



PENKRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

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Volume 2 April 2016

Penkridge Parish Council

Chairman's Annual Report 2015 – 2016

Chairman Cllr Calvert Stonehouse

I would like to start my report by thanking Vice Chairman Councillor Mrs Anne Geoghegan and my fellow Councillors for their support which I have received in what has been a very interesting and challenging year.

The year started with the Elections, not only at Parish level but as you will recall the District together with the Parliamentary General election.

At the Parish elections 11 Councillors were elected unopposed which resulted in 4 vacancies.

I am pleased to say that 3 seats have been filled by co-option but with a resignation during the year this still leaves 2 vacancies. With that in mind it is the ideal opportunity to encourage any residents to consider if they wish to apply for the vacant posts.

The Best Kept Village, last year included some extra flower baskets and troughs placed around the village. The Parish Council received a High Commendation from the judges. With that encouragement we have entered again this year and fingers crossed we hope to do better.

In 2015 events at the Haling Dene Centre included – the Church Fete, Fun Run, Band Concerts and a very successful Pantomime. I am happy to say these will also be repeated during 2016. In addition we are preparing for the Party to celebrate the Queen's 90th Birthday on Sunday 12th June; there will be details of this event announced in the near future.

I am sure everyone has noticed the Haling Dene's new entrance and exit signs and new Notice board – which have been recently erected. The Haling Dene Centre continues to be used by many groups as a Community Centre, together with local organisations. We also have families who use our rooms and lovely grounds for their special occasions including weddings and parties.

The Council are also now looking for nominations for this year's Civic Award and Young Persons Award. Please nominate someone you think deserves recognition for their public service.

The Council continues to support local organisations with the consideration of Grants in accordance with the Council's Grant Awards Policy. The Council's aim is to distribute grants in a way that is fair and accountable to enable many groups to benefit. The Council have reviewed the Grant Policy and this has been updated. Council will now only be considering grants once per year at the June Full Council meeting.

Planning Issues – the Parish continues to comment on applications sent by the District Council. The Parish Council gives comments, or voices concerns to the District Council, in the Consultation process.

We have seen the completion of the New Fire Station and the Pencric Development of residential apartments for the Elderly.

The large new Housing estate on Lyne Hill has now started and we are led to believe that show homes are due to be ready after Easter. We will look forward to the completion of this development over the next few years.

The redevelopment of Riverside House has started with the demolition of the present structures and the construction of more Apartments for the Elderly. This is due to start in the near future.

On the outskirts of the village at New Acre Stables we await the outcome of 2 Appeals against refusal to allow residential development of the Green Belt. There has been 1 Appeal dismissed.

The Parish Council have seen the imposition of the speed limit of 30mph through the village and this was supported and welcomed by the Council. Additional signage has now been provided by the Highway Authority.

I must now mention the Library. I am pleased to report that due to the efforts of a dedicated group of residents, the 'Friends of Penkrige Library', together with the support of the Parish Council it has been possible to convince Staffordshire County Council the role of the Library is vital to the residents of Penkrige. It has now been rescued from the possibility of down graded to be run by Volunteers. It will now continue to be run by Professional Librarian staff with some variations in opening times. There may be opportunities for the increased use of the buildings by other groups and these are being investigated by ongoing discussions with the SCC.

Each month the Council have been grateful to Reverend Sheila Finn for leading prayers prior to the Council meetings and to PCSO Andy Poxon and his colleagues for presenting useful police reports and his continued his presence in and around the Village.

By September 2015 the revised Council Administration team was complete. The new team is led by Lesley Griffiths, the new Parish Administrator, together with Debbie Turton, Ann Raby and Hilary Lewis, who is a welcomed new member of the team. We hope that the best possible service continues to be provided by the Parish Council to the local community. We also have an excellent support team with Kerry Bagnall as our Bar Manager, Julie Rathbone and Caroline Draper headed by Bill Strickland who help maintain the Haling Dene and all the Council's facilities and amenities throughout the Parish.

Financial resources have been used responsibly and as a result this continues with the Precept remaining unchanged at £210,000 for the next financial year 2016-2017. I would like to thank the Sub Committee members led by Chairman Cllr John Eastwood (Recreation and Amenities) and Chairman Cllr Mrs Pet Hughes (Haling Dene Management). Indeed all Councillors are thanked for their contributions over the past year.

The development of the new Parish Council Website and Social Media continues by the Website group with a major contribution by Councillor David Oldfield.

Councillor John Eastwood has once again led the Highways Liaison group and continues the dialogue on highways and safety matters with the Highway Authority.

I finish by offering everyone involved with the Parish Council and the local community best wishes for the forthcoming year and the future.

Regards

Calvert Stonehouse

Chairman Parish Council
17th March 2016



Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations Haling Dene Centre – Sunday 12th June 2016

The Parish Council are holding a Family Day to commemorate the Queen's 90th Birthday. Families are invited to come and bring a Picnic in the Haling Dene's lovely Grounds and join in the celebrations.

There will be Children's Entertainment during the afternoon together with a Band Concert at 2.30 pm with Tutbury Band. The WI will be providing their lovely cakes and refreshments and the Public Bar will also be open from 12 noon until 4.30 pm.

COUNCIL CASUAL VACANCIES

THE PARISH HAVE TWO CASUAL VACANCIES IN THE SOUTH EAST WARD. A NOTICE HAS BEEN PLACED ON THE VILLAGE NOTICEBOARDS AND PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING THE COUNCIL PLEASE SEE THE NOTICEBOARDS FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR CONTACT THE HALING DENE CENTRE ON TEL: 01785 714157.

PENKRIDGE PARISH COUNCIL

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR - Lesley Griffiths, Haling Dene Centre, Cannock Road, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5DT - Tel: 01785 714157 email: clerk@penkpc.co.uk

RECEPTION - Opening times 9am - 5pm (Monday - Friday) - Tel: 01785 714157 email: reception@penkpc.co.uk

Parish Council Meetings are held at 7.30 pm in Room 1, Haling Dene Centre every second Thursday of the month except August

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Gailey Ward

Hilary Hughes 12 Croyden Drive, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5DW - Tel: 07940 537533 email: h.hughes@penkpc.co.uk

Levedale Ward

Isabel G A Ford Belford Lodge, 30 Haling Road, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5BZ - Tel: 01785 712339 email: i.ford@penkpc.co.uk

North East Ward

Bevan Craddock 44 Haling Road, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5DA - Tel: 01785 712733 email: b.craddock@penkpc.co.uk

John L Eastwood Horner, St. Michael's Close Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5AD - Tel: 01785 712966 email: j.eastwood@penkpc.co.uk

Andrew Lenz 5 Manorfield Close, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5JP - Tel: 07881 932898 email: a.lenz@penkpc.co.uk

Anthony Minshall The Foxholes Cottage, Stafford Road, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5AS - Tel: 07976 816407 email: a.minshall@penkpc.co.uk

South East Ward

Anne J Geoghegan (Vice Chairman) Sunny Bank, Mill Street, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5AY - Tel: 01785 713419 email: a.geoghegan@penkpc.co.uk

Petula Hughes 10 Wolverhampton Road, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5DP - Tel: 01785 714843 email: p.hughes@penkpc.co.uk

Victor J Kelly 12 Wulfric Close, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5EW - Tel: 01785 716779 email: v.kelly@penkpc.co.uk

Vivienne Smith 29 Marsh Lane, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5BY - Tel: 01785 714129 email: v.smith@penkpc.co.uk
2 vacancies

West Ward

Brian Heathcote 16 Micklewood Close, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5JE - Tel: 07926 019453 email: b.heathcote@penkpc.co.uk

David Oldfield 1 Grange Cottages, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5NH - Tel: 01785 714373 email: d.oldfield@penkpc.co.uk

Calvert Stonehouse (Chairman) 6 Grange Avenue, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5NW - Tel: 01785 713009 email: c.stonehouse@penkpc.co.uk

SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE COUNCIL

North East & Acton Trussell Ward

Len Bates, 11 Hempits Grove, Acton Trussell, ST17 0SL - Tel: 01785 714091 email: l.bates@sstaffs.gov.uk

Isabel G A Ford, Belford Lodge, 30 Haling Road, Penkridge, ST19 5BZ - Tel: 01785 712339 email: i.ford@sstaffs.gov.uk

South East Ward

Christine J Raven, 7 Francis Close, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5HP - Tel: 01785 715936 email: c.raven@sstaffs.gov.uk

John Raven, 7 Francis Close, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5HP - Tel: 01785 715936 email: j.raven@sstaffs.gov.uk

West Ward

Donald E Cartwright, Gailey Lea Farm, Penkridge, Stafford, ST19 5PT - Tel: 01785 712487 email: d.cartwright@sstaffs.gov.uk

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

David Williams, 85 Wood Lane, Wedges Mills, Cannock, WS11 1SZ - Tel: 01922 511319 email: david.williams2@staffordshire.gov.uk

Mark Sutton **Gailey & Levedale only** - Tel: 01902 851682 or 07814 144072 email: mark.sutton@staffordshire.gov.uk

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT

Jeremy Lefroy, Constituency Office, 15 Pearl House, Stafford Tech Park, Beaconside, Stafford, ST18 0GB - Tel: 01785 252477 email: jeremy.lefroy.mp@parliament.uk

Best Kept Village 2016

Penkridge has again entered in the Best Kept Village competition and the organisers are appealing to local residents to help keep the village looking at its best and hopefully gain some success in this year's contest.



If you can help in any way towards this end, maybe by monitoring your own road/street to ensure it is looking its best, or maybe assist with litter-picking (gloves, etc. are provided) – in fact, helping in any way to keep your village looking really good for when the judges come visiting, then do please contact David Calcroft on 01785 713558.

Your help would be very much appreciated and, who knows, we may see that coveted BKV trophy back in Penkridge once more.

Community Litterpick – Best Kept Village Competition

The Civic Society are holding a Community Litterpick on Sunday 24th April to help prepare for the Best Kept Village Competition judging. If you wish to join in please contact the Haling Dene Centre on Tel 01785 714157 for further details.

Haling Dene Centre - Room Hire



Please see our website www.penkridgeparishcouncil.co.uk for a current price list for Meetings, Parties, Weddings etc. You can either enquire using a link from the website or ring us and we will be happy to discuss your requirements further on 01785 714157.

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO HAS MADE AN EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO VILLAGE LIFE?

YOUNG PERSON(S) CIVIC AWARD 2016

If you know a young person who is under 21 and who has demonstrated commitment to, or benefit for, the community and you think he/she deserves recognition please fill in the slip below and return it to the Parish Administrator. The closing date is Friday 15th April 2016.

I wish to nominate _____

Reason for nomination _____

(You may attach additional information)

Signed _____ Name _____

Address _____

Please return to the Parish Administrator's Office by not later than Friday 15th April 2016.

CIVIC AWARD 2016

If you know a parishioner who has contributed to the village community and would like to nominate him/her to be considered for this year's Civic Award please fill in the slip below and return it to the Parish Administrator. The closing date is Friday 15th April 2016.

I wish to nominate _____

Reason for nomination _____

(You may attach additional information)

Signed _____ Name _____

Address _____

Please return to the Parish Administrator's Office by not later than Friday 15th April 2016.