

# Harvington Village

## PARISH COUNCIL

# Newsletter

MARCH 2025

### EDITORIAL



Sadly, we have to report more incidents of wanton vandalism in the village, and not just one incident, but three in the space of a few days.

The new tree planting had not only enhanced the appearance of the village but, in its own small way, contributed to the larger national and international tree planting schemes to counteract climate change.

But within a matter of days, person or persons unknown have seen fit to destroy one of the trees on Leys Road. It is not known whether the perpetrators are in a younger or older age group, local or from outside the village, but it has to be recognised that, in the end, all these acts of vandalism have to be paid for by us, the residents, via our Council Tax.

### CHRIS BLOORE MP VISITS HARVINGTON



Chris Bloore MP (left), along with District Councillor Graig Reeves (right) visited the village on 20th February. They did a village walkabout meeting residents en-route, as well as calling on those who had issues they wanted to discuss with him.

When asked about his thoughts on future housing developments in the rural villages, he stated he was content with the current, and projected, levels of sustainable development in the village.

He also expressed his own opinions on the proposed plans for Unitary Authorities in terms of the local area and felt that one large authority for the County may not be the best way forward given the differences between the north and south of the county.

**COUNCILLOR REPORTS** - There was no report or attendance from the County Councillor once again. In February, District Councillor Craig Reeves gave the following written report:

- ◆ He had been in touch with Councillor Jill Smith about the 2 Shires Greenway Project and was rallying support with the Leader of WDC, and our MP—Chris Bloore
- ◆ Castlethorpe Homes — due to wet weather, the Archaeological team had been unable to access the site. There had also been some disagreement between a resident and the Team about parking. They were asked to make sure neighbours were not obstructed and the road kept clear.

### KEY POINTS FROM THE FEBRUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

#### COUNCIL VACANCIES

No applications had been received as yet for the co-opted post on the Parish Council and this was being re-advertised. Due to a further resignation from the Parish Council, a Notice of Vacancy was posted on the Notice Boards in February.

#### PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON LAND TO THE REAR OF ORCHARD PLACE ADJACENT TO No.37.

A short presentation with accompanying sketch plan was made by representatives of the proposed developer of this site for 8-9 houses with affordable homes, and semi and detached houses. Access was proposed for this site, which is outside the Development Boundary, onto Evesham Road (B4088). It was advised that they should talk to the WDC Planning Department initially about the feasibility of this project.

#### PERKINS EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AWARDS

The closing date for applications from Schools and other Organisations is midnight on 31st March 2025. The closing date for School leavers to apply for Grants is 15th October 2025. Full details can be found on the Foundation website— <https://www.williamperkinscharity.org/>

#### Other matters arising at the February meeting:

- ◆ The final version of the Neighbourhood Plan was submitted to WDC Planning Officer on 27/01/2025 for approval by the full Council.
- ◆ A new 3.5 m “Acer Crimson King” tree has been planted in the Jubilee Orchard to replace the Jubilee Tree that died.
- ◆ The damaged Harvington Village sign on Leys Road has been rectified
- ◆ Tyres have been dumped in a ditch along Leys Road and reported to WDC for attention
- ◆ Playground Refurbishment— onsite meetings have taken place with contractors regarding the replacement goalposts, and location and suitable playing surfaces. The cost of the running/cycling track was thought to be prohibitive.
- ◆ The ongoing discussions regarding the siting of the third Defibrillator continue; the option of a solar powered unit was discussed though the costs were very high
- ◆ Annual Parish Meeting—this will take place in the Village Hall on 24/04/2025 at 6:00 p.m.

#### Continued on P2

*The next Ordinary Council Meeting be held on **12/03/2025 at 7:45 p.m.** in the Village Hall. Residents are welcome, and may bring issues to the attention of the Parish Council in the allocated slot.*

**Parish Council Members:** Steve Salter (Chairman), Beverly Allison, John Colebrook, Richard Baugh, Gillian Smith, Christine Ball, Colin Jones.

All correspondence and enquiries to be addressed to the Clerk to the Parish Council—Nicky Holland  
Call 07746 948392 or email [clerk@harvington-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@harvington-pc.gov.uk)

(Morton Wood Farmhouse, Morton Wood Lane, Abbots Morton. WR7 4LU)

**For full minutes of the meetings visit: [www.harvington-pc.org.uk/the-parish-council/agendas-and-minutes](http://www.harvington-pc.org.uk/the-parish-council/agendas-and-minutes)**

## VANDALISM



Whilst Harvington may not suffer from regular incidents of vandalism like other communities do, sadly there have been three acts of mindless vandalism to public property in the last few weeks.

One of the newly planted trees on Leys Road was snapped off shortly after it was planted, a pane of glass in the old BT telephone box/Book Exchange has been smashed, and a Dog Waste Bin in Leysfield has also been damaged.



All these irresponsible acts have to be paid for by the Parish Council, so ultimately by you – the resident—via the Parish Precept portion of your Council Tax .

If you are aware of any such acts, or the identity of the perpetrators, they can be reported to the police by phoning **101**, or anonymously to Crimestoppers on **0800 555 111**, or via their online form

—<https://crimestoppers-uk.org/give-information/forms/give-information-anonymously>

### ***Other matters arising at the February meeting: continued.***

- ◆ A Grant Application was received from St James Church for £100 towards the cost of the road closure for the Summer Fete in June, and approved by the Parish Council

### **PLANNING MATTERS**

- ◆ The WDC Planning Enforcement Officer had visited the site of the Live/Work units at Oak Tree Farm, and confirmed that as there was no sale of goods on site there was no breach of Planning Conditions
- ◆ A report had been received that the first storey extension at 6 Ragley Road was in breach of Planning Conditions which were for a brick, and not timber extension, in keeping with the surrounding area. This has passed to the Enforcement officer for clarification

### **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH**— a short presentation was made by a Councillor from Cookhill PC on the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme they have set up and expanding this project to other local villages. He is also looking at circulating Neighbourhood Watch information, as well as Neighbourhood Matters reports to all Councillors. A selection of relevant posters and stickers were left with the Parish Council.

- ◆ Tree planting - comments were made about the favourable reception of the new tree planting scheme, and mention was made of who will maintain them in future. It was also noted that the 2 trees planted to the right hand side of the exit from Orchard Place may obstruct the sight lines in future as they reach maturity - this will be reported to WCC Highways Officer.
- ◆ The ongoing problem of parking on grass verges off Leys Road was raised by a resident and whether something could be done to prevent future parking and damage to the grass verges there
- ◆ Meadow Walk Community Land— the Landscape Officer has stated a preference for a native mixed hedge planting to offer flowers and berries throughout the year and better protection for residents
- ◆ The Highways Officer has at last confirmed that the bus shelter will be sited opposite Myatts Field and will be of the style agreed by the Parish Council in 2021
- ◆ The report on the blocked gullies along Village Street and Station Road has been submitted to the Highways Officer. It was also noted that the amount of mud, decomposing vegetation and other detritus was contributing to the problem as there did not seem to any regular road sweeping programme anymore.



### **VILLAGE HALL VACANCIES**

For the last 6 months, the Hall Management Committee has been looking for 2 members of the Harvington Community who would like to be involved in the running of our beautiful hall. At the moment we need a Secretary to organise, and take the minutes, for 4-6 meetings a year.

Around Eastertime we are looking to appoint a new Treasurer after our long standing Treasurer, Andy Tooth, retires.

However, as with the Village Newsletter Editorship, no volunteers have come forward, so this is another plea for anyone who could be interested in either of these roles, to please contact Christine or Andy as soon as possible, at [harvingtonvillagehall@mail.com](mailto:harvingtonvillagehall@mail.com), or 07436 118644".

### **VILLAGE EVENTS & MEETINGS**

#### **CAMEO TEAS**

**Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 3pm at St James' Church**

With the arrival of spring (according to the Met Office, even though the weather may not agree), CAMEO Teas is moving back to its usual home in the church. Please join us for tea, cakes and friendly chat, and an opportunity to admire the spring bulbs in the churchyard. EVERYONE is welcome, regardless of whether or not you attend church.

Contact Sophie at tel. **870421**

or email [sophie.dodds@mypostoffice.co.uk](mailto:sophie.dodds@mypostoffice.co.uk).



#### **PANCAKES ARE GO!**

You are invited to a pancake party at Breslau, Leys Road on **Shrove Tuesday, 4th March, between 2pm and 4pm.**

This is to raise funds for the disaster relief charity **ShelterBox**, which is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025. ShelterBox delivers emergency shelter and other survival essentials into areas which have been devastated by climate or conflict disaster.



### FILM NIGHT IN THE VILLAGE HAL

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

“Six Minutes to Midnight” (cert 12)

Loosely based on a true story: Shortly before the outbreak of World War II, the Augusta-Victoria College is a finishing school for daughters of the Nazi elite, located in Bexhill-on-Sea. The school is under surveillance by the British secret service and the English teacher Wheatley is a government agent. Realising his cover has been blown, he flees to town, but disappears before he can report to his handler, Colonel Smith. Another agent, Captain Thomas Miller, who is half-German and speaks the language fluently, is sent to replace him. When the girls head to the beach for a swim, they find Wheatley's body washed into the shallows.

Doors open 7:15 p.m. - screen illumination 7:45.

Buy a raffle ticket on entry for **£3.00** and see the film for free! Provide your own glasses, drinks and nibbles, and please take away all rubbish.

### PHOENIX LADIES

Our next meeting is on **5th March** when Josh Egan-Wyre will be present from Pershore College to talk about “Seasonal Plants”. *This meeting is open to all.*

Phoenix meets at the Village Hall on the first Wednesday of each month—£5 a meeting for non-members.

For further information please contact Lesley on 07768 1306

### GIRL GUIDES / RANGERS



Girlguiding  
1st Harvington

On Saturday 8 February, 5 Guides and two leaders took part in the Cotswold Marathon. The event is organised by Gloucester Scouts and involves hundreds of Scouts and Guides competing in an overnight hike. The group competed in the Bronze route and walked almost 15 miles through the night (and some very thick mud!). All of the girls did amazingly, helping each other and being positive throughout. It was a huge challenge for these 11 year olds and it really captured what guiding is all about.

Everyone at Harvington Guides is so proud of them.

To get involved with Girlguiding in Harvington there are opportunities for girls aged 4-18 and volunteers aged 18+.

For more information

[www.harvingtonguides.org.uk](http://www.harvingtonguides.org.uk) or [www.Girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.Girlguiding.org.uk)

### 50 YEARS OLD !

We are celebrating our 50th year since opening and we would love to hear from as many previous members, who were Guides or Leaders, as possible.

Please email [hello@harvingtonguides.org.uk](mailto:hello@harvingtonguides.org.uk) to get in touch.



### HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP



The Community Support group are a small team of volunteers who are available to support residents needing a hand at any time. All our volunteers are DBS checked. So if you, or anyone you know, needs help, then we are often able to assist with

- Transport for appointments or shopping
  - Small DIY jobs or gardens
  - Assisting with Admin , such as form filling
  - A friendly visit or chat , or sit-in whilst a carer takes a short break
- There may be bigger concerns where we may be able to give advice or point you in the right direction.

So please contact the coordinators – Wendy & Konrad Monks - on **07591 377367**

*(leave a message if we don't answer, and we will get back to you).*

### (VERY) ADVANCE NOTICE !

----- **HATS ARE BACK BUT NOT TILL 2026 !** -----

Harvington Amateur Theatrical Society  
*are presenting*

### 'RUB-A-DUB MURDER'

*A new comedy play written for HATS  
by Ken Knight*

THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY

19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> MARCH 2026

Harvington Village Hall

*A date for your diary or advance notice!*

*If you would like to find out more about joining us for this play, either onstage or off, please contact Ken Knight:*

[ken.libbyknight@btinternet.com](mailto:ken.libbyknight@btinternet.com)



### AND FINALLY

*“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time,  
they just have the heart”*

# HARVINGTON DIARY DATES

## What's on this MARCH

<b>MON. 3rd</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON HANDBELLS</b> Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069	<b>TUES. 11th</b> 	<b>UKULELE GROUP</b> Meet @7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com	<b>THURS. 20th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON SINGERS</b> 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members welcome, contact Elizabeth Humphrey- 07799 468952
<b>MON. 3rd</b> 	<b>SONGBIRDS</b> Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961	<b>WED. 12th</b> 	<b>CAMEO TEAS-</b> <b>St James Church -3:00p.m.</b> Contact Sophie on 870421 or sophie.dodds@mypostoffice.co.uk	<b>FRI. 21st</b> 	<b>'Tots@HBC'</b> BAPTIST CHAPEL 10:00—11:30 a.m. All welcome
<b>TUES. 4th</b> 	<b>SHROVE TUESDAY</b> <b>"PANCAKES ARE GO!"</b> 2:00—4:00 P.M. <b>"BRESLAU" LEYS ROAD</b> ALL WELCOME	<b>WED. 12th</b>	<b>HARVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL</b>  <b>MONTHLY MEETING</b> <b>-VILLAGE HALL—7:45 p.m.</b>	<b>MON. 24th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON HANDBELLS</b> Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069
<b>TUES. 4th</b> 	<b>UKULELE GROUP</b> Meet @7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com	<b>THURS 13th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON SINGERS</b> 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members, contact Elizabeth Humphrey- 07799 468952	<b>MON. 24th</b> 	<b>SONGBIRDS</b> Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961
<b>WED. 5th</b> 	<b>PHOENIX LADIES GROUP</b> 7:45 p.m.. Village Hall Anyone interested in coming along, please contact Lesley on <b>07768 130641</b>	<b>FRI. 14th</b> 	<b>'Tots@HBC'</b> BAPTIST CHAPEL 10:00—11:30 a.m. All welcome	<b>TUES. 25th</b> 	<b>UKULELE GROUP</b> Meet @7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com
<b>THURS. 6th</b> 	<b>WORLD BOOK DAY</b>	<b>FRI. 14th</b> 	<b>FILM NIGHT</b> <b>"6 MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT"</b> (Cert 12) VILLAGE HALL . 7:15 for 7:45p.m	<b>WED.. 26th</b> 	<b>STITCH &amp; CHAT GROUP</b> 2:00—4:00 p.m.  COACH & HORSES
<b>THURS. 6th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON SINGERS</b> 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members welcome, contact Elizabeth Humphrey- 07799 468952	<b>MON. 17th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON HANDBELLS</b> Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069	<b>THURS. 27th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON SINGERS</b> 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members welcome, contact Elizabeth Humphrey- 07799 468952
<b>FRI. 7th</b> 	<b>'Tots@HBC'</b> BAPTIST CHAPEL 10:00—11:30 a.m. All welcome	<b>MON. 17th</b> 	<b>SONGBIRDS</b> Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961	<b>FRI. 28th</b> 	<b>'Tots@HBC'</b> BAPTIST CHAPEL 10:00—11:30 a.m. All welcome
<b>SAT. 8th</b> 	<b>CHURCHYARD GARDENING GROUP</b> 9:30—NOON St. JAMES CHURCHYARD Volunteers always welcome	<b>TUES. 18th</b> 	<b>UKULELE GROUP</b> Meet @7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com	<b>SAT. 29th</b> 	<b>"BATTLE OF EVESHAM"</b> Talk in St James' Church 2:00—3:30 p.m. Tickets £5.00
<b>MON. 10th</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON HANDBELLS</b> Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069	<b>THURS. 20th</b> 	<b>VILLAGE NEWSLETTER</b>  <b>DEADLINE FOR APRIL EDITION</b> <b>COPY.</b>  Email to: <a href="mailto:harvnews22@gmail.com">harvnews22@gmail.com</a>	<b>MON 31st</b> 	<b>HARVINGTON HANDBELLS</b> Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069
<b>MON. 10th</b> 	<b>SONGBIRDS</b> Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961	<b>CLOCKS GO FORWARD !</b>  <b>30 th MARCH</b> 		<b>MON. 31st</b> 	<b>SONGBIRDS</b> Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961

### Harvington Village Hall booking enquiries.

For all bookings please contact: tel. no. **07436 118644** e-mail: [harvingtonvillagehall@gmail.com](mailto:harvingtonvillagehall@gmail.com)

Any comments, news articles or events for insertion in the next Newsletter may be emailed to [harvnews22@gmail.com](mailto:harvnews22@gmail.com). Inclusion will be at the discretion of the Editor – Mike Barbour - and with the approval of the Harvington Parish Council.