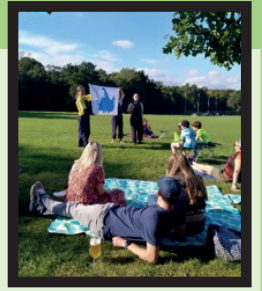


Parish News - November 2021

HELLO AGAIN

Welcome to the November edition of your Parish Council Newsletter! In this issue we have lots to tell you including information about Remembrance Sunday, planning issues, news on our local clubs and societies and, with Christmas round the corner, when we switch on our Christmas Lights!

● In September, Hampton in Arden welcomed a pop up theatre, entitled *The Town and Country Variety Radio Show*. It was 40 minutes of music, circus and local tales and was a great success! Thank you to all those who took part.



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – SERVICE AND ROAD CLOSURE ON 14TH NOVEMBER 2021

This year's Remembrance Day service and procession will be on Sunday 14th November 2021 (subject to any last minute Covid restrictions!) and there will be a major change from previous years.

There will be no service in the Church and, to enable as many as possible to attend, the full service will be outside around the war memorial. This means that High Street will be closed to through traffic from **10.00am** (instead of the usual 10.30am).

The parade down High Street to the war memorial will assemble by the lychgate outside the church at 10.15. The congregation, already gathered, is asked to stand on the Engine Mews side of the Memorial to enable those taking

part in the parade to gather on the Shadowbrook Lane side.

The service is expected to last around 40 minutes and the Parish Council has arranged for an outdoor public address system so that everyone present can hear and participate in the service.

Marshalls will be deployed to control traffic on the day.

If any residents would like to help and wear a high viz jacket then please contact Julie our Parish Clerk.

Let's all pray for a dry day!



CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHT SWITCH ON - 3RD DECEMBER

We are delighted to report that our illuminated Christmas tree will be back on Hampton-in-Arden Village Green this year! The Meriden Rotary Club have kindly offered to support the event again and Santa will be there with his new improved sleigh.

The event will begin between 5.30pm and 5.45pm with festive carols from the local choir. Santa will then commence the official countdown to the switch on at 6pm. ***We will see you there!***



HAMPTON IS BACK ON STAGE!

Did you ever wonder what happened after Cinderella went to live with Prince Charming? Well wonder no more... We finally have some answers for you!! Full of swashbuckling pirates and dancing Mexicans, this all singing, all dancing sequel to the beloved tale is sure to be loved by the whole family!

Brought to you by Solihull's brand new Community Theatre Company Hampton on Stage. The show will run from **14th to 18th December 2021 at Fentham Hall** in Hampton-in-Arden and will be raising money for the British Heart Foundation, Cameron Grant Foundation and Hampton Pre-School.

Director Sara Shepherd who created Hampton on Stage said "After the 18 months we've all had, I thought what better way to end 2021 and raise our community spirits than a traditional family pantomime".

Tickets cost £12 and go on sale from 25th October. To book tickets visit www.hamptononstage.co.uk or visit our facebook page (www.facebook.co.uk/hamptononstage).



Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

UPDATES ON OUR PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AND TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEMES

The interim works in Hampton in Arden are now complete! Over the next few months both Solihull MBC Highways and the Parish Council will be reviewing the newly installed measures to determine if and where additional measures may be necessary.

There have been a few incidents by the new Gateway on Meriden Road and we are in discussions with Solihull MBC Highways to see how we can improve the visibility of this new feature. Also, as part of the overall review temporary automatic traffic counters will be installed on the High Street and Meriden Road to measure both traffic volumes and speeds. It's early days but results from our speed watch surveys suggests that traffic is now travelling a little slower through the village as a result of the new works.

In **Catherine-de-Barnes** a new pedestrian crossing will be installed between the Boat Inn and the village hall. Detailed design of this new crossing is being carried out by Solihull MBC Highways. We have also submitted a draft pedestrian safety and traffic calming plan for the whole of the village of Catherine-de-Barnes and a meeting has been scheduled with Solihull MBC Highways to discuss the proposals. ***We will keep you posted with the results of these discussions.***

NEWS FROM SPEED WATCH!

Willing volunteers continue to support our Community Speed watch initiative which has a target of holding a minimum of two sessions per month. This target is very dependent on a police presence without which we are unable to monitor traffic speeds. We are assured by our Neighbourhood Policing Team that offenders do receive a warning letter although actual prosecution is not possible as we are unable to use the required equipment.

Completion of the initial phase of the Traffic Calming Plan has noticeably reduced traffic speeds along High Street and Meriden Road although a typical hour's session will still see some 15 to 20 vehicles being "clocked". It has become apparent that a further two raised tables (humps) between the station and Diddington Lane may be beneficial. A review of the success of the scheme and any improvements needed will be assessed when the results of a traffic survey by Solihull MBC are known (see Pedestrian Safety and Traffic Calming article above).

A NEW LOOK FOR SCOUT AND GUIDE HEADQUARTERS!

As many of you may have noticed, the Scout and Guide HQ in Hampton-in-Arden has undergone refurbishment. Thanks to support from Suez Communities Trust, we have replaced the fascias, soffits and front doors of the building. We have also redecorated inside and fitted new blinds and curtains. Suez awarded us a grant to help pay for this work as part of the Landfill Communities Fund.



I'm sure you'll all agree that the building looks so much more inviting, and with the enclosed outside space at the rear, is a great venue to hire for events. Please see our website for more information: www.hamptonscoutguide.com

PLANNING NEWS

● **Motorway Service Area (MSA) at Catherine de Barnes (PL/2015/51409/PPOL):** You will recall that the planning application for this application (and for the application to build an MSA at Junction 4) were refused by Solihull MBC back in March this year. Both applicants appealed against this decision and the Appeal Enquiry started on 12th October. At the time you read this it is expected that the Inspector would have closed the enquiry and be considering the evidence given. We expect him to come to a decision later in the year. Unlike the previous enquiry in 2009 (when the Inspector made a recommendation to the Secretary of State who made the final decision), the Inspector will make the decision unless there has been a request to call in /recover the decision. In the event this happens the same process as 2009 would prevail. Fingers crossed that the appeal as above is dismissed. (PINS Appeal Ref: APP/Q4625/W/21/3275290 / Solihull Appeal Ref: AP/2021/00013/REF)

A representative of the Parish Council and Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association has registered as an interested party and as such, is able to ask questions of witnesses giving evidence which has proved useful.

● **Chestnut Farm - three planning applications (PL/2021/01631, PL/2021/01632, PL/2021/01633 for various new buildings and development):** The Parish Council has submitted a full response to these three applications objecting to them on the grounds of inappropriate in the Green Belt and contrary to sections of our Neighbourhood Plan. Full details of the response can be seen on the Hampton in Arden Parish Council website.

● **Solihull Local Plan Examination:** This started on 27th September and is due to finish on 9th December. This is being held virtually and can be viewed live. Those interested should use www.solihull.gov.uk/eip and follow the instructions. **Of particular interest to the Parish are events on Wednesday 10th November and Thursday 11th November when the inclusion of two controversial sites in the Parish are being examined for soundness.** The Parish Council (in conjunction with Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association) have submitted a response to these sites being included in the Local Plan and this can be viewed on the Parish Website.

JUNCTION 6 IMPROVEMENT PUBLIC INFORMATION EVENTS

The recent events held in Hampton-in-Arden and Catherine-de-Barnes in September were well attended and proved useful.

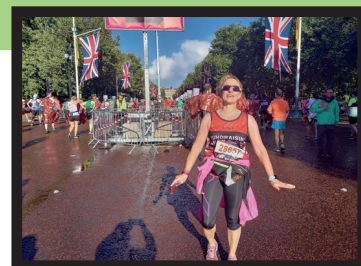
Following these events, the Parish Council are arranging meetings with Skanska's community liaison staff with a view to ensuring residents are kept fully aware of developments throughout the duration of the project.

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REVIEW

Following responses from Officers in Solihull MBC who supported our work so far, work on the review of the Neighbourhood Plan is progressing. As you know the Solihull Local Plan is under examination and it was suggested during one of the sessions that any new Neighbourhood Plan or Plans under review should not be completed until the result of the Examination is known. This is to ensure that any policies in the Neighbourhood Plans can be checked for conformance with the those in the new Local Plan. ***We will keep you posted with our progress!***

ALISON RUNS A MARATHON!

Alison, a Hampton resident and Ward Councillor, agreed to run the London Marathon for 2020 for ABF The Soldiers Charity (which does amazing work across the world helping serving personnel, their families and veterans). She trained hard and had done a 20 mile run in March 2020 ready for the big day in April 2020. Then Covid came! The April date was postponed to October 2020, and then again, to October 2021. But Alison kept up the training as she didn't want to have to start all over again!



Finally, on 3rd October 2021, Alison was on the start line. She said "The support from the crowd which included my husband, son, work colleagues and friends, was amazing! All was good until 24 miles and then I ran out of fuel! I finished the Marathon in 5 hours 3 minutes and 16 seconds. I enjoyed it but have no wish to do it again!"

Alison has raised over £3,000 for ABF The Soldier's Charity. Her Justgiving page is still open if anyone wishes to donate to this fantastic charity: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/alison-rolf

NEWS FROM HS2

In 2021, the closest HS2 works to Hampton-in-Arden will be concentrated near the A452, A45 and M42, which surround the site of the future HS2 Interchange Station:

- The direction of travel for road users around Northway Island (over the M42) has now permanently changed, and depending on your direction of travel, you may be redirected from the island, along the B4438, and back.
- Off-peak temporary lane closures will also be installed occasionally in the area, and we will carry out a temporary weekend closure on and around Northway Island from 8pm on Friday 5 November to 5am on Monday 8 November.
- BBV will continue activities east of the M42 in the Interchange area, mainly concentrated on HS2 land. This will include the completion of a BBV compound off the A45.

- BBV will continue to complete earthwork preparations in the Interchange area for the Bickenhill cutting and for the construction of the A452 link road to the new M42 bridge.

- Throughout the route we will continue with ground investigation works to enable our construction throughout 2022 and beyond.

We advise subscribing for HS2 news updates in Solihull at <https://engagement.hs2.org.uk/join-mailing-list/> to find out more about all of HS2's works in Solihull including traffic measures and virtual HS2 information events.

You can also access a user-friendly interactive map of current and upcoming works at: www.hs2.org.uk/in-your-area/map

You can get in touch with HS2 via their Helpdesk team all day, every day of the year on, 08081 434 434, and at hs2enquiries@hs2.org.uk if you have any enquiries.

AIRPORT NEWS

The airport operation has continued to be significantly affected by the UK Covid regulations (as defined by the Government Global Travel Taskforce) with volumes around 25-30% of normal. The airport expects it to take several months for traffic to return to pre-Covid levels.

During August the airport supported the Afghanistan refugee evacuation. Publicity was kept to a minimum due to the sensitivity of the operation and the airport ultimately handled around 60% of the evacuation effort. A 24 hour operation was rapidly setup involving support from the Solihull MBC, airport businesses and relevant charities. Residents may have noticed some exceptional night flight operations during this time which are considered as one-off exceptions to the normal night flying restrictions.

The Parish Council has worked closely with the airport and other local stakeholders via the Airport Consultative Committee (ACC) to develop and agree the night flying policy which is now reviewed every three years. During the summer the government held a national consultation on Night Flying policies to which the ACC responded. The response focused on maintaining the current local policy setting arrangements which have so far been effective in representing our local concerns.

REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR FIBRE BROADBAND

We thought readers would be pleased to hear that BT has laid the infrastructure for Fibre To The Premises (FTTP) within Hampton-in-Arden and Catherine-de-Barnes. Most internet providers (such as Plusnet, Vodafone and EE) have confirmed that they will offer FTTP to villagers in these two locations if they have the local demand.

We would urge residents to enquire with their internet provider on the availability of FTTP and register their interest.

PROBUS – BACK IN ACTION!

The Hampton-in Arden Probus Club is back in action after lockdown! Full members' meetings were held in August and October and an Annual General Meeting was held in September (all in the Main Fenthams Hall). In the intervening period, Probus had been forced to cancel the much-loved Christmas Lunch, and was unable to offer any trips, boules, darts or skittles matches, or restaurant evenings. Now things are returning to normal and there is a Christmas lunch on 29th November 2021.

Membership of Probus is open to retired professional and businessmen, who either live in the Civil Parish or have an association with it. The Club would be delighted to enrol some new members after the long period in abeyance. If you want more details, or an application form, please contact the secretary, Peter Green, at peter.j.green@live.co.uk, or on 07415 180231.

CONSERVATION GROUP – A CALL FOR NEW MEMBERS

The Conservation Group comprises a number of volunteers who meet regularly to help maintain the Spinney and Recreation Ground. The group, led by David Grimshaw is affiliated to the Hampton-in-Arden Society with occasional financial support for equipment from the Parish Council.

Time has taken its toll and the number of volunteers has decreased substantially over the past couple of years. There is now an urgent need for more, and preferably some younger, volunteers to join the Group and anyone interested is asked to contact Parish Clerk Julie Barnes for more information.

NEWS FROM HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN SOCIETY

It was great to welcome people back to Fenthams Hall last month for an event, a talk on the Railway, from the History Group. Whilst our main purpose is to protect and improve the character and features of the village, we also feel it is very important to bring the village together at events like these. We love to discover the history of the village and to discover the now (including all the groups and activities available to our local community).

If you share these interests, please consider joining our committee. Please message chair@hamptoninardensociety.org or call Vicky on 01675 446 155 for more information.

CATNEY COMMON

The last cut of the year was recently completed, and it looks attractive once again.

A "Common Friends" work Party, which included weed/pathway strimming, completed the Autumn tidy up. Thank you to all who helped out.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **10th November:** Parish Council Meeting
- **13th November:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **6th December:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association Committee Meeting
- **11th December:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **5th January:** Parish Council Meeting
- **10th January:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association Committee Meeting
- **Parish Council Meetings:** Take place at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room adjacent to The Beeches or in the event that COVID-19 restrictions are still in place they will be held via TEAMS. The public are welcome and encouraged to attend. Where meetings are being held online please contact Julie Barnes (Clerk) at clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk or phone 01675 442 017 for advice as to how to participate.
- **Residents Association Committee Meetings:** Member of the public are not invited to these meetings. However, If residents have any issues they would like to raise, please contact the secretary@catney.co.uk prior to the meeting. No open meetings (either on-line or physical) planned at this moment in time

THANK YOU FOR READING AND WE WILL SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN IN FEBRUARY

Don't forget to check out our website(www.hamptoninarden.org.uk) and Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pg/HamptonInArdenParishCouncil) for up to date information between Newsletters. Finally, we hope you all stay well and stay safe.