

April/May 2023

DATES FOR THE DIARY

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING - 25th April 2023 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

This meeting is not a Council meeting but an opportunity for residents to find out what goes on in Harlington. The format this year will be to receive council and committee reports followed by residents raising questions. If you wish to raise a question or make an announcement this must be submitted to the Clerk via email by 14th April 2022. Having advance knowledge of the questions will allow them to be grouped and make it possible to give a more complete reply. Village organisations are invited to have a stand demonstrating their activities. You will be able to meet other residents, village organisations and find out what is happening in the village. If your village organisation would like a stand, please contact the Clerk - clerk@harlington-pc.gov.uk

LOCAL AND PARISH ELECTIONS—MAY 4TH 2023—POLLING STATION AT THE PARISH HALL

Voting is an important right and responsibility, and is a crucial way for people in a democracy to have a say in what affects our communities. You MUST be registered to vote, you can do so at gov.uk/register-to-vote and you'll need your name, date of birth, address and National Insurance number. From MAY 2023 voters have to present an approved form of photographic identification at polling stations. Acceptable forms of photo id are a passport, photo driving licence or a card with PASS mark. A list of accepted id can be found at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/voter-id You can also apply for a FREE voter id card.

If you are unable to vote in person, or prefer not to, registering for a Postal Vote is an option. You can do this at www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/postal-vote

If you're interested in standing as a councillor, you can find more information on standing in local and parish elections on the Electoral Commission's website. Nomination papers can be requested from electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk and must be delivered by hand to Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands SG17 5TQ. You can request an appointment for a precheck to make sure that the information on your nomination paper is correct. We cannot accept nomination papers before 14 March 2023. The deadline for handing in your completed nomination form is 4pm on Tuesday 4 April. Please email electoral.registration@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk for more information.

FREE TREE GIVEAWAY

This was held in the West Room of the Parish Hall, and was a very well supported event, with almost 90 trees being given out on the day, and in the following week! The CBC tree adoption forms completed on the day have been returned. Hopefully there will be another initiative for the 2023/24 planting season.



WHATS HAPPENING IN THE VILLAGE

The Church Road Lamp post has now been replaced—but we continue to wait for UK Power to reconnect it & install the light. Based on previous experience, this may take some time, despite continual reminders!

Warm Spaces has come to an end—the date was changed from the end of April to the end of March after Paperchain had gone to print.

HEDGEHOGS

Understanding what hedgehogs do in springtime is key to knowing how to help them. Hedgehogs usually come out from hibernation between March and May, depending on the temperature. It can take anything from a few hours to days for a hog to acclimatise, and during this time they will be wobbly and disorientated, thirsty and hungry having used most of their fat reserves during hibernation. A shallow dish of water could be a life saver for a thirsty hedgehog, as could a dish of meaty cat food, covered with a tunnel like structure if possible to keep other animals off! Once recovered from hibernating, the one thing on a hedgehog's mind in Spring is... sex. Mating usually takes place between April and June, but if it's warmer ... why not!! Hedgehogs don't 'do' monogamy and multiple encounters a night is quite normal... so, if this Spring you hear a grunting, rustling noise in your garden, it's probably a pair of hedgehogs, and if they're not getting amorous, it will be a pair of boars (males) fighting over a girl! The female is usually pregnant for about 32 days BUT hedgehogs are amazing and if things aren't 'right', a pregnant hog can delay giving birth until they are! The hoglets will stay with mum in the nest for around 4 to 5 weeks—then the little ones are independent, and mum might start a 2nd pregnancy.



CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

The Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort will take place at Westminster Abbey on Saturday 6 May, 2023. The Service will be conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury. As previously announced, the Service will reflect the Monarch's role today and look towards the future, while being rooted in longstanding traditions and pageantry. Visit the Royal UK website for more information.

From CBC website

The Big Lunch is bringing neighbours and communities together to share friendship, food and fun! Join the nation in celebration and be part of history on 6-8 May. Visit the Eden Projects website to get your coronation pack or your big lunch pack.

If you are planning a street party or any other event on the public highway you will need to apply for a temporary road closure using the Central Bedfordshire Council website.

VILLAGE DEVELOPMENT— SUNDON ROAD— REDROW HOMES

Some of you may be aware that Archaeology works (agreed by the CBC Archaeology Officer) have begun on the above site. The works, 'trial trenching', the digging of 22 trenches across the development area were scheduled to start in early February and were anticipated to last around 2 weeks. Trial trenching is an investigative method which looks for any sign of archaeological interest, and involved an amount of targeted vegetation clearance to allow for machinery access between the land parcels. The clearance of vegetation would be in the areas roads will be in, so as to ensure no more than strictly necessary would be removed. The contractors for the archaeological work would be accessing the site via Pilgrims Close, and it was anticipated machinery would be left on site rather than brought in and removed on a daily basis. When construction work starts, the site access will be via Sundon Road.

SPEEDWATCH & STREETWATCH

Harlington Speedwatch is now fully operational! The first active session was held on 28th February and saw good results in speed reduction from motorists, except for the one who cruised by well in excess of 30mph whilst we had a rep from Beds Police in attendance. Letter to follow!

Harlington Streetwatch continue to operate around the village, and are receiving accurate crime statistics regarding reported crime.

FIND OUT ALL THE LATEST INFORMATION



COUNCIL WEBSITE AND NEWS UPDATES

We have approximately 974 households in Harlington and currently we have **281** subscribers to our **Website**.

It is great to see so many more people have signed up and are now receiving 'instant' news, available on a day-by-day basis.

We will update you on CBC information such as road closures and anything else which affects village life. If you haven't signed up yet, we would urge you to do so, we can then send you Parish Information straight to your inbox. Take a look at the website at **www.harlington-pc.gov.uk** and sign up to get regular updates and information.

DO YOU WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY?

You could become a Parish Councillor

By becoming a parish councillor you can:

- Take an interest in issues that affect your area
- Represent the views of members of the village community
- Have an impact on decisions that affect the lives of those around you, for example you can comment on local planning applications or give your support to community groups in the area
- Have a say on how money is spent to benefit your community and local area



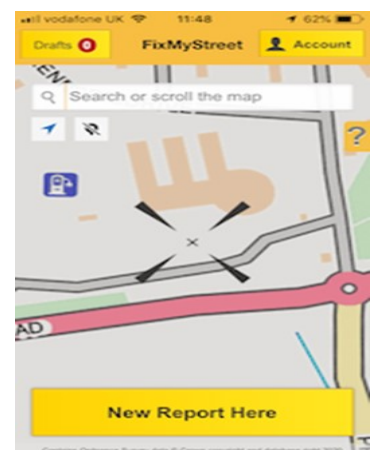
To find out how you could become a Parish Councillor you can find all the information on the council website; **<https://harlington-pc.gov.uk/do-you-want-to-make-a-difference-in-your-local-community/>**

REPORT AND TRACK ROADS AND HIGHWAYS PROBLEMS

CBC has a new reporting system to make reporting street issues easier, quicker and more accurate and you can upload photos. You can now report and track highways and environment problems online, such as:

- potholes
- faulty street lights
- draining or flooding problems
- damaged pavements
- faulty traffic lights
- overgrown trees and hedges
- obstructions in the road
- damaged or missing road signs or other street furniture
- damaged bus stops and bus shelters

https://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/info/55/transport_roads_and_parking/588/report_or_track_roads_and_highways_problems_-_potholes_street_lights



You can also use the FixMyStreet app to report and track issues, you can get the app on Google Play and on Apple's app store.

HARLINGTON PARISH COUNCILLORS

Councillor M Harris (Chairman)	Full Council and F&GP	CouncillorHarris.M@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor P Hughes (F&GP Chairman)	Full Council and F&GP	CouncillorHughes.P@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor T Culverhouse	Full Council and F&GP	CouncillorCulverhouse.T@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor M Walsh	Full Council and F&GP	CouncillorWalsh.M@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor J Goodenough	Full Council and F&GP	CouncillorGoodenough.J@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor J Harfield	Full Council	CouncillorHarfield.J@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor J Lewis	Full Council	CouncillorLewis.J@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor K Saunders	Full Council	CouncillorSaunders.K@harlington-pc.gov.uk
Councillor M Street	Full Council	CouncillorStreet.M@harlington-pc.gov.uk
VACANCY—	Full Council	If you want to help your community please apply
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CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS

CLlr Mary Walsh, C/O Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ

Phone: 0300 300 8514 **Email:** Mary.Walsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

CLlr Silvia Collins, C/O Priory House, Monks Walk, Chicksands, Shefford SG17 5TQ

Phone: 0300 300 8548 **Email:** Silvia.Collins@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

MP FOR HARLINGTON

Nadine Dorries MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

Phone: 020 7219 5928 **Email:** dorriesn@parliament.uk

CPRE BEDFORDSHIRE

43 Bromham Road, BEDFORD MK40 2AA **Phone:** 01234 880624 **Email:** info@cprebeds.org.uk

THE CHILTERN SOCIETY

White Hill Centre, White Hill, Chesham, HP5 1AG **Phone:** 01494 771250 WWW.chilternsociety.org.uk

THE CHILTERN CONSERVATION BOARD

The Lodge, 90 Station Road, Chinnor, OX39 4HA **Phone:** 01844 355500 www.chilternsaonb.org

WANT TO KEEP UP-TO-DATE? THEN ATTEND THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

11th April 2023	Full Council Meeting	7.30 pm
25th April 2023	Annual Parish Meeting	7.30 pm
9th May 2023	Annual Council Meeting	7.30 pm
6th June 2023	Finance & General Purposes Meeting	7.30 pm
13th June 2023	Full Council Meeting	7.30 pm

Parish Council Office, R/o Parish Hall, Church Road, Harlington, Beds, LU5 6LE

Tel: 01525 875933 Email: enquiries@harlington-pc.gov.uk

Chairman: CLlr Andrew Fildes councillorFildes.A@harlington-pc.gov.uk **Clerk:** Mr Stewart Wilks