

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

held via

MICROSOFT TEAMS

on

WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER 2020 at 7:30pm

MINUTES

PRESENT

COUNCILLORS

Mr Mike Blomer (Chair)
Mr Tim Beresford (Vice Chair)
Mr Dave Cuthbert
Mr David Sandells
Mr Ken Blanch
Mr Peter Green
Mr Giles Cook
Mr John Eccleston
Mrs Catherine Sellars

CLERK

Mrs Julie Barnes

PUBLIC

Mr and Mrs D Sandall
Mrs L Cuthbert
Mrs S Blomer

ACTION

20/59

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Alexander Clayson

20/60

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- John Eccleston, President, Sports Club and Recreational Trust Trustee.
- Dave Cuthbert, Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.
- Tim Beresford – George Fentham Trustee.
- David Sandells, Sports Club Member.

20/61

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr David Sandall, Lugtrout Lane:

Mr Sandall identified traffic related areas of concern within Catherine de Barnes, specifically on Lugtrout Lane and Hampton Lane and sought members' support.

Mr Sandall noted that Lugtrout Lane does not currently allow for members of the public to be able to walk safely along the highway due to the lack of a footpath in certain parts and the excessive speeds at which vehicles are regularly travelling along it.

Mr Sandall stated a preference towards blocking Lugtrout Lane at Damson Parkway making it a no-through road and changing the bridge on Hampton Lane into single file with traffic lights controlling the flow of traffic to allow members

of the public to cross safely.

The chair was able to notify Mr Sandall that Councillor Blanch and the Ward Councillors Cuthbert, Cook and Eccleston had recently prepared a Pedestrian and Road Safety Plan for Catherine de Barnes.

Councillor Blanch explained that the plan, as it currently stands, consists of four informal, tabled crossings. Proposed locations being in Catherine de Barnes (opposite the Boat), two along Hampton Lane (near 30mp limit) and one at Lugtrout Lane (at the last house heading towards Land Rover).

Unfortunately, Councillor Blanch did not believe Solihull MBC would agree to Mr Sandall's stated preferences but confirmed that the Parish Council would be willing to put these suggestions to Highways for their consideration.

The chair notified Mr Sandall that the Parish Council had also recently applied to Solihull MBC to make Field Lane one-way (from Field Lane to Hampton Lane).

Mr Sandall enquired whether he could write directly to Highways with his views. The clerk confirmed she would send over the contact e-mail address following the meeting.

Clerk

20/62 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2020

The minutes from the Parish Council meeting were approved as **proposed by Councillor Sellars and seconded by Councillor Eccleston**

20/63 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

20/48 The chair noted a correction to item 20/48, High Street Businesses. With the approval of all members, those minutes will be amended accordingly.

Clerk

No further matters arising.

20/64 APPROVAL OF THE MAINTENANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES HELD ON 7 OCTOBER 2020

The minutes from the Maintenance Subcommittee meeting were approved as **proposed by Councillor Sandells and seconded by Councillor Green**

20/65 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

Councillor Beresford briefly ran through the draft Minutes, noting in particular: -

19/32 *The Common, Catherine de Barnes:* All works are up to date. The Parish Council will be purchasing a wild cherry tree and will arrange for Dawsons Groundcare to plant this in communication with Councillor Cuthbert.

Clerk

19/34 *Recreation Ground and Spinney:* A statement was sent out to all residents regarding the felling of the Oak and Ash Tree which will take place shortly. The chair requested the clerk contact Floyd Price to find out what is going to happen to the wood and the plan for turning it into a lasting memory.

Clerk

20/66 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Councillor Sellars noted that the Communications Subcommittee had met

virtually on 09/11/2020 and confirmed that a number of issues were discussed, to include youth issues, the library consultation, cherry trees, village leaflets, and the next Parish newsletter which will go out to residents in February 2021.

Councillor Cuthbert referred to information on the Catherine de Barnes Residents Association website relating to the Local Plan, how to object to Policy S01. He requested this also be put onto the Hampton in Arden Parish Council website. Councillor Sellars confirmed she would do this. **CS**

Special thanks was given to the Clerk for her work in maintaining an up to date social media presence on behalf of the Parish Council.

20/67 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Cuthbert referred to the running report circulated to members (and displayed on the Parish Council website), noting in particular:

50419 MSA at Solihull Road: Pegasus have agreed to extend the consultation to 31/01/2021 in response to a holding order. Nothing further is expected until mid-January 2021.

02754 MSA J4: As above, no further information is expected until mid-January 2021.

01908 and 01821 339 and 351 Lugtrout Lane: Both applications have been refused due to inappropriate development.

02546 Land rear of 86 Meriden Road: By way of background, this application was refused in December 2019 due to an insufficient assessment of anticipated traffic because of HS2 and the DCO. Councillor Cuthbert has concerns over recently submitted plans regarding the location of affordable units. The subcommittee will meet during the next week to discuss an appropriate response. **All Planning**

The Parish Council have received notification of tree works at 29 Oakfields Way. This application is not yet listed but the Parish Council have no concerns.

Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that the planning subcommittee recently met with a resident regarding a potential development at 8 Belleview Terrace. The Parish Council were able to notify the resident that they would be unable to support any such application as it would be within the conservations area and would compromise the view.

Local Plan Update: Local plan response has been submitted and is on the website. Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that responses could be submitted in writing or by e-mail and would be acceptable in that format.

Oak Farm: Councillor Cook confirmed that Donna Savage had arranged to meet with Gary Palmer of Solihull MBC and would like to meet again with the Parish Council after that. All members of the planning subcommittee agreed. **All Planning**

The chair thanked Councillors Cuthbert and Green for all their hard work in relation to all planning matters but in particular in preparing the local plan response on behalf of the Parish Council and confirmed that following its circulation to all members, the Parish Council had now submitted their response, a copy of which is on the Parish Council website.

All members agreed and it was **approved as proposed by Councillor Cook and seconded by Councillor Sellars.**

Councillor Beresford explained that he had been approached by Berkswell Charities via The George Fentham Trust who are looking at the possible provision of additional Almshouses as an alternative to social housing for local residents. Councillor Beresford explained that the difficulty with affordable housing units is that they are often placed under the management of housing associations who place tenants from the borough as a whole and not necessarily tenants who have a connection with the villages. All members agreed that they wish to support Berkswell Charities in their endeavour.

Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that he will make an approach to Gary Palmer of Solihull MBC regarding this and seek a virtual meeting to discuss further. **DC**

20/68 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP UPDATE

Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that the Parish Council had received 339 responses to the recent Neighbourhood Plan review. It was unfortunate to note that only 4 businesses had responded.

Councillor Green has volunteered to input the data into a spreadsheet so that it can be interpreted and analysed in more detail. That analysis is not expected to take place now until January 2021.

The chair thanked Councillor Green for all his hard work and efforts in relation to the Neighbourhood Plan review.

20/69 PEDESTRIAN AND ROAD SAFETY UPDATE

Councillor Blanch confirmed that Solihull MBC have now received approval from HS2 for the release of their funds towards the first initial Pedestrian and Road Safety scheme in Hampton in Arden. By way of background, Councillor Blanch confirmed that HS2 are paying £35,000 with the Parish Council paying £25,000 towards the necessary works.

Highways have confirmed that a team will now prepare the program of works with the Parish Council being involved in this process. Construction is expected to take place in March/April of 2021.

A similar scheme has been prepared for Catherine de Barnes. Early in new year the Parish Council will open discussions with Highways.

The chair gave a special thanks to Councillor Blanch for all his efforts in securing the first initial works in Hampton in Arden.

20/70 COUNCILLORS ALLOWANCES

The chair explained that all members are entitled to claim for reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses properly incurred as part of their normal duties. Parish Councils are also able to pay an annual allowance to members if they so wish. Any payment is based on a scale of members allowances set by Solihull MBC and is funded from the precept.

The Parish Council has never paid councillors allowances and members were asked to confirm that this policy will continue to be the case.

All members agreed and this **was approved as proposed by Councillor Cuthbert and seconded by Councillor Beresford.**

20/71 CIL AND POTENTIAL PARISH PROJECTS

Councillor Blanch ran through the Parish Council's list of potential projects and their possible funding streams. Members agreed with all potential projects.

Councillor Beresford was able to confirm that The George Fentham Trust are looking at land on Eastcote Lane as a possible location for further allotments.

Councillor Cuthbert explained that the Residents Association are looking to progress the plan for the provision of parking at Catherine de Barnes Village Hall and will look to prepare detailed plans for this soon.

Councillor Cuthbert requested that the clerk contact the CIL team at Solihull MBC to request an update on what sums were outstanding.

Clerk

SUPPLEMENTALY ITEM 1 – SMBC WALKING AND CYCLING STRATEGY

Councillor Green explained that Solihull MBC are currently developing a Walking and Cycling Strategy as part of its overall Transport Strategy with a public consultation from 09/11/2020 to 21/12/2020. Several documents have been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

Councillor Green stressed the importance of having a footpath and cycle route between Catherine de Barnes and Hampton in Arden, something which is included on a list of designated projects for consideration with the M42 J6 Improvement Scheme. All members agreed that it should form part of Solihull MBC strategic plan.

A response is required by no later than 21/12/2020. A working group was formed consisting of Councillors Green, Blanch, Eccleston and Sandells. A response will be prepared and circulated to all members for their consideration.

**PG, KB, JE
and DS**

20/72 CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence is received by email and is forwarded to members as a matter of course. Most of the correspondence is of a routine nature, examples being regular consultations from SMBC on planning applications, updates, and training opportunities from WALC and NALC, many notifications about ongoing HS2 works and, currently, many relating to Covid 19.

The following are items which depart from the routine:

- 21/09 - Parish On-Line – Webinar invitation
- 24/09 - CSW Broadband – Update
- 30/09 - Eastcote Park Retirement Village – Introduction
- 14/10 - SMBC – Notification of Traffic Order Marsh Lane
- 14/10 - Saqib Bhatti MP – Local Health Services Petition
- 25/10 - West Midlands Combined Authority – Free bicycle racks
- 28/10 - Parish On-Line – Newsletter

20/73 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

The chair confirmed that he has attended the following meetings: -

WALC Chairman's Meeting: A twice monthly virtual meeting that discusses

various topics to include the unitary councils' proposals which only affect Warwickshire and other administration issues.

Meriden Quarries Liaison Group: An opportunity to be involved in the operation of the wider Meriden Quarry site and to discuss any opportunities or issues. The primary issue for the Parish Council being to restrict the routing of HGVs to and from Cornetts End Lane avoiding Meriden Road and High Street.

Inlands Custom Facility – Birmingham Airport: Consultants acting for HMRC have consulted on Government proposals for the Inland Customs Facility to be located at Birmingham Airport. A further consultation will take place on 12/11/2020. **MB**

Councillor Cuthbert confirmed he had attended the following meetings:

Skanska and Highways England/Mr P O'Reilly: This matter has significantly moved forward, and Mr O'Reilly has been invited to submit a blight application.

07/10/2020 Zoom meeting with Chelmlsey Wood Town Council (in his capacity as SAC Chairman): regarding WALC membership.

15/10/2020 WALC County Committee Meeting: Regarding the unitary amalgamation in the Stratford area. WALC Association are also looking to form a Limited Company. Proposals will be coming out shortly.

20/10/2020 Zoom with Solihull Area Committee ("SAC"): Meeting with 13 Parish Councils, main discussion centred around Covid-19.

Councillor Blanch confirmed that he had attended a Hs2 Implementation Committee meeting at the end of October. The main news was that the recycling facility based on the A45 was now expected to remain in that location.

20/74 FINANCE

The quarterly accounts and payments for 7 months ending 31 October 2020 were accepted as **proposed by Councillor Beresford and seconded by Councillor Eccleston.**

20/75 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The chair confirmed that Speed Watch and Street Watch had been suspended until the current lockdown has been eased.

The chair noted that there will be no official Christmas light switch on this year due to Covid-19. The Christmas lights will however be put up and switched on in early December.

20/76 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The chair confirmed the dates for the next meetings:

Joint Parish Council and Budget Meeting: 6 January 2021
Maintenance Subcommittee Meeting: 3 February 2021.

Meeting closed at 9:06pm

Minutes taken, prepared, and presented by Julie Barnes, Clerk