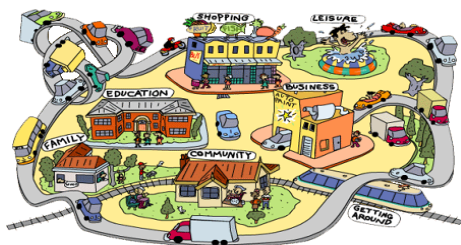


Neighbourhood Plan

Work is continuing on the Neighbourhood Plan and a business questionnaire will shortly be sent to all known businesses within Hockley Heath. If you operate a business from home and would like to receive a business questionnaire please contact the Parish Clerk.

The views of residents' responses during last year's Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire will be used by the Parish Council to respond to SMBC's draft Local Plan proposals.



Hockley Heath Village Clean-Up

SMBC will be working with the Parish Council to take part in the next 'deep clean' of our village; all materials are provided. Volunteers are again needed to carry out this important work to keep the village looking clean and tidy. The clean-up will take place on **Friday 22nd March 2019, 10 - 2pm**. If you have a couple of hours or half a day to help, please meet at the Pavilion at 10am or contact the Parish Clerk.

Parish Council Elections

The Parish Council elections in May are fast approaching. There are 5 Parish Councillor seats in Hockley Heath. If 5 candidates or less stand for election then we will have an uncontested election, with all candidates being automatically elected without a vote. If more than 5 candidates stand then we will have an election and voters will all have the opportunity to vote for 5 Parish Councillors to represent Hockley Heath.

Parish Councillors perform an essential role in representing the views of the community and can help shape the future of the village, along with determining how the precept is spent. It is a varied and interesting role.

In preparation for the Parish elections in May, the Returning Officer at SMBC will be holding a briefing for candidates and election agents in the Civic Suite, at 6pm on Tuesday 5th March 2019. This will include information about key dates of the election timetable, qualifications & disqualifications for candidature, the nominations process, arrangements for postal votes and the poll etc. Registration is not necessary. Please attend this event if you are interested in representing our community as a Parish Councillor.



Hockley Heath Parish Council Newsletter – Winter 2019

Warm winter greetings from the Parish Council. Welcome to the first edition of the Hockley Heath Newsletter in 2019.

This edition includes:

- 2019-2020 Hockley Heath Precept
- Revised Draft Local Plan (SMBC)
- Village Flood Investigations

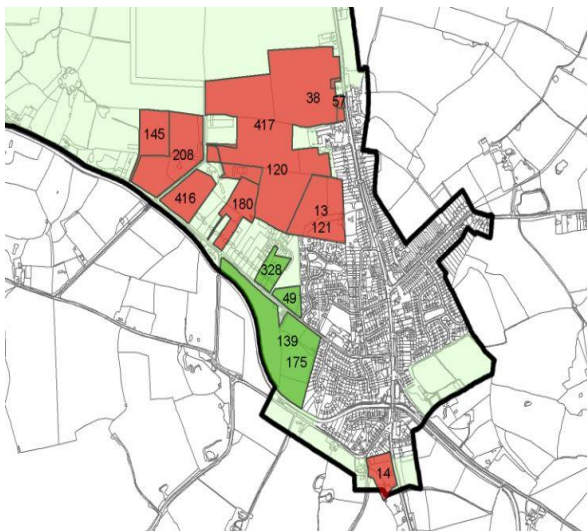
If you have any questions, contact the Parish Clerk on 07591 954002 or email:

hhpc2009@hotmail.com or find us on www.facebook.com/hockleyheathpc or on twitter: [twitter:twitter.com/hockleyheath_pc](https://twitter.com/hockleyheath_pc)

Revised Draft Local Plan

Solihull Council has published a revised draft Local Plan due to the need to provide additional homes across the borough. There is a wealth of information on SMBC's website; the revised draft can be viewed at: <http://eservices.solihull.gov.uk/mgInternet/documents/s66830/Appendix%20A.pdf>.

The draft Local Plan now proposes releasing land from the Green Belt on School Road for housing development. The map below details the location in green, numbered 139 and 175 (this has been renamed in the draft Local Plan as site 25) and approximately 100 homes have been proposed. Sites 49 and 328 on School Road have not been included as development sites for homes in the revised Local Plan but would not be subject to Green Belt policy should the larger School Road development go ahead (site 25). SMBC is seeking your views on site 49 and 328.



The following document has an assessment of all sites within Solihull, information for Hockley Heath starts on page 335.

<http://www.solihull.gov.uk/Portals/0/Planning/LPR/Draft-Local-Plan-Supplementary-Consultation-Site-Assessments.pdf>

SMBC wishes to hear your views on all sites assessed. Green sites - to be released from the Green Belt and site 25 (139 and 175) to be allocated for housing. Red sites - not to be included in the plan as the development of the site has severe or widespread impacts that are not outweighed by the benefits of the proposal.

The consultation on sites is open until 15th March and you can submit your views here: <https://solihull.idi-consult.net/localplan/>.

Solihull Council has also run a number of drop-in sessions to allow residents to comment and ask questions. The remaining sessions will be held as follows:

Sat. 23rd February 11am-3pm Knowle library
Tues. 26th February 4pm-7pm Asda, Shirley

Security within the Recreation Ground

Following a consultation with SMBC on improving security within the recreation ground, a second fixed height restriction barrier and two new drop bollards have been installed near the entrance to the car park. The additional measures will prevent the park from being locked during the day when security is a concern.

Precept for 2018-2019

Following thorough consideration of the April 2019 - March 2020 budget, Hockley Heath Parish Council has requested a precept increase of 5%. The annual increase for an average band D property will be £3.30, which represents 6p per week for a band D property. The Parish Council agreed the precept increase to provide additional funds for the Pavilion maintenance and to improve the village environment. Parishes are undertaking additional activities due to reduced funds at SMBC. The accounts are discussed monthly in the Parish Council meeting so please pop along to a meeting to find out further information (7pm in the Pavilion on the 3rd Thursday of the month).

Village Flooding

The Parish Council has held a number of meetings with SMBC and Severn Trent to discuss regular flooding throughout the village. Investigations are still ongoing but if you see any blocked drains please report them to <https://www.fixmystreet.com/> to ensure SMBC are aware of blockages and action can be taken to reduce surface water.

SMBC has published a report into the May 2018 borough wide flooding as follows:

<https://bit.ly/2Utk3aO>