

HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On

WEDNESDAY 11 MAY 2022 at 7:30pm.

held at The George Fentham Meeting Rooms

DRAFT MINUTES

PRESENT	Councillors:	Mr Mike Blomer (Chair)
		Mr Tim Beresford (Vice Chair)
		Mrs Catherine Sellars
		Mr Ken Blanch
		Mr Dave Cuthbert
		Mr Roger Waring
		Mr Peter Green
		Mrs Min Grimshaw
		Mr Giles Cook
		Mr John Eccleston (from item 22/06)
Clerk:	Mr Alexander Clayson	
	Mrs Julie Barnes	
	Mrs Sheila Blomer	
Public:	Mrs Lesley Cuthbert	
	Dr A Thomas (to item 22/07)	

- 22/01 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES** **ACTION**
The outgoing chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor David Sandells.
- 22/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- John Eccleston: President of Sports Club. Recreational Trust Trustee.
 - Dave Cuthbert: chair of the Catherine de Barnes Residents Association and Trustee of Catherine de Barnes Village Hall.
 - Tim Beresford: George Fentham Trustee and George Fentham Endowed School - School Governor.
- 22/03 ELECTION OF THE CHAIR**
The clerk called for nominations. Councillor Cuthbert **proposed the election of Councillor Blomer and Councillor Cuthbert seconded this proposal**. All members were in favour. The chair thanked the Council for their continuing support.
- 22/04 CHAIR'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**
Councillor Blomer signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 22/05 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

Councillor Cuthbert proposed that Councillor Beresford continue for a further year as vice-chair. This was seconded by Councillor Cook with all members being in favour. Councillor Beresford thanked members for their continued support.

22/06 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The Chair and Vice-Chair are ex-officio members of all committees:

Planning Committee	Councillor Dave Cuthbert Councillor Cat Sellars Councillor Ken Blanch Councillor Peter Green Councillor Giles Cook Councillor John Eccleston
Maintenance Committee	Councillor Tim Beresford Councillor David Sandells Councillor Peter Green Councillor John Eccleston Rvd Stuart Dimes Daniel Adams Floyd Price
Communications Working Group (including Youth Affairs)	Councillor Cat Sellars Councillor Peter Green Councillor Alexander Clayson Councillor Roger Waring
Neighbourhood Plan Working Group	Councillor Dave Cuthbert Councillor Cat Sellars Councillor Ken Blanch Councillor Peter Green Councillor Giles Cook Councillor John Eccleston
Remembrance Day Working Group	Councillor Alexander Clayson Councillor David Sandells
HS2 Committee / Pedestrian and Road Safety Committee / M42 Inc. 6 Improvement Scheme.	Councillor Ken Blanch Councillor Cat Sellars Councillor Min Grimshaw Councillor Dave Cuthbert Councillor Giles Cook Councillor John Eccleston Councillor Alexander Clayson
Funding Committee	Councillor Roger Waring Councillor Ken Blanch Councillor Peter Green Councillor John Eccleston
CIL Committee	Councillor Peter Green Councillor Giles Cook Councillor Dave Cuthbert Councillor Ken Blanch Councillor John Eccleston

Appointments to other bodies

Footpaths & Rights of Way Representative	Councillor Roger Waring
Airport Consultation	Councillor David Sandells
Solihull Area Committee (SAC)	Councillor Dave Cuthbert
Quarry Liaison	Councillor Mike Blomer
Library Working Group (Hampton in Arden)	Councillor Cat Sellars

The Parish Council also appoint trustees to:

The Charity of George Fentham	Mr M Abbott	Expires Jan 2026
	Dr M Shalley	Expires Oct 2024
	Mr T Beresford	Expires Oct 2022
The H-in-A Recreational Trust	Mr G Hollway	
	Ken Blanch	

22/07 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Dr Thomas a resident of Diddington Lane enquired whether the Parish Council had recognised the gravity of the Climate Change emergency and enquired whether they were intending to issue a Statement of Intent to protect the environment within which we live.

The chair confirmed that the Parish Council do not currently have a Climate Change Policy and had instead followed Solihull MBC's lead. Following Dr Thomas' comments, the Parish Council would investigate this further and makes steps to put in motion a sufficient plan.

Chair.

Dr Thomas noted that residents of Diddington Lane were also extremely concerned by the lack of road safety measures on Diddington Lane.

Councillor Blanch was able to discuss the Phase 2 proposals with Dr Thomas noting that the Parish Council does have plans for measures that will slow the traffic in that area.

Dr Thomas thanked the Parish Council for all their hard work and dedication.

Dr Thomas left the meeting.

22/08 MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9 MARCH 2022

An amendment was noted at item 21/108 whereby the word "adjourned" needed to be removed. The clerk will action this amendment.

Clerk

The minutes were then approved as **proposed by Councillor Cuthbert and seconded by Councillor Beresford** with all in favour.

22/09 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

21/106 – Catherine de Barnes Village Hall – Consideration of 7-year lease: - Councillor Cuthbert was able to confirm that the Birmingham Diocese have recently verbally agreed to a 7-year lease and steps were now in motion to prepare this.

21/112 – Pedestrian and Road Safety – Phase 2 Proposals: - Councillor Clayson enquired whether any progress had been made regarding the possibility of

installing zebra crossing lines on top of the informal crossing. Councillor Blanch confirmed he would contact Solihull MBC Highways Department.

KB

22/10

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD IN APRIL

Site of Special Scientific Interest – Shadowbrook Meadows Nature Reserve: - Councillor Waring confirmed he would contact The Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to obtain further information about this site to pass onto residents.

RW

Sewerage Blockages/Packhorse Bridge/River Blythe: - Councillor Grimshaw confirmed that she had contacted Severn Trent in this regard and will update the Parish Council when she has more information.

MG

Funding Opportunities/Community Infrastructure Levy: - It was agreed that we would add this information to our website.

Clerk.

The format of the meeting was discussed generally amongst members, and all agreed that it would be appropriate to update the running order to make it both shorter and more interactive with residents. Councillors Grimshaw and Sellars confirmed they would be happy to help coordinate this.

CS/MG

Dave Grimshaw's passing was considered and it was agreed by all members that a donation to the West Midlands Adult Cystic Fibrosis Centre (as agreed by Mr Grimshaw's family) of £25 would be made in recognition of Dave contribution to the Conservation Group within the village. In addition, a local native tree would be planted in his honour. The location and specification of the tree would be considered in more detail at the next Maintenance Committee Meeting.

**Clerk
TB**

22/11

RATIFICATION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS HELD VIRTUALLY

The chair noted that for over two years, from March 2020 and due to the Covid 19 pandemic, members were aware that it was necessary to hold meetings virtually using Microsoft Teams.

The Parish Council was one of the few that was able to continue with its business almost as normal as a result. However, members were now asked to formally ratify the minutes that were taken and approved during that period.

Councillor Sellars proposed that all minutes taken and approved during the period that they were held virtually be formally accepted. This was seconded by Councillor Eccleston with all members being in favour.

22/12

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Cuthbert referred to the running report circulated in advance noting the following: -

02784, Newlands Bishop Farm: - It had been noted that works to install the tepees were taking place but planning remained outstanding. A query would be sent to the Planning Department to ascertain the current position.

Whilst out of the Parish, residents remained concerned about the expansion of Chestnuts Farm and its impact on the protected sightline. Further queries would be made with the Planning Department.

Works to the front of 86 Meriden Road were continuing with substantial works taking place to a large tree. A query would be sent to Solihull MBC Planning Department to ascertain the position.

DC

22/13 FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Councillor Sellars referred to minutes taken from the latest meeting held on 9 May circulated in advance noting that the next newsletter would be circulated in August to ensure that important articles about the Commonwealth Games and Queen's Baton Relay can be included. Articles are therefore required by no later than 29 July.

ALL

Councillor Clayson noted that the Parish Council requires a specific database such as mailchimp to run an effective email campaign with residents. The clerk will investigate this further.

Clerk

22/14 FEEDBACK FROM THE CIL COMMITTEE

Councillor Green confirmed that no new formal applications had been received however a couple of enquiries had been received reminding members that available funds were now £15,000.

It was noted that the Catney Play Area was now progressing following the agreement of a 7-year lease.

The CIL Committee would meet shortly to agree a response to the George Fentham Trust following receipt of their "Wish List" and also a query relating to the purchase of a Marquee for the Village Festival.

22/15 PEDESTRIAN AND ROAD SAFETY SCHEME UPDATE

Hampton in Arden

Councillor Blanch confirmed that Phase 2 proposals had been well received by residents and Solihull MBC were now working on the detailed design process.

Works had taken place to the Gateway to make it more visible. Signage remained outstanding and a query would be sent to Solihull MBC Highways Department in this regard.

Members discussed the possibility of moving the planters to the bollard location and Councillor Blanch confirmed he would enquire whether this was a possibility.

Councillor Cuthbert enquired whether white boundary gates could be added as a feature at both villages and Councillor Blanch confirmed he would make further enquiries. **KB**

Catherine de Barnes

Councillor Blanch confirmed that the Parish Council were hoping to obtain funding from National Highways via their designated funds. Ongoing discussions were taking place with Skanska.

It was noted that Solihull Council had confirmed that works to complete the Pedestrian Crossing in Catherine de Barnes would be completed on 16 May, but final clarification was awaited from the contractor.

22/16 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Cuthbert referred to Councillor Green who updated members as follows: -

Members were referred to the report circulated in advance noting that Solihull MBC had kindly provided some extensive guidance on the content and format of our draft Neighbourhood Plan.

The Parish Council were due to meet with a consultant, Andrea Pellegram, but a decision had been made to pause that appointment until further drafting work had taken place.

22/17 ROADS AND FOOTPATHS UPDATE

Councillor Waring referred to his report circulated in advance noting that the diversion of footpath M121 in the Hampton Manor Grounds was now nearing completion, and it was hoped it would be available online shortly.

In addition, the following points were made: -

The broken stile that connects paths M126 and M129 to the rear of Fentham Hall is to be replaced with a gate. Hampton Manor have offered a gate to Councillor Waring, and he will arrange for its restoration.

A problem with the boardwalk has been reported (on the approach to Packhorse Bridge), netting has become loose and hazardous.

Early discussions are taking place regarding a proposed permissive path that will obviate the need to walk a 50-yard stretch of Shadowbrook Lane. Further information to follow.

Reports had been received of anti-social behaviour around the area of the River Blythe at the Packhorse Bridge and around Barston Lake with the problem stemming from the use of off road motorbikes. Councillor Waring would contact Solihull MBC in this regard.

Councillor Waring confirmed he had joined several organisations to assist in this role as Roads and Footpaths representative and he would provide those details to the clerk.

RW

22/18 CORRESPONDENCE

Most correspondence is received by email and is forwarded to Members as a matter of course with the majority being of a routine nature. Examples are regular consultations from SMBC on planning applications, updates, and training opportunities from WALC and NALC, notifications from HS2 and National Highways (Skanska). The following are those that depart from the routine:

- 14/03 – SMBC – Flooding in Old Station Road (ongoing).
- 16/03 – WALC – Star Council Awards.
- 21/03 – ERC – Support for Ukraine.
- 21/03 – HinA Sports Club – Cricket Fixtures.
- 04/04 - SMBC – Queens Baton Relay.
- 05/04 – SMBC – Active Travel Fund.
- 25/04 – C Bransbury – Aerial photography

Councillor Green confirmed he had contacted Mr Bransbury regarding the offer of Aerial Photography as it was felt that the images would support the Neighbourhood Plan. Further information to follow.

22/19 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

Solihull Area Committee

Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that a Solihull Area Committee meeting had taken place in April with a presentation by Simon Foster, the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner. Assurances had been made that the closure of Solihull Police Station will not happen until at least 2025 and only when suitable alternative premises had been located.

Service Agreements were awaited from Solihull MBC following a restructure and they would be considered in more detail.

The next meeting would take place in July.

Hampton in Arden Festival

Councillor Beresford confirmed that the festival would not be taking place over the Jubilee period due to it being felt that residents would have other plans or be away on holiday. The festival will now take place during the first weekend of July.

The chair offered his apologies for the event along with Councillor Green.

All other members were put on notice that their attendance would be required if at all possible. ALL

Warm Hubs Initiative – Catherine de Barnes

Unfortunately, the Warm Hubs initiative had not been able to garner enough support and it was therefore unlikely that it would continue at the end of its current run.

Members felt it may be more successful at The Sports Club. The clerk will make enquiries as to whether it would be possible to trial this.

Clerk

22/20

FINANCE

Accounts and payments for 1 month ending 30 April 2022 were accepted as **proposed by Councillor Beresford and seconded by Councillor Giles Cook.**

22/21

APPROVAL OF FINANCE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Annual Return and completed Annual Governance Statement were received and approved and the chair signed the relevant paperwork to be sent to the external auditor.

The audit papers **were approved as proposed by Councillor John Eccleston and seconded by Councillor Tim Beresford**

22/22

APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2021/22

The approval of Accounting Statements was received and approved.

The Accounting Statements **were approved as proposed by Councillor Roger Waring and seconded by Councillor Min Grimshaw.**

22/23

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Maintenance Meeting: 8 June 2022 (7pm, Sports Club)

Parish Council Meeting: 13 July 2022 (7:30pm – Meeting Room).

The meeting closed at 9:30pm.

Julie Barnes
Clerk