



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 19th March 2024 at 7.30pm – Hunsdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs B Toll (Chair), J. Dann, F O'Shea, D. McDonald, D Ottolangui

In attendance: Clerk, Cllr Dunlop, 7 members of the public.

- 24.03.01 Co-option of Mr. Jon Dann as a new Hunsdon Councillor.** Cllr Toll proposed Mr. Jon Dann join the PC as a co-opted councillor. Cllr O'Shea seconded. All councillors agreed. Cllr Toll welcomed Jon to the council.
- 24.03.02 To receive and accept apologies for absence.** Cllr Buckmaster has to attend a Sawbridgeworth Town Council meeting and sends his apologies. Cllr Oliver is unable to attend due to ill health. Bud and Jackie Carthy also send apologies.
- 24.03.03 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.
- 24.03.04 Minutes**
- Confirmed and agreed the Minutes of Hunsdon Parish Council Meeting held on February 19th, 2024, as an accurate record of proceedings.
- 24.03.05 Matters Arising**
- Cllr Toll to contact PfP again regarding their attendance at the Summer Festival.
- 24.03.06 East Herts District Councillor Report – Cllr John Dunlop (Appendix 1)** – Jane Badrock, a Hunsdonbury resident told Cllr Dunlop John about the ongoing accidents and issues on the S bend at Church Lane to their fencing and land. Recent damage to the perimeter fence had allowed the field to be open to the road. This field is used for the horses. The residents have asked Herts County Council what they can do to protect their land but have not received any advice. Cllr Toll said that Cllr Buckmaster has been involved in discussions with Highways and these bends on Church Lane have been inspected with a view to look at improving the signage. **Action: Cllr Toll to see what the current status is.** One of the residents of Farm Cottages is going to pull together all the information regarding the accidents on this bend. **Action: Jon Dann to work more with Cllr Buckmaster to focus on the traffic issues in the village and devise a joined-up approach to all the traffic signage and speeding issues, whilst arranging a meeting in the village for Highways.** Cllr Ottolangui suggests that Cllr Dann be the point of contact for Highways issues with Cllr Buckmaster. **Action: Cllr Dann to come up with a list of all the pinch points with photos of bends approaching the village. Cllr O'Shea to send the Highway report on Rosella Bend to Cllr Dann.**
- 24.03.07 County Councillor Reports – Cllr Eric Buckmaster (Appendix 2)**
- 24.03.08 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. Received.
 4. Unity Trust Bank. Cllr O'Shea proposes we open the main PC bank accounts to Unity Trust. Cllr Toll seconded; all councillors agreed. The resolution is to switch to Unity with



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

immediate effect. **Action: clerk to carry out the transfer.** Cllr Ottolangui suggests we keep a nominal amount in the Santander accounts. **Action: Clerk to find out what the minimum amount is to be kept in the account and what the minimum spend is to keep the accounts open,**

5. Email provider – update – **Action: Clerk to meet with Cllr Ottolangui to get together to discuss moving forward with this.**
6. **Council tax band** – Cllr O’Shea wanted it noted that our Council tax band D is comparable to our neighbouring parishes and that our projected end of year uncommitted funds will be approximately £18,000 which is approx. 55-60% of projected spend for 24/25 and no more than reasonable reserves for a PC like us; some are higher. Cllr Ottolangui suggests we have a reserve policy to reflect this. **Action: Cllr Ottolangui to devise a reserve policy for approval .**

24.03.09 Hunsdon Area Planning Applications – Cllr O’Shea (Appendix 4) PC Responses and Decisions - See Planning Report

24.03.10 Reports

1. Footpaths – Bud Carthy / Martyn Reid (appendix 5)
2. Police – Clerk (Appendix 6). **Action: clerk to send notice for the community hub, notice board, website.**
3. Village Hall – Cllr O’Shea (Appendix 7) – Cllr Ottolangui said we are appreciative of the works being done on the village hall, but a bit concerned about the need for a further increase in hall hire charges given the cost-of-living crisis we are all experiencing. Maybe while the VH maintain a significant profit they might consider free or greatly reduced hire charges for all village groups. John Felstead responded that the reason the village hall finances are where they are is from grants from Government during Covid. He also noted that the hall charges hadn’t increased for 3 years, prior to last year. So a decision was made last year to put prices up in line with inflation each year. Reasonable reserves need to be kept for ongoing maintenance. The roof might require maintenance within the next few years. There have been massive increases in energy costs and without the rent from the two cottages and the doctors contract the hiring of the hall would not pay for the hall upkeep. Cllr Ottolangui said you are making a significant profit and from the village organisations and from the Parish Council. Cllr O’Shea said that we have to look at the present position, plus the fact there is still a mortgage of c. £47,000 for another 10 years. VH has a reserve policy. Cllr O’Shea said most village halls run on the basis that the village organisations get a preferential but not free rate. . Cllr O’Shea will pass on Cllr Ottolangui’ suggestion to the VH trustees and management committee that village organisations could have free or greatly reduced hire rates while the VH continue to make significant profits
4. Allotments – Clerk – Allotments Committee - allotment holders are discussing this amongst themselves. There is a fallen tree that is resting on the fence at Cunningham Grove. Clerk has spoken with the allotment holders to see if anyone wishes to take the wood for their personal use.
5. Playing Field – Jackie Carthy (Appendix 8) and Council pleased to note that a further £3000 had been received, this time from East Herts Community Fund with support from by Cllr Dunlop.
6. Dell – update Cllr Toll – Draft green action plan has been circulated. Cllr Toll asked for comments to be passed back to him. Cllr Ottolangui said the item was fine but thinks consultation should encompass the whole village. Cllr O’Shea queried the extensive engagement exercise and suggested it could be reduced . Cllr Toll said Countryside Management are the people that will be paying for the trees.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

We are paying the fees for Countryside Management fees. Cllr Ottolangui said not a huge project and the main activities are in year 1. We could apply to the UK Prosperity fund next year to improve the entrances, the rest of the spend will be minimal. Cllr Toll said he would like to get the village to own the development of the area. **Action: Cllr Toll to set a working party up to discuss this offline**

7. Speed and Traffic Survey – Cllr Toll – Cllr Toll has reviewed the 7 surveys that were circulated which were carried out by automatic equipment attached to signs and trees. Two batches of work: Jan 2019 surveys in Widford Road, Tanners Way, Hempstalls. Carried out because we asked for vehicle actuated signs to be installed at Tanners Way and Rise Cottages. In Feb 2023 a single site opposite the school was monitored, and this data records vehicle speed and volume data and justified a 20mph limit past the school. And this will be done this next financial year. Rosella bend April 2023 the data was over a period of a week, 24 hours a day. Volumes fluctuate, up to 4,000 going down Acorn Street on a Friday. Average speeds are what the machinery collects. Interesting thing is the speeds are within the limit at Rosella Bend. Speeds are not that bad but needs more signage. **Action: Cllr Dann to approach Highways to have surveys carried out and data gathered on the bends opposite Farm Cottages and also down at the church, approach Highways to get these surveys carried out.** A member of the public noted that the speed limits are not appropriate for our roads.

24.03.11

Correspondence

24.03.12

AOB

Malcolm Slater said the History Society is closing and there is a unique archive and asked if the Parish Council would take over the custody of the archive and store it in the Village Hall, so it can be available to all. He doesn't want to see it go to the County Archive. Cllr Toll thinks the records should be professionally archived and made available to all at County Hall. Cllr Dann asked what their accessibility would be. Cllr Toll suggests that question be asked when Malcolm visits HALS tomorrow. Martyn Reid asked what would happen to the items on display in the village hall. Cllr O'Shea said there is no problem with those but the VH is not enthusiastic in retaining the whole quantity of the archive material and further stated that the material needs to be properly archived at HALS. It was asked who owns the material and who should own them. Malcolm said the items have been donated to the History Society. Malcolm asks that someone else take responsibility for the ownership of the material and asks for the necessary help to resolve this for the benefit of the community. Cllr Ottolangui said the records need to be catalogued and where they go is immaterial at this stage. Is there anyone in the history society that could get a costing for the cataloguing to take place and then bring that back to the VH committee and the Parrish council to see if they could support if not sufficient funds in the history society. Cllr Ottolangui said it is the residents of the village that have the knowledge and asks could the history society hold some sort of open weekend in the VH with the help and support from the VH to put everything out on tables for information such as names and dates etc. to be added to the various documentation to support making a good record before archiving at the new home for the history society materials.

24.03.13

Date of Next Meeting: 15th April 2024

24.03.14

Close of meeting – 9.25

Appendix 1 – District Councillor Report

1. Energy Hubs

East Herts is holding Energy Hub visits. Their aim is to help people improve their energy efficiency.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Caitlin Williams (Climate Change & Sustainability Project Officer Housing & Health) who is a new resource in the officer team working for Jonathan Geall (Head of Housing & Health) and is responsible for getting the energy hubs up and running through 1:1 discussion with town and parish councils.

2. Herts Lynx - Kids go free over Easter

From 29th March to 14th April children aged 10 years and under can travel for free on the HertsLynx services in both North & East Herts and Dacorum.

When making your booking via the app or booking website, you'll need to add the child tickets and then add one of the following promo codes, depending on how many children are travelling on your booking:

Easter1 for 1 child

Easter2 for 2 children

Easter3 for 3 children

Easter4 for 4 children

Please note, this promotional discount is only valid with a fare-paying adult ticket; children aged 10 years and under must travel with an adult. The promo code will discount the child ticket only and any incorrect usage of this discount code will result in your booking being cancelled.

<https://www.intalink.org.uk/easter-holiday-hertsynx>

3. Non-Key decision regarding permitted development rights Government consultation (comments to me by end of play 25th March)

It covers the following areas:

Changes to certain permitted development rights which enable householders to improve and enlarge their homes.

Changes to the building upwards permitted development rights which enable the upward extension of a range of existing buildings.

Changes to the permitted development right which allows for the demolition of certain buildings and rebuild as homes.

Changes to the permitted development rights which enable the installation of electrical outlets and upstands for recharging electric vehicles.

Changes to the permitted development right for the installation of air source heat pumps.

Response details from EHDCC are in Appendix 1 of the documentation -

<https://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/documents/s65454/Changes%20to%20Various%20Permitted%20Development%20Rights%20-%20Response%20to%20Consultation%20Appendix%20A.pdf?J=1>

4. 5-year Land supply now achieved

In decision-taking, in circumstances where a local planning authority cannot demonstrate a five-year housing land supply, then the presumption in favour of sustainable development applies.

The inspector concluded that East Herts was short of houses by 760 as the developments, GA1: The Gilston Area - HERT3: West of Hertford (Archers Spring) - EWEL1: East of Welwyn - WARE2: North and East of Ware were not included.

As the District Plan is now over 5 years old the standard method is used which uses a different formula to calculate the supply of dwellings.

EHDC is able to demonstrate a five-year land supply position of 5.57 years against the identified requirement of 5,560 dwellings across the five-year period 2023-2028. Taking into account the overall requirement for 5,560 dwellings, alongside the identified supply of deliverable housing (6,189



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

dwellings), the Council is currently able to demonstrate a five-year land supply position of 5.57 years against the identified requirement of 5,560 dwellings across the five-year period 2023-2028.

5. Leasing of Wallfields

As part of the Be Commercial strand of the Transforming East Herts Programme we have been actively seeking a commercial tenant to lease parts of Wallfields freed up by the blended working arrangements. The main drive for this project is to generate an income towards required budget savings and importantly protect staff jobs and front-line services.

The project will generate an anticipated income/saving of circa £1.2m for East Herts Council over the next five years.

Our new tenant will be High Oak Business Centre.

High Oak Business Centre plan to sublet their leased space at Wallfields to multiple small businesses, who will take office space, hot desks, hire meeting rooms and host mailboxes and business addresses.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix 2 – County Councillor Report

Council commits to providing additional support for care leavers

Hertfordshire County Council has secured £600,000 funding, from the Department for Education, to extend its successful Lifelong Links programme to care leavers.

Lifelong Links helps children in care by bringing important people in their life together and helping them to reconnect with each other. This established and successful programme also helps children in care find out more about their family history. Now, care leavers will also be supported to strengthen their social connections and support groups.

Councillor Fiona Thomson, Executive Member for Children, Young People and Families at Hertfordshire County Council, said: “Stable support from family and community can be the most important factor for enabling young people to successfully transition into adulthood. It can be difficult enough when you have this support but many of our care experienced young people don’t, and the challenges they face navigating adult life on their own can be very daunting.

A children’s mental health campaign has been launched by Hertfordshire County Council, along with over 50 local health, social care, education and voluntary organisations that make up the ‘Just Talk’ network.

The ‘Power of small changes’ campaign aims to help children and young people across the county improve their emotional wellbeing.

Last year, almost a quarter (23.8%) of young people in the county said that ‘doing nothing’ was how they coped when faced with a problem that worried them. Many also told us that they feel they don’t have the tools they need to protect their emotional wellbeing.

The #PowerofSmallChanges challenge runs until 18 March 2024 and is steered by children and young people. To find out more and take part in the campaign, visit www.justtalkherts.org/powerofsmallchanges or follow us on:

Facebook: [JustTalkHerts](https://www.facebook.com/JustTalkHerts)

Instagram: [@JustTalkHerts](https://www.instagram.com/JustTalkHerts)

Twitter: [@JustTalkHerts](https://twitter.com/JustTalkHerts)

Children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND), are being given specialist cycle training so they too can be part of Sustrans ‘Big Walk and Wheel’ fortnight.

The training is provided by Hertfordshire County Council’s Cycling, Walking and Wheeling Team and Hertfordshire Disability Sports Foundation. Sessions with children take place during the school holidays and are offered on a one-to-one basis, sometimes even two instructors to one child if needed. This allows each session to be tailored to the child’s individual requirements, making it as relevant for them as possible. Children are able to develop their skills at the pace that is right for them to meet their specific needs. It’s also based around having fun and enjoyment, helping the children to build their confidence and self-esteem. The ‘Big Walk and Wheel’ is the UK’s biggest walking, wheeling, scooting and cycling challenge for school children. On each day of the challenge, schools compete to see who can get the highest percentage of their pupils walking, using a wheelchair, scooting or cycling to school. Hertfordshire schools that have signed up to take part will be doing so from Monday 11 until Friday 22 March.

Luton Airport proposed expansion

Luton Rising, the owner of London Luton Airport, has for a number of years now been progressing its ambition to grow the Airport from a currently consented throughput of 19 million passengers per annum (mppa) to 32 mppa.

In February 2023 it submitted its application to Government for permission to do so. The application will be determined by Government, rather than locally, because it is of such a scale to be classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, for which Government is responsible for making decisions.

Over the six-month period August 2023 to February 2024, the application has been examined by an Examining Authority consisting of a Panel of five members appointed by Government. Much of that



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

examination has taken place in writing, supplemented by oral Hearings at which interested parties could make their views on the application known in person to the Examining Authority.

Work starts on new multi-million-pound Waste Transfer Station



WTS Groundbreaking - Cllrs Roberts and Buckmaster

A groundbreaking event at a new state-of-the-art Waste Transfer Station (WTS) took place Monday (26 February). The new facility, located behind the Ware Recycling Centre, is set to be completed by January 2026.

The multi-million-pound investment highlights the Council's commitment to effectively manage waste arising from an increasing population. The WTS will receive kerbside waste and recycling materials from the surrounding areas, some of which currently has to be transported across the county to a facility near Watford. **Delivery of the new WTS will result in reduced lorry miles on our roads and increased resilience in waste operations, while the bulky waste shredding facility inside the building will ensure early delivery of the council's ambition to send zero waste to landfill by 2030.**

The new WTS will be powered by electricity generated by landfill gas from the former neighbouring landfill site and will feature solar panels fitted to the roof of the main building. It will be equipped with modern noise and odour controls, ensuring minimal impact on the surrounding areas.

For further information on recycling and waste in Hertfordshire

visit: <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/recycling-waste-and-environment/recycling-and-waste/recycling-and-waste.aspx>

LGBTQ+ foster carers urge others to consider fostering

Members of the LGBTQ+ community are being urged to be the difference in a child's life by becoming a foster carer.

Hertfordshire County Council has launched a campaign to dispel the general misconception that LGBTQ+ residents cannot foster. The council is calling on residents from the LGBTQ+ community to apply to foster or simply find out more about fostering.

Rona from Hemel Hempstead is a transgender foster carer who has been fostering with Hertfordshire County Council for 24 years.

Rona, who is currently offering supported lodgings to a care leaver, said: "I was quite apprehensive of becoming a foster carer but I was accepted with open arms. It was really lovely. There were no barriers."

Nationally, there is a severe shortage of foster carers from the LGBTQ+ community, and out of 350 fostering households in Hertfordshire, only 10 of them are from the LGBTQ+ community.

This is a stark contrast to adoption, where 1 in 5 adopters in the country are from the LGBTQ+ community.

Anyone who applies to be a foster carer with Hertfordshire County Council receives generous pay and allowances, as well as comprehensive local training and support.

If you are aged over 21, have a spare room, and want to find out more,

visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fosterwithpride, text FOSTERING to 62277 or ring 0800 917 0925.

Secondary school places announced for 2024

94 per cent of children have been allocated a place at one of their preferred secondary or upper schools by Hertfordshire County Council.

Of the 14,731 Hertfordshire children who applied this year, 77 per cent gained a place at their first preference school.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

98% of parents and carers in Hertfordshire applied online and will be emailed the school place their child has been allocated today (Friday 1 March). Families who made a paper application will be sent a letter by first class post.

Whilst overall applications were down slightly on last years' figures by 241, applications from various areas across the county remained high. Nine schools across the county are offering a total of 252 additional places, to ensure that as many pupils as possible are allocated a local school, and satisfaction rates remain high. All applicants who have not been offered their first preference school will automatically be placed on the continuing interest list for any Hertfordshire schools named higher on the application form than the school offered. Parents and carers are advised to accept the school place offered. Accepting the place will not impact upon the appeals or continuing interest processes.

Parents and carers have until 15 March 2024 to accept their school place.

More information about the allocation process can be found online at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissionsoptions

World's first pothole preventing robot passes first test with flying colours

An autonomous robot, developed by tech company Robotiz3d and academics at the University of Liverpool in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council Highways Engineers, has passed its first test outside of a lab environment, on the roads of Potters Bar, Hertfordshire yesterday (6 March).

Using state of the art imaging technology the team working on the project have now developed the first Autonomous Road Repair System (ARRES). The project was funded by Innovate UK and other investors. The ARRES PREVENT robot characterises cracks and potholes and other defects in the road using Artificial Intelligence (AI). It then automatically fills the cracks to keep out surface water, which in turn helps to prevent potholes forming. It has the potential to save time and money as well as reducing the disruption potholes cause to road users.

The brand-new technology could revolutionise the way Hertfordshire and the rest of the world deal with potholes and issues with road surfaces in the future.

The new prototype vehicle has now successfully completed its first live trial in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire where cracks were filled to prevent potholes forming. The next step will be further trials to refine the vehicle ahead of full production of the ARRES PREVENT robot alongside work on a larger version of the machine capable of fixing a wider range of defects.

This piece of kit is the first of its kind in the world and has been in development since 2020. Over 1,100 schemes planned to improve your pavements, cycleways and roads



Over 1,100 highway schemes have been given the go ahead by Hertfordshire County Council, after councillors approved a £106m capital budget for highways and transport.

Between April 2024 and March 2025 more than 1,100 maintenance and improvement schemes will be delivered across Hertfordshire's 3,200 miles of roads and pavements.

Planned works include repairs and maintenance to pavements, roads, bridges and traffic signals, as well as improvements such as tackling safety problems, reducing traffic congestion, and making walking and cycling more practical and attractive options.

This year's highways funding includes £6m for smaller schemes that local county councillors have identified as important for their areas.

The Integrated Works Programme covers a full range of highway maintenance and improvement schemes that the council undertakes each year. These schemes are in addition to the minor repairs and routine



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

maintenance, such as fixing potholes, maintaining drains, and cutting grass verges, which are carried out throughout the year.

The works are prioritised in a number of ways. For example, we repair roads because they are in a poor state now, but also carry out preventative maintenance work to avoid problems in the near future. Improvement schemes take into account factors such as reducing accidents, tackling congestion and making it easier for people to walk, cycle or use public transport instead of their car.

The works programme is 'integrated' because, once we have established priorities, we look to see how those schemes can best be delivered together to increase efficiency and reduce disruption on the roads.

Details of where and when these schemes and other roadworks are happening can be found at [Planned roadworks - this year and next | Hertfordshire County Council](#)

Dignitaries welcomed to County Hall for Commonwealth Day celebration: Commonwealth Day 2024



Today, 11 March, the High Sheriff of Hertfordshire, Liz Green, HM Lord-Lieutenant Robert Voss, members of the armed forces and the Hertfordshire Faith Covenant were invited to a flag raising ceremony by the Chairman of the County Council Cllr Terry Douris.

Commonwealth Day is an annual celebration observed by people all over the Commonwealth in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and Americas, the Pacific and Europe to highlight the strength of the unique bond that exists between 56 countries working together to promote prosperity, democracy and global peace. This year's theme is about forging a sustainable and peaceful common future to help further promote peace, improve the lives of Commonwealth Citizens and ensure a better future for its young people.

During the ceremony, an opening prayer was led by the Assistant Revd Priest Bill Church, St Andrews, Hertford, followed by the Commonwealth Affirmation, which was read by Cllr Terry Douris. The service continued with HM Lord-Lieutenant Mr Robert Voss CBE CSTJ reading a Message from His Majesty the King, Head of the Commonwealth. The National Anthem was performed by Hertfordshire Music Service while the Commonwealth Flag was raised.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix 3 – Finance Reports

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	£640.00	-£151.00	£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			
Totals	£33,321.08	£34,210.11	-£241.00	£33,904.47	£583.39
Debit					
Administration	£2,217.12	£1,702.17	£514.95	£2,217.12	£0.00
Litter pickers	£1,600.00	£387.70	£1,212.30	£1,600.00	£0.00
Salary	£6,050.00	£5,932.16	£117.84	£6,050.00	£0.00
General Power of Competence	£320.00	£611.21	-£291.21	£320.00	£0.00
Allotments	£490.00	£146.77	£343.23	£490.00	£0.00
Playing Field	£700.00	£1,060.19	-£360.19	£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	£6,839.68	-£587.68	£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
Totals	£32,797.56	£27,134.79	£5,662.77	£32,797.56	£0.00
Surplus	£523.52	£7,075.32	-£5,903.77	£1,106.91	£583.39
Totals					
Revenue Surplus	£523.52	£7,075.32	-£5,903.77	£1,106.91	£583.39
Capital Surplus	£11,256.32	£63,895.51	-£51,852.03	£12,043.48	£787.16
Total Surplus	£11,779.84	£70,970.83	-£57,755.80	£13,150.39	£1,370.55



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

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
Grant UK Prosperity Fund	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£0.00	£20,000.00	£0.00
Grant MUGA	£13,500.00	£13,500.00	£0.00	£13,500.00	£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	£63,108.35	£63,895.51	£0.00	£63,895.51	£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
Grant UK Prosperity Fund	£20,000.00	£0.00	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£0.00
Grant MUGA	£13,500.00	£0.00	£13,500.00	£13,500.00	£0.00
	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Totals	£51,852.03	£0.00	£51,852.03	£51,852.03	£0.00
Surplus	£11,256.32	£63,895.51	-£51,852.03	£12,043.48	£787.16
Receipts Check		TRUE			
Payments Check		TRUE			
Reconciliation Check		TRUE			



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Bank Reconciliation			
Total surplus	£70,970.83		
15-Mar-24	Current account		£23,216.88
Santander bank	Business account		£50,183.93
		Total	£ 73,400.81
Payments agreed but not cleared bank			
Payments to be agreed			
C Page	March Salary	Salary	£480.18
L Lundy	Litter picking for March	Litter Pickers	£20.00
A Wilkinson	Litter picking for March	Litter Pickers	£20.00
A T Bone	Annual hedge cutting	Grounds	£1,200.00
Sovereign Design Play Sy	Annual play inspection	Playing field	£478.80
Hunsdon PCC	Playing field lease 7 Feb 23 to 8 Aug 23	Playing Field	£171.00
Hunsdon Village Hall	November PC hall hire	Administration	£20.00
Hunsdon Village Hall	January PC hall hire	Administration	£20.00
Hunsdon Village Hall	February PC hall hire	Administration	£20.00
			£ 2,429.98
		Balance at Bank	£ 70,970.83



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix 4 – Planning Applications

Planning Applications https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk	HPC Response
3/24/0248/ARPN PROPOSAL: Change of use of two agricultural buildings to two dwellings (use class: C3), together with elevational alterations at Halfway House Farm Stanstead Road Deadline: Please send your comments to EHC by: 14th March 2024	
3/24/0453/HH PROPOSAL: Demolition of the partially built extension walls, construction of replacement single storey extension forming link to the detached garage. Garage conversion. Proposed front open porch. Insert new side facing roof light window, 1 lantern rooflight, wood burner flue, alterations to fenestration and external alterations at 6 High Street Deadline: Please send your comments to EHC by: 2nd April 2024	No comments from the Parish Councillors.
Planning Appeal: Land Adjacent To Hunsdon House Lodge Church Lane LPA Appeal Reference: 23/00086/REFUSE The applicant has appealed to the Secretary of State against the Council's refusal of planning permission for: -Change of use and conversion of games room/ residential annexe into a three-bedroom dwelling; alterations to fenestration and openings; front open sided porch extension and installation of electric vehicle charging point (part retrospective). If you wish would amend your comments or make any new ones, please contact the Planning Inspectorate quoting reference APP/J1915/W/23/3329066 by 29th March 2024.	Cllr O'Shea has drafted a response and would like to add detail regarding the 5-year land supply and can add that in. Cllr O'Shea suggests making that small amendment and the submit to the planning inspectorate.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix 5 - Footpaths

1. General Condition of the Footpaths

The condition of footpaths in the parish are again in a mixed state overall. It has obviously been very wet and muddy generally.

The field paths on Fillets Farm remain fallow and walkable. The paths around Cockrobin Lane are level and walkable. However, there is concern that the paths across the airfield remain in an unsatisfactory state, even allowing for the weather. HCC made is very clear what the expectations were of farmers at the beginning of the season and the paths were marked, but this was not satisfactory and County requested them to do it again, which made it worse. This was reported to County at the time and again recently, but there has been no response from County and a complaint has been received about the state of paths, which has again been reported.

It is not clear what County's Policy is regarding this, having taken a strong line initially and now appearing to not be following through with this.

2. General Maintenance

HCC have continued to undertake running repairs to the infrastructure and are planning to replace the three bridges on H13 which are deteriorating. H13 of course runs from Back Lane, H12, to the boundary with Wareside.

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

There has been no further information from HCC regarding this proposal. They have promised to inform the Parish Council when the matter is concluded.

4. Bench replacement by Blackhut Wood

Knight Frank have been approached about this matter and are dealing with it, but they need to be reminded as we have not had confirmation of an agreement for a replacement.

5. Fly Tipping at the Entrance to the Airfield

This was reported to Knight Frank land agents and this is one of number of similar incidents across the County that the Police are investigating.

6. H6 – "Paddy's Way subsidence

A small sink hole has developed on the path above the conduit, which drains water from the Wareside Boundary. Due to excess water the path appears to have been undermined. This was reported to the Landowner by the Clerk and a temporary cover has been put in place which has not inhibited walking.

7. H5 – Opposite Spellers towards the Ponds

This continues to flood and is currently impassable without wellingtons and a detour through the wood. Mr and Mrs Ricketts who own Spellers and whose property can be affected by the flooding, understand that the Landowner will undertake some remedial work when conditions allow. It is understood that involves digging trenches, but the details are not clear and it would seem that wider consideration of the drainage system in that area needs to be undertaken. It is not clear if the Flood Authority is involved, but the Wardens have suggested this.

Bud Carthy and Martyn Reid 14/03/24



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix 6 – Police **Crime Report February 2024**

ANSTEY - no reported crimes

HORMEAD - no reported crimes

BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN - no reported crimes

STOCKING PELHAM - 1 X Attempted Burglary

FURNEUX PELHAM - 1 X Criminal Damage

ALBURY - no reported crimes

LITTLE HAHDAM - 1 X Theft of Motor Vehicle

MUCH HADHAM - 3 X Burglary non-Dwelling, 1 X Criminal Damage, 1 X Vehicle interference, 1 X Theft, 1 X Burglary

HUNSDON - 1 X Theft of Motor Vehicle, 1 X attempted Burglary

WIDFORD - 2 X Attempted Burglary, 1 X Non-Dwelling Burglary, 1 X Vehicle Interference

WARESIDE - 1 X Burglary

EASTWICK & GILSTON - no reported crimes

BRAUGHING - 1 X Criminal Damage

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE -

5 X Theft from Motor Vehicle

Other news and updates:

Burglaries seem to be on the increase, this is dwelling and non-dwelling, so please make sure you leave your properties secure and valuables are not left easily in view or accessible, mark your property with a marker pen or look on line for other methods of identifying your items, take photos of jewellery and upload to your email or the cloud so it can be accessed from any of your devices, if you just save it to a device and it is stolen so are your pictures.

There have been a couple of incidents of suspects trying vehicle doors to see if they are unlocked. Please ensure all doors and windows are closed and secured when unattended, particularly overnight.

Keyless car thefts nationally continue to be trending. On most makes of vehicle, keyless entry can be disabled. Alternatively, ensure car keys, particularly any spare keys, are secured in a signal blocking/Faraday pouch when not in use. Hiding the keys in a metal tin can also restrict the signal from vehicle keys.

Your local policing teams are continuing regular patrols in hotspot areas at key times. Additionally, we are actively increasing the numbers of residents in East Herts signing up to the OWL Neighbourhood Watch Scheme. <https://www.owl.co.uk/herts/>

Please continue to report suspicious vehicles that may be seen driving around in your area. If you are able to record the MAKE, COLOUR and REGISTRATION number of the vehicle, that would be very helpful.

Additional Crime Prevention Advice can be found via this link: <https://www.herts.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/>

Appendix 7 - Frank O'Shea report re the Village Hall March 2024

1. Like everyone else the VH faces rapidly rising costs in energy prices and insurance and repairs and maintenance. Its operating costs from hirings does not meet them but the rents from the adjoining cottages ensures solvency and enables it to thrive and to continue to provide facilities for the community. However, it will be necessary to review hire charges for the forthcoming financial year



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

- for both private and community users though it is hoped to keep any increases in line or below inflation.
2. It has carried out a number of major jobs to the premises following Covid disruption and is now focusing on further digitalisation of its booking, invoicing and heating systems. It has applied for recognition for Energy Grants and qualified for the required independent energy assessment to lead to those.
 3. Its latest published annual accounts and report are now on its website at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/15-phCf-brH9x7qAUMnPNCEvGolU8G821> as well as filed with the Charity Commission and available there too.
 4. The trustees have considered whether to publish the minutes of trustees' meetings on the website as matter of course but decided against
 5. The AGM which is open to all residents will be on 10 th July 2024. As well as the usual notices, the agenda and reports will be published on its website as will minutes of the AGM. After formal business of reports and elections there will be food and drinks and opportunity to meet the trustees and for the Hall to advertise its facilities to all.
 6. Malcolm Slater has reported that it seems unlikely the **History Society** will continue after this year. It is a separate registered charity which will need to wind-up if new trustees do not come forward. He and his committee have a quantity of local records, maps and pictures which they would prefer to remain locally accessible and they hope to persuade the Parish Council and the Village Hall to take responsibility for safeguarding and storing them, failing which they would be handed over to the Hertfordshire County Council Archives . They have mostly not been digitalised or indexed. It is not known yet if the Society could pay for that to be done out of remaining funds. Malcom says he will attend the next PC meeting to take this forward.

Appendix 8 - Recreation Area Report for Hunsdon Parish Council March 2024

Playground

In November we had an inspection from our previous inspection company which we hadn't asked for. Carole investigated and the company didn't charge us.

On 21st February we had a playground inspection from our new inspection company. It was very thorough and everything that was found was low risk. Carole and I will meet to go through the findings and draw up an action plan. But some work is definitely needed on the zip wire, which we have asked to take place.

Tennis Courts/MUGA

The Steering Group hasn't met since 12th February, but the big news is that we were awarded a £10,000 National Lottery Awards for All Grant. This gives us a total of £37,865.

- Currently held: £18,352 (includes Section 106 money and village fundraising)
- Parish Room Trust donation: £ 2,000
- UKSPF: £ 6,000
- Donation: £ 1,500
- National Lottery: £10,000
- **TOTAL:** **£37,865**

Plus, whatever profit is made by the Quiz Night on April 19th.

Our outline costs a total of £36,865 at present, but we are still awaiting updated quotes. The surfacing quote went up by £1,000 from the original quote. We are hoping that the resurfacing will take place as soon as possible. The very wet ground on the Playing Field will prove a barrier at the moment. Once the surfacing is down, we will have to wait 6 weeks for the surfacing to "cure" before we can line the courts



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

or install nets, posts, and goals. Hopefully, we are still on course for a finish before the start of the summer holidays, with a possibility of a grand opening on the day of the Villa. event on June 29th.

Jackie Carthy 12th March 2024