

HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Held at: The Parish Office, Meeting Rooms, Marsh Lane, B92 0AH

On: Wednesday 7 January 2026

Start: 7:30pm

End: 9:38pm.

PRESENT

Councillors

Cllr Tim Beresford (Chairman)
Cllr Giles Cook (Vice Chairman)
Cllr Peter Green
Cllr John Eccleston
Cllr Piers Reid
Cllr Roger Waring
Cllr Alexander Clayson
Cllr D Cuthbert
Cllr D Sandells
Cllr K Blanch
Cllr John Ainsworth

Clerk

Mrs Julie Barnes

Public

4 Members of the Public.

NO.

ACTION

26/101 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Cat Sellars.

26/102 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.

26/103 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

An additional query was raised over whether Public Participation can only happen at item 3. The Chair confirmed that was the public's scheduled opportunity to speak but at the Chairman's discretion during other times.

26/104 BUDGET CONSIDERATION AND APPROVAL

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 Waring with all members in favour.**

Clerk

26/105 MINUTE OF THE LAST PASISH COUNCIL MEETING

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

26/106 MATTERS ARISING

26/80 Typo listed in title.

Clerk

26/80 Marsh Lane Parking Group have met with various representatives, a copy of the report following that meeting is in the attached report pack.

26/89 Sports Club – Footpath realignment. This matter is ongoing. The chair is due to meet with the Sports Club again next week to discuss the program of works in more detail.

TB

26/90 TRO Catherine de Barnes. Cllr Cuthbert requested the clerk follow this up.

Clerk

26/92 Village Signage. Ongoing discussions with London Northwestern.

Clerk

26/94 Emergency Planning – the Parish Council has expressed a desire to assist where it can. Further information is awaited from Solihull MBC

26/107 POLICY APPROVALS

Members were asked to consider the policies provided in advance with a recommendation that they be formally adopted:

Public Participation Policy

Website Accessibility Statement

Code of Practice in Handling Complaints; and

Model Publication Scheme

The above policies and schemes were **accepted as proposed by Cllr Sandells, seconded by Cllr Clayson with all members in favour.**

26/108 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

The chair referred to the Maintenance Committee Minutes circulated in advance.

A discussion took place regarding the proposed works required in the Spinney with the Chairman confirming that a second opinion was being sought considering the sum quoted. Cllr Ainsworth provided guidance on the type of work required and some discussion took place over the best course of action.

The Chairman will provide a further update when he is receipt of a second opinion.

TB

26/109 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Cllr Blanch referred members to his report circulated in advance, noting in particular:

Fentham Road: Both ends of Fentham Road require remedial work. Solihull MBC has been notified. Follow up is required regarding the implementation of the double yellow lines scheduled to go live on 12/01.

Diddington Lane Realignment: Clarification requested on what works are planned for the Diddington Lane realignment and the expected start date.

Flooding Concerns Diddington Lane: Ongoing flooding issues at the end of Diddington Lane were raised. Further clarification needed on the impact to Meriden Road during any closure of Diddington Lane.

Bus Services: Bus services remain a concern, as several routes will be affected by the proposed closure of Meriden Road.

HS2 Footpath Obligation: Cllr Waring queried whether HS2 will meet its obligation to keep the footpath open during the closure works on Meriden Road.

Cllr Blanch advised that a raised embankment will be required due to potential flooding in that section.

Shadowbrook Lane: Now that Skanska are nearing completion of the project the Parish Council need to seek an update from Solihull MBC as to when Shadowbrook Lane will be repaired.

Build Out – Catherine de Barnes. The Parish Council have been alerted to a third serious accident at this location and therefore would seek an update from Solihull MBC at their next meeting with them.

All the above issues will be raised at the next quarterly meeting with Paul Tovey of Solihull MBC Highways Department **Clerk**

26/110 FEEDBACK FROM THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTWAY REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Waring referred to his report circulated in advance, highlighting:

The Packhorse Boardwalk has been repaired to an excellent standard. Thanks were extended to Solihull MBC for undertaking the repair works. It was also noted that the Solihull MBC has cut back the overhanging vegetation along the boardwalk also.

Ownership of Footpath M117 is split between various owners. The path is unadopted. Solihull Council maintains the surface of the path but will not install street lighting or other infrastructure.

A discussion was had regarding overhanging vegetation affecting M117 and how best to deal with it noting that it was evident that some owners were not aware of their responsibilities.

It was noted that the owner responsible for the gated section of the path leading onto The Crescent had confirmed that he would arrange for its repair.

It was subsequently proposed by Cllr Green to write to the relevant owners of the footpath notifying them of their responsibility to main. This was seconded by Cllr Reid with all members in favour. **RW**

A discussion was also held regarding a further gate located at the rear of 32 Hampton Green. It was agreed that this gate should be removed **it was therefore proposed by Cllr Cuthbert to send this request to Solihull MBC. This was seconded by Cllr Green with all in favour.** **RW**

A brief discussion was also held regarding SL7A from Friday Lane to the Canal. A gate and finger post had recently been removed. A request was sent to Solihull MBC on 26/11 seeking reinstatement of the same.

26/113 FEEDBACK FROM CIL COMMITTEE

Cllr Green referred to his report circulated in advance.

No questions were raised.

26/114 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

The clerk confirmed in Cllr Sellars absence that deadlines for articles were due by no later than 23/01/2026. The clerk highlighted the proposed articles.

ALL

26/115 FEEDBACK FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Cuthbert referred to the running reports and planning committee minutes circulated in advance highlighting:

01572: 130 dwellings off Lapwing. Not yet listed for Committee. Continue to maintain a watching brief.

The Parish Council are aware of what appears to be unauthorised works to create a carpark at Barston Lakes. The lakes do not fall under the Parish Council's remit, but we have notified Planning Enforcement and notified Barston Parish Council.

26/116 FEEDBACK FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

The consultation period closed on 19 December.

An application has been made to the Neighbourhood Planning Independent Examiner Referral Service who will now review the plan and provide recommendations to an appointed inspector. These recommendations will then be considered and discussed by Solihull MBC.

It was noted that there was a low response from residents, however statutory consultees did submit responses.

26/117 FEEDBACK FROM THE GREENER HAMPTON AND CATNEY WORKING GROUP

An update had been provided by Jane Humphrey's and included in the attached report pack. No requests were required for council approval.

26/118 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

Members were referred to the report pack for further information regarding the following two meetings that took place:

Padel Courts – Meeting with Sports Club representatives; and
Hampton in Arden Parking Group.

A discussion also took place regarding what is thought will be the final meeting with Skanska on 19/01/2026. Cllr Ainsworth made enquiries regarding the footpaths. Cllr Cook confirmed he would find out the position at the next meeting.

26/119 FINANCE

The clerk referred members to the financial report circulated in advance.

Payments for the last 9 months were authorised by the Chairman in accordance with the Parish Council's Financial Regulations.

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

Members considered and approved the up-to-date CIL fund running report.

26/120 TO RESOLVE – CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the press and public be temporarily excluded from the meeting under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. A discussion took place confidential in nature. Councillors were provided with authority to proceed.

The press and public were permitted to be readmitted to the meeting. No residents wished to come back to the meeting for its conclusion.

26/121 DATES OF NEXT MEETING

Parish Council Meeting: 18 March 2026 in Catherine de Barnes Village Hall

MEETING CLOSED AT 9:38pm.



Clerk to the Hampton in Arden Parish Council