

Flower Planters

The Parish Council has purchased six new planters for the public highway in the area by Nelson's to replace the smaller planters that were often moved or damaged. HHPC would like to thank the Gardening Club volunteers for planting all the village planters with beautiful flowers and foliage throughout the seasons.

Food Bank Donations

A Solihull food bank donation box is available in the entrance to the Pavilion. Residents can donate non perishable food items on Tuesdays during the hours of 9.30am-2.30pm as the Pavilion will be open for the post office. Please do not leave donations outside the hall or in the park.

Drainage

In heavy rainfall the storm drains can overflow, particularly if there are blockages, with substantial water ponding on the roads in Hockley Heath. You can report any blocked drains directly to Solihull Council using this link <https://bit.ly/3Lbib00> which allows you to use an interactive map to select a drain, view the history of repairs and report a problem. Alternatively, you can phone Solihull Council on 0121 704 8001.

Jubilee and Commonwealth Events

If any community groups or organisations would like to hold events in either the recreation ground or the Pavilion to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, or the Commonwealth Games, please contact the Clerk to HHPC. The Parish Council will support your event where possible.

Village Environment

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the village clean-up on 22nd April 2022. A substantial amount of litter was collected which has improved the lovely appearance of the village. Residents can report fly-tipping on 0121 7048000 or via <https://bit.ly/3w4pd2L>. The next public Hockley Heath environment meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th July at 1.30pm in the Pavilion.

Jubilee Tree Planting

Fourteen trees, including a mini orchard in the picnic area, have been planted in the recreation ground to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee. The new trees will add some lovely colour to the park throughout the seasons.



Hockley Heath Parish Council Newsletter – May 2022

Welcome to the Spring edition of the Hockley Heath Parish Council Newsletter.

This edition includes:

- The Neighbourhood Plan
- History of the Recreation Ground
- South Warwickshire Local Plan

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.com/hockleyheath_pc

Neighbourhood Plan (NP)

A neighbourhood plan is a document that sets out planning policies for a local area and is used by the local authority to help determine planning applications. A NP does not stop development from taking place but can recommend the type and design of the development suitable in the area.

A NP is written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place. Hockley Heath, Solihull, is inset within the green belt so large developments could only take place if Solihull Council removes land from the green belt. An adopted NP would then be used to shape the development.

The Parish Council has been supporting the NP Steering Committee to develop a NP for Hockley Heath, Solihull. However, this has been a very time-consuming process for the Steering Committee due to low member numbers, and delays due to Covid. There is a possibility that the development of a NP may not be progressed any further due to a lack of volunteers. If you would like Hockley Heath to develop a NP and are able to volunteer to help create and write the Plan, please contact the Clerk to HHPC.

Hockley Heath Recreation Ground History

It is often said that a landowner gifted the recreation ground to the village, but this is not actually the case. The deeds confirm that the recreation ground was purchased nearly 100 years ago. In 1923, several residents raised funds to purchase land for recreation.

With the funds raised, the land was then purchased in 1924 from Warwick District Council for £650.00 and gifted to the residents of the village as a recreation ground. In 1925 a wooden Pavilion was built (later demolished). However, in 1930 the trustees sold the recreation ground land to the Rural District Council of Solihull for £450.00, but in 1964 the recreation ground was handed to the newly formed Parish Council by Solihull Council.

Today, the Hockley Heath Parish Council, is solely responsible for the management of the recreation ground and Pavilion, funded through the precept for residents to enjoy.

Commonwealth Games

The Queen's Baton Relay will pass through Hockley Heath on the afternoon of 26 July 2022, time to be later agreed. The relay will be on foot for a section of the A3400 and School Road for residents to celebrate. For further details visit <https://bit.ly/3w1w7FF>.

South Warwickshire Local Plan

Stratford on Avon District Council and Warwickshire District Council are jointly developing a Local Plan. The Plan is currently at the call for sites stage and several landowners have put forward green belt land surrounding Hockley Heath as being suitable for housing development. The South Warwickshire Local Plan can be viewed here <https://bit.ly/3w4LUns>. Currently, none of the sites have been assessed for suitability and there will be a consultation by South Warwickshire on the sites proposed. To keep up to date with progress on the South Warwickshire Local Plan and receive the consultation dates, you can register your details on their website.

HHPC has contacted South Warwickshire to express concerns regarding any potential development/release of the green belt.

Village Parking Plan

Solihull Council are reviewing areas of the village where parking concerns have been highlighted by residents. SMBC has been devising a draft plan for specific roads with new parking restrictions. A formal consultation will take place and HHPC will publicise the consultation dates, once received.