

## Parish News - August 2023

### HELLO AGAIN

**W**elcome to the August edition of your Parish Council Newsletter! In this issue we have lots to tell you, including information about our Annual Meeting, the success of the Hampton Festival, Remembrance Sunday and a request from our Climate Change Committee to name just a few!

#### A POLITE FEW REMINDERS:

● **Dog Fouling:** Dog fouling bins are provided for your use (along with bags should you have run out of them on your

walk or forgotten them at home). The Parish Council have arranged for these bins to be emptied twice weekly. Please make use of them. Thank you.

● **Hedgerow Cutting:** Please can we remind residents to trim any hedgerows or vegetation that overhangs onto public rights of way or footpaths (particularly along the High Street where footpaths are particularly narrow). Of course, please ensure that you are able to do this safely.

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

**T**he Parish Council Annual Meeting was held in Fentham Hall on 24th May with 75 Parishioners, two Ward Councillors and nine Parish Councillors present to hear about the work of the Parish Council over the preceding 12 months. This was the best attended event for many years and it was great to see so many residents present.

The main business was a lively discussion on the parking issues caused by the recent opening of Soho Tavern and residents were assured that the Council had not been complacent about the problem and the various measures in progress were explained.

The draft minutes of the Meeting can be found on the Parish Council website: <https://hamptoninarden.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Annual-Meeting-Minutes-May-24-2023.pdf>

### CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE – WE NEED YOUR HELP!

**T**he Parish Council Climate Change Committee is tasked with determining what action we, as a community, can collectively take to mitigate the effects of climate change. The committee met at the end of June to discuss our objectives and to list some initial actions that might be relevant.

**Your suggestions as to possible measures that could potentially be implemented within the Parish are now welcomed and we would encourage you to send them in to us for consideration.** Please address any suggestions to our Clerk, who will forward them to the chairman of the committee, Councillor Roger Waring.

***Whilst our powers as a Parish Council are limited, and government advice is that an increase in precept is not an acceptable means of financing any proposed measures, we hope to achieve some worthwhile results in the not too-distant future. We look forward to hearing from you!***

### FESTIVAL SUCCESS!

**S**o, another Hampton in Arden Festival has come and gone and what a fabulous event it was! The Festival is all about community, bringing together the different groups, organisations and businesses in one place and giving them the opportunity to raise awareness, funds and to give something back. As a volunteer core committee of just three, backed up by a wonderful group of supporters (too many to name, but you know who you are), we organise this Festival for the whole village, trying to ensure there is something for everyone.



During the day, we had more cars, more stallholders, more people (around 1,500!), more live music and more fun than ever before. Then, in the evening, we had live music from a variety of local, upcoming bands before our headline act, 2 Weeks Notice, put on a show that had over 800 of you dancing and singing your hearts out.

**We are pleased to announce that your contributions have raised approximately £10,000, which will be put back into our community (more details to follow). Thank you!**

### Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

## NEW SCHOOL FIELD FENCING

The Parish Council is pleased to advise that the new fence to the school field has been repaired again, for the **fourth time**. The Parish Council would ask anyone using the school field not climb over this fence and instead walk around to the play area by the allotments where pedestrian access is provided through the gates there.

**Residents are also reminded that dogs are not allowed in the play area or on the school playing field at any time. Also, the school field is not open to the public during term times whilst the school is open.**

## SAVE OUR SCOUTS!

Have you seen all the press recently about how good volunteering is for your mental and physical health and how rewarding it can be? I hope so! We love giving our scouts fantastic opportunities, exciting experiences and skills for life that stay with them forever. But this can only be done with a team of brilliant adults willing to provide a little time each week.

**At 1st Hampton-in-Arden we are now in a critical position regarding adult help. Our current leadership team, due to a number of reasons, is losing a few members in the summer. Without adults coming forward to get involved we will have to close our Beaver and Cub packs.**

Volunteers do not need to be able to attend every week or even attend any sessions. Some volunteers enjoy attending and supporting the young people in activities, other are more comfortable with planning and don't enjoy the practical aspects. **Both are equally needed.**

The best scenario is to have a small 'team' of volunteers who work together to plan and/or deliver scouting, limiting the time required of each member. We have run a number of our sections in this way. Although the critical position is with the Beaver and Cub sections, if you would prefer to volunteer to help at Scouts then that is equally welcome as we may be able to move team members around.

**If you could consider helping out, please get in touch. No pressure and no commitment! We really want to continue scouting in Hampton in Arden, continuing to provide our children with fantastic experiences... but we need help! Please get in touch if you think you can help in any way, even just a little time can make a difference.**

**Please contact - Mark Cloke, Group Scout Leader, 1st Hampton-in-Arden, [clokemg@gmail.com](mailto:clokemg@gmail.com), 07748 623010**



## REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 12TH NOVEMBER 2023

An early reminder that this year's Remembrance Day service and procession will be on **Sunday 12th November**. As with previous events the **High Street will be closed to through traffic between 10.00am and 12.00 noon** to allow the procession from the church to the War Memorial to proceed safely. Residents will be able to access the Recreation Ground via Shadowbrook Lane (depending on the ongoing road closures on Catherine-de-Barnes Lane at that time).

Marshalls will be deployed to control traffic. If any residents would like to volunteer to be a marshal on the day, then please contact the Parish Clerk.

## M42 JUNCTION 6 – SOLIHULL ROAD RE-OPEN!

Solihull Road has now reopened after a **2 year closure!** This is a relief to both village residents and businesses. However, Catherine de Barnes Lane is now closed to through traffic for the remainder of this year at least as construction proceeds for the new link road up to the Clock Roundabout.

## AIRPORT NOISE ACTION PLAN CONSULTATION

**As part of its legal obligation under the Environmental Noise Regulations, Birmingham Airport is creating and consulting local communities on its 2024-2028 Noise Action Plan. The Plan presents updated noise mapping contours, reports on previous actions and sets new and revised actions.**

The plan can be viewed on the airport website (<https://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/about-us/community-and-environment/aircraft-noise/noise-action-plan/>).

**The consultation closes on Mon 7th August.** Please send any comments via the Parish Council Clerk ([clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk](mailto:clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk)).

## HS2 NEWS

Construction continues on HS2 and at present the only effects on the Parish are the occasional one-way lights on Meriden Road and the overnight closures on Diddington Lane. **Construction of the Blythe Valley viaduct is due to start in earnest later this month with piling for the viaduct bases and abutments.** No further news yet on the final design for the northern junction of Diddington Lane with the A452 – we are still waiting to see how the safety concerns of this junction will be covered. **We will keep you posted!**

## TRAFFIC CALMING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY UPDATE

- The new gateway on Solihull Road as you enter Hampton-in-Arden is now in place.
- Within the village the other outstanding measures (raised table at the existing gateway on Meriden Road and the new tables close to the station) will be constructed later this year.
- The design of the average speed cameras is on-going with installation due this financial year.
- In Catherine-de-Barnes we understand that Solihull MBC Highways are in detailed discussions with National Highways (NH) regarding the proposed traffic calming measures to be included under NH's designated funds scheme.

## PLANNING NEWS

**D**etails of current planning applications and their status, and the Parish Council's responses, can be viewed on our website <https://hamptoninarden.org.uk> under the headings 'Your Parish Council' and then 'Planning'.

### Neighbourhood Plan and Solihull Local Plan - An Update

*The examination of Solihull's Local Plan review remains paused pending the publication of the updated National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). As a result the process of completing our updated Neighbourhood Plan is held up. Our Plan has to be in conformance to the Local Plan and therefore until we know what that Plan looks like it is not prudent to continue the process. We will keep you posted with our progress.*

## CATNEY CHRISTMAS CRAFT FAIR – A DATE FOR YOU DIARY!

**T**he Catney Christmas Craft Fair will take place on the 25th November between 11am and 3pm at Catherine-de-Barnes Village Hall. The fair is a social event, which brings in visitors and raises funds for the village hall. Many people come in for a browse, a chat and tea and homemade cakes.

We are looking for local people with talents of all sorts and I am hoping that there may be Hampton-in-Arden residents who have craft skills and would like to exhibit and sell their wares. In the past we have had tables selling fused and stained glass, fabric and knitted items, cosmetics, cards, scented candles, recycled wood items, floristry, jewellery, artwork, and a wide variety of items including homemade jams made by members of the Catney Craft Club.

**As the space in the village hall is limited, can anyone who is interested please contact us before the end of August as tables will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Tables are £12 for a large one [6 foot] or £6 for a small one [3 foot].**

**Those who wish to rent a table or want further information please contact Liz Boxall on 0121 705 7531, Text 07939 073416 or email [liz@boxall.info](mailto:liz@boxall.info)**

## HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN SOCIETY UPDATE

**I**t was lovely to see so many of you at the Village Fete, we really enjoyed meeting you and discussing what the Society does. We were so pleased to run the Children's Art Competition for the first time this year and would like to congratulate the participants and winners again. We'd also like to say thank you for the incredible donations for the memorial bench for Tariq Dar, the total currently stands at £788 so we will soon be ordering the bench. We are hoping to use the excess funds to provide the Bowling Club with a 'Fair Player' Cup in his name.

**The Hampton-In-Arden Society continues to advocate on the village's behalf with Skanska, HS2, the airport and our MP Saqib Bhatti. If you would like to be part of these communications or would like to know more about our work to maintain the character of the village or if you have any ideas about forthcoming events we could hold, please consider joining the Hampton-In-Arden Society Committee, we would welcome your input. You can contact us on [info@hamptoninardensociety.org](mailto:info@hamptoninardensociety.org)**

Our next two events will be our village social on Friday 15th September, a repeat of our beer, band and curry night, and a village talk given by two village travellers, Evan Grant and Ken Blanch, on Wednesday 27th September.

## NEWS FROM THE GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST

**D**uring our last quarterly Trustee meeting, we welcomed a new Trustee, Sarah White. Sarah has lived in the village for many years and is a former governor at George Fentham School. Sarah joins the other Trustees, Carol Grant (Chair), Tim Beresford (Vice-Chair), Charlie Rickard (Treasurer), Alison Rolf, Alison Fisher, Glyn Ryland, Mark Abbott, Dan Adams and Jo Oswald. Sarah replaces Martin Shalley who has been a trustee for many years with responsibility for our elderly support work. More information about the Trustees is available on our website.

- The Trust was established to support the residents of Hampton-in-Arden village. The Trust may be able to provide financial and/or practical support to any village resident who finds themselves in hardship. Applications for assistance must be made in writing and sent to the Clerk either by post to George Fentham Meeting Room, Marsh Lane, Hampton-in-Arden, Solihull B92 0AH or by email [clerk@georgfenthamtrust.org.uk](mailto:clerk@georgfenthamtrust.org.uk). Alternatively you can fill in a request for by scanning this QR code:



## CLUBS SECTION

● **The Hampton Singers** - Contact Sue Kiely on [Peelwood3@gmail.com](mailto:Peelwood3@gmail.com) or go to [www.hamptonsingers.org](http://www.hamptonsingers.org)

● **The Hampton Probus Club** - Contact [peter.j.green@live.co.uk](mailto:peter.j.green@live.co.uk)

● **The Local History Group** - Contact [info@hamptoninardenhistory.org](mailto:info@hamptoninardenhistory.org)

● **Scale Model Club** - Contact Alexander Clayson on [a-clayson@hotmail.com](mailto:a-clayson@hotmail.com)

● **Hampton-in-Arden Gardening Club** - Contact [davidbixby59@gmail.com](mailto:davidbixby59@gmail.com)

● **The Hampton Beekeeping Group** - Contact [sarahmrickard@icloud.com](mailto:sarahmrickard@icloud.com)

## HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN LIBRARY NEWS

● **Opening Hours:** Tuesday 2pm – 5pm, Thursday 2pm – 5pm, Friday 2pm – 5pm.

● **A Warm Welcome:** As part of offering a warm welcome to everybody who comes through our door, Hampton Library are providing both warm and cold drinks to library customers. There is no charge for this, but donations are welcome if you wish.

● **Summer Reading Challenge 2023, Ready, Set, Read!** Every year, the Summer Reading Challenge helps children to keep up reading through the summer holiday. They just need to read six books of their choice to complete the challenge and there are rewards along the way to make it extra fun. This year, the theme is 'Ready, Set, Read!' a sports and games-themed challenge, presented by libraries and the Reading Agency in partnership with the Youth Sport Trust. Children can join the Summer Reading Challenge any time in the summer, and if they're not already a library member, all you need is something official with an adult guarantor's name and address.

● **Stories & Painting for Under 5s:** Every Tuesday at 2:15pm, we read a fun story and do some painting or colouring to go with it! Suitable for under 5s. Warm water to wash hands is provided, but we recommend wearing clothes that can get messy.

● **Ready, Set, Crafts!** Drop into the library to make some fun sports-and-games-themed creations on our craft table on Tuesday 8th August through Friday 11th August and on Tuesday 22nd August through Friday 25th August. All of the crafts will be suitable for ages 5 and up, and there will be colouring for younger children.

● **Haunted Half-Term Crafts:** Drop into the library for some spooky themed crafts on Tuesday 31st October (Halloween), Thursday 2nd November, and Friday 3rd November. All the creepy crafts will be suitable for ages 5 and up, and there will be colouring for younger children.

● **Readers Group:** Everybody is welcome to our monthly Readers Group. We discuss a topic of the month, and hot drinks are provided. Books for the next meeting are available at the library. The group at 2:15pm on the following dates: 18th August (*My Name is Leon* by Kit de Waal), 8th September (Nature Books), 13th October (Joanna Cannon).

*All information here is accurate at the time of writing. See [www.solihull.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/libraries) and [www.facebook.com/hamptoninardenlibrary](https://www.facebook.com/hamptoninardenlibrary) for the latest updates.*

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

● **12th August:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)

● **4th September:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association (RA) Committee Meeting

● **13th September:** Parish Council Meeting

● **Parish Council Meetings:** *Take place at 7.30pm. The public are welcome and encouraged to attend.*

● **Residents Association Committee Meetings:** *Any changes to the date will be notified on social media / and our website. Meetings take place at 7.30pm. Any resident wishing to raise an issue with the Committee can do so, at least 48 hours before the meeting, by contacting [secretary@catney.co.uk](mailto:secretary@catney.co.uk). Any items of importance discussed at the meetings or decisions made, are communicated to members via Catney News, which is distributed to members only.*

● **23rd September:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)

● **2nd October:** Catherine-de-Barnes RA Committee Meeting

● **14th October:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)

## PARKING IN HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH

**R**ecent public meetings have highlighted a number of parking issues within the Parish. The recent re-opening of the Beeches as Soho Tavern in Hampton in Arden has increased these parking issues. Your Parish Council then agreed a series of measures that we believe will address these issues and improve safety for all road users. These proposals can be viewed on our website.

Last month we completed a formal consultation during which we asked if you agreed or disagreed with the proposals and asked for any other comments that you might have. We will now collate all these responses and discuss further with SMBC Highways to agree the way forward. **Watch this space!**

## THANK YOU FOR READING AND WE WILL SPEAK TO YOU AGAIN IN NOVEMBER

**D**on't forget to check out our website ([www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/pg/HamptonInArdenParishCouncil](https://www.facebook.com/pg/HamptonInArdenParishCouncil)) for up to date information between Newsletters.