

Parish News - Spring 2014

HELLO AGAIN

With the village, and the surrounding countryside, looking absolutely splendid in their respective colourful spring coats, we have important news updates on the Water Mains Renewal (reference Severn Trent), HS2 and Birmingham Airport's flight path trials.

We hope that many of you are now moving towards completing your Book Character creations for the Hampton Festival Scarecrow Competition – and not relying on Mr. Micawber's philosophy of "something will turn up....." (Now there's a character for a scarecrow!) **READ ON**



NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The response to our recent questionnaire was encouraging with the following results:

- Residents 40%
- Business sector 25% (somewhat disappointing)

But our sincere thanks to everyone who sent in their forms.

Your responses, opinions and suggestions have now been carefully analysed and we have now begun the task of **redrafting the Plan** to take full account of the information given and views

expressed by you; this will now be followed by an extensive **six week consultation period** with the aim of raising awareness of this Neighbourhood Plan both locally and more widely. Following this consultation, the **Final Plan** will be prepared for submission to **Solihull Council** for their examination.

The results of both the residents and business surveys can be viewed on the Parish Council website on www.hamptoninarden.org.uk or by visiting the Parish Office in Marsh Lane – **THANK YOU AGAIN**

HIGH SPEED RAIL 2 – HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN

The Parish Council has now delivered its **Petition to the House of Commons Select Committee on which we are seeking resolution on the outstanding issues affecting our Village and Parish; our 17 issues, drawn up in co-operation with Solihull Council and Hampton Society, include:**

- viaduct design ● footpath diversions ● flood alleviation ● effect on local businesses
- location of spoil dumps and work camps ● alleviation of noise and visual impact on the landscape ● haulage routes
- protection of the local environment/wildlife ● alleviation of the impact on residents of Lapwing Drive, Old Station Road, Meriden Road and Diddington Lane ● closure of Diddington Lane to through traffic to the new Interchange Station.

The Petition is available to view on the Parish Council website www.hamptoninarden.org.uk. We understand that the House of Commons Select Committee will be meeting throughout this summer and autumn to hear Petitions.

BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT – airspace change trials (May-October 2014)

Birmingham Airport are now implementing these trials for alternative flight path routes 5 and 6, which will operate monthly alternating on the first day of each month, i.e:

- May, July and September 2014 Route 5
- June, August and October, 2014 Route 6

The Airport will gather three months data for each option assessing: - Noise impact, track keeping performance and the operational impact of each route.

To remind you – these trials are part of the Airport's current airspace change application to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)

which should give them both a greater insight to help them reach a more informed decision on the most appropriate option.

Further information – www.birminghamairport.co.uk link into 'about us, environment page trial' please address any comments/complaints to this website as it is almost impossible to do so by telephone.

Nb from Paul Kehoe Chief Executive Officer Birmingham Airport (April, 2014)

"It is important to be aware that this operational trial is part of our existing Airspace Change Proposal (ACP) application and is not subject to further consultation"

Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council

SOLIHULL NEIGHBOURHOODS IN BLOOM COMPETITION, 2014

Solihull Council are again running this competition, open to all, and much fun in which to take part; Prizes will be awarded for the best entries which will include how well the judges feel the entry engages with the local environment and, of course, its originality.

The competition is sponsored by both Notcutts Garden Centre and Greenthumb Lawn Treatment Services.

You will recall that, last year (2013); Hampton-in-Arden won the 'Best Village' Category! We will be entering in the same category this year but would encourage all of you to enter yourselves in

the various available categories:

● Closing date for entries: 6 June 2014 ● Judging: between 14th and 18th July 2014 ● Village clean up: Saturday 12 July 2014, 9.30am at the Parish Office ● Further details: www.solihull.gov.uk/solihullinbloom (apply on line) and/or 'phone Neighbourhood Rangers on 0121 704 6784 (e-mail: snibloom@solihull.gov.uk) telephone box or parish office have a number of entry forms – **IT IS NOT TOO LATE!**

Nb our High Street shops and the White Lion are entering the retail/ commercial frontages category – **should look good.....**

WATER MAINS RENEWAL (Severn Trent)

The assurances which your Parish Council were given at our last meeting with the sub contractors, Morgan Sindall, were not fulfilled – and they left the village without any notification of their position.

Part of Severn Trent recent statement:

“● We have 11 High Street properties to transfer to the new water main, and ● Specific connections to make in Marsh Lane.....

We need to review when and how we do works beyond this and have the right plan which will be implemented by one of

our other approved Contractors; we have met with a specialist contractor to review the reinstatement of verges in **Peel Close** (with a mid May 2014 deadline)

The Marsh Lane resurfacing planned for May 21st and 22nd is now postponed until after the water mains renewal work is complete later this summer”

We are reliably informed that all residents will be informed of the detail of these operations!

Finally, your Parish Council will do its utmost to get an undertaking for the remaining work to be completed in an orderly and timely manner.

PROPOSED RAILWAY EMBANKMENT TREE FELLING (Network Rail)

Following intense pressure from villagers, your Parish Council and Caroline Spelman, MP, this work was postponed in March in order to allow a thorough review of the effects of these proposals on the village environment.

The following meeting with Network Rail has been arranged to

discuss this issue (with Mrs. Spelman attending)

Friday 1 August 2014 at 1300 hours in the Parish Meeting Room, Marsh Lane, followed by a site visit; if you are affected, or concerned about the extent of these proposals, you are most welcome to attend.

SKYLARK YOUTH BUS

This is still proving to be a huge success – a great place to meet up with friends – and during the Summer months they are aiming to play team games and other seasonal activities outdoors; do come and join them where you will be met with a warm welcome.

● Location: Sports Ground car park, Shadowbrook Lane ● Day, times and age groups: Wednesday 6.30pm to 7.45pm - 8-11 year olds Wednesday 7.45pm to 9.00pm - 12 year olds plus | Saturday 11am to 1pm - all ages – parents too!

The Youth Bus organizers look forward to seeing you in the not too distant future GIVE IT A GO – JUST TURN UP AND ENJOY...

PEEL CLOSE – new homes for rent

Solihull Community Housing is currently building five new family homes for rent on the former lock-up garage site off Peel Close; they are due for completion towards the end of this year.

In all probability a 'local lettings policy' will apply to these tenancies whereby local people, who have a housing need, could be given preference. If you, or someone you know, might be eligible further information can be obtained from Solihull Community Housing on **0121 717 1515**.

It should be emphasized that, to be eligible, anyone wishing to apply for a tenancy must have a housing need as defined by Solihull Council's Housing Allocations Policy.

TELEPHONE BOX

A reminder to you all that the old BT iconic Telephone Box (now owned by the village) is now an information point containing useful information about the village and its surrounds.

Please check it out – and you can also pick up an entry form for the Solihull Neighbourhood in Bloom Competition from one of its racks.

WAR MEMORIAL

The stonemasons have identified the cause of the flaking of the Portland Stone mortar on parts of the monument, which they recently reconstructed.

They have now ordered slabs of Portland Stone which will be appropriately cut inserted and secured into the newly damaged areas; the chief stonemason, David Bellamy, has apologized for this situation and has planned to finish this work by the end of May 2014

SPEAK TO YOU IN THE SUMMER

Many thanks to all those Parish Councillors who contributed in their specialist areas (and to both Julie Richardson and Bonita Bryant) CFB editor....