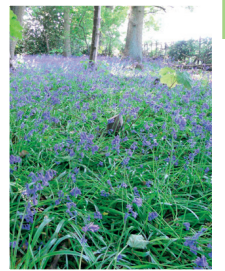


Parish News - Spring 2013

HELLO AGAIN

Well, Spring has arrived at long last to be followed by the heady days of Summer we all hope we can look forward to! Apart from significant news on a number of important fronts, including both HS2 and our Neighbourhood Plan, there is some more positive news on Birmingham Airport's proposed airspace changes in relation to the runway extension (See separate item); with Summer in mind, do make a diary note of the dates of the Hampton Festival (Saturday and Sunday 1 and 2 June 2013); details, also, in a separate item – and how about getting fit for the warmer days to come by visiting, and using, the outdoor gym equipment located in the Village Recreation Ground? Do please read on...



HIGH SPEED RAIL – AN UPDATE

The current position is:

- Detailed plans are being announced for the Berkswell/Balsall Common to Hampton route and the new interchange station behind Stonebridge
- A sizeable office/work camp is planned to be sited between the Stonebridge and Meriden Road roundabouts
- Further discussions are pressed for to mitigate the effect on the nearby 'Island Project School'
- We are also, in our discussions with HS2, insisting that works traffic should not be allowed to go through the village
- It is clear that Meriden Road would be diverted behind Diddington Lane which would, itself, be closed to through traffic
- A45 and Kenilworth Road: major disruption for some years should the scheme be approved by Parliament in 2015
- Consultation Process – to be re-run by the Government (mid 2013); here, the Parish Council is pressing for full and fair (**no loss**) compensation
- HS2 exhibition/consultation – Wednesday 5 June 2013 (to be confirmed)

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Our application to Solihull Council to be designated a 'Neighbourhood Area' has been deferred by them; this is while they consider the position of Catherine-de-Barnes, part of which is within our Parish boundary and an integral part of Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council.

We now hope to hear from them on 13 June after further discussion. Aims / process (of the Plan within the 'Neighbourhood Area')

- To update our published 2010 plan (to extend the changes that

have, and are expected to take place)

- This will be a lengthy process and will involve full consultation with all residents, community groups, farmers and businesses
- There will be surveys and public meetings
- A draft final plan will emerge for approval in a **local referendum**.

As the Plan is so important in the development of the village and its environs, over the next 13 years or so, we encourage you all to participate in the consultation process.

BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT – Airspace Change – Runway 15, departures

As a result of the numerous concerns voiced by many local organizations and individuals (eg your Parish Council, Hampton Society, Caroline Spelman, MP and others) the consultation process has been extended to Friday 17th May 2013. This will give you a further opportunity to send your comments/concerns to the Airport if you haven't already done so:

- Via e-mail to: airspace@birminghamairport.co.uk
- In writing to Airspace Change Process (Runway 15), Birmingham Airport, Diamond House, Birmingham B26 3QJ

The Chief Executive Officer of the Airport, **Mr. Paul Kehoe**, has stated that "following a recent review, the procedure designers have developed a further design to enable the development of a new option which more closely, but not precisely, replicates the procedures from the existing runway" (ie runway 15)

We await further news but, meanwhile, a heartfelt thanks to all those organizations and individuals who have contributed to this 'change of approach which will now be considered by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)

SPEEDWATCH

Due to ill health several volunteers are no longer able to help in this essential Village activity – consequently the number of sessions has had to be reduced.

Although we are hoping to have the services of a uniformed police officer, we are still -

- **In urgent need of younger volunteers**

Sessions can be arranged to suit the availability of participants (perhaps at weekends)

Please do contact our Parish Office if you are able to help – training will be given. **THANKYOU!**

Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

FRESH AIR EQUIPMENT AND THE 'SKYLARK'

Last Easter Saturday morning the PTA, the Parish Council, many of the youth of the village merged forces and put on a fun packed event; both the Fresh Air equipment and the 'Skylark' bus were officially opened by Solihull Mayor, Councillor Ken Hawkins accompanied by the Mayoress of Solihull, Mrs. Janet Hawkins – a very big thank you to them and to;

- All those who helped on the day, including the many good people who donated those scrumptious cakes

A grand total sum of £440 was raised which has been equally divided between The PTA (towards their 'Project Playground') and to the 'Skylark' bus upkeep fund **WOW!**



HEAVY GOODS TRAFFIC - a village survey

Some weeks ago, Solihull Borough Council carried out a 12 hour survey of heavy goods traffic passing through the village:

- 100 heavy goods vehicles were counted which represented 1.7 % of the total traffic throughput for this time period

The accepted norm for the flow of heavy goods vehicles is 2%

A meeting was held by the Parish Council with certain quarry operators

in the area of Cornetts End Lane; the outcome was extremely positive and they have agreed to monitor the flow of such traffic more closely with the aim of reducing its flow through the village.

SMBC Highways safety officers have agreed to place notices at both the Catherine-de-Barnes and Meriden roundabouts informing heavy goods vehicle drivers that they should not be using our village roads.

Our aim is to make our roads safer – we shall, of course, continue to keep you updated.

CHURCHYARD WALL REPAIRS

These repairs are taking a frustratingly long time to arrange and effect and the following is a summarized progress report from the Churchwarden, David Colman, relating to the main reasons for the delay, eg:

- Time in obtaining detailed quotations,
- Discussions with the Church Architect and loss adjusters,
- Arrangements for road control

when the repairs will be carried out, ● The 'frost full' winter,

- Archaeological factors on this consecrated ground

David has said "I hope we shall be well on our way to having the wall repaired very soon and, meanwhile thank you for your patience" **Thank you David and to all at the Church.**

HAMPTON FESTIVAL - SATURDAY AND SUNDAY 1 AND 2 JUNE 2013

Please put these dates in your diary when the following fun events will be taking place on the Village Recreation Ground:

- **Saturday 1 June** - Village Fete from 11am to 2pm with all the usual stalls, including, WI sale of tea and cakes in the Scout Hut, 'Skylark' bus activities, 'Proms in the Park' style Concert commencing at approx. 7pm, Bring your own picnic (from 6pm in readiness for the start of the Concert)

Tickets on sale prior to the event – buy early in order to avoid

the disappointments of last year!

- **Sunday 2 June** - Open air Church Service at 11am, followed by, The 'Big Lunch' – bring your own picnic and let us all lunch together

Finally, there will be a bar open all weekend in the Sports Club, and another Scarecrow Competition (this year's theme: 'Panto characters, so get constructing – points and prizes will be given) An absolute must for your diary!

VILLAGE INFORMATION POINT – old telephone box

Our iconic telephone box is, of course, being used as a useful information point and contains:

- Leaflets of interest (places to visit, local walks),
- Copies of the Parish Newsletter,
- As well as other village publications

Please do pop in to take a look and take away what interests you – we would also welcome any feedback on its current and future use as well as your ideas on any improvements which could enhance this service.

LOCAL TRANSPORT (including Taxi Bus)

CENTRO services – many villagers will be pleased with the following update on local bus services:

- Centro propose a new service (**88**) from Solihull Rail Station through Knowle and Chadwick End to Balsall Common
- The **82** will become the **88** at Solihull Train Station (so it will be possible to travel from Hampton to Knowle or Balsall Common without alighting from the bus – journey time: 30 minutes)

- It is proposed to replace the former **82A** with additional services, over the full route at peak times

TAXI BUS – (number to book 0121 782 9322). Available for anyone to use and can be booked from one week before trip to the same day (mainly to Solihull, with one fixed trip to Knowle on Friday at 10.15 am, returning at 12.45 pm)

E. MAIL - URGENT COMMUNICATION WITH VILLAGERS

It has become evident that it is sometimes necessary to communicate with Villagers urgently, as was the case with the last Birmingham Airport Roadshow.

If you would like the Parish Council to hold your e.mail address for such occasions please e.mail clerk@hamptoninarden.org.uk requesting your address to be added to our list.

SPEAK TO YOU IN THE SUMMER

Thank you to Councillors Gill Lewis, Mike Blomer, Clive Bowen (editor), Alison Rolf, John Doidge and Bonita Bryant – also, to David Colman (Churchwarden).