

Harvington Village

PARISH COUNCIL



Newsletter

APRIL 2025

EDITORIAL



The time has now come to write my final editorial. When I started writing I also thought it would be the “Final Curtain” for the Newsletter too. However, I am glad to report that out of darkness comes the light, and a new Editor has come forward to take over the reins from the May edition onwards.

So, a big welcome to Kate Reynolds, along with many thanks to her for volunteering. We wish you well and look forward to a new writer, and new ideas in the Village Newsletter.

It has been a pleasure and privilege to restore, and write the Newsletter for the last 3 years. In that time, I hope the content has been objective and informative, and covered a range of newsworthy topics. Even in this world of social online media, many residents say they appreciate a monthly paper copy of the Newsletter arriving on their doorstep.

Thanks also go to Paul Lowe at Bloomfield Print & Design who took over the print job last year at very short notice, when our longstanding printer went out of business. The speed at which the print is now produced, and returned to us, is nothing short of amazing.

My thanks go to all the people out there, who have provided content, and notified me of the upcoming Events. I apologise if sometime your copy was slimmed down a bit, as it is not always an easy matter to squeeze everything into 4 pages despite the wonders of IT.

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held on 09/04/2025 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.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING—this will take place in the Village Hall on 24/04/2025 at 6:00 p.m. All residents are invited to attend this meeting. To hear a report of the last year’s business of the Parish Council and raise any relevant issues.

COUNCIL VACANCIES

No applications had been received as yet for the co-opted posts on the Parish Council and this was being re-advertised. Any resident interested in volunteering for these vacancies should contact the Parish Clerk for details.

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

- ◆ The revised Harvington /neighbourhood plan had been approved by the full District Council and was now locked in. The overall SWDP is being examined by the Government inspector at the moment
- ◆ Grants towards VE Day 80th anniversary local events were available (see p.2)
- ◆ Discussion was still ongoing regarding the Devolution plans for local Councils in terms of whether Worcestershire should have one or two new Councils
- ◆ Active support was ongoing from our District Councillor for the 2 Counties Cycleway project
- ◆ The problems of indiscriminate parking on the village green at school times was raised. Parking signs or more frequent visits from Parking Wardens were options discussed
- ◆ Following reports to the Council regarding blocked gullies and lack of road sweeping, the road sweeper had been working in the village and would return to cover the remaining areas

POLICE

There was no report or visit from the local Police Team this month due to operational reasons.



NEIGHBOURHOOD MATTERS

Residents can also sign up to Neighbourhood Matters for updates on local crimes, crime prevention, Fraud Advice and other relevant information from West Mercia Police on <https://neighbourhoodmatters>.

Continued on P2.

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
(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

KEY POINTS FROM THE MARCH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Clerk made the following reports:

- ◆ The Amenity Contract for the year 2025-26 has been signed off
- ◆ Station Road Notice Board—the replacement board has now been installed, both sides are locked and anyone needing to place adverts on the Board should contact the Clerk by email
- ◆ The plaque for the late Queen's replacement Jubilee tree has been placed in the Orchard
- ◆ The replacement bus shelter at the entry to Jubilee Walk will now be installed in the new Financial Year
- ◆ A younger resident of the village who is not old enough to serve on the Parish Council, has expressed an interest in local politics. It was agreed to ask this person to join the Team planning the refurbishment of the Playing Fields

PARKING ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

The issue of indiscriminate parking on the village green at school times was raised twice during the meeting. This has been reported again to the School as well as Parking Services at the District Council. A visit by the Parking Warden was noted later that week.

OTHER MATTERS RAISED AT THE MARCH MEETING

- ◆ HARVINGTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN—as reported on P.1. the current updated plan has been accepted by WDC. The next review will be much more comprehensive and it was recommended that the Parish Council should consider using the services of a qualified Planner to assist in that
- ◆ 2 COUNTIES CYCLEWAY— Funding for this will be agreed at the next Council meeting. A change of use for the land through to Evesham will be required (*see also Page 3*)
- ◆ It was agreed to purchase polycarbonate panels for the Book Exchange kiosk costing £67 to replace the vandalised panel
- ◆ DEFIBRILLATOR—it was agreed finally to purchase an AED Solar Powered outdoor Defibrillator Cabinet to be set on Highways and outside the Leys Road Shop at a cost of £ 2895 + VAT
- ◆ The Parish Council noted the retirement of the current Newsletter Editor with thanks and confirmed the appointment of Kate Reynolds as the new Editor
- ◆ COMMUNITY LAND— the land and trees alongside the entrance to Jubilee Walk will be maintained by the current Amenity Contractor once the land has been tidied up by Lioncourt. Further discussions are required with Lioncourt on their payment to cover the next 20 years maintenance and Admin costs. This will become a Community Space.
- ◆ The application for the Coach & Horses to be registered a Community Asset was deferred to April as further discussions are needed with the Landlord

PLANNING MATTERS

2 Planning Applications were recorded and noted at the March meeting for ref: [W/25/00099/HP](#) -Magnolia, Station Road, Harvington and ref: [W/24/01727/LB](#) Bank Cottage, Stratford Road, Harvington . Full details are in the Meeting Minutes on the Parish Website

CONTINUED IN COLUMN 2

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME— *At every Parish Council meeting there is an opportunity for residents to bring matters to the attention of the Parish Council*

- ◆ A resident raised concerns about the deadwood in 3 trees on the verge in front of 1-3 Leys Road. It was also noted again that there was a continuing problem with parking on the verge causing damage to the grass
- ◆ Anchor Lane—concerns were raised about the poor state of the trees alongside the lane and consequent safety issue. One tree had previously fallen onto a residents car. The Parish Council will discuss this with the Highways Officer
- ◆ There were still problems with the overhanging hedge beside 1 Rectory Close which will also be reported to the Highways Officer
- ◆ There were questions raised about the state of the blocked roadside gullies due to lack of regular cleaning, as well as the lack of road sweeping in the village which contributes to the problem. It was noted that the Road Sweeper had made one visit to the village recently but not all areas were covered
- ◆ The potential developer for land alongside Orchard Place queried if the Parish Council had discussed the Planning Application in Principle that they had lodged at WDC. As this had been registered too late for the current meeting it would be examined by designated Parish Councillors .

Residents can examine and comment the application on the WDC planning Website under reference : [W/25/00442/PIP](#)

VE DAY 80th ANNIVERSARY



A £19,000 fund is being made available to help communities across Wychavon mark the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe.

Wychavon District Council is making £250 available to town and parish councils to support activities on and around **Thursday, 8 May**, to celebrate a significant milestone in the nation's history. Parish and town councils will be contacted directly over the coming weeks with details about how they can claim the money.

As well as the dedicated fund, Wychavon is also scrapping fees for road closure notices for anyone holding a street party either on **5 May, 8 May**, or over the weekend **from 9 to 11 May 2025**.

Wychavon will join communities nationwide by raising the VE Day 80 flag *at 9am on 8 May*. Churches are being asked to ring their bells *at 6.30pm* and communities are also invited to light a beacon *at 9.30pm*. At the same time, Chelsea Pensioner Colin Thackery will lead the nation in a rendition of "I Vow To Thee My Country."

Although 8th May is not a public holiday, communities are still encouraged to hold street parties on the Bank Holiday Monday before, on the day and over VE Day 80 weekend.

VILLAGE EVENTS & MEETINGS

FILM NIGHT IN THE VILLAGE HALL



Friday 11th April 2025

“Small Things Like These” (cert 12)

It is the tale, simply told, of one ordinary middle-aged man - Bill Furlong (**Cillian Murphy**) - who in December 1985, in a small Irish town, slowly grasps the enormity of the local convent's heartless treatment of unmarried mothers and their babies (one instance of what will soon be exposed as the scandal of the Magdalene laundries).

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.

A special thanks are owed to Andy & Christine Tooth, who month by month have tirelessly selected new films for us to view, set up the Hall, and organised a great monthly social and enjoyable event for residents.

PHOENIX LADIES

Following our last meeting when Josh Egan-Wyre gave an excellent talk and demonstration of seasonal plants for the garden, our next meeting on **9th April** will be a talk by Jamie Bryan on “Building bridges in Rwanda”. The summer outing this year will be a visit to Bletchley Park on 4th June.



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 - 50 YEARS !

Harvington Guides are in their 50th year this year! Celebrations have already been kicked off with a silent disco party for all of our current young members in Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers. We have more plans in the pipeline and would love to hear from past members.



Girlguiding
1st Harvington

If you have ever been a part of Harvington Guides please contact hello@harvingtonguides.org.uk.

CAMEO TEAS

Wednesday 12th March, 3pm at St James' Church

Please join us for tea, cakes and friendly chat, and an opportunity to admire the spring bulbs in the churchyard. **EVERYONE** is welcome, and it was good to see new faces joining in at the March meeting

Contact Sophie at tel. **870421**

or email sophie.dodds@mypostoffice.co.uk

PANCAKES PAID OFF!

The Shrove Tuesday event last month raised an amazing £405 for Shelterbox, the charity who provide disaster relief throughout the world.

The Harvington Festival is
back in 100 days!

SAVE	
JUNE 20-29TH 2025	THE
DATE	IN VENUES ACROSS OUR VILLAGE HarvingtonFestival.org
Get ready for an unforgettable experience at the Harvington Festival 2025! Join us for 10 days filled with many music events, a red-carpet film night, talks, quiz night, an auctioneer, and so much more from June 20th to June 29th, 2025.	
Our Festival relies on our Friends To help make this years festival a success please consider becoming a Friend of the Festival to ensure we are able to offer a full programme of family entertainment with free to attend events. To become a friend, please visit our website	
Become a friend	
Mark your calendars and don't miss out on all the Festival has to offer	

Saturday 19 April,

9.30am-12.30pm at St James', Harvington

Come and join us for a range of Easter-related activities including building an Easter Garden that you can take away, games, story and a special hunt to help us prepare for the

BIG DAY – EASTER!!

Adults and junior helpers needed to build the church's Easter Garden

A small charge of £5 will be made to cover materials for the take-away Easter Gardens for the children

Space is limited so please book ahead by e-mailing

holidayclub@archbenefice.org.uk or phone **01386 870**

LATE NEWS

Two Shires Greenway Project

A recent visit to Harvington by our MP Chris Bloore has resulted in questions being asked in Parliament as to why Worcester County Council (WCC) is not engaging with us to get this project off the ground. Wychavon District Council have also asked WCC for legal permissions to upgrade the bridle path bring the route out of Evesham to The Valley.


























This would provide Harvington and Norton residents with safe off-road cycle and walking route all the way into Evesham via The Valley. The response from WCC has been to put our applications on file. Over 400 residents responded to our grant application survey and fully supported this project, so come on WCC, do what the people of Harvington and Norton want, and help us create this wonderful facility.

AND FINALLY

“Knowledge is knowing what to say. Wisdom is knowing whether or not to say it.”

HARVINGTON DIARY DATES

What's on this APRIL

WED. 2nd  PHOENIX LADIES GROUP 7:45 p.m.. Village Hall Anyone interested in coming along, please contact Lesley on 07768 130641	FRI. 11th  FILM NIGHT "SMALL THINGS LIKE THESE" (Cert 12) VILLAGE HALL . 7:15 for 7:45 p.m.	WED. 23rd  ST. GEORGES DAY
THURS. 3rd  HARVINGTON SINGERS 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members welcome, contact Elizabeth Humphrey-07799 468952	SAT. 12th  CHURCHYARD GARDENING GROUP 9:30—NOON St. JAMES CHURCHYARD Volunteers always welcome	THURS. 24th ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 6:00 P.M. VILLAGE HALL ALL RESIDENTS WELCOME
FRI.4th  'Tots@HBC' BAPTIST CHAPEL 10:00—11:30 a.m. All welcome	MON. 14th  HARVINGTON HANDBELLS Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069	THURS.24th  HARVINGTON SINGERS 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members welcome, contact Elizabeth Humphrey-07799 468952
SAT. 5th  NATIONAL CARAMEL DAY	MON.14th  SONGBIRDS Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961	THURS. 24th  VILLAGE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR MAY EDITION COPY.
MON. 7th  HARVINGTON HANDBELLS Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069	TUES. 15th  UKULELE GROUP Meet @ 7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com	FRI.25th  'Tots@HBC' BAPTIST CHAPEL 10:00—11:30 a.m. All welcome
MON.7th  SONGBIRDS Village Hall 7:30—9:30 p.m. New members always welcome Contact: 07973 792961	THURS.17th  HARVINGTON SINGERS 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members, contact Elizabeth Humphrey-07799 468952	MON.28th  HARVINGTON HANDBELLS Meet at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Keith Hemming 01386 870069
TUES.8th  UKULELE GROUP Meet @ 7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com	FRI. 18th  GOOD FRIDAY BANK HOLIDAY	TUES. 29th  UKULELE GROUP Meet @ 7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com
WED. 9th  CAMEO TEAS- St James Church -3:00 p.m. Contact Sophie on 870421 or sophie.dodds@mypostoffice.co.uk	SAT. 19th EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB ST. JAMES CHURCH 9:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.	WED. 30th  STITCH & CHAT GROUP 2:00—4:00 P.M. COACH & HORSES
WED. 9th HARVINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MONTHLY MEETING —VILLAGE HALL—7:45 p.m.	MON. 21st  EASTER MONDAY BANK HOLIDAY	
THURS. 10th  HARVINGTON SINGERS 7:30 p.m. St James Church New members welcome, contact Elizabeth Humphrey-07799 468952	TUES. 22nd  UKULELE GROUP Meet @ 7:30 p.m. Call: Andy Banks 01386 871840 andy.banks16@btinternet.com	

HARVINGTON COMMUNITY SUPPORT GROUP

Our group of volunteers are always available to offer support to the residents of Harvington. So if you need some help with practical issues, transport or if you just need a friendly ear, please contact us on **07591 377367**

(leave a message if no answer and we will get back to you).



Harvington Village Hall booking enquiries.

For all bookings please contact: tel. no. **07436 118644** e-mail: harvingtonvillagehall@gmail.com

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