

**HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE RON  
CRASCALL PAVILION ON TUESDAY 16<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2007 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Cllrs C Faiers (Chairman), W Green , W Robertson, J Bowden, H Stephens,  
Mrs J Thomson , C Hart, J Prigg, N Weaver & Mrs M Bottomley (Clerk)  
Ms Sandra Gage & Mr A Morton from SCC  
Mr I Bushnell, Emergency Planning Officer, SCC

27 villagers

Apologies: Cllrs J Bevan , M Pirrie & D.Cllr Cameron-Laker.

The Chairman welcomed Mr I Bushnell and Ms Sandra Gage to the meeting.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST - None

MINUTES OF MEETING 16.09.07

It was proposed by Cllr Mrs Thomson, seconded by Cllr Robertson that the minutes were a true and accurate record and signed accordingly. 5 in favour, 4 abstentions.

TO DEAL WITH ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES SHOULD BE  
CONSIDERED AS A MATTER OF URGENCY PURSUANT SECTION 100B(4) (B) OF THE LGA 1972

**Post Office:** The Chairman summarised events up to and following the closure of the village post office and the action taken by the Parish Council to find alternative premises./facilities. He acknowledged there was a large proportion of villagers present who no doubt wished to discuss the matter further and with the agreement of all councillors recessed the meeting to hear their views.

On reconvening the Chairman advised there could possibly be a separate meeting held to discuss the matter of the Post Office and to consider setting up a small committee to make further enquiries on suitable premises and staffing etc.

17 villagers then left the meeting.

EMERGENCY PLANNING

Mr Bushnell gave a brief breakdown of the requirements for drawing up an emergency plan and under what circumstances such a plan might be required, the facilities that should be available etc. A team to undertake a Risk Assessment was required - someone in the village who was well motivated . Plan could then be put on the web-site and be reviewed annually subject to any incident happening. Two councillor names were suggested at this stage and Mr Bushnell answered a number of queries raised by councillors. Whilst there was no mandatory requirement for the Plan, with the exception of 1 councillor, 8 councillors were 100% behind drawing up the document . Mr Bushnell then left the meeting.

HGV SURVEY

The Vice Chairman chaired this item and welcomed Ms Gage and Mr Morton from SCC who had come to discuss the recent Survey with councillors. In her summary of the survey Ms Gage pointed out

- In the main HGV numbers through Haughley have been measured to be stable over the years traffic monitoring has taken place
- The exception to this being the increase in Haughley Green, and overall the highest volumes were in Fishponds Way and Haughley New Street.

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- The volume of LGV's (light goods vehicles) had increased significantly at a number of sites and these were in keeping with traffic monitoring sites elsewhere in the county. Door-to-door deliveries/internet shopping may be responsible for some of this growth. The traffic signs regulations and directions set down by Department for Transport did not provide a means of specifically restricting this class of vehicle, and it would be very impractical to attempt. For this reason the Lorry Management Plan targets heavy goods vehicle traffic only ( over 7.5 tonnes)
- With the works now started on A14 Haughley Bends Improvement Scheme, there clearly was an opportunity to investigate whether HGV movements on Fishponds Way in particular could be re-routed. The traffic surveys showed that the main HGV movement in the village was north - south from Haughley Green through to the A14 via Fishponds Way. It was this route she suggested could be looked at further.
- There would be some issues around establishing an appropriate, practical alternative route, and it would not be acceptable to propose merely moving HGV traffic from one community to another. She mentioned the objectives of The Lorry Management Plan. This was available on the following link <http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/26870E5A-D47F-4F49-BEDD-069F13AEA862/0/2007LorryRouteNetworkLeaflet.pdf>

It was within the context of the Lorry Management Plan that she suggested investigating the options to restrict HGV movements travelling north - south in 2008/09 with a view to be in a position to propose any appropriate action following the completion of the A14 Improvement Scheme.

- One of the Councillors had mentioned a particular problem with over- night HGV movements. A further look could be made of traffic survey data to establish evidence if the Council would find this useful. However without knowing which company it was it would be difficult to take this any further. Let her know if the Council wanted any further action on this.
- Cllr Green referred to operators licences and the Council was reminded that the highway authority had very limited reasons to object to new applications, namely the suitability of the access onto the highway. Though the Traffic Commissioner may take account of weight restrictions in the area already introduced, Suffolk County Council did not introduce weight restrictions for this reason, but where there was clear evidence of through non-local HGV's and where a practical alternative existed.

There followed a brief discussion with councillors, following which Cllr Faiers then resumed chairing the meeting and thanked Ms Gage and Mr Morton for coming along and providing such in depth information. Ms Gage and Mr Morton then left the meeting.

C.Cllr Clover arrived at 8.27 p.m.

### VILLAGE APPRAISAL

Although the meeting had been well attended, and Cllr Green had highlighted the need for volunteers to set up a Working Party/Group to take the project forward, he felt there should be a mention/ brief article in the parish magazine.

The meeting then recessed for further discussion and to receive the reports from the County Councillor and the police.

### REPORTS

**County Councillor** – The second crossing of the railway at Stowmarket was on schedule and would be completed in 2009. The preferred contractor/tenderer was in discussion at present and the crossing may well be finalised before 2009. SCC have agreed with DEFRA to PFI funding. The Audit Commission consider SCC is performing well and have been awarded 4 stars..

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**Police - Crime Figures for 18/09/07 to 16/10/07** (full report attached)

Since 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007 there had been 3 crimes in the area for the period. Two of these crimes related to Criminal Damage, one to a dwelling on Station Road and the other a vehicle in Church View. Both of these crimes are undetected at present but enquires are still on-going. The other crime was a Burglary – dwelling at The Folly which again is currently undetected and further investigations are ongoing.

From a crime perspective in Mid-Suffolk the main problem this past month has been lots of Thefts and Burglary of other buildings. There have been a fair number of thefts in the area and a proportion of police time has been spent in Haughley over the past month particularly in relation to the squatters. Now they have gone it is hoped there will not be any further problems.

The meeting then reconvened.

REPORTS

**Allotment W.Party:** The contractors had been asked to install a more secure gate. However at the time of the meeting this work had not been undertaken. MSDC had been asked to quote for a follow up spraying treatment in the new year to prevent any re-occurrence of the Ragwort problem. Their quote had not yet been received.

**Footpaths:** Nothing to report.

**Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it was resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the Village Green and Employment Panel.**

**Traffic Calming:** Still waiting for SCC to complete the signage and narrowing of the road. Due to the recent heavy rains work on the A14 had been delayed by about three weeks. Cllr Green had attended a recent meeting with Birse/Highway Agency as a private individual but went on to provide the meeting with information on the A14 safety works.

Cllr Faiers had attended the A14 Opening. The Minister and Secretary arrived by train/car. Cllrs Faiers speech had been well received and subsequent visitors to the Pavilion had been very impressed. There had been poor press coverage however.

**Village Hall:** Nothing to report.

The meeting recessed for the next item.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

On reconvening it was noted that Speed checks had been undertaken by the Police at Haughley Green. The Chairman confirmed that the WI Walnut tree would be moved to the middle of the green in Denny Avenue in the near future.

PLANNINGItem 1

Application No.	2788/07
Proposal:	i) remove two branches and canopy lift to 5 metre on ash tree. ii) Canopy lift to 5 metres one Scots pine tree.
Site Location	Fir Tree Lane, Haughley Green
<b>Comment</b>	<b>Support</b>

The following application was granted by MSDC:-

**2242/07            Wetherden Cottage, Wetherden Road, Haughley Green.** Stable block – 4 stables.

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**Tree Preservation Order: 366 (2007) Fir Tree Lane, Haughley Green.** Confirmed.

The following application was refused by MSDC –

**2169/07 Yew Tree House, Haughley Green.** Extensions and alterations to dwelling to form additional living area.

Cllr Green referred to Planning application No. 2676/07 Blacks Farm, Bacton, and considered that quality of life in a conservation area would be greatly affected were this application approved. Cllr Green proposed writing to object to the application, seconded by Cllr Bowden. All in favour. Clerk to notify MSDC.

Villager at 38 Millfields had complained about the severe cutting back of the hedge between her property and Housing 21 homes. The housing society when contacted had advised this was a result of the ditch being cleaned out and the hedge would re-grow.

#### FINANCE

473 **October Accounts:** The accounts for October were approved. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Thomson, seconded by Cllr Weaver. All in favour.

<u>Chq.No.</u>		
101894	P Faiers (wages/ exp)	£ 160.50
101985	Post Office (PAYE)	£ 203.19
101896	The Cleaning Service (Pavilion)	£ 160.00
101897	Mrs Bottomley (Travel & Phone)	£ 66.33
101898	J Cattermole ( S.cleaning)	£ 306.74
101899	Mrs Bottomley (¼ office expenses)	£ 85.00
101900	MSDC (ragwort treatment)	£ 235.00
101901	Haughley V.Hall hire	£ 20.00
101902	Stonham Parva PC (1/6 <sup>th</sup> Clerk's Conf & workshop)	£ 11.67

**Income:** Cleansing Grant/ 2<sup>nd</sup> half precept/ Tracker interest **£22,684.53**

**Bank balances:** Current £9,654.38 Tracker 82,930.66

474 **Evergreens:** The chairman proposed a donation of £100 towards their party – as in previous years – seconded by Cllr Weaver. All in favour. Cheque No. 101903 for £100.

475 **Plants:** During the school's half term the Chairman agreed to purchase more plants in readiness for the planters/ tubs to be planted up. Nareys invoice to follow.

#### HAUGHLEY PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE

Cllr Green had produced a draft copy of the proposed opening page. Subject to a couple of amendments in respect of colours it was proposed by Cllr Weaver, seconded by Cllr Faiers to proceed with setting it up under the domain name of haughleyparishcouncil.org.uk All in favour.

BY LAW ON DRINKING - To remain on the Agenda.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Various brochures

476 DEFRA Climate change. Circulated

477 MSDC Strategic Plan 2007-2011. Circulated

478 Suffolk Preservation Society – Workshop on LDF on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2007

Signature.....

DATE OF NEXT MEETING 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007

There being no further business the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 10.50 p.m.

Signature.....