

Report – March 2019

1. Future Meetings and Events.

2019 – 6th March, 3rd April APM, (Election 2nd May).

These are the scheduled meetings up to the election in May.

Agendas for all meetings will be printed and posted on the Tuesday of the previous week. Please get any items for inclusion in by the Monday.

The Hayes Green Centre has been booked as a Polling Station by Cannock Chase Council for Thursday 2nd May.

Great British Spring Clean – Sunday 24th March. Cannel Mount. 10.30am.

Remembrance Sunday – 10/11/2019. Main service at St John's.

Wimblebury Event – 3/11/2019

Other events.

Hayes Green Centre

- Cherished Coffee Shop. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays 9am x 3pm
Chatter and Natter (within and same times as Cherished Coffee Shop).
Woolly Wednesdays (10am x 12 – within Cherished Coffee Shop).
TMC Health Club – 11am to 12 Fridays.
County Councillors Surgery – First Tuesday (5th March) 1pm.
Afternoon Teas - £10 per person.

Zumba. Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

Cannock Chase Drum Corps. Wednesday evening.

Grandparents Stay and Play. Thursday morning.

Satori Martial Arts. Friday evening.

Diddidance. Saturday morning.

Theatre Group. Saturday morning.

Community Life Church. Sunday morning.

Other Events.

Walking for Eileen – Cannock Chase 31st August (Bob Pitcher).

St John's.

- Carols Event – TBA. Hoped to be held in December prior to Christmas Day.

Community Life Church.

- Community Funday. Hopefully a Sunday in August.

Heath Hayes Library.

- Walking For Health – Dates to be confirmed.
- Every Friday 10am to midday. Get Together Group. Art, crafts, games, puzzles, cards and others. Refreshments.
- Networking – Dates to be confirmed.
- Get Together Group – Every Friday 10am to 12 midday.
- Times Past – 4th, 18th March. 10am x 12 midday – alternate Mondays.

2. APM / Grants.

2.1 APM arrangements.

The arrangements are that the APM will be held in the main hall and commence at 7.30pm. Chair's Address, Awards, Cheques and Presentations and will probably take about 45 minutes.

That will close and there will be a break for refreshments. These are being very kindly provided by the Cherished Coffee Shop.

At an appropriate time, the Council meeting will be held in the meeting room. The monthly meeting after the APM will be the last meeting of the Council.

2.2 Grants.

The following grants have been agreed; **Those in bold have replied as requested.**

1st Heath Hayes Scouts. £200. 1st HH Cubs. £200. 1st HH Beavers. £200.

1st Heath Hayes Rainbows £200.

3rd Heath Hayes Rainbows. £200.

2nd Valley District Seniors. £200. 1st Heath Hayes Brownies. £200.

3rd Heath Hayes Brownies. £200. 4th Heath Hayes Brownies. £200.

3rd Heath Hayes Guides. £200.



Source Youth Club £400

Cannock Chase Drum Corps. £400.

Heath Hayes and Area Senior Residents Support Group. £500.

MASE. £300.

Five Ways Primary School. £500.

Gorsemoor School. £500.

Bourne Church. £500. St John's. £500. Community Life Church. £500.

All the above have been notified, invited to the APM and the information posted on our Facebook page and in the newsletter.

2.3 Awards.

- **Citizens of the Year. David and Margaret Strickland.** Informed and attending.
- **Young Person of the Year. Anastacia Smouna.** Informed. No reply.
- **Business of the Year. Cherished Coffee Shop.** Informed and attending.

2.3 Replies from those attending:

- Samantha Roberts – 1st Heath Hayes Scouts, 1st Heath Hayes Cubs, 1st Heath Hayes Beavers
- Alison Mayne, 3rd Heath Hayes Rainbows
- Jo Jones, Five Ways School.
- Richard and Daphne Sharp – MASE Group.
- Rachel Griffin – Cannock Chase Drum Corps.
- Ruth Howell – Community Life Church / The Source Youth Club / Cherished Coffee Shop
- Rev Glynne Watkin – St John's Church.
- John Tyrell – Community Life Church.
- David and Margaret Strickland – Citizen Award and Bourne Methodist Church.

3. Community Life Church.

3.1 It is again hoped to hold an event on a Saturday in August, between midday to 4pm. Possibly with live music, a BBQ and children's activities. The Council has supported and assisted with any arrangements, including free use of the Centre.

3.2 The Church holds a weekly service on Sunday mornings at the HGCC.

4. Traffic Issues.

Reporting. Traffic matters can be reported to the County Council on the following number : 0300 111 8000 or on the County Council website www.staffordshire.gov.uk and following the link for road or lighting faults.

5. Heath Hayes Cabin – Terminal arrangements.

5.1 Coop Bank. The accounts were closed on 21st January.

5.2 Charity Commission. The closure will be at the 2018-19 end of year when the Charity Commission allows online submissions sometime after the end of the financial year.

5.3 Inland Revenue. All monthly submissions have ceased. The forms for the employment terminations have been printed and distributed. There will be an end of year and termination of employer process to go through after the end of the financial year.

6. Publications.

6.1 **Facebook.** (Now 724 members, 286 in 2018, 207 in February 2017)

- Various Council events / Meeting dates / Grant Awards information
- How to report a traffic fault / County Council information
- Police information, bogus callers

6.2 **Newsletter.** The February newsletter has been produced. The next one is due in June

6.3 **Web updates** – February Minutes, Attendance, March Agenda, updates from February meeting. Ongoing re-population of site to make it more useful.

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7. Cannel Mount.

7.1 I am compiling a file of photographs and documents and formulating options for short, medium and long-term plans.

7.2 I am visiting the site weekly and there are no pressing issues to be dealt with at the moment.

7.3 I am liaising with Brickworks and County Council Rangers / CCDC.

7.4 Looking at costs and options for bird boxes.

8. Tommy.

Awaiting planning permission.

9. Memorial Benches at Five Ways

I am liaising with Cllr A. Dean and Kevin Yates to confirm the method of fixing. The benches can then be ordered.

10. Planning.

None.

11. Defibrillators.

Our four have been checked and are in order. There are no known new sources of grants.

12. Litter Picking.

12.1 I liaised with County Councillor Phil Hewitt and an event was held on Sunday 17th February. It was again well attended and successful in the amount of litter collected. Amanda Milling MP participated to support the event and afterwards, the Cherished Coffee Shop and Community Life Church welcomed us into the Hayes Green Centre to have a hot drink and a biscuit.

This was the seventh event since this project has started. We hope to continue to hold regular events at different locations, days and times to allow as many as possible to attend.

12.2 As part of the Great British Spring Clean, an event has been organised for Sunday 24th March. 10.30am at Cannel Mount.

NALC calls on local councils to the Great British Spring Clean

On 22nd January, Keep Britain Tidy (KBT) launched the Great British Spring Clean for 2019 and NALC is calling on local parish and town councils to get involved once again. This year, the event will be taking place from 22nd March to 23rd April 2019 and aims to build on the success of last year's event. Over 370,000 #LitterHeroes joined forces last year - despite the 'Beast from the East' - to collect litter at 13,500 events across the UK, taking a national stand against single-use plastic.

Cllr Sue Baxter, chairman of NALC, says: *"NALC is calling on you to help improve the environment on our doorstep. KBT is aiming to inspire around half a million people to join forces - in partnership with local councils, community organisations, businesses and the government - to collect and safely dispose of single-use plastic from our streets, parks and beaches, recycling as much as possible."* [Find out more here about Keep Britain Tidy](#)

13. Christmas Lights.

The 2019 lights will be turned on 6th December and ours will be the existing six streetlights and one tree light. I have liaised with Laurie at Hednesford Town Council and she will be submitting the plan for the three Councils' lights for 2019 at the end of May.

As no additional funding was put in the precept for 2019-20, Cllr Alan Dean and I have been looking at options for increasing the provision of lights in the area that will be separate to the three-Council agreement

Arrangements for the period after that will be on the June agenda.

14. Miscellaneous.

14.1 Horizon Crematorium. No developments known.

14.2 Disabled Facilities in the area. No developments known.

14.3 Supportive Communities. An invitation to attend the APM has been sent. It is hoped that there will be a representative attending the meeting.

17.4 Planning consultation. Link on our website should anyone wish to comment.

17.5 Noticeboard. It has become increasingly difficult to open the doors on the noticeboard and I have arranged for a repair on Tuesday 19th February.

17.6 SPCA – Information about recommended changes to Code of Conduct. (For information).

A report from The Committee on Standards in Public Life has made twenty-six formal (requiring legislation) and fifteen best practice recommendations for changes to be made on ethical standards in local government; the (full report available is on its website www.gov.uk/government/organisations/the-committee-on-standards-in-public-life)

The recommendations include:

- The Local Government Association should create an updated model code of conduct, in consultation with representative bodies of councillors and officers of all tiers of local government.
- Government to ensure that candidates standing for or accepting public offices are not required publicly to disclose their home address i.e. on registers of interest.
- Councillors should be presumed to be acting in an official capacity in their public conduct, including statements on publicly accessible social media.
- The Localism Act 2011 should be amended to state that a local authority's code of conduct applies to a member when they claim to act or give the impression they are acting in their capacity as a member or as a representative of the local authority.
- The Relevant Authorities (Disclosable Pecuniary Interests) Regulations 2012 should be amended to include: unpaid directorships, trusteeships; management roles in a charity or a body of a public nature; and membership of any organisations that seek to influence opinion or public policy.
- Local authorities should be required to establish a register of gifts and hospitality, with councillors required to record any gifts and hospitality received over a value of £50, or totalling £100 over a year from a single source. This requirement should be included in an updated model code of conduct.
- Councils include in their code of conduct that a councillor must not participate in a discussion or vote in a matter to be considered at a meeting if they have any interest, whether registered or not, *“if a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard the interest as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your discussion or decision-making in relation to that matter”*.
- A local authority should only be able to suspend a councillor where the authority's Independent Person agrees both with the finding of a breach and that suspending the councillor would be a proportionate sanction.

NB There are various recommendations and best practice proposals which relate to strengthening the role of the Independent Person. The local authority reference in Recommendation 8 would be the principal authority following a breach of the Code of Conduct investigated by their Monitoring Officer/Independent Person/Standards Committee.

- Councillors should be given the right of appeal to the Local Government Ombudsman if their local authority imposes a period of suspension for breaching the code of conduct.
- The Local Government Ombudsman should be given the power to investigate and decide upon an allegation of a code of conduct breach by a councillor, and the appropriate sanction, on appeal by a councillor who has had a suspension imposed. The Ombudsman's decision should be binding on the local authority. *NB: The Ombudsman would be involved in an appeal from either a principal authority councillor or a parish councillor.*
- Local authorities should be given the power to suspend councillors, without allowances, for up to six months.
- The criminal offences in the Localism Act 2011 relating to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests should be abolished.
- Section 27 (3) of the Localism Act 2011 be amended to state that parish councils **must** adopt the code of conduct of their principal authority, with the necessary amendments, **or** the new model code.

17.7 Staffordshire Dignity in Care Awards

“Do you know someone who makes a difference? Do you know someone who stands out and acts as an example to others?

Then nominate them for a Staffordshire Dignity in Care Award 2019. Nominations are now open.

The Awards recognise those who care as a profession, plus informal and young carers.

Our seven award categories this year include Young Dignity Champion, Dignity Champion, Leadership Award, Informal Carer, Learner/Student, Community and Outstanding Contribution.

Nominating is easy. You can nominate here www.staffordshire.gov.uk/dignityincare

Michelle Dale, Registered Manager at Burley Heights, whose staff team won a Community Organisation Award in 2018 said “I am proud to manage such an excellent team at Burley Heights who support people in a way that really matters to them and the people close to them.

“Winning a dignity award helps us to celebrate the achievements of both the service users and the staff and shows the team just what a difference the work they do makes and that others think they are as amazing as I do! The whole celebration day is a wonderful event too, where we all get to hear some amazing stories and share best practice ideas that benefit the wider community within the care sector”.



Closing date for nominations is 30th April 2019. Those who are shortlisted will be invited to the celebration event on Wednesday 10th July 2019, where winners will be announced and presented with their prize.

If you have any other questions about the campaign or would like to be involved in other ways, please get in touch. If you would like to be involved as a sponsor, we'd love to hear from you. Telephone: 01785 355795, or email dignity@staffordshire.gov.uk or Alison.hasdell@staffordshire.gov.uk

We'd be very grateful if you could share the details about the Awards within your organisation. We do have additional photographs of previous winners and other text if you would like us to send it to you, if you would like to run a story within your own newsletters, for example, or share via social media.

We look forward to receiving your nominations”.