

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

It is difficult to fathom that the beauty of spring is right around the corner, and this year, that is not just because of the rain. The spread of the coronavirus is dominating the media around us, our working and day to day living routines, and even our conversation. With all the news flow, it is normal to feel overwhelmed or uncertain. As a community we should take the time to ask each other how we feel about the current situation and share our own thoughts. Some individuals may feel isolated and *vulnerable and we should be sensitive and look to help others in need, especially those having to self-isolate. Be aware of your neighbours and those around you.* Please take note of the request for helpers and volunteers below. **Giles Horner**

CORONAVIRUS Information on this crisis changes daily, so rather than outline what is current at time of writing, we can provide some links to information instead: **For up to date information please see following websites / links:**

Government Health and Safety Executive: <https://www.hse.gov.uk/news/coronavirus.htm>

NHS: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/coronavirus/>

If older members of the public have concerns about anything else, including welfare, care or housing, they can contact Age UK's free advice line, 8am-7pm, 7 days a week: 0800 055 6112

For Wealden DC Website updates: - www.wealden.gov.uk/news-and-events/coronavirus-covid-19-latest -

For Parish Council updates -: www.hartfieldonline.com or Facebook www.facebook.com/hartfieldparishcouncil

For Church updates: www.hartfieldchurch.org and www.colemanshatchchurch.org

Here are some basic pointers from the NHS that will help to avoid catching or spreading coronavirus.

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- always wash your hands when you get home or into work
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap/water are not available
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

Don't

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean

Due to the health crisis the following events have been postponed:

VE Day - many thanks to Cllr Colin Burnett-Dick who has put many hours into this project helped by James Castle, Robert Nathan and Rev Julie. We hope to reorganise this community celebration as soon as we can. However, in the meantime to complement the Beacon, a memorial bench will be installed nearby to commemorate the VE anniversary. This special bench has been funded from the Parish Council with a generous donation from the Fete Committee.

ANNUAL MEETING APRIL AND PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS - new dates will be announced in due course.

Fun Run - thanks to the volunteers who have worked hard to arrange the run. A decision to rearrange will have to be made..

Spring Clean - a new date will be announced in due course.

GRANTS

The deadline for Parish Council grants is 20th April. Please see the website for application forms and information.

HARTFIELD PLAYGROUND

The Parish Council has installed a new play item and surfacing to the playground to improve the play area and safety. Further improvements to fencing and the safety cricket nets are planned. It is hoped it can be enjoyed by all in the future following the short closure.

NEW LOOK WEBSITE

The Parish Council has invested in a new website to aid accessibility and user experience which should be live shortly. The Council is happy to post community events and information on the website. To add information please contact the Council. <http://www.hartfieldonline.com>

CLIMATE EMERGENCY

The Council is considering its position on the climate emergency and reviewing aspects of its day to day business to see what sustainability improvements may be possible. This could include anything from changes in infrastructure to printing less for meetings. More information on the challenge and action plan will be available in due course. If you are interested in getting involved contact the Council

THE RUDE MECHANICAL THEATRE COMPANY returns to the Town Croft with a production called Little Lily Harley. This will be the 8th staged production by this multi-talented group of professional actors – so save Saturday August 1st from 6pm for this outdoor event which hopefully can go ahead in the summer – Caroline Tully 01892 770 730

HEALTHY WEALDEN WEBSITE- For information on local open spaces to enjoy <https://healthywealden.co.uk>



HARTFIELD VILLAGE HALL as previously reported 2020 marks the Centenary year following the building of Hartfield Village Hall for all parishioners in 1920. The committee had agreed to join with the 75th anniversary of VE Day celebrations in the village planning an exhibition in the hall of memorabilia from the Parish historical archives. Sadly, due to the devastating effect of Covid 19 virus, this has had to be cancelled but we hope we can re-schedule later in the year. The popular lunch club has been cancelled. The hall is a hub for the youth organisations who store most of their equipment there and each group is presently making their own decision on whether to continue meeting. Whilst the hall is cleaned regularly and thoroughly it is not possible to disinfect all surfaces every day between users so hall users need to ensure strict hygiene standards are maintained themselves.. At the time of writing the hall has not actually been closed yet but the situation is very fluid and it may well have done so by the time you read this. **Some good news amongst the gloom**, work has commenced on improving the path at the side of the hall and we are delighted to announce that **at last** work is also scheduled to begin later this month in refurbishing the disabled toilet and making it accessible from the inside lobby, it will also house a baby changing unit. Once this work is completed, we will turn our attention to modernising the present ladies and gents’ facilities. For updated info www.hartfieldvillagehall.co.uk or Facebook – **Bookings Officer Paula Jones- 07973 448494**



FOLLOWING A RECENT MESSAGE FROM THE PRIME MINISTER AND DISCUSSIONS IN PARLIAMENT, THE ARCHBISHOPS HAVE ANNOUNCED THAT CHURCH IS CHANGING. The communication can be found

at <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/news/archbishops-call-church-england-become-radically-different-public-worship>. The two key points are that public worship should be suspended (this will include Holy Week services) but that churches should where possible remain open for prayer. This suspension will remain in place until further notice As Rector, I want to reassure you all that my prayers join with yours in this unprecedented time. My intention is to prepare a service sheet available each week with readings up to the end of May. I will be writing a pastoral letter which will go up on the website and sent by email. I am also hoping to record a service in church for you all to join in on line if you are able. Both our churches will be open at different times for prayer. I want us all to keep in touch. Take a look at our websites for more information. www.hartfieldchurch.org and www.colemanshatchchurch.org *With prayers at this time – Rev Julie*

CONTACTS FOR: HARTFIELD PARISH COUNCIL- 01342 822404 Parishclerk@hartfieldonline.com

Parish Office 01342 822404 **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 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**



IF YOU ARE SELF -ISOLATING DUE TO COVID 19 – WE WILL TRY TO HELP BY Picking up Shopping: Posting Mail, or we can just be a friendly voice at the end of the phone!

If you are concerned just telephone or email and someone will be in touch. We are also looking for volunteers to help others so should you be in a position where you are able to give assistance, please get in touch- **Rev Julie 01892 770436 or the Parish Council 01342 822404**

REMINDERS Coronavirus is contagious so please take every precaution to ensure you are only *spreading kindness*. Avoid physical contact (2 metres). Wash hands regularly and leave all items on doorsteps. By contacting us you are agreeing for your contact details to be shared for this purpose between volunteer groups in compliance with data protection regulations but will not be passed on to external groups or for other purposes. Any queries just contact Rev Julie or the Parish office.