



# HARTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL



## Newsletter – December 2015



In June, Cllr Kevin Hawes resigned from the Parish Council after 20 years' service. Cllr Hawes always worked hard for the common good which is what made him such an effective councillor. His time as chairman (2000 – 2006) was marked particularly by the successful negotiations for a permanent Health Centre in the village and the purchase of the Old Coal Yard for development. The vision for the whole site, including the development of the old goods shed and parking area took shape while he was chairman.

Cllr Hawes was a particular champion of the Playschool and was active on the Playschool Trustees Committee overseeing the re-acquisition of the land that now forms the extended Playschool Garden. He also took part in the long negotiations to establish security for the Playschool resulting in a 125 year lease at a peppercorn rent.

Cllr Hawes has been a valued member of the planning committee bringing a wealth of expertise to complex issues. His knowledge and clear thinking helped colleagues through difficult times especially when the Parish Council challenged the development of an unauthorised sand school on agricultural land in our Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

More recently, his work on Neighbourhood Planning has thrown up unexpected challenges, however, with his characteristic determination, he plans to finish this work in the coming year.

His twenty years on the Parish Council has been marked with successes of which he can take much credit and be proud. I would like to thank him on behalf of all the people of Hartfield for the tangible difference he has made to the quality of life in this very special Parish.



### Defibrillator

The defibrillator is now installed on the front wall of the Village Hall and is ready for use. It is known as an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) which means it is simple to use as it automatically diagnoses the life-threatening condition of the patient and a member of the public is able to treat them by following a few simple voiced instructions.

In addition, the Parish Council is providing familiarisation and CPR (resuscitation) training in association with the 'Groombridge and Hartfield Medical Group' and the British Heart Foundation training pack. The first two sessions are on **Friday 8 January 2016 at 11.00am and 1.00pm in the**

**Village Hall.** Anyone interested in taking part should contact the Parish Clerk to book a place. Details on the back page.

The thought of using the defibrillator might be a daunting prospect for some but it is extremely simple to operate and it offers a chance of saving a life in an emergency.

Most of the funding for the defibrillator was raised by the Hartfield Fun Run.





## Youth Voice

Three enthusiastic young people ventured out on a dark, wet night in November to find out what Youth Voice is all about. Ali Campbell, the youth worker gave his entertaining and thought provoking presentation involving the group in activities and how co-operation can help to solve problems. Feedback from this first meeting was very positive and we hope the word has gone out and more teenagers will be tempted to come along to the meeting on 2 December.

The Wealden Youth Conference, held in the Civic Centre, Uckfield followed 2 weeks later at which Hartfield was represented. Thirty young people from around towns and villages in Wealden took part. At this event the participants met other young people, some of whom are already active in their town or village through youth councils. They explored ideas about making a difference in their own area and how young people can be represented in the decision making process.



*Young people from Hartfield at the Wealden Youth Conference*



**Aged 12 - 16 and living in Hartfield?**

***You're invited to***

## **Youth Voice**

**Wednesday 6 January 2016**

**7.00pm - 8.30pm**

**At the Pavilion, Hartfield.**

**Led by Ali Campbell,**

**Sponsored by Hartfield Parish Council and SPARK**

## **Hartfield Fun Run 2016**

**Sunday 10 April 2016**

**Town Croft, Hartfield, East Sussex, TN7 4AD**

**10k (6 miles) 5.6k (3.5 miles) and 2k (1.2 miles)**

**Something for everyone. Families, Runners and Walkers. Further information from**

**[www.Hartfieldonline.com](http://www.Hartfieldonline.com) click Fun Run or TEXT Eddie 07880 518059**

**Advance registration fees £10, £5, and £2. Walkers £2.50 per family**



**All proceeds for Hartfield Youth facilities**

## Parish Council Plans

In October, the Parish Council began planning for the year which begins in April 2016. This is followed up by a finance meeting which considers the possible commitments of the Council and how they can be met. In December the whole council agrees how much money to levy from parishioners. This is known as the Precept and is incorporated into your council tax bill. It currently averages about £1.40 per week per household.

### Speeding

The Parish Council has received concerns from residents about the speed of traffic on our roads:

- Perryhill, especially southbound down the hill
- Upper Hartfield despite the speed limit being reduced to 30mph
- B2026 at Wrens' Warren
- B2110 entering the village at Castlefields.
- A264 at Holtye
- High Street

While each of these areas is of particular concern to those who live and work there, the Parish Council agreed that a campaign of action through the group which liaises with ESCC was the best way forward for the present. The Parish Council has been lobbying the County Council for some time already and while some residents would favour an automatic Speed Indicator Device (SID) it is yet to be agreed that this would be the most effective course of action and, if so, which area would be targeted.

### High Street Pavement

The state of the High Street pavement has been repeatedly raised with ESCC as a serious trip hazard but we are informed that if improvements are to be carried out, the paving slabs will not be relaid but if the situation was deemed to be bad enough, Highways Department would consider replacing the slabs with tarmac. This is unpopular with some parishioners as the High Street is in a Conservation Area and should retain a special character. Discussions are ongoing but if the only answer is for the pavement to be tarmacked, the Environment Committee will refer the matter back to the full Parish Council for a decision.

### Youth Voice project 2016

- Another volunteer assistant to be recruited;
- Youth Voice meetings to continue under the current arrangements until July 2016;
- Parish Council to consider future funding of the project post July 2016;
- Possibility of the Church and Parish Council sharing a youth worker to continue both Church and Parish Council projects with both parties contributing.
- Future of youth bus to be considered.

## Vacancy

Kevin Hawes' resignation leaves a Parish Councillor vacancy.

Why not consider joining this team of committed people who work as volunteers in the interests of the community.



**Parish Council work is rewarding and interesting.**

*For more information contact the Parish Clerk  
Details on the back page.*

**Memorial benches** Thank you to those who have recently donated a memorial bench to the Town Croft. If anyone else would like to make this a fitting gesture, please contact the Parish Clerk

## Neighbourhood Plan

The Neighbourhood Plan is intended to protect assets of community value such as the doctor's surgery and village shop, establish general policies to support business, and identify potential sites for smaller houses for those wishing to downsize or buy their first house.

The initial proposals are affected by the Wealden Local Plan, so support is being obtained from Wealden and from Action in Rural Sussex to take help us turn a draft document into a formal version that can be published for final public consultation.

In the meantime residents are encouraged to look at the Conservation Area Consultation Paper, by doing a Google search on "Wealden Local Plan Issue and Options" and give their feedback to Wealden on proposed extensions to the Hartfield Conservation Area

## And finally ...

I shall be resigning from the Parish Council on 31 January next year.

I have enjoyed my time as a councillor which has been both rewarding and challenging. I know I leave a strong team of committed colleagues and thank them and Emma, the Parish Clerk, for their support during my time as Chairman.

Thanks also for the encouragement of many parishioners who have supported projects in which I have been involved over the past nine years.

I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year

**Jo Edwarde**  
**Chairman, Hartfield Parish Council**

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Vice Chair of the Parish Council Chair of Town Croft and Parish Assets	Cllr John Smith	01892 770871	<a href="mailto:smithorchardview@aol.com">smithorchardview@aol.com</a>
Chair of Planning Member of <b>Community team</b>	Cllr Anne Higgins	01892 770312	<a href="mailto:annehigginshartfield@hotmail.co.uk">annehigginshartfield@hotmail.co.uk</a>
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Wealden District councillor (Hartfield Ward)	Cllr Chris Hardy	01892 771344	<a href="mailto:Cllr.chris.hardy@wealden.gov.uk">Cllr.chris.hardy@wealden.gov.uk</a>
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<b>Community team</b>	Helen Searle	01892 770018	<a href="mailto:helen@helensearle.com">helen@helensearle.com</a>
<b>Community team</b>	Simon Costen	01892 770206	The Old Police House, Hartfield

**Tree Wardens** - Helen Searle (above) and Mr Monty Larkin (above)

**POLICE** - call 101 for non urgent contact, 999 for emergency services, **Police, Fire or Ambulance**

**Local Community Support Officer** – Sharon Ashwell . 07787 685769

**Wealden District Council** – 01323 443322, 8.30 am – 5.00 pm Council Office, Vicarage Lane, Hailsham, BN27 2AX

**East Sussex County Council** – 0345 60 80 190, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, BN7 1U