



# HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

## Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm – Hunsdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs B Toll (Chair), F O'Shea, D Ottolangui

In attendance: Clerk, Cllr Buckmaster, Cllr Dunlop, 5 members of the public

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- 23.10.01 To receive and accept apologies for absence.** Apologies received and accepted from Cllr McDonald. Cllr Oliver was unable to attend.
- 24.01.02 Declaration of Interest and dispensations**
1. To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda
  2. To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests; and
  3. To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate
- None received or made
- 24.01.03 Minutes**
- Confirmed and agreed the Minutes of Hunsdon Parish Council Meeting held on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023, as an accurate record of proceedings.
- 24.01.04 Matters Arising**
- 23.10.05 **Action: Clerk to let Easts Herts know we are ready to go ahead with the rewilding of Dunstan's Road. Done**
- 23.10.10 **Trees for the village – Clerk to action. Trees arriving before the end of the month, in readiness for planting.**
- 24.01.05 East Herts District Councillor Report – Cllr John Dunlop (Appendix 1)**
- Grants available for green initiatives and are pushing grants for chair yoga – deadline 22<sup>nd</sup> January. **Action: Clerk see if any of the grants are applicable for the Tennis Court project. Jackie Carthy has applied for all the grants available to us.**
- Action: Clerk to get the old bin removed from outside the Dell. Done**
- Cllr Ottolangui told Cllr Dunlop there was an inaccuracy in the Hunsdon News leaflet in that the figure for the UK Prosperity Grant should be £20,000 and not £23,000 as stated. **Cllr Dunlop to confirm the correct figure.**
- 24.01.06 County Councillor Reports – Cllr Eric Buckmaster (Appendix 2)**
- Cllr Buckmaster committed to finding further information on particulates in the air through wood burning stoves.
- Speed limit through Hunsdon. Cllr Buckmaster was advised the easiest way is to install advisory speed limits signs and put some 20mph signs up. Cllr Ottolangui asked if we need further speed checks carried out at the 3 points of access to the village. **Action: Cllr Buckmaster is to ask about the likelihood of getting further speed and traffic volume surveys carried out.** Cllr Toll said we need to get a bi-annual set of surveys to monitor the increase of volume of traffic from Village 7. Cllr Toll to request the 7 speed and volume data surveys.
- 24.01.07 Finance – Clerk (Appendix 3)**
1. To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget. Payments authorised.
  2. To note receipt of Income, including grants and VAT refunds. Noted.
  3. To receive Budget Monitoring Report and Bank Reconciliations. Councillors agreed to accuracy of reports and reconciliation.



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4. Email providers – update. Cllr Ottolangui suggests we look at what we need from a website as a Parish Council and village on a website. **Action: Clerk to look at this with Cllr Ottolangui.** Cllr Ottolangui suggested we pay a further one-year subscription to Heart Internet to allow for a timely transition to the new provider. All councillors agreed. Cllr Toll proposes we cancel Heart and accept Parish Online as our new provider. Cllr Ottolangui seconded. All councillors agreed. **Action: clerk to look at getting interest on our bank balance.**
5. Finance subcommittee meeting – January 2024
  - Precept was agreed at the Finance Sub-committee and presented for approval. It is an increase from £26,690 to £27,222, which is an increase of just under 2%. Cllr Toll suggested accepting the precept. Cllr O’Shea seconded. All councillors agreed. **Action: Clerk to send into East Herts. Done.**

24.01.08

### Hunsdon Area Planning Applications – Cllr Toll (Appendix 4)

1. PC Responses and Decisions - See Planning Report  
LPA Appeal Ref: 23/00069/REFUSE – Erection of one, four-bedroom house – Land at Church Lane. **Action: Cllr O’Shea to draft our additional reasons for objecting and circulate to councillors before 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024 deadline.**  
Round 2 Consultation: A new village for Harlow and Gilston Garden Town – Hunsdon Village Hall 27 January, 13.30-16.30.

24.01.09

### Reports

1. Footpaths (Appendix 5)  
The whole of the aerodrome near the village is now ploughed. Martyn asked if the PC receive notification of changes to a footpath. The clerk replied that we do not. **Action: clerk to request notification of changes. Martyn / Bud to ask places for people for the replacement bench on the aerodrome.**  
**The footpath board on the car park. Councillors decided to re-erect the original sign**
2. Police (Appendix 6)
3. **Village Hall – Cllr O’Shea reported** the VH is a charity regulated by the Charity Commission and has to file reports and accounts annually with it plus details of trustees etc. see <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/charity-search/-/charity-details/302408>

Cllr O’Shea will request from the Village Hall Management Committee that going forward the formal accounts will be published on Charity Commission and also the VH’s own website.

Cllr O’Shea to propose for the agenda at the trustees next meeting that they consider publishing minutes of meetings though they contain a lot about bookings, repairs and maintenance, H& S stuff and interim account reports.

4. Allotments – an allotment holder has asked permission to erect a shed on his half plot. There is a pallet base *in situ* from a shed that the previous allotment holder had. All councillors agreed.
5. Playing Field (Appendix 7). Seeking confirmation that the quote for the resurfacing is still current and giving the go ahead to get it done. Action: Cllr Ottolangui to follow up



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with the company to obtain a current quote. The Finance subcommittee recommended meeting the short fall of up to £1,000. All councillors agreed.

**24.01.10**      **Correspondence** – no new correspondence

**24.01.11**      **AOB**

- **Cllr Ottolangui has designed the logo and developed some artwork for the new PC logo. Agreed to use Option 1.**
- Cllr O'Shea asked how we can generate some interest for the councillor vacancy.  
**Action: All councillors to give this some thought and come back at the next meeting with ideas.**
- **Action: Clerk and all councillors to report the footpath by the old rectory to be cut back. Done, a letter has been sent to the resident from HCC.**

**24.01.12**      **Date of Next Meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**24.01.13**      **Close of meeting – 9.25pm**

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### Appendix 1 - Hunsdon Parish Council – District Councillor report – Cllr John Dunlop

1. East Herts Grants - deadline 22nd January 2024

East Herts grants are issued to voluntary and community groups, not-for-profit organisations, faith groups, and town and parish councils for activities that build stronger, more connected, self-reliant communities, leading to improved health and wellbeing outcomes for residents in East Herts.

Applicants have a choice of three different grants in 2023/24 (£300-3000). These are:

- Community Grants
- Cultural Activities Grants
- Environmental Sustainability Grants

<https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/community-and-health/east-herts-grants-guidelines-and-application-202324>

The environmental grants can be for things as simple as LED lightbulbs, insulation, TRVs, draught exclusion etc.

2. Wildflower Meadow Creation Sites in East Hertfordshire

The Countryside Management Service (CMS), part of Hertfordshire County Council's Countryside and Rights of Way Service (CRoW) is working in partnership with East Herts District Council to carry out wildflower meadow creation at several sites in East Hertfordshire, which was due to take place in Autumn 2023 but due to ground conditions will be delayed until spring 2024.

3. Become a Herts Health Walks volunteer

Health Walks are for everyone. There are 12 walks to choose from across East Herts, including three in Castle Park in Bishop's Stortford. They are for all abilities and fitness levels and are graded between 20-30 minutes (First Steps) and longer than 90 minutes (Grade 4+) unless otherwise stated. We are looking for volunteers to join our enthusiastic team of friendly local volunteers who lead the walks. No experience is necessary, and you can volunteer once a week or once a month - it's up to you. The next volunteer training session is on Thursday, 15 February at Bishop's Stortford library from 9.45 to 3pm. Spaces are still available. To secure your place, phone 01992 555888 or email [healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:healthwalks.cms@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

4. East Herts Environmental & Climate Forum

Tuesday 23rd January 2024, 7 - 8:30pm

Online via TEAMS

This Forum will continue the momentum of bringing Town and Parish Councils and Sustainability/Climate Action groups together to create community working groups and projects, supported by ideas, funding and resource from East Herts Council.



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You will meet one of two new recruits to our sustainability team, hear from Hertford Town Council regarding their plans for a regular 'Energy Hub' event, and learn more about new and existing grant funding opportunities and associated projects. As always, there will also be time for discussion, idea sharing and Q&A. Please do forward this invitation as appropriate and join us if you can!

I can forward the email invite if you have not already received it.

### 5. Changes to waste collections from 2025

East Herts and North Herts Councils jointly provide waste services to approximately 124,000 households and over 1,920 commercial customers as well as street cleansing services across the combined districts. Following an extensive public consultation in July and August 2023, the councils have now confirmed that a number of changes will come into operation in May 2025. These are designed to ensure the continued delivery of high quality and well-performing waste and street cleansing services which are both financially and environmentally sustainable.

Changes from May 2025 will include:

- Three weekly collection of mixed paper and cardboard and three weekly collection of the remaining mixed dry recycling (glass, plastic and cans, plastic bags and wrapping)
- Collection of food waste on a weekly basis
- A reduction in the number of litter bins across the district by approximately 30%, ensuring that bins are located where they are needed
- Increasing response times for non-urgent, non-scheduled work such as additional street cleansing and bin deliveries
- Reducing the number of items collected as part of a bulky waste collection from six to three

<https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/latest-news/2023/changes-waste-collection-services-2025>

### Appendix 2 - Eric Buckmaster report for January 2024

Hertfordshire County Council will benefit from a proportion of the Government's allocation of £2.8bn for potholes and resurfacing. This funding will enable us to repair even more potholes and other defects across the county.

As new government figures reveal that Hertfordshire's roads are in an above average condition, Hertfordshire County Council has been carrying out extra pothole repairs to make sure road surfaces are reindeer-ready for Christmas and in tip top condition for the festive getaway.

The council has been putting the £3.9m it received from the Government's Pothole Fund towards trialling new methods of pothole and road repair, leading to an extra 20,000 potholes being repaired, double the number originally anticipated. In November, Hertfordshire was allocated a further £87.8m for potholes and resurfacing, providing long term funding over the next 11 years.

New pothole equipment and techniques trialled include the JCB Pothole Pro, which can repair potholes faster and over a larger area, Roadmender, a technique that uses asphalt made from recycled tyres and Thermal Patching, a less noisy method that re-uses the existing road surface. These techniques aim to repair the pothole permanently, helping to extend the lifespan of the road.

Road surfaces across the county suffered significant damage last winter due to snow, ice and heavy rainfall, resulting in an increase in potholes. However, the county council's highways team have been working hard to repair potholes and resurface roads, and Hertfordshire's roads are now reported as being in better condition than the national and regional average.

### Update regarding the closure of Ward Freman Pool, Buntingford

East Herts Council closed Ward Freman Pool in Buntingford from Saturday, 23 December, while options for its future operation are assessed. On Tuesday, 28 November, the council's Executive considered a report detailing the decision to close the pool. The report makes it clear that shutting the pool is necessary due to the substantial investment needed to upgrade the facilities to meet essential standards. The site was managed by Everyone Active on behalf of East Herts Council and is owned by Hertfordshire County Council.

### Changes to East Herts waste collections from 2025



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The Press Release details are below. There are some significant changes to what was originally announced and consulted upon earlier in 2023. Disappointingly the new administration couldn't find time to go out to public consultation with these changes. They even refused to discuss this at full council so purely decided by the Executive without asking for what people think. Contrary to the concept of the listening council announced just a month before. Residents will now have 5 containers on their premises including the brown bin for green/garden waste.

The following three bins will be collected in three weekly cycles

- Fibre bin for cardboard and paper
- Dry Recycling bin for Containers and bottles
- Residual waste bin for non-recyclables

The following bin will be fortnightly

- Paid for Brown bin for green/garden waste

The following container will be weekly

- 40 litre container for food waste

There will need to be an effective way of people knowing what is collected in any given week owing to the different combinations that will arise over a 6-week cycle.

"East Herts and North Herts Councils jointly provide waste services to approximately 124,000 households and over 1,920 commercial customers as well as street cleansing services across the combined districts.

The councils have now confirmed that a number of changes will come into operation in May 2025.

These are designed to ensure the continued delivery of high quality and well-performing waste and street cleansing services which are both financially and environmentally sustainable.

The changes will include:

- Three weekly collection of mixed paper and cardboard and three weekly collection of the remaining mixed dry recycling (glass, plastic and cans, plastic bags and wrapping)
- Collection of food waste on a weekly basis  
<https://eastherts.us18.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4f62fcd04dd88042000769ccb&id=7f59c5c0f1&e=51732894ef>
- **Hertfordshire and Essex confirm reciprocal arrangements for recycling centres**
  - Hertfordshire County Council and Essex County Council are pleased to confirm that current reciprocal arrangements enabling residents to access recycling centre services is being maintained.
  - The change comes following the announcement earlier in the year that Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) would be adopting a policy restricting access to non-residents at Hertfordshire's network of 16 Recycling Centres. Discussions have taken place between HCC and Essex County Council since the announcement was made, with agreement being reached to allow for the reciprocal access.
  - From Friday 1 December 2023, Essex residents will need a digital permit and will only be permitted to use Bishops Stortford, Hoddesdon, Turnford and Ware Recycling Centres. Hertfordshire residents wishing to use Essex Recycling Centres will need to make a booking in advance.
  - To register for an instant, annual permit free of charge, Essex residents will need to visit [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentrepermits](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/recyclingcentrepermits)
  - To make a booking to visit an Essex County Council recycling centre, Essex and Hertfordshire residents will need to visit [www.loveessex.org/bookings](http://www.loveessex.org/bookings)
  - **Cllr Eric Buckmaster, Executive Member for The Environment at Hertfordshire County Council said:** "I'm pleased that Hertfordshire and Essex County Councils have been able to come to an agreement that enables residents from each county to continue using a recycling centre that is close to where they live.



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- *“Like many other council-run services, our recycling centres are experiencing additional costs and it is only prudent that we look at all possible forms of mitigation for Hertfordshire taxpayers who are currently paying for waste being produced outside of Hertfordshire.*
- *“Resident only policies are commonplace across the region and country, with many of our nearest neighbours having had this policy in place for some time.”*

### **East Herts Community grant scheme launched**

We're inviting voluntary and community groups, not-for-profit organisations, faith groups, and town and parish councils to apply for funding through our community grant scheme.

Three types of funding are available:

- Community grants, with priority given to initiatives which support areas of disadvantage and low income
- Cultural activities grant to broaden cultural opportunities
- Environmental sustainability grants

Community grants provide support and impetus to many extremely valuable community initiatives across East Herts while helping to build stronger, better-connected communities."

### **Hertfordshire residents given record number of free slippers to help prevent trips and falls**

Hertfordshire County Council held its sixth and final slipper swap event of the year yesterday, Thursday 7 December, where 93 Hemel Hempstead residents got hold of some fancy new footwear that will help to prevent them tripping, slipping, or falling in their homes.

This slipper swap was the last event of the year, and over the last few months Hertfordshire County Council have organised and run a total of six slipper swaps and given out 536 pairs of slippers to some very happy new owners. We've succeeded in doing away with even more old, broken and often dangerous slippers after handing out 141 more slippers when compared with last year.

According to the [Office for Health Improvement and Disparities](#), falls are the largest cause of emergency hospital admissions for older people, and significantly impact on long term outcomes, for example often meaning people moving from their own home to long-term nursing or residential care.

At each event, occupational therapists were on hand to offer advice on fall prevention, and other health and wellbeing charities and organisations were also in attendance to offer help and advice to residents.

### **Sustainable Hertfordshire updates**

#### **Sowing wildflowers for our pollinators**

Our Countryside and Rights of Way Service has been continuing work in partnership with district councils to create wildflower meadows across Hertfordshire this autumn. Areas within North Hertfordshire, St Albans and East Herts were identified as being suitable for sowing wildflowers in Green Space Opportunities audits in 2020 and 2021. These areas have been carefully chosen so that they do not impact existing facilities.

[There were 20 sites identified for wildflower meadow creation this autumn, with another eight sites in East Hertfordshire to follow in Spring 2024](#)

#### **HertsLynx expands into Hertford and Ware**

HertsLynx, the on-demand bus service that has been serving residents in east and north Hertfordshire since September 2021, is expanding into Hertford, Ware and surrounding villages. [Two additional minibuses are being launched into the service, including the service's first Electric Vehicle \(EV\) bus.](#)

#### **The Local Nature Recovery Strategy is underway in Hertfordshire**

The Hertfordshire Nature Recovery Partnership (HNRP), the partnership responsible for creating the Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) had its first meeting in October. There was enthusiasm from Steering Group members to meet monthly to keep the momentum going on the project and the Steering Group is now [finalising a project timeline and comprehensive engagement plan for publication in January 2024.](#)



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**Public consultation demonstrates strong support for Hertfordshire Essex Rapid Transit (HERT)** Nearly two thousand people responded to our public consultation around the Hertfordshire Essex Rapid Transport scheme, with 75 per cent supporting or strongly supporting the scheme. [The scheme could help improve air quality and reduce carbon emissions by reducing the number of journeys made by car road by providing a reliable public transport route.](#)

### **'Let's clear the air' agency celebrated with awards win**

Magpie Creative, the agency which supported the delivery of our 'Let's clear the air' communications campaign, was awarded 'Best work by an agency/freelancer' at the Comms2point0 UnAwards. [The award is a recognition of the fantastic use of behaviour change theory and evaluation that went into the campaign.](#)

## Get involved

### **Trees not just for Christmas as thousands of Hertfordshire residents take part in green fingered giveaway**

Thousands of green fingered Hertfordshire residents are playing their part in tackling climate change by taking up the offer of free trees from Hertfordshire's Your Tree Our Future scheme.

Over 4,300 people arranged to collect more than 74,000 trees at twelve pick-up points across the county on Saturday 9 December. The trees are made up of species selected for their suitability for Hertfordshire's geography and climate. Over 58,000 of them will go on to form nearly 10km of hedgerow, which has positive benefits for wildlife looking for shelter and food. It is expected that the trees could take close to 125,000 tonnes of carbon out of the atmosphere if they reach full maturity.

The giveaway has been delivered by a partnership of Hertfordshire County Council and Hertfordshire's district and borough councils, as well as local charity Growing People. Herts FullStop provided its facilities and logistical expertise to help prepare and deliver the trees to the relevant pick-up points across the county.

The tree giveaway is just one of the ways the county council hopes to deliver on its Tree and Woodland Strategy, which outlines plans to establish 1.8m new trees in Hertfordshire by 2030.

Adopted in 2022, the county council has already helped establish 213,473 trees since declaring a climate emergency. This has been achieved in part through appointing two dedicated Woodland Creation Officers, to deliver planting schemes including 600 trees at Aldenham Country Park, 1,780 at Hornbeam Wood Hedgehog Sanctuary, and 10,000 in Abbots Langley in partnership with Watford Community Housing Trust.

### **Councillor Eric Buckmaster, Executive Member for the Environment at Hertfordshire County Council said:**

*"We are thrilled that the Your Tree Our Future scheme continues to go from strength-to-strength, with an additional 27,000 trees given away this year compared to last year's total. The fact that so many residents from across Hertfordshire have taken part in this scheme is a testament to the positive benefits of trees on the physical and mental wellbeing of our communities, as well as for our environment."*

*"We have already delivered more than the 100,000 trees we planned at the start of this project and look forward to next year when we hope even more residents will take part."*

Anyone looking to take part in the Your Tree Our Future scheme can sign up to receive an email when the window re-opens in Summer 2024 at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/yourtree](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/yourtree)

Donate an unused bike to someone who needs it

Colleagues from our Active and Safer Cycling Team are working in partnership with the Herts Disability Sports Foundation and Hertford Cycle Hub, to accept bikes of all sizes, conditions and makes. The team will take the bike in, service it and pass it on to a new home that would really appreciate a bike. Just pop along with the bike you'd like to donate to the rear of County Hall, Hertford, on Wednesday 13 December between 8am and 1pm to donate your bike(s). Please note; this event is for county council staff and councillors only, so please do not share this with your communities.

### **Relight my fire? Investigating the true cost of wood burning stoves**



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Global Action Plan, the agency behind Clean Air Day and Clean Air Night, hosted a webinar which explained the details of recent economic research comparing the cost of heating your home through burning wood, gas boilers and heat pumps. [Watch the recording of the webinar and start busting myths around the cost of burning wood in our homes.](#)

### **Clean Air Night content is now available**

The county council is supporting the first ever Clean Air Night, a campaign aimed at raising awareness around the impact of burning wood in our homes by debunking myths around cost, the environment and health. [Find out more about the campaign](#), and if you'd like to share these messages on your own communications channels, [content is now available to download.](#)

### **Explore the new Historic Environment web viewer**

The Historic Environment Record (HER) viewer for Hertfordshire has now launched. This has been a joint project between the LEADS (Landscape, Ecology, Archaeology, Design Sustainability) team and the GIS team, with support from a Graduate Management Trainee. This viewer provides access to resources relating to archaeological sites, finds and historic monuments within Hertfordshire. Clicking on an icon will give you information about buildings and sites, from finds of prehistoric flint tools, medieval castles, and pillboxes from the Second World War. This is a great way for Hertfordshire residents and staff to connect to their local area and their past. [Please spread the word about this wonderful resource](#), and [take a look at our other GIS maps.](#)

## Upcoming events

Cleaner air seminar for members: Thursday 29 February 2024

The Cleaner Air project team is hosting a seminar for county and district and borough councillors. The seminar gives an opportunity to find out what's happening in this agenda from officers and external experts including hearing from Global Action Plan around the Clean Air Night campaign. To book onto the reserve list please respond to the email invite previously sent out or email [cleaner.air@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:cleaner.air@hertfordshire.gov.uk). Spaces are now limited.

For more information about any of the items in this newsletter, email [sustainable@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:sustainable@hertfordshire.gov.uk)  
Visit [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/sustainability](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/sustainability) for all our external facing sustainability updates.

### **Plans put into gear for first electric buses in Hertfordshire**

**Bus journeys across the county are set to become greener as Hertfordshire County Council and bus operator Uno reach agreement to phase out part of their diesel fleet and introduce 27 new electric buses.**

The first new bus is scheduled to be in service during 2024, with all 27 in operation by 2026, travelling on routes in the Hatfield, St Albans and Welwyn Garden City areas.

The Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) scheme is a Central Government initiative, funded by the Department for Transport (DfT), to help local transport authorities introduce zero emission buses, together with the infrastructure needed to support them.

The County Council, in partnership with Uno, have been able to agree a business plan following the withdrawal of a previous operator which will see Hertfordshire's bus fleet become more environmentally sustainable.

In addition to their environmental credentials, the new electric buses will:

1. Provide enhanced comfort, quieter operation and a smoother journey;
2. Improve reliability given the reduced maintenance requirements;
3. Provide savings due to the cost-effective nature of electric buses in comparison to traditional diesel counterparts.





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### Speed and Volume updates etc

Eastwick Village	Traffic Speed and Volume Surveys	Surveys Completed – Data to be analysed	Surveys Completed – Data to be analysed
Acorn Street	Hunsdon	Traffic Speed and Volume Surveys (Three Devices)	Completed
Pye Corner	Gilston	Footway Siding Out / Pedestrian Guardrail Replacement	Completed
High Street	Hunsdon	20 MPH School Advisory Signs - Design	Ordered
Burntmill Lane	Gilston	Vegetation Clearance	Ordered

### Reserve List Schemes for 2024/25

Burntmill Lane	Gilston	Signage	
Acorn Street	Hunsdon	Road Sign Improvements	Ringway
Acorn Street	Hunsdon	Traffic Measures	Ringway
The Homesteads	Hunsdon	Footway / Carriageway Improvements	



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### Appendix 3 – Clerks Report

<b>Hunsdon Parish Council</b>					
<b>Revenue Expenditure</b>					
<b>Credit</b>					
	<b>Budget</b>	<b>To date</b>	<b>Remaining period</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Variance</b>
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
	£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
Admin		£64.64			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£33,321.08</b>	<b>£33,615.11</b>	<b>£354.00</b>	<b>£33,904.47</b>	<b>£583.39</b>
<b>Debit</b>					
Administration	£2,217.12	£1,383.64	£833.48	£2,217.12	£0.00
Litter pickers	£1,600.00	£297.70	£1,302.30	£1,600.00	£0.00
Salary	£6,050.00	£4,906.80	£1,143.20	£6,050.00	£0.00
General Power of Competence	£320.00	£611.21	–£291.21	£320.00	£0.00
Allotments	£490.00	£0.00	£490.00	£490.00	£0.00
Playing Field	£700.00	£285.39	£414.61	£700.00	£0.00
Rest of village	£1,300.00	£1,038.86	£261.14	£1,300.00	£0.00
Grounds Maintenance	£6,252.00	£5,439.68	£812.32	£6,252.00	£0.00
Planning Consultants and Advice	£6,000.00	£2,087.61	£3,912.39	£6,000.00	£0.00
Churchyard donation	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£0.00
Insurance	£568.44	£568.44	£0.00	£568.44	£0.00
Defibrillator funding	£800.00	£0.00	£800.00	£800.00	£0.00
Village Event Funding	£0.00	£800.00	–£800.00	£0.00	£0.00
Projects	£5,000.00	£4,960.00	£40.00	£5,000.00	£0.00
Contingencies	£500.00	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00	£0.00
<b>Totals</b>	<b>£32,797.56</b>	<b>£23,379.33</b>	<b>£9,418.23</b>	<b>£32,797.56</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
<b>Surplus</b>	<b>£523.52</b>	<b>£10,235.78</b>	<b>–£9,064.23</b>	<b>£1,106.91</b>	<b>£583.39</b>
<b>Totals</b>					
Revenue Surplus	£523.52	£10,235.78	–£9,064.23	£1,106.91	£583.39
Capital Surplus	–£9,743.68	£30,395.51	–£39,352.03	–£8,956.52	£787.16
<b>Total Surplus</b>	<b>–£9,220.16</b>	<b>£61,631.29</b>	<b>–£48,416.26</b>	<b>–£7,849.61</b>	<b>£1,370.55</b>





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<b>Bank Reconciliation</b>			
Total surplus	£61,631.29		
<b>12-Jan-24</b>	Current account		£13,167.54
Santander bank	Business account		£50,183.93
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 63,351.47</b>
<b>Payments agreed but not cleared bank</b>			
<b>Payments to be agreed</b>			
C Page	Salary for January	Salary	£384.18
HMRC Cumberbaud	PAYE for Clerk	Salary	£96.00
L Lundy	Litter picking for January	Litter Pickers	£20.00
A Wilkinson	Litter picking for January	Litter Pickers	£20.00
HCC	Greenspace Action Plan for Dell	Planning	£1,200.00
			£ 1,720.18
		Balance at Bank	<b>£ 61,631.29</b>



<b>Planning Applications</b> <a href="https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk">https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk</a>	<b>HPC Response</b>
<b>3/23/2198/VAR</b> <b>PROPOSAL:</b> Installation of solar panels to the south facing roof at rear. Removal of condition 3 (Solar Panels) of listed building consent: 3/23/0598/LBC - Removal of condition 3 to allow the change of solar panel type at 34 High Street <b>Deadline: Please send your comments to EHC by: 14th December 2023</b>	No comment
<b>3/23/2032/FUL</b> <b>PROPOSAL:</b> Erection of 1 x detached dwelling (2-bedrooms), together with creation of parking area, provision of retaining wall with external steps and landscaping works (as part substitution of planning permission: 3/06/1094/FP) at Halfway House Farm Stanstead Road <b>Deadline:</b> Please send your comments to EHC by: 9th January 2024	PC asked the District Council to give serious consideration and assess the cumulative impact of this and all the other applications for development and/or change of use on the Halfway House site. If minded granting consent, we ask that more replacement trees, vegetation and shelter than offered are to feature around the site to ensure there is no overall loss of landscape amenity or biodiversity value.
<b>Application</b>	<b>EHC response</b>
<b>3/23/2016/FUL</b> <b>PROPOSAL:</b> Demolition of stable block and erection of replacement single storey, two-bedroom dwelling at: Hunsdonbury House Hunsdonbury Lane	This matter was considered by EH Council on the 22nd December 2023 and it was decided to <b>Refuse Planning Permission</b>
<b>Planning Appeal: Land At Church Lane Hunsdon Hertfordshire</b> <b>LPA Appeal Reference: 23/00069/REFUSE</b> The applicant has appealed to the Secretary of State against the Council's refusal of planning permission for:- <b>Erection of one, four bedroom detached self-build dwelling with detached garage/car port; installation of air source heat pump and solar panels; creation of new vehicular access way and associated landscaping.</b> This appeal is being dealt with by an exchange of written statements between the applicant and the Council. If you wish to amend your comments or make any new ones, please contact the Planning Inspectorate quoting reference APP/J1915/W/23/3325171 by <b>6th February 2024.</b>	

#### Appendix 4 – Planning report



## HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

### **Appendix 5 Footpaths**

#### **1. General Condition of the Footpaths**

The condition of footpaths in the parish are in a mixed state overall. No ploughing appears to have taken place on Filletts farm and as a consequence they are in a walkable state after last season harvesting. Paths on the airfield are similarly mixed, and the ones near the village across the fields are unsatisfactory. Whilst the paths ploughed have been marked by tractor tracks alone, the heavily ploughed surfaces have not been harrowed as required to recreate a walkable surface. One path (17) remains unploughed and is satisfactory like those on Filletts farm. The paths around Cockrobin Lane have been planted and sprayed and are largely walkable. Cockrobin Lane, itself has not been sprayed to the required width of 2m. Nicholas Maddox from Countryside Management has recently written to the farmers again regarding these issues.

#### **2. General Maintenance - Posts**

A number of posts and signs have been replaced by county at our request.

#### **3. The Application to Downgrade part of H3 from a BOAT to a Restricted Byway**

The Parish Council made no comments or objections to this proposal. It is unclear whether the Parish Council received feedback as to final decisions on matters of this sort. The wardens received no feedback regarding the changes to the paths around Halfway House and the establishment of a new path H25. It is recommended that County be written to requesting confirmation of any changes if no feedback has been received

#### **4. Bench replacement by Blackhut Wood**

We understand that the Ramblers Association have allocated the monies that might possibly have been used to renew the Blackhut Wood bench elsewhere. Whilst still useable this bench should be high on any list of benches to be renewed.

#### **5. PRO Surveyor**

An amicable meeting was held with John Tutty and it was suggested that he attend a parish council meeting. In the meantime though, John has decided to stand down from the role in Hunsdon, perhaps because he sees that the role is already filled.

#### **8. Fallen Trees**

Storm Henk resulted in a fallen tree across back lane. The lane is partially blocked and needs clearing. County are taking up the question of responsibility with the landowner. In the meantime the Clerk has approached Fred Darnell who has agreed to clear the debris.

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

The fly tipping at the airfield crossroads has been removed. Additionally, a blue overflowing barrel has also been removed from near the entrance to the Airfield. It had been used as an unofficial dog poo repository.

#### **10 The Village Hall Walking Board**

The Walking Board located in the Village Hall car park was blown down by Henk, although it's posts were in a parlous state. County funded the installation of this signage in John Ashley's time but have indicated that they are unlikely to assist as the Parish Paths Partnership, as such is no more. The suggestion was made that Councillors' budgets may be able to assist here. This board has been a significant benefit to walkers in the village the surrounds.

The Clerk as made arrangements/obtained estimates for a simple re-erection, but the information on the board is increasingly out of date and the map a little faded.

The wardens have made enquiries of Herts Display as to the likely cost of reprinting and/or updating, which has not yet been received.

The possibilities would seem to be:

1. Re-erect in the current state.
2. Reprint the Map and add to existing repaired structure
3. Reprint and update the Map.
4. Add a note to the existing Map to the effect that it the map "gives a general layout of the paths, but for up-to-date information to be obtained from the "Herts Definitive Map" on the County Website.



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We currently favour option 1.

### **11. Metal Detectorists**

Metal Detectorists were observed to be prospecting on Buryfield at the end of Drury Lane and were challenged. They admitted to not having permission. Although it appeared they could be a mother and son with a Christmas present of a detector, Knight Frank have been informed and alerted the farmers to be aware of the possibility of further activity of this sort. Buryfields is an area that was probably not greatly affected by WW2, as it floods and there could be items of archaeological interest there.

**Bud Carthy and Martyn Reid 10/01/24**

### **Appendix 6 – Police Crime Report December 2023**

**ANSTEY** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**BRAUGHING** - BURGLARY – Business premise in Braughing – Suspects have gained entry to the property by smashing a window to an outbuilding to gain entry. They have then taken an off-road motorbike from within the building and left in an unknown direction. BURGLARY – residential property - Suspects have gained entry to the property by smashing a window. THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE – Friars Road in Braughing – Suspects have gained entry to the vehicle by smashing a window and have taken a sat.nav from within, before leaving the area.

**HORMEAD** - 1 x Interfere with Motor Vehicle – Suspects have attended the location and attempted to remove a vehicle from the property. Suspects were disturbed and have left the area.

**BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**STOCKING PELHAM** - CRIMINAL DAMAGE – Unknown Suspects have damaged the down pipe at the cricket grounds in Stocking Pelham

**FURNEUX PELHAM** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**ALBURY** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**LITTLE HADHAM** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**MUCH HADHAM** - CRIMINAL DAMAGE – to a fence and concrete post by unknown persons, 3 x THEFT OF NUMBER PLATES – in Ash Meadow, The High Street and Station Road, Much Hadham. CRIMINAL DAMAGE of number plates to a vehicle in Windmill Way, Much Hadham.

**HUNSDON** - CRIMINAL DAMAGE – caused to a motor vehicle parked in St Dunstons Road in Hunsdon. The front near side window has been smashed by unknown persons.

**WIDFORD** - THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE – A vehicle parked in Medcalf Hill Widford, was broken into and tools removed from within. The window and door lock has been damaged.

**WARESIDE** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**EASTWICK & GILSTON** - NO REPORTED CRIMES

**STANDON & PUCKERIDGE** - THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE – A vehicle parked in Rib Close was broken into and items removed from within. BURGLARY – residential property was broken into by unknown Suspects who have then left the area by means unknown. CRIMINAL DAMAGE - a gate post and fence were damaged at a residential property in Puckeridge. Suspects have caused damage and then left the area. 3 X VEHICLE INTERFERENCE – 2 offences in Batchelors and 1 x offence in Dawkins Close, Puckeridge. Vehicle doors have been tried by unknown Suspects who have then left the area and have not gained entry to the vehicle.

### **Other news and updates:**

Hertfordshire police are targeting patrols in the identified area's where there has been an increase in these crimes.



## HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

This time of year there is likely to be an increased risk of hare coursing. Please continue to report suspicious Vehicles that may be seen driving around in your area. If you are able to record the Make and Registration number of the vehicle, that would be very helpful.

Please ensure that area's around your properties where there are sheds and outbuildings are locked and secured, with sufficient external lighting and crime prevention measures such as padlock alarms, CCTV and perimeter alarms.

Please ensure that all vehicles are locked and secured, dashcams used where applicable and external light at your homes are working. External 'sensor' lights are recommended to illuminate the front/ side of your homes should unknown persons approach your property.

### Appendix 7 – Playing Field / Playground

#### Tennis Courts/MUGA

The Steering Group met on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2024

A village-wide survey on what residents would like to see on the tennis courts has now been completed.

<u>Households</u>	<u>Q1</u>	<u>Q2</u>	<u>Q3</u>	<u>Options</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>160</u>	<u>157 Yes</u> <u>3 No</u>	<u>78 Yes</u> <u>46 No</u>		<u>5 2x Tennis</u> <u>129 Both</u> <u>3 2x MUGA</u>	<u>160</u>
<u>School &amp; Cubs</u>	<u>75 Yes</u>	<u>75 Yes</u>	<u>7-11</u>	<u>1 2xTennis</u> <u>74 Both</u>	<u>75</u>

- Of 160 Households responses - 80% preferred 1 MUGA/1 Tennis Court
- 160 out of 500 households responded– 32%
- 98% of respondents supported the refurbishment of the courts.
- Most households were visited at least once, some twice.

This will give us a mandate when applying for funding.

**Funding** - We have £19,352 held by the Parish Council towards the Tennis Courts/MUGA. We now have a further £1000 donation from the Parish Room Trust. We have a quote of £21,100 for resurfacing the courts, so we are left with a shortfall of £748 for the surfacing, which we hope the Parish Council will fund. We have asked the resurfacing company to undertake the work as soon as they can.

The UKSPF grant to Hunsdon includes £6,000 to cover fencing and lining of the courts and purchase of tennis net and posts.

We are looking at other funds for the purchase of MUGA combination goals and to make up any shortfall.

We have a bid in to Awards for All and are waiting for an application form from Stansted Airport Community Fund. We are also planning a Quiz Night on April 19<sup>th</sup> to raise funds.

**Overall, we currently have a shortfall of £8,765 from our outline costing of £35,865. This includes a contingency of £2,500.**

Outline costing of the Tennis Courts/MUGA

Surfacing	£21,100 (Quote agreed)
Lining	£2,000 Quote received
Tennis Nets & Posts	£600 Quote Received (Incl VAT)
MUGA Goals x 2	£8,200 Quote Including installation
Fencing	£ 465 Quote received





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Contingency	£2,500 -
Installation of tennis posts	£1,000 - estimation
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>£35,865</u></b>

**All prices Excluding VAT except where stated.**

**Jackie Carthy 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024**