

Report – September 2019

Some of the following information was also in the August Report.

1. Future Meetings & Events.

2019 – 4th September, 2nd October, 6th November, 4th December.

2020 – 8th January, 5th February, 4th March, 1st April, 13th May APM / AGM, 3rd June, 1st July, 2nd September, 7th October, 4th November, 2nd December.

2021 – 6th Jan, 3rd Feb, 3rd Mar, 7th Apr, 12th May, 2nd Jun, 7th Jul, 1st Sep, 6th Oct, 3rd Nov, 1st Dec.

2022 – 5th Jan, 2nd Feb, 2nd Mar, 6th Apr, 11th May, 1st Jun, 6th Jul, 7th Sep, 5th Oct, 2nd Nov, 7th Dec.

2023 – 4th January, 1st February, 1st March, 5th April APM. **(Elections 4th May)**
17th May AGM, 7th Jun, 5th Jul, 6th Sep, 4th Oct, 1st Nov, 6th Dec.

All meetings start at 7.30pm and are held at the Hayes Green Community Centre. These above are the scheduled meetings for the next four years. Agendas for all meetings will be printed and posted on the Tuesday of the previous week.

Please forward any items for inclusion on the agenda by the Monday before in writing with sufficient information to allow a reasonable explanation of what is being proposed to be entered on the agenda.

Our Events / or at HGCC.

County Council Surgery – 1st Tuesday (3rd Sep / 1st Oct / 5th Nov / 3rd Dec).

Cannock Council Surgery (Cllr A. Fitzgerald) – 2nd Friday (13th Sep / 11th Oct / 8th Nov / 13th Dec).

Clerks Liaison Meeting with CCDC – 4th December.

Held – Chair/Clerk – Burntwood / Hammerwich / Norton Canes joint meeting – 1st August. 10.30am at Burntwood.

Litter Picks Held.

Saturday 6th July at HGCC.

Monday 22nd July, Superhero Litter Pick 1 at HGCC.

Thursday 8th August, Superhero Litterpick 2 at Heath Hayes Park.

Tuesday 27th August, Superhero Litter Pick 3 at HGCC

Christmas Lights switched on – Friday 6th December.

Wimblebury Remembrance – 3rd November. 10.40am to 11.10am.

Heath Hayes Remembrance Sunday – 10th November. 9.30am to 11.30am

Community Life Church Kids Christmas Party. Saturday 30th November. The CLC has free use of the Centre for the party from 12.30pm onwards.

Summer Funday – Held Wednesday 7th August (Bouncy castle / Games / Free hot dogs and burgers.

Day at the Beach – Held on Wednesdays 24th July / 7th and 21st August.

Play and Craft Fridays. 10am to 12pm. £2 per family includes toast and a drink.

Heath Hayes Library.

- **Walking For Health** – Walks advertised on Library and our FB group.
- **Get Together Group.** Every Friday 10am to midday. Art, crafts, games, puzzles, cards and others. Refreshments.
- **Networking** – Held Monday 12th August at Library.
- **Times Past** – Dates to be confirmed.

Other Events.

- **Chasewater Day** – Saturday 10th August. (Cancelled due to weather).
- **Walk for Eileen** – 31st August. (12pm at Cannock Chase).
- **St John's Carols Event** – TBA. Hoped to be held in December in the two weeks before Christmas Day.

2. Administrative Issues.

2.1 The audit papers have been completed and submitted as required and have been returned with the figures agreed.

2.2 All Councillors' register of Interest forms have been scanned and entered on our website. The paper copies have been sent to Cannock Chase Council as they have requested. There is a legal requirement for the forms to be on our website. Councillors have 28 days to register any material changes.

2.3 Cannock Chase Council is undertaking a review of Polling Stations and has asked for a questionnaire to be completed and returned by 31st August. This has been done. (Replied 9th July).

3. Liaison with local Councils.

There was a meeting on 1st August between the Clerks/Chairs of Hammerwich, Norton Canes, Burntwood and Heath Hayes and Wimblebury to discuss potential collaboration and information sharing about potential joint projects.

It appeared to me that the inclusion of Hammerwich may be detrimental to the intended aims. They sent four of their Councillors, some of whom were clearly politically motivated with comments about previous disagreements between Hammerwich and Burntwood which were totally irrelevant to this meeting. It was quite clear there was a misunderstanding or acceptance what the purpose of the meeting was, IE cross border co-operation.

One Hammerwich Councillor continued a complaint he has as a Hammerwich resident of not being able to speak at a Burntwood meeting about planning, when Burntwood TC is a consultee and the Planning Authority is Lichfield.

In order to make progress, the Clerks for Burntwood, Norton Canes and I met on 14th August to discuss issues around our respective Councils. We are investigating suggestions to link Cycle Route 5 from Chasewater to Stafford and to extend Beacon Way. Both routes could cross our area.

4. Memorial Benches.

4.1 The former benches at Five Ways Island have been removed by Cannock Chase Council and the new ones have been installed.

4.2 The Commissioning Event due to be held on 28th July had to be called off due to the weather.

Invitations went to: Cannock Council / Staffordshire County Council / Police / Alan and Margaret Dean, Cannock Chase Drum Corps. Schools: Five Ways, Gorsemoor, Heath Hates, Kingsmead. Churches: Bourne, Community Life, St John's. Advertised on Facebook / Website / Noticeboard. Also for any members of the public who may wish to attend.

It is very difficult to estimate attendance at events such as this, especially with the usual lack of response from those invited.

There would be an issue with traffic noise at this location unless there is a road closure and this would not be recommended because of the cost (probably £300) in relation to the attendance. When we had the event at Wimblebury, there was very little traffic but this is not the case at Five Ways.

Therefore I would suggest to the Council that this event is incorporated into the Remembrance event on 10th November. This would mean a much higher attendance, that the traffic would be stopped and would be a much more respectful way to dedicate the benches.

5. Hayes Green Community Centre.

5.1 Boiler. The boiler has had an annual service.

5.2 WiFi. There is now free WiFi at the Centre, courtesy of the Community Life Church. No password – free for use for those inside the Centre.

5.2 SCVYS Event. This was a great success and well attended. Held on 10th July, the Council allowed free use of the Centre and the Cherished Coffee Shop was very helpful allowing joint use and providing refreshments. (Left Photo)



5.3 Cherished Coffee Shop. Celebrated their first anniversary on 10th July. A great asset to the area, not only providing a meeting place but also used for events like the SCYYS day, Councillors Surgeries, Woolley Wednesday, Health Talks, Chatter and Natter, Play & Craft and many others. (Right Photo)

5.4 Forest Garden. I have liaised with Moira Johns from the Grandparents Stay and Play Group regarding the use of the Forest Garden. This area was developed as an additional play and learning facility by the former nursery but is not used now. It is an enclosed area that will be useful for the group to use. There will be no expected cost.

5.5 Internal Door. The door was originally installed by the Nursery as a way of vetting visitors prior to entrance. It opens the wrong way to be a fire door. We have taken the lock off as some hirers have been pulling the door over and locking it. Hopefully, this will now eradicate any problems. If not, I will be recommending removal.

5.5 Advertising sign / Honours Board / Display Cabinet / Relocation of Plaque / Flag on wall. In progress.

5.6 Boiler. The boiler has had the annual service and the fire extinguishers will be done in September.

6. Defibrillators.

The defibrillators have been checked and are in order. There are no known sources of grants at the present time.

7. Litter Project.

7.1 A litterpick was held on Saturday 6th July. Superhero 1 was on 22nd July at the Hayes Green Centre.

7.2 Superhero 2 8th August, 10am Heath Hayes Park. Superhero 3 10am at HGCC, Tuesday 27th August.

7.3 The hi-vis vests have been received and were used on the litterpick and for the work on Cannel Mount.

7.4 Cllr Sam Thompson investigated the possibility of a donation of litterpickers and bin rings from Cannock Chase Council. At the moment, we cannot have a donation but this may change. However, we can borrow the litterpickers and Cllr Thompson has kindly arranged for this for the next two events.

7.5 I would respectfully suggest that some extra funding is allocated for the purchase of Ranger type litterpickers and some bin rings for next year. The litter pickers are towards £30 each but are long lasting.

8. Cannel Mount.

8.1 Together with Mrs A. Lowe from Kingsmead School, we have liaised with the arrangements for a planned 200 pupils using the area for community projects for four days. Monday 15th to Thursday 18th July.

8.2 I purchased four small trowel sets (£36.52), two shears and two edging shears (closing down sale at TJ Hughes). Two portaloos were hired from Central Toilet Hire. Four boxes of wildflower seeds with 40,000 seeds were sown.

8.3 Suggestions in advance included path clearance / Litterpicking / Planting wildflowers / Mapping an orienteering course / Bird / Bat / Owl boxes / Map making / Historical research / Connectivity linking to footpaths and cycle routes. This will part of a plan to improve the area by including local schools in events that are beneficial to the community and to their education and development.

8.4 I liaised about other equipment and either I or my son Jamie (who is a Primary School Teacher) were available the whole time of the project. It finished at 1pm on Thursday 18th.

8.5 In summary, 120 Year 10 pupils and four staff arrived on Day 1. Ongoing management of the pupils and suggestions improved the effectiveness of the work and on Day 2, Day 3 and Day 4 we had 60 pupils and six staff for Years 9,8 and 7. Cannel Mount gained 900 hours of voluntary work and the pupils had a wide range of activities. It is hoped to continue to liaise with Kingsmead and the three Primaries to continue to provide learning opportunities.

Overall, it was a very successful project, which I attended every day, assisted when needed and reacted to issues. Several members of the public asked about the project and they were all impressed with the work the pupils were doing.

Photograph shows Cllr P. Haden handing over a Certificate of Thanks.



8.6 I would respectfully suggest considering installing a vehicle barrier at the entrance. This would improve security and stop trespassers.

9. Facebook / Web.

- 926 members.
- June, July, September, October and November meetings entered. Remembrance Events, Public Inquiry entered.
- Police Updates.
- CCDC issues / Local Plan Consultation
- Litterpicking.
- Web updates with information about reporting procedures / Meeting dates / Links to Job Centre
- Cannel Mount project / Remembrance – Wimblebury 3rd Nov / Heath Hayes 10th Nov
- Local events / Chasewater Friends / Chasewater Steam events.

10. Community Infrastructure Levy.

The 2018-19 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Report has been submitted to Cannock Chase Council and published on our webpage.

11. Christmas Lights.

Current position. 2019 going ahead with existing seven lights. £3,000 set aside in budget. Hednesford and Norton Canes Councils told we want to continue with existing arrangements for 2020 onwards and we will contact Laurie Bowman if any changes are agreed. 2,000 LED lights on a strip donated to us by Bourne Methodist Church.

12. Dementia Friendly Status.

The Council wants to assist the area obtain Dementia Friendly Status. An offer to host a “Step Back in Time” event at the HGCC has been made to PCSO Baggott.

Here is a link to the information about becoming Dementia Friendly.

<https://www.alzheimers.org.uk/get-involved/dementia-friendly-communities/how-to-become-dementia-friendly-community>

13. Bourne Methodist Church.

Email sent 30th July.

I am sure the Council would like me to assist the Bourne Church and further to what Les has reported, I have met with Glynne Watkin and spoken to Margaret Strickland and the situation at the moment is:

The future of the building will be considered by the Circuit in September.

The roof is expected to cost £50,000 and there are no known funds so there is a need to stop using the chapel building.

Sunday Services will continue, possibly until the end of October.

The relocation of the Foodbank is being discussed tomorrow - it is continuing at the Bourne and there has been an offer to relocate to St John's.

Smiley Faces Nursery has been given three months to leave. They are looking for alternative premises.

There are at most 12 regular worshippers. I have discussed alternative options with Margaret and there is the possibility of using the Community Life Church as they are at the Hayes Green Centre. They have been told they are welcome at St John's.

Margaret has offered their Christmas Lights to the Council and I am collecting them tomorrow at 2pm when the Foodbank will be held at the Bourne. I will store them at the HGCC pending a decision as to future use.

I have also told Margaret that she can contact the Council about any advice or assistance that we can offer.

There have been discussions regarding the relocation of the nursery and some hirings moving from the Community Life Church to the HGCC and vice versa but now the CLC has decided that it is not in their best interests to host the nursery.

The main service for Remembrance Sunday was due to be held at St John's this year and I have liaised with Rev Glynne Watkin. The closure of the Bourne may have an affect in numbers attending St John's. The other arrangements will be unaffected.

I will keep you updated with any material developments.

14. Land between Chapel Street and Cannock Road.

There will be a Public Inquiry at the Hayes Green Centre on Thursday 19th September. I have not been made aware of any material developments regarding the future of the land.

15. Traffic and highway issues.

15.1 Schools.

No further reply from Clear Streets.

Five Ways School put an article in their weekly newsletter (12th July) to ask parents to review their parking actions.

15.2 Hednesford Road. The work outside the Constitutional Club has been completed.

15.3 Speed Activated Sign. Hayes Way. Ongoing liaison in progress in case any funding for a sign becomes available.

15.4 Lichfield Road authorised closure from 17th July to 2nd September between Devon Road and Eastern Way for gas works. (From the island by the Poplars Recycling towards Cannock).

15.5 Tesco Service Road.

Bollards have been put across the service road that passes the HGCC on the Tesco side. They are not always up and seem to be used when the collection vehicles are due.



15.6 Gorsemoor Road – alleyway.

A resident rang about the overgrown appearance of the hedge at Gorsemoor School and the alley at the side. This has been a long term problem with Cannock Council sometimes cutting the residential side of the alley and the County Council being responsible for the school hedge but only cutting the inside. This quite often has resulted in the hedge encroaching into the alley and brambles at the base. Cllr S. Thompson kindly liaised with the school, Cannock Council and the County Council and work has started by the County Council on the outside of the fence and the paths are a lot clearer.



15.7 Heath Hayes Park.

A query was raised by a resident about the trees at the Five Ways Memorial and there was again the claim that the trees were planted on a one for one basis for the names on the War Memorial.

Cllr S. Thompson investigated and reported back that the trees were not being cut down as claimed but were being tended to as a part of a programme of planned maintenance.

16. Financial Issues.

16.1 Audit.

The audit has been completed and all the figures agreed and the accounts can now be closed.

The period covered the removal of the Heath Hayes Cabin and the refurbishment of the Hayes Green Centre, neither of which will be a feature in any future accounts as the Cabin has finished and the Centre can now have ongoing and planned maintenance costs spread out over many years.

Next year, I will have to explain why our expenditure has gone down over 15% as it invariably will, and I would expect the finances to then settle down and be more stable.

Here is the link to the papers

<https://hhwpccouk.wordpress.com/welcome/annual-audit/>

16.2 Financial Regulations.

This has been received:

“NALC is pleased to advise that the *Model Financial Regulations 2019 for England and Wales* have been updated. A copy of the Model Financial Regulations 2019 for England is attached, together with related guidance.”

The updated Regulations are attached and are on our website. The matter will be on the agenda to consider acceptance and adoption, which is the recommendation.

The main changes are to do with internet banking, charge cards etc that are not applicable to our arrangements.

16.3 Elections.

The bills for the elections have been received. £9,105.93. The cheque will be presented for authorisation at the October meeting.

17. Miscellaneous.

- Colin Donnelly has been appointed as the Capital Projects Officer for Cannock Chase Council and I have agreed to a request for a liaison meeting with him on 14th August.

“I’m due to take up my new role of Capital Projects Manager within the next few months for Cannock Chase Council and the duties will be to help and support the Council/ Parish Councils and groups looking to carry out any capital works. It would be useful to me if i could meet with yourselves and outline what my role is and how you can help to direct that and what I can in turn do to help you. I will be contacting all the local parish councils within the coming weeks and hopefully meeting them in person and start what i hope will be a good working relationship where we can share ideas and thoughts. I can update you on what the council are doing and hopefully you’ll be able to fill me in with what you have planned.”

- The address for the SPCA is now Eastgate House, 70 Eastgate Street, Stafford, ST16 2NG. Phone and email remain the same.
- A request for Councillors to complete an election survey was received and circulated on 8th August. I have completed the survey for Clerks.

- A police invitation for membership of the Safer Neighbourhood Panel was circulated on 8th August.

18. Planning.

Applications dealt with by the Planning Committee.

- **19/243 – 6 ST PAULS CLOSE, HEATH HAYES.** Second storey side extension. No objection.
- **19/253 – 22 CHAPEL STREET, HEATH HAYES.** Retention of single storey rear extension (6m x 2.4m). No objection.
- **19/293 – 23 HORSHOE DRIVE, WIMBLEBURY.** Erection of detached garage to rear garden (6m x 4m). No objection.
- **19/266 – 10 SALISBURY DRIVE, HEATH HAYES.** First floor side extension with juliette balcony to front, garage conversion, new detached garage. No objection.
- **19/298 – GEM'S CARPETS, FIVE WAYS ISLAND.** Proposed new finishes to exterior. No objection.
- **19/303 – 213 GORSEMOOR ROAD, HEATH HAYES.** Proposed first storey side extension and internal works (Re-submission of 19/152)

Decisions reported by Cannock Chase Council.

The Council noted the following:

- **19/161 – 14 GLOUCESTER WAY, HEATH HAYES.** Single storey rear extension to replace existing conservatory. (APPROVED).
- **19/170 – 13 ATTINGHAM DRIVE, HEATH HAYES.** Side double storey extension above garage. (REFUSED).

The Council had been notified of the withdrawal of planning application **19/197 – 9 Albany Drive, Heath Hayes.** Proposed two storey rear extension with loft conversion/dormer.

19. Agenda for October Meeting.

As it stands, these are entered on the agenda.

Apologies / Declarations / Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising / Planning / Remembrance Sunday / Wimblebury Event / Bench Dedication / Cannel Mount / Arrangements for Annual Grant Scheme / Newsletter / Christmas Lights / Litter Project / Correspondence / Accounts / Items for information or Future Agendas / Date of Next Meeting.

If anyone wants anything else on, could you please forward the item and a brief explanation about what the purpose is so I can enter it on the agenda. This will be completed on 23rd September.