

MEETING OF HARTING PARISH COUNCIL

You are hereby summoned to a Meeting of Harting Parish Council to be held
at Harting Community Hall on
Thursday 21 December 2023 at 7.30pm

The Press and Public are welcome to attend.

Trish Walker

Clerk to Harting Parish Council

Published 17 December 2023

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Declarations of Interest**
- 3. Minutes** - to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16 November 2023.
- 4. Questions from the Public (limited to 15 minutes in total)** *This provides an opportunity for members of the public (who are not usually permitted to speak during the meeting except by special invitation of the Chairman) to ask questions for up to 3 minutes, raising concerns or making comments on matters affecting Harting parish. No decision can be taken during this session, but the Chairman may decide to refer any matters raised for further consideration.*
- 5. Matters of Urgent Public Importance** – raised with consent of the Chairman.
- 6. Reports from the County and District Councillor**
- 7. Co-option of two new councillors for the Harting Ward** (see supporting document for briefing note)
*The following recommendation is made:
To consider the co-option and appointment of two new councillors for the Harting Ward*
- 8. Parish Priority Statement submission to SDNPA** (see supporting document for briefing note)
*The following recommendation is made:
that subject to any minor amendments the Harting Parish Priority Statement and scene setting introduction are submitted to the SDNPA.*
- 9. Henry Warren Hall grant application** - (see supporting document for briefing note)
*The following recommendation is made:
That the Council considers the grant application from the Henry Warren Club for the sum of £1642.47 to cover the cost of the annual insurance premium on the Henry Warren Village Hall.*
- 10. Standard grants applications 2024/25** (see supporting document for briefing note)
The following recommendations are made:
 - i. To agree that the Council allocate the following grants in 2024/25*
 - a. Harting Community Hall and the War Memorial Playing Fields – (£2650 each)
£5300 total*
 - b. Harting Parish hospital car scheme - £180*

- c. *Petersfield Citizens Advice Bureau - £300*
 - d. *Allotment rents -£25*
 - e. *The Parish Church and Congregational Church burial grants – (£200 each) £400 total*
- ii. *To agree, as part of their overall grants, to recommend that the Council also covers the cost of the insurance premiums for Harting Community Hall and the War Memorial Playing Field and the cost of a bookkeeper for the former.*

11. Additional Grants 2024/25 (see supporting document for briefing note)

The following recommendations are made:

- i. *To agree the application from Harting Community Hall for £6166 + vat for a Solar Battery to be funded in the year ending 31 March 2024.*
- ii. *To refuse the War Memorial Playing Field, at this stage, to ask for additional detail and quotes for the new showers and toilets and to await the outcome of the reported grant applications.*
- iii. *To agree to a grant of £3000 + vat for the Henry Warren Hall towards the cost of a Solar Battery system to be funded in the year ending 31 March 2024.*
- iv. *To agree that any agreed grants should be held in reserve, where possible, to enable the purchases to be gifted to the organisations.*

12. Budget and Precept 2024/25 (see supporting document for briefing note)

The Finance Committee recommends a budget of £56,975 for the financial year 2024/25 with the precept also at £56,975. This equates to an increase to the precept of £1043, a 1.86% increase on the previous financial year. No funds will be offset against the reserves.

The following recommendations are made:

- i. *that the Council agree the Budget for the financial year 2024/25*
- ii. *that the Council agree to request £56,975 as the precept from CDC (Chichester District Council) for the financial year 2024/25.*

13. Harting CAN (Harting Climate Action) feedback on grant (see supporting document for report)

The following recommendation is made:

To note the report.

14. Tree survey of South Gardens and the Warren (see supporting document for briefing note)

The following recommendation is made:

That the Council appoint Mark Welby, arboricultural consultant, to carry out a ‘leaf off’ survey of South Gardens and the Warren at a cost of £550 + vat

15. Finance

15.1. To approve expenditure for December 2023

Undisclosed	Clerk and RFO Salary including backpay	2036.47
HMRC	Tax and NI contributions	579.75
Gallagher	WMPF annual insurance	1401.07
WMPF	Lengthsman	168.00
Trish Walker	Bike Rack	105.54
Trish Walker	Monthly Zoom subscription	15.59

15.2. To agree the two banking signatories to authorise the online payments for December 2023.

15.3. To note that the bank reconciliation for November 2023 has been scrutinised and signed by the Chairman of the Finance Committee and will be signed by the Chairman of the Council in accordance with the Financial Regulations

15.4. To note income for December 2023.

None.

15.5. To note the bank balance as of 30 November 2023 - £108,271.46 (includes earmarked funds £44k and budgeted spend to year end £15k)

15.6. To note the budget statement to 30 November 2023 (attached)

16. Planning - To note the minutes (attached) of the Planning Committee held on 16 November 2023.

17. Finance – To note the minutes (attached) of the Finance Committee held on 21 November 2023

18. Feedback from WMPF and HCH representatives (verbal reports)

19. Correspondence (see supporting document for details)

20. Clerks report – (attached)

21. Items for future meetings

Restoration of water pump

22. Date of next meeting – Parish Council Meeting 18 January 2024 at Harting Community Hall at 7.30pm.

Supporting Documents 21 December 2023

Agenda Item 7 – Co-option of two new councillors for the Harting Ward

Briefing Note

A public notification of vacancies was sent to Chichester District Council on 18 September 2023. There was no call for election and the Council is now able to fill the two vacancies by co-option.

The vacancies have been outstanding since the May 2023 elections.

Potential candidates have been asked to provide the clerk with a short resumé of what they can offer to the Council. The details of any potential candidates will be circulated to the councillors and consideration of the vacancy and candidates, and a vote will be taken at the Council meeting on 21 December 2023.

The successful candidates must receive an absolute majority vote from the councillors present at the meeting. For example, with three candidates, this would mean one must receive more votes than the other two combined in order to be successful in the first round of voting. When this is not the case (e.g. 4, 3 and 1), the name of the person having the least number of votes is struck off the list and a fresh vote is taken. A tie in votes may be settled by the casting vote exercisable by the chairman of the meeting.

In accordance with Standing Orders, voting is by a show of hands unless two councillors request that it be by secret ballot.

Each vacancy will be balloted separately. Successful candidates will sign acceptance of office forms and join the meeting after all the voting has been completed.

The following recommendation is made:

To consider the co-option and appointment of two new councillors for the Harting Ward of Harting Parish Council

Agenda Item 8 - Parish Priority Statement Working Group (PPSWG)

Briefing Note

At the meeting on the Council on 15 June 2023, it was agreed that Harting should submit a Parish Priority Statement (PPS) to the SDNPA. A Working Group (PPSWG) was appointed, consisting of Mr Shaxson, Mrs Bramley, Mr Bonner and the Clerk, with the proviso that they could co-opt others to help. Mrs Katherine Hewetson subsequently joined the PPSWG.

A leaflet encouraging parishioners to express their views on the topics covered by PPS was hand delivered to every property in the parish. As a result, 150 people provided information, equating to 20% of the households. On 16 November 73 people attended a Parish Meeting called to consider the PPS. Armed with the information provided by the questionnaires, members of the PPSWG provided an overview of the findings and asked the attendees to provide their priorities. Issues covered by the three SDNP Corporate priorities, namely 'A National Park for All', 'Climate Emergency, and 'Nature Recovery' were all referred to.

The PPSWG subsequently further considered the questionnaires and the outcomes of the Parish Meeting and have drawn up the document to be considered by the Council, noting that we are required to provide bare facts rather than detailed descriptions. Subject to the Parish Council's approval, the document will be submitted to the SDNPA. It will both indicate the wishes of the community and provide guidance in creating the revised SDNP Local Plan. The Statement will be accompanied by a 'setting the scene' document to give some background information about the Parish.

The documents are attached or can be accessed by clicking on this [link](#) or via the Council website [Harting Parish Council – Working for Our Community \(harting-pc.gov.uk\)](http://harting-pc.gov.uk)

The following recommendation is made:

that subject to any minor amendments the Harting Parish Priority Statement and scene setting introduction are submitted to the SDNPA.

Agenda Item 9 -Henry Warren Hall grant application

A grant application has been received from the Henry Warren Village Club in Nyewood. The Hall Trustees are asking the Parish Council to provide a grant to reimburse the cost of the annual insurance for the Henry Warren Village Hall. The application can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

The Harting Parish Council Grant policy lists the Henry Warren Club as an affiliated group which may receive Council support.

The Parish Council reimbursed the insurance premium for last year at a cost of £1432.24. The premium for the forthcoming year is £1642.47.

The following recommendation is made:

That the Council considers the grant application from the Henry Warren Club for the sum of £1642.47 to cover the cost of the annual insurance premium on the Henry Warren Village Hall.

Agenda Item 10 - Standard grants applications 2024/25

Each financial year the Council considers standard grants (as detailed in the [Grants Policy](#)) for inclusion in the annual budget. The Finance Committee considered these grants at its meeting on 21 November 2023, see minute in italics below:

'The members reviewed the grants for 2024/25 and agreed they should be included in the Budget Proposal to be presented to the full Council on 21 December 2023. It was noted the Council holds the grants each year until specific projects are identified, this enables the item or service to be gifted to the organisations with the Council reclaiming the vat.

The members noted the balance of grant monies held on behalf of HCH (Harting Community Hall) was £3033.58. The WMPF balance was currently £nil.

There was a discussion about the uplift of the grants to HCH and WMPF, these have traditionally been increased by the CPI rate at 1 September. The members agreed the grants should be increased to £2650, this being an increase of 6%. Although this was below the CPI rate of 6.4% it was felt this would even out by 1 April 2024.

There was a discussion about increasing the other grants but it was felt there was no evidence that more was required at this time.'

The Finance Committee have made the following recommendations for agreement by the Council:

The following recommendations are made:

- i. To agree that the Council allocate the following grants in 2024/25
 - a. Harting Community Hall and the War Memorial Playing Fields – (£2650 each) £5300 total*
 - b. Harting Parish hospital car scheme - £180*
 - c. Petersfield Citizens Advice Bureau - £300*
 - d. Allotment rents -£25*
 - e. The Parish Church and Congregational Church burial grants – (£200 each) £400 total**
- ii. To agree, as part of their overall grants, to recommend that the Council also covers the cost of the insurance premiums for Harting Community Hall and the War Memorial Playing Field and the cost of a bookkeeper for the former.*

Agenda Item 11 - Additional Grants 2024/25

In addition to the standard grant applications, there had been three further requests for funding as detailed below. Applications can be viewed by clicking on each individual application.

- | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------------|
| i. Harting Community Hall | £6166 + vat | Solar Battery |
| ii. War Memorial Playing Field | £15000 | New showers and toilets |
| iii. Henry Warren Hall | £9200 + vat | Solar Battery system |

The Finance Committee considered these grants at its meeting on 21 November 2023, see minute in italics below:

'The members discussed the various applications and reviewed them against the financial accounts for each organisation. It was noted there was some flexibility within the current year budget, if agreed by the full council, to enable some of the projects to go ahead immediately.

The grant applications were considered for recommendation to the Council along with the following funding options:

- Underspend from current year budget*
- CIL monies - £13,168.81 currently available*
- Increasing budget for 2024/25. This is the least favoured option as it would have a considerable impact on the precept.'*

The Finance Committee have made the following recommendations for agreement by the Council:

The following recommendations are made:

- i. To agree the application from Harting Community Hall for £6166 + vat for a Solar Battery to be funded in the year ending 31 March 2024.*
- ii. To refuse the War Memorial Playing Field, at this stage, to ask for additional detail and quotes for the new showers and toilets and to await the outcome of the reported grant applications.*
- iii. To agree to a grant of £3000 + vat for the Henry Warren Hall towards the cost of a Solar Battery system to be funded in the year ending 31 March 2024.*
- iv. To agree that any agreed grants should be held in reserve, where possible, to enable the purchases to be gifted to the organisations.*

Agenda Item 12 - Budget and Precept 2024/25

See below for proposed budget. A separate copy of the budget is included in the meeting pack.

HARTING PARISH COUNCIL BUDGET 2024-25

Headings	Budget 2023-24	Likely spend 2023-24	Proposed Budget 2024/25	Budget Increase/decrease	%
Staff Salaries					
Salary	17,500.00	18,615.00	18,000.00	500.00	2.86
Pension	700.00	-	700.00	0.00	0.00
Total Staff Salaries	18,200.00	18,615.00	18,700.00	500.00	2.75
Admin					
Website and phone	310.00	300.00	300.00	-10.00	-3.23
Microsoft licence	800.00	879.20	900.00	100.00	12.50
IT support	1,100.00	1,104.00	1,120.00	20.00	1.82
Chairmans allowance	200.00	200.00	200.00	0.00	0.00
Audit fees	450.00	600.00	600.00	150.00	33.33
Admin	1,000.00	750.00	750.00	-250.00	-25.00
PC Insurance	1,500.00	1,373.00	1,400.00	-100.00	-6.67
Training	500.00	500.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
Room Hire	-	-	1,000.00		
Legal	1,000.00	-	1,000.00	0.00	0.00
Election	450.00	427.50	100.00	-350.00	-77.78
Total Admin	7,310.00	6,133.70	7,870.00	-440.00	-6.02
Subscr/Memberships					
SALC/NALC	500.00	693.55	700.00	200.00	40.00
Capital expenditure					
Open spaces major repairs	2,000.00	209.17	1,000.00	-1,000.00	-50.00
Total Capital	2,000.00	209.17	1,000.00	-1,000.00	-50.00
Maintenance					
Warren & South Gardens	3,000.00	900.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00	-50.00
Highways	1,000.00	500.00	1,500.00	500.00	50.00
Mixed repairs	2,500.00	1,664.00	1,500.00	-1,000.00	-40.00
Dog bins/gloves	800.00	532.48	800.00	0.00	0.00
Grass cutting	2,000.00	1,792.76	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Lengthsman	750.00	758.30	750.00	0.00	0.00
Tree survey	600.00	600.00	-	-600.00	-100.00
Total Maintenance	10,650.00	6,747.54	8,050.00	-2,600.00	-24.41
Grants					
Hall	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,650.00	150.00	6.00
S137 -	5,300.00	5,180.50	600.00	-4,700.00	-88.68
WMPF	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,650.00	150.00	6.00
Churchyards	400.00	400.00	400.00	0.00	0.00
Hospital car	180.00	-	180.00	0.00	0.00
Allotment rent	25.00	25.00	25.00	0.00	0.00
Hall insurance	1,500.00	2,088.93	2,100.00	600.00	40.00
Hall bookkeeping	500.00	526.25	-	-500.00	-100.00
WMPF insurance	1,500.00	1,400.00	1,400.00	-100.00	-6.67
Other grants	4,000.00	1,811.63	9,400.00	5,400.00	135.00
Total Grants	18,405.00	16,432.31	19,405.00	1,000.00	5.43
Contingency	3,100.00	-	1,250.00	-1,850.00	-59.68
Total Budget	60,165.00	48,831.27	56,975.00	-4,190.00	-6.96

PRECEPT

Precept met from reserves	55932	56975	1043	1.86%
	4233	0		
	60165	56975		

Notes to accompany budget

Room Hire

The Parish Council has been fortunate in being able to use the village hall free of charge as this was seen to reflect the annual grants provided by the Council. However, as Sole Trustee it is very important that the Council is not seen to be benefitting from the Charity and so it is advised to pay for the hire of the hall. It is suggested this cost could be offset against the cost of the hall bookkeeping which is currently funded by a grant from the Parish Council

Election costs

This has been reduced this year as the 2023 election was uncontested and therefore cost only £427.50. There is already £900 in earmarked reserves for this.

Tree Survey

The next tree survey is due in January 2024 and the following one will be in June 2025, therefore no cost in the financial year 2024/25

S137

The previous year contained a substantial grant for the Coronation celebrations.

Hall Bookkeeping

See note on Room hire

The Finance Committee recommends a budget of £56,975 for the financial year 2024/25 with the precept also at £56,975. This equates to an increase to the precept of £1043, a 1.86% increase on the previous financial year. No funds will be offset against the reserves.

The following recommendations are made:

- i. that the Council agree the Budget for the financial year 2024/25*
- ii. that the Council agree to request £56,975 as the precept from CDC (Chichester District Council) for the financial year 2024/25.*

Agenda Item 13 - Harting CAN (Harting Climate Action) feedback on grant

Report from Sarah Green and Christine Cunningham (Harting CAN)



Update on Harting Parish Council's Donation to Harting CAN

Thanks to the generous donation of £2,000 from Harting Parish Council, in response to our grant application, we were able to launch and run Operation Nestbox, the making and installation of nest boxes for Swifts, Housemartins and Swallows.

This is a summary of what we did, what we've achieved and our next steps.

Introduction

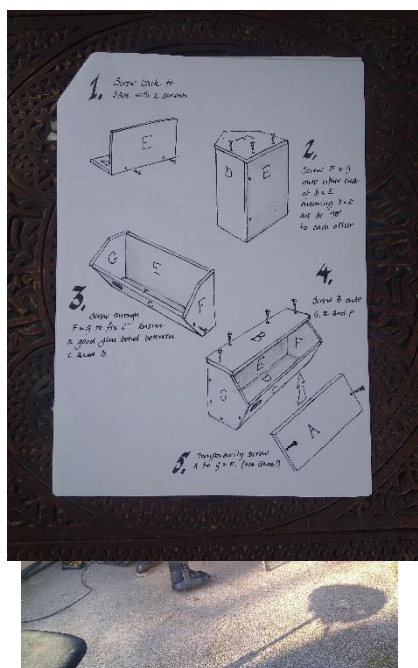
Operation Nestbox was led by the Earth Matters team, which is one of the five groups that that forms Harting Climate Action Network (Harting CAN).

As a group we are passionate about our natural environment. We are very concerned about the way it is being treated and the lack of understanding of the longer-term impact we are having on our flora, fauna, birds, insects, land and natural resources.

Our aim is to change behaviours and educate – through engaging projects and interaction with our community. We want to teach not preach, to suggest joyous projects that have a real and positive impact.

Operation Nest Box

Thanks to the support from Harting Parish Council, who gave us a grant of £2,000, we have been able to run Earth Matters' biggest and most successful campaign to date, Operation Nest Box.



We started by undertaking extensive research to find the best locations for the boxes, the types of boxes that are the most successful, and what habitats are required. This was followed by mapping the current locations of swifts, swallows and house martins nesting sites. This record will ensure that we can measure these birds' numbers in future years.

A group of talented locals designed plans, created prototypes, cut the wood and distributed it to a further team, who then made the next boxes and homes for swallows, swifts and house martins. A further team painted the nest boxes and distributed them for installation, which was done by a further team. Every person involved was a volunteer from our local community.

Our success to date:

- 52 Swift nest boxes of three different designs have been made, 43 have been installed, and the remainder have homes.
- 26 House Martins nests have been made, 20 installed, the remaining 6 pending allocation.
- 3 single nests for swallows have been made and installed.

So far only one swallow cup has been occupied by the correct species, but was to be expected. These are cautious birds. It is not unusual for it take 3 – years from installation for a nest box to be adopted. However, established projects in the UK show uptake rates of 80-90% after 10 years. We will be keenly watching the skies next spring

A genuine community project with many benefits

When we proposed this project to the Parish Council, we promised it would be a community project, which it has proved to be. It has many benefits:

- We got researchers, designers, makers, menders, painters and installers involved from our community to meet and work together.
- It raised the awareness that swifts and house martins are in danger of extinction and swallows are not far behind.
- It was educational – the whole Harting Primary School attended a wonderful talk by Christine Cunningham where they learnt about their habits, habitat, how to recognise them and what they need to survive.



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- It was educational – Paul Stevens, an expert on swifts took us on a local walk to spot swifts then talked to us about them in the Law Room, this was followed by a Swift Pint in the pub, where further questions could be asked.
- It was educational – from the desire to have a nest box there is now a much greater understanding of what these birds require for successful nesting. We believe that now less pesticides are being used, and that more people are having wild areas in their gardens, that water sources are being created and insects and “pests” encouraged to provide food for these birds.

There are additional benefits:

- Prior to going into production extensive research was undertaken to find the most successful box designs, the best location, what could be done in addition to encourage the birds to nest in these boxes.
- The research also included mapping where the birds currently nest, so that in years to come we can measure the success of this project.

Next steps

Our makers are keen to keep making nest boxes and with some of the remaining money we plan to continue to make homes for wildlife. The next phase will be bat boxes, small bird boxes and homes for hedgehogs. Hedgehogs, bats and many of our garden birds are Red Listed, as being in danger of becoming extinct in the UK. Loss of habitat for nesting, scarcity of food through the over-use of pesticides and climate change are significant factors in their depleted numbers. By making and supplying safe homes for raising their young, our intention is to provide a stop gap whilst longer term habitat regeneration progresses.



And there's more - Wild About...

To build on the success of Operation Nestbox we are developing another campaign that will run for much of 2024 – Wild About...

We are calling this campaign “Wild About.....” and the aim is to encourage everyone in our community to sow wild flower seeds. This can be on a driveway, in window boxes, along pathways, public green spaces, our gardens – in fact anywhere where the soil is poor. The campaign would run throughout March, where seeds and instructions on how and where to grow them will be given away for free.

Purpose:

The purpose of this campaign is to make our community even more beautiful and engaged with the natural world, through the sowing and growing of wildflowers. By sowing seeds in our gardens and open spaces throughout the parish we will be educating through this joyful activity. Our wildflowers will increase the biodiversity of our parish, providing food and shelter for pollinators and other insects, beetles and small animals.

Bringing the community together

We will seek Wild Champions throughout the Parish who will lead on the community activity, find suitable open spaces, help deliver the seeds, work with their community to sow seeds, manage the area and generally galvanise the different communities.

We aim to involve the whole community

The conversations are just starting but we are proposing to engage:

- Harting Primary School – through the gardening club, and potentially providing information and activities to support modules within the planned school curriculum. Giveaway seeds and leaflet on what to do in each book bag.
- Harting Horticultural Society – promoting to members and engage with them to support this campaign.
- Harting CAN supporters – promoted through newsletter and social media, posters across the village and have an event to celebrate Two Years On to give away/where seeds can be collected.
- Harting CAN Repair Café repairers and customers – collect seeds from the Repair Café, information boards to show how important our native wildflowers are to our wildlife
- Churches – both the sharing of the seeds and the management of the churchyards
- Make them available in Harting Stores, the Lamb & Newt, The White Hart, The Three Horseshoes etc

This project is in the early stages of development and we are starting to engage individuals and community groups. As this develops, we will keep the Parish Council informed.

Christine Cunningham & Sarah Green

Harting CAN

December 2023

The following recommendation is made:

To note the report.

Agenda Item 14 – Tree survey of South Gardens and the Warren

The case of Cavanagh vs Witley Parish Council confirms that an eighteen-month cycle for tree surveys is essential for owners of mature trees adjacent to highways. The last tree survey (leaf on) was undertaken on 9 June 2021 at a cost of £550 + vat.

The next survey (leaf off) will be due in January or February 2024.

Due to the nature of the survey it is desirable to maintain continuity with the survey. It is therefore recommended that Mark Welby, arboricultural consultant, who carried out the previous survey should be contracted to carry out the 'leaf off' survey.

The quote for the survey remains at the same level.

The following recommendation is made:

That the Council appoint Mark Welby, arboricultural consultant, to carry out a 'leaf off' survey of South Gardens and the Warren at a cost of £550 + vat

Agenda Item 19 – Correspondence

Sent/Rcd	Correspondent	Details
		No correspondence received other than regular emails and items already listed in the main agenda or clerk's report.

Clerk's Reports - Harting Parish Council –21 December 2023

Agenda Item 20

Items raised at previous meetings:

Topic/Date first raised	Item Detail	Action by	Status
April 2023 – Min 285	Bike Racks	AP & Clerk	Approved at meeting on 19 October 2023. Section 115E licence in place. Installation to be carried out a contractor who has New Road and Streetwork accreditation. Hennessy of Elsted are providing a quote. Bike rack has been purchased ready for installation.
Dec 2023 – Min 171	<u>Flooding</u> Operation Watershed Applications Gulley clearance Purchase of sandbags and equipment Flooding signage Householders to keep an eye on drain covers	Clerk, HABAC	Clerk to speak to Sue Furlough at WSCC for initial advice and direction Clerk to speak to Sue Furlough at WSCC for initial advice and direction Clerk to speak to Sue Furlough at WSCC for initial advice and direction Clerk to speak to Sue Furlough at WSCC for initial advice and direction Review list of gulleys and nearby properties and contact householders.
Dec 2023 – Min 172	Defibrillators	Clerk	Grant applications submitted

Speedwatch November 2020	Speedwatch	Clerk	Speedwatch registration complete. Volunteers to register and carry out initial online training. Group training to be arranged by police when online training complete. Equipment to be purchased Jan 2024.
B2146 Hurst to Stanbridge Min 122 Sept 2022	To investigate a joint cross boundary approach with Buriton PC to help improve the safety of the stretch of road.	AS – Harting DJ - Buriton	Cross boundary meeting arranged with Chairs of Harting and Buriton parish councils, WSCC and Hampshire Highways officers and County Councillors took place on 19 April 2023 landowners had indicated an agreement in principle to allow a new footpath to create a safe route away from the main road.
POSAC/Woodland and Tree Sub committee (minute 172 – 2022/23)	Commission Management Plan for South Gardens	Woodland & Tree Sub Committee (WTSC)	Council agreed aims and objectives for the Plan. Petra Billings is unable to help with the South Gardens Management Plan due to other work commitments. Other ecologists are being approached for quotes.
TRO application October 2023 Minute 148	Apply for 40mph speed restriction from Hampshire Border to Hurst Farm	TW/AP	Council agreed to make TRO application on 19 October 2023. Support has been confirmed by West Sussex and Hampshire county councillors and Buriton parish council. Local residents along the route have been contacted and those that have responded to date have been in favour of the application. Clerk to now complete application.
Traffic Working Group	To consider the possibility of applying for a Community Highways Scheme (CHS) to improve safety for pedestrians and to reduce the speed of traffic in the village		Positive meeting with CHS officers from WSCC and Traffic Working Group took place on 21 November 2023. Confirmation South Gardens crossing going ahead and initial plans shared. Confirmation 20mph scheme to be implemented, subject to the necessary approvals, and discussions about the areas to be restricted. Further information will be provided as the planning progresses. North Lane junction changes are not in the approved scheme but WSCC suggested this could be developed as a Phase II application.

Sewage Discharge April 2023 – Min 283	Continually high levels of sewage discharge from the treatment works at South Harting	TW/AS/SBR	Letter sent to Southern Water asking why the discharge levels are so high and what is being done to address this and if and how the planned expansion of the site will make a difference. Clerk has chased response
Water Pump restoration	June 2022		<u>Village pump restoration project</u> Information to be sought on potential grants and follow up further quotes. Local stone mason has been approached and is happy to take a look and advice, they may or may not quote. Local stonemason has been asked if he is able to provide some advice on level of work recommended.
Insurance Claim	Claim from Hastings Direct for damage to a car from a tree falling from Council land on 28 February 2020	TW	A claim had been received from Hastings Direct, on behalf of a client, regarding alleged damage to a car from a tree falling from Council land in February 2020. Insurers maintain the Council is not at fault. The statute of limitation is 7 years (injury 3 years) so the case cannot be fully closed until that time.
Concrete bus shelter base May 2022	The concrete base is breaking up and needs attention	TW	Contractor needed to make safe.
South Downs Local Plan review Parish Priority Statement	Council feeding into Local Plan Review		Settlement Facilities Assessment – submitted Parish Statements – due 31 December 2023 See agenda item 8 for update. Statement being presented to Council on 21 December 2023 with aim of submitting to SDNPA on 22 December 2023. Dedicated PPS website page will be updated with Statement.
D Day Celebrations October 2023- Minute 150	Lighting of Beacon	TW	Olphert family confirmed they are happy to erect and light Beacon. Permission to be sought from National Trust and Natural England – applications submitted.
Parish Council Facebook Page October 2023 Minute 152	Setting up of Council Facebook page to improve communication	TW	Council agreed to set up of Facebook page. Clerk to progress when there is a suitable time to spend some time investigating.

Harting Parish

setting the scene:-

The 2021 census returned a population of 1,489 for Harting Parish, an increase of 38 people over the 2011 figure. The parish is very large, covering 8,000 acres. It consists of the main village of South Harting, and subsidiary hamlets of Nyewood, West and East Harting. They each have individual identities, notably Nyewood. There are several other clusters of houses. There are many fine buildings, from Grade I listed Uppark to former humble agricultural dwellings. Whilst providing necessary small dwellings, it is widely considered that Warrenside does not enhance South Harting. Otherwise the impact of the housing in the parish is generally sympathetic, not least because properties don't appear crammed onto small sites.

The parish runs from near Compton in the south north to the River Rother, and from the Hampshire border towards Elsted in the east. There is a 37 year old Community Hall in South Harting, and the new Henry Warren Hall in Nyewood. As there are 6 other public venues available to use there is a sufficiency of them. There are two play areas in South Harting, and one in Nyewood, and a sports field complete with pavilion. The Parish Council own the Village Hall and Sports Field, and also 14 acres of amenity land and woodland located between South Harting and the South Downs Way. Up until the early 20thC the Uppark Estate owned most of the land in the parish, but on the farms being sold 100 years ago Uppark lost its paternal position. The Parish Council was formed in 1894 and was one of only two Councils in the whole country to elect a woman as its first chairman(sic). 50 years ago, Harting created one of the first Community bus services in the country; it is still running. Villagers bought the village shop in 1997, predating what subsequently happened at Milland, Lodsworth and other locations in the SDNP. Harting has the oldest Old Club in the country, founded in 1800 – and an extant Charter Fair going back more than 750 years.

There are 21 miles of highway in the parish, which if put end to end is enough road to drive from the centre of South Harting to the M3 at Winchester. There are more than 35 miles of footpaths and bridleways, which added to the hundreds of acres of Open Access areas on Harting and West Harting Downs provides an extensive network of public green space. Whilst farming retains a major impact on the parish, farmers employ fewer local people. There is a sand quarry located in the parish, largely 'out of sight, out of mind' except when lorries habitually hit medieval Durford Bridge. The largest employers in the parish are glasshouse manufacturers Alitex and Sky Park Farm.

Our understanding is that South Harting was the first Conservation Area designated in West Sussex. The inhabitants are very proud of their settlements and community and emphasise that change must enhance and not degrade either the look or the feel of the area. They are well aware that because of its physical location under the much-visited viewpoint of Harting Down any development at South Harting will have an impact on both the immediate area and wider landscape. That is why they, and hence this PPS, are unable to identify any development sites.

Parish Priorities Statement



Introduction

The South Downs National Park Authority decided in May 2022 that it would review parts of its Local Plan in line with Government Policy and to ensure the Plan delivers on corporate priorities relating to Climate Action, ReNature and a National Park for All. The views and input of the local community into the Local Plan Review are vital to us particularly those of our town and parish councils. One way in which town and parish councils can contribute to the Local Plan Review is through a **Parish Priority Statement (PPS)**.

Neighbourhood Priority Statements (NPS) as a concept were introduced in the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill (LURB), which was published by the Government in May 2022. NPS are statements prepared by local communities that summarise the principal needs and prevailing views for their local area. There is currently very little information available from the Government, but this will be provided at a later date through secondary legislation and regulations.

In the interim we are inviting all our town and parish councils that are located entirely in the National Park or whose main settlement is located in the National Park to prepare a PPS. A full list of these councils is set out in the appendix to this letter. It will not be necessary for the Council to be designated for the purposes of neighbourhood planning in order to do this. The format and content of PPS follows the very broad approach set out in the LURB, to enable any PPS to evolve into NPS as legislation and guidance is provided by Government.

Please use the attached template to prepare your PPS, following the template will assist the SDNPA in collating information and reviewing priorities across the National Park. There are guidance notes for each question about the sort of information we are looking for. The PPS should focus on the principal needs and prevailing views of your local community. Please identify any opportunities to contribute to the Authority's priorities on Climate Action, Nature Recovery and a National Park for All. More information on these priorities can be found in the [SDNPA Corporate Plan](#). We have indicated a word limit for each section to ensure the documents are focused on the main issues any text beyond the word limit may not be considered by the Authority.

It is really important to gather the views of as many people as possible, who live, work or visit your parish. The second question of the template asks you how you have consulted with your local community. A PPS that demonstrates a high level of community engagement and support will ensure the document will influence when informing the Local Plan Review process. As a minimum the draft PPS should be published inviting comments from the wider community. Town and Parish Councils should also make particular efforts to engage with hard to reach and underrepresented groups such as young people. To help you with the template we have written a PPS for the hypothetical parish of Greenville.

Please submit your PPS to us at the address below by 20 October 2023. Officers from the Authority will review your PPS and get back to you with any queries. The intention is for all PPS to be considered by our Policy and Resources Committee with the intention of publishing them on our website.

Your PPS will not be made part of the development plan for the National Park, but it will form part of the evidence base for the Local Plan Review. We will consider the principal needs and prevailing views set out in your PPS as we progress the Local Plan Review and update local planning policy. PPS will also be useful when applying for funding from the Authority, for example, from the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Sustainable Communities Fund. Finally, your PPS may be useful for funding applications to other bodies. Where a Town or Parish Council have an adopted Neighbourhood Plan the PPS will supplement the Plan not supersede it as the PPS will not form part of the Development Plan.

I. Your Details

Information Required	Response
Contact name	Trish Walker
Town or Parish Council	Harting
Main contact address	The Old Post Office South Harting Petersfield Hants GU31 5PU
Main contact telephone number	01730 825201
Main contact email	clerk@harting-pc.gov.uk
Details of public consultation and engagement used in the preparation of the PPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plans and progress communicated regularly in Parish News, community Facebook page and village WhatsApp groups • A dedicated page on our Parish Council website • Questionnaire circulated to every household and available in hard copy at village shop • 20% of households completed the questionnaire • Future Energy Landscape workshop run twice. Over 50 local participants discussed how renewable technologies would meet our Parish energy needs • Displays and outreach at local events – monthly Repair Café, village lunch, Charter Fair, etc • Parish meeting – 73 attended to hear what came out of the questionnaire. Group discussions further identified key priorities • Final draft shared with Parish <p><i>100 words</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

The vision for the future...

What are the three key changes you would like to see in your Parish over the next 15 years? These changes should relate to the priorities set out below. It will also be helpful to explain when you think these changes should happen over the 15 year period.

Ensure the Parish continues to be a healthy, happy and thriving community, addressing the impacts of Climate Change, whilst retaining its unique character as settlements surrounded by beautiful countryside.

Development - ASAP

- All new developments constructed beyond current building regulations saving and creating energy
- Retrofit feasible alternatives to fossil fuel energy to existing homes and businesses
- Identify opportunities to generate renewable energy to transition away from fossil fuels

Improve transport infrastructure - ASAP

- Parking, with EV charging
- all aspects of road maintenance
- ensure PRoWs fit for purpose

Community building

- Ensure that the acknowledged benefits of living here are retained, protecting the unique character and surroundings
- Create an inclusive place that meets the needs of all in the community – young, old, families, the disabled
- Community projects that engage people in the protection of our beautiful countryside, responding to the consequences of climate change

142 words

Max 100 words

Development and management of land

Information required	Response
<p>What type and level of development would you like to see in the parish?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Main development need is for housing to enable local young and elderly people to remain in the parish • Provide opportunities for local residents to downsize • Development should prioritise brownfield sites and redundant farm buildings and not be shoehorned into small sites • A car park is needed in South Harting village to address parking problems plus the provision of EV charging facilities • Existing properties, including where possible listed buildings, retrofitted to allow use of alternatives to fossil fuel energy including better insulation and double glazing • Existing community facilities are adequate <p>89 words</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>
<p>Are there any areas of the Parish you would like to see developed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no obvious sites for development because of the visual impact from the top of the downs and other viewpoints • Any development around South Harting likely to have severe adverse visual impact on SDNP • Industrial estates in Nyewood • Need for village car park, only site mentioned the field west of White Hart. This need first identified 55 years ago
<p>Are there any specific areas you want protected for other uses?</p>	<p>The Parish is protected from unsuitable development by the South Harting Settlement Policy Area and three conservation areas. For development to take place it should take proper account of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Views from the Downs • Existing open space

Homes

Information required	Response
<p>What type of homes would you like to see in your local community?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable, to enable younger and elderly people to remain living in the community • Modest in size to ensure diversity of provision and opportunities for downsizing • Homes resilient to climate change, designed to minimise overheating and flooding risk • Homes meeting the highest energy performance Standards <p style="text-align: center;"><i>44 words</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>
<p>What size of home is needed locally?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smaller 2 to 3 bed homes built to Parker Morris room size standards • On-site parking facilities with EV charging points essential • Retirement apartments (single storey) for the elderly • Retain smaller homes; prevent them being enlarged and specify where smaller homes must not be combined to create larger properties
<p>Any other requirements?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure homes perform beyond current building regulations (eg Passivhaus standards), proven through appropriate post-construction/post occupation evaluation • Minimise energy demand by focusing on fabric of building and use of ground/air source heat pumps • Build in resistance to climate change by use of flood resistant doors and windows, higher electric sockets and horizontally installed plasterboard • Incorporate sustainable drainage systems eg soft landscaping/permeable paving to reduce load on storm water or sewerage systems • Correctly designed lifetime homes, ensuring accessibility by reducing steps and slopes. • Nature-friendly construction and gardens, including bee palaces, swift boxes etc <p style="text-align: center;"><i>91 words</i></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

Design

Information Required	Response
<p>Are there any areas of local character which are particularly important to the local community?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three parish Conservation areas, ensure their settings are not adversely impacted by development within or neighbouring them. • Furze Meadow, Nyewood. Provides play area for Nyewood residents. • South Gardens, The Warren and Playing Fields – all owned by parish, therefore in position to maintain them to take account of parishioners needs. • Harting Downs SSSI <p style="text-align: center;">53 words</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>
<p>Particular features of buildings of local character</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many buildings constructed of local clunch stone, with brick quoins and window surrounds • Roofs mainly tile, with some slate and a few thatched • A few houses in Harting Street gentrified by false fronts. • Do not use street frontages to experiment with designs that clash with existing development <p style="text-align: center;">47 words</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

The natural environment

Information Required	Response
<p>Opportunities to make nature bigger, better and more joined up</p>	<p>Harting Parish covers thousands of acres of beautiful landscape. Unique Downland and widespread farming shape our landscape.</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community wide biodiversity projects to strengthen our connection with nature and protect endangered species eg Operation Nest Box & rewilding projects • Farming and local communities working together to strengthen biodiversity eg improve hedgerow management to benefit the annual movements and needs of wildlife • Create improved, joined up hedgerow systems, including a replanting programme. The creation and maintenance of ditches and wet areas • Protecting existing public green space, footpaths and access to green areas <p style="text-align: center;">91 words</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Max 100 words</i></p>

Jobs

Information Required	Response
<p>Information about business you would like to protect and business opportunities that should be provided</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farming recognised as essential to the fabric of our community despite increasing modernisation and farmers now employing fewer local people • Farming of all types - arable, sheep, cattle and game - constitute major businesses • Retention of incredibly important Harting Stores and Post Office. The public house, shops and cafe are vital in maintaining the community's social and business life • Home working and tourism depend upon these businesses • Sky Park deer farm is a successful local employer and tourist attraction • More businesses supporting the community and enhancing tourism would help create local jobs and preserve the character of the village <p>98 words</p>

Public spaces

Information Required	Response
<p><i>Public Open Space, Public realm, Pocket Parks</i></p>	<p>The War Memorial Playing fields, South Gardens, Warren and Furze Meadow are managed public open spaces. The extensive footpath network and Harting Down are enjoyed by our community and visitors alike.</p> <p>Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continued maintenance and care of the Warren • Replanting of hedgerows around the playing fields • Encourage the wider community to be involved with the management of PRoWs • Improved maintenance of Harting Down to justify its status as an SSSI • Ensure New Lane & Upperton Lane don't become BOATs • Ensuring worked-out West Harting sand pit is appropriately renatured • Provide ongoing support for the Petersfield to Midhurst cycle way <p>98 words</p>

Max 100 words

Infrastructure

Information Required	Response
<p><i>Active travel priorities, roads / parking, community buildings needs, waste / water infrastructure, broadband, renewable energy</i></p>	<p>Needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate car parking in South Harting • Allied with provision of EV charging • Improved highway maintenance to deal with increasingly neglected potholes, drainage, verge cutting • National planning policy enabling renewable energy infrastructure to allow local energy generation • Local grid upgrades to cope with local energy demand and generation • Improved maintenance of PRowWs, damaged by their increased use - 'Access for All' • A robust project ensuring improvements to sewage, drainage and water use is rolled out across the Parish and wider area • Infrastructure to encourage active travel ie Petersfield to Midhurst cycleway • There are sufficient community buildings <p>96 words</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Max 100 words</small></p>

FINALISING YOUR SUBMISSION

As a reminder, before finalising your submission, please check you have addressed the following:

- **You have completed the details in section I, including details of public engagement events and consultation activities which have informed the statement. Where possible please identify the percentage of the community that have engaged in the preparation of the PPS.**
- **Please try to summarise the community's views and aspirations as much as possible, do not provide details of individuals who have commented, and bullet points for key priorities where possible.**
- **If you have supporting evidence or information please use a hyperlink to the data where available, and summarise the information as much as possible in the PPS.**

DISCLAIMER

The assessment process and outputs will feed into the Local Plan review process but we cannot guarantee the delivery of specific community aspirations in the South Downs Local Plan policies, allocations or designations.

DATA PROTECTION STATEMENT

The information collected in this response form will be used by the National Park Authority, as part of its public task, to inform the local plan-making processes and other relevant Authority documents or processes. This information will then be retained until it is superseded. By responding you are accepting the information within your response, may be made available to the public. Any personal information provided (names, addresses, phone numbers, email addresses or other contact details) will not be made public. Please let us know if you do not wish for your information to be shared in this way.

All information held by the South Downs National Park Authority may be subject to release under the Freedom of Information Act. If any information included is sensitive and you would like to have the opportunity to object to its release in the event of a Freedom of Information request, please contact us.

Further details on how we manage your information, including your rights under the GDPR, are available in our Privacy Notice <https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/national-park-authority/transparency/privacy-statement-2/>

<input type="checkbox"/>	Please tick here to confirm you have read and agree to submit your information in accordance with the disclaimer and data protection statement.
Information required	Response
Print Name	
Date	

We ask that forms are returned by email to planningpolicy@southdowns.gov.uk

If you are unable to return the form by email please post to:

Planning Policy Team, South Downs National Park Authority, South Downs Centre, North Street
Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 9DH