

<b>Winners BKV Large Village 2011-15 Small Village 2017</b>	<b><u>HAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER</u></b>	<b>June 2018</b>
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Welcome to the latest edition of the Haughton Parish Council Newsletter. Since the last newsletter a year ago there have been changes to the way the parish council works and our accountability. We also wish to get some ideas for the telephone box and also for additional recreational facilities.

## **COUNCIL CHANGES**

### **New Clerk**

As you will be aware from the last newsletter, Lisa Horritt joined as our clerk in September 2016. Unfortunately, for personal reasons, she left us at the end of December 2017. This left us with a gap until we managed to recruit a new clerk, Susan Atkins, at the end of March 2018. Susan is a recently retired school teacher, but in the past was clerk to Wheaton Aston Parish Council. Unlike our previous two clerks she is not a clerk for any other parish. Susan has several friends and relatives in Haughton and is therefore up to date with what the village activities are.

### **New Parish Councillor**

As you may have noticed, the Bell Inn has been closed since September. This is because Alison and Richard, the tenants, have moved to another pub out of the village. As Alison was a parish councillor this left a vacancy and, after due consideration, Stuart Taylor has been co-opted onto the parish council to serve until the elections in May 2019. Stuart will be known to those of you who are involved in the BKV litter picks as a regular volunteer. He is also very active in the local Rotary Club and brings considerable volunteering experience to the council.

### **What we are spending this year**

The parish precept is the amount of money the parish council collects from each household via the community charge. This year, in keeping with many parishes, the precept has had to increase due to the extra activities we need to take on, (e.g. looking after some of the Rights of Way footpaths around the village), and the increased regulations that have come into force, all of which affects our administration costs. We also need to replace the matting under the children's play equipment in the next four years, at a cost of around £10,000. To do this we have moved some money from our reserves, and need to save the remainder over the next four years.

## **War Memorial**



As part of the commemorations for the centenary of the First World War the Parish Council obtained funding from the War Memorials Trust Grants Scheme and Staffordshire County Council's Community Fund so that the village's memorial to the eleven men who died in the First World War and the one man who died in the Second World War could be cleaned and restored to something like its original condition. The restoration work was completed in October 2016, in time for the Remembrance Day commemorations.

Following the cleaning, the possibility of listing the memorial as a building of Special Architectural or Historic Interest was considered, and it was decided by the Parish Council to begin the process, to ensure a high level of protection for the memorial in years to come. Research was begun, using parish records and printed sources of the time, to produce verified historical facts, information and details. This process was still on-going when we were approached by Historic England, who had seen information and pictures of the memorial on War Memorials Online and had decided to begin the listing process themselves. As part of the consultation we gave them our gathered information and this was used to help with the listing application. In January 2018 we received the Notification of Designation Decision. Haughton War Memorial has been added to the List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest and is listed at Grade II. The List Entry Number is 1452622.

Further information can be found on-line at:

<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1452622>

<https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/199015>

## **IT IS YOUR VILLAGE – CAN YOU HELP US?**

### **Phone Box**



The Parish Council has taken advantage of BT's Adopt-a-Kiosk scheme, which means that for the initial cost of £1 the distinctive red K6 telephone box can remain in its prominent position in the centre of the village. The Parish Council is now inviting views as to its usage, before a final decision is made. Many towns and villages have adopted their kiosks and there have been some imaginative uses. One popular use is to house a defibrillator, (although Haughton already has four defibrillators: at The Bell, The Shropshire, the shops and inside the Village Hall). Ideas and suggestions so far include a book exchange, an information point, a book and information point, an art gallery, a display-house for a monthly or seasonal dressed mannequin, (e.g. Father Christmas, Guy Fawkes), or a wi-fi point for the village.

It is hoped to set up a Working Group to complete any necessary restoration and maintenance work and that funding will be available from grants to carry out any work. If you are interested in being part of the Working Group, please email the clerk, [clerk@haughton-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@haughton-pc.org.uk) giving your contact details and expertise/interest. To suggest uses for the phone box email the clerk quoting Telephone Kiosk use. Suggestions will close at the end of July 2018.

If you do not have access to E Mail then fill in the attached form and place it in the suggestions box in the Newsagents at the village shops.

### **Money for further recreational Facilities**

When new properties are built in an area Stafford Borough Council receives some money from the developer to cover the increased services needed in that area. As the Redfern Rise development has been recently completed there is money available from the borough council to improve the recreational facilities in Haughton. The parish council has put forward some initial ideas, some of which are acceptable, and some of which the borough thinks are not.

We have suggested

- A) to spend money enhancing Grassy Lane.
- B) To add extra play equipment to the playing field.
- C) To put the money towards building changing rooms at the playing field.
- D) To complete the tarmacking on the Village Hall Car Park. (Alas, the borough council does not consider this to be recreational.)

Whatever we do has to be supported by the village community, so we are asking you for your comments on the existing ideas and also to add any new ideas you have.

Please contact the clerk by email [clerk@haughton-pc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@haughton-pc.org.uk) quoting New Recreational Ideas, saying what new recreational facility you would like to see in the village and whether you support any of the ones we have already suggested. Suggestions will close at the end of July 2018.

If you do not have access to E Mail then fill in the attached form and place it in the suggestions box in the Newsagents at the village shops.

### **Do you want to be a Parish Councillor?**

In May 2019 it will be the Parish Council Elections when all the councillors stand down and a new parish council is elected. We often hear comments like, "We could do that job better than the existing council", so now is your opportunity to stand. What is entailed? Well, the reason we are asking for your interest now is that it allows potential councillors to come along and observe the council meetings to see what is involved. We meet at 7.00pm in the village hall on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in the month. except for August and December. See below for the dates of our meetings

## HOW TO SEE WHAT THE PARISH COUNCIL ARE DOING

Details of parish council meetings, together with the minutes and accounts, are displayed on the parish noticeboard at the corner of Royds Close, opposite the shops, and are also available on the parish council website at [www.haughtonpc-staffs.org.uk](http://www.haughtonpc-staffs.org.uk) .  
All our meetings are, and always have been, open to the general public.

Our next meetings are:

In 2018: 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 26<sup>th</sup> November,

In 2019: 28<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019, 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 22<sup>nd</sup> April. Parish Council Elections in May

Contact information

<b>The Parish Councillors</b>		
 M. Allen 01785 780328	 G. Anslow 01785 780371	 I. Forrester 01785 780124
 T. Grattage 01785 780918	 I. Sunley 01785 781009	 S. Taylor 01785 781046
 D. Warbrick 01785 780592	<b>Parish Clerk</b>  S. Atkins 01785 840845	
<b>Borough Councillors</b>		
S. Leighton 07790 305099	R. Sutherland 01785 244739	
<b>County Councillor</b>		
M. Winnington 01785 822224		

If you cannot E Mail the clerk and wish to help the village with either the telephone box or new recreational facilities the please fill in the appropriate slip below and place it in the Houghton Parish Council suggestions box in the newsagents at the village shops.

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### **Telephone Box**

I wish to be involved in the Telephone Box working group

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E mail \_\_\_\_\_

A suggestion for the use of the Telephone Box is

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### **Recreational Facilities**

My suggestion for a new recreational facility in the village would be:

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I support

A) to spend money enhancing Grassy Lane.

B) To add extra play equipment to the playing field.

C) To put the money towards building changing rooms at the playing field.