



Council Offices, Dungeon Brow, Market Street, Hayfield, High Peak, Derbyshire, SK22 2EP
Tel. 01663 744550. Email: clerk@hayfield-pc.gov.uk

Spring 2015 Newsletter

Welcome to the new Hayfield Parish Council Newsletter. We hope you find it useful and informative. If you would like any further information on any topic please contact our new Clerk, Mr Brian Smyth at the above address

New clerk

We are pleased to welcome Mr Brian Smyth to his new post as Clerk to Hayfield Parish Council. Brian is a fully qualified clerk with many years experience at other councils. He is already changing things for the better and we look forward to working with him in the years to come.

Dungeon Brow

The Dungeon Brow building and garden area is an historic area right at the heart of the village. It has become a little run down in recent years, but following discussions with the conservation officers of High Peak Borough Council we are pleased to start a program of renovations. The conservation officers wanted us to remove as much "clutter" as possible. The first step was to remove the old Council notice board and build new notice boards into new window frames for the ground floor of Dungeon Brow. In the coming months the area in front of Dungeon Brow and the area in front of the Chemist will be flagged in York stone. The triangular raised bed in front of the Chemist will be removed to improve access and the remaining raised beds will be renovated with new coping stones. The Telephone Box will remain but could be renovated to bring it back to life. There is a scheme available where the Council could buy the phone box and use it for some other purpose, maybe an information kiosk. The Council would like to hear your opinion of this interesting possibility.

Valley Rd Play Area

The Recreation Ground between Valley Road and Springvale Road has been neglected in recent years and the Council has been keen to look at options for improving and modernising the park. We have had discussions with the Pump Park group and still hope that this project may go ahead. Following suggestions from a group of Parishioners we had detailed discussions with the National Lottery Heritage Fund but unfortunately no grant was available. Happily the Council has sufficient funds to begin work without grants and we have decided to renew the young children's play area behind the tennis court, starting in the next few weeks. This will involve a complete renovation of the area with all new play equipment. This work will be complete well before the summer. With the co-operation of the people of Hayfield, keeping dogs on leads, and using the litter bins, this will be a recreation area we can be

proud of. The Council sees this as the first stage or a bigger project to renovate the entire park and we will be looking for grant funding to improve the drainage problems at the Cricket Club end of the park ahead of more improvements in that area.

Traffic issues

The Council is aware of the main traffic issues in and around Hayfield. We do not really have much power over traffic matters but we have been talking to Derbyshire County Council's Highways Department to try and improve matters where we can. The revised pavement area at the corner of Fishers Bridge has not really been a success and we are talking to DCC about what to do next. The approach to Hayfield along New Mills Rd has been a problem in recent times with damaged verges and cars parked inappropriately. DCC have now earmarked funds to redevelop this stretch to improve the parking and appearance of this important stretch of road.

There will be a public consultation in the near future, organised by the Council and DCC which will give Parishioners the chance to make their views and concerns known.

Precept

The Council is pleased to announce that the Hayfield Parish portion of the Parishioners Council Tax Bills will remain the same in 2015/16 as it was in 2014/15. This is the fourth year in a row that we have been able to do this which means that the Hayfield Parish Council element of Council Tax bills have not changed over the life of the current Council.

2011 to 2015

The current Parish Council started its term of office in May 2011 and there will be an election for a new Council on the same day as the General Election this coming May. Anyone living in Hayfield Parish can stand for election so please contact the Clerk for information if you would like to stand. The Council gets involved in the life of the village and listed below are some examples of things we have contributed to during the last four years.

Queen's Jubilee Street Party

The Parish Council were pleased to support and be involved in this hugely successful event. The street party was attended by well over 1000 people and was enjoyed by both old and young. The children were all presented with a commemorative mug to remind them of this fabulous community event in years to come.

Company Pictures & "The Village".

Hayfield has been transformed into a film set over the last couple of years as Company Pictures Ltd chose us as the home of the BBC drama "The Village". To show their gratitude for the help and tolerance shown by Hayfield people during the filming, Company Pictures have made generous donations to the Parish Council in each of the 2 years of the series so far. In 2013 the Council decided to commit the money to the acquisition of the Bank Vale Recreation field as a permanent home for Hayfield Community Sports. In 2014 the Council decided to spend the money on new play equipment for the play area at the end of Lea Road. We are hopeful that "The Village"

will return in the future and we look forward to once more working with Company Pictures.

Lea Road Play Area

The small play area at the end of Lea Road has been completely renovated using the funds donated by Company Pictures. This renovation was long overdue and the Council hopes that the new equipment will complement the football field next door.

Football Field discussions

As you will probably be aware the Council has been attempting to acquire the Bank Vale field from the Church for many years. The plan is for the Council to acquire the field for Hayfield Community Sports, with Hayfield Football Club being the major user of the field. Once the Council takes over the field and starts work with the Community Sports people we can apply for grants to improve the field and its facilities. The negotiations with the Church have been long and difficult with many twists and turns along the way but we are hopeful that the "deal" will soon now be done and we can start building a proper sports field for the people of Hayfield.

Hanging Baskets

We think you will all agree how fabulous the village hanging baskets and planters have been in recent years and we thank Graham and Chris for their hard work. We would also like to thank Mrs.Fox for the many hours she has devoted to maintaining the gardens surrounding the Cenotaph.

Christmas Tree lights support

Some of the money that was raised for the Queen's Jubilee street party was left over after that event. The committee of villagers that organised the street party, with the Council's support, decided to spend the money on permanent Christmas lights for the big tree at the end of St Matthew's. The new Christmas lights along with the switching on ceremony and fireworks are fast becoming a Hayfield tradition. The cost of maintenance of the lights is met by the sale of Christmas trees around the village organised by the Jubilee Christmas Committee. The Council is pleased to help with this and contribute to the expenses of the lighting event.

Tourism leaflets

Over the last couple of years the Council has produced tourism leaflets with details of events taking place in the village and we have distributed these to the various tourist information offices throughout Derbyshire. These have been very successful and have brought many visitors to the village.

Healthy Bank Balances

The current Council took office at a difficult time with the financial problems affecting the government and the country as a whole leading to a period when money was very tight. We managed to keep control of the finances and over the last couple of years have been able to achieve the things listed above. This is in addition to a day to day tasks such as gardening, dog-mess removal, grit bins, footpaths and generally keeping Hayfield as neat and tidy as we can.

We are pleased to finish our term with some major work on the Valley Road play area and we look forward to handing over a healthy bank account to the next Council.