**INGESTRE & TIXALL NEWS**

April 2024

INGESTRE WITH TIXALL PARISH COUNCIL

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**PARISH NEWS**

**Parish Council Meetings:** meeting dates for 2024/25 have now been agreed and will be added to the Parish Council website, where the Meeting Agendas and Minutes can be accessed, [www.ingestretixallparishcouncil.co.uk](http://www.ingestretixallparishcouncil.co.uk)

All meetings will take place on a Wednesday evening, from 7.30pm in Tixall village hall (unless otherwise stated) and you are all welcome to attend. Meeting dates are as follows:

* 10 April 2024 – **Annual Parish Meeting\*\*** Everyone is invited to attend.
* 8 May 2024 – Annual Meeting of the Council, to be followed by a normal Parish Council Meeting.
* 10 July 2024 – Parish Council Meeting.
* 11 September 2024 – Parish Council Meeting.
* 13 November 2024 – Parish Council Meeting.
* 8 January 2025 – Parish Council Meeting.
* 12 March 2025 – Parish Council Meeting.

**REMINDER:**

**\*\* Please join us for the Annual Parish Meeting.** This year we will be joined by Will Morris, the Director from The House of Bread. This is your meeting, so why not come along and hear what Will has to say.

It is also your opportunity to meet your Parish Cllrs, who want to hear what you have to say about what your Parish Council can do for you and the Parish. Refreshments will be available.

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**Parish Councillor contact details**

Malcolm Sindrey – Chairman. [cllr.sindrey@sindrey.myzen.co.uk](mailto:cllr.sindrey@sindrey.myzen.co.uk)

Sue Haenelt – Vice Chairman. [cllr.suehaenelt@protonmail.com](mailto:cllr.suehaenelt@protonmail.com)

David Lees – Councillor. [cllr.lees51@gmail.com](mailto:cllr.lees51@gmail.com)

Jane Tinniswood – Councillor. [cllr.tinniswood@gmail.com](mailto:cllr.tinniswood@gmail.com)

Tric Parrott – Councillor. [cllr.parrott@gmail.com](mailto:cllr.parrott@gmail.com)

Keith Palmer – Councillor. [cllr.palmer@outlook.com](mailto:cllr.palmer@outlook.com)

Judy Eccleshall – Councillor. [cllr.eccleshall34@outlook.com](mailto:cllr.eccleshall34@outlook.com)

Please use the above email addresses if you wish to contact your Parish Cllrs for Parish Council matters.

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**Skip Lorry visits for 2024.** The Parish Council has recently agreed the following dates for the skip lorry to visit the villages:

* **13 April 2024** – 9.00 – 10.00am at Ingestre, opposite Home Farm Court. 10.15 – 11.15am at Tixall Village Hall car park.
* **5 October 2024** – details as above.

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**Planning Information and Application:**

For your information, the Parish Council has been informed/consulted on the following Planning Applications since February 2024:

* 24/38757/TCA – Fell Hornbeam, due to low amenity and partial obstruction of neighbour’s tree.
* 22/36775/HOU – Appeal lodged by Applicant, following refusal by Planning authority.
* 22/36798/FUL – Applicant submitted a Lawful Development Certificate for a reduction in height of fence to 1metre, which has been approved. Planning permission no longer required.

In December 2023, Stafford Borough Council – Planning Authority, updated its **Planning Application Validation Criteria**, which came into force in respect of validating any Planning Applications received by the Planning Authority from 21 December 2023 onwards.

Should any residents be considering submitting a Planning Application it might be helpful to review the updated Validation Criteria first. The details can be found by opening hyperlink below:

[Information Needed for a Planning Application | Stafford Borough Council (staffordbc.gov.uk)](https://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/information-needed-for-a-planning-application)

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**Other Parish News**

**HS2 Updates:**

**On 27.2.2024, the Parish Council received this update from SCC:** On Phase One we are continuing to deliver our statutory role, including undertaking design checks for several schemes in collaboration with HS2 Ltd. and their contractors along with processing submissions for works affecting the highway. Senior leaders supported by the HS2 Team continue to lobby government for a share of Network North funding for Staffordshire which takes account of the impact the county has already suffered from Phase 2a of HS2. More information on Network North can be seen on the link below.

[Network North - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/network-north)

You may be aware that on 18 January, safeguarding on the majority of the cancelled Phase 2a route was lifted. Safeguarding is a normal part of the planning process and ensures that land set aside for major infrastructure projects does not conflict with other development. The exception to this is the Handsacre area, linking Phase One and Phase 2a, which will be required for the Handsacre junction linking HS2 to the West Coast Main Line. For areas where safeguarding has been removed, the Transport Minister has closed the Rural Support Zone, Extended Homeowner Protection Zone, and Homeowner Payment schemes. The Need to Sell scheme remains open where the criteria can be met.

The Phase 2a Act has not been repealed and there is no information available on the sale of HS2 land at this moment in time. We will continue to seek information on these matters.

 For any HS2 related issues please continue to contact the HS2 helpdesk at [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk) or on 08081434434.

**The update above from SCC was further complimented, on 11.3.2024, by the HS2 Community & Engagement team as follows:**

In early November 2023, I emailed you to confirm the Government announcement about the cancellation of Phase Two of the railway. At that point we also advised that we would not be accepting any more applications for the community and business funds (CEF and BLEF).

Since then, we have continued to plan the remediation and close down of Phase 2a and I wanted to update you on progress so far.

**Safeguarding**

On 18 January, the Government announced that safeguarding of land and property across the majority of Phase 2a had been removed. In areas where safeguarding has been removed, property owners will no longer be eligible to apply for HS2 property schemes, unless they can demonstrate a compelling reason to sell through the NTS (Need to Sell) scheme.

In my email to you on 19 January, I explained that safeguarding will remain on land south of King’s Bromley and Handsacre to allow Phase One of HS2 to connect to the West Coast Main Line. The latest position is that we are now working with the Department for Transport (DfT) and Government to agree what the design at Handsacre needs to be and this will determine what land is needed; until that is done, we need to continue to safeguard all land required for the current design. At this stage, we don't have any indication as to when Government will make a decision about this.

**Acquired land and property**

Prior to the Government announcement in October 2023, HS2 Ltd had possessed around 60% of the land that would have been needed for the construction of Phase 2a of HS2.

We are currently working with DfT to develop a programme for handing back temporarily possessed land and for selling land acquired for HS2 that is no longer needed. This will take time because we need to make sure the programme provides value for money for taxpayers and does not disrupt local property markets. No land or property has been or will be sold on Phase 2a until the programme has been fully developed.

Where any land has been acquired compulsorily for HS2, and is no longer required for the railway, it will be sold subject to what are known as the Crichel Down Rules. Where the Crichel Down Rules apply, former owners will, in most cases, be given first opportunity to repurchase the land at the current market value. Further details on Crichel Down Rules can be found here: http://www.gov.uk/guidance/crichel-down-rules-on-land-ownership

We will provide an update on this once the process and the programme has been confirmed.

**Construction sites**

There are a number of factors we need to consider when it comes to closing down Phase 2a in a safe, respectful, orderly and efficient manner. The sites this affects includes:

**Ground investigation sites – boreholes**

A wooden pole in the dirt

Description automatically generated

To inform the railway design, HS2 Ltd undertook over 1,000 investigatory boreholes along the Phase 2a route. The 2a project team is now developing a programme to restore the land at these locations so it is safe for the landowner to use. The work on site is expected to start towards the end of the year, with completion in summer 2026.

**Environmental mitigation** **sites**

A pond with grass and trees in the background

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As part of our early works programme, preparing the route for main civils construction, we started to create environmental mitigation sites along the Phase 2a route. Of the proposed 70 sites along the route, at the time of the cancellation of Phase Two, we had completed 46 of these sites. At the remaining 24 locations, the sites had either not been completed or was yet to be started.

Whilst we intend reinstating all the none completed sites back to their former state, we are still working through the most appropriate approach with the 46 completed mitigation sites.

**Utilities sites**

We are in the process of revisiting sites where gas pipelines have been diverted for building the railway. This is to allow our utility contractors future access to the pipeline for testing, maintenance and monitoring purposes. Over the coming months you may therefore see the contractors at these sites digging trenches, laying cables and relocating test posts. The work they will be undertaking will be low level and none of the activity will affect gas supplies. Further activity at these sites include the removal of compounds, haul roads, fencing and re-instatement of features. We expect this work to be completed in early 2026.

**Cash’s Pit**

In 2022, we successfully removed trespassers from tunnels and camps in woodlands at Cash’s Pit and Closepit Plantation, near Swynnerton. Cash’s Pit woodland will require careful restoration to ensure it is in a safe condition, suitable to be handed back to the landowner. The design for this work is complex, but we expect the work to start in May 2025, with completion around the end of the year.

**Undertakings and Assurances (U&As)**

In addition to planning for the remediation of numerous sites across the Phase 2a route, we are also reviewing all 1,854 U&As secured through the Phase 2a Parliamentary process to assess which are still applicable and which are not, following the Government announcement last year. While some of these are relatively straightforward, there are many with complex aspects that require more detailed scrutiny.

**Contractors in the area – maintenance and security**

Across the Phase 2a route, you will continue to see our contractors carrying out work. This includes work on existing sites, for the ongoing maintenance of a site, or for health, safety and security reasons.

For the security of our worksites and managed property portfolio, HS2 Ltd uses a security contractor to provide a range of measures to keep both residential and commercial property safe and secure. This includes a 24-hour response service, fortnightly inspections and the provision, where required, of advanced security installations. We put these measures in place to help prevent unauthorised occupation and help local residents to feel safe. The Phase 2a Route-wide injunctionis also likely to stay in place as an ongoing security measure to protect land in our possession from unauthorised activity.

**Future engagement​ with communities**

The Community Engagement team will remain your point of contact. We will keep you informed in various ways, such as through local authority and parish council briefings, newsletters, email updates and webinars.

We will continue to let those who may be affected by our work know through Advanced Works Notifications and through future updates to our dedicated local community webpages

[www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area](http://www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area)

As always, you can also contact the HS2 Helpdesk, available all day, every day. The Helpline is available at [HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk](mailto:HS2enquiries@hs2.org.uk)

and telephone 08081 434 434. A Freephone Minicom service is operated on 08081 456 472 for those with hearing difficulties.

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**Ingestre Community Garden.** The fence around some of the Community Garden is still under review by the Cllrs, who are taking the time to consider the best course of action for the longevity of the Garden.

**Road signs in Tixall.** We have been in contact with SCC, Highways Authority to discuss the condition of road signs in Tixall, some of which are damaged or missing. Ideally, we would like to see signs replaced, where needed, and a review of the signage in the village carried out from a highway safety perspective – this matter is ongoing.

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**Village Hall Update**

**Why not come along to the following:**

**A Talk by Nicholas Bostock on ‘Barging to the Hanseatic Ports in the Baltic’**

**on Saturday, 4 May from 7.00pm**

Tickets for the talk are £15.00 each and will include a finger buffet and a glass of Prosecco. Proceeds raised will be going to Tixall Church.

**Contact Sheila Sindrey on 01785 663767 for Tickets**

**Tixall & Ingestre Village Hall 100-Club update**

The 100-club has had the following draw:

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| **Month** | **Prize winners** |
| March | 1st prize of £25 was won by C Kilgallen  2nd prize of £10 was won by R Mason  3rd prize of £5 was unsold |

To join the 100 Club please contact Nicola Woodhouse, [nicola.woodhouse@btinternet.com](mailto:nicola.woodhouse@btinternet.com) or 01785 663262.

Coffee Mornings & Craft Sales with soup lunch are continuing, held on each 2nd Saturday morning from **10.30am until 12.30pm**. Why not take the opportunity to come along, catch up with and meet your neighbours, buy cakes, cushions, cards, jams you can also re-cycle books & jigsaws.

For general hall enquiries, email [tixallingestrevillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:tixallingestrevillagehall@gmail.com)

For bookings, please contact Sheila Sindrey if interested on 01785 663767. The Hall can be hired for £10.00 per hour.

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**Church News**

**Details of Church Services in Ingestre and Tixall during April and May 2024:**

**Services in Ingestre – St Mary the Virgin Services:**

* 28 April at 11:15am Ingestre Holy Communion
* 12 May at 11:15am Ingestre Morning Prayer
* 26 May at 11:15am Ingestre Holy Communion

**Services in Tixall – please note, all Services will take place in Tixall Village Hall until further notice**

* 21 April at 4pm Tixall Family Service
* 21 April at 11:15am Tixall Morning Prayer
* 5 May at 11:15am Tixall Holy Communion
* 19 May at 11:15am Tixall Morning Prayer
* 19 May at 4pm Tixall Family Service

**There will be a service of Remembering for those mourning the death of loved ones at**

**St John the Baptist Church, Bedford Avenue, Stafford on 5 May at 3pm**

For more information contact the Church office 01785 253493

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**Other News**

**Whats new for Cannock Chase**

**First Destination Access Guide Launched.**

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| We are pleased to launch our first Destination Access Guide. The purpose of the guide is to give visitors more information on accessible leisure activities that can be visited if you have a disability, require  assistance with access, or a parent and guardian with small children and a buggy. Helping everyone to be able to plan, easily explore and have a great day out. The guide is available as a download from the Cannock Chase website and has information on the accessible facilities available at 21 different locations including each of the visitor centres and cafes, attractions, trails, nature reserves and car parks. Each entry in the guide includes sensory information, what you can touch, see, smell and hear on a visit.  Part of the project included supporting Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles to purchase an additional 8 inclusive, adaptive bikes that are available for disability groups to use from Cannock Chase Visitor Centre. The projects were part of the Access for all funds from Defra. |
| Access the Destination Guide by opening the hyperlink below:  <https://www.cannock-chase.co.uk/walking-and-exploring/guidance-for-your-visit/> |

## **Extra care with Adders**

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| Residents are being asked to take extra care when walking their dogs in Cannock Chase in the next few weeks, as vulnerable adders emerge from hibernation. As the species faces increasing threats, dog walkers and other site users can play a vital role in their conservation. With temperatures beginning to rise, adders are starting to wake from their winter slumber. Cold spells, however, cause them to be sluggish, making them particularly susceptible to encounters with curious dogs. Adders are shy creatures that will avoid interactions with people and dogs where possible. However, they may bite if they feel threatened and they are venomous. Be a Cannock Chase Champion and follow the code.  Open the hyperlink below for more details: [Help look after our endangered adders as they come out of hibernation - Staffordshire County Council Newsroom](https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Newsroom/Articles/2024/02-February/Help-look-after-our-endangered-adders-as-they-come-out-of-hibernation.aspx?utm_medium=govdelivery&utm_source=email) |

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**Parish Council website**

Please visit the Parish Council website for information of meetings, etc

<https://www.ingestrewithtixallparishcouncil.co.uk>

If residents have suggestions or ideas for content that would be of interest and value to them, please email your suggestions to the Parish Clerk, [clerk@ingestretixall.staffslc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@ingestretixall.staffslc.gov.uk)

*Every endeavour has been made to ensure information contained in this Newsheet is correct at the time of production.*