

HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL OCTOBER 2023 SUBMISSION

Hartlip Parish Council

Website: <https://www.hugofox.com/community/hartlip-parish-council-16707/home>

September Full Council Meeting

The meeting took place on Wednesday 13th September 2023.

Draft Minutes from the meeting are available on the HPC website and the Parish noticeboard, which is located on The Street in front of the school to the left of the War Memorial.

The minutes are 'pending approval' of the corporate body at the October council meeting.

Next meeting of HPC Full Council is Wednesday 11th October at 7pm

Please view the HPC web page or the village noticeboard for the full information and agenda which will be available the week before on Thursday 5th October.

If anyone would like to speak at the meeting, please get in touch with the clerk to arrange hartlipclerk@gmail.com

News

Website

The website has been updated with new Policies & Regulations.

War Memorial

Following last year's successful listing of the war memorial a pre grant application was submitted earlier this year to the War Memorials Trust.

The charity trust works to protect and conserve war memorials in the UK and provides free advice to anyone as well as running grant schemes to support repair and conservation projects.

The Trust has just confirmed that Hartlip's war memorial is eligible for a grant. This is great news as repairs and maintenance are urgently needed and along with the amazing £1,500 raised at the Kings Coronation community event in May, it feels we are now on the journey to safeguarding the memorial for the future. The next steps are to obtain specialist tenders for the works and submit these with more forms (!) to the War Memorials Trust and find out how much of a grant the project will get awarded. We will continue to keep you posted on the project.

The Recreation Ground

Cllr Debbie Harper spotted two curious holes in the Rec recently which were lined with steel, likely to be an old cut off goal post or something similar, the holes were filled with water and could have cause a nasty injury to a dog or anyone unlucky enough to fall and land on one of them. Once reported Steve Betts from Stockbury Parish gave his time to dig down and cut them out before backfilling to make them safe. Thanks Steve for your community spirit to your neighbouring parish!

Future of Our Local Play Area

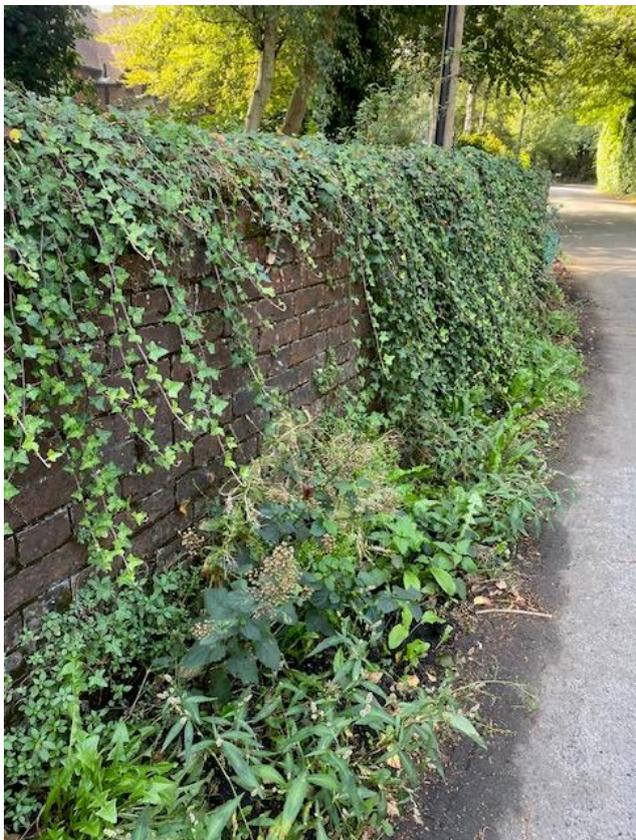
Our play area in the Recreation Ground has been a source of enjoyment and recreation for generations. However, as times change and our community evolves, it is essential to consider potential improvements, updates, or changes to the play area to keep it safe and inclusive as well as financially viable for the parish.

As a vital asset to our community, HPC will shortly be entering in to a Public Consultation to gather input and ideas from all parishioners to ensure that the facility meets the needs and preferences of our residents, young and old.

Please keep an eye on the website for the full detail including the consultation period and how you can participate.

Village Pond

Cllr Gaye Maleed arranged a village pond tidy up on Saturday 16th September. Lots of vegetation had grown in front of and on the wall. Arguably Gaye and Alicia Daley did the bulk of the work! The before and after photos below show the improvement. Thanks also to Scott Hughes for his help and refreshments and to Glynis and Andy Davison who were at the Methodist Church for the loan of road cones, equipment and words of encouragement!



The Street/Dane Close

The overgrown verge on the Street to the right hand side of the entrance to Dane Close was raised by a member of the community. The land belongs to Swale Borough Council and Clive Henley the new Parish

Clerk has reported it. We hope that this will be dealt with before it becomes too much of a nuisance and start growing across the Street! Once dealt with HPC will consider how this is best maintained going forward.

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Allotments

If anyone is interested in an Allotments, we have vacancies so please get in touch with the Clerk if you are interested.

Getting to know your Parish Councillors

Continuing our spotlight on individuals that make up the Parish Council this month it is Sharon Black:

Biography of Sharon Black, Vice Chair of HPC



Many of you reading this already know me as the landlady of the village pub in Hartlip, the 'The Rose & Crown' which both myself and my husband Adrian have run for the last five years.

My career previously to owning the Rose & Crown was always cemented in retail, from being a Store manager of Currys in Sevenoaks to several senior manager roles working for TK Maxx, Matalan and prior to being a landlady, the General Manager of Selby's in Islington.

All our family have lived locally over the last twenty plus years and before we moved to Hartlip lived in Newington for seventeen years and previously to that, Rainham.

We have Three children, Candice, Lucy and Harry who now have (we're pleased to say) left home to pursue their own careers in advertising, social work and in Harry's case University at Portsmouth working towards his degree in accountancy. My formative years from the age of five were spent living in Rainham where I attended, during my senior school years, Rainham Mark Grammar and after this I lived in London for a period of time in Camden Town. Many of my family joke that whilst living in Camden 'I played darts with Jesus' although the truth is that I recruited the actor Robert Powell to play for my darts team in a local pub (if you're under 40 you may not get this joke!).

We decided to take ownership of the pub in Hartlip when, as these things happen, the company I was working for restructured and the option of taking redundancy was presented. Knowing the Pub from our many visits after walking our dogs through the orchards I always felt at home there and could see both Adrian and I running it as a successful business and in the long term become the beating heart of the village. In many ways this is the same ethos that I would hope to bring to my role as Vice Chair of the newly formed Hartlip Parish Council.

My personality and management style is just getting on with identifying an issue, dealing with it with the minimum of procrastination and making sure anyone who is impacted feels they are part of and included in

the process. This, I would say, is what both myself and the other Hartlip Parish councillors would want to bring to our roles, whilst looking out for everyone who lives in the parish.

I firmly believe that Hartlip is a fantastic place to both live, and in my case work in and as the village grows, with new families, we can all create that sense of community and ownership which makes any village successful in the long run.

Sharon

Coming next time: John Davies – but which one.....

HPC Contact

If residents have any questions or problems, please come to one of the advertised full council meetings or direct the question through the new parish clerk via hartlipclerk@gmail.com.

The council and its members are unable to comment on any issues raised on the Hartlip WhatsApp groups, please direct all questions through the clerk, HPC will endeavour to reply and help in a timely manner.

Please keep an eye on the website (URL above) or accessed just by searching Hartlip Parish Council on the internet for news and updates in the future. The website has recently been updated and is the best place to gain accurate information or to communicate with the new team.

Hartlip Parish Council

21/09/2023