

Article submitted to The Bridge magazine in November 2024

Harrold flood group

Please contact the clerk if you feel you might need the assistance of Harrold Flood Group in the event of river or surface water flooding. We've built up a list of those we feel might need some help, but might not have met everyone. The responsibility is on the home owner to take any required preventative action to protect their property from flood water, but we do have a supply of flood sacks that can be used; our stock was recently topped up again by the parish council. We also have pumps for clearing water and can assist in tasks such as raising furniture. We have good contacts with the borough council's Resilience Team so could assist in connecting you with them in the event that you need to be evacuated, or just to let you know if we hear from them that flood waters are imminent.

Footpath surfacing

Councillor John Calver, Jonathan Robinson and residents have kindly laid rock aggregate on the following footpaths: Footpath 12 heading north from the High Street, and Footpath 3 between Roman Paddock and Harewelle Way play area. These are urban footpaths that get very muddy during the winter months.

Lockup refurbishment

We have been engaging with Historic England in relation to works required on the Lockup on The Green. What initially started as a re-rendering project has extended into improving the structural integrity of the building above the door lintel. This will require the involvement of specialist consultants and structural engineers. The parish council has now instructed consultants Priory Heritage Ltd who are known to have carried out projects on local Grade 1 listed churches. This is a very important and historic monument for the village; we have met Historic England twice on site and are carefully following their recommendations.

Playgrounds

The parish council owns the following playgrounds: Harrold Centre, Harewelle Way, Saxon House End, and the skate park at the country park. Please contact the Clerk if you see any items requiring attention. Most recently the parish council approved quotes to refurbish the Harrold Centre playground bandstand, install a new entrance gate and a new picnic table, and repair the spinner at Harewelle Way playground.

Streetlighting at The Green

There are two streetlights either side of the Lockup that the borough council replaced last year with modern equivalents. Due to their location in the conservation area the parish council asked that these are instead replaced with heritage lanterns more suited to the area. We are grateful to the borough council for carrying out this work.

RBL poppies

Large poppies were placed around the centre of the village in November in respect for those who made the ultimate sacrifice through war. The poppies are reusable and we aim to put them up each year going forwards.

Blocked gullies

I've been told by a Highways representative that, out of all the villages, Harrold's gullies get clogged with silt more quickly than any others – they can't say why. Gullies are the drains at the side of the

road. Following the heavy rain in October some of them along the High Street are blocked up again and are booked for clearing. However, it also takes time for the works to be scheduled as the crew are in high demand across the borough.

Harrold Parish Council Facebook page

If you would like updates on parish council activity then please follow the Harrold Parish Council Facebook page or view our new “.gov” website.

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www.harroldparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.facebook.com/harroldpc

The next council meeting dates are:

11th December and 8th January in the Harrold Centre at 7.30pm. All are welcome to attend – there is a public open session at the start of every meeting.