



HARTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Christmas Newsletter 2019

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Christmastime is almost upon us and it is worth pausing to celebrate our successes as a community. Sincere thanks and praise to all those who strive to make Hartfield a better place, such as the Fete Committee who produce such an excellent event every year and reinvest in our community. There are many volunteers across our parish whose work does not go unnoticed nor unappreciated. I thank all those in our community who think beyond their front door and give of their time to better our community. The appeal I make this Christmas is to consider getting involved if you are able, or more involved if at all possible, in giving back to your community. Whatever skills you have to give, they are valuable. It is each of our threads, however short or long, that go into weaving the experiences and quality of life that makes our parish what it is for ourselves and our families.

And what good news to have the Goods Yard House project behind us. We finally have a dry, damp free, community building.

I close my note by sharing with you a favourite Christmas reading of my wife's by Henry van Dyke. I hope you enjoy it. I wish you a healthy, peaceful and happy Christmas.

Giles Horner, Chairman of Hartfield Parish Council

KEEPING CHRISTMAS -- by Henry van Dyke

It is a good thing to observe Christmas day. The mere marking of times and seasons, when men agree to stop work and make merry together, is a wise and wholesome custom. It helps one to feel the supremacy of the common life over the individual life. It reminds a man to set his own little watch, now and then, by the great clock of humanity which runs on sun time.

But there is a better thing than the observance of Christmas day, and that is, keeping Christmas.

Are you willing to forget what you have done for other people, and to remember what other people have done for you; to ignore what the world owes you, and to think what you owe the world; to put your rights in the background, and your duties in the middle distance, and your chances to do a little more than your duty in the foreground; to see that your fellow-men are just as real as you are, and try to look behind their faces to their hearts, hungry for joy; to own that probably the only good reason for your existence is not what you are going to get out of life, but what you are going to give to life; to close your book of complaints against the management of the universe, and look around you for a place where you can sow a few seeds of happiness--are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to stoop down and consider the needs and the desires of little children; to remember the weakness and loneliness of people who are growing old; to stop asking how much your friends love you, and ask yourself whether you love them enough; to bear in mind the things that other people have to bear on their hearts; to try to understand what those who live in the same house with you really want, without waiting for them to tell you; to trim your lamp so that it will give more light and less smoke, and to carry it in front so that your shadow will fall behind you; to make a grave for your ugly thoughts, and a garden for your kindly feelings, with the gate open--are you willing to do these things even for a day? Then you can keep Christmas.

Are you willing to believe that love is the strongest thing in the world--stronger than hate, stronger than evil, stronger than death--and that the blessed life which began in Bethlehem nineteen hundred years ago is the image and brightness of the Eternal Love? Then you can keep Christmas.

And if you keep it for a day, why not always?

But you can never keep it alone.

HARTFIELD SUSTAINABILITY - Zero Carbon the Environment, Greta Thunberg (and all that)

The Environment never seems to be out of the news these days, so what should we be doing here in Hartfield about it.



- **Heat and Light**
Replace old oil-based heating (and gas boilers) with electric/heat source-based systems
Upgrade to LED lighting
Install Solar PV panels, and/or wind-based power sources, where feasible
Access renewable energy schemes (e.g. Wealden/Forest Row Energy Co-op)
Improve insulation
- **Transport**
Support public transport and reduce reliance on motor vehicles by using car sharing clubs
Install accessible Electric Vehicle charging points at home and public places
Move away from combustion engines to Electric Vehicles
- **Waste**
Reduce reliance on single use plastics and plastic packaging
Improve levels of home recycling
- **Local Economy & Community**
Engage with (major) landowners concerning use of modern/organic farming methods
Consider use of less arable land for solar/wind farms, subject to planning constraints
Ensure that any new homes are constructed with zero carbon in mind
Tree planting program.
Encourage local enterprises to support community-based groups and initiatives.

These are just a few thoughts on how we here in Hartfield can do our bit for the Environment. If you have any ideas, please contact the Council to help progress this matter within our parish.

Councillor Roger Eastwood



DEER SAFETY

Following the tragic, fatal accident that occurred on the Hartfield Road a few months ago, we thought it poignant to remind all drivers, but especially those either new to the area or new to driving of the dangers of driving in areas with a high deer population. As many of you will know, there are two times of the year when deer are more active and therefore likely to run onto the roads. In May to June young deer disperse from breeding areas and in October through to December during the rutting season. The worst times of the day are at sunrise and then again at sunset through to midnight.

The following are some tips that you might find helpful:

- * **After dark**, use full beam when there is no oncoming traffic. Your headlights will illuminate the eyes of deer on or near a roadway giving you earlier warning and greater reaction time. BUT, when a deer or other animals are seen on the road, dip your headlights as animals startled by the beam may 'freeze' rather than leaving the road.
- * **Deer tend to travel in packs** so if you see one deer, slow down and proceed with caution as there are likely to be others.
- * **Try not to overreact** or swerve excessively to avoid a deer as swerving into oncoming traffic or a ditch could be even worse. Stay in your lane and try to slow down. An exception here may be motorcyclists, who are at particular risk when in direct collisions with animals.
- * **Only brake sharply and stop if there is no danger of being hit by following traffic.** Try to come to a stop as far in front of the animal as possible to enable it to leave the roadside without panic.
- * **Call** the emergency services on 999 if anyone has been injured or there is a danger to others and call the non-emergency services on 101 if the deer is on the side of the road and there is no immediate danger to others. The police will be able to contact the local person best able to help with an injured deer at the roadside.

DO NOT approach the injured deer yourself as it may be dangerous to do so.

Councillor Barbara Maude

PARISH COUNCIL BEACON

After the success of the World War One centenary celebrations and the erection of the parish beacon on the Croft kindly funded with fete funds in 2018. The Parish Council were pleased to see the installation of the plaque to record the event. Kindly installed in granite donated by Cllr Colin Burnett-Dick the plaque paid for by the Council was installed in October and is a fitting memorial to all those whose ultimate sacrifice gave peace.

VE CELEBRATIONS – Councillor Burnett -Dick

Work continues with preparations for the VE day celebrations scheduled for next May. The residents of Church Street have now all been informed of the road closure enabling the traditional street party and entertainment to be held in a safe environment. Local organisations who wish to take part in the celebrations will be contacted over the next few weeks to discuss ideas. We are confident the good people of Hartfield will make this a memorable occasion!



HIGHWAYS – Councillor Mike Colenutt

Following a meeting with East Sussex Highways we have learnt that the proposed traffic calming near to Holtye Golf club on the A264 has been down-graded due to financial constraints. There will however be a change to the speed limit from 50 to 40 from Hammerwood bends to Cansiron Lane. Quotes for new signs and associated costs are ongoing. In the village parking has become more difficult for residents. The Parish Council would consider a feasibility report and obtain costs for double yellow lines nearer the pinch points and get cars to park off road. We now have a sign for weekend parking pointing to the school car park. Did you know that the 40 mph signs as painted on the roads over the Ashdown Forest are a mandatory speed limit and not advisory as some people think. Please keep to 40 mph while driving over the forest.

RED TELEPHONE BOX



The Parish Council decided to adopt three telephone boxes in 2010 when BT retired them. There was no purpose given to the boxes and without regular use they looked a little sad. One which was in a poor state on the Colestock Crossroads was rehomed. The other two were put out to their local communities to spruce up and find a purpose for them going forward.

The Parish Council was delighted to hear recently that that the community in Cansiron Lane had made their landmark box shine brightly again.

Thank you Will Levis and your fellow helpers it is good to see it look so clean and red again! If anyone has any ideas or is interested in the box opposite Colemans Hatch Church, please contact me.

Emma Fulham Clerk to the Council

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY

Annual Parish Meeting 7:30pm 27th April 2020 - Hartfield Village Hall

Parish Council and Committee meetings for 2020 are on the website and notice boards.

The Parish Council offices will be closed from 18th December and reopen on 7th January – Happy Christmas to Hartfield Parish

GOODS YARD HOUSE

After many years the Parish Council is pleased to see the building works at Goods Yard House complete.

As well as remedying the damp issue the building is now easier to access with block paved entrances. The Council has installed LED low energy lighting and it is cabled ready to add an electric car charging point in the future. The Parish Council will now be fully operational in the offices and the Clerk's office is open from as before on Mondays, except where advertised. For information on the meeting rooms and how to hire them or to contact the Clerk and the Council please see the contact information on the last page of this Newsletter



Centenary of Hartfield Village Hall - 1920 – 2020

Events now being planned for next year to look back on the last 100 years –**wow- what tales to be told!**- share your memories whilst looking to the future of your hall in the centre of the village owned by all the people of Hartfield. Contact any of the committee



www.hartfieldvillagehall.co.uk - also on Facebook. for forthcoming events.

CHURCH CAFÉ Rev Julie writes: Over the past five years, we have seen the success of Trinity Café in Coleman’s Hatch make a real difference for and with the community. Home- made cakes, a warm welcome for all ages. All donations going to the upkeep of Trinity Hall and local charities. Thank you for all your support we look forward to seeing you there on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month, 9.30am to 12pm. We are now pleased to let you know we will be launching a similar café in St Mary’s Church. You are warmly invited to the launch of Church Street Community Café on Thursday 16th January 2020 at 2.30pm. The café will meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month 2.30-4.30pm. A place where people can feel connected, make friendships and enjoy homemade cakes, coffee and tea. Everyone is welcome. Please find invites to both our cafés inside the Church Christmas card.

HYPE HARTFIELD YOUNG PEOPLE

HYPE is open to young people in our community aged between 11years and 14years. We meet in Hartfield Village Hall on Monday evenings from 18.15 to 19.45 for regular club nights, where there are games activities such as table-tennis, table football, indoor hockey and much more. We also offer craft activities and some cooking. Once a month we meet in St Mary’s Church where we consider matters of social awareness and relationships, sometimes with a speaker. In the summer months we have a range of outdoor activities. Usually involving water! It’s great fun. Come and join us. Weekly subscription is £2 and members can bring 50 pence to buy tuck. We have the support of Hartfield Parish Council and St Mary’s Church.

A new service, **Together @4** has been introduced open to all at 4pm on the 3rd Sunday of the month. **See dates for both below.**

All welcome



Autumn Term 2019					
1 st Sep	Village Hall	Club Night	4 Nov	Village Hall	Club Night
23 Sep	Village Hall	Club Night	11 Nov	Church	Hot Potato
30 Sep	Village Hall	Club Night	18 Nov	Village Hall	Club Night
7 Oct	Village Hall	Club Night	25 Nov	Village Hall	Club Night
14 Oct	Church	Hot Potato	2 Dec	Village Hall	Club Night



For more info contact Revd Julie Sear 01892 770436 or revjulesear1@gmail.com

Clerk to the Council	Mrs. Emma Fulham	01342 822404	parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com
Chair of the Parish Council.	Cllr. Giles Horner	0203 4016895	giles@hartfieldonline.com
Vice Chair of the Parish Council & Chair of Finance	Cllr R Eastwood	01342 851275	roger@hartfieldonline.com
Chair of Planning	Cllr. Anne Higgins	01892 770312	anne@hartfieldonline.com
Chair of Environment & Transport	Cllr. Mike Colenutt	01892 770840	mike@hartfieldonline.com
Chair of Town Croft	Cllr. Robert Nathan	01892 770903	robert@hartfieldonline.com
Wealden District Councillor (Hartfield Ward)	Cllr. Chris Hardy	01892 771348	Cllr.chris.hardy@wealden.gov.uk
East Sussex County Councillor	Cllr. Francis Whetstone	01892 770304	Cllr.franciswhetstone@eastsussex.gov.uk

Other Useful Numbers POLICE [Contact us online](#) or call 101 when it's less urgent than 999 for Police, Fire or Ambulance. Wealden District Council –01323 443322 - 8.30 am -5 pm East Sussex County Council 0345 60 80 190 **For grass or highway issues please contact East Sussex County Council on Phone: 0345 60 80 193 or Email: customer@eastsussexhighways.com**