



HARTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Christmas Newsletter 2022

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE – Councillor Giles Horner

Hello Hartfield,

As we near the end of 2022, it gives us an opportunity to reflect. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee was wonderfully celebrated here in Hartfield. The Queen's Canopy initiative was supported with two oak trees being planted. Lord and Lady De La Warr planted one in the Corner Field and the Parish Council's oak was planted on the Croft, and will be there for the enjoyment of many generations to come. The Queen's passing evoked an outpouring of love and gratitude for her lifelong service to the nation. This was followed by the proclamation of King Charles, and we look forward to celebrating his Coronation on May 6th next year followed by an additional Bank Holiday on May 8th. Our Hartfield Fete this year was incredible; massive thanks should go to all those members of the Fete Committee and the army of volunteers without whom this event would never go ahead. Coleman's Hatch summer flower show was well attended this year, held in the grounds of Holy Trinity Church. It was lovely to see so many people and dogs enjoying the sunshine.



Hartfield hosted its first half marathon at the end of November. It was wonderful to see so many runners enjoying the countryside and a huge thank you to the organisers, John Smith, Duncan Gunn and Kirsty Ashton.

The Remembrance Day at St Mary's was, as ever, a poignant celebration. My thanks to Reverend Julie and James Castle for their organisation and to all who participated, especially the numerous school children.

I thank the Clerk and my fellow Councillors for their continued hard work over this year. I would especially like to remember Anne Higgins, who sadly passed away earlier this year. Anne was a stalwart of the council and we miss her greatly. A lovely blossom tree has been planted in her memory on the Town Croft.

Next year the Parish Council elections will take place in May. If you are interested in standing as a Councillor, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Lastly and most importantly, I wish you and your families a peaceful and joyous Christmas season and a positive start to 2023.



HARTFIELD VILLAGE FETE, HORTICULTURAL AND DOG SHOW -

Cllr. Colin Burnett Dick

The weather on the morning of the village fete was perfect and saw a group of loyal helpers on The Town Croft completing the task of setting up for the fete, which they had commenced the day before. Despite agreeing this would be a smaller fete than previously in order to test the water as to the enthusiasm for such an event after two fallow years, the Croft seemed just as full this year, and indeed, at 12.00 noon, when the doors opened they came in hundreds, perhaps encouraged by Zippy and his puppeteer Ronnie Le Drew who later introduced Sooty and Sweep to the audience. Entrance was by donation and people were really generous. There were an amazing number of stalls selling a wide variety of goods, live music, an incredible variety of food plus tea and cakes in the pavilion. The sideshows proved very popular with the youngsters. The long-established Beer Tent was very busy with wine, soft drinks and it seemed Pimms was a very popular choice. The Hartfield Dog

Show has built up a great reputation and the dog show ring was packed. All the children's entertainment and sideshows were, as always, very popular in a country show as were the wonderful vintage vehicles. Plans start being made early in the New Year and of course depend on volunteers so please do put your name forward. Without local supporters the fete could not happen, and indeed more helpers are desperately needed in order to be able to continue this wonderful Hartfield tradition.

ZERO CARBON AND HARTFIELD PARISH – Councillor Roger Eastwood.

There is plenty of advice being given on energy saving but it is worth looking at the section of the Wealden website called "Energy Efficiency" which covers topics such as help with fuel bills, energy performance certificates (EPC) and the East Sussex County Council Warm Home Check service for people who own or privately rent their property and/ or on certain qualifying benefit. www.wealden.gov.uk/environment-and-polution/home-energy-efficiency/



WEALD TO WAVES - Councillors Jo Sanders and Roger Eastwood

You may already have seen something about this initiative to create a network of nature recovery corridors from the Sussex Coast up to the Ashdown Forest with the aim of boosting biodiversity alongside food production and thriving communities. This is in the planning stages and would be a continuous area of land stretching from Ashdown Forest to Climping Gap via Wakehurst and Knepp. It would provide a nature rich corridor aiming to protect and restore the local environment and allow wildlife migration and form a vital part of a Sussex wide nature recovery network. Have a look at www.wealdtowaves.co.uk if you would like you would like to know more.

ASHDOWN FOREST UPDATE – Councillor Jo Sanders



A main topic of discussion at the Ashdown Forest Parish Liaison meeting in October was the imminent introduction of car parking charges. The absolute necessity for this following East Sussex Council's withdrawal of funding for the forest was reiterated. Charges are : Day Pass £5, a 6 month Winter Pass £50 and an Annual Pass £80 (with reductions for certain groups). This covers two cars per household. Annual passes can be obtained via the parking company website (details on Ashdown Forest website). In car parks payment can be by smart phone app or other mobile via call, card machines at the Forest Centre car park and cash during centre opening hours. Extensive testing using all phones has taken place at all car parks so hopefully there will be few problems with phone signals. By the time of this newsletter the parking charges should have been in place for a couple of weeks. Obviously in this teething period the Conservators are expecting some issues such as possible parking on verges but the evidence from similar areas that have had to introduce parking charges are that these problems dissipate over the first few weeks.

COST OF LIVING CRISIS – ACTION AND LINKS TO HELP - Clerk to the Council Emma Fulham

The Parish Council is funding a warm hub at the Village Hall who are offering free space in the Inkpen Room on the 1st 3rd and 4th Wednesdays for people to have refreshments and chat between 10am and 2pm. On the 2nd Wednesday there is a Village Lunch to which all are welcome.



Final arrangements are being made and will be publicised on Facebook and our Website and noticeboards. There are also lovely community spaces available at the Church Street Café on the 1st and 3rd Thursday afternoons 2-4pm and the Holy Trinity popular cafe on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings of the month. Do you need help with finances, keeping your home warm etc? All residents can check what help they can access on the East Sussex Website

<https://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/community/support-with-the-cost-of-living>

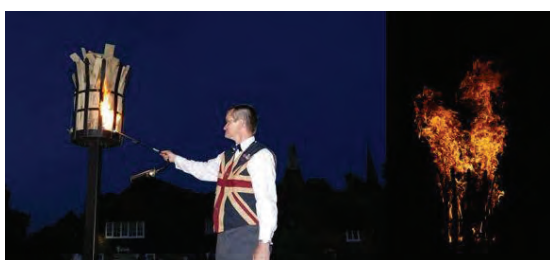
Wealden District Council has put aside 250k to help those needing further Council services and to aid local community groups.

JUBILEE PLATINUM CELEBRATIONS 2022 – Councillor Colin Burnett -Dick

This year marked seventy years of Queen Elizabeth II's reign and Hartfield Parish celebrated this special occasion on the 2nd June along with towns and villages across the commonwealth.

After the doldrums of the last couple of years everyone was ready for a party and with over a thousand people on the Croft we certainly had one. Live music, a bar, Punch and Judy for the young ones, and the not so young, a disco and a barbecue.

Formal speeches and prayers were led by Rev. Julie and we were honoured by the presence of Lord and Lady De la Warr and their family. Lord De La Warr also gave a heartfelt tribute to our Queen.



The evening ended with the Beacon being lit at the pre organised time in order to coincide with Beacons being lit across the Nation, and the singing of the National Anthem followed by the church bells ringing out to mark the end of this very special day.

How sad that just a few months later the country was plunged into mourning and having to get used to the idea that our beloved Queen had passed away.

From celebration to commiseration as we all had to get used to the idea that

she is no longer our reigning Monarch. Life goes on, as they say, and we now have a new King. King Charles III will be formally crowned in May of next year and as I write this I am thinking how we will all be celebrating again as the start of this new Carolean age begins on his Coronation date.

GOD SAVE THE KING!



LITTER PICK – Councillor Mike Colenutt

In the Spring we are planning to have a village spring clean. The date decided is Sunday 26 March meeting at the pavilion at 10.00 Litter pickers, bags and yellow vests will be provided. Apart from picking up litter we will be weeding and brushing, tidying up our wonderful village. Please come along for 2 to 3 hours in the morning.

HIGHWAYS – Councillor Mike Colenutt

The Parish Council are hoping that in their budget for 2023 they will be able to provide a speed indicator device that can be used at sites around the village as agreed with East Sussex highways. The device would be attached to street signs and can be moved to other locations. We see these in other villages in the surrounding area. How they work is the sign is green with a smile for being within the limit and red for exceeding, and the hope is that drivers will reduce speed accordingly.

We are still keen to set up a Community Speedwatch group within the village and are looking for someone who is able to gather together some volunteers to spend a few hours from time to time to monitor traffic. Please contact our clerk if you can help.

HOLTYE NEWS – Councillor Charlotte Beare

We are very grateful to the Holtye Golf Club for allowing the Parish Council to place a notice board on the wall of the club house at the entrance to the car park. This allows Holtye residents to be up to date with Parish news without having to visit Goods Yard House. You may have noticed the finger post opposite Holtye Golf Club was in a very sorry state of repair during the summer, it is now good as new and looking very smart. We would also ask anyone using the A264 travelling to East Grinstead or in the opposite direction to please take care when driving through Holtye, coming past the White House (the old White Horse pub) on the long straight by the golf course, and the cross roads by the war memorial. It is a tempting road to use to overtake slower traffic and cyclists but unfortunately there have been a number of accidents including a fatality.

COMMUNITY SPEEDWATCH VOLUNTEER AND COORDINATOR FOR HARTFIELD – Sussex Police

Community Speedwatch is a national initiative where proactive members of local communities join with the support and supervision of their local police to record details of speeding vehicles using approved detection devices.

Registered keepers of vehicles exceeding the speed limit are contacted - initially with a letter explaining the potential risks and consequences of their dangerous behaviour. Repeat offenders will receive a visit from the local police, irrespective of where they live. Beyond these friendly gestures, focused enforcement and criminal prosecution follow based on the collated evidence.

The role requires a few hours a week and full training is given by Sussex Police on behalf of the Parish Council, the area initially to be covered will be Jib Jacks Hill and Cat Street. The group is approved and has several willing volunteers but just needs a coordinator. For further details and if required a chat please contact Steve O’Connell at Sussex Police by email csw@sussex.pnn.police.uk.

PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE AND ASSET NEWS – Clerk to the Council Emma Fulham

The Parish Council continues to work on its strategic plan encompassing improvements to sustainability, highways safety, parish assets and community projects. This year has seen solar lighting added to the Croft Barn and the bus shelters. LED lighting has been installed at the pavilion and the Parish Council continues to seek energy and cost efficiency. The newsletter has been issued prior to the final budget setting for 2023/24 and whilst the Council strives for costs efficiencies, contractor and maintenance costs of the parish assets have risen dramatically with the current high levels of inflation, currently close to 10%. This will mean a precept increase to cover the basic costs, though the Parish element of our council tax is only a small proportion of the total bill.



The Parish Council has arranged refurbishment of all the fingerposts within the Parish and has arranged all the insurance repairs following Storm Eunice in the Spring.

We have received some community infrastructure levy, which is an offset payment from the building of new homes. This can be used for future capital projects over the following five years but cannot be used for day to day running costs. The Parish Council this year contributed just over £5000 to community initiatives to support groups locally. These include the local sports and youth clubs and Wealdlink. For 2023 grant scheme, please check the Parish Council website for forms in February. The Annual meeting will return in April 2023 to show case local groups and you can register your interest at the same time as you submit a grant application or simply by email



NEW CLLR CORNER – Rob Shaw

I’m a 60 years old, married father of 3. I have 3 grandkids and 1 step grandkid. I Left school at 18 with a couple of A-Levels. I’ve had a varied working life: 4 years with Barclays Bank, 6 years with London Ambulance Service (5 years on emergency work) 28 years law enforcement. I retired from the NCA in Canada in January 2018. My wife and I moved to the village in early December 2019.

I was co-opted to the Parish Council in Dec 2021. The proposed developments in Sackville Lane were the catalyst for me to put my name forward. I thought I had two options - either moan about things and do nothing or join the PC and try and do something! . The main thing I’ve learnt

over the year is how much control of the things that directly impact on the parish sadly rests with WDC and ESCC.

HONEY RUN 2022 – Councillor John Smith

After many successive years the annual fun run which raised funds for the youth of our parish had to be cancelled due to covid regulations and the retirement of Jo Edwarde as the organiser.

Cllrs John Smith and Duncan Gunn took on the organisation of the event this year along with local marathon runner Kirstie Ashton. It was renamed the Honey Run due to the local connection to Winnie the Pooh and with the addition of a half marathon event, its aim remains to raise funds for the youth and also to support the Ashdown Forest. Honey related prizes for competitors and some real running challenges for all abilities made this a great event. Over £1500 was raised by muddy trainers and everyone seemed to like the new format and the course.



Following on from the 2022 success the date for diaries in 2023 is Sunday 19th November and you can book by www.findarace.com or emailing hartfieldhoneyrun@gmail.com. Help is needed to continue to support the event so if you can help with organisation or marshalling on the Croft or on the route please get in touch for 2023.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Hartfield Memorial Garden Volunteers

Our small group of amateur gardeners are looking for extra volunteers!

We meet for a couple of hours in the morning on the second Saturday of each month to help keep the Memorial Garden looking loved! We bring our own tools, gloves, etc.

If you think you might be interested, either pop along on the second Saturday of next month or e mail Jo at joedwarde@hotmail.com

Hartfield Rights of Way Volunteers

Would you like to walk the Parish footpaths once a month and do light clearing? Our group of volunteers are looking for “new recruits”. We walk on alternate Thursdays or Saturdays in the 4th week of each month.

We meet at Goods Yard House at 9.30a.m. and are generally back by noon! We bring our own gloves and secateurs with the option of small hand saws and loppers.

For more information or to volunteer please contact the Clerk parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com

*****IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE DIARY *****

Annual Parish Meeting 7:30pm 17th April 2023 - Hartfield Village Hall;

Parish Council and Committee meetings for 2023 are on the website and notice boards.

The Parish Council offices will be closed from 19th December and reopen on 3rd January 2023

Happy Christmas to Hartfield Parishioners!



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 P.C & Chair of Finance	Cllr R Eastwood	01892 863172	roger@hartfieldonline.com
Chair of Planning	Cllr. Duncan Gunn		duncan@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. Rachel Millward		cllr.rachel.millward@wealden.gov.uk
East Sussex County Councillor	Cllr. Georgia Taylor	07510 074255	cllr.georgia.taylor@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**