HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

M I N U T E S

Held at: The Parish Office, Meeting Rooms, Marsh Lane, B92 0AH
On: Wednesday 17 September 2025

Start: 7:30pm ***End: 8:20pm***

PRESENT	**Councillors**	Cllr Tim Beresford (Chairman) Cllr Giles Cook (Vice Chairman) Cllr Cat Sellars Cllr Peter Green Cllr Ken Blanch Cllr John Eccleston Cllr Piers Reid Cllr Roger Waring Cllr Alexander Clayson
	Clerk	Mrs Julie Barnes
	Public	4 residents in attendance.

NO. **ACTION**

26/50 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Received and accepted from Cllr Dave Cuthbert and Cllr David Sandells.

26/51 STANDING DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
- John Eccleston: President of Sports Club.
- Dave Cuthbert: chair of the Catherine de Barnes Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.

26/52 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
None.

26/53 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD 16 JULY 2025
The draft Minutes taken and prepared by Julie Barnes were **approved as proposed by Cllr Sellars, seconded by Cllr Clayson** with all members being in favour.

26/54 MATTERS ARISING
26/11 Overgrown Vegetation: This remains an ongoing issue with several areas in the Parish being followed up with the Public Realm department at Solihull Council. **Clerk**

26/44 Pargeting: The Parish Council continues to await a response from Solihull Council's Heritage Officer.

26/45 Scout & Guide Lease: The appendix has now been signed by both parties and attached to the lease as agreed.

26/46 Fentham Road Community Allotments Water Supply: The chair is continuing to investigate ways in which to get a water supply at the site without

incurring the substantial costs quoted by Severn Trent Water. **TB**

26/55 POLICIES FOR APPROVAL

Members considered both the IT policy and social media policy circulated in advance and contained within the report pack.

It was proposed by Cllr Sellars to adopt both policies. This was seconded by Cllr Green with all members being in favour.

26/56 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The chair referred to his report circulated in advance no comments were raised.

26/57 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAJOR INFRASTRUCUTRE COMMITTEE

Cllr Blanch referred to his report circulated in advance.

Cllr Cook confirmed that National Highways had now issued a new digital booklet detailing the road closures and works being undertaken in the vicinity. The clerk confirmed she would circulate this online. **Clerk**

Solihull Road Closure: The chair requested that the clerk investigate the exact dates that Solihull Road would reopen for over the festive period. **Clerk**

26/58 FEEDBACK FROM THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTWAY REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Waring referred to his detailed report and clarified that the Parish Council does have authority to carry out improvement works within the Parish. He emphasised that this does not alter Solihull Council's responsibility to maintain the land within its remit.

Members had no further comments for Cllr Waring.

26/59 FEEDBACK FROM CIL COMMITTEE

Cllr Green referred to his circulated report and advised that the Committee would be convened shortly to review several recent applications. He noted that some of these may require further guidance from full council, which would be sought in due course.

It was further noted that additional members for the Committee would be welcomed.

26/60 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Cllr Sellars referred to the Minutes circulated from the recent committee meeting. No comments were raised upon the same.

The next Newsletter is due to go out in early November. Articles are requested by no later than 10 October. **ALL**

26/61 FEEDBACK FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

In Cllr Cuthbert's absence the clerk referred to the planning report contained within the report pack. The chair highlighted the following issues:

01404 Woodhouse Farm, Catherine de Barnes: The Parish Council have objections to this application and will be submitting a response in due course.

01572 Old Station Road: The Parish Council have arranged a village meeting that is to take place on 03/10/2025 at the Fentham Hall at 6:30pm. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss with residents the various planning issues that the Parish faces and the ways in which we can work together to protect it. The Parish Council have obtained an extension until 13/10/2025 and will be submitting a response following the upcoming village meeting. It was noted that Saqib Bhatti MP and Ward Councillors Sleigh and Rolf will attend that meeting.

The Parish Council had now received a revised application in on Ashtree Grove and would be considering that further in due course.

Cllr Cook noted that Oak Farm had recently been approved but it was understood that various issues were raised and therefore a watching brief will be maintained on that application.

The chair noted that whilst not in our Parish, it should be noted that the outcome of the Chestnuts Farm appeal had now been received with 5 appeals being considered separately. Further information regarding the outcome of those appeals is located within the attached report pack with parts being allowed and others dismissed. The farm has a period in which to comply with the appeal outcomes.

26/62 FEEDBACK FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

Cllr Green reported that the Neighbourhood Plan comprises three elements: the draft Neighbourhood Plan, the Basic Conditions Statement, and the Consultative Statement. He advised that Solihull Council has now formally accepted both the Consultative Statement and the Basic Conditions, and the next step is to finalise the draft Neighbourhood Plan. A watching brief will be maintained to gather any further information before the Neighbourhood Plan is submitted.

26/63 FEEDBACK FROM THE GREENER HAMPTON AND CATNEY WORKING GROUP

The group had nothing to report at present. Jane Humprey's had organised a successful visit to Sherborne Recycling Centre with several residents attending that visit. Juliet Main is in the process of arranging meetings with parish organisations and further updates will be available at the next Parish Council meeting.

The chair thanked both Jane and Juliet for all their hard work in this working group.

26/64 PARISH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES – THE GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST

The chair noted that the Parish Council appoints 3 representatives to The George Fentham Trust. In recent times Greg Lakin had resigned from that position and more recently he had also resigned from his position as both Vice-Chair and Trustee. The Trust are therefore advertising for two vacant positions. The Parish Council have requested sight of any applicants, prior to interviews taking place.

26/65 SOLIHULL COUNCIL STREETCARE – UPDATE TO MEMBERS

The chair wished to update members that Solihull MBC's streetcare department have notified the clerk that pavement sweeps will now take place on a "request only basis". This system relies on residents notifying Solihull MBC who will then undertake an inspection before agreeing whether to undertake the sweep.

26/66 ROAD CLOSURES (SOLIHULL ROAD AND CATHERINE DE BARNES

LANE)
Both Solihull Road and Catherine de Barnes Lane will close from 22 September 2025 until 23 January 2026 to enable remedial works to the steel bridge to be undertaken. The Parish Council understands that Solihull Road will reopen over the Festive Period but no clarification on the exact dates has been provided.

The Parish Council have raised residents' concerns over this closure directly with National Highways.

26/67 CCTV – THE CORNER SHOP
The chair noted that quotes in the region of £4,000 had now been obtained and confirmation of authority to proceed offered by the owner of the Corner Shop and its tenant. Members were reminded that a decision on whether to proceed had not yet been agreed and **it was therefore proposed by Cllr Clayson to proceed with the installation of CCTV in this vicinity. Cllr Reid seconded this proposal with all members being in favour.**

Cllrs Clayson and Reid will now proceed to draft a formal application to the CIL Committee for funding. **AC/PR**

26/68 REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PLANNING
Cllr Sandells was not present at the meeting. The clerk will follow up with him about the necessary road closure paperwork. The clerk confirmed that a PA system had been hired for the event and Central Fast Response booked to attend to support.

The clerk would arrange for the Tommy to be erected, contact marshals, arrange for road closure signs to go out and organise village organisation wreaths. **DS/Clerk**

26/69 HAMPTON IN ARDEN SOCIETY'S SHOWCASE EVENT
The chair confirmed that the Parish Council would be hosting a table at the upcoming Showcase Event. The chair confirmed he would be in attendance alongside Cllrs Clayson, Blanch and Reid.

The chair confirmed that a representative from the Greener Hampton & Catney Working Group would also be present.

26/70 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS
Cllr Waring reported on a recent Public Rights of Way meeting with Paul Tovey of Highways, Solihull MBC. Discussions included the condition and replacement costs of boardwalks, with some concern expressed about the way forward. It was noted that the Packhorse Bridge is weakened on both sides, and that an attractive stone rebuild could be a potential option for the future.

Cllr Cook confirmed that the next meeting with Skanska would take place on 06/10/2025.

26/71 FINANCE
The clerk referred members to the financial report circulated in advance.

Payments for the last 2 months were authorised by the Chairman in accordance with the Parish Council's Financial Regulations.

Members received the outcome of the Audit undertaken by Moore UK with a copy

of the external auditor's report contained within the attached report pack. The Notice of Conclusion of the Audit has been posted on our website.

The quarterly accounts and payments for 5 months ending 31 August were accepted as **proposed by Cllr Waring seconded by Cllr Cook** with all members being in favour.

26/72 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting: 19 November 2025

MEETING CLOSED AT. 8:20pm.

Clerk to the Hampton in Arden Parish Council