

HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES

Held at: Catherine de Barnes Village Hall at 7:30pm.

Start: 7:30pm

End: 9:02pm

PRESENT	Councillors	Cllr Tim Beresford (Chairman) Cllr Giles Cook (Vice Chairman) Cllr Peter Green Cllr Piers Reid Cllr Roger Waring Cllr Alexander Clayson Cllr D Cuthbert Cllr D Sandells Cllr John Ainsworth Cllr Cat Sellars
	Clerk	Mrs Julie Barnes
	Public	7 Members of the Public.

NO.		ACTION
26/122	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Cllrs Ken Blanch and Cllr John Eccleston.	
26/123	STANDING DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John Eccleston: President of Sports Club.• Dave Cuthbert: chair of the Catherine de Barnes Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.	
26/124	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION None.	
26/125	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 Green with all members being in favour.	
26/126	MATTERS ARISING 26/106: Village Signage. The clerk is continuing to liaise with the Train Company regarding installation of the same.	Clerk
26/127	CLERK'S REPORT Members noted the clerk's report. No actions arising.	
26/128	FEEDBACK FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE	

The chair referred members to the Committee's Minutes circulated in advance noting in particular several fallen trees in the parish resulting in a meeting with Midlands Forestry who had confirmed that the tree report should be undertaken more frequently. **Cllr Beresford recommended** that the Parish Council commissions a tree report every 3 years instead of 5 at intervals (October /March). This was **seconded by Cllr Reid with all members in favour.**

The Chair and Vice Chair met recently with Oliver Monk, Head of the Drainage department at Solihull Council, regarding ongoing drainage issues within the Parish. Gullies and drainage issues have subsequently been rectified with some ongoing issues on Marsh Lane and in Catherine de Barnes which the drainage department are aware of and investigating.

Cllr Ainsworth highlighted a blocked culvert on Henwood Lane noting that he has liaised with Solihull Council who have agreed to pressure treat the area and liaise with landowners over blockages that sit within their land.

26/129 FEEDBACK FROM THE MAJOR INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Cllr Blanch was not present at the meeting but had submitted a report in advance. Several queries were raised over the report:

Cllr Green highlighted concern over the dual traffic signals at Patricks Farm and the need for better signage. The clerk confirmed that the Parish Council had already liaised with Hs2 over this and the matter was in hand.

The clerk was requested to see clarification on whether there will be any more road closures along Meriden Road.

Clerk

It was noted that the proposed radius tightening at Diddington Lane is now understood unlikely to proceed. However, the Parish Council had not received formal confirmation of this position. It was agreed that clarification should be sought.

Clerk

A discussion was held over the type of speed cushions being proposed and a need highlighted for the Parish Council to be involved any decisions made.

It was noted that Cllr Blanch's report referred to double yellow lines being installed on the High Street opposite Butchers Road. It was highlighted however that this information is incorrect.

26/130 FEEDBACK FROM THE RIGHTS OF WAY AND FOOTWAY REPRESENTATIVE

Cllr Waring referred to his report circulated in advance noting that both himself and Cllr Ainsworth had recently undertaken a comprehensive review of footpaths within the Parish together with recommendations for improvements.

A discussion was held regarding Cllr Waring's next steps in relation to the replacement of stiles project being undertaken by the Parish Council. It was noted that the Motorcycle Museum were not in agreement with stiles being removed on their land and following discussion with members it was therefore agreed to offer minimal clearance of overhanging vegetation to be undertaken to ensure safe passage whilst reminding them that it is their responsibility to manage and maintain going forward.

RW

26/131 FEEDBACK FROM CIL COMMITTEE

Cllr Green referred to his report circulated in advance noting that the Committee had recently approved funding for a new storage container to be installed for Conservation and Parish Council use on the Recreational Ground.

Cllr Reid confirmed he is investigating maintenance figures for the CCTV project and hopes to be able to provide that information to the Committee shortly.

PR**26/132 FEEDBACK FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

A copy of the Communications Committee minutes had been circulated to members in advance with no further actions required at this stage.

It was proposed to postpone the May newsletter to June to allow for any information arising from the Parish Council's AGM to be included within it. All members agreed.

26/133 FEEDBACK FROM THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

Cllr Cuthbert referred to both the Committee minutes and running report circulated to members in advance, noting in particular:

01572 Land off Old Station Road: application decision remains outstanding. Highways have raised various queries.

00164 Heath Farm: appealed for non-determination with the appeal being turned down.

Latest news on Oak Farm is the reserved matters planning application has been quashed by Judicial Review. The Committee await sight of the full judgement.

The Solihull Council Consultation for the Local Plan has been completed. The Parish Council now await sight of further documentation.

Cllr Reid enquired what the deadline was for reinstatement of Chestnuts Farm noting that it had not yet been returned to Green Belt. Cllr Cuthbert confirmed he would investigate.

DC**26/134 FEEDBACK FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP**

Cllr Green referred to the report circulated in advance noting that the consultation ended on 19 December and that following that the Inspector has been in touch to raise some initial queries.

The working group will be convened to look at the issues and will report further in due course.

26/135 FEEDBACK FROM THE GREENER HAMPTON AND CATNEY WORKING GROUP

Members were referred to the update from the Working Group in the attached report pack. Members were not required to approve any actions at this stage.

The clerk was asked to investigate the up-to-date position regarding EV chargers being installed within the Parish.

Clerk**26/136 TO PREPARE FOR THE ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING IN APRIL 2026**

The Annual Village Meeting will take place in Fentham Hall on 28 April 2026. Flyers will be delivered to residents in advance along with the information being posted on our website and Facebook account.

A discussion was held regarding the deadline for articles to be submitted to the clerk with an agreement being reached that members should provide their articles by no later than Friday 10 April

ALL

26/137 DIDDINGTON LANE – TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED POSITIONING OF SPEED CUSHIONS

Members noted correspondence received from residents of Diddington Lane following their discussions with Highways regarding the positioning of speed cushions. A copy of the proposed positioning map had been circulated within the report pack.

It was agreed that further discussions with Highways were required before any decision could be made.

Clerk

26/138 TO NOTE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REGARDING FLY TIPPING

Members noted correspondence regarding an increase in fly tipping within the Parish. The Parish Council continues to monitor and report issues to Streetcare at Solihull Council.

It was agreed to include an article in the next Newsletter reminding landowners that fly tipping on private property is the responsibility of the landowner. Cllr Ainsworth confirmed he would prepare an article for consideration.

JA

26/139 TO CONSIDER CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED REGARDING FULL FIBRE BROADBAND IN HAMPTON IN ARDEN

Members noted correspondence regarding broadband in the village. It was clarified that the Parish Council had not stalled or declined any requests, contrary to the email received.

Discussion took place regarding different types of connections and ways the Parish Council can assist. The Community Fibre Partnership, including a petition and online form, was also considered.

It was agreed to write to Openreach requesting notification of their plans for the village of Hampton in Arden. It was also **proposed by Cllr Reid** that the Parish Council should run a petition online and at the Annual Parish Meeting to better highlight demand in the area. **This was seconded by Cllr Clayson with all members in favour.**

Clerk

26/140 TO RESPOND TO AN OFFER BY THE HISTORY SOCIETY TO DIGITISE OLD MINUTES FOR A DONATION OF £250.

Members were asked to consider an offer made by the History Society to digitise old Parish Council minutes for a donation of £250. **It was proposed to accept the offer by Cllr Sellars, seconded by Cllr Cuthbert with all members in favour.**

Clerk

26/141 TO CONSIDER THE ENGLISH DEVOLUTION & COMMUNITIES BILL AND CONSIDER WHETHER THE PARISH COUNCIL WISH TO WRITE TO MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

Members were referred to an email of 18 February in which a copy of the Bill had been provided to them all. It was noted that WALC were encouraging councils to respond and had provided a template letter for onward transmission.

It was proposed by Cllr Cuthbert to submit a letter to our MP Saqib Bhatti MBE. This was seconded by Cllr Sandells with all members being in favour. Clerk

26/142 TO CONSIDER THE CIVILITY AND RESPECT PLEDGE AND CONSIDER WHETHER TO SIGN UP ACCORDINGLY:

A copy of the pledge had been provided to members by email on 18 February. Members were asked whether they would wish to sign up to the pledge.

Members felt that the Standing Orders provided a clear position that Councillors worked to, and it was **proposed** not to sign up to the pledge **by the Chairman**, this was **seconded by Cllr Clayson with all members in favour.**

26/143 HAMPTON IN ARDEN SPORTS CLUB

Members noted that the Sports Club have now applied for a licence for events but agreed that, as Landlord, the Sports Club should continue to notify the Parish Council of any events it intends to hold particularly until midnight. The clerk will write to the Sports Club accordingly.

Clerk

Members noted that Sports Club Planning Application had been approved for a small infill extension to the Sports Club and agreed with the proposals for the same. The clerk is making enquiries with the Sports Club as to when these intended works will proceed.

A discussion was held regarding the programme of works for the installation of padel courts at the Recreational Ground. The Sports Club wish to commence on or around 6/04/2026. A discussion was held regarding the programme of works with members agreeing that the programme can go ahead as proposed. **This was proposed by the Chairman and seconded by Cllr Reid with all members in favour.** The clerk will write to the Sports Club accordingly.

Clerk

26/144 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

Members were referred to the report pack circulated in advance that provided members with a list of meetings recently attended by members together with any reports prepared following those meetings.

In addition:

On 13/01/2026 Cllr Cook, Cllr Cuthbert and Cllr Ainsworth had attended the Solihull Area Meeting with a briefing from Paul Johnson the Chief Executive for Solihull Council.

Cllr Cook confirmed that a meeting had taken place with Skanska with several snagging issues still present meaning further meetings will take place until all issues are resolved.

The chairman noted once again the meeting that had been held with Oliver Monk referred to in minute 26/128 above.

Cllr Ainsworth also confirmed he had attended a Public Rights of Way Meeting with Solihull Council.

26/145 FINANCE

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

Payments for the last 11 months were authorised by the Chairman in accordance with the Parish Council's Financial Regulations.

The quarterly accounts and payments for 11 months ending 28 February were accepted as **proposed by Cllr Cuthbert seconded by Cllr Waring** with all members being in favour.

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

26/146 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 28 April Annual Village Meeting held in Fentham Hall

Wednesday 13 May Annual General Meeting Parish Council Meeting Room

MEETING CLOSED AT 9:02pm.



Clerk to the Hampton in Arden Parish Council