

## HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL: COVID-19

Dear Resident,

We find ourselves in one of the most unprecedented times most people have ever known. The current situation must not be underestimated and, as a community, we must support each other and certainly not forget the most vulnerable. As Chair of HPC, on behalf of councillors, I wanted to assure you all that we are working to that end. During recent days a great deal of work has been taking place to put systems in place to ensure that the Parish Council's legal obligations will be fulfilled during the coming weeks and to establish ways to provide support for residents. This has involved discussion between councillors and also with other bodies and organisations in Hartlip and Swale to encourage effective support.

The Parish Council has cancelled its scheduled meetings for 8 April and 13 May and has developed a scheme of delegation to ensure that the council remains fit for purpose and that **its work as a tier of local government** continues uninterrupted.

Communication with the Parish Council in this regard should continue to be via the Clerk through the Parish Council website at [www.hartlippc.kentparishes.gov.uk](http://www.hartlippc.kentparishes.gov.uk).

**The Parish Council website** has had government information/advice uploaded and this will be updated as necessary. Other Hartlip-specific information has been uploaded and will be uploaded as necessary.

You are urged to check the website at intervals.

**Volunteers:** a volunteer form is on the website and those residents able to volunteer to help the Parish Council provide support for the vulnerable in the community are urged to provide their details and indicate what they can offer. Please respond either through the website or in hard copy form to the Village Hall post box.

**The Forum** has been provided with a summary of some of the Parish Council information included in this flyer and also important 'Useful Links' for publication in the next edition. A copy of the volunteer form will also be included.

**Hartlip Parish Council Emergency Mobile Phone:** a mobile phone number specifically for emergencies has been set up. The number is given below.

**Hartlip Parish Council WhatsApp groups:** the Parish Council has delegated to a councillor the setting up of a Covid-19 WhatsApp group in addition to its Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp group. This is valuable to those residents who use social media. The Parish Council is well aware that many residents are not users of social media and that is why other ways of communicating are to be used and the development of a bank of volunteers is considered to be essential.

The Parish Council's Neighbourhood Watch WhatsApp facility should be used strictly for Neighbourhood Watch matters only and its Covid-19 WhatsApp facility should be used for Covid-19 related matters only. Please respect these purposes so that the Parish Council and volunteers are able to be efficient in their responses.

**Residents needing help:** anyone who is self-isolating or is vulnerable and needing assistance such as shopping or collecting prescriptions should record that on the Parish Council website and a volunteer will make contact.

The website is the preferred means of communication for efficiency.

Anyone unable to access a computer should telephone 07426 066161 and speak to Tracy Still, HPC Clerk or 07957 404451 which is HPC's emergency phone number.

**Finally**, the Parish Council wishes to remind residents of the importance of being careful to avoid being adversely affected by individuals choosing to exploit this difficult situation.

Graham Addicott Chair Hartlip Parish Council

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### HARTLIP PARISH COUNCIL: Covid-19 Community Volunteers

I am volunteering to help in the village of Hartlip in the ways indicated below during this difficult time.

Name:

Address:

Landline number:

Mobile number:

Email address:

Deliver flyers	
Picking up shopping	
Picking up prescriptions	
Posting mail	
A friendly phone call	
Other (please specify)	