

Article submitted to The Bridge magazine in Feb/March 2022

Harrold Flood Group: The flood group is now operational and we are holding an inventory of flood sacks around the village. During an Environment Agency *Flood Alert* we will be monitoring the river level gauges and the new flood camera, waiting for any concerning information from members who live by the river (or at Wood Road for surface flooding), watching the Met Office forecasts, and waiting for updates from the borough council's Resilience Team. It's not until the Environment Agency raises the level to a *Flood Warning*, and/or we consider there's an imminent risk to properties, that we commence door knocking and providing assistance. Please note that it's important that homeowners take responsibility for their own flood protection rather than relying on distributed flood sacks. We also intend to introduce ourselves to more people to build a picture of who may require additional assistance during a flood, such as moving furniture around. If you'd like to do your own flood monitoring then please email the clerk who will send you links and information.

Flood camera: The Environment Agency (EA) have tightened up on data protection and they will only allow login access to their new internet flood camera by the bridge to the flood groups and parish councils. This is a shame as it's purposefully low resolution so as not to capture faces and licence plates, the view of the raised causeway is not shown, and it only snaps a picture once an hour. Its intended use is to get a view of the flooding on the road and also of the depth gauge. However, when there is a risk of the road flooding the clerk is going to post regular pictures from the flood camera (with any personal data removed), along with any updates the Harrold Flood Group received in relation to flooding, into the below Facebook group. Others will assist to ensure there is always coverage. Please feel free to join.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/harroldcarltonflooding>

Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee – Saturday 4th June: Councillors will be hosting a public village event on The Green on the afternoon of Saturday 4th June to mark the Platinum Jubilee. If you wish to get involved or have a stall for the event then please contact the clerk. Further details are to follow. The borough council will be offering residents the chance to close their roads to hold an event – more details will be provided nearer the time – we will share the procedure when we get sent it.

Lower Green: You may have noticed works to the Lower Green recently. The parish council is working to improve the look of the area for residents and try to reduce anti-social behaviour by opening it up. Clearance works have been carried out prior to the bird nesting season; future works are still being planned. We also recently had to remove a large oak tree that had become diseased and the storms have fatally damaged the alder tree (next to the bench) which will need to come down shortly.

The Bridge magazine grant: The parish council is pleased to have awarded a grant of £600 to The Bridge magazine for printing costs. This is a key communication tool for villagers and we are grateful to those who give up their time to produce and deliver it.

Harrold Parish Council Facebook page

If you would like updates on Parish Council activity then please join the Harrold Parish Council Facebook page.

Address for correspondence (only):

David Brough, Clerk and Proper Officer, Harrold Parish Council, 3 Saxon House End, Harrold, MK43 7FS.

07870108315. harroldparishcouncil@outlook.com

www.harroldparishcouncil.com

www.facebook.com/harroldpc

The next council meeting dates are: 13th April, 11th May, and 8th June 2022 in the Harrold Centre at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend – there is a public open session at the start of every meeting.