



# Hartshill Parish Council

Hartshill Community Centre  
Church Road, Hartshill, CV10 0LY

☎ 02476 397 961

✉ clerk@hartshill-pc.gov.uk

🌐 www.hartshill-pc.gov.uk

To:

Steve Maxey – Chief Executive – North Warwickshire Borough Council  
Councillor Margaret Bell - NWBC  
Councillor Katie Hobley - NWBC,  
Councillor Jennifer Warren – WCC  
Jodie Gosling – MP  
PCSO Charley Payne  
Martin Rone-Clarke – Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer  
Alex Franklin-Smith - Chief Constable  
Philip Seccombe - Police and Crime Commissioner  
RSPCA  
Mancetter Parish Council

## **Subject: Urgent Concerns Regarding Loose Horses, Animal Welfare Incidents, and Associated Intimidation in Hartshill**

Dear All,

I am writing on behalf of Hartshill Parish Council to raise serious and ongoing concerns regarding recent incidents involving loose horses, abandoned dogs, and associated anti-social behaviour in our parish, with reference to issues connected to the traveller site, Kirby Glebe.

### Loose Horses Creating Severe Public Safety Risks

Horses kept in a field adjacent to the traveller site have escaped on separate occasions:

- 6<sup>th</sup> October
- 22<sup>nd</sup> October
- Thursday 13 November
- Thursday 20 November
- Friday 21 November
- Friday 28 November

On each of these dates, the horses were loose on public roads and within the village, posing a significant danger to motorists, pedestrians, and the animals themselves. On

20, 21, and 28 November, they were seen on the B4111 Mancetter Road and Leathermill Lane, creating major traffic hazards.

Additionally:

- At approximately 1:30pm on 20 November, the larger white horse entered a resident's garden.

- At 11:00pm on 21 November, all three horses were running down Leathermill Lane onto the B4111, clearly distressed.

- At 8:00am on Friday 28 November, the horses were loose on the canal towpath, moving towards the B4111, again creating a serious risk of an accident on a busy main road.

We must also report that on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October it was reported that one horse had died in the field adjacent to the traveller site, raising further concerns regarding the welfare and supervision of the animals being kept there.

The landowner of the field where these horses are being kept has confirmed that he has not granted permission for them to be housed on his land. Despite his attempts to secure the entrance with boulders, these have been repeatedly removed. He has also expressed that he feels unable to confront the situation safely, as he has been followed and intimidated when encountering the individuals involved.

### Abandoned and Mistreated Dogs

Residents have attended two recent Parish Council meetings to raise their concerns regarding abandoned and mistreated dogs within the parish.

Of particular concern was the incident in which three dogs were thrown from a car outside the Stag and Pheasant public house in Hartshill. Thanks to the actions of residents, the dogs were rescued. However, a resident who kindly took one of the dogs into her care has since been subjected to intimidation and abuse from individuals associated with the traveller site.

These events highlight a pattern of animal neglect and community safety risks, particularly for residents who attempt to help vulnerable animals.

- On the 7<sup>th</sup> of November a resident reported via Facebook that they witnessed a dog (lurcher) type being pulled along by a car on Atherstone Rd at 8.15pm on 6<sup>th</sup> November.
- On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 3 more dogs were found on Mancetter Road (B4111) who had to be taken to a local vet.

### Request for Coordinated Action and Prevention Measures

Given the seriousness and recurrence of these incidents, the Parish Council formally requests a coordinated and urgent response from the relevant authorities outlining:

1. The actions taken so far in relation to these incidents.
2. The measures that will be implemented to prevent future occurrences involving loose horses, abandoned dogs, and intimidation.
3. How the public safety, animal welfare, and wellbeing of residents will be protected going forward.

While some of you may already be aware of aspects of these matters, it is essential that the Parish Council formally documents these concerns to demonstrate our commitment to safeguarding the community. With growing unease regarding the potential expansion of the Kirby Glebe site, it is vital that dangerous and anti-social behaviour is not allowed to escalate unchecked.

We thank you for your attention to this matter and request your prompt response.

Yours sincerely,

Hartshill Parish Council