

HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

*Held at The Parish Office, Meeting Rooms, Marsh Lane, B92 0AH
On: Tuesday 14 January 2025*

Start: 7:30pm

End: 9:21pm

PRESENT

Councillors

Cllr Tim Beresford (Chairman)
Cllr Giles Cook (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Mike Blomer
Cllr Cat Sellars
Cllr Peter Green
Cllr John Eccleston
Cllr Dave Cuthbert
Cllr Ken Blanch
Cllr David Sandells
Cllr Piers Reid
Cllr Roger Waring
Cllr Alexander Clayson

Clerk

Mrs Julie Barnes

Public

Lesley Cable
Darryl Stokes
Stuart Mair

NO.

ACTION

25/88 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None.

25/89 STANDING DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- John Eccleston: President of Sports Club. Recreational Trust Trustee.
- Dave Cuthbert: chair of the Catherine de Barnes Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.
- Tim Beresford: George Fentham Trustee and George Fentham Endowed School - School Governor.

25/90 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mr D Stokes listened to item 25/102 (*that was heard at the beginning of the meeting*) he then enquired whether the Average Speed Cameras were now active and whether, as a result, the speed cushions could now be removed. The chairman confirmed that they are now active and that speed cushions would not be removed. Mr Stokes expressed his frustration about this and then left the meeting.

25/91 BUDGET SETTING 2025/2026

The chair referred to the budget paperwork circulated to all members in advance. Members discussed the expenditure for the next financial year with all expressing concern at rising costs. **Following the discussion, it was agreed as proposed by Cllr Eccleston to increase the precept by 5% this was seconded by Cllr Cook**

with all members in favour.

Contributions to Churchyard Grass Cutting and Community Transport Scheme
Churchyard Contributions

Members were referred to the report circulated in advance. All members agreed that the Parish Council should continue to support the Village Church, and **it was therefore proposed by Cllr Clayson that the Parish Council continue to contribute towards the churchyard grass cutting. This was seconded by Cllr Cuthbert with all in favour.**

Community Transport Scheme

Cllr Cuthbert read out a written statement from VASA to members seeking a contribution of £500 to enable them to train more drivers and therefore help to increase capacity within the area. Members were also referred to the report circulated in advance. Members expressed concern about both the lack of data around usage of the scheme by residents of the Parish and potential demand **it was therefore proposed by Cllr Blomer that the matter be deferred to the next meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Blanch. Cllr Cuthbert abstained but remaining members were all in favour.** The clerk was asked to ascertain current usage and demand and also to investigate whether Ring & Ride operated within the Parish. Cllr Cuthbert stated that the next VASA meeting was on 10/03/2025 and that he would seek more information from them regarding usage within the Parish at that time.

Clerk/DC

25/92 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2024

The draft Minutes taken and prepared by Julie Barnes were **approved as proposed by Cllr Sellars, seconded by Cllr Reid** with all members being in favour.

25/93 MATTERS ARISING

25/41 CCTV. Quotes are still awaited. The clerk will write to the building owner and tenant to obtain their agreement to housing the equipment and the matter will be listed as an agenda item for the March meeting.

Clerk

25/84 Christmas Light Switch on Event. The chair confirmed that the event had been a success with special thanks to Meriden Rotary Club and all the volunteers who supported the event.

25/94 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The chair referred to his report circulated in advance. No queries were raised.

25/95 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Cllr Blanch referred to his report circulated in advance.

A discussion was held regarding the consultation on the proposed parking restrictions within the village of Hampton in Arden. The chair requested that the clerk find out more about the process of the consultation and ensure residents are made aware in advance.

Clerk

25/95 FEEDBACK FROM THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTWAY REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Waring referred to his report circulated in advance and provided members with an overview of the work he had undertaken on behalf of the Parish Council. No additional queries were raised.

25/96 FEEDBACK FROM CIL COMMITTEE

Cllr Green gave an overview of his report circulated in advance providing a more detailed overview of the proposed priority areas for anticipated future funds. No further queries were raised.

25/97 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Cllr Sellars confirmed that articles would be required by no later than 20/01/2025 for the February Newsletter Edition. A discussion was held regarding proposed articles.

ALL

25/98 FEEDBACK FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Cuthbert referred to his reports circulated in advance noting in particular: -

86 Meriden Road – won on appeal.

Battery Storage Facility – outcome currently awaited.

Heath Farm – Enforcement Inspector due to visit the site.

Chestnuts Farm – still under review.

Oak Farm – reserved matters application now in. The Planning Committee are due to meet to discuss and prepare their response.

A discussion was also held regarding the Airport Application (seeking to amend the existing S106 agreement regarding the number of permitted flights). Cllr Sandells and Cuthbert provided members with a detailed overview. It was noted that the application was subsequently approved by Solihull MBC.

Members also held a discussion regarding the potential development on Old Station Road/Diddington Lane. This is an historic proposal without any live applications at present.

25/99 FEEDBACK FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

Members were referred to the report circulated in advance. Cllrs Green and Cuthbert confirmed that V.27 of the Neighbourhood Plan had now been prepared. The group will continue to keep members up to date with developments.

25/100 FEEDBACK FROM FUNDING WORKING GROUP

It has been agreed by the CIL Committee that they will incorporate the Funding Group within it at the next AGM. Until that time the Funding Group will continue.

25/101 FEEDBACK FROM THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

Cllr Waring confirmed that two residents had joined the Climate Change Group as “Gurus” and that he intended to meet further with them to discuss future ideas.

25/102 ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

A discussion was held regarding recent anti-social behaviour within the village of Hampton in Arden. The Parish Council are maintaining a watching brief and dealing with any areas of graffiti with removal.

Cllr Blomer put forward the suggestion of reimplementing Street Watch. The clerk will investigate this with the Rural Policing Team. It was noted that the Parish Council also have a graffiti removal kit which they will be asking Trevor Honeysett to attend to. It was requested that the clerk put another notice on Facebook to alert residents and to ask for vigilance.

Clerk

25/103 REQUESTS FOR MEMBERS TO JOIN THE HAMPTON SOCIETY

Mrs L Cable and Mr S Mair were able to explain to members that the Hampton Society were looking to align themselves with the Parish Council to reach as many residents as possible, particularly on planning issues. Due to members being under significant time pressures they were not able to offer the solution of a Councillor joining the Committee, but it was agreed that Cllr Cuthbert would send over any significant planning issues to Mr S Mair (the Society's planning representative). The chair reminded the Society members in attendance that the Parish Council remains a statutory body, and that up-to-date planning information can also be found on the Parish Council's website.

25/104 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

The chair confirmed that he had attended a Quarry Liaison Meeting in Meriden which are useful and noted that the Parish had seen a reduction in haulage vehicles travelling through it.

25/105 FINANCE

The quarterly accounts and payments for 9 months ending 31 December 2024 were accepted as **proposed by Cllr Cuthbert seconded by Cllr Waring** with all members being in favour.

The chair noted that the maintenance element of the Recreational Trust rent would be increasing and that the Recreational Trust had been notified.

25/106 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting: 19 March 2025 in Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.
Maintenance Committee Meeting: 12 February 2025 (via Teams)

MEETING CLOSED AT 9:21pm
Reports detailed in the minutes are attached.

Minutes taken and prepared by Clerk, Julie Barnes