

COUNCILLOR PROFILES:



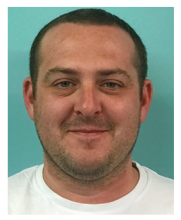
Cllr Harris
I have lived in the village for 15 years as tenant of The Red Lion during which time I have organised many events to bring people together, namely, creating a carnival type atmosphere around The Ironman Event.



Cllr Rattray
I moved from Edinburgh to Little Haywood over 40 years ago and, although I have worked as a project manager all over the midlands, I counted Little Haywood as my home. I was a school governor at Colwich Primary school for 4 years. I am now a governor at Walton High School.



Cllr Scattergood
I have lived in Great Haywood village since 1987. I am now fully retired. I spent my working life in industrial engineering both in the UK and in Africa (4 years) and later in life trained as a mental health nurse.



Cllr Walters
I'm a newly co-opted member of the Parish Council. I have lived and grown up in Great Haywood all my life, and I'm now bringing up a young family in the village. I'm an automated lighting control engineer working across the UK. I have spent a number of years running and supporting local sports teams.

Cllr Roberts
I have lived in Little Haywood since 1992. I was a school Governor at Colwich Primary school for over 23 years with my role as Vice Chair and Chair of Finance.



Cllr Jackson
My name is Darren, I was born in Colwich and have resided in the local area all my life I work in Leicestershire in the Learning and Development department of a well-known worldwide internet retail organization. I represented local Football, Rugby and Cricket clubs when I was younger and much fitter! My main interests are walking, DIY and sport (just watching now).



FLOWER AND VEGETABLE SHOW

This was a lovely village event bringing people together to celebrate what we can all do in our homes, gardens and allotments. We were lucky to have good weather and an excellent turnout, of entries and visitors, including a fantastic children's section with more entries than we've had for a while!
We would like to thank the Great Haywood Memorial Hall for their generous contribution towards the Show costs, the Colwich Parish Council for supporting and publicising the Show, and The National Trust for donating so many wonderful raffle prizes. Of course, many thanks also go to everyone who entered an exhibit (or more!) in the Show, and congratulations to all those who won prizes and trophies. The overall winner was a joint result with Chris Jones and Pat Broome gaining the same number of points. The gentleman runner-up was Jim Sargent, and the lady runner-up was Jean Tabernor. A full list of trophy winners will be included in the next newsletter.

We were pleased to be joined again by the Youth Council who held a small fete in the outside area with a tombola; wheel of fortune; play your cards right; splat the rat and lolly roulette. They also held a "guess the number of sweets in jar" stall won by Yvonne Munro. They raised a wonderful £71 towards their charity of the year "Little Laura".
Sadly, the future of the Show is currently uncertain as we need more people to organise and run it. We will be having a meeting in October to decide whether the Show can continue, so if you can help us please email haywoodsflowerandvegshow@outlook.com so we can let you know the date of this meeting. Hopefully with enough support we can keep this lovely village tradition alive!
There were some items left behind so if you are missing anything please get in touch at the above email address. Thank you.

IMPROVEMENT OF FACILITIES AT THE JPF

The Parish Council has established a Working Group to review the existing recreational facilities at the Jubilee Playing Field (JPF) and, working with the community, is tasked to make recommendations for future developments. This may include the improvement of the existing facilities and the provision of further sporting and/or recreational facilities within a sustainable environment that are suitable for all age groups and abilities to enjoy.

During the development of the Neighbourhood Plan (copy of NHP located on the Parish Council website: Community Information/Town & Country Planning) a questionnaire was used to enable residents to advise the Parish Council of their preferences on a number of subjects, including Recreation and Leisure. The information provided from this questionnaire will be used, however, the Working Group would also like to hear your opinion on the types of facilities you would like to see provided at the Jubilee Playing Field.

This may include additionally:

- 1. Leisure facilities: play areas, recreational garden, dog walking, catering and toilets, seats/tables, and on-field facilities to support village fetes.
- 2. Sporting facilities such as – football pitch (full/5 a side), and outdoor gym equipment.

The scope of work also includes improving the access to and on-site parking at the JPF.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for improvements to the JPF, or the provision of additional facilities, please contact or forward details to one of the following Councillors, ideally before the 20 October 2019: Cllr Ben Walters; Cllr Colin Rattray; Cllr Robert Harris; Cllr Andy Dunn.

Contact details can be found on the Colwich Parish Council Website.

HS2 UPDATE

In the Spring Newsletter I reported on the deposit of a set of amendments to the High-Speed Bill, called Additional Provision 2, and that the Parish Council was considering submitting its own Petition to the House of Commons HS2 Select Committee in March 2019. The Council's Petition and supporting evidence was presented to HS2 Select Committee on the 1st May 2019 detailing several Objections covering: the increase in traffic and effect on road safety for pedestrians, cyclists, and vehicles; the presence of construction vehicles; and the potential of the works to increase the flood risk in Great Haywood.

The Parish Council also held a number of meetings with representatives from HS2 to discuss our concerns and Petition. In doing so we were rewarded by receiving a number of assurances from HS2, including: the reinstatement of the original alignment of the Great Haywood Road post works; restricting access of large construction vehicles to the village; maintaining the access path adjacent to A51 between Great Haywood and Church Lane; improving canal towpaths towards Stafford so that they are suitable for cyclists; and requiring the HS2 contractor to design the infrastructure to provide run-off rates and volumes below the existing run-off rates currently discharged into the watercourse i.e. a betterment rather than nil-detriment. We did not receive assurances regarding the provision of a new roundabout on the entrance to Great Haywood nor consideration of the likely increase of traffic at the junction of Meadow Lane with the A513 – the work related to these concerns continues.

Further meetings with representatives of HS2 are planned and recently we have submitted a further Petition to the House of Lords at which we will continue to: seek improvements to the junction of the Main Rd (Great Haywood) with the A51 and the junction of Meadow Lane with A513; and gain access to the investigative reports into the drainage systems serving the village.

The Parish Council is also liaising with the Canals and Rivers Trust to use the community funds that will become available, should HS2 gain royal assent, to improve the towpaths towards Stafford for use by cyclists. We are also working with the Cannock Chase AONB and Trent Sow Parklands HS2 Group to develop design principles that will be used by the HS2 contractor when designing the viaduct, railway infrastructure and landscaping in the local area.

Details of the HS2 Bills and the Parish Council's involvement and submissions can be found on the Parish Council website on the HS2 Information page under 'Community Information'.

Cllr. Dunn



Chairman: Cllr. Andy Dunn
Clerk: Michael Lennon
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STOP PRESS

The recycling bins at the JPF will be removed on 1st October 2019. Recycling centres are available in Rugeley; Stafford; Uttoxeter and Stone.



Congratulations to all those involved in the Colwich and Little Haywood Heart of England in Bloom team who have won a much deserved Gold medal.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Remembrance Day: 10th November

Christmas Lights switch-on: 30th November

Civic Amenity (Skip): 2nd November

Full Council: 10th October and 7th November

Youth Council: 16th October and 13th November



Colwich Parish Council

INCORPORATING WOLSELEY BRIDGE, COLWICH, GREAT HAYWOOD & LITTLE HAYWOOD

NEWSLETTER

Autumn 2019 No. 101

FOOTPATHS/BRIDLEWAYS AND OTHER RIGHTS OF WAY

We are fortunate to be surrounded by beautiful countryside accessible to walk through responsibly by using Footpaths and other Rights of Way (FRoW)

Most FRoWs run across private land and can be used without the permission of the landowner. Legal responsibility for these is shared by the landowner and the Highway Authority (in our area this is Staffordshire County Council). The Highway Authority is required to keep a definitive map of all FRoW which must be available to the general public.

Landowners and Occupiers' must ensure that the FRoW is not obstructed and the route is identifiable. The Highway Authority has the responsibility to keep the ways clear of obstructions, maintain the width of the path and keep bridges, culverts and path surfaces in a condition suitable for purpose. They can also provide grants to assist Landowners meet their responsibility for the provision of stiles and gates.

Although the Highway Authority carries the ultimate legal responsibility the Parish Council has the power, but not the duty, to repair and maintain such ways. It can put up signs and assist in the erection of stiles/ kissing gates.

The Parish Council is aware that many villagers make use of these FRoWs, often along with their dogs. Some are frequently used, others less so and some seem to have almost disappeared through lack of use. From time to time villagers have reported problems with certain FRoWs to us. We

are anxious to build up a full picture of the condition of all our FRoWs and thus use our powers more effectively in achieving an improvement in standard of maintenance.

The Council invites everyone to let us know where there are concerns about FRoWs. This can be done by contacting the Clerk or one of the Councillors either by phone or e-mail. It would be particularly helpful if the footpath number could be quoted, if known, but a clear description of the path in question would equally suffice.

This is our countryside and our Rights of Way. We have a rich heritage and your Parish Council wishes to play its part in conserving and maintaining these in a manner that is beneficial to us all and to future generations.

OVERGROWN HEDGES

Guidance suggests that the ideal width of a pavement is 2 metres to allow wheelchairs to pass. Where this is not possible then a width of 1.5 metres should be achieved with an absolute minimum of 1 metre.

Anyone who lives in our villages will know that in many places we are not blessed with pavements anywhere near these levels. Along Main Road, for instance, the width of pavement can be as narrow as only 45 centimetres. It is disappointing, therefore, to see the number of hedges and trees that have been allowed to grow over these pavements. On many occasions the only way to navigate these stretches of pavement is to walk in

the road. Moreover, where this vegetation is overgrown near a junction it is causing a hazard to road users with a severe impact on the visibility splay. It is unacceptable that street nameplates are buried within hedges. It is insupportable that the tops of some hedges are so far across they are almost over the kerbstone.

The Council invites all residents to check their hedges and trees and ensure they are contained within the boundary of your property marked by the coving stone at the rear of the pavement with clearance maintained in a vertical plane above the coving stone. As we are now outside of the bird nesting season there is no reason for remedial action not to be taken and we would ask you to undertake the work by the end of October. In November we will start reporting individual properties to County Highways for them to take action where the tree or hedge is likely to endanger road users; likely to obstruct pedestrians or is likely to obstruct or interfere with the visibility splay for drivers.

If necessary, the Highways Act 1980: Section 154, provides the County Council with powers to serve a formal notice, requiring occupiers to carry out the necessary work within 14 days. After this time, the County Council can arrange for the work to be carried out and for any associated costs, including administration and supervision, to be charged to the occupier.

The Parish Council hopes that this will not be necessary and that residents will manage their hedges and trees in a more responsible manner. However, the safety of road users and pedestrians, on our already narrow pavements, is paramount.

POTHOLES

Many people complain about the state of our roads and the impact they are having on vehicles, not least to the suspension. If you damage your car in this way then we would advise you not to post on social media but to report the matter to Staffordshire County Council who are responsible for the safe passage of traffic and maintenance of the roads, pavements and footpath in the county. Section 58

of the Highways Act 1980 provides a statutory duty on the Highways Authority to take reasonable measures to ensure that problems such as potholes are found and dealt with swiftly.

The County Council cannot be everywhere all the time and rely on residents not just seeing a pothole but also reporting it. So, a far better course of action, than complaining about your damaged suspension, is to report the pothole before you crash into it.

There are a number of links on our website that will take you to the latest data for repairs and to report a new problem. You can also report the damage via www.staffordshire.gov.uk or the highways hotline telephone number: 0300 111 8000. It is worth noting that in July 2019, County Highways repaired 1,523 potholes across Staffordshire. Of these, only 1 was in our parish. If you see a pothole please report it. Let's work together to make our roads safer. You can report issues using the MyStaffs app available from your app store.





PLASTIC FREE COLWICH AND THE HAYWOODS

Plastic Free Colwich promotes the radical reduction of single use plastics in households and businesses in Colwich parish.

Our campaign started in spring 2018 with plastic audits of local businesses. We were encouraged by the positive steps many local businesses were taking to reduce their single plastic use.

Since December 2018 we have been running 'Green Drinks', an open gathering for discussion, planning, action and mutual encouragement. The aim is to create a more environmentally friendly and sustainable community so as to counteract climate and other ecological damage. Held on the first Tuesday of the month, 7:30pm at the Sports & Social Club, Great Haywood, topics include Wildlife Gardening, Growing your Own Food/Vegetables, Reducing Single Plastic Use, Making your own Household Cleaning Products, Local Recycling schemes and Community Projects.

A visit to the Globe Eco centre in Bramshall, Uttoxeter, prompted us to find a way to enable people in the parish to switch some household products to more eco-friendly, no plastic packaging, versions. We have set up a delivery service to the Lamb & Flag on the third Wednesday of the month between 11:00 am -12.30 pm. Orders to our not for profit social enterprise, www.rootslarder.com, need to be placed by the Monday before.

For further information, please telephone Sally Collins on 07711 649175, or email on plasticfree@colwichparishcouncil.gov.uk



RIMBACH TWINNING VISIT JULY/AUGUST, 2019

On Wednesday Evening, 31 July, 94 people gathered together in Great Haywood Memorial Hall, draped with the German and British flags, for a Gala Dinner to Celebrate 36 Years of Twinning between the Rimbach Partnerschaftsverein (PaRi) and Colwich and the Haywoods Twinning Association.

From Germany were 23 seniors and 20 youth members, whilst amongst the hosts there were 20 youth members. The PaRi members were led by their Chairman, Markus Altendorf, and the youth members by Clara Baltz.

Following the meal, Cllr Annette Bloor, the Haywoods Twinning Chairman, thanked all those who had helped organise the visit, welcomed our guests and in particular the youth section pointing out that the future continuation of the Twinning arrangement would be in their hands. This viewpoint was endorsed by Markus who also thanked the hosts for their hospitality. The evening was concluded by the combined youth choir, who sang us their own version of "500 miles" that became "655 miles from Rimbach to the Haywoods".

The visitors had arrived on the previous Sunday evening by coach, having stopped



en route to visit Winchester College, for a conducted tour. During a welcoming drink, the guests were introduced to their hosts. A programme of visits and events awaited them during the week. Each coach visit was accompanied by Association guides.

This year, we visited Liverpool on Monday, Llandudno on Tuesday and Blists Hill Victorian museum on Wednesday.

On Thursday, the hosts and their guests were able to choose how they spent their day, while the youth followed their own programme.

Friday morning was, in some ways, the saddest as guests and hosts said their fond farewells and expressed the hopes that we will see each other again, in Rimbach, next year.

The visit has been hailed as one of the most successful held in the Haywoods and anyone in the villages who would like to join the Twinning Association would be made most welcome.



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Hello everyone. After having some time off from the Council late last year due to a heart attack I'm back and re-elected as Chairman. Thanks goes to my fellow councillors for their continued support and a warm welcome to the new councillors who joined the council at the election in May and subsequently as co-optees. The majority of councillors are new to the post and I hope this will bring on fresh impetus to the council.

Only eight candidates stood for election in May. This was disappointing, as it means the Parish Council (P.C.) does not have enough elected members to allow it to take on the General Power of Competence. This Power would have given the Council the ability to do more than it can at present - for instance, the P.C. would have been able to operate a local bus service (very much needed now that D&G no longer run and with the changes to the 825 service) and operate a clothes recycling scheme which raises a sizeable amount for charity.

On the subject of raising money for charity, the Youth Council organised an arts festival which took place in April and a music festival at the end of July. Both events successfully raised a fair amount of money and this will be donated to the Little Laura Charity which helps fund places for children with special needs. More about this great cause can be found on line at www.littlelaura.net.

The youth Council are always looking to recruit new members, so if you are aged between 11 &18 and would like to influence decisions that have an impact on village life, especially for those of the younger generation, please get in touch with the Parish Clerk or a Youth Councillor. You can find details on the Parish Council website.

By the time this article goes to press the Council will have met with a civil engineer / surveyor to draw up plans for the link path between the Doctors' Surgery and the Memorial Hall car parks. Depending on the outcome, this is a project I hope, the P.C. can deliver as soon as possible.

The Parish Council has been informed by County Cllr John Francis that the installation of the chicane scheme on Mill Lane Great Haywood should be carried out this financial year. This is excellent news, as pedestrian safety on Mill Lane has been a major concern for the P.C since the 1990s. Good news for some, not so for others, the Parish Council has been informed that the application to close Little Tixall Lane has been approved by the County Council Highways and that the Borough Council Planning Department has no objection - a decision that may have ramifications for those living on Coley Lane and beyond. The P.C may seek clarification on how this decision was reached.

Other highway news is that a new speed hump and two new speed cushions are to



Councillor Adam Billingsley

be installed on Main Road Great Haywood by the entrance of Oldfields Crescent and Green Close. Hopefully this will reduce the speed of the traffic entering the village. The Parish Council will continue to seek ways of improving the situation at Colwich and other sites throughout the Parish.

Please don't forget the P.C.'s Grant Scheme. Applications for the second round this year are now being considered.

If you have any issues you wish to raise with the Parish Council please get in touch with a councillor or if you run/hold a regular meeting and wish a councillor to be present then either contact myself or the Parish Clerk.

See you all at the Christmas Tree Lights switch on.



Although the clocks have not gone back yet, the elves at the Parish Council have been planning the Christmas festivities for the community.

The Christmas tree lights will be turned on for the first time on Saturday 30 November. There will be three trees, one in Great Haywood, one in Colwich and this year's main event will be at the Little Haywood tree outside the Parish office. The entertainment will include a selection of Christmas carols and songs from the village schools and from the Community

Choir. There will also be refreshments available.

The Parish Council is going to run a competition for the best dressed house and best dressed business premises. Entry forms will be available from the Parish Office at £5 for domestic and £10 for businesses. Proceeds from the competition will go to charity. Judging will take place in early December and the winners announced in the Christmas Newsletter.

There will also be a school poster competition to publicise the "switch-on"

event, with the winning artist from each school being invited to perform the switch-on. So, get your crayons out.

If any buildings in the community are planning Christmas lights, the Parish Council elves would like to ask that they "turn on" their lights at the same time as the Council.

Keep a look out for news of the event on Facebook and the Parish website and of course on the Parish noticeboards. Put the date in your diaries and let's get Christmas 2019 off to a great start.

RIMBACH YOUTH TWINNING VISIT

This year, we welcomed our visitors from Rimbach, Germany for the very first time in the summer! This allowed us to host our biggest youth group ever, with 16 young people visiting both independently and with their families from Germany. There were 10 young people from Colwich and the Haywoods, who also joined the programme.

This year, we visited Liverpool on Monday, Llandudno on Tuesday and Blists Hill Victorian museum on Wednesday. On Thursday evening we were hosted by Christine Hill, at Park View Farm, for a barbecue with equipment kindly loaned by the Stafford Lions. Other hosts opened their doors for quieter house parties to say farewell on the Thursday evening, before our guests travelled home the next day.

The Twinning Association is a great opportunity for our young people to not only make life-long friendships, but also to immerse themselves in different cultures and



languages. It provides a unique experience for all involved - we should be very proud of the young people from our villages who have represented us so well.

The emotional farewell on the Friday morning shows how close we have become during our time together and how strong the friendships are that we have made.

Through the Twinning I have had the best weeks of my life. Getting to see old friends and meet new ones each year is such an amazing opportunity and I am so glad to be part of it!
Abi Crookshank (18), Great Haywood

If I hadn't come to England with the youth group of the Twinning Association 2 years ago, I would not have taken up the opportunity to become an au pair in London this year. I have now accepted a university place to study International Relations and development at the University of Brighton.
Lotte Jäger (19), Rimbach.

MUSIC SHOWCASE

Last year the Parish Youth Council decided to organise a music festival to bring together young local talent and to raise money for the Little Laura Charity. The event was held on Saturday 27th July at the Great Haywood Memorial Hall, the acts included Weston Road Rock Band, The Mondays, Mother of Chell, Oscar Hill, Toby Foetu-Foster, Leona Birch and Luke at the Skies.

There was a variety of musical styles, which were performed to a very high standard and much enjoyed by the audience. The afternoon was compered by Youth Councillor Tom Morris who did a great job of keeping the show moving along.

Refreshments were supplied by Jenny Lowe and other members of the Great Haywood Memorial Hall Committee who offered the use of the hall for free. A big thank you goes out to them, also a thank you to Jane Reed, Sally Emery, Max Simms

and others for their help with organising and setting out of the Hall.

The event was quite a success for a first attempt and raised in the order of £500.

In the evening it was the adults turn and two acts were booked. The first was a very talented local gentleman, Keryl, (solo acoustic guitar) who performed some well-known songs as well as his own compositions, very good indeed. The second act was the Melvin Hancox Band, a psychedelic rock/blues band, who's playing (and banter between numbers) was excellent and had the audience captivated. Melvin kindly donated the money from his C.D. sales on the night to the Little Laura charity. A huge thank you to both acts, who made the evening quite a special event.

Thanks also to the lads from the Vine Inn, Rugeley, who supplied and served their own ale and flavoured gins and rum. *A big thank you to all involved for their help.*

Blister Sisters of Great Haywood

Running: (*noun*) a faster form of walking.

Those who participate tend to have a compulsive almost obsessive drive for improvement. Side effects include sweating, euphoria and general amazingness.

A new ladies' running group is offering a chance to run together, make new friends and get fit.

The group started on Monday 26th August 2019 from 6.30 pm and then weekly every Monday. It is hoped other days will be offered if the demand is high enough. So, come along! What have you got to lose?

All ages welcome, all ability levels encouraged. *Details via Facebook Great Haywood page.*