

Parish News - JUNE 2025

HELLO AGAIN

In this June edition of your Parish Council Newsletter we have some important updates about the Parish Council, information regarding the West Midlands Cycle Hire Scheme, garden waste and the parking consultation, as well as a date and updates for the Hampton Festival!



We would also like to thank everyone who took part in the Great British Spring Clean at the end of March. With lots of residents in both Hampton-in-Arden and Catherine de Barnes joining in, the event was a great success - and lots of rubbish was collected!

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

We have been busy during the last couple of months with our Annual Village Meeting (held in April) and our Annual General Meeting (held in May).

- We were pleased to see a good number of residents attending both sets of meetings and at the Village Meeting in particular, a range of topics affected the Parish were discussed.
- At the AGM, Councillor Tim Beresford was re-appointed as

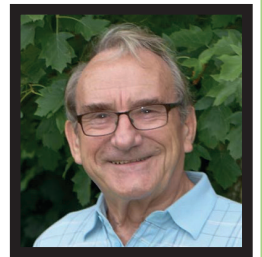
Chair and Councillor Giles Cook was reappointed as Vice-Chair. All of our Councillors can be viewed on our website: <https://hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk/your-parish-council/councillors/>

- If you missed the Village Meeting, a copy of the Annual Report can be found on our website: <https://hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Annual-Report-2024-to-2025.pdf>

MIKE BLOMER STEPS DOWN FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL AFTER 15 YEARS - A HEARTFELT THANK YOU!

After an incredible 15 years, Mike Blomer has stepped down from the Parish Council. Since first joining the Council in 2010, Mike has been an incredibly active member of the team and has played a key role in many local issues (including the Parish Council boundary change, the Neighbourhood Plan and on many important planning issues that have affected our Parish). Mike spent eight years as Chair (from 2016 to 2024), always being fair-minded and deeply passionate about the wellbeing of the Parish.

On behalf of the Parish Council, and the community, we would like to thank Mike for his years of service and wish him all the best in his next chapter.



HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN FESTIVAL 2025

Last year's festival was another great success, despite the weather, with a wider variety of stalls and we raised (with the help of the football) a huge total of over £11k. Thank you to everyone.

This year's festival will take place on **Saturday, 5th July, 2025 from 11am to approx. 3pm** with stalls, ice cream van, the Dog Show, inflatables, Little Football Stars, the Car Show, live music, rifle shooting, welly wanging, food stalls and much, much more.

Then, in the evening, we have live music from approx. 5pm through to our fabulous concert, headlined by 2 Weeks Notice again, our auction and then ending with our amazing family firework display.

This is a wonderful family and community event, so please come along and support. If you haven't already, put the date in your diary and we'll hopefully see you there.



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - AN UPDATE

Our Draft Neighbourhood Plan is now with Solihull MBC for final screening, prior to the next round of consultations. This phase will be managed by Solihull who will seek the views of residents, businesses and statutory stakeholders. They will set a deadline of at least six weeks for representations after which we expect to be able submit the Plan for approval.

Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

EXPLORING THE WEST MIDLANDS CYCLE HIRE SCHEME FOR OUR PARISH

The Parish Council is currently exploring the potential demand for the **West Midlands Cycle Hire Scheme** within our community. This initiative could provide a convenient and sustainable way for residents and visitors to get around. Possible locations for cycle hire stations include:

- Catherine de Barnes Village Hall
- Catney Common
- The Recreational Ground Car Park

To learn more about how the scheme works and its benefits, please visit: www.wmcyclehire.co.uk

If you believe this scheme would benefit our Parish, we encourage you to share your thoughts. Please contact the Parish Clerk by email at: clerk@hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk. Your feedback is greatly appreciated and will help shape future decisions.

ST MARY AND ST BARTHOLOMEW CHURCH, HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN

In 2030 our local church will be celebrating its 900th birthday! Does anyone know what was happening in Hampton-in-Arden, and indeed in Britain, back then? A quick history lesson then!!!

The monarch at the time was King Henry I and he reigned from 1100 to 1135. He succeeded his eldest brother William II: both were sons of William I, otherwise known as William the Conqueror. He was also known as Henry Beauclerc and died in 1135 allegedly due to a 'surfeit of lampreys'.



GARDEN WASTE – A REMINDER

Residents are likely aware that from Monday 7th July 2025, Solihull MBC are no longer providing free garden waste collections. **If you would like to continue to receive a garden waste collection from 7 July 2025, you will need to pay a fee and subscribe to the service.** When you have paid for the service, you will receive a permit in the form of a sticker which you will need to place on your bin to show that you have paid. Garden waste bins without the correct permit sticker displayed will not be emptied.

● **Subscribe early and save from Monday 2 June 2025. The Early Bird subscriber rate of £44 will be available from Monday 2 June 2025. The Early Bird rate will end on Friday 11 July 2025.**

● From Saturday 12 July 2025, the annual cost of the service will be £49.

More information can be found here: <https://www.solihull.gov.uk/Rubbish-and-recycling/garden-waste>

AN UPDATE FROM SKANSKA

Skanska have confirmed that the cones on the A4545 dual carriageway will be removed by the end of June. At the same time the slip road from the dual carriageway to the airport should be open.

No further news from National Highways of a date for the removal of traffic lights from the Solihull Road bridge.

PLANNING NEWS

● **PL/2025/00547/MAJFDW - Outline planning for the demolition of Mell Square site and full planning application for redevelopment of Phase 1:** Of interest may be the plans to redevelop the site adjacent to Morrisons car park: two apartment blocks are proposed (containing 346 apartments of various sizes) with parking provision for 60 cars and 120 cycle racks. This planning application can be viewed here: <https://publicaccess.solihull.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=ST9X0S0E01100&activeTab=summary>

● **There has been a considerable amount of local interest in the building works associated with the site at 26 Henwood Lane and for the record the current situation is outlined below:**

- **PL/2025/0113/VAR** - External alterations to previously approved Class Q prior approval consent;
- **PL/2023/01507/PNCUDW** - Dwelling: This application was refused on the 24th April. We understand a further application has been lodged but as yet has not been validated so details are not yet available;
- **PL/2024/01198/PPFL** - Replacement 9 bedroom dwelling and associated landscaping. This application was refused on 18th September 2024;
- **PL/2025/00164/PPFL** - Replacement of existing extended bungalow with a detached two storey dwelling. This application is currently under review by Planning.
- **Motorway Service Area (MSA):** A Reserved Matters planning application stills needs to be submitted to Solihull MBC and is expected during the summer .
- **Appeal AP/2024/00043/REF - Soho Tavern Listed building consent for 2 awnings:** Appeal dismissed 3rd April.
- **A Planning Running Report is available to view under the Planning Section of our website:** (<https://hamptoninardenparish.gov.uk/your-parish-council/planning/>).

NEWS FROM THE GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST

● The Trust owns and maintains the Fentham Hall which is available for hire for various events including weddings. In addition, we have the Fentham Trust meeting room, situated across the car park from the Hall. This modern room can accommodate up to 20 people for meetings or small events. There is access to a small kitchen and disabled toilet. **If you are interested in hiring this room or any other space at the Fentham Hall, please visit our website: <https://www.georgefenthamtrust.org.uk>**

● The former caretaker's cottage close to the Doctors Surgery is to be re-purposed by the Doctors Surgery team. **Watch this space for more information!**

● 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@georgefenthamtrust.org.uk

NEWS FROM THE HAMPTON SOCIETY

Ahead of the Rogation Days at the end of May, when the parish boundaries were traditionally walked to remind parishioners of their location, a group of Hampton residents reaffirmed the circular path to Barston (and back). The weather was kind and in addition to enjoying the sunshine, everyone enjoyed good company and the odd pint at the Bulls Head.



NEWS FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

After setting out our 'statement of intent' (published on the website) back in 2023, we are in the process of refreshing and revitalising our plans to make sure that the Parish Council is working with others in the community to minimise our impact on the environment and make positive improvements across the Parish.

We're in the 'idea gathering' stage, and are focusing on identifying actions that will make a positive difference to residents and the natural environment. There are loads of things we could do, with enough time, money and energy, but for now we're focusing on things that are achievable and will have a positive impact. Ideally they'll be fun too! Some early ideas include:

- setting up a monthly Repair Cafe to save money and reduce waste;
- sharing experiences of energy saving solutions such as ground source heat pumps to bust some of the myth; and
- creating a Local Climate and Nature Action Plan.

Did you know? Empty medicine blister packs can be recycled at Boots or Superdrug or you can drop them at St Mary's Pharmacy

If you have ideas, or skills, or enthusiasm, we'd love to hear from you at clerk@hamptoninarden.gov.uk

PARKING CONSULTATION

The consultation was delayed a little and concluded on 18th April. We are still awaiting the results and expect these to be available by the end of May.

Whatever is decided, we expect installation sometime in the Autumn. We will keep you updated.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **3rd June:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association (RA) Committee Meeting
- **21st June:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **1st July:** Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association (RA) Committee Meeting
- **16th July:** Parish Council Meeting (7.30pm at George Fentham Meeting Room)
- **19th July:** Hampton Wombles Litter Pick (meet at 11am in White Lion car park)
- **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. Any items of importance discussed at the meetings or decisions made, are communicated to members via Catney News, which is distributed to members only.

PARISH CLUBS - GET INVOLVED!

- **Hampton Sports Club** - Contact committee@hamptonsportsclub.org.uk. For more details on the individual sections, Pétanque, Cricket, Hockey, Tennis, Squash, and Pickleball, go to the website <https://hamptonsportsclub.org.uk>
- **Hampton Health & Fitness Club** - Contact Gareth Thomas gareth@thehampton.co.uk
- **Hampton Badminton Club** - Contact Mary Daymond - randmdaymond@hotmail.com
- **Hampton Bowls Club** - Contact peter.j.green@live.co.uk
- **Hampton Rainbows, Brownies, and Guides** - Contact Fiona Bubb fiona@bubb.net
- **Catherine de Barnes Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and Rangers** - Contact Rachel Hughes rachel0512@aol.com or 07875 058177
- **Hampton Gardening Club** - Contact Alison Dimes alisonjdimes@outlook.com
- **Hampton Conservation Group** - Contact Alan Seal alanseal@hotmail.com
- **Hampton Beekeeping Group** - Contact Sarah Rickard sarahmrickard@icloud.com
- **Catney Craft Club** - Contact Lesley Cuthbert cuthbertlm@me.com
- **Hampton Singers** - Contact www.hamptonsingers.co.uk
- **Hampton Wine Society** - Contact Margaret Elsy at hamptonwinesoc@gmail.com
- **Solihull Scale Model Club** - Contact Alexander Clayson a-clayson@hotmail.com or visit their Facebook site.
- **Hampton Probus Club** - Contact peter.j.green@live.co.uk
- **Local History Group** - Contact info@hamptoninardenhistory.org
- **Hampton Walking** - Contact Evan Grant hampton.walking@gmail.com

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN LIBRARY

- **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.
 - **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. Continues during school holidays.
 - **Half-Term Drop-In Crafts:** Enjoy the May half term with some fun creations for kids to make on our craft table! We'll have crafts suitable for all ages, as long as they have a grown-up supervising them: 2:15pm to 4:45pm on Tuesday 27th, Thursday 29th and Friday 30th.
 - **Summer Reading Challenge - Story Garden:** Every year, the Summer Reading Challenge helps children to keep up reading through the summer holiday. This year's theme is Story Garden, exploring the connection between reading and the great outdoors, where nature and imagination come together. Children can join the Summer Reading Challenge starting **Tuesday 14th July**, and if they're not already a library member, all you need is something official with an adult guarantor's name and address.
 - **Story Garden Craft Table:** Drop in at the library for some fun crafts with an outdoor flavour to celebrate Story Garden, the Summer Reading Challenge 2025! We will have things for children of all ages to make, and you can join the Summer Reading Challenge while you're here. Adult supervision is required: 2:15pm – 4:45pm on Tuesday 29th July, Thursday 31st July and Friday 1st August.
 - **Readers Tea and Talk:** Join us for a hot drink and a chat about any books we've read each month. We have a monthly theme to kick off conversation but talk about any books are welcome. We meet every month on a Friday at 2:15pm. Dates and themes: Friday 14th June (books about World War II), Friday 11th July (books about loneliness).
- All information here is accurate at the time of writing. See www.solihull.gov.uk/libraries and www.facebook.com/hamptoninardenlibrary for the latest updates.*

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

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.