

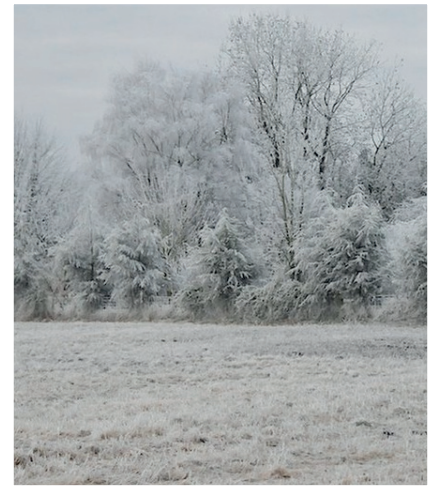
## Parish News - Winter 2015

### HELLO AGAIN

**In this winter edition we would draw your attention to some of the main news items – Birmingham Airport, Planning items, Network Rail, HS2 and Severn Trent plus of course the forthcoming Parish Council elections and the need for the village to put forward suitable candidates to serve as Parish Councillors for the next four years.**

The Newsletter will continue to update you, not only on these very important news items, but to keep you informed on other aspects of village life some of which are covered in this edition (e.g. The George Fentham Pensioners Club).

We look forward to speaking to you in May when there will be a new Parish Council in place; meanwhile, let us all look forward to enjoying a healthy and invigorating Spring in our beautiful Village.



### PROGRESS WITH OUR NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

**After taking into account both the opinions and suggestions, made at the October 2014 Public Meeting, the current position is:**

- The preparation of a draft plan seen, informally, by Planning Officers of Solihull Council
- The Plan is again being **redrafted** to take into account all these latest comments, and

- A '**pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan**' is now in progress which will form the basis of a final round of formal consultation with village residents, businesses and neighbouring Parish Councils and a number of Government Departments.

Finally, this revised Plan will be sent to Solihull Council for examination and for an eventual final decision to be made.

### HS2 – AN UPDATE

**Address to the HS2 Parliamentary Select Committee (December 2014)**

This was a joint address by your Parish Council and Hampton Society who both sought redress on such issues as:

- Viaduct design
- Flood risk on the River Blythe
- Work camps
- Spoil dumps
- Haulage routes
- Ecology and the environment

We expect to receive details of a **redesign of both the viaduct and embankment in March 2015.**

#### **Diddington Lane and Packington Estate**

As previously reported, Packington Estates are insisting the retention of through traffic along Diddington Lane; we were informed by the Select Committee that this was a

'highways matter' and would expect Solihull Council to take the lead on this contentious issue in negotiating an appropriate settlement.

*If there is amendment to the HS2 Bill, allowing Diddington Lane to remain open your Parish Council will vigorously oppose it!*

#### **Statement from the Chair of the Select Committee (15.01.15)**

"Hampton-in-Arden petitioners presented their case formidably and we are confident that their impressive abilities will contribute to reaching sensible outcomes with HS2 and Solihull Council... If there are unresolved problems they should feel free to inform us when we will give time to call them back"

*Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council*

## BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT - southerly take off flight path trials

**This is an update on the information reported to you in our Autumn 2014 Newsletter**

The Airspace Change Trial officially ended on 13 February 2015 and the two proposed new routes (Options 5 and 6) have now been trialed; as it is not possible to go back to routes in use before the extended runway opened, Birmingham Airport has decided to:

- Continue with **Option 6** until the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has made a final decision on the new take off route. Option 6 has been chosen to continue, as an initial review of the **noise data** is more favourable than with Option 5. **Option 6** is the route, which was originally consulted on in 2013 and has been fully Operational since 11 December 2014.

*Outline technical detail: with Option 6 aircraft make a 20 degree turn to the right (flying between Hampton and Catherine-de-Barnes) once they reach 2.2 miles or 4 Kilometers from the end of the extended runway; aircraft require a navigation system (RNAV) with a small number of aircraft having to fly flight path Option 5 as they are not equipped with this updated system.*

The decision of the Civil Aviation Authority is expected in September 2015 and, Meanwhile, your Parish Council will continue to represent villagers on both the Birmingham Airport Consultative Committee and the Airspace Trial Stakeholder Group.

**Further information:** [www.birminghamairport.co.uk/media/1643/acp-community-update-v.3.pdf](http://www.birminghamairport.co.uk/media/1643/acp-community-update-v.3.pdf)

## HAMPTON FESTIVAL – Saturday and Sunday 4th and 5th July 2015

### Saturday 4 July - day

- Village fete ● Vintage car rally ● Tea, cakes, hotdogs
- Children's fancy dress ● Sports activities
- Tennis Club final ● Hog roast ● all this as a start...

### Saturday 4 July - early evening and beyond

- Live music with Miles Goodworth (involving children)
- Later: music from the 1950's onwards

### Sunday 5 July

- Open air church service ● big lunch
- Scarecrow competition prizes

### Further information

- Via the enclosed leaflet
- [www.hamptoninardenfestival.com](http://www.hamptoninardenfestival.com)

Keep your diaries free and join in this exciting Hampton Village event.

**Scarecrow Competition theme: 4 July American Independence Day.**

*(Get to it – 'Google' for ideas...)*



## SEVERN TRENT WATER MAINS RENEWAL

### The current reported position is:

- Work on both Marsh Lane and the High Street is largely complete and the old water main can now be completely abandoned
- Remaining work includes installing a new fire hydrant and three/four water service connections to the main at

no. 17 High Street and Hampton Manor

- All other previously planned work (e.g. On Fentham road) is no longer in their forward plan

*Other news: the resurfacing of Marsh Lane – and doesn't it look good?*

## PLANNING

**M**otorway Services (MSA) This major development, together with what is known as 'Garden City' (reported below), has been the subject of some initial consultation prior to any detailed application; both your Parish Council and the Catherine-de-Barnes Residents Association have vigorously objected to this MSA proposal which would be on Green Belt and ancient woodland near Solihull Road and the M42; we understand that Solihull Council also oppose such a scheme.

*Muslim Burial Ground; Catherine-de-Barnes* (7000 plots) this application has now been withdrawn.

### 'Garden City'

This other major development, on which Solihull Council has also consulted, relates to a triangle of green belt land surrounding the proposed HS2 Interchange Station and is part of the larger **UK Central** proposals (reported on in our Autumn 2014 issue); Your Parish Council oppose this major incursion into the Green Belt and its serious impact on our village and its environs.

**NB please refer to our website for further details:** [www.hamptoninarden.org.uk](http://www.hamptoninarden.org.uk)

## COMMUNICATION – like us on facebook!

**In addition to our excellent website your Parish Council has embraced social media and now has its own Facebook page.**



We hope that this will provide a quick and easy way for us to keep you up-to-date with village matters (between Newsletter issues, for example) as well as for you to provide us with information on issues that are important to you.

Our initial approach will be to post regular updates including details of village services and reminders of forthcoming local events, for example.

### How to access our Facebook page

- Log into your Facebook account
- Type 'Hampton-in-Arden Parish Council' into the search box at the top of the Facebook window and we should just pop up
- To ensure our posts automatically appear in your timeline make sure to hit the 'Like' button



We hope to have lots of what is known as 'likers' and look forward to hearing from you.

## CREDIT CARD IDENTITY FRAUD

### If you have an outside post box – beware!

It has been reported that a white Connect Transit Van has been spotted driving around the village on the pretext of posting flyers – just after the postman has made his rounds – and it appears that:

- At the same time they remove the resident's post, using

appropriate detail to create new credit card accounts.

**'Action Fraud' and the local Police have been informed who have both asked that people report any suspicious sightings, noting a vehicle registration number wherever possible, to Solihull Police Station (telephone 0345 113 5000); all such calls are treated in the strictest confidence.**

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

**Parish Councillors are elected for a four year term which ends with the election of a new Parish Council on 7 May 2015 - this is your chance to step forward and help towards contributing to the maintenance and improvement of our village community for the future.**

- We are holding an **Information Session on Saturday 28 March 10.30 am to 12 noon at the Parish Office, Marsh Lane**

- Please pop in to have a chat with current Councillors to see what is involved
- Nomination papers will be available, requiring the signature of two supporters, to be submitted to Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) by **9 April 2015**

***This is your opportunity to have a greater say in Village life!***

## NETWORK RAIL

**Our continuing dialogue and negotiations with Network Rail has produced some positive results.**

- In early January a working party planted some three sacks of daffodils (provided by Network Rail in recognition of them having had access across Parish Council land); a big thank you to all concerned, including David Grimshaw for his advise

- The three large trees, adjacent to Engine Mews have been programmed for crown reduction
- Station Road is scheduled for both drainage work and resurfacing

**Finally, your Parish Council continues to press for ramp access to the Birmingham platform as part of this work!**

## TREE SURVEY

**With so many large and mature tree's on Parish Council land, we recently commissioned a company of tree surgeons to ensure that none posed a threat to public safety with the following results.**

- Three dead sycamore trees, in the Spinney, adjacent to Shawdowbrook Lane, have been felled

- Remaining necessary work will be spread over the ensuing five years
- This work will involve some work on the large conifer trees on the Village Green

## VILLAGE CLUBS

**O**ne of the objectives of this Newsletter is to inform existing residents and those new to the Village, of organizations which may be of interest, for example:

- **Crown Green Bowling**

(The green is behind the Beeches Restaurant, Marsh Lane) – if you want some gentle exercise and good hearted banter give this successful Club a try – please contact either Frances Linn (442124) or Caroline Lassen (442650)

- **Probus Club**

This well established club is open to retired/semi-retired men (age range 60 plus); the activities include, inter alia:

- Monthly meetings with speakers, socializing pub lunches, walks, visits, curry evenings, an annual skittles evening, Christmas lunch....

**Please contact Geoff Dunbar (442473) for further details.**

## GEORGE FENTHAM TRUST DAY CLUB

**W**ithin this highly successful Club many of our village senior citizens socialize and participate in many enjoyable activities; every two weeks the Trust hosts a luncheon and organizes periodic trips – the following is one example (penned by one of its organizers, Councillor Malcolm James).

“You’ve heard of the song ‘Cruising down the River on a Sunday afternoon’ well, that’s just what we did, only it was a Wednesday and it was raining and the Club were on an outing deep into the marshlands of Stourbridge Canal

for a remake of the ‘**African Queen**’ The Captain steered us through crocodile infested waters and had our motley crew plying the passengers with rum – this, before ordering all hands on deck to receive what we all thought was contraband, but it was only our lunch of fish and chips!

*A good day was had by all”...*

**If you are tired of afternoon television and are interested in joining, do please contact Malcolm (443710) for further details.**

## FUN FOR OUR YOUNGER VILLAGERS

**A** reminder that there are plenty of Village activities for our young ones to get involved in:

*Stay and Play for under 4’s*

- Lots of great toys and activities
- Admission £2.00 only which includes a drink and snack for the little ones and hot drinks for the adults!
- Every Thursday morning at the Scout and Guides Hut (term time only) between 9.45am and 11.30am – do drop in as you will be most welcome

*Skylark Bus*

Visit the big blue bus, located on the Village Recreation Ground car park, during term time.

- All sessions are free of charge
- Saturday morning ‘drop-in’ 11am-1pm –all ages welcome
- Wednesday evening Skylark Club for juniors:  
6.30pm – 7.45pm (School Years, 4, 5 and 6)  
Seniors: 7.45pm – 9.00pm (School Years 7 – 11)

## SPEAK TO YOU IN THE SPRING (MAY 2015)

**T**hank you, as always, to our contributors including Parish Councillors and others; I am sure you would like to extend your thanks to all those Parish Councillors who have represented you on all the issues we have reported to you over their last four year tenure.

A new Parish Council will be in place with effect from May next to serve you for a further four years – and it is hoped your initial support will be to vote in the forthcoming Election.

Finally, thanks go to our Parish Clerk, **Mrs. Julie Richardson**, who continues to serve both the Parish Councillors and the Hampton Villagers with her very special support – well done Julie! **(Cllr Clive Bowen editor)**