

## **Message from Staplegrove Farmer – on footpaths and keeping safe and keeping cattle safe**

Please know that the countryside is open for all to enjoy and we as farmers will do our bit. Please make sure that you abide by the country code keep to foot paths and keep your dogs on the foot paths under control taking home any dog mess. Every year we have issues with gates left open and fences disconnected resulting in animals straying. It is also very important that dogs and cats are wormed regularly as they together with some wildlife host a parasite passed out in their faeces which causes abortion in cattle, we have several cases every year. This is a very sad situation causing unnecessary suffering and results in the cow not being able to breed again. We as farmers are trying hard to eradicate this but there is no cure at present so we need pet owners to be vigilant to help us

I would like to reassure the local community we as farmers are trying very hard in these difficult times to make sure we supply the food chain with the maximum amount of home produced produce when it is required and to the highest possible standards.