the parish is

undertaken.

### **Tim Grattage**



I have recently retired from the Driver Training Industry, spanning over the past 30 years, most recently, employed by Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service. Four years ago, my wife and I returned to my former family home in Haughton renewing old friendships and making new friends, enjoying village life. I was recently elected to the Parish Council, I am jointly responsible for the Playing Field. I am committed to the village, playing field and

surrounding areas.

### **Alison Heath**



A business owner within Haughton village and a mother to two girls. I'm a newly appointed Councillor in the spring of 2015. If there are any questions or suggestions you would like to be brought to the P.C attention please do not hesitate to contact me personally.

### **Ian Sunley**



I am a recently retired IT Specialist and Academic. I have been a Parish Councilor for 16 years and am the Councillor responsible for Finance, technology and footpaths. I am totally committed to getting as much for the village as possible for the best price I can get while making sure the council is always financially sound

### **Derek Warbrick**



I am a retired Building Construction materials Director. I have been a member of Haughton Parish Council for 12 years. I am currently Vice Chairman and manage the "Jim Jarvis Memorial Playing Field" which I helped to re-vamp 3 years ago. I do my best to resolve villagers problems and help to keep the village a safe and pleasant environment to live in.

### **Revamp of the Stafford Borough Ward Boundaries**

During 2014 Stafford Borough Council reorganized its ward boundaries in order to reduce the number of councillors and also to improve the balance of the number of voters per ward. As a result of this Haughton has changed the ward it was in, we used to be in Church Eaton Ward and are now in the new combined Seighford and Church Eaton ward and so now have 2 borough councillors representing us. They are:

## **Ray Sutherland**

I have lived in Derrington for the past 35 years with my wife Frances. We moved here from Devon with my job as a Area manager with a multiple shoe retailer. Since moving to the area I have owned my own businesses in both retail and independent financial services. Elected as a borough councillor in 2003 and re-elected 2007, 2011 and 2015, I have been chairman of several committees including planning, public appeals and the Sow & Penk Internal Drainage Board for the past 8 years. In 2014/15 I was privileged to be Mayor of Stafford Borough which gave me a really good understanding of the history of the borough, the many organisations, charities and volunteers that contribute to the great Borough of Stafford.

My role as a councillor is to represent the electorate and to support the effective, efficient running of the council. I attend as many parish council meetings as I can to ensure there is a good connection between the layers of local government. I am available for local residents to contact and I try to support them with their concerns and issues.

## **Stephen Leighton**

My name is Stephen Leighton, and I was born in Cannock and worked in Stafford at St Georges and also Cannock hospital from 1990 - 1997. From 1997 - 2006 I worked as a Prison Officer at Brinsford Young Offenders in Wolverhampton. I moved to live Stafford in 1999 and have one son born in Stafford who is now 19 years old. I have owned a business in Stafford since 2000 that has been based in Seighford since 2006. I'm a local business man and employer in this ward.

I am a keen runner you can often see me running around Derrington, Seighford, Haughton and Ranton. I enjoy all sports, mainly football (a keen Sunderland FC supporter).

## **New Parish Clerk**

In March our Parish Clerk decided to retire after having been clerk to the village for 10 years we hope she has a pleasant retirement. Our new clerk is Jayne Cooper who has considerable experience in the field, as she is also clerk to another parish in the area. Jayne is the first point of contact for parish council activities.

## **Current Activities**

Earlier this year one of our villagers Fred Price passed away. Fred was a member of the ramblers Association and for many years organized Fred's walks which started at the village hall and went round the local footpaths. In the 1990's together with the Ramblers Association he created 3 walks around the village which were available as leaflets you could follow. In the era of modern technology the Parish Council together with funding from the County Council Footpaths dept. has updated and redone these leaflets so that they are now in colour and are linked to a much more detailed version of the walk on the village website showing pictures of the various sections and stiles that you cross.

The first 2 of these leaflets are included with this newsletter. The third leaflet is delayed as the route of one of the footpaths is currently being reviewed by the county council. Once this is complete we will issue the 3<sup>rd</sup> leaflet.

## Now for a request

As we have just started a 4 year term we have to plan for any major projects that the village may require. We have 2 or 3 ideas but need what is done in the village to be agreed by the village.

If there is any facility you wish to see in the village or any organization started in the village the please tell us by contacting Jayne Cooper on 01785 824749. We will select the ideas with the most votes and try and achieve them over the next 4 years.

The Parish council meetings are held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in the month at 19:30 in the Village Hall and are open to the public.

The dates of the next 3 meetings are:

26<sup>th</sup> October 2015

23<sup>rd</sup> November 2015

There is no meeting in December

25<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Details of the meetings and of past meetings together with the minutes and accounts are displayed on the Parish Notice board at the corner of Royds Close opposite the shops and are also available on the parish website

[www.haughton-staffs.org.uk](http://www.haughton-staffs.org.uk) and select Parish Council.

## Contact information

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