

### **Scout Hut refurbishment**

The Parish Council have been holding funding aside for the renovation of the Scout Hut and Sports Pavilion under the ownership of Harrold Playing Field Association (HPFA). The Scout hut renovation is about to commence (at time of writing) and the council confirmed their intention to fund it at the February meeting. Works totalling approximately £29k will cover internal cladding of the walls, kitchen changes, a disabled toilet, repainting, improvements to the heating system and electrical improvements.

### **Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Parish Council meeting**

This years' Annual Parish meeting will occur on Wednesday May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7.30pm at the Harrold Centre. The Annual Parish meeting is a meeting of parishioners (you) hosted by the Chairman of the Parish Council to discuss parish affairs. It is a very good opportunity to address the council on any topic, so do come along; let us also remind you that every monthly meeting has a public open forum at the start and we welcome your attendance. The Annual Parish Council meeting will follow that meeting; in this meeting we elect the Chair and Vice Chair, amongst other items of council business, in preparation for the coming year.

### **Lych gate repairs**

The Council wish to formally thank Malcolm and Jacqui at Alpha 4x4 Joinery in Harrold for the high-quality restoration work carried out on the Lych gate at St Peter's church.

### **Purchase of additional speed sign (VAS) device for the village**

The Council has approved the purchase of a second Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) measuring vehicle speeds. These will continue to be moved around the village, including at the North end now.

### **Pilot of salting/gritting this winter on the pavements**

The Parish Council has been piloting the salting of the pavements along the length of the High St and around the Medical Practice. The Borough Council only salt the roads and there are normally a handful of occasions during the winter when the main pavements will need doing. The council is pleased with the work and will continue to carry this out each year.

### **Training for the village on use of the defibrillator**

We preparing to offer a professionally-run training course on the use of public defibrillators. The Parish Council are responsible for the one on the front of No.68 Hairdressers on the High St. If you are interested in attending then please email the Clerk. Groups are welcomed.

### **Maintenance items**

Fawns Playgrounds recently completed the works to install a new playfort at the Harrold Centre playground and various other smaller fixes to the playgrounds. The council has approved works to re-mortar the Lockup on The Green; this is expected to occur during the Spring.

### **Councillor vacancy**

We still have one vacant councillor position on the parish council. Councillors attend a monthly evening meeting; it is unpaid but if you're interested in the village then you will find it quite enlightening and you have the opportunity to steer the progress and focus of the parish council.

### **May 2019 elections**

Every four years elections are held so that parishioners can choose their parish councillors. The next elections are at the beginning of May this year. If there are fewer applicants than positions (as is currently the case) then it's unlikely a vote will happen. This will be advertised publicly when the Borough Council (who run the process) send us the official posters for advertisement.

### **New wall by the bridge**

Initial works on the wall by the main bridge started in November 2018 to put the footings in place. The wall is expected to be built in April 2019 but this will be weather dependent. Once built, the existing railings will be removed.

### **Grants**

We have recently granted £250 to Harrold Twinning Association. The Twinning Association developed, and continues to maintain, cultural links between Harrold and the town of Ste Pizanne in France. The group holds social events open to all parishioners throughout the year, with approximately 60 supporters. We encourage you to approach the group and attend their events.

### **Orange recycling bags**

You can put these bags out with your recycling if your orange wheelie bin becomes full. These are available at Harrold Butchers and at the Coop. Please only take the amount you need; we assist the Borough council in running this service and we only get restocked on an ad hoc basis.

### **Harrold Parish Council Facebook page**

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

Address for correspondence (only):

Harrold Parish Council, Brookfield House, 79 Harewelle Way, Harrold, MK43 7DW.

07388 125821. [clerk@harrold.org.uk](mailto:clerk@harrold.org.uk)

[www.harroldparishcouncil.com](http://www.harroldparishcouncil.com)

[www.facebook.com/harroldpc](https://www.facebook.com/harroldpc)

The next meetings are April 10<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup> (Annual meetings) and June 12<sup>th</sup> in the Harrold Centre. All are very welcome and encouraged to attend; there is a public open forum at 7.30pm at every meeting. Please email the clerk if you wish to address the council as we may wish to add the item to the main agenda so that we can take immediate action. Please note that the clerk role is part time, so you may not receive an immediate response to correspondence - although I do try to be flexible and spread my time through the week.