



The Hartley Herald

The Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8EL
Tel: 01474 709441 Email: mail@hartleyparishcouncil.org.uk, www.hartleyparishcouncil.org.uk

MARCH 2023

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING TO BE HELD ON FRIDAY 12TH MAY 2023 AT 7.45 P.M. AT HARTLEY VILLAGE HALL, ASH ROAD

You are invited to attend this year's Annual Parish Meeting, which will take place on Friday 12th May at 7:45 pm at Hartley Village Hall, Ash Road.

At the meeting, the accounts for the past year will be available to view and there will also be reports from the Chairman of the Council and our District Councillors.

Gareth Johnson, our local MP, will be attending, as well as our local PCSO, County Councillor and Kent County Council Community Warden, Jackie West.

Please come along to listen to what they have to say and to ask any questions that you may have. This is an ideal opportunity to find out what your Parish Councillors have been doing on your behalf during the past year.

PROPOSED NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN FOR HARTLEY

The Government is keen to support local Communities make plans for the future development of their areas. In 2021 Hartley Parish Council grasped this opportunity and appointed a Steering Group consisting of residents and Councillors to prepare a Neighbourhood Plan, which will require Sevenoaks District Council to take account of residents' preferences and wishes in the future of the Community.

Following early consultations, the Steering Group has been collecting evidence to support the issues raised by residents, the key ones of which, were to protect the Green Belt, the natural environment and retain the existing mix of housing.

To this end the Committee commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment, detailed assessments of the value of the Green Belt which surrounds Hartley on three sides and the preparation of a Building Design Code for the Village.

Further consultations will take place later this year and it will be vital for the benefit of the whole Community, for residents to read the documents when published, and **respond** with their views.

Up to date information about the work of the Steering Group can be found on its dedicated Website <http://www.hartleynp.org.uk>

The website can also be used for feedback.



Your Parish Councillors are: Larry Abraham, Chris Alford, Penny Cole, Perry Cole, Jim Colwell, Lesley Driscoll, Laurence Glander, David Graeme, Mally Malham, Anne Oxtoby, Brian Ramsay, Ian Ross and Vincent Sewell, They can be contacted via the Clerk, Helen Boden at the Parish Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent, DA3 8EL, by email: mail@hartleyparishcouncil.org.uk or by telephone: 01474 709441



YOU WILL NOW NEED PHOTO ID TO VOTE AT A POLLING STATION

From the 4th May 2023, all voters will need to show photo ID at all polling stations.

Accepted forms of Photo ID are:

- Passport
- Driving Licence (This includes a provisional licence)
- A Blue Badge
- Bus passes

If your ID is out of date, you can still use it as long as it looks like you. The name on your ID should be the same you registered to vote.

If you don't have the correct form of ID then you can apply for a free Voter ID document called a "Voter Authority Certificate".

You will need to register to vote before applying for this.

The deadline to apply is 25th April 2023.

Find out more at www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID



FREE FOOTBALL SESSIONS FOR BOYS & GIRLS

Join Millwall Community Trust for 12 weeks of lessons at Woodland Avenue, Hartley DA3 7DB - All abilities are welcome.

Sessions will be on **THURSDAYS** from 2nd March 2023

- Ages 8 to 11 – 5pm to 6pm
- Ages 12 to 16 – 6pm to 7pm

Please note that there are no toilet facilities on site.

Email communities@sevenoaks.gov.uk or call 01732 227000 for more information.



HEALTH AND WELL BEING DAY—18TH MARCH

There will be a Health and Well Being Day on **Saturday 18th March** from 2pm to 5pm at **New Ash Green Village Hall, Centre Road, New Ash Green.**

- Come and hear from your local GP network on getting the best from primary care
- FREE chair based exercise taster sessions
- Kent and Medway NHS Health bus offering FREE health checks
- Meet the Community Cupboard , Warm spaces and more stalls



A WARM SPACE IN HARTLEY

Fawkham & Hartley Church Centre is opening its doors to residents every **THURSDAY** from 12:00am to 3:00pm

Visitors of all ages are welcome and there is no need to book, just turn up. Tea, coffee and biscuits freely available.



For more information call the Parish Office on 01474 630459

DARTFORD, GRAVESHAM & SWANLEY DEMENTIA FRIENDLY COMMUNITY INVITES YOU TO THEIR DEMENTIA INFORMATION COFFEE MORNING.

If you are caring for a loved one living with dementia or looking for support in our local area, information will be available at a coffee morning to be held on **Tuesday 30th May** from **10:00am-12:00pm** in New Ash Green Village Hall, Centre Road, New Ash Green DA3 8HH. There will be refreshments available and representatives from local organisations offering support to families living with dementia. On the same day, they will also be offering a Virtual Dementia Tour experience.

NEW BENCHES

Some residents may have noticed new benches appearing in the Parish. They have been provided thanks to funding received from the EU Welcome Back Fund from Sevenoaks District Council. A combination of picnic benches and regular benches have been installed in the Parish. Maybe you have spotted one on your travels ?



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As part of an ongoing maintenance programme, volunteers are invited to attend Rectory Meadow to join members of the North West Kent Countryside Partnership Team.

They will be at Rectory Meadow on the following dates:

Wednesday 12th April, Wednesday 19th April and Wednesday 26th April.

On these days, they will be focusing on cutting and raking the lower and upper meadow and getting the site prepared for the flowering season.

Members of the Team will be on site from 10:00a.m to 3:30pm and all training, instructions and equipment will be provided.

(Rectory Meadow can be accessed from Bancksides, off Parkfield).

Volunteers are asked to wear suitable footwear and clothing for the weather conditions and to bring a packed lunch, water and gloves.

If you are interested in assisting with this project, please contact the Officer before the day using the details below.

(They will arrange for all volunteers to fill out the relevant health and safety forms beforehand).

Mary Tate

mary.tate@kent.gov.uk

Partnership Officer | North West Kent Countryside Partnership

Hall Place, Bourne Road, Bexley, Kent, DA5 1PQ

Tel: 01322 621 239/ Direct dial: 03000 413 695

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WHAT IS A PARISH COUNCIL?

The Parish Council is the first tier of local government. It is responsible for any land or property that it owns and represents the views of residents in any consultations or matters that affect the Hartley Community.

Hartley Parish Council is responsible for 5 open spaces, 3 playgrounds, 2 buildings and many woodlands. It manages the allotments where 42 residents are able to grow their own produce. It is also the Trustee of Hartley Village Hall.

The Parish Council is consulted on planning issues and meets fortnightly to pass on its views to Sevenoaks District Council. It is also consulted on The Sevenoaks Local Plan entering into discussions regarding how it views Hartley's status in their plan.

A Neighbourhood Plan has been set in motion to further the Council's views on how Hartley should look in the future.

Through the last 4 years the Parish Council has celebrated the Centenary of the end of WW1, Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee and mourned her passing. It has opened the Manor Field Burial Ground and assisted in setting up the Community Cupboard to aid residents.

The Parish Council is always available as the first point of call for any resident who needs help or has concerns about the village.

This year brings the current Council's 4 year term of office to a close.

The last 4 years have been quite challenging for the Council. The Covid 19 pandemic made managing the council affairs quite difficult both for holding meetings via zoom and for its clerks who had to work from home.

However the work of the council managing all the open spaces, the Pavilion and the Village Hall continued efficiently.

Hartley Parish Council has 13 Councillors. Many, but not all of them, will stand for re-election in May so there could be vacancies

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUR VILLAGE OF HARTLEY AND ITS RESIDENTS AS A COUNCILLOR, PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL THE PARISH OFFICE FOR MORE INFORMATION.

HARTLEY PARISH COUNCIL ROUTINE MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2023-2024



The Parish Council is seeking to award a contract for the routine maintenance and patrol of its open spaces located within the Parish and to undertake minor repairs to fences, gates and equipment.

The contract shall take effect from 1st July 2023 and expire on the 30th June 2024.

The quotation period expires at noon on Friday 12th May 2023.

Any company, group or individual interested in providing the Council with a quotation for the above works should contact the Parish Clerk at the following address:

The Parish Council Office, Hartley Library, Ash Road, Hartley, Longfield, Kent DA3 8EL Telephone 01474 709441 Email: mail@hartleyparishcouncil.org.uk