

Appendix 1 – District Councillor report October 2023 - Cllr. John Dunlop

Matters arising

1. Gilston development: some updates on S106 and masterplanning timings to NPG. Most likely end of this month and November respectively
2. The grass cutting map and email passed to Clerk for review.
3. Citizens Advice Bureau - met with various representatives at the Community Information Cafe. There is interest from Guppy Patel from NHS to come and present more about Social prescribing.
4. District Plan - decision as to review District plan.
5. Bins emptying and road sweeping - after considerable chasing of Exec and others it appears that Lina Dubauskas is now back in charge of this, and we have engagement with her. Clerk on copy to continue correspondence.

Live Longer Better in Hertfordshire induction workshop

Herts Sports and Physical Activity Partnership has a free upcoming webinar on Tuesday, 17th October to provide an overview of the Live Longer Better in Hertfordshire campaign. With the older adult population set to increase significantly, alongside an estimated 68% of people over 65 years old living with multiple health conditions, levels of inactivity are predicted to rise. This workshop, held from 10am to 11am, will explore ways in which organisations can support people to Live Longer Better in Hertfordshire that includes accessing the funded Champions training and funded bid writing services, providing an opportunity to broaden your offer to older adults through Active Ageing projects.

Click [here](#) to register.

Tuesday 17th October 2023

10am to 11am

Online via Zoom

Helping businesses take off with Launchpad2

The success of the Launchpad2 business support programme has seen East Herts Council assist over seventy businesses within the district (including Artshed in Westmill pictured above) with grant funding and business support.

Funded through the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), Launchpad2 has distributed £166,200 in grants to local businesses, helping them to finance capital investment and realise their full potential. In addition to the grant funding, more than 200 hours of tailored one-to-one support were provided to business owners, assisting them in navigating the complexities of their industries and overcoming hurdles along the way.

Find out more - <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/latest-news/2023/council-helps-businesses-take-launchpad2>

Customer Relationship (CRM) - Service Portal Update

The East Herts MyAccount online CRM platform is set to enter its next phase, after a successful alpha launch.

Key highlights

- Introduced over 100 service forms.
- Achieved over 4000 form submissions from customers.
- 1500 customers have signed up for an East Herts MyAccount.
- The platform is already aiding our Customer Service Team in managing face-to-face interactions. It will soon be extended for telephone interactions.

What's Next?

- Launch of the next iteration of [East Herts MyAccount](#) based on customer feedback, which includes renaming and a refreshed layout.
- Development and implementation of the user testing strategy.
- Collaborative integration with the Environmental Health Uniform IT system with the CRM to improve business processes and efficiency.
- Development and launch of the internal case management portal for holistic customer case management.

Signing up and Feedback

If you would like to sign up for an [East Herts MyAccount](#) you can do so by following the instructions on this URL: <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/myaccount>

We want to make the digital platform as user-friendly and accessible as possible. If you have any feedback or would like to discuss the roll out plans further, please contact us at digital@eastherts.gov.uk

Appendix 2 – County Councillor Report – Cllr Eric Buckmaster

Appendix 2 – County Councillor Report – Cllr Eric Buckmaster Minerals and Waste Local Plan updated

Jan Sustainable Economic Growth Panel, Feb Cabinet and Council, 2024

Flooding Issue

CCTV/Jetting Vector Unit for High Street the date shown on One.Network shows that the works should be done on 11 & 12 January 2024. As these are the dates issued by Network Management for the Permit, I would suggest that they are fairly robust, however there is always a proviso of poor weather (eg. ice or snow) /other incidents that can affect teams attending the site.

Requests to County and East Herts have been made regarding 6 monthly gully inspections and proactive street cleansing. I have made representations, and this has been backed up by a letter from Julie Marson MP to the respective CEOs of both Councils.

Modelling Dates have been offered for the presentation by officers/WSP to explain the findings.

Funding is being secured for the Options work now to look at potential solutions to mitigate surface water flooding. Other technical monitoring options are being looked into for the Culvert.

A vision for Electric Vehicle charging in Hertfordshire



Hertfordshire County Council, working with district & borough councils and other key stakeholders in both the private and public sectors, has published its strategy for supporting and enabling Electric Vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure within the county.

The strategy sets out a plan to provide more chargepoints so residents and businesses will be able to recharge their electric vehicles conveniently and appropriately in the future. It's forecast that by 2030, a minimum of 3,000 public chargepoints will be needed in the county, a six-fold increase on current levels. Around half of these are anticipated to be provided in locations such as workplaces, supermarkets, and forecourts, with public authorities providing the rest.

There is significant potential for more chargepoints in car parks, with over 26,000 parking spaces available in 400 car parks and this is the preferred first option for council provided charging. These will allow residents the opportunity to charge their vehicles in a number of easily accessible locations across the

county. Other off street options on publicly owned land will also be looked at. Where off street options are unavailable and there are gaps in chargepoint provision, the potential for on street charging will be considered.

Success for campaign that encourages Hertfordshire residents to reduce food waste



- **Research shows up to 70% of food thrown away in Hertfordshire is still edible**
- **The #worthsaving campaign has reduced food waste in Three Rivers by 15%**
- **A four-step mantra of 'plan, shop, store, eat' has been the recipe for success**
- **The pilot will now be rolled out across the county**

Research undertaken earlier this year in three areas in Hertfordshire shows that between 45% and 65% of the food we throw away in food waste recycling bins, could have been eaten.

The same study, which was undertaken in Three Rivers District Council, Hertsmerre Borough Council and Watford Borough Council, also found that up to 24% of average black bag bin waste contained food that could have still been used and eaten.

We know anecdotally that many Hertfordshire residents don't believe they waste much food, but the figures show a different picture. Around 40,000 tonnes of edible food are thrown away in Hertfordshire each year, which equates to 66 million meals. In fact, reducing the amount of food we throw away, could save each household up to £720 a year^[1] and reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by up to 10%.^[2]

Cllr Eric Buckmaster, Executive Member for The Environment at Hertfordshire County Council said: "At a time when household budgets are being stretched by the rising cost of living, including an increase in the price of food, it's more important than ever to reduce the food we throw away.

"We continue to receive stark warnings and local examples of what the climate crisis will mean for us all. Reducing our food waste is a really simple, cost saving way to live more sustainably and help us reach our net-zero targets as set out in our corporate plan."

Over the last 18 months, the Hertfordshire Waste Partnership has been working on a campaign to support residents in reducing how much edible food they throw away. The good news is that reducing how much food we throw away is simple– in a 6-month trial between November 2022 and March 2023, residents in Three Rivers reduced their edible food waste by 15% and they have been inspired to do even more.

Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service is seeking your views on its future.



Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service (HFRS) has opened a new survey so that people who live and work in the county can have their say on its future.

Responses to the survey will help the service understand how prepared people who live and work in the county are to deal with emergencies, build a picture of the barriers there are to people joining the fire and rescue service, and learn how it can better engage with the community.

All feedback will be incorporated into the service's [plan for a safe and resilient Hertfordshire](#) which details the key risks and challenges facing the county, as well as how HFRS will use its resources to respond.

The survey is open from 25 September to 19 November, and it takes less than 10 minutes to complete. You could win one of three £50 high street vouchers – enter your details at the end of the survey for a chance to win.

Read our plan for a safe and resilient Hertfordshire and take the survey on our website: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/CRMP

No vehicle idling policy now in force at county council sites

Supporting our vision to create a cleaner, greener, and healthier Hertfordshire, vehicle idling is now prohibited at all county council sites. Our new [no vehicle idling policy](#) has been created to help tackle the pollution and carbon emissions that come from unnecessary idling, which is when a vehicle's engine is left running while it is parked or stationary without a good reason.

This policy applies to everyone who uses our sites including colleagues, members of the public, and contractors. It will be in force twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

A new Development Quality Charter for Hertfordshire

The built environment is responsible for about 25% of greenhouse gas emissions, so one of the best things we can do is improve the construction, heating, cooling, and powering of our homes and other buildings. Councils, council-owned development companies, housing associations, developments, and landowners are invited to commit to the [Charter](#) to achieve a new benchmark for quality and sustainability for new developments across the county and ensure residents benefit from well-designed places to live, work and visit.

The purpose of the Development Quality Charter is to achieve a new benchmark for high quality and sustainable development in Hertfordshire.

This is because the built environment is responsible for about 25% of greenhouse gas emissions, so one of the best things we can do is improve the construction, heating, cooling, and powering of our homes and other buildings.

It is hoped that councils, council-owned development companies, housing associations, developers, landowners, and others will voluntarily sign the Charter and commit to achieve the following pledges.

Design Pledges

- Developers must submit a design and access statement to demonstrate compliance with national and local planning policies, the National Model Design Code and local design codes.
- Major sites will submit a masterplan, which must be agreed in advance of or alongside a planning application.
- Major sites will be informed by community engagement and a design review panel as part of the pre-application and planning application process.
- Major sites must explain the long-term stewardship strategy for their development.
- Developers must incorporate environmental management systems, considerate construction, social value, and construction skills development into their business models.
- All developments should achieve at least 10% biodiversity net gain for at least 30 years, in accordance with the DEFRA toolkit.

Making SEND Everyone's Business

As part of the 'Making SEND Everyone's Business' programme, our £5 million annual investment and transformation programme of our [Special Educational Needs and Disabilities \(SEND\) service](#), we are recruiting to up to 80 new roles. Along with a workforce development programme to support our current dedicated colleagues working hard in these areas, this will lead to positive outcomes for children and families.

Future of County Hall

Earlier this year [Cabinet approved plans](#) to relocate most Hertfordshire County Council services based at County Hall to the Stevenage Office Campus whilst seeking to retain a democratic and civic presence at the front of County Hall. The delivery of the project to move services is underway, and we are now looking to the future of the remaining site. One of the first options being explored is whether other organisations may wish to rent some or all of the County Hall office site. We have now begun to market this part of the site for employment use. Savills is the property agent leading this marketing activity which will include signage in the grounds of County Hall as well as advertising in property publications and newspapers. Consolidating office space will enable HCC to make significant savings, generate income and ensure we are best placed to continue to deliver excellent services to the people of Hertfordshire.

Cleaner air banners and handheld sensors for schools

Schools in Hertfordshire can borrow no idling banners and handheld air quality sensors to use with their school pupils to help them understand the science behind air pollution. If you believe a school in your area would be interested, contact cleaner.air@hertfordshire.gov.uk or share this email address directly with the school.

Slipper Swap events are back in libraries this autumn

Our hugely popular Slipper Swaps returned to Hertfordshire libraries – this is an initiative where we work closely with Adult Care Services as part of their Falls Prevention strategy. They send along occupational therapists to offer advice on how to avoid falls (thus avoiding costly hospital visits) and encourage residents who are older or have a disability to throw away worn out slippers and swap them for a brand-new free pair of anti-slip ones while learning about keeping themselves safe and well.

It is also an opportunity for us to work with our community partners who will be there to dispense advice, such as Age UK, Herts Health Walks, the Alzheimer's Society (to name a few) and Small Acts of Kindness who will be providing Warm in Winter gift bags. Visitors can also browse memory boxes from our reminiscence collections.

Supporting SEND students in the heart of Hertfordshire's schools



Hertfordshire's schools are increasing their capacity to support pupils with SEND through six new Special Resource Provisions (SRPs) opening in mainstream schools across the county.

Hertfordshire County Council's multi-million-pound investment in the development of new SRPs is helping to address a current gap in the county's SEND service and meet increased need in Hertfordshire for SEND support.

From September 2023, more than 100 places have been created in SRPs to support children and young people with speech, language, communication needs and autism, who don't need a special school, but do need additional support so that they can access learning in a mainstream school.

Support in SRPs is tailored to each individual pupil. The number of places is kept small, with higher ratios of staff, to allow this tailoring to happen. Support will look different for every pupil, and the aim for each pupil is to help them develop their social and communication skills and confidence, to allow them to increase the time they are able to access mainstream classes.

Appendix 3 – Clerks Report

Hunsdon Parish Council					
Revenue Expenditure					
Credit					
	Budget	To date	Remaining period	Year	Variance
B/F General	£6,232.08	£6,815.47		£6,815.47	£583.39
Precept	£26,600.00	£26,690.00	–£90.00	£26,600.00	£0.00
Litter Picker	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Allotment rents	£489.00	£45.00	£444.00	£489.00	£0.00
VAT refund rev	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Grant Neighbourhood Plan	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Santander Interest	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Totals	£33,321.08	£33,550.47	£354.00	£33,904.47	£583.39
Debit					
Administration	£2,217.12	£1,199.54	£1,017.58	£2,217.12	£0.00
Litter pickers	£1,600.00	£177.70	£1,422.30	£1,600.00	£0.00
Salary	£6,050.00	£3,436.26	£2,613.74	£6,050.00	£0.00
General Power of Competence	£320.00	£102.39	£217.61	£320.00	£0.00
Allotments	£490.00	£0.00	£490.00	£490.00	£0.00
Playing Field	£700.00	£243.00	£457.00	£700.00	£0.00
Rest of village	£0.00	£1,038.86	–£1,038.86	£0.00	£0.00
Grounds Maintenance	£6,252.00	£4,096.92	£2,155.08	£6,252.00	£0.00
Planning Consultants and Advice	£6,000.00	£527.61	£5,472.39	£6,000.00	£0.00
Churchyard donation	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00
Insurance	£568.44	£568.44	£0.00	£568.44	£0.00
Defibrillator funding	£365.00	£0.00	£365.00	£365.00	£0.00
Village Event Funding	£800.00	£800.00	£0.00	£800.00	£0.00
Projects	£5,000.00	£0.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£0.00
Contingencies	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00
Totals	£31,862.56	£12,190.72	£19,671.84	£31,862.56	£0.00
Surplus	£1,458.52	£21,359.75	–£19,317.84	£2,041.91	£583.39
Totals					
Revenue Surplus	£1,458.52	£21,359.75	–£19,317.84	£2,041.91	£583.39
Capital Surplus	£11,256.32	£30,395.51	–£18,352.03	£12,043.48	£787.16
Total Surplus	£12,714.84	£51,755.26	–£37,669.87	£14,085.39	£1,370.55

Capital Expenditure					
Credit					
	Budget	To date	Remaining period	Year	Variance
B/F Special Projects	£29,608.35	£30,395.51		£30,395.51	£787.16
VAT refund Cap	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Totals	£29,608.35	£30,395.51	£0.00	£30,395.51	£787.16
Playground Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Inspection for Equipment	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
MUGA allocation	£18,352.03	£0.00	£18,352.03	£18,352.03	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Totals	£18,352.03	£0.00	£18,352.03	£18,352.03	£0.00
Surplus	£11,256.32	£30,395.51	-£18,352.03	£12,043.48	£787.16
Receipts Check		TRUE			
Payments Check		TRUE			
Reconciliation Check		TRUE			

Bank Reconciliation

Total surplus	£51,755.26	
		£2,716.1
		<u>£50,119.2</u>
07-Oct-23		
Santander bank	Current account	
	Business account	
		<u>£52,835.4</u>

Payments agreed but not cleared bank

Payments to be agreed

C Page	Salary for October	Salary	£384.7
HMRC Cumberbaud	PAYE for Clerk	Salary	£96.0
L Lundy	Litter picking for October	Litter Pickers	£20.0
A Wilkinson	Litter picking for October	Litter Pickers	£20.0
P Knott	September grass cutting	Grounds Maintenance	£560.0

£
1,080.18

Balance at Bank **£51,755.2**

Appendix 4 – Planning Report

Planning Applications https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk	LHPC Response
3/23/1298/FUL PROPOSAL: Replacement of car park fence (comprising a series of 0.95 metre posts linked originally by chain) with a 1.2 metre post and twin rail timber fence at Land Opposite St Dunstans Church Church Lane Deadline: Please send your comments to EHC by: 20th October 2023	

Appendix 5 – Parish Paths Partnership Report

1. General Condition of the Footpaths

The paths are generally in good condition and have been very walkable. On the aerodrome partial ploughing has taken place and the paths should be restored after two weeks of first disturbance. This timescale is about to expire and the Countryside Management Service has been alerted that the farmers will need to be contacted if there is no immediate restoration, which has been the pattern. Wardens will monitor over the next 10 days and then report to HCC.

2. Meeting with Knight Frank, Land Agents for the aerodrome

A useful meeting took place with Knight Frank Bob Toll and Martyn Reid. The key points covered are as follows:

Knight Frank agreed to the following actions:

- They will work with HPC and HCC’s PROW team to provide signage at key points on the Estate to help walkers move around the area more easily.
- They will consult with Stuart Tinney to see if he will post future agricultural spraying activity on the Hunsdon community hub social platform.
- They will notify PFP about the flooding incidents on Drury Lane.
- They will liaise with HCC’s PROW team to repair the gate on Drury Lane.

They have been asked to request Stuart Tinney to take extra care when spraying if the wind direction is towards the village. **(Bob Toll may wish to comment on these points at the meeting)**

3. General Maintenance - Posts

The condition of marker posts is generally good. A couple of fallen posts have been reported as needing replacement.

4. The Cock Robin Lane/H19 Application for Upgrading to a Restricted Byway

HPC were made aware of this pre-existing application, which is not out for consultation yet. This will be dealt with at the time the plans for the Community Park on the aerodrome have been finalised by Place for

People and brought forward for consultation. The existing draft plan seems to involve reinstating the path Northwards to meet Eastwick Path 2 together with hedging and then to tarmac it to a width of 3m!

5. Application to downgrade part of H3 from a BOAT to a Restricted Byway

The landowner has applied to downgrade the section of H3, from the turning at Oak Park to the junction with Back Lane, H12, to a Restricted Byway, in order to make this congruent with the rest of H3, which is already a Restricted Byway. This would correct what is probably an historical anomaly and makes no difference to its use by bicycles, pedestrians, or horses, but allows the landowner to restrict the use of vehicular access if they wish, which they can do in respect of the remainder of H3.

It is recommended that HPC do not oppose this.

6. Bench replacement by Blackhut Wood

This bench needs replacement as it is in a state of decay. Nicholas Maddox, HCC has suggested that the replacement could be a bench which the Ramblers Association wish to install as a memorial. The details of this are not clear and Nicholas will clarify what is intended. It is presumed all costs will be met by the organisation. If this is a definite proposal this matter will need to be considered by HPC, who have an interest in the benches in the Parish and the Ramblers presumably would need to seek approval of the Landowners.

If the Ramblers do not replace this bench HPC will need to seek funding for a replacement and the Landowners could be approached.

7. PRO Surveyor

HCC have appointed a "PRO Surveyor" to survey the Parish Paths and have notified HPC accordingly. The person concerned is Mr. J Tutty who lives in the Parish. It is not clear how the role will relate to HPC or the current Parish Path Wardens. Bud Carthy is attempting to arrange a meeting.

On exploration of the HCC website, it seems that HCC are seeking to appoint volunteers to all Parishes. They will have the task of reporting twice a year on the condition of the Paths, putting up signage and looking for "opportunities." The surveyors will have training, use of a Handbook, expenses, and a copy of the regulations. HCC have not provided any context or "modus operandi" for these appointments for Parishes.

8. Fallen Trees

A fallen tree by H16 by the canal has been removed. There have been further tree falls in Blackhut Wood since the last clearance and HCC has requested the landowners remove these. Tree felling has been taking place in the wood following a tree survey of the whole estate.

9. Fly Tipping near H10 at the crossroads on the airfield

HCC have written to the Land Agent after this was reported by the Paths Wardens, but no action has been taken. Knight Frank, the agent, has promised to take action, but to date the rubbish remains.

Bud Carthy and Martyn Reid 11/10/2023

Appendix 6 – Police Report

ANSTEY - no reported crimes

HORMEAD - no reported crimes

BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN - No reported crimes

STOCKING PELHAM - no reported crimes

FURNEUX PELHAM - No reported Crimes

ALBURY - 1 x Burglary

LITTLE HAHDAM - 1 x Burglary, 3 X Thefts

MUCH HADHAM - 1x Criminal Damage

HUNSDON - no reported crimes

WIDFORD - **No reported crimes.**

WARESIDE - 1x Criminal Damage, 1 x Possession of drugs, 1 x Theft from motor vehicle

EASTWICK & GILSTON - 1 x Offensive Weapon

BRAUGHING - **Burglary (at the church)**

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE - **2 x Theft from Motor Vehicle, 1x Possession of bladed article, 1 x Cannabis, 1 x Arson**

Other news and updates:

Please encourage the members in the community to use the police non-emergency number 101 to report incidents directly. This is the most effective and efficient way to contact the police.

Appendix 7 – Playing Field Report

Playground

Carole and I are still working through the Action Plan drawn up after the Inspection in July. The litter bin and old benches have been removed, and the branches overhanging the play equipment have been cut back.

Tennis Courts/MUGA

The Parish Council has agreed to pay the printing costs of a questionnaire devised by Councillor Ottolangui to survey residents' views and wishes with regard to the tennis courts. This should start to be taken round to households this week with a view to completion by the end of October. It is also planned to talk about the Tennis Courts/MUGA to the children at the school at one of their Friday assemblies.

Jackie and Carole have contacted the Parish Room Trust about a donation to cover the shortfall in the cost of resurfacing the tennis courts. The Trustees will discuss our request at their next meeting on 16th October.

Quotes for fixing the fencing, court lining, tennis equipment and MUGA goal ends are being obtained. Once we have these quotations in place, we can then look at other sources of funding.

Cutting back work on the second tennis court has now taken place.

The steering group will meet next on 2nd November.

Jackie Carthy

10th October 2023