

Hognaston Parish Council Newsletter

January 2026

Village Telephone Box

Villagers may have noticed that the telephone box next to The Red Lion has been stripped of its telephone equipment and contains a notice effectively inviting the Parish Council to purchase it for £1. It being a prominent feature of the village and one of its listed structures, the Council has decided to take ownership with a view to restoring it and maintaining it as a community asset.



Talk to Your MP

John Whitby MP, Member of Parliament for Derbyshire Dales, will be visiting the village on the evening of 12th March to meet residents and hear about local issues. The meeting will take place in the church and Mr Whitby is scheduled to arrive at 7 p.m. Don't miss the opportunity.

Roads, Footpaths and Traffic Matters

The Parish Council continues to have exchanges of correspondence with DCC Highways concerning the junction at Four Lane Ends, Hognaston Bridge, parking and the use of the village as a diversionary route. We have asked for a weight limit to be applied, but DCC say they have inspected the bridge and passed it fit for HGVs. A site meeting has taken place at Four Lane Ends but no improvement in layout or signage has been forthcoming. Parking is not viewed by DCC as a problem.

The Council considers that the priority should be to press again for a weight limit through the village and to cease the routing of diverted traffic through the village. Our DCC councillor, Adrian Hunter, is helping us progress this and we are attempting to get another site meeting with highways.

We are arranging a visit from our MP (see above), which will provide an opportunity to make him aware of our highways concerns.

HPC is aware that several footpath signs are in poor condition. This is also a DCC responsibility and we have requested that they be repaired or replaced.

Hognaston Play Area

Following the clearly stated wish of parish residents that the Council should continue to maintain the village Play Area, a new contractor has been engaged to keep the grass and hedges and MUGA in order. This arrangement has improved the standard of maintenance very significantly. The Council will continue to maintain the play equipment

Village Information Board

The village information board was delivered, installed and unveiled in a little ceremony, in September.

Additional pages have been created on the Parish Council web site to link to the “more information” QR codes and most have now been populated. It is appreciated that mobile telephone signals are not good at that location, but it is open to anyone interested to photograph the code and use it later.



Village Green

The recently felled ash tree has been replaced by a Prunus 'Accolade' (flowering cherry) which will be an attractive feature when mature.

Parking (again)

It is necessary to remind people that parking continues to be problematic for Hognaston, and to stress the need for common sense. Anyone parking a car should be aware that they could be causing an obstruction and should check that enough room has been left for buses and emergency vehicles. Furthermore, residents with off-street parking should be encouraged to use it. It also needs to be stressed that blocking the footpath in order to charge an electric vehicle **is not acceptable**. Owners of holiday accommodation are asked to make visitors aware of their responsibilities in this respect.

Parish Council Precept

For the year 2026-2027 Hognaston Parish Council is increasing its precept by the equivalent of £5 per annum for a Band D property, or just 50p for each of the ten months in which we pay it.

As part of our ongoing development of our Communications Strategy, we aim to deliver by hand a free news round-up in paper format to every household.

The paper format is in addition to the news and notices which you can find on our website www.hognastonparishcouncil.com

and in updates via the HogNews emails, on Facebook, and on the Bus Shelter notice board.

Tell Us What You Think: Come to a meeting, email us at hognastonclerk@hotmail.com or write to The Clerk to the Parish Council, Village Hall Post Box, Main Road, Hognaston, Ashbourne DE6 1PR.

Make your concerns known

Residents are reminded that as well as raising your concerns with the Parish Council, writing personally to the District and County Councils about them can increase the likelihood of a positive outcome.