

Hockley Heath Neighbourhood Plan

Given the updated National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Solihull Councils evolving Local Plan, the Parish Council have been considering restarting work on a Neighbourhood Plan. Surveys to residents and businesses, including analysis which were carried out in 2017/2018 can be re-run after reviewing existing materials and assessing which elements remain relevant and where updates may be necessary. The grant funding for the cost of a Neighbourhood Plan has not yet been made available for 2025/2026. However, a Neighbourhood Plan could inform the case for retaining village status and influence site-specific policies (e.g., housing, infrastructure etc). The council would like to hear from you if you have the expertise and drive to be involved in contributing to the delivery of a Neighbourhood Plan for our village.

Thank you to those residents who attended the recent parish council meeting on 17th July 2025 and to the recently formed Hockley Heath Action Group for facilitating progression of a Neighbourhood Plan.

A note from the Hockley Heath Action Group

The **Hockley Heath Action Group (HHAG)** is your independent, resident-led voice working to protect the unique character of our village, who are actively challenging **uncoordinated and speculative housing developments** that threaten to overwhelm local infrastructure, increase traffic congestion, and erode green spaces.

Stay up to date for fast-moving, topical news and updates – because what happens next in Hockley Heath affects the future for us all.

For more information or to get involved, email Hockley@HHActionGroup.co.uk. You can also **apply to join the WhatsApp group**, by messaging **Peter Sylvester on 0770 29 29 931** for a personal invite.



Repair Café™ – The Pavilion hall

The Parish Council are seeking local volunteers who have an interest in, and knowledge of, repairing and servicing small electrical items, garden tools, minor clothes repairs and bicycle adjustments, to support a community Repair Café. Also required are volunteers to administer the forms and book people in on arrival at the Repair Café. For further information and/or to express an interest in volunteering, please contact the Parish Clerk. The next Repair Café will be held in September after the summer break (the date will be added to the Parish Council's website and advertised on our Facebook page as soon as it has been confirmed).

Arden Free Tree Scheme

An application has been submitted to the Arden Free Tree Scheme for native hedging. If the application is successful, the hedging is expected to be planted in the Recreation Ground during the autumn.



HHPC

Hockley Heath Parish Council Newsletter – Summer 2025

Welcome to the Summer 2025 edition.

A digital version of this Newsletter is available on our Facebook page and the Parish Council's website:

www.hockleyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/hockleyheathpc

This edition includes:

- Hockley Heath Neighbourhood Plan
- Solihull Rural Community Transport

If you have any questions, contact the Parish Clerk on 07591 954002 or email: clerk@hockleyheathparishcouncil.gov.uk

Christmas Lights Donation

The Christmas lights are funded by the Parish Council and the cost for the 2025 display is £3,516. The Parish Council are grateful to Hockley Heath Social Club for their generous donations to the light fixtures in the village in previous years, and donations from other businesses in the village would be very gratefully received.

Solihull Rural Community Transport

If you need help getting to a medical or wellbeing appointment volunteer drivers are available to help. Tel: 01789 262889 or email transport@vasa.org.uk



Here2Help – Energy and Fuel

In response to the challenges which continue to cause difficulties for many households, there is a range of advice and help available to keep your home warm, reduce your energy usage and save you money. Tel: 0800 988 2881 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm) or email: advice@actonenergy.org.uk.

Drop in Café – The Pavilion hall



The drop in café volunteers are always on hand to help residents with any queries they may have regarding access to services within Solihull with further support provided by Solihull Council's Community Development Officer.

The café runs every other Tuesday from 10am to 12noon. Dates for the remainder of cafés for 2025 are:

29th July ~ 12th August ~ 26th August ~ 9th September ~ 23rd September ~ 7th October ~ 21st October ~ 4th November ~ 18th November ~ 2nd December ~ 16th December

Paracise - Pavilion hall from September 2025

Paracise™ offers an entry point to the millions of people who would benefit physically and mentally from lower intensity exercise. Ideal for those who find regular fitness classes too demanding, or who haven't exercised for a long time, or who are coming back from injury.

There is no floor work, and no equipment needed. Just bring yourself, maybe a friend and a bottle of water. £6 Pay as you go, No booking required. (Cash Only)

Classes will recommence at The Pavilion on Thursday's 1.30-2.15pm from September 2025.

MOVE MORE, AGE BETTER!



THE BEST PRESCRIPTION FOR A HEALTHY HAPPY LIFE

Thanks to our Wonderful Volunteers

The Parish Council would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the incredible volunteers who give their time and energy to support the village and its residents. Whether it's tending to green spaces, keeping areas clean, or simply helping neighbours feel connected, your efforts truly make a difference.

A special thank you to the **Gardening Club** members, including new volunteers, for keeping the planters in beautiful condition and for painting both the planters and benches across the village. Your care brings colour and life to our surroundings.

To the **Drop-in Café** volunteers—thank you for making the Pavilion café a warm and welcoming space where residents can gather for a friendly chat every other week. It's become a cherished part of village life. To the dedicated **litter pickers**, and to **John**, who keeps our village signs sparkling clean—your contributions may go unseen by some, but they are deeply appreciated.

Without your help, dedication, and generosity, Hockley Heath wouldn't be the vibrant, lovely place we all treasure. Thank you from us all.

Thank you

