

Amenities and Open Spaces



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We are extremely fortunate in Hartley to be surrounded by beautiful countryside, of which a large amount is easily accessible. The Parish Council owns or leases some of the land on the perimeter of the village, such as Rectory Meadow, Northfield and Hartley Wood, most of them being interconnected by registered footpaths, which means that you can virtually walk around the outskirts of Hartley in this manner.

Rectory Meadow is situated on the right hand side if ascending Hoselands Hill. It extends over two hectares and was designated as a Local Nature Reserve in 2005. Rectory Meadow is home to 193 different species of wildflowers, grasses and shrubs ranging from the delicate Man Orchid to the Cornflower. A wide range of fauna can be also be discovered. For an information leaflet on Rectory Meadow, please contact the Clerk at the Parish Office.

Northfield is the large 65 acre open space between Hartley and New Ash Green, situated between Ash Road and Church Road. The field is owned by the New Ash Green Village Association and is leased to Hartley Parish Council and Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council, for use as an amenity area for the benefit of both communities. Mr Alan Barnett, who served on the Parish Council from 1987 to 2011, has a woodland at Northfield named after him. Alan played a major role in the creation of Northfield as a large public open space. Barnett's Wood, consisting of some 6000 native species trees, is an attractive feature on Northfield and it is hoped that residents will enjoy the woodland for many years to come. Northfield is popular with walkers and dog walkers and a horse riding route has been created, which enables a limited number of horse riders the opportunity to ride off road. If you are interested in becoming a member of the 'Northfield Ride' please contact Ash Green Sports Centre on 01474 707164 or see the Hartley Parish Council website for further details.

Manor Field - The Parish Council owns a Sports Pavilion at Manor Field which is available for hire. Please contact the Clerk for further details.

Within the village envelope there are open spaces for sport and recreation e.g Manor Field, Longfield Hill, Billings Hill Shaw. In addition there are three playgrounds located at Woodland Avenue, Chantry Avenue and Longfield Hill.

Three clubs provide sporting opportunities for the youth, namely Hartley De Sales Football Club, New Ash Green and Hartley Cricket Club, (both of whom are based at Manor Field), and Meopham Cricket Club at Longfield Hill. All three clubs would welcome new members. Contact the Clerk at the Parish Office for further details.

Woodland

Hartley has a number of woodland areas with public footpaths running through them. These are Foxborough Wood, situated adjacent to Grange Lane, Gorse Wood, situated between Gorsewood Road and Caxton Close, and Hartley Wood, situated adjacent to Gorsewood Road.

Allotments

The Parish Council is responsible for the allotments located at Larks Field, which it runs under licence from Sevenoaks District Council.

Allotment rents vary according to plot size.

If you are interested in renting an allotment please contact the Clerk at the Parish Office for further details.