

Gardening Club

The Gardening Club in Hockley Heath involves a small but loyal group of volunteers who plant up the planters around the village and some of the borders too. Not only that but they also arrange the Christmas Tree lights and undertake fund raising to support the cost of their work. Each year the group enter the Solihull in Bloom competition and this year they were awarded first prize for Community Involvement.

The group are now looking at planting for next year and have decided to change the focus from annuals to perennials and natural meadow planting.

If you can spare either time for fund raising or time for planting or have any ideas for the club, now is your opportunity to join them and help to make the village more attractive.

For more information about joining the Gardening Club, please go to our website:
www.hockleyheath.org.uk

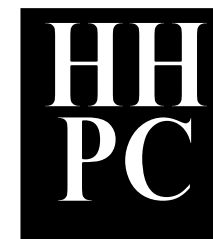


The Board Room

Beginning soon in Hockley Heath will be an opportunity to join a group of like-minded villagers to play board games, have a tea or coffee and possibly play on the Wii.

Games planned included monopoly, chess Trivial Pursuits, draughts, dominos and many more. If you have a favourite game, why not bring it along!

The group will meet on Tuesdays from 6th November, 1.30pm to 3.30pm at Hockley Heath Pavilion, at the recreation ground. If you are interested, then please either come along on the day or contact Diane (783073) or Merion (782826).



Hockley Heath Parish Council

Newsletter - Autumn 2012

Welcome to this autumn edition of the Hockley Heath Newsletter.

Learn more about ...

**Becoming a Parish Councillor,
The precept - how it will be spent,
Hockley Heath Gardening Club,
An exciting new club - The Board Room**

If you have any questions, contact the Parish Clerk on 07703 647 883 or email hpc2009@hotmail.com

Parish Council news

Date change: Please note that there is a change to the date of the next two parish council meetings. The Parish Council will now site on **Thursday 22nd November and Thursday 13th December 2012**. Meetings will revert to the usual 3rd Thursday in the month from January 2013.

New Councillors sought: Hockley Heath Parish Council is the tier of local authority closest to its community as it elects / recruits representatives from within that community. If there are not enough Councillors on the Parish Council, the decision making process defers to Solihull MBC.

The Parish Council currently has two vacancies for co-opted Councillors on its council. What does this mean I hear you ask? The existing elected Parish Councillors are looking to recruit 2 local people to join the Parish Council and serve until the next election in 2015. Candidates will need to be over 18 years old and a British / Commonwealth resident. You will then have to comply with one of the following: be on the local electoral register **or** own a

property or land in the area for the last 12 months **or** work in the parish for the last 12 months **or** have lived within 3 miles of the parish for the last 12 months.

If you can answer yes to these criteria, you could put yourself forward for this chance to get involved in your community. This is your opportunity to shape the future of your village.

For more details about how to get involved, see the posters on the notice board, visit our website: www.hockleyheath.org.uk or contact the Parish Clerk or one of the existing councillors: Cllrs Peter Rayson, Peter Redman and Maria Vernon.

Precept: Hockley Heath Parish Council raises money for its work through the annual Precept which is collected by SMBC along with your council tax.

At the October meeting, Councillors began to look at ways of spending money in 2013/2014. This includes looking at new exciting projects including clearing the undergrowth in the woodland to create paths, seating and picnic areas, providing new play equipment at the recreation and improving facilities in the Pavilion. For more

details look in the minutes of the meeting which are available on village notice boards and on our web site.

Recreation Ground

New signs will be going up at the Recreation Ground in the next few weeks. The Parish Council has received a number of complaints about inappropriate use of the recreation ground and its car park by commercial groups and users not resident in the village.

With money being spent on caring for the trees, new play area etc., the Parish Council is keen to stress that all organised sports and commercial activity will be liable to pay a fee for their use of the facilities to cover maintenance of the ground.

Christmas Lights – Switch on

The Gardening Club have once again organised the switching on of the village Christmas tree lights this year. The event is planned for Saturday 24th November at 3.45pm. Please turn up and support.

