

Hartbeat

June 2021

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Tall Ships returning to Hartlepool

Hartlepool Waterfront Festival 2021

Meet your Councillors

Shop Hartlepool launched

www.hartlepool.gov.uk



hartlepoolcouncil



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hartlepool_council



**HARTLEPOOL
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Join
the millions
already
vaccinated

You're much less likely to get serious Covid-19 or be hospitalised if you've been vaccinated.

The NHS let you know when your Covid-19 vaccine is ready for you.

EVERY VACCINATION
GIVES US

HOPE



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Welcome to the June edition of Hartbeat

Over recent weeks we've seen COVID restrictions begin to ease and it has been wonderful to see so many residents out and about enjoying all that Hartlepool has to offer.

We're also delighted to have been selected to host the world-famous Tall Ships again in the summer of 2023 and it's wonderful to have this to look forward to after such a challenging time for everyone.

Hundreds of thousands of visitors from far and wide flocked to the town when the vessels last visited in 2010 and we can't wait to announce further details in the coming months. In the meantime, you can find out more at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/tall-ships

Turn to pages 10 and 11 to learn about some of the great events you can enjoy over the coming months, including the Hartlepool Waterfront Festival and our summer pantos.

There's also lots of exciting news for us to share with you, including plans being submitted for the Elwick bypass (page 9), work starting on the new Headland Event Space (page 12), and progress with the design of Highlight, our new multi-million pound leisure centre (page 12).

Although we are gradually moving out of lockdown and towards a more "normal" way of life, Coronavirus is still very much with us. Each and every one of us in Hartlepool can play a key part in keeping infection rates low by following the hands, face, space and fresh air guidance and having regular COVID-19 tests. It's really easy to get tested in Hartlepool - find out more on page five.

We're also very grateful to the many thousands of people across Hartlepool who have rolled their sleeves up to receive their COVID-19 vaccine. Don't forget, we all need two doses for maximum protection and page four explains why it's so important we all continue to play our part in the vaccine roll out.

We want to close by saying thank you for the significant sacrifices people across Hartlepool have had to make since the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic.

We know it hasn't been easy and we are truly grateful for the significant steps people have taken to protect both themselves and the people they love.

With better times ahead, we hope the wonderful community spirit which has radiated within Hartlepool throughout the pandemic remains firmly in place.



Councillor Shane Moore
Leader of the Council



Denise McGuckin
Managing Director

Play your part as we come back from COVID

As the national COVID restrictions are gradually lifted, it's great to be able to see family and friends once more and enjoy many of the things we did before.

But to make that move back towards normal life a success, we all need to play our part.

Get your jobs

Join the millions of people across the country who've been vaccinated – you're much less likely to get serious COVID or end up in hospital.

So when you get your vaccination invitation from the NHS – you'll get a letter, email or text – please take it up.

It's also really important to get your second vaccination a few weeks later, because you get even better protection from your second dose.

You can't catch COVID from the vaccine. There are a few other myths doing the rounds too, so to put the record straight ...



The vaccine reduces chances of hospitalisation by 85%

We'll let you know when your Covid-19 vaccine is ready for you.

COVID vaccine – your questions answered

Is it safe?

The vaccine has passed strict quality, safety and effectiveness tests and been approved by the independent Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA).

Will it affect my fertility?

There's no evidence that it affects fertility or your chances of becoming pregnant.

Is it vegetarian?

Yes. The COVID vaccines in the UK don't contain anything of animal origin.

I'm young and low risk – I don't need the vaccine

Younger people have been seriously ill and died too, with thousands more still suffering from Long COVID after what might have been a mild initial case.

Anyone can get and spread COVID. Getting vaccinated is one of the best things you can do to protect yourself and others.

How do I know it's suitable for people of my faith?

The vaccines are suitable for people of all faiths. They don't contain any components of animal origin or foetal cells.

For more questions and answers visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/vaccine-questions-answered

Get tested regularly

The Government is encouraging all adults to get tested twice a week – even after vaccination.

Regular testing helps identify virus variants and stops individual cases from becoming outbreaks.

For people WITH symptoms there are two local PCR testing centres:

- Hartlepool Waterfront (TS24 0XN).
- Sandy Car Park (former coach park) at Seaton Carew (TS25 1DD).

Tests are free – book at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119. Both centres are open every day.

For people WITHOUT symptoms:

- COVID Test and Collect Centre, Middleton Grange Shopping Centre (ground floor near WH Smith). Open Monday – Friday.

If you are aged 18 or over and live/work in Hartlepool, you can use this centre to:

Get a free test

Book online at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/covid-test-and-collect or call (01429) 523330 during normal office hours.

Collect a free kit to test yourself and your family at home

Just drop in – the staff will show you how to use the kit.

The tests are not suitable for pre-school and primary school aged schoolchildren and should not be used for these age groups.



Rapid Covid-19 tests show results within 30 minutes.

They also show you're doing what you can to protect your workmates.

Around 1 in 3 people who have Covid-19 have no symptoms and are spreading it without knowing. That could be a workmate. It could even be you. You can now easily get free rapid tests twice a week.

If you are tested at the COVID Test and Collect Centre you'll get your result by text within 24 hours, together with instructions on what to do next if you test positive. If you test yourself at home, the testing kit will give you the result.

You can also get a free home testing kit here ...

You can also pick up a free home testing kit from our testing kit hand-out van and stand, which will be visiting venues around the town in the coming weeks.

IMPORTANT: If you test positive from a test at the COVID Test and Collect Centre or from a home testing kit, to confirm the result you must then arrange to get a further, different type of test (called a PCR test) at a PCR testing centre by booking at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or calling 119.

Last but not least, please don't forget ...



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

FRESH AIR

Supporting local businesses



Denise McGuckin, the Council's Managing Director, said: "The pandemic has created a desperately difficult situation for so many local businesses, so the aim is for Shop Hartlepool to provide them with some much-needed support."

Maxine Craig, Voluntary Chair of Love Hartlepool, added: "We are looking to sign up a whole range of different businesses based in Hartlepool, from cafes to clothes shops and hairdressers to furniture stores."

"We aim to encourage everyone in the Borough of Hartlepool to shop local and ensure that everyone feels safe when shopping, so COVID safety will be a key feature alongside promoting all the great businesses Hartlepool has to offer."



Shop Hartlepool, a major new free online initiative, has been launched to support local businesses following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions.

It is a partnership between Hartlepool Borough Council and Love Hartlepool, and is being funded using money awarded to the Council from the Government's Re-opening the High Street Safely Fund, provided by the European Regional Development Fund.

Businesses that sign up will be promoted on the Shop Hartlepool website. The initiative will also provide a platform for the promotion of local businesses, both online and on social media.

www.shophartlepool.com



Digital infrastructure boost for Hartlepool

The latest full fibre digital infrastructure is to be rolled out in Hartlepool, leading to enhanced internet connectivity for thousands of households.

CityFibre plans to install the latest cable technology across the town as part of a £4 billion nationwide investment programme.

The company's investment in Hartlepool alone will be £23 million and some 46,000 homes will benefit.

Installation work is expected to begin in Hartlepool later this year, with the first services going live by January 2022.



Thank you Hartlepool - you're the best!

Thank you to all key workers - including the staff of care homes and schools - for all your dedication and hard work in looking after others during the COVID crisis.



New duo help Champions keep Hartlepool safe

Two new faces have joined the team helping residents in Hartlepool stay safe against COVID as the town moves carefully back towards a more normal life.

Hannah Goodman and Julie French have been appointed to temporary 12-month positions as COVID Engagement Officers by Hartlepool Borough Council.

The pair will oversee and support the town's COVID Community Champions network, which is made up of volunteers - a mix of individuals and organisations - who help residents to stay up-to-date on the latest guidance so they can protect themselves and others against the virus.

Community Champions share accurate messages from Hartlepool's Public Health Team on social media and through other channels, gather feedback from the local community and act as positive role models in the battle against COVID.

Hannah and Julie will be ensuring that the Community Champions are kept up-to-speed on the very latest guidance and developments, providing training as needed and getting out and about in the local community building up the Community Champions network even further and helping to promote initiatives such as vaccinations and testing.

Julie said: "Although the national restrictions are gradually being removed and people quite rightly

are enjoying getting back to more normality in their daily lives, the instances of virus variants in the UK and around the world show that we all still need to stay vigilant and not take any risks."



Hannah Goodman and Julie French

Hannah added: "Whether it's promoting the benefits of regular testing and the vaccination programme or helping to keep people updated on the latest rules on overseas holidays, we're really looking forward to working with the Community Champions to help people in Hartlepool to get on with their lives but stay COVID-safe."

For more information about becoming a COVID Community Champion, visit www.hartlepoolnow.co.uk and search for 'COVID Community Champions' or contact Hannah and Julie at covidchampions@hartlepool.gov.uk

Top quality award for Seaton Carew

Seaton Carew has earned a top quality award from environmental charity Keep Britain Tidy.

Its main beach area has once again been granted a Seaside Award – which is only given to English beaches which are clean, safe and meet the highest environmental standards.

The beach is regularly cleaned and is patrolled by lifeguards during the school summer holidays.

Gemma Ptak, Hartlepool Borough Council's Assistant Director (Preventative and Community-Based Services), said: "Seaton

Carew's golden sandy beach is one of the jewels in Hartlepool's crown and we're delighted that it has once again earned this top award.

"I would like to thank the Council staff and volunteers who care for the beach throughout the year and work so hard to keep it looking its best.

"With its lovely beach, its family leisure area on the prom and its seafront gift shops, amusements and eateries, Seaton Carew offers a great day out for all the family, right on the doorstep."

Please respect little terns' nesting site

Visitors to the beach at Seaton Carew are being urged to respect a colony of rare seabirds and avoid disturbing their nests.

The legally-protected little terns have again taken up residence on a stretch of beach behind the bus station, close to the resort's centre, after nesting there for the first time in 2019.

Weighing only 40-60g and about the size of a starling, little terns are the smallest of the five species of terns that breed in the UK. They winter in West Africa and migrate thousands of miles to nest here from May to August.

The birds lay their well-camouflaged eggs in shallow scrapes in the sand, but this makes the nests very difficult to spot and leaves them extremely vulnerable to disturbance and damage.

The birds' nesting area has been marked and roped off, and volunteer wardens from the Durham Wildlife Trust are monitoring the site.

Sarah Scarr, Hartlepool Borough Council's Heritage and Countryside Manager, said: "We would urge people to respect the site and keep their distance.



"The majority of people who use the beach respect the nesting site but in previous years we have had cases of people walking through the nesting site or letting their dogs off leads in the vicinity – in breach of a dog exclusion order which applies to this particular stretch of beach.

"Adult birds will leave their nests if disturbed, leaving their eggs and chicks vulnerable to the weather and predators."

The penalty for deliberately disturbing or damaging the nesting site is an unlimited fine and/or 6 months in prison. Anyone who witnesses such activity should contact the police on **101**.

Bypass plans submitted

An important milestone has been reached in Hartlepool Borough Council's multi-million pound plan for a bypass north of Elwick village.

The Council has submitted an outline planning application for the project for consideration by its Planning Committee.

Kieran Bostock, the Council's Assistant Director (Place Management), said: "The submission of the planning application is itself a significant step forward towards our goal of providing much-needed additional access into and out of Hartlepool, creating a safer connection to and from the A19 and removing a significant amount of traffic from the village of Elwick.

"The application will be considered and determined by members of the Planning Committee, according to planning considerations in the usual way."



United front to beat the fly-tippers

A new community campaign has been launched in a concerted effort to tackle fly-tipping.

Hartlepool Borough Council aims to work with external organisations and residents across the town.

To that end, a Fly-Tipping Group which includes representatives of local groups such as Hartlepool Big Town Tidy Up and Plastic Free Hartlepool, has been set up.

It is encouraging residents to report fly-tipping and those responsible for it online at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/fly-tipping or by calling a Fly Tip Off hotline on **(01429) 523333**. Residents are asked to provide as much information as possible, including the registration number, make and colour of any suspect vehicle.

Other aspects of the campaign include introducing more co-ordinated ways of working between the Council's Cleansing and Enforcement Teams.

Over coming weeks and months, a number of other initiatives will be introduced.

Work has already started with the placement of a number of large boulders in rural locations identified as regular tipping spots.

The Council is calling on people to use its Waste Removal Service, the capacity of which has recently been doubled. A standard collection of up to three items costs £20, six items cost £40 and nine items cost £60 etc. Those in receipt of certain benefits receive a 50% discount. Book a collection at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/wasteremoval

Slots can also be booked at the Household Waste Recycling Centre where a wide range of items can be disposed for free. Bookings, often for the same day, can be made at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/HWRCbookings

Where people arrange for their waste to be removed by a private operator, they are reminded that they have a "duty of care" to ensure that person is properly licensed as a waste carrier with the Environment Agency. To check that a person is registered go to <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers> or call **03708 506 506**.

HARTLEPOOL

WATERFRONT

FESTIVAL

2021

Returns 28th – 29th August 2021
hartlepoolwaterfrontfestival.com



Panto season is here for the summer

Hartlepool Borough Hall is about to host its first ever summer panto season.

For families there'll be ten enchanting performances of Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs by our new pantomime supplier AJ Productions from **Friday 20th to Monday 30th August**.

Get set for a spectacular with no expense spared and special effects to amaze both youngsters and adults alike in this sparkling new production of the classic story.

Tickets cost £18 for adults, £15 for children or £59 for a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children).

The heat is also rising as Dick Whittington – Adults Only! comes to the Borough Hall.

Britain's Got talent impressionist Danny Posthill plays the amorous Dick, Steph Aird is Phannie his cat and Davey Hopper plays Jack Swallow



in a side-splitting show that's strictly for the over-18s.

It's on from **Thursday 26th to Sunday 29th August** and tickets cost £18 per person.

To book tickets for either panto visit www.culturehartlepool.com/borough-hall



THE SEA



THE WOMEN



THE DREAMERS



THE SPIRITS

LITTLE WATERFRONTS

In the lead up to the return of Hartlepool's Waterfront Festival in August, a series of weird and wonderful 'Little Waterfronts' events will pop up across Hartlepool throughout June. Take a look at the events below.

THE SEA

THE MORNING OF 19TH JUNE
Seaton Carew Beach

Overnight, the 1.5 mile tide-line is lined with sandcastles and left for the sea to consume as visitors are invited to take part in a pilgrimage parallel to the sea. As the sandcastles disappear, are destroyed underfoot or are battered away by the wind, visitors are invited to ask questions about the past, today and the future in a response to a world discovering the joys of walking over the past 18 months.

THE WOMEN

PART ONE 21ST JUNE 2021 | PART TWO 25TH JUNE 2021
Online and North Gare Car Park

A double bill of poetry is brought to Hartlepool. Part one – called Voices of the Creek – sees five female voices interweave in this video about growing up female, and the frustrations and consolations of family and rootedness. The piece will be available as a downloadable audio-walk starting from North Gare car park.

Part Two – called The High Priestess – is a new commission responding to women in the Tarot, and women in the ancient history of Hartlepool – Abbess Hilda, the High Priestess, delivered as a site-specific audio experience.

THE DREAMERS

26TH JUNE 2021
Church Square

A group of young creatives from Throston Youth Centre will work together with writer and performer Victoria Jackson to create their own folk tale. This dream creature will then be made real and sent out into the world, courtesy of the creative team at Greener Lavelle, spearheaded by Kim McDermottroe, as part of a new carnival structure.

THE SPIRITS

6.30PM & 8.30PM - 26TH JUNE 2021
Headland

Join the most unique heritage walk you'll ever experience as tales of the past come to life and the lines between fiction and reality are blurred. Many of the tales told by The Tour Guide are shocking, some are salacious and a few may even be true – but we'll let you decide. Tickets are available on a pay what you decide basis.

If you are interested in any of the Little Waterfronts events or want to find out more information then please visit:
www.hartlepoolwaterfrontfestival.com

Work starts on new events space

Work is underway to create a new outdoor events space on the Headland.

Initial ground investigation and site clearance has been carried out at the promenade site, next to the Heugh Battery Museum, ahead of major piling works.

Councillor Shane Moore, Leader of Hartlepool Borough Council, said: "I look forward to seeing this space being opened up to provide a great community asset and an entertainment space that we can all enjoy."

Photographs dating from the early 1900s show that the site was used for a range of public events, community celebrations and entertainment.

As part of the restoration scheme - which has

been designed in house by the Council - a new retaining wall is to be built to the rear of the site and the existing stepped seats are to be replaced. A feature paved area is also to be installed to create an events space, and parts of the site will undergo soft landscaping.

The new events space will host open air performances in the spring/summer seasons and also be available for commercial hire and use by community groups for events/activities.

Restoration work, being carried out by Principal Contractor Seymour Civil Engineering, will be completed by the autumn. In the meantime banners signposting people to more information about the scheme have been put up on the fencing panels forming the site's perimeter.



www.hartlepool.gov.uk/headland-event-space

Highlight works forge ahead

Exciting progress is currently being made with the design of Highlight, the town's new multi-million pound leisure centre.

Work has entered the concept design phase, with the Council working alongside architects GT3, their team of specialist consultants, external partners and stakeholders.

This stage of work involves pulling together all of the information gathered to date and developing concepts around what needs to be included in the building and what form it might take.

Highlight will be a community facility, including provision for swimming, fitness, wellbeing and children's play, with connections to outdoor water based activity, which will also draw people from further afield.

The Council hopes to share the concept designs in coming months.

Highlight which will replace the town's ageing Mill House Leisure Centre, was so named earlier this year after local residents were invited to put forward suggestions. It is hoped it will open in 2024.

Supporting grassroots sport

With outdoor sport having resumed following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions, Hartlepool Borough Council has been pulling out all the stops to ensure matches have been able to go ahead.

Grounds maintenance and leisure, recreation and participation staff worked proactively to accommodate some 440 senior and junior football matches up until Sunday June 6th.

They ensured the availability of pitches in a range of locations across the town, including Grayfields Recreation Ground, Rift House Rec, King George V Playing Fields, and Brierton Sports Centre

"The grounds maintenance staff do an excellent job and I'd like to thank them, on behalf of local teams and leagues," said Ian Gardiner, the Council's Head of Leisure, Recreation and Participation.

He also praised staff from the Council's Leisure, Recreation and Participation Team who co-ordinated pitch bookings and helped to manage facilities on match days, both during the week and at weekends.



Grounds maintenance and leisure, recreation and participation staff at Rift House Rec.

Cycling cash boost - work starts

Works have commenced following Hartlepool Borough Council's successful bid to British Cycling for £250,000 to develop accessible, traffic-free community cycling facilities and opportunities.

The main focus is on Summerhill Country Park, with supporting activity at Seaton Park.

The Council wants to encourage young people, families, disabled people and women to cycle more safely, more often. It also aims to support people in developing skills in track cycling and BMX, in partnership with local clubs.

Work to the BMX track at Summerhill Country Park is ongoing and includes widening the tops of the large banked corners to make them safer. Improvements are also being made to spectator areas. The works to the BMX track, scheduled for completion by the end of June, have been complemented by the resurfacing of the park's multi-user route.

The second phase of works at Summerhill should be completed by spring 2022 and includes:

- A 750-metre "free-form" tarmac, fenced and floodlit cycle track for riders of all ages and abilities.
- A balance bike and learn-to-ride area for younger people.
- Temporary floodlighting for BMX training purposes, spectator fencing along the starting straight and a "warm up/cool down" area.
- Secure cycle storage.
- The purchase of 8 adapted cycles to provide disabled people, their families and carers with equal access to cycling opportunities.

Whilst there will be no new cycling infrastructure at Seaton Park, it is intended to run a cycling activity programme for young people, families and adults, including disabled people.

Lots to look forward to in new-look Hub

Community Hub Central has been undergoing quite a transformation during lockdown.

The finishing touches are currently being made and the team is looking forward to welcoming people back when it reopens shortly.

There's a new-look children's area with specially-commissioned Gruffalo-themed décor, plus Food @ The Hub serving tasty snacks and hot and cold drinks.

There'll be opportunities to try out technology like 3D printers and vinyl cutters in the FabLab, plus an upgraded People's Network for web access.



Team member Anita Gaffney in the new-look children's area

The friendly Support Hub staff will be on hand for advice to help you stay happy and healthy and the Live Well Suite will be opening its doors for guidance on equipment to help people live independently at home.

All the latest titles will be on offer in the first floor library, along with an enquiries service for family and local history.

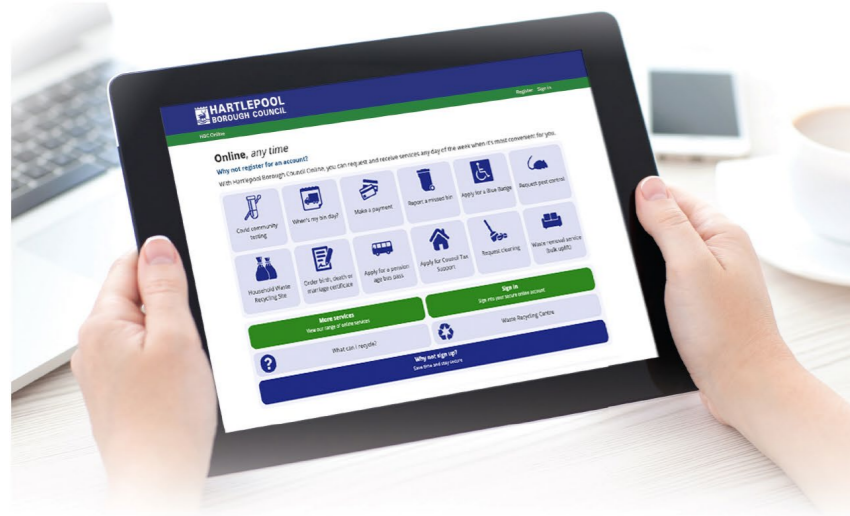
There'll also be lots of space for groups to meet up, plus the return of ever-popular events and activities.

Keep an eye out for details of the big reopening!



Hub team members Lorraine Harrison and Caroline Callaghan beside the new Food @ The Hub area

Online, any time!



With Hartlepool Borough Council Online, you can request and receive services when it's most convenient for you!

online.hartlepool.gov.uk

ELECTION RESULTS

On Thursday 6th May, people across the Borough of Hartlepool took to the polls to vote in four key elections.

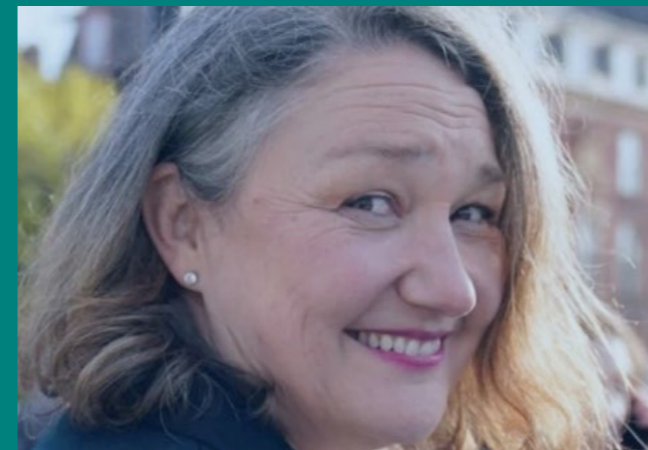
The Local Government Elections saw 36 Councillors elected to serve Hartlepool across 12 wards.

A Hartlepool Parliamentary By-Election was also held, as well as the Tees Valley Mayoral and the Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

Turn over to find a useful "Meet your Councillors" poster.

For full details and declarations of results on all of the elections, including voter turnout and votes cast, please visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/elections

Hartlepool Parliamentary By-Election



Jill Mortimer (Conservative) was elected as Member of Parliament for Hartlepool

Police and Crime Commissioner for the Cleveland Area



Steve Turner (Conservative) was elected as Police and Crime Commissioner

Tees Valley Combined Authority Mayoral Election



Ben Houchen (Conservative) was elected as Tees Valley Combined Authority Mayor

FUTURE HARTLEPOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS

The dates and times of all Council meetings – along with agendas, reports and minutes – can be found at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/meetings

COUNCIL LEADER'S SURGERIES

Councillor Shane Moore holds surgeries every Tuesday from 4pm – 5pm at the Civic Centre, or online if preferred. Bookings must be made in advance by calling **(01429) 284142**.

COUNCILLORS' WARD SURGERIES

The dates and times of Councillors' ward surgeries will be available on our website at www.hartlepool.gov.uk/ward-surgeries

BURN VALLEY WARD



David Nicholson
Conservatives



Ged Hall
Independent



Jonathan Brash
Labour

DE BRUCE WARD



Veronica Nicholson
Conservatives



Brenda Harrison
Labour



Rachel Creevy
Labour

FENS & GREATHAM WARD



Jim Lindridge
Independent



Angela Falconer
Conservatives



Jennifer Elliott
Labour

FOGGY FURZE WARD



Stephen Picton
Independent



Kevin Tiplady
Conservatives



Darren Price
Independent

HART WARD



Tom Cassidy
Conservatives



Rob Cook
Independent



John Riddle
Independent

HEADLAND & HARBOUR WARD



Brian Cowie
Conservatives



Tim Fleming
Hartlepool Independent
Union



Shane Moore
Hartlepool Independent
Union

MANOR HOUSE WARD



Henry Ashton
Conservatives



Ben Clayton
Labour



Pam Hargreaves
Labour

ROSSMERE WARD



Christopher Groves
Conservatives



Tom Feeney
Labour



Moss Boddy
Labour

RURAL WEST WARD



Brenda Loynes
Conservatives



Mike Young
Conservatives



Cameron Stokell
Conservatives

SEATON WARD



Sue Little
Independent



Leisa Smith
Independent



Gordon Cranney
Conservatives

THROSTON WARD



Paddy Brown
Independent



Peter Jackson
Independent



Amy Prince
Labour

VICTORIA WARD



Helen Howson
Labour



Dennis Loynes
Conservatives



Carl Richardson
Labour

If you want to contact any Councillor call (01429) 523702 / 523704 or visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/councillors

Council grants freeman honour

It's been announced Hartlepool Council has granted historic titles to four individuals who have made a sustained and significant contribution in the Borough.

The title of Honorary Freeman / Freewoman of the Borough of Hartlepool is the highest honour the Council can bestow and has been granted to the following people:

- Lesley Gibson, Chief Executive of Harbour which provides assistance to families and individuals affected by domestic abuse, who has been with the organisation for more than 30 years

- Sian Cameron, who is the Poppy Appeal Organiser for Hartlepool after taking over from her father Ian who sadly suddenly passed away in 2010
- Ray Martin-Wells, who stood down as a Councillor in 2018 and as Chair of the Audit of the Governance Committee supported maintaining maternity and fertility services in Hartlepool
- Chris Musgrave, who was also appointed Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in The Queen's 2019 Birthday Honours for services to business and the community

A special Civic Ceremony will be held in due course.

Mayor's awards for town's COVID heroes

Special awards have been presented to people and organisations in Hartlepool nominated by their fellow townspeople for having made an outstanding contribution to helping others during the COVID pandemic.

The awards were launched by the Ceremonial Mayor of Hartlepool Councillor Brenda Loynes to recognise "the wonderful community spirit which has radiated within Hartlepool throughout the pandemic."

"People rose to the challenge and gave unstintingly of their time and energy to help and support other local people in need during the darkest of times.

"My warmest congratulations go to everyone who has received an award and my sincere thanks go to everyone who took the time to send us their nominations."

Roll of Honour

- Ami Ford, of Move It With Ami Ford
- Anthony Petrie of Cleveland Fire Brigade
- Michael Day of Miles For Men
- Catcote Futures / Academy
- Dawn Robinson
- Jason Anderson of Hartlepool Ambulance Charity
- Emilie de Bruijn of Hartlepool Baby Bank
- Fiona Smithson
- Gill's Fast Food
- Hartlepool Carers
- Jo Mowbray of Repeat For Kids
- Poolie Time Exchange
- Les and Jackie Watts
- Sacha Bedding of The Wharton Trust
- Lilyanne's CIC – Trevor Sherwood and Angela Arnold
- Lynne Franklin
- The Big League – Steve Picton, Dave Hunter and Ian Cawley
- Middleton Grange Shopping Centre



Councillor Brenda Loynes

Residents were invited to nominate individuals and groups they felt had made a significant difference to people's lives during the crisis.

The recipients were given a special certificate of commendation from the Mayor.

Councillor Loynes said: "The community spirit in Hartlepool is second-to-none and these accolades are once again testament to that.

New Armed Forces Champion

Councillor Darren Price is Hartlepool Borough Council's new Armed Forces Champion.

He will be the key contact between the Council and the Armed Forces community in the borough, supporting and helping current servicemen and women and veterans.

He'll be raising awareness and understanding of the issues affecting the Armed Forces community and encouraging residents, businesses and organisations to actively and visibly show their support for our servicemen and women, past and present.

Councillor Price, who is 47 and was elected as a Foggy Furze Ward councillor in May, said: "My dad Haydn and I both served in the Royal Navy, my grandad Raymond served in the Army during the Second World War and was evacuated from Dunkirk, and my other grandad Leonard served in the Army in the post-war conflict in Malaya, so our family has very strong Armed Forces links.

"I am exceptionally proud to be the Council's Armed Forces Champion and I'll be doing everything I can to help and support our Armed



Councillor Darren Price

Forces community and make sure that service in the Armed Forces is recognised, appreciated and valued."

Councillor Price will be organising a monthly surgery to offer advice and support to servicemen and women, but also very much welcomes contact at any time – for more details visit www.hartlepool.gov.uk/armed-forces-champion

Hartlepool NOW

Hartlepool Now makes it easy to find out about lots of local services for all the family.

The site includes:

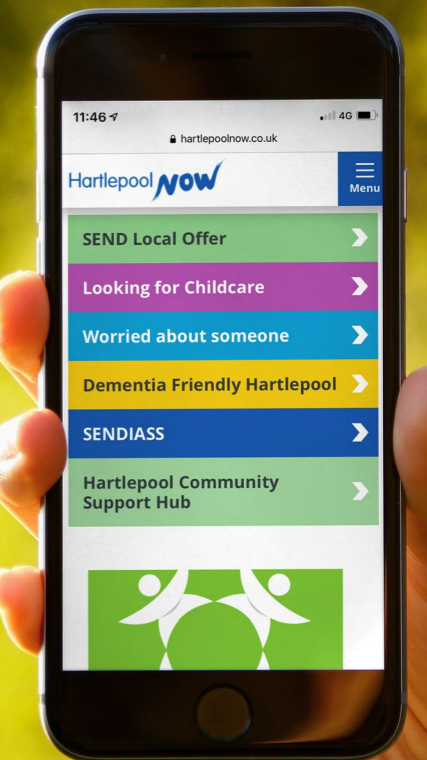
- Community support finder
- Equipment finder
- Childcare finder
- Events finder

You can also use the site to find information on:

- How you can continue to live at home with equipment and other aids
- What help and support Carers' are entitled to and what rights you have
- Practical tips to keep yourself healthy in day to day life

There is also information on local services and support available for children and young people with Special Educational Needs or Disabilities (SEND).

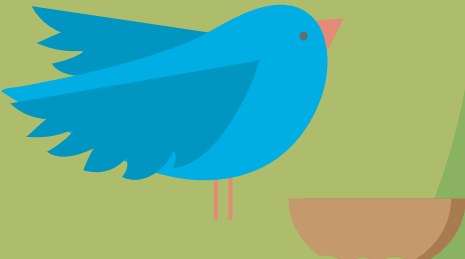
Have a look for yourself at www.hartlepoolnow.co.uk





Fostering IN HARTLEPOOL

GOT SOME ROOM IN YOUR NEST?



Caring, loving short and long-term foster homes are urgently needed for the children and young people in our care.

Help them spread their wings and grow into happy, confident young adults.

We'll give you all the training and financial and emotional support you'll need.

There's no 'typical' foster carer, so please don't rule yourself out.