

HAUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer: Jonathan Brumwell

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Minutes of the Meeting of Haughton Parish Council held at Haughton Village Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 26th June 2023

Present:

Parish Councillors: Ian Sunley (Chair), Michael Allen, Mark Burgess, Peter Prokopa (Vice Chair), and Stuart Taylor.

Clerk: Jonathan Brumwell

Public Open Forum: Two members of the public were present. No issues were raised.

1. To receive apologies and accept and record any reasons for absences.

Apologies were received and approved from Cllr P Prokopa who was delayed due to traffic.

2. Co-option of Councillors

The Council consider co-option to fill two vacant seats on the Parish Council following normal elections. Following advertisement of the vacancies expressions of interest were received from Mrs Suzanne Beatty and Mr Melvyn Cotterill, both residents of the parish.

RESOLVED to co-opt Mrs Suzanne Beatty and Mr Melvyn Cotterill, both present, to the remaining seats on the Parish Council. Mrs Beatty and Mr Cotterill completed Declaration of Acceptance of Office, which were witnessed by the Clerk, and submitted Declarations of Pecuniary Interests. The councillors then took their seats.

3. Welcome to new members to the council.

The Chairman formally welcomed Councillors Beatty and Cotterill to the Parish Council.

4. Declarations of interest

None

5. To confirm and approve minutes of the meeting held on Monday 22nd May, 2023

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

6. To confirm and approve minutes of the extra meeting held on Wednesday 31st May 2023

The minutes were proposed, seconded and approved as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

7. To determine which items, if any, of the Agenda should be taken with the public excluded

The Chair proposed that Item 13 be taken with the public excluded.

RESOLVED that Item 13 be taken with the public excluded. Item 13 would be taken at the end of the meeting.

SPCA – Cllr Allen reported that the new Chief Executive would be in post from July.

Clerk – the Clerk reported that the section 106 monies had been received from Stafford Borough Council. A complaint received from residents regarding an untidy site was also reported which related to Item 9.2.

9. Planning

1. 23/37450/HOU: Erection of single storey rear extension - Haughton House, Bradley Lane, Haughton, ST18 9DL: **no comment**.
2. 22/35886/FUL: Proposed erection of one two bedroom dwelling - Land Adjacent To 1 Brazenhill Lane, Haughton, ST18 9HS: **object** and **request call-in** – previous objections remain valid.

10. Financial Report

(b) Bank reconciliation as at 31st May 2023: noted.

DESCRIPTION	NET	VAT	GROSS
Salaries and Expenses			£2,351.36
Insurance Premium			£767.31
Grass cutting	£541.88	£108.38	£650.26
<u>Direct Debit Payments</u>			
<i>EE Mobile (already paid)</i>	£12.67	£2.53	£15.20

Stafford Borough Council – S106 monies	£20,095.00
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- a) Highways including grass cutting – ST reported that the standard achieved by the contractor had improved and acknowledged that previous complaints had been genuine.
- b) Public Rights of Way – No issues reported.

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11. Highways, public rights of way and related issues (continued)

- c) Grassy Lane – to consider, and resolve if appropriate, extended grass cutting to widen the effective width of the path [Highways Act 1980, sections 42 and 50] – the possibility of utilizing Community Payback for this work will be investigated.
- d) Community Speed Watch – the Council considered the purchase of one sign for the Gnosall end of the village at a cost of £19.88 (no VAT) [Local Government and Rating Act 1997, section 31].

RESOLVED to purchase one Community Speed Watch sign to be installed on the A518 at the western end of the village.

12. Councillors' Reports

- a) Park – ST reported that the Warden had removed graffiti at the skate park and that the benches require maintenance.
- b) Football Pitch – goal areas wearing thin and will be monitored for recovery through the summer.

13. Updates on projects and action points:

- Dale Common – after consideration, the Clerk was authorized to purchase an ABUS 4-digit combination padlock to secure the new gate at a cost of £24.59 (exclusive of VAT)
- FLIRE5-XT thermal Imaging Camera Training Course and handbook – training session Wednesday morning, 28th June.
- Installation of new equipment at Jim Jarvis Memorial Field – commencing Tuesday 27th June. St Giles Primary School to be invited to formally 'open' the new equipment when installed.

14. Parish Council Membership of the Council for the Protection of Rural England Staffordshire branch.

The Council considered membership of the Staffordshire Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England [Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 19].

RESOLVED that the Council become a member of the Staffordshire Branch of the Council for the Protection of Rural England at a cost of £36.00 per year (no VAT).

15. Staffordshire County Council 'Anti-Idling Zone' initiative

The Council noted that St Giles Primary School had responded to enquiries to say that they operate a drop-off zone and so an anti-idling zone would not affect the school. The Council also considered information on Anti-Idling zones contained in a leaflet published by Living Streets (The Pedestrians Association).

RESOLVED to defer a decision on this initiative pending further information gathering.

16. Jim Jarvis Memorial Playing Field

The Council considered the following actions in respect of the [Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 19]:

- a) Sport England Active Places Data Platform – registration of the playing field on the Sport England Active Places Data Platform. There is no fee for registration.

RESOLVED to register the playing field on the Sport England Active Places Data Platform.

Continued

16. Jim Jarvis Memorial Playing Field (continued)

- b) RoSPA Play Safety Annual Inspection – completion of the annual play area inspection of the Jim Jarvis Memorial Playing Field by RoSPA in August at a cost of £75.00 exclusive of VAT.
RESOLVED to approve the inspection at the quoted cost.
- c) Provision by RoSPA of a tailored weekly checklist at a cost of £30.00 exclusive of VAT.
RESOLVED to obtain a tailored weekly checklist at a cost of £30.00 exclusive of VAT; and
- d) To consider automatic booking of RoSPA Play Safety Annual Inspections for future years whereby RoSPA Play Safety Team automatically inspect each year, unless instructed otherwise (future inspections to be notified in advance with the report and invoice being sent after the inspection has been completed).
RESOLVED to enter into an agreement for automatic booking of annual inspections.

17. Future agenda items

The Council noted that future agenda items should be notified to the Clerk by Monday, 17th July 2023.

18. Date and time of next meeting

The Council confirmed the date and time of the next meeting as Monday, 24th July 2023 at 7.00pm.

19. Exclusion of the Press and the Public

Further to minute 7, above, the following item of the Agenda was taken with the public excluded. MB moved the following motion (PP seconding):

To resolve that in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and by reason of the confidential nature of the remainder of the business, the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.

RESOLVED that the Press and the Public be excluded from the meeting.

20. Review of the Park Warden's salary

The Council considered the Park Warden's salary and arrangements for appraisal. A copy of the nationally agreed pay scales published by NALC was provided for information. [Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 19].

RESOLVED that the Park Warden's salary be increased by £0.75 per hour from 1st July 2023.

21. Meeting Close

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Chair, 24th July 2023