



PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

virtually via teleconference on Monday 18th January 2021 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillors B Toll (Chair), F O'Shea (Vice Chair), D Fossey, S Oliver

In attendance: C Page (Clerk), 10 members of the public, Cllr Buckmaster, Mayer Nissim

21.01.1 To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr McDonald sent his apologies, absent due to family bereavement. Cllr Toll sends him our condolences at the loss of his partner and hopes he will be able to join us at the February meeting.

Cllr Toll welcomed the members of the public to see what your PC is doing. Cllr Toll introduced the Communications Administrator – Mayer Nissim and welcomed him to the first part of the meeting. Cllr Toll asked Mayer to give a brief overview of what our communications need. Mayer said he has been working with us for almost three months. Hunsdon's communications have a good website now from what it was 3 months ago. He will keep that up to date, and also other social media platforms. His chief role is to bolster getting communications. Cllr Toll said we are making real progress.

VH Management committee looking to recruit more members. Cllr Toll asked the councillors if we should offer Mayers assistance to help them with their communications strategy. All councillors agreed. Cllr Toll advised for Mayer to deal directly with the VHMC, but that he keeps Cllr Burton in the loop, so the hours assigned to the VH are not disproportionate. Cllr O'Shea wanted it clear that the VH website is not part of Mayers role, it is communication and getting more people for the committee.

21.01.2 Coronavirus Update – Cllr Toll / Cllr Buckmaster

- Parish Council meetings – Cllr Toll said we are still on zoom and will probably continue to do so for quite a few more months. At least autumn before public meetings.
- County update – Cllr Buckmaster – Robinson House in Stevenage opened as one of the 7 national testing sites. Also, rapid testing launched in Hertfordshire, lateral flow testing going live on the 20th January. Anyone who hasn't symptoms can have that. In various care homes across the county often outbreaks. The County council then step in to offer help and advice. Indications are that 'R'rate starting to level off in the East of England. Cllr Buckmaster said vaccination programme in this area for the over 80's is there or thereabouts. **Action: Cllr Buckmaster to get an update on what is happening in Stevenage and with the local vaccination schedule.**

21.01.3 Declaration of Interest and dispensations – to receive Declaration of Interest and dispensations from councillors on items on the agenda. No pecuniary interests declared from councillors in attendance.

21.01.4 Approval of minutes of meeting held on November 16th, 2020. The minutes are signed by the Chair and will be made available to the clerk as soon as is possible. All councillors approved the minutes.

21.01.5 Matters Arising

Diversity – roll over to next meeting - (Cllr Fossey) – to present at next meeting.

General Powers of Competence – Clerk – to present at next meeting. **Done**

21.01.6 Reports from members representing the Parish Council on outside organisations and attending meetings on behalf of the council.

- Parish Paths Partnerships. Cllr O'Shea thanked Bud for providing the cycle routes map of the Parish.
- Police Report – Clerk – only one crime reported, a Christmas wreath stolen from a residence's gate.
- VHMC – Cllr O'Shea advised the VH has not been open, but financially in a good place. Received the business grant from the government. Had an annual meeting before Christmas by zoom. Trustees meeting on the 20th of January. Chief items on the agenda are the search for new chair and



the land that was taken and hasn't been paid for. **Action: Cllr O'Shea said that is for the trustees to deal with but will report back.**

- County Councillor Report – Cllr Buckmaster – Gilston Area Villages 1-6 *He is trying to arrange the meeting with landowners and EHC officers with HEGNPG on S106 Negotiations.* (Not sure what this was about) Village 7 application still to come in.- expected by end January Cllr Fossey asked about the salary rise for the police, which is another rise on council taxpayers. Whilst East Herts is relatively affluent, they should be mindful of the increases that are being discussed and some thought is being given of the impact these rises can have on people. Cllr Buckmaster understands, and that county has about 85% of the budget. The county can increase up to 3% in case of social care and extra 2% generally on council tax. Cllr Fossey reiterated the impact on people needs to be raised and be mindful where we get the money from and how the money is spent. Body that has the most say is the local government association. Cllr Toll said regarding the Brown waste bin and the annual charge and hopes it doesn't cause more fly tipping of garden waste. Cllr O'Shea asked if food waste will go in the black bins after 1st April 2021. Cllr Buckmaster said we cannot legally charge for collecting food waste. Cllr Fossey asked what communication there will be to members of the public, as to what you can and can't put in the bins. **Action: Cllr Buckmaster to forward the link from East Herts to circulate out to the community. Done but still doesn't answer questions about food waste if you do not pay for brown bin.** Cllr Buckmaster said: 60-70% of all councils already charge and the reason to do it is that next year we are looking at a million deficit, then another million the following year and then two million after that. Discussion by EHC around what we do, do we cut non statutory services. Green waste to compost – there is a subsidised scheme, to encourage people to compost. **Action: Clerk/MN to get something on the website. Done**

21.01.7 Neighbourhood Plans

- Hunsdon Parish Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr O'Shea (Appendix 3) – updates to say that the public consultation on the HANP would start on 1 Feb for 7 weeks, during which there will be a Q& A session on 16th Feb.
- Joint Hunsdon, Eastwick and Gilston Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Toll (Appendix 3) – Response to Villages 1 – 6 Cllr Toll and O'Shea to circulate the HEGNPG response to the councillors and officers and draft an email approval to it, so the PC can submit in time for the 21st of January. All councillors agreed.
- Revised plan for village 7 will be with planners on Thursday, then consultation due to begin from 28th January. NP group will be looking at the application. Want to make progress on stewardship, particularly the Airfield and the Woodland Parks. Stop Harlow North – we helped fund it, it has ceased to be with some £10,000 in the bank, are we prepared to approve those funds to the NPG. Cllrs all agreed. **Action: Clerk to confirm. Done**

21.01.8 Community Projects and Village infrastructure.

- Allotments – Cllr Oliver – Quiet at the moment. Call from an allotment holder that a greenhouse had blown over. Contacted the owner to get him to clear up the greenhouse. Water flowing in the ditch. Nothing else to report. Cllr O'Shea asked if people could work their allotment during Covid-19. Cllr Oliver said its considered exercise.
- Parish Grounds – Cllr O'Shea – Finalising the agreement with the solicitors for DBF for the tennis courts lease has gone quiet. Cllr O'Shea asked Jackie if it is holding up anything on fund raising. Jackie said no. Cllr O'Shea committed to continue pushing.
- Village Shop – follow up – Cllr McDonald - Regarding the shop update I have not much to report other than I thanked Amrish and Trupti for opening over the Christmas period and I know a lot of villagers much appreciated them opening. One other thing they may have to close at the end of the month for a week due to family problems. That is not confirmed but they will give notice in the shop if they have to.



Owner of the Fox raised a concern that the noticeboard isn't being used. Cllr Toll said it is due to lack of activities at the moment. Noticeboard is owned and managed by the shop and some notices have been taken down advertising the services of the Fox and Hounds. Cllr Toll said this is an area we have no jurisdiction over.

- Playground – Councillor Fossey (Appendix 4) – Cllr Fossey has been to the playground and noted people are using the playground when the weather permits. Appears to be an appropriate level of social distancing going on. Jackie said there are still a couple of bits outstanding – board at the playground and also the maintenance programme. **Action: Jackie and clerk to work on these. Ongoing.** £91,000 costing for the MUGA in Ware, which is roughly what we were expecting. Need a strategy of how the funds are going to be raised.
- Village Communications – Cllr Burton – ongoing process. NPG want Mayer to upgrade the NP website. Will be a cost incurred by Meyer. All councillors agreed to Mayer doing the work and the PC paying his costs.
- Dog poo bins – The Parish Council want to thank Martyn and Terri Reid who cleared up the dog waste by the Back Lane bin and placed in black bags until East Herts empty the bins. Also, Bob Barker who kindly put a notice on the bin advising people to use the bin in the Dell if the bin is full. **Action: clerk to obtain price for a new larger bin for Back Lane and that bin to be moved outside the school. Done. Have a price.** Are EH planning to cut back on bins in rural areas?
- SIDs – will be installed at Little Samuels Farm coming south into the village and by the Homesteads going north into the village by the 31st of March. Cllr Buckmaster advised these can be moved if you get extra sockets.
- Drive Safe – we need to get the scheme moving. And has been allocated to Cllrs Toll and McDonald. **Action: Cllr Toll and McDonald to draw up an action plan.**

21.01.9 Planning:

21.01.9.1 New applications for EHC Planning.

- **3/19/1045/OUT - Proposal:** Outline planning with all matters reserved apart from external vehicular access for the redevelopment of the site through the demolition of existing buildings and erection of a residential led mixed use development comprising up to 8,500 residential homes including market and affordable homes; retirement homes and extra care facilities; provision for Gypsies and Travellers pitches/ Travelling Show people plots; a range of community uses including primary and secondary schools, health centres and nursery facilities; retail and related uses; leisure facilities; business and commercial uses; open space and public realm; sustainable urban drainage systems; utility and energy facilities and infrastructure; waste management facilities; vehicular bridge links; car parking; creation of new vehicular and pedestrian accesses into the site, and creation of a new vehicular, pedestrian and cycle network within the site; improvements to the existing highway and local road network; undergrounding and diversion of power lines; lighting; engineering works, infrastructure and associated facilities; together with temporary works or structures required by the development **AT:** Land North of the Stort Valley and the A414, Gilston,
- **3/20/2341/HH - Proposal:** Erection of first floor rear extension; front porch extension and alterations to fenestration **AT:** 2 Rectory Close. **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 14th December 2020**
- **3/20/2424/HH – Proposal:** Single storey rear extension, erection of porch to front and creation of door to flank elevation **AT:** 6 Paddock Close. **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 24th December 2020**
- **3/20/2412/HH - Proposal:** Erection of wall **AT:** 1 Wheatsheaf Road. **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 28th December 2020**
- **3/20/2452/HH - Proposal:** Replacement fencing and replacement electric entrance gate **AT:** 6 Ellison Close, please **send your comments to EHC Planning by: 19th January 2021.** Councillors agreed to send in comments.



- **3/20/2640/LBC - Proposal:** Attachment of automated external defibrillator (AED) unit to front Elevation **AT:** Village Hall 45-47 High Street. **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 25th January 2021.** Cllr Toll suggests we write to say the Parish Council have no objections and definitely support it. All councillors agreed. **Comments submitted to EHC by the clerk.**
- **3/20/2219/FUL - Proposal:** Erection of one, two bedroomed dwelling with parking **AT:** 52 Widford Road **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by: 11th January 2021.** **Comments submitted to EHC by the clerk.**
- **3/20/2002/FUL - Proposal:** Change of use from agricultural land to Dog Day Care Facility (sui generis) **AT:** Land Adjacent North Cottage Stanstead Road. **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 25th January 2021.** Cllr Toll has drawn up a response which is a response from a local resident and circulated to councillors. Adjacent landowners were not notified. Martyn said the dog pens are either side of the footpath, which is a right of way. Also, traffic would increase, with 40 dogs, would be an extra 80 journeys. Cllr Toll proposed we send in comments to object. All councillors agreed to object. **Clerk to send in. Comments submitted to EHC by the clerk.**
- **3/20/2413/PNHH - Proposal:** Single storey rear extension: Depth: 4.5 metres, Maximum height: 2.95 metres, Eaves height: 2.95 metres **AT:** 1 Wheatsheaf Road. Under current planning legislation some extensions to dwellings can be carried out without express planning permission. However, the applicant is required to submit details of the proposed extension to the Local Planning authority. However, if the local planning authority does not issue a determination within 42 days of the receipt of the application the development may proceed as submitted.
- **3/20/2538/PNHH - Proposal:** Single storey rear extension: Depth 5.30 metres, Maximum height 3.00 metres, Eaves height 3.00 metres **AT:** 22 Wheatsheaf Road. Under current planning legislation some extensions to dwellings can be carried out without express planning permission. However, the applicant is required to submit details of the proposed extension to the Local Planning authority. However, if the local planning authority does not issue a determination within 42 days of the receipt of the application the development may proceed as submitted.

21.01.9.2 Decision by EHC Planning on earlier applications.

- **3/20/1993/HH - Proposal:** Demolition of conservatory and erection of ground floor rear extension **AT:** Berkeley House 7 Widford Road. This matter was considered by the Council on the 7th of December 2020 and it was decided to **Grant Planning Permission**
- **3/20/2165/HH – Proposal:** Single storey rear extension. New detached garage **AT:** 4 Tudor Close Hunsdon. This matter was considered by the Council on the 21st of December 2020 and it was decided to **Grant Planning Permission**
- **3/20/2131/LBC – Proposal:** Removal of electricity meter board, to allow for damp proof works. Replacement wooden beam and internal re-rendering and plastering. Installation of consumer unit and secondary consumer unit and re-siting of electricity meter board on an outside wall of the property **AT:** 63 High Street This matter was considered by the Council on the 5th of January 2021 and it was decided to **Refuse Consent.**
- **3/20/2018/HH - Proposal:** Single storey rear infill extension, alterations to fenestration, front elevation over rendered in white through colour render **AT:** 6 Drury Lane. This proposal, I write to inform you that this matter was considered by the Council on the 10th of December 2020 and it was decided to **Grant Planning Permission**
- **3/20/1949/FUL - Proposal:** Demolition and erection of replacement modular classroom block **AT:** Hunsdon J M I School. This matter was considered by the Council on the 10th of December 2020 and it was decided to **Grant Planning Permission**
- **3/20/2413/PNHH - Proposal:** Single storey rear extension: Depth: 4.5 metres, Maximum height: 2.95 metres, Eaves height: 2.7 metres at: 1 Wheatsheaf Road. This matter was considered by EH Council on the 14th of January 2021 and it was decided to **Prior Approval is Required and Refused**



- **3/20/2341/HH - Proposal:** Erection of first floor rear extension; front porch extension and alterations to Fenestration at: 2 Rectory Close. This matter was considered by the Council on the 14th of January 2021 and it was decided to **Refuse Planning Permission**

21.01.10 Finance – Clerks Report

- Spending for approval – to agree to payment of accounts, as per the financial spreadsheet. All councillors agreed to the payment of accounts.
- To accept the accuracy of the financial statement. All councillors agreed to the accuracy.
- Approval of Precept as discussed at Finance Committee meeting on Tuesday 10th and 09th November 2020 via zoom meetings of £21,000. To sign the Precept paperwork in readiness for submission to East Herts (Precept upon Billing Authority, Local Government Finance Act 1992). Cllr Toll said there has been a hike in precept of £5,000 due to us having over the last few years to use our reserves to pay for neighbourhood plans and planning consultant fees. We’ve had to make this rise in precept to allow us to complete the NP and stop living on reducing reserves. 30th November the Finance Committee met and came to this figure to cover our essential overheads. All councillors have seen the precept paperwork, and it has been signed. The councillors agreed to accept the recommendations of the Finance Committee.
- Budget – Cllr O’Shea – **Action: Cllr O’Shea to set up a meeting to discuss the budget. Done.**
- **Clerk to circulate figures for estimates of end of year surpluses and next year revenue commitments prior to meeting. Done**
- Late requests for payment:
 - **Parish Online – yearly subscription for PC £120.00**
 - **M. Nissim £25 + VAT for the SSL security certificate for the Hunsdon.org website**

Clerk’s salary (January - BACS)	£415.99
Litter Pickers (January– Card payment at the request of A. Patel’s accountant)	£130.00
Bidwells - Tennis court rent 25/6/20-25/12/20	£62.50
M Nissim - Colibri personal yearly product for website	£70.38
M Nissim - Hourly rate 16-10-20 - 17/12/20	£190.00

21.01.11 Consultations

- Consultation - HCC Growth and Transport Plans – Cllr Toll circulated the proposed response from the PC. Deadline for comment is the 31st of January. **Action: Send Cllr Buckmaster a copy of the Hunsdon PC response. Done.** Packages of interventions for Stanstead Abbots. Traffic calming to mitigate to impact of housing development in North East Ware. Nothing in the plan to mitigate the houses to the south of Hunsdon. Councillors to send comments into Cllr Toll and the Clerk and will be approved as a response unless any councillor comments.
- Hertfordshire Waste Local Plan - Draft Plan Consultation – Has now been circulated. We need to read this and comment. No account has been taken on the development at Gilston. **Action: Cllr Burton to produce a summary for council consideration.**

21.01.12 AOB

- Martyn Reid – waste site at Fillets Farm, still tall piles of rubbish. On the wood part of the site, the vehicles are being stored and recycling soil. Couple of white vans there unloading. **Action: Martyn to check with the Environmental Agency for feedback on their visit.**
- Malcolm Slater – hedges along Acorn Street, getting the hedges trimmed. **Action: Malcolm to send Cllr Buckmaster photos and also the response he has so he can look at the notice?? What notice? Others said the work had been done.**
- Bud Carthy– entrance to Tanners Way, reinstate and make good the entrance from the B180. Cllr Buckmaster has asked for an update.



- Bud – entrance to Whitehall Cottages. Flooding on both sides of the road. Residents of Whitehall Cottages have had the lane resurfaced so water runs onto the highway. Still an issue, not as bad as it was. Cllr Buckmaster spoke to Ringway manager and they will look into it in the next financial year.
- Diane – Roger Dangell – garden boundary with church lane, paid for and put up a wrought iron fence and have had cars smashed into it. Spoke to Highways and sent an email if there is any responsibility within highways or if there is anything that can be done to protect our property.
Action: Roger to send the email to Cllr Buckmaster that was sent to Highways. Done.
- Cllr Burton– back in December, it was mentioned about fly tipping in Hunsdonbury and the installation of a camera. Can a camera be installed? Cllr Buckmaster said if we want a camera and / or kerb to be installed, send him the emails. **Action: Cllr Burton to send the emails he has about the camera being installed.**

21.01.13 Close of meeting: 21.38

21.01.14 Date of Next Meeting: Monday, 15th February 2021

If any member of the public or press wish to join the Hunsdon Parish Council meeting they can contact the Clerk on: clerk@hunsdonparishcouncil.org or on 01920 870809.



Appendix 1 – Parish Paths Partnership - Report to Hunsdon Parish Council - Meeting on the 18th of January 2021

1. H10 and H17 – RADAR gates

Still await installation. Defibrillator

2. Benches on the footpath network

Since the November meeting, one new and one replacement bench have been installed by contractors on the instruction of Knight Frank.

The new to the network bench is on footpath 17 adjacent to the ancient Hunsdon Lodge Farm barns. This seems to be well used. The replacement bench is on footpath 21. This bench was irrevocably damaged a number of years ago.

It is hoped that Places for People will agree to other replacements.

3. Fillets Farm Paths

All the footpaths on Fillets Farm have been reinstated more or less satisfactorily.

4. Paths around Cockrobin Lane

The sugar beet crop has now all been harvested, and a significant amount moved off site for processing. Reinstatement of the paths disrupted by this work will be required.

5. Hunsdon Airfield Paths

These have all been marked and sprayed, including H11. All these paths are particularly heavy going in the current weather.



Appendix 2 – County Councillors Report – Cllr Eric Buckmaster County councillor report January 2021

Major Consultations

Planning Gilston Villages 1-6 – Planning Application Documents

Local residents now have the period up to 21 Jan 2021 (at 5pm) to submit comments.

[3/19/1045/OUT | Outline planning with all matters reserved apart from external vehicular access for the redevelopment of the site through the demolition of existing buildings and erection of a residential led mixed use development comprising up to 8,500 residential homes including market and affordable homes; retirement homes and extra care facilities; provision for Gypsies and Travellers pitches/ Travelling Showpeople plots; a range of community uses including primary and secondary schools, health centres and nursery facilities; retail and related uses; leisure facilities; business and commercial uses; open space and public realm; sustainable urban drainage systems; utility and energy facilities and infrastructure; waste management facilities; vehicular bridge links; car parking; creation of new vehicular and pedestrian accesses into the site, and creation of a new vehicular, pedestrian and cycle network within the site | Land North Of The Stort Valley And The A414 Gilston Hertfordshire \(eastherts.gov.uk\)](#)

[3/19/1046/FUL | Alterations to the existing Fifth Avenue road/rail bridge, and creation of new bridges to support the widened highway to west of the existing structure to create the Central Stort Crossing, including embankment works, pedestrian and cycle facilities, a pedestrian and cycle bridge over Eastwick Road, lighting and landscaping works and other associated works | Land Adj To Fifth Avenue Existing Eastwick Crossing Hertfordshire/Harlow \(eastherts.gov.uk\)](#)

[3/19/1051/FUL | Erection of a new road, pedestrian, and cycle bridge; replacement of an existing rail bridge at River Way; alterations to the existing local highway network; lighting and landscaping works; listed building works to Fiddlers Brook Bridge; and other associated works. | Land to the South and East of Gilston Village and North of River Stort Gilston Hertfordshire/Harlow \(eastherts.gov.uk\)](#)

[3/19/1049/LBC | Erection of a new road, pedestrian, and cycle bridge; replacement of an existing rail bridge at River Way; alterations to the existing local highway network; lighting and landscaping works; listed building works to Fiddlers Brook Bridge; and other associated works. | Land to The South and East of Gilston Village and North of River Gilston Hertfordshire/Harlow \(eastherts.gov.uk\)](#)

East Hertfordshire Growth and Transport Plan Opening date: 31 October 2020 Closing date: Closing date: 28 February 2021

The draft East, and South East Growth & Transport Plan (GTP), covering the towns of Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth, down to Hertford, Ware, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt and Waltham Cross, and the key transport links between these towns and to surrounding areas, will start the process of public consultation in October and is due to finish in December 2020. The consultation documents already include feedback from workshops with County Councillors and District Portfolio Holders as well as officers for the area have been used to refine the initial schemes and packages that considers the key problems and opportunities which currently exist or may in the future on the transport network and identifies what types of interventions are needed to improve the transport network.



The East Hertfordshire GTP has been developed at the same time as the South East Hertfordshire GTP due to the number of linked trips between the areas.

The Eastern Growth & Transport Plan (EGTP) is a new transport strategy to help direct and plan transport improvements and investment in Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth and surrounding areas. <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/consultations/transport-and-highways/eastern-area-growth-and-transport-plan.aspx#>

The South East Hertfordshire Growth & Transport Plan (EGTP) is a new transport strategy to help direct and plan transport improvements and investment in Hertford, Ware, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt and Waltham Cross, and to surrounding areas. <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/consultations/transport-and-highways/south-east-central-growth-and-transport-plan.aspx#>

The GTPs set the following 6 objectives:

1. **Connected** - Improved transport connections between and within urban and rural locations and services to support economic activity, education, access to services and the development of new jobs and homes.
2. **Reliable** - Improved network resilience and journey time reliability for all users, so that transport networks and services provide consistent and dependable journeys throughout the day.
3. **Accessible** - Provide improved transport networks by all modes, including public transport services, to increase the choice available to transport users and reduce barriers to prosperity, development, and growth.
4. **Attractive Place** - Enhance the function and character of East and South East Hertfordshire's neighbourhoods and public locations to support vibrant communities and preserve and enhance the local environment and quality of life.
5. **Efficient** - Make the most efficient use of resources and technology by reducing the need to travel and enabling a shift to more sustainable modes of travel.
6. **Healthy and Safe** - Promote measures to improve safety and reduce the negative impacts of motorised travel, in particular private car travel; to reduce the harm caused to public health, the environment, and to minimise safety risks.

The draft EGTP proposes 37 Packages and the draft SEGTP proposes 40 packages comprising multiple interventions, including some significant larger scale schemes as well as smaller scale projects focusing on locations.

Sustainable Hertfordshire

Last year the County Council declared a climate emergency. This public engagement was open from 02 November 2020.

This public engagement closes on 24 January 2021

We invite your views on climate change and sustainability in Hertfordshire. Here is a summary of the County Council's ambitions. Further details can be found via the survey.

The county council's ambitions for leading in our own operations are:

- **Carbon neutral for our own operations by 2030**
- All operations and services are ready for future climates



- **Improve biodiversity on our land by 20% by 2030**
- Reduce what we throw away. Send nothing to landfill by 2030

The county council's ambitions for enabling and inspiring a sustainable county are:

- **Net zero greenhouse gas county before 2050**
- Our communities are ready for future climates
- **Improve wildlife in our land and water by 20% by 2050**
- **Clean air for all by 2030**
- **Increase resource efficiency threefold in the County by 2050**

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/consultations/environment/sustainable-hertfordshire-strategy.aspx#>

Diversity & inclusion Strategy

This consultation opened on **21 October 2020, will Close 12th February**

The council's current Diversity & inclusion Strategy is due to end this year. This survey is asking you to inform how we deliver a new strategy that:

- Works with communities to ensure that our services are responsive to our diverse population
- Works in partnership across all sectors to make Hertfordshire a safe and inclusive County of Opportunity for all its residents

Hertfordshire County Council provides a number of services. This includes Adult Social Services, Children's Services, Education, Libraries, Roads, Fire and Rescue, Citizenship Services and Public Health. A full list of services can be found here. To help us understand both the needs of our communities and how we can work better together, we would be grateful if you could complete the short set of questions below.

The Equality and Diversity team has worked with a number of stakeholders over the last year to identify how to develop the new strategy that meets the needs of Hertfordshire's diverse population. The below sets out our proposed added-value themes for our new Diversity & Inclusion Strategy alongside some questions designed to help us determine the actions we may need to take to deliver on these aspirations.

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/consultations/equality-strategy-2016-20/diversity-and-inclusion-survey.aspx#>

**HERTFORDSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (HSCP) ARE WORKING WITH NSPCC TO LAUNCH A COUNTYWIDE NEGLECT Survey CAMPAIGN IN EARLY 2021
SURVEY LAUNCHED TO GAUGE UNDERSTANDING OF NEGLECT ACROSS COUNTY**



(Friday 20 November), on World Children's Day, the NSPCC, and Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) are announcing that they will be launching a countywide campaign to raise awareness of and help prevent neglect of children and young people in the county.

The campaign is being launched in early 2021 alongside Hertfordshire's new neglect strategy, which will focus on intervening at the earliest opportunity to help prevent neglect and reduce the impact it has on children. A key priority for the HSCP for some time, the new strategy will reinforce Hertfordshire's commitment to reducing the number of children and young people experiencing neglect and look to tackle the many causes of child neglect.

Neglect is the most prevalent form of child abuse across the UK and in line with this, Hertfordshire has seen a steady rise in offences over the last three years.

The county's police force recorded 116 offences against children from 2017/18 to 2019/20*, an increase of 45% in the last three years. However, many neglect cases go unreported and the number is likely to be considerably higher as lockdown figures are yet to be released.

Whilst the campaign is set to officially launch in 2021, we're asking Hertfordshire's parents and carers to help us understand what they know about child neglect and its affects to help us shape the strategy and our work with local professionals working with families. You can provide your feedback up until 12 February 2021 at: <https://bit.ly/HertsNSPCCsurvey>

About one third of calls made to the NSPCC Helpline are from people concerned a child might be experiencing neglect, which is when a young person's basic needs are not being met. This includes the child not having warm, clean clothing; enough to eat or drink; receiving love and care; access to healthcare; and support with education.

The campaign will run in three phases; the first phases will look to work with professionals, the second phase will target work with parents and carers and the third phase will be led by young people themselves.

The survey link is: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DZYWMGQ>

New Consultation on Waste Local Plan.

The consultation runs from **9am Monday 11 January 2021** and closes **5pm Friday 19 March 2021**.

The consultation covers the Draft version of the new Waste Local Plan (the Plan) we are preparing which will replace the current adopted Waste Core Strategy and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) (November 2012), the Waste Site Allocations DPD (July 2014) and the Employment Land Areas of Search Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) (November 2015). The new Plan sets the vision, objectives, and spatial strategy for waste planning in Hertfordshire up to 2036.

We have also prepared a draft of our new Waste Facilities Design Guide SPD, which will provide guidance on the design of waste management facilities and assist in meeting the requirements set out in Policy 15 of the Draft Plan.

The Plan and supporting documents will be available to view online at hertfordshire.gov.uk/wlp and we are welcoming comments from interested parties.

Hertfordshire schools come top of the class in national performance tables.



The Sunday Times singled out the nation's top 500 secondary schools in its recently published 2020 guide and 25 Hertfordshire schools were included, an impressive five per cent of the UK total. The schools were ranked by performance according to the results of their A'Level and GCSE examinations taken in the summer of 2019.

The 25 Hertfordshire schools ranked within the top 500 state secondary schools are (position in brackets):

- Dame Alice Owen's School, Potters Bar (33)
- **Hockerill Anglo-European College, Bishop's Stortford (41=)**
- Watford Grammar School for Girls, Watford (73)
- Watford Grammar School for Boys, Watford (119)
- St George's School, Harpenden (139)
- **The Herts and Essex High School, Bishop's Stortford (153)**
- Beaumont School, St Albans (170)
- Sandringham School, St Albans (171)
- St Albans Girls' School, St Albans (172)
- The Broxbourne School, Broxbourne (235)
- Hitchin Girls' School, Hitchin (238)
- **Presdales, Ware (259)**
- Roundwood Park School, Harpenden (276)
- **The Bishop's Stortford High School, Bishop's Stortford (321)**
- The John Henry Newman RC School, Stevenage (326)
- Rickmansworth School, Rickmansworth (336=)
- Queen's School, Bushey (339)
- The Hemel Hempstead School, Hemel Hempstead (351=)
- Loreto College, St Albans (389)
- St Joan of Arc RC School, Rickmansworth (417)
- **Richard Hale School, Hertford (457)**
- The Highfield School, Letchworth Garden City (459)
- Stanborough School, Welwyn Garden City (480)
- The Priory School, Hitchin (490)
- **The Leventhorpe School, Sawbridgeworth (495)**

The results were published in the 28th edition of The Sunday Times Schools Guide, identifying the 2,000 highest-achieving state and independent schools in the UK, ranked by their most recent examination results.

To read the full report visit: <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/best-uk-schools-guide-parent-power-tr95xdztg>

There are 530 maintained schools in Hertfordshire which consist of 80 secondary, 403 primary, 14 nursery, 25 special schools: and eight Education Support Centres.

A clearer approach to setting speed limits on Hertfordshire's roads has been agreed, paving the way for more 20mph zones across the county.

Over the summer, Hertfordshire County Council consulted on an updated strategy for setting speed limits on the county's roads, including clearer guidance on the introduction of 20mph areas that aim to improve conditions for people walking and cycling.

The strategy includes a framework for setting speed limits so that they are more consistently applied across the road network, reflecting the design of the road and the way it is used. It also provides clearer guidelines on the measures (such as traffic calming, signing and technology) that can be used to help reinforce those limits.

Commissioner plans for Hertfordshire's largest ever police force Hertfordshire is set for its largest ever police force, funded by a planned a £1.25 a month Council Tax increase. (£15) Police and Crime Commissioner David



Lloyd is aiming to fund extra frontline officers as part of a £14.1m budget increase, on top of the number provided by the government national uplift programme.

The Commissioner's budget proposal would increase the total number in the ranks to 2,267 in the next financial year, with a total of 167 new officers joining. The government is funding 90 officers to be in post by April 2022, while the Commissioner's planned precept rise would pay for another 77 officers. If you would like to give comments, please send them to your.views@herts.pcc.pnn.gov.uk or by completing a short survey bit.ly/Hertsprecept21 by **midnight on Friday 15th January 2021**.

Matters agreed at East Herts Executive on 5th January

No. Item

- 5 To Contract out of Homelessness Reviews to specialist organisation
- 6 Affordable Housing Research and Overview and Scrutiny Review. To inform future housing policy especially on matters of affordability.
- 7 Note a decision of the Chief Executive to approve a scheme for Local Authority Discretionary Grant fund under Urgency Provisions. To expedite the process of launching government support schemes for businesses impacted by COVID-19 closure or ability to supply.

Eric Buckmaster January 2021

Matters to be decided at East Herts Extraordinary meeting of Full Council on 13th January

- Implementation of a Chargeable Green Waste Charging Service (Pages 47 - 190)
 - a) Approval be provided, having regard to the results of the public consultation, for the cessation of the existing mixed organic waste collection and this be replaced with a chargeable garden waste only collection service
 - b) Approval of a £49 annual fee for the first year of the service (2021/22), reduced to £45 for residents signing up through a direct debit scheme before 15 March 2021.
 - c) Approval of a £35 cost per additional bin and £49 for collection of additional bins.
 - d) Adoption of the key principles of the terms and conditions as stated in Appendix 1
 - e) Given the comments raised during the consultation about the benefits of food waste reduction, run an enhanced food waste reduction and home composting campaign.
- Change of scope for the Old River Lane Arts Centre (Pages 191 - 230)



Appendix 3 - Hunsdon Parish Council Meeting 18th January 2021

Report from Councillor Bob Toll

Gilston Area Neighbourhood Plan

There is good news to report. Following the independent examination, the document has been edited as required by the examiner and we now await his final report with some confidence that he will not be recommending major amendments to the policies. The Plan will then have to be approved and adopted by East Herts Council before moving to the final referendum stage. The actual timing of this is dependent on how this can be organised whilst there are social distancing constraints. However, the Plan will carry weight at this stage, and we are asking that it be considered by East Herts when determining the Gilston Area revised planning applications.

The NPG, with the assistance of its consultants, has produced a response to the revised applications for Villages 1-6 submitted by Places for People. This has been circulated to councillors and will be discussed under a later agenda item. Our response has to be returned by 21st January.

The revised application from Briggens Estate 1 for Village 7 is expected to be submitted to EHC very shortly. The NPG will examine this and develop an appropriate response.

The NPG are also pressing for some action on the other major facets of the planning process – Landscape Masterplan, Stewardship of Community Assets and Section 106 Commitments.

This involvement is rather technical and needs professional advice and the NPG has been seeking funding support from Government through our MP Julie Marson. This has been turned down.

An immediate lifeline has become available through the unspent funds of the Stop Harlow North Campaign. Sponsoring councils, including Hunsdon, and other organisations have been asked to make these funds available to the NPG. This is also a later item on our agenda.

Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan to Parish Council Jan 2021

Since the last report in November.

1. We have made some progress with the outstanding items due from our consultant since the Christmas break and ourselves progressed the Summary Booklet and Questionnaire.
2. We have commissioned Mayer Nissim to upgrade our website which we will need to house all our relevant documentation to make it accessible to the Public in the absence of paper copies and public meetings in Covid lockdowns.
3. The Group is meeting this week to approve the drafts to go to public consultation for residents, landowners, and statutory bodies and to set the timetable for it to take place and finish before 31 March. I hope to update you at the Parish meeting.
4. We continue to work within Budget for this year.



Appendix 4 - Playground Report for HPC

Playground Report for HPC January 2021

Playground

Not much new to report this month. The grass in the playground is growing well, but it is very muddy - showing that it is being well used.

There are still some outstanding issues:

1. To meet the requirements of EN1176 - the standards for playgrounds we need to put up a board with contact details, no dogs, etc. Carol is looking into this. Need to find a sponsor,
2. I have had a quote for a maintenance and inspection programme from Kompan, which I forwarded to Carol. I don't know if a decision has been reached by Councillors.

MUGA

I have received one quote from Calloo - the company which installed the MUGA at the Priory in Ware. Grand Total £91,000 excluding VAT! I was assuming around £100K, so not a surprise.