

BAUGHURST PARISH COUNCIL

Newsletter

Chairman's
Chatter

Welcome to our new format Newsletter,

containing news and articles about Baughurst that we hope you find interesting. QR codes have been included in several places to enable you to instantly navigate to an appropriate web site for further information and content using your mobile device. We hope you find this useful.

We welcome recent councillors Natalie Fletcher, Maria Higson, Russ Clark, Mark Charlton, Richard Cockle and Colin Cooper who have brought new ideas and energy to improve our communities, and we thank outgoing councillors Alex Sciarretta, Peter Markwick, Liz Page and Philip Postance for their years of service to the community.

We have one councillor vacancy. If you would like to



help us to maintain and improve our community. please contact Penny Waterfield, the

Clerk. You can use the QR code here to automatically load the email address.

What can the Parish Council do? It is often difficult to know whether local services are provided by council tax paid to Hampshire, Basingstoke or Baughurst. In the extended web-site article I expand on this theme to make it clear which services Baughurst Parish Council deliver. If you need advice, please contact the Clerk.

During the past 6 months the Parish Council has completed many projects. Here are some of them:

- We have cleared edges and resurfaced pavements in Baughurst Common as part of our maintenance programme.

Coronation of HM King Charles III

Sunday 7 May, 6pm

Live screening of the Coronation Concert with a hog roast at Heath End Village Hall

Contact heathendhall@gmail.com or 07979 647027

- Our playing field at Brimpton Common has been upgraded and is available to rent when it is not being used by Calleva youth football club.

- We have improved sight lines and enhanced Woodlands Road by considerably reducing the height of laurel bushes.

- The defibrillators in Baughurst are now available on locator web sites and apps. To find your nearest use the QR code.



- Our playgrounds have both had improvements to equipment and fencing. Safety surfaces have been repaired at Long Grove and are due to be replaced at Wolverton.

- A memorial bench for Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II has been purchased, and will be installed at the junction of Portway and Woodlands Road

- We have a new policy for adding commemorative benches and trees on council land. See website for details.

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter and that it inspires you to "take part" in community actions.

Note: You will see several QR codes within the newsletter. Point your mobile device camera at them to get instant access to further information, such as this extended Chairman's Chatter.



Annual Parish Meeting *Everyone welcome*

Thursday 20 April Heath End Village Hall 7:30pm
Helps set the agenda for the Parish Council for 2023/24.

The focus is on sustainability

The agenda for the meeting is:

1. Minutes of the meeting 7 April 2022
2. Matters arising
3. Parish Council Chairman's report
4. Moving forward with Sustainability and greening — with speakers Colin Grenville, Alison Zarecky and Anne Ayres
5. County and Borough Council reports
6. Electors' question time
7. Charities' reports
8. Parish Council accounts
9. Any other business

Local Elections

Thursday 4 May

Let your voice be heard. Elections for borough councillors. Don't forget to take your ID to the polling station.

Baughurst Walks

Baughurst Parish is blessed with an

abundance of beautiful walks along our footpaths and bridleways. A few short steps in almost any direction will lead to the sort of countryside guaranteed to lighten the heart and improve mental wellbeing. A stout pair of boots or wellies is a must – and a quick check on the weather - then off you go!

In this section of the Newsletter, we will describe some of the

great walks available within, and just outside, the parish. These walks will be further described on our web site with a link included so that you can access the information directly. Our aim is to build a library of walks around the parish that everyone can use, enhanced over time with new photographs showing the seasons and hopefully contributed to by you, the people of the parish.

Each walk will include a walking time, a description of the walk, a myriad of detail along the way and images and videos to help and interest you.

In this edition we highlight Walk 13 (yes, there are many others

also under development) which takes in Great Haughurst Copse. This walk starts and ends at the



Badger's Wood pub in Baughurst.

Our aim is to create a "living" walks section on the parish website that will enable members of the public to submit useful information and images to help others and show the



changing shape of our landscape. Use the QR Code to see our walks in detail.

Walking For Wellbeing

Day: Thursday - 2nd and 4th of the month

Time: 10.30am

Meet: Baughurst Scout and Guide Hut, Ash Lane, Baughurst

Description: at a gentle pace in the countryside, between 60-90 minutes, including some short hills and muddy paths

Contact: Sara Hanson 0118 981 3098 for further information

Baughurst ..a history

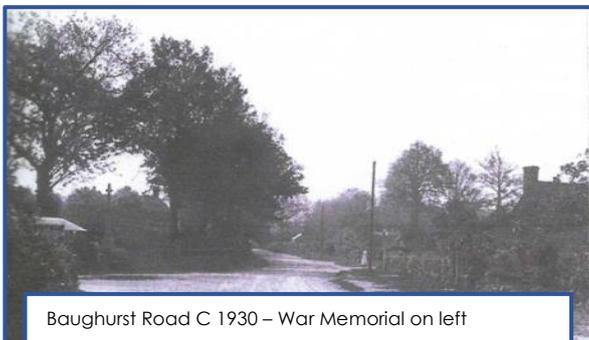
Baughurst Road – South of the War Memorial.

In 2013 Stan Terrett (a long serving councillor of Baughurst Parish Council) published his book "Baughurst..a history" which provided some fascinating insights into Baughurst and the people who lived here up until around the 1940s. In the Newsletter we

wanted to pay tribute to this fine work and the earlier "Memories of Baughurst" – a collection of reminiscences – by extracting stories about places and people of Baughurst for you. These and many other histories are amplified on the Baughurst Parish Council web site.



One such story concerns the triangular area of land roughly from the War Memorial and Bishopswood Lane down to the lane opposite Buller's Farm included land belonging to Henry Flower, a large landowner in the area, who died in 1833. The land was inherited by his sister who died in 1835 and left the land to William Flower of Kingsclere, her nephew. The tenants of this 12-acre site were the Hedges family. In 1877 they bought the area with a mortgage, but in 1906 it was auctioned in 13 lots at the New Inn.



Baughurst Road C 1930 – War Memorial on left

James Cox bought the northernmost plot (on which he gave a part for the War Memorial) and Robert Carter, a local builder, bought the next one on which he built 'Hawthorns', for himself, and the two 'Highfields'. Later Carter bought the remainder of Cox's plot which was used as a local recreation ground. The last inhabitant of 'Hawthorns' was Frances Carter in the 1980s and when she died the site was sold and 'The Hawthorns' estate built in 1993.

A garage was built in 1913 by Sid Knight, which developed into Smith's Garage in 1937. Two houses were built around 1920 to the south of the garage, 'The Garage House' and 'The Laurels'. The Garage House was demolished in 2007 as part of the new estate. To the south of The Laurels was the Baughurst cricket ground, now the site of houses built in the 1970/1980s. The garage of Kent's Coaches and their house built in 1912 (now Kent's Cottage) were the last buildings on this triangular plot until 'Old Kent's Coach House' was built at the turn of the century. The next house is Elm Cottage which was also occupied by the Hedges family after moving from the top of the road.

Parish Councillors

Clerk to the Council: Penny Waterfield 51 Sheridan Crescent, Baughurst RG26 5HQ Tel: 07746 756007 Clerk@Baughurst-PC.gov.uk

Wolverton Ward			
Mark Charlton	8 Heathrow Copse	0118 327 8702	mark.charlton@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Martin Slatford	Tibbles, Wolverton Common	07934 005505	martin.slatford@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Richard Cockle	The Old Hare and Hounds, Wolverton Common	07906 484675	richard.cockle@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Baughurst Common Ward			
Janette Hewitt	Oak Cottage, Baughurst Road	0118 981 4858	janette.hewitt@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
George Porter	The Old Coach House, Brimpton Road	0118 981 9059	george.porter@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Russell Clark	Newbies Cottage, Brimpton Road	0118 981 7560	russell.clark@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Stan Terrett	8 Pinewood Close	0118 981 4056	stan.terrett@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Baughurst Ward			
Vacancy			
Colin Cooper	6 Heathrow Copse	07810 057537	colin.cooper@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Maria Higson	Great Copse, Wolverton Road	07545 588953	maria.higson@baughurst-pc.gov.uk
Natalie Fletcher	Loveday Cottage, Baughurst Road	05603 870254	natalie.fletcher@baughurst-pc.gov.uk

Baughurst Diary

Key Parish Council meeting dates for your diary in 2023.

Annual Parish Meeting	Thursday 20 April, 7:30 pm	Heath End Village Hall
Council Meeting	Thursday 27 April, 7:30 pm	Heath End Village Hall
Local Elections	Thursday 4 May	
Annual Meeting of Council	Thursday 11 May, 7:30 pm	Wolverton Village Hall
Council Meeting	Thursday 15 June, 7:30 pm	Wolverton Village Hall
Council Meeting	Thursday 27 July, 7:30 pm	Wolverton Village Hall
Council Meeting	Thursday 21 September, 7:30 pm	Heath End Village Hall
Council Meeting	Thursday 26 October, 7:30 pm	Heath End Village Hall
General Purposes Committee	Thursday 9 November, 7:30 pm	Heath End Village Hall
Council Meeting	Thursday 30 November, 7:30 pm	Heath End Village Hall

Local Biz

Last year there

were 5.6m businesses registered in the UK, with 99.9% classified as small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs – companies with under 250 employees). The 7,700 large businesses in the UK make a major contribution to employment, but of the total UK workforce of 32.8m people, almost half now work in SMEs. This is a huge trend with a 61% growth in SMEs over the last 20 years. Here in the Southeast, we have the largest number of businesses per head of population in the UK, outside of London.

Our Baughurst Parish contains 1,000 homes and a population of 2,500 people, and is the home to hundreds of innovative SMEs, but despite this, how well do any of us

know the businesses in our area? Sometimes, particularly due to increases in small and home-based businesses, up 77% over 20 years, a business may literally be next door to where we live or in the next road and we may not know it.

Larger companies and government organisations are increasingly seeking specialist local teams and tradespeople who offer a wide range of skills, products and services that they need to support their business operations. This has contributed to the rise in small business services, fuelled by the need for a multitude of home services.

Our SMEs have to be inventive to cope with new technologies and to deliver on jobs that have only recently been invented, such as media

librarian, drone pilot, and data analytics – as well as reskilling for the green economy.

In this section of the Newsletter, we will highlight exciting SMEs in the Parish that innovate, not necessarily at the cutting edge, but are offering creative services or products and building new markets as a result.

Our website will carry special insights into these local businesses to see how they are coping with the challenges thrown at them by our modern environment, taking into account the pandemic and the fuel crisis.



We hope you find this local business dialogue useful.

Community Scene

In this section of the Newsletter we will raise the profile of a local charity or community organisation that the Parish Council is associated with. In this edition we celebrate Citizen's Advice Tadley with this piece written by them.

It is often the case that a place's 'best kept secret' would best not be kept secret at all, and that is certainly true of Citizens Advice Tadley's service. It is surprising how many people do not know we exist, or where we are to be found – on Franklin Avenue. It is also surprising how few people realise that we are a charity, with barely a third of our annual costs being met by a grant from the local authority and the remainder relying on other hard-won grants and charitable giving.

You name it, we have probably advised someone about it in the last two years. Top of the list are Universal



Credit and benefits generally, followed by debt problems, housing, employment, relationships.

It has been estimated that for every £1 invested in Citizens Advice Tadley we gained more than £13 in benefits or other income for individuals advised; as well as £1.25 million in savings to the local authority, NHS, DWP and criminal justice system, by preventing homelessness and evictions, reducing use of GP and mental health services and keeping people in work.

Citizens Advice Tadley celebrates the contribution of their many volunteers, whether they be helping in the office, advising local people, or trustees supervising the management of the service.

We are Independent

We will always act in your best interest, without influence from any outside bodies.

Advice is Free

No one has to pay for any part of the advice we provide.

Everything is Confidential

We won't pass on anything you tell us — or even the fact you have visited us, without your permission.

We are always Impartial

We don't judge you or make assumptions.

If you need help, we are there for you. If you'd like to help, get in touch.

Citizens Advice
Tadley & District,
Franklin Avenue,
Tadley, Hants,
RG26 4ET



admin@catadley.org
0118 9817567 (admin) Open
1000-1300 Mon- Fri, Mon &
Thurs 1300-1530 or
0808 278 7987 (Freephone
Adviceline) Mon-Fri 0900-1700

Beavers in Baughurst

Beavers have been reintroduced into an enclosure in Ewhurst Park, for the first time in 400 years. The pair of the semi-aquatic mammals have been released on to Ewhurst Park estate to help create wetlands and wildlife habitats to support other species such birds and insects. The 925-acre Ewhurst Park estate is being restored for nature and sustainable food production and is owned by the environmentalist, entrepreneur and model Mandy Lieu, who has previously spoken of her commitment to "an estate-wide biodiversity transformation".

Beavers were hunted to extinction in Britain 400 years ago for their fur, glands and meat. They have begun to reappear after the government licensed beaver releases within enclosures, as well as illegal releases taking place around the country. Some experts suggest there are hundreds of beavers living wild along England's waterways.



The two beavers were named **Chompy** and **Hazel** following a competition run for local school children. It is hoped they

will eventually breed. The animals are known as ecosystem engineers as they provide multiple benefits in terms of habitat creation and wetland creation which will ultimately provide homes and habitats for other creatures such as butterflies, other insects, bats, water voles, dozens of types of bird and fish. The dams that the beavers build filter water and hold it back to alleviate flooding further downstream, and Ms Lieu sees the beavers as a key part of transforming Ewhurst Park



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