

**HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**7:30pm on 04 February 2026**

**PRESENT**

**Cllr T Beresford (Committee Chair)**  
**Cllr J Eccleston**  
**Cllr R Waring**  
**Rvd. S Dimes**

**Clerk: Julie Barnes**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**ACTIONS**

**26/28 TO CONSIDER AND RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Mr D Adams, Mr G Holway and Cllr P Reid. Cllr Sandells was not in attendance.

**26/29 TO CONSIDER MINUTES TAKEN FROM 15 OCTOBER 2025**

The Minutes were **approved** by **Cllr Eccleston** as **proposed Cllr Beresford**, **seconded** with **all in favour**.

**26/30 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING**

25/30 Village Signage – ongoing due to difficulties in liaising with West Midlands Railway. **Clerk**

25/31 Paving Slabs outside Sports Club – matter closed due to anticipated infill extension works.

25/34 – Culvert – Marsh Lane. Chase up as not yet jetted. **Clerk**

26/09 – Boules Pitch Lighting – Cllr Eccleston confirmed that the club are looking into what they can do to soften the lighting in that area.

26/10 – Community Allotments. Matter closed due to the costs of installing a new water supply at Fentham Community Allotments.

**26/31 THE COMMON AND THE DELL, CATHERINE DE BARNES**

Cllr Eccleston confirmed that all is in order and in good condition. Bridge/wire covering is secure and providing adequate protection.

**26/32 HAMPTON IN ARDEN CHURCHYARD**

Rvd Dimes noted that overhanging vegetation is scheduled to be cut back. Graves and pathways will be tidied and cleared of moss.

**26/33 STATION IMPROVEMENTS, VILLAGE SIGNAGE AND PLANTER MAINTENANCE**

Rvd Dimes confirmed that the gardening club will continue to maintain the planters. Water supply remains an issue at the Train Station with a request

that the Parish Council enquire whether a water supply can be provided to allow planters to be watered, or if an alternative solution is available. It was noted that the ticket office had refused to provide water when asked.

Clerk

**26/34 RECREATIONAL GROUND, SPINNEY, AND VILLAGE GREEN**

A report was provided in Graham Holway's absence confirming that the Sports Club continues to await the outcome of the planning application for the installation of padel courts. Further responses are also awaited from Solihull MBC regarding a proposed small infill extension to the Sports Club building.

All hedges have been cut and are well maintained, with no other issues to report.

**Spinney:** The chair noted that a couple of trees have come down. Dawsons Groundcare have cleared away all fallen debris. Several trees were heavily covered in ivy, which has also been addressed. There is some concern that ivy growth over trees may cause issues, this will be discussed further with Dawsons Groundcare to explore how they can assist.

**Village Green:** A couple of branches have come down. Dawsons Groundcare are in the process of clearing them.

Quotes for Christmas lights are awaited from David Lusty of Ebner Consultants.

**26/35 SCOUT & GUIDE HUT**

Nothing to report.

The chair requested that the clerk seek an update from the Scout & Guide Supporters Association in Hampton in Arden prior to the next Committee meeting.

Clerk

**26/36 CONSERVATION GROUP**

The Conservation Group Arm that is led by Michael Abbott has requested £356 from the Maintenance Budget to complete the hedging works at The Spinney. It was noted that the works are approximately 40 metres short of completion and that this funding would allow the project to be finished.

**All committee members present agreed** and happy to proceed. The request will be confirmed, the order placed, and an email of thanks sent to the Conservation Group.

Clerk

**26/37 FENTHAM ROAD AND EASTCOTE LANE COMMUNITY ALLOTMENTS**

**Allotments:** No issues were reported with plots, all are let and well maintained. Inspections will continue throughout the growing season.

**Water Supply:** Fentham Road users have expressed concern about the lack of water supply at the site and have requested assurances that the bowser will

be topped up on weekdays during the summer months. The chair will remind the School Caretaker to ensure this is managed. It was also noted that the Parish Council had purchased a hose for plot holders to use. **TB**

**26/38 SCHOOL FIELD AND PLAY AREAS**

**Inspection and Repairs:** Details of the recent inspection have been shared with Trevor Honeysett, who will begin the necessary repair works.

**Goal Posts:** The goal posts have been installed on the School Field and are well used. It was noted that no funding has yet been received from the Festival Committee. The chair will chase this up. **TB**

**26/39 ROADS AND FOOTPATHS**

Cllr Waring provided the following updates:

**M117 – The Crescent to Corbetts Close:**

- The gate has been repaired and is back in action.
- Letters have been sent to the relevant landowners, as expected, many were unaware they owned the land.
- The other gate on M117, located halfway down from the back of Hampton Green, is now redundant. Removal will be discussed with the landowner. **RW**

**Changing Stiles to Gates:**

- Some responses have been received, and all those who responded are happy for the changes to be made. Dawsons Groundcare will commence works shortly.

**M42 Works – Junction 6A:**

- A site tour was conducted to review all areas affected by re-routed footpaths. Significant work has been completed, including waymarking.
- A couple of kissing gates have been installed, including one off Shadowbrook Lane. Skanska are coordinating well with Cllr Waring and Cllr Ainsworth.

**Solihull MBC**

- Cllr Waring continues to liaise effectively with Alison Lonnon of Solihull Council.

**Catherine de Barnes Roundabout – Footpath M122:**

- A new way marker has been installed along the footpath, which would be a lovely avenue if lined with daffodils. The clerk confirmed that in the past, mixed bulbs have been donated by nearby garden centres.

**Blocked Gullies:**

- Bellemere Road gullies remain blocked. The matter will be chased up and timescales will be raised at the next discussion with Dean Ward of Solihull MBC Highways. **Clerk**

**26/40 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The chair provided an update regarding:

**Storage Container at the Recreational Ground:**

A storage container is required to house equipment belonging to the Conservation Group, and it was agreed to wait until the ground is drier and to align the installation with the padel courts. Dawsons Groundcare have quoted £1,400 plus VAT for preparing the ground and siting the container, with a 20ft container quoted at £1,600 plus VAT, giving a total cost of approximately £3,000. Given its size, the container could also serve as a Parish Council store for cones, barriers, and other equipment. The Committee agreed that a CIL application should be submitted to fund it. The installation and base preparation will coincide with the padel court works, expected around May.

Clerk

**Tree Report Frequency:**

Following recent tree losses, the Chair met with Midland Forestry who have recommended that tree reports be conducted every 3 years instead of 5, and at different times of the year. The suggestion is to schedule the next report in October, with a subsequent one in March, creating three and a half year intervals.

**The Committee agreed.** While this will incur additional cost, it will reduce risk. **Recommendation to proceed will be taken to full council.**

Clerk

**Broadwalk – Berkswell:**

Cllr Waring is in contact regarding the state of the Packhorse Broadwalk, which has now been replaced and repaired. Some branches still require attention, which Cllr Waring will investigate.

RW

**26/41 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
10 June 2026

Meeting finished at 8:12pm



Mrs Julie Barnes  
Clerk & Financial Officer  
Hampton in Arden Parish Council