

HAMPTON IN ARDEN PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

On

WEDNESDAY 10 MAY 2023 at 7:30pm.

held at The George Fentham Meeting Rooms

(draft) MINUTES

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|---|
| PRESENT | Councillors: | Mr Mike Blomer (Chair) Mr Tim Beresford (Vice Chair) Mr Ken Blanch Mr Dave Cuthbert Mr Roger Waring Mr Peter Green Mr Piers Reid Mr Giles Cook |
| | Clerk: Public: | Mrs Julie Barnes Mrs Sheila Blomer Mrs Lesley Cuthbert |

- 24/01 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES** **ACTION**
The outgoing chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor John Eccleston, Cat Sellars and Alexander Clayson.
- 24/02 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
- 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.
- 24/03 ELECTION OF THE CHAIR**
The clerk called for nominations from all members. **Councillor Dave Cuthbert proposed the election of Councillor Mike Blomer. Councillor Tim Beresford seconded this proposal. All members were in favour. Councillor Mike Blomer was therefore duly elected as Chairman for the Parish Council.**
- The chair thanked the Council for their continuing support.
- 24/04 CHAIR'S DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**
Mike Blomer signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 24/05 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR**

Councillor Giles Cook proposed that Councillor Tim Beresford be elected as vice-chair. This was seconded by Councillor Piers Reid with all members being in favour. Councillor Beresford was duly elected as vice-chairman for the Parish Council.

Councillor Beresford thanked members for their continued support.

24/06 ELECTION RESULTS

DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE FROM ALL MEMBERS

Following recent local elections and an uncontested election, all previous members had chosen to continue to stand as Councillors for Hampton in Arden Parish Council. Members all signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office that the clerk will hold on file.

24/07 PARISH BASIC ALLOWANCES

The chair referred members to his report and an email from Solihull MBC dated 17 April that the clerk had circulated in advance. Members were asked to confirm their current policy of not paying allowances. **This was approved as proposed by Councillor Tim Beresford and seconded by Councillor David Sandells. All members were in favour.**

24/08 APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

| | |
|---|--|
| Planning Committee | Dave Cuthbert John Eccleston Ken Blanch Peter Green Giles Cook John Eccleston |
| Maintenance Committee | Tim Beresford John Eccleston David Sandells Piers Reid Rvd Stuart Dimes (Church) Daniel Adams (G F Trust) John Morgans (Sports Club) |
| Communications Committee | Cat Sellars Alexander Clayson Peter Green Roger Waring |
| Climate Change Committee | Dave Cuthbert Peter Green Roger Waring |
| Neighbourhood Plan Working Group | Dave Cuthbert John Eccleston Ken Blanch Giles Cook Peter Green |

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|---------------------------------------|--|
| Remembrance Day Working Group | David Sandells |
| Major Infrastructure Committee | Ken Blanch John Eccleston Dave Cuthbert Giles Cook |
| Funding Committee | John Eccleston Roger Waring Ken Blanch Peter Green |
| CIL Committee | Peter Green John Eccleston Dave Cuthbert Ken Blanch Giles Cook |

Appointments to other bodies

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Footpaths & Rights of Way Representative | Councillor Roger Waring |
| Airport Consultation | Councillor David Sandells |
| Solihull Area Committee (SAC) | Councillor Dave Cuthbert |

The Parish Council also appoint trustees to:

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| The Charity of George Fentham | Mr M Abbott | Expires Jan 2026 |
| | VACANT | - |
| | Mr T Beresford | Expires Oct 2026 |
| The H-in-A Recreational Trust | Mr G Hollway | |
| | VACANT | - |

24/09

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

24/10

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8 MARCH 2023

The minutes were approved as **proposed by Councillor Cuthbert and seconded by Councillor Green with all members being in favour.**

24/11

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE ABOVE MEETING

22/116 – Damage to War Memorial – The clerk confirmed that M Powers & Sons has placed the order for the replacement stone, and it was hoped works would commence within the next few weeks.

Clerk

24/12

UPDATE FROM THE MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE

Councillor Beresford notified members that the perimeter fence surrounding the school playing field had once again been vandalised by children climbing into the field to play with the goal posts despite a gate being in place. The fence will be repaired shortly but members were asked to consider whether the goal posts should be removed if the fence is damaged a further time. Members discussed the matter in more detail, and it was agreed that an article would go into the next Newsletter highlighting the issue. Signs would go up on the fence itself and a watching brief would be maintained.

It was also stated that Dawsons Groundcare had notified the Parish Council of a 7.7% increase in their fees. The clerk would be seeking alternative quotes to check that the prices quoted remain competitive and would report further in due course.

Clerk

24/13 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Cuthbert referred members to his detailed report in the attached report pack.

86 Meriden Road

Councillor Beresford enquired what the up-to-date position was on 86 Meriden Road. Councillor Cuthbert confirmed he would investigate and report further.

DC

24/14 FEEDBACK FROM COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

In Councillor Sellars absence the clerk confirmed that the Newsletter would be ready for delivery within the next week. No further updates.

24/15 FEEDBACK FOM THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING GROUP

No further updates to report.

24/16 FEEDBACK FROM THE CIL COMMITTEE

Councillor Green referred to his report in the attached report pack and confirmed that there had been no incoming funds nor any further requests for funds received.

24/17 UNDER 7s PLAY AREA – ALL WEATHER SURFACE REVIEW

Members discussed the quote received from Dawsons Groundcare. It was felt that a site visit would be beneficial to include all members and Dawsons Groundcare. Clerk to arrange.

Clerk.

24/18 PEDESTRIAN AND ROAD SAFETY/HS2 UPDATE/J6 WORKING GROUP

Councillor Blanch provided a detailed overview of his report located in the attached report pack.

Members also discussed the recent cracks in the Canal Bridge on Hampton Lane following the recent misplacement of road signage by National Highways that diverted large haulage vehicles over the bridge incorrectly. Both National Highways and Solihull MBC have been made aware of the damage.

24/19 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Councillor Cuthbert referred members to his report in the attached report pack.

24/20 RIGHTS OF WAY REPRESENTATIVE UPDATE

Councillor Waring referred members to his report in the attached report pack.

24/21 FUNDING GROUP UPDATE

In Councillor Eccleston's absence, the clerk confirmed that there had been no further developments to report.

24/22 ANNUAL MEETING PREPARATION

Members discussed the new format proposed for the Parish Council's Annual Meeting scheduled to take place on 24 May 2023.

Due to the recent increase in parking difficulties on the site the clerk would enquire whether it would be possible for Trevor Honeysett to marshal the event. **Clerk.**

Councillor Sandells stated that he would send over some images related to HS2 works for the clerk to print to put out in the Arden Room. **DS**

24/23 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 and Skanska. The following are those that depart from the routine:

06/03 Warwickshire Wildlife Trust – (River) Blythe Alive Again
20/03 Warwickshire Rural Community Council – Warm Hubs News
03/04 West Midlands Police – New Operating Model

24/24 REPORTS FROM OTHER MEETINGSWALC

Councillor Waring attending a WALC presentation by Adam Tranter. Councillor Waring subsequently once again raised the importance of the implementation of a cycle and footway between Catherine de Barnes and Hampton in Arden.

SAM

Councillor Cuthbert confirmed that a Solihull Area Meeting had taken place and was attended by Mark Andrews and Alison McGrory of Solihull MBC.

Hampton in Arden Festival

Councillor Beresford reminded members that the Hampton in Arden festival will take place on 1 July 2023.

24/25 FINANCE

Accounts and payments for 1 month ending 30 April 2023 were accepted as **proposed by Councillor Cuthbert and seconded by Councillor Beresford with all members in favour.**

24/26 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 Green and seconded by Councillor Blanch with all members being in favour.**

24/27 APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2022/23

The approval of Accounting Statements was received and approved.

The Accounting Statements **were approved as proposed by Councillor Beresford and seconded by Councillor Reid with all members being in favour.**

24/28 DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Maintenance Meeting: 14 June 2023 at 7:30pm (Microsoft Teams)

Village Annual Meeting: 24 May 2023 at 7:30pm (Fentham Hall)

Parish Council Meeting: 12 July 2023 at 7:30pm (Meeting Rooms).

The meeting closed at 9:31pm.

Julie Barnes
Clerk