



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council Meeting Minutes

Monday 17th March 2025 7.30pm – Hunsdon Village Hall

Present: Cllrs F O'Shea (Chair), D. McDonald, D. Ottolanguai (Vice-Chair), B Toll

In attendance: Cllr Dunlop, 11 members of the public

-
- 25.03.01 Co-option of a new councillor.** Cllr O'Shea proposes Mark Cox to be co-opted as a Hunsdon Parish Councillor. Cllr McDonald seconded. All agreed.
- 25.03.02 To receive and accept apologies for absence** – Cllr Buckmaster is on holiday. Cllr Dann is also on holiday.
- 25.03.03 Public Issues** – members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern.
- Airfield – we have pressed HCC to take enforcement action as footpaths are not being reinstated. Martyn Reid observed some efforts have been made. Cllr Ottolanguai suggests we keep a list of actions that aren't being done. Cllr O'Shea said HEGNPG has along record.
 - Faye has joined the litter picking team. Andy and Carlie (Surnames?) are carrying out the litter picking on a monthly voluntary basis The rubbish is being taken to the dump by the volunteers. Drew Betts of East Herts Waste Recycling is going to provide the bags. Carlie asks if there is somewhere that the bags could be picked up from. Setting up a WhatsApp group. **Action: Carlie to work with Carole to organise a central pick-up point to organise collection of rubbish bags by EHC. Have requested for North and East Herts Waste to suggest a central location. Cllr O'Shea to put Carlie in touch with the Hunsdonbury Litter Picking group. Done**
 - Monica Ashwood has made a formal complaint about the bonfire on the allotment. She feels it was out of order and wants to make a formal complaint. The clerk responded that the maintenance operator apologies to Ms. Ashwood for knocking on the wrong door and not advising her he was carrying out the work The clerk also sent her? an email outlining the series of events. Cllr O'Shea apologised for any inconvenience caused to Ms Ashwood by the incident.
- 25.03.04 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 dispensations as appropriate
- None received for any of the above
- 25.03.05 Minutes** – to confirm the minutes of the Hunsdon Parish council meeting held on 17th February 2025, as an accurate record of proceedings. Minutes of previous meeting approved as an accurate record of proceedings.
- 25.03.06 Matters Arising.**
- 25.02.10.06** – draft response to Stanstead Abbots NP lost in email. Cllr Toll to re-send for it to be submitted. **Done.**



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Signage on bends towards the church are in the wrong places and obscured. They need to be placed in the correct places. The 40mph signs also need to be taken down. **Action: pick this up at the next PC meeting for Cllr Buckmaster. Done Highways and have agreed to rectify.**

Cllr Toll had suggested whilst the road is closed other road works could be carried out, gullies are damaged, and also potholes that could be replaced but Highways don't seem capable of doing this .

BEAM – bring live arts to the rural areas. Holding 11th April initial meeting for the village to see what they would like to see in the village hall- advertising campaign underway I.

25.03.07 East Herts District Councillor Report – Cllr John Dunlop.

Refuse collection – the main driver behind the changes is a government legislation to reduce cost. There will be more communication before the implementation date of 4th August 2025. It is also an initiative to try to get people to recycle more, as landfill costs significantly more than recycling.

25.03.08 County Councillor Report – Cllr Eric Buckmaster

25.03.09 Finance – Clerk.

1. To authorise payments made in accordance with the budget. Agreed.
2. To note receipt of income. Noted.
3. To receive Budget Monitoring Report and Bank Reconciliation. Received.
4. End of year finances / internal and external audit. Finance meeting has been set for the 14th April at 6pm
5. Slow down for deer signs agreed. **Action: clerk to order two signs and liaise with the owner of Bonningtons. Ongoing**
Action: clerk to buy an extension lead for the projector. Done
Action: clerk to review planting trees on Dunstans Road. Done
Action: request the police to come to the PC meeting. Done

25.03.10 Hunsdon Area Planning Applications – Cllr O'Shea

1. Update on Villages 1-7

Stewardship Shadow body HPC power to appoint one nominee.
Meeting soon, NPG Mission Statement to be circulated, Quarterly estate meetings - first one 30 April tba. Both PCs and DC and HCC Cllrs, www.gilston.info for interactive map, Masterplanning , First houses sometime between 2028-30, Start of work on Central Crossing from Eastwick roundabout to Station roundabout this year and to last 3+ years.

25.03.11 Reports

1. Footpaths – M. Reid
2. Police - Clerk
3. Village Hall - Cllr O'Shea – continuing works ongoing: energy saving, loft insulation. Looking at secondary glazing next year and roof void



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between the hall and the cottages. Will also be installing overhead projector for use of hirers . AGM in June.

4. Allotments – Cllr Dann – allotment fees paid in to the bank.
5. Sports Court / Playing Field – J. Carthy. **Action: need to buy a waste bin to be placed at the sports court.** The litter pickers will empty it. John Felstead noted that along the edge of the sport court the concrete is breaking down. **Action: Jackie to source a quote for this work.**
6. Consultations – Cllr O'Shea – Cllr Toll tuned into the online workshop regarding the local cycle and walking infrastructure. The points that we made regarding cycling routes from Hunsdon have not been included by East Herts. Action: Cllr Dunlop to raise with East Herts.
7. Community Activities – Cllr Ottolanguai – 27th April, next community brunch. Summer festival 21st June is a midsummer festival. There is a 100-piece rock choir opening the event.
8. Communications
 - i. New website – Cllr Ottolanguai – it is suggested that our new councillor Mark Cox to lead on this with Cllr Ottolanguai and the clerk to support.
9. Flooding – Cllr McDonald – flood kit we have with a shed. Plan was to put on the entrance to the allotment, but is too large Suggested new site, in the entrance to the playing field on the left had site. Has to be secured on a concrete base. **Action: Cllr McDonald to pass all details to Cllr O'Shea to obtain approval for installation on the playing field.**
10. Cllr Toll to provide costings for the finance meeting for any benches etc to be installed in the Dell.

25.03.12
25.03.13
25.03.14

Correspondence
Date of Next Meeting: 14th April 2025
Close of Meeting: 21.03



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Appendix 1 – District Councillor Report – Cllr. John Dunlop

1. Gilston Park Estate

A Judicial Review has been received.

There are multiple steps which can be gone through starting with a gathering of evidence and a judge determining if there is a case.

It is unclear how long this will last but 9-12 months would not be unreasonable. At the Community Forum Helen Puddle of PfP seemed to be relaxed about the outcome, saying that they would continue with works.

The SLMP should be published on the Planning Portal soon although being slowed down by the JR process. <https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=PRSRKCGL00V00>

It is anticipated, although not decided, that there will be a Master Planning Forum for each of the Gilston Master Plans allowing the local community, Council officers and developers to have an open presentation and discussion.

2. Devolution update

The White Paper on the East Herts position on Devolution will come to Exec on Tuesday night 18th March. The timetable is:

- 5 Feb 2025 Statutory invitation received from the government to submit local government reorganisation proposals.
- 21 Mar 2025 Submit interim Local Government Reorganisation proposal.
- 1 May 2025 Hertfordshire County Council Elections.
- 28 Nov 2025 Submit full Local Government Reorganisation Proposal
- Proposed May 2027 Elections (Shadow authorities)
- Proposed Apr 2028 Vesting day for new unitary councils

The current position of councils in Hertfordshire can be summarised as follows:

- The County Council has set out the case for a single county unitary authority for Hertfordshire. Nine out of the ten District and Borough Councils do not support this proposal.
- All Councils have agreed that there is a single viable proposal for two unitary authorities and agreed that further work should be undertaken on this option.
- All Councils have agreed that further work should be undertaken on three and four unitary models and have identified three representative options for further analysis.
- All Councils have collaborated on an exercise to assess the value for money and financial resilience of this range of unitary authority options.
- The District and Borough Councils have undertaken a detailed appraisal of two, three and four unitary authority options, and with the County Council are engaged in further assessment of these models.

The proposal is available at

<https://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/documents/s68933/Appendix%20-%20Hertfordshires%20proposed%20response.pdf?J=1>



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I noted a paragraph in the report which will be interesting to see the answer - *Recognising the Government's desire to see stronger community arrangements when reorganisation happens, we will also work with the county's town and parish councils to explore what elements of service delivery and influence could be devolved to ensure they are responsive to local need.*

EH expects feedback in April and anticipates that public consultation will happen later in the year.

3. District Plan and East Herts Vision Report

The District Plan hasn't started because of the Government's delayed secondary legislation from Sept 24 to late Spring/Summer 2025. Two pieces of public preparation work are being undertaken, the Call for Sites and Visioning. It is intended to carry out some engagement on the Visioning around Spring of this year which would be a public consultation.

The Vision Report is available at -

<https://democracy.eastherts.gov.uk/documents/s68716/Appendix%20A%20-%20East%20Herts%20Strategic%20Vision.pdf?J=4>

A six-week period of public consultation is for discussion at the Exec meeting on Tuesday 14th March. A series of in-person events across the district will provide further opportunities for residents to engage and share their views.

4. Waste Services changes note

Garden Waste Services

Garden waste subscriptions will look a bit different this year as we transition to bringing payment management in house for all new subscribers and those that pay annually by card. The new system for Direct Debits will be completed in May when we move over to Veolia. The cost of the service has increased to £59.

Three-cycling update (Three weekly collections)

We are currently working on a final draft of a small flyer to accompany residents' council tax bill. The flyer is predominantly to advise residents they will be receiving a purple lidded bin for their non-recyclable waste, a 23l outside food caddy and a 5l kitchen caddy, with instructions that they should not be used until August 2025 as well as details on where to go for more information. We have taken this opportunity now to share the details of the deliveries that will commence at the beginning of May whilst we prepare the communications that will accompany the bin (stickers and an instructional guide) and whilst we create a more detailed service leaflet that is anticipated to go through letter boxes.

The flyer will introduce some residents to our plans, who may not yet have been aware of the changes in August 2025. We are also preparing for an increase in enquiries and will be updating a dedicated webpage with further details and FAQs in anticipation of March, when the council tax bill arrives.

Identifying residents who need alternatives to bins

We recognise that not all households are able to accommodate the full suite of bins required for Three-cycling. We have identified therefore, all the households we believe would require a collection sack, instead of a bin. These would be limited to houses that we know do not have



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the space to accommodate bins or other operational restrictions (recycling bags are not optional for residents). We would also appreciate your insight into the areas we have identified and using your knowledge of your areas, if there are properties we may have overlooked. We will be providing the current list to your group leaders and urge you to support us and residents by checking it. *(Not received yet)*

Litterbin removals

After further consultations with Cllrs and parishes, we will look to commence the removal of those litter bins identified under the criteria of the project in the coming weeks. We will look for this to be carried out on a town-by-town basis, however, cannot confirm exact dates of when specific towns/villages will start to see the removal of some litter bins. We will be looking to have completed the whole project and removal by the end of April.

This is a preview of a flyer to be distributed with this year's Council Tax bill.



IMPORTANT: Bin collection changes

In **August** a new three-weekly bin collection cycle is due to start which means some collection days will change.

And from **May**, our new recycling and waste contractor is due to start delivering a new outside food waste caddy, along with a kitchen caddy and a new purple lidded bin for your non-recyclable waste to help manage the new system.

Please do not use these bins until August.

WHY ARE CHANGES COMING IN?

When arranging a new waste contract including a new weekly food waste service to start from May 2025, we worked hard to get an environmentally sustainable service at a reasonable cost.

A three-weekly cycle makes collections more efficient, and provides more capacity for us all to recycle more.

Flats and communal bins will remain on their current collection cycle.

Support is available for certain households and we will be writing to all those we are currently aware of that have special medical requirements, larger families or multiple babies in nappies for example.

More information will be coming to you in due course and we are updating our website.

For more information use the link below or scan the QR code



www.eastherts.gov.uk/BinChanges



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Appendix 2 - E Buckmaster County Councillor Report

Some Planned Highways works

In addition to the current drainage works and signage the following will be approved at cabinet on 17th March

Eastwick Road Carriageway Surface Dressing 24 Stanstead Abbots A414/836 Eastwick Road C15 Church Lane to start of Roydon Road Slip ARP240002-2 ASD Qtr-1 - -

Eastwick Road Carriageway Surface Dressing 24 Eastwick A414/846 Eastwick Road U875 Eastwick Hall Lane to C15 Church Lane ARP240002-2 ASD Qtr-1 - -

Eastwick Road Carriageway Surface Dressing 24 Eastwick A414/856 Eastwick Road Eastwick Lodge roundabout westwards to Eastwick Hall Lane ARP240002-2 ASD Qtr-1 - -

A414 (River Lea Viaduct/Eastwick Rd Bridge) ST1953 24,26 Stanstead Abbots A414/810

Eastwick Road Amwell roundabout to end of Roydon Road on-slip BRG220005-1 BRF Qtr-2 - -

A414 (River Lea Viaduct/Eastwick Rd Bridge) ST1953 24,26 Stanstead Abbots A414/811

Eastwick Road Start of Roydon Road off-slip to Amwell roundabout BRG220005-1 BRF Qtr-2 - -

Nether Street Local Carriageway Surface Dressing-prep 24 Widford 3U176/20 Nether Street Bt Pole No 1 To B1004 Nr Old Forge NCM260052-a CSD Sep25 - Mar26 - -

£5,814,232 of additional funding to support active travel initiatives across Hertfordshire has been allocated by government and Active Travel England (ATE).

The funding will enable the development and delivery of local walking, wheeling, and cycling schemes, alongside community engagement initiatives. This supports the objectives in our Corporate Plan and a number of key policy areas including transport the environment, public health and the economy. Making it easier and safer to walk, wheel and cycle can help to improve health, improve air quality, support the local economy and manage traffic congestion on the road network. The funding comes as part of a nearly £300 million national initiative to enhance walking, wheeling, and cycling infrastructure across England.

Secondary school places announced for 2025

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 14,703 Hertfordshire children who applied this year, 76 per cent gained a place at their first preference school.



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Secondary and Upper Applications and Allocations as at 3 March

District	Parish	Allocated preference										Total	% Ranked Allocations
		P1	P2	P3	P4	LP1	LP2	LP3	LP4	Ontime NRA	Late NRA		
	Bengeo Rural	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	100.00
	Benington	6	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	100.00
	Bishops Stortford	426	66	25	6	1	1	1	0	5	1	532	98.87
	Bramfield	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.00
	Braughing	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100.00
	Brent Pelham	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.00
	Brickendon Liberty	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	100.00
	Buntingford	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	6	66.67
	Cottered	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.00
	Datchworth	12	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	14	92.86
	Eastwick	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.00
	Furneux Pelham	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	100.00
	Gilston	11	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13	100.00
	Great Amwell	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	100.00
	Great Munden	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	100.00
	Hertford	275	5	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	285	99.30
	Hertford Heath	24	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	100.00
	Hertingfordbury	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	80.00
	High Wych	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10	100.00
	Hunsdon	6	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100.00
	Little Berkhamsted	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	100.00
	Little Hadham	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	100.00
	Little Munden	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100.00
	Much Hadham	16	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	22	90.91
	Sacombe	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	100.00
	Sawbridgeworth	101	23	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	133	98.50
	Standon	20	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25	100.00
	Stanstead Abbots	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14	100.00
	Stanstead St Margarets	7	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	100.00

Secondary and Upper Applications and Allocations as at 3 March 2025

District	Parish	Allocated preference										Total	% Ranked Allocations
		P1	P2	P3	P4	LP1	LP2	LP3	LP4	Ontime NRA	Late NRA		
	Stapleford	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	100.00
	Stocking Pelham	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	33.33
	Tewin	13	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	100.00
	Thorley	17	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	100.00
	Thundridge	12	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	14	100.00
	Walkern	5	4	4	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	15	93.33
	Ware	189	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	192	99.48
	Wareside	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	6	83.33
	Watton-at-stone	20	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	21	100.00
	Westmill	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	100.00
	Widford	7	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9	100.00
	Total	1286	136	45	12	2	3	1	1	16	8	1510	98.41



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My Locality Grant applications for past year

Grants allocated to local organisations from Cllr Eric Buckmaster		£5,974.00
Applicant organisation	Purpose	amount awarded
Hunsdon Scouts	Additional tent to accommodate the increase in youth membership	£300.00
Allens Green Association	improvements to hall	£250.00
Southbrook Allotments	towards planting Orchard	£300.00
Herts Young Mariners base	Purchase ply, fibre glass chop mat, fixing kit and climbing holds.	£150.00
Rivers Heritage Site and Orchard	300th Anniversary of Rivers Nursery and Orchard	£300.00
Sawbridgeworth Sports Association	process for finger posts to highlight sports clubs locations	£414.00
Wareside Parish Council	towards renovating telephone box to house defibrillator + book swap	£500.00
Citizens Advice East Herts	supporting residents in the Division	£300.00
Stanstead Abbotts Brownies	towards coach trip	£250.00
Small Acts of Kindness	Warm in Winter gift bags and Purple Pages information packs	£200.00
Sawbridgeworth Sports Association	costs for implementing finger posts to highlight sports clubs locations	£509.00
st andrews school Stanstead Abbotts	welly racks for primary school	£400.00
Grove Cottage	supporting activities	£250.00
Allsorts Dementia Group	for people with dementia to enjoy activity, entertainment and a hot lunch with trained support	£200.00
Future Living Herts	supporting survivors of Domestic Abuse	£250.00
Sawbridgeworth Town Council	winter road and pathway gritting treatment	£500.00
Bishops Stortford and Sawbridgeworth Breathe Easy	supporting a self help group of people with COPD and breathing issues	£200.00
Air cadets Squadron	towards replacing Squadron Banner	£500.00
Hertfordshire Music Service	Towards Hertfordshire Schools Gala	£201.00
	Running Total	£5,974.00

Council tax to increase 4.99 per cent as over £1bn to be spent on public services

At a full meeting of Hertfordshire County Council on Tuesday 25 February 2025 councillors have agreed a budget for 2025/26 of just over £1bn. The agreed Integrated Plan will see Council Tax increase by 4.99 per cent in April, which equates to a £1.62 increase per week for a typical Band D property.

The difficult decision to increase Council Tax was taken as the council's costs will rise over the next twelve months if inflation continues its upward trend and the imposition of higher employer National Insurance contributions.

Agreed as part of the 2025/26 budget, investment in services includes:

- Nearly half a billion pounds will be spent supporting 30,000 adults to live well for longer, including £30 million investment to support those providing care, ensuring that caring staff receive a living wage and to offset the increased National Insurance costs.
- £26m of additional investment will be spent to ensure that the council can meet the expected increase in demand from older adults requiring care.
- Just over quarter of a billion pounds will be spent on children's services, including £28m of additional investment to ensure we can continue to support Children Looked After and children with disabilities. A further £2.8m of funding on top of the previous £7m investment will be made towards our SEND improvement programme 'Making SEND Everyone's Business'.



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- £100m will be spent on highways maintenance, allowing the council to repair and improve our roads and keep the county moving.
- Funding will be made available to improve flood protection and investigations.

Mindful of the need to keep the burden on taxpayers to a minimum, the council will continue to drive down internal costs by £42m next year with £16m of savings delivered by the ongoing Organisational Resourcing programme.

Help for families to have fun in Hertfordshire

Families whose children are eligible for free school meals are now able to claim discounts in shops, sports clubs and children's activities with a new Herts Card. They can also book their free school holiday activity HAPpy camps, from 13 March, when bookings open.

The Herts Card is designed to give discounts to children and young people, for lots of activities and days out that they might not be able to access otherwise. Local wildlife parks, football clubs and holiday activity camps are already part of the scheme, offering discounts to Hertfordshire's families who might benefit from additional support.

The idea for the card builds on the success of the HAND card, which was used by young people and families of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) to gain exclusive access and discount prices to events and activities in Hertfordshire.

Now families who are eligible for free school meals can also take advantage of pre-negotiated discounts with local businesses and activity providers. Families of children and young people with SEND who have an existing HAND card can download the new version of the Herts Card and continue to enjoy all of the discounts they previously accessed, and more.

It's easy for eligible families to get their new Herts Card; those already in receipt of free school meals will be contacted by the council with a link to sign up to the card. Anyone newly signing up for free school meals will also be sent a link to get their card.

The council has made it easy for local businesses and organisations to register their discounts and help make sure children do not miss out due to financial stress. Local businesses can email: hertscard@hertfordshire.gov.uk and include details of what they're able to offer.

HAPpy camps

HAPpy activity camps are returning this Easter, providing eligible children and young people with the chance to meet friends, learn new skills and enjoy nutritious food during the Easter break.

The HAPpy programme is funded by Hertfordshire County Council and the Department of Education (DfE) via the government's Holiday Activity and Food programme and coordinated by Herts Sport and Activity Partnership and the Hertfordshire Community Foundation.

Children and young people who are in school years Reception to Year 11, who attend a Hertfordshire school and are in receipt of benefits related free school meals can attend the HAPpy Easter camps. Eligible families should already have been given their booking code from their school. Parents/carers who have not received the code should contact their school office.

Every camp is inclusive and able to meet the needs of most children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), provided the right information is supplied with their booking. There are also SEND-specific camps which are better for children with higher support needs.

Bookings open at 12pm on Thursday 13 March. For further details of the programme, the camps available and to book places visit: [HAPpy Activity Camps](#)

Families eligible for free school meals will also be given supermarket vouchers for during the Easter holiday by their school.



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Hertfordshire County Council approves project to create 820 new supported living homes:

Plans to create 820 ensuite bedrooms for working age adults with care and support needs were approved by Hertfordshire County Council's Cabinet on 24 February, following discussion at the Adult Care, Health and Wellbeing Cabinet Panel on 29 January and Resources & Performance Cabinet Panel on 14 February.

Over the next five years the county council will work with registered housing providers to deliver new homes and redevelop existing supported living units for people with a learning disability. The programme will create 820 homes in the form of ensuite bedrooms in self-contained flats or shared living for individuals currently in supported living and those who could move into supported living.

The proposal will increase the supply and quality of affordable supported living homes in Hertfordshire, and in doing so will improve the health and wellbeing of those impacted by the scheme, as well as deliver savings for the county council.

The programme is estimated to cost over £400m, including a contribution of £47.7m from the county council's existing adult care capital budget, as well as investment from Homes England and registered housing providers.

The Environment

New 2024 Air Quality Status Report reveals lower pollution levels in Stortford and Sawbridgeworth

As reported by [Bishops Stortford Independent](#), air quality in Bishop's Stortford and the rest of East Herts has improved, according to a new report. Pollution at trouble spots in Sawbridgeworth, Hertford and in the town decreased with just one recorded nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) breach in London Road. The newly published 2024 Air Quality Status Report is based on the most up-to-date, full year validated statistics from 2023 and attributes improvements to factors including greener vehicles, more flexible working patterns and targeted local policies.

At Ware recycling centre we have been routinely assisting a multi-agency operation called Agrarian. Police, EA and other authorised parties have used the upper shunt area of the recycling centre to carry out checks on vehicles travelling along Westmill Road.

24/02/2025

115 Cars stopped.

1 x Arrest for drug driving.

Traffic papers issued for No Seatbelt and use of a mobile phone.

Male dealt with for possession of cannabis.

Vehicle seized for No Insurance.

10/12/2024

100 Cars stopped.

Vehicle seized for No Insurance.

Traffic papers issued for a bald tyre, expired MOT.

Words of advice given regarding correct waste licencing.

Words of advice given regarding safe loads.

19/07/2024

80 Cars stopped

2 x Vehicles were seized for No Insurance.

8 x Traffic papers issued for various offences.

3 x Vehicle Defect Rectification Scheme notices were issued.



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36 x Vehicles were checked for red diesel

The electric bus journey starts here

(5 March), local bus company Uno, owned by the University of Hertfordshire, officially launched the first five of its zero-emission electric buses on its newly branded Electric Shuttle. The five buses, which will run on the route between campuses at the University of Hertfordshire and the site's park and ride, are the first of 27 being delivered over the next 12 months. A special launch event was held at the University to mark the start of a journey that is set to transform public transport across the region.

The investment, being delivered under the Zero Emission Bus Regional Areas (ZEBRA) funding scheme, is a collaboration between Hertfordshire County Council, the Department for Transport (DfT) and Uno. The joint effort is dedicated to improving air quality and reducing carbon emissions across the county.

While the primary benefit of electric power is the delivery of cleaner air, it also enhances the passenger experience with a smoother, more comfortable ride. Additionally, the buses are quieter, which not only improves the journey for customers but also reduces noise pollution in the communities they serve.

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Date	14/03/2025		
Santander Account		929.60	
Unity Trust Current Account		7,305.51	
Unity Trust Business Account		20,659.60	
Opening balance		£ 28,894.71	
Payments agreed but not cleared in bank			
Payee	Detail	Header	Amount
			£ -
Payments to be agreed and included in accounts			
Payee	Detail	Header	Amount
C Page	Salary for March	Salary	£467.59
L Lundy	Litter picking for March	Litter Pickers	£10.00
A Wilkinson	Litter picking for March	Litter Pickers	£10.00
HMRC Cumbernauld	PAYE for Clerk	Salary	£96.00
F O'Shea	Land registry fee	Administration	£14.00
FG Fencing Supplies	Planters for the pump	Grant UK Prosperity Fund	£400.00
NBB Recycled Furniture	Picnic table for outside sports court	Grant MUGA	£684.00
East Herts District Council	Lease for Dell	Playing Field	£138.00
J Hammond	Maintenance for March 2025	Salary	£150.00
Parish Online	Digital mapping software	Administration	£96.00
Hunsdon Village Hall	hall hire for Jan, Feb, March 2025	Administration	£60.00
Mokut Mowers	March grasscutting	Grounds Maintenance	£520.00
J Hammond	hedge cutting for allotments	Grounds Maintenance	£400.00
J Hammond	allotment ditch clearance	Allotment	£350.00
			£ 3,395.59
	Reconciled balance		£ 25,499.12
	CHECK - should be zero		0.0



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Appendix 4 – Planning

Planning Applications https://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk	HPC Response
3/25/0385/HH PROPOSAL: Removal of rear storeroom. Erection of single storey ground floor rear and first floor side extensions at 16 Wicklands Road Deadline: Please send your comments to EHC by: 28th March 2025	
Planning Decisions	EHC Response

Appendix 5 - Footpaths

The paths on the aerodrome are dry and walkable to some extent, but not level; there has been no action by the estate to rectify this, in spite of promises made to the Chair. M. Reid met with the Farm Manager recently who said that he did not have the necessary equipment to level the paths, but would drag a tyre across them, as he had done this in some other circumstances. So, we will await the outcome of this.

Fallen Trees

The fallen tree on H5 beyond the Nine Ashes Ponds has been removed, but the path has not been marked beyond this. This should be corrected soon (see point 1.) The tree down along the Brook on H6 has been removed.

New Access Gate on H20

A new “Kissing Gate” has been installed at the entrance to the airfield. It is not clear why as the previous one was serviceable. The new gate is not the regulation metal type and the Places for People have presumably done this as part of their “improvements” to access the Rights of Way across the aerodrome?

Historical Paths in Hunsdon Parish

Following recent concerns regarding the restriction of walking routes in Hunsdon it was decided to look into the possibility of resurrecting old paths in the Parish with a view to making an application to amend the “Definitive Map” of rights of way. The records at the Archives at County Hall were accessed to examine the evidence for the existence of these routes. The conclusion is that although there is evidence for three historic routes, two have developments on parts them and the third appears to take a circular route back to Hunsdon from Back Lane and therefore would not be a provide a useful route in any case. More information can be provided if required. In the meantime, the Wardens will keep this under review in case further evidence emerges.



HUNSDON PARISH COUNCIL

Appendix 6 – Crime Report

ALBURY - No reported crimes

BRAUGHING - 1 X Criminal Damage to a vehicle / 1 x Theft of Fuel from a Lorry.

COLLIERS END No reported crimes.

EASTWICK & GILSTON - 1 x Criminal Damage to Garages / 1 X Storage Unit Burglary

HIGH CROSS - 1 X Theft of Number Plates / 1 x Interference of a Motor Vehicle

HUNSDON - No reported crimes

LITTLE HADHAM - 1 X Theft from motor vehicle / 1 X Garage Burglary / 1 X Shed Burglary
1 x Wildlife Crime / Dogs worrying livestock.

MUCH HADHAM - No Reported Crimes.

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE - 2 X Theft of Number Plates /

THUNDRIDGE - 1x Theft of Motor Vehicle.

WADESMILL - 1 x Theft of Parcel from front door. / 1 X Attempted garage Burglary

WARESIDE - 1 X Theft of number plates / 2 x shed burglaries / 1 x Theft of Parcel from
front door / 1 x attempted shed burglary

WIDFORD - 1 X Residential Burglary.

Other news and updates:

There has been a significant increase across the county in crimes of burglaries and vehicle crime. Please always ensure doors and windows are always closed and locked, and do not leave any valuables on display or tools in vans.

If you need to report a crime in progress, please call 999, for all other please use 101 or online reporting <https://www.herts.police.uk/ro/report/ocr/af/how-to-report-a-crime/>

The Herts Connected system delivers Hertfordshire police's crime alerts. Registered local residents can receive the latest crime or emergency updates and alerts, as well as information about policing events in your area. Local residents can get involved in helping to make their local area a safer place, tell us what police should be doing in their area, shape the initiatives that help to keep people and property safe, and tell us what matters are causing local communities harm.

The more residents that register, the better informed and safer our communities will be. We would be most grateful if you could continue to share the link below in any parish communications, and especially on social media, to encourage as many local residents as possible to sign up.

<https://www.hertsconnected.co.uk/>

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

Additional Crime Prevention Advice can be found via this link:

<https://www.herts.police.uk/cp/crime-prevention/>



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Appendix 7 – Sports Court

There has been little news to report since last month. The maintenance schedule for both the playground and the sports courts has begun.

Playground

We are still getting quotes for replacing the grass matting under the swings and play hut with rubber mulch. So far, we have only had one quote for £6,315.

Carole and I will be doing a quarterly visual inspection against a checklist we have compiled.

Hunsdon Sport Courts

We have bought two in-court benches, which will bolt onto the surface, and hanging pegs which will be attached to the fencing. Plus, a wheelchair accessible picnic bench which will be placed outside the courts. I'm still waiting for quotes for the boards. Which will also be attached to the fencing.

I have been in contact with Gaz Sheridah, who was Chair of Hunsdon Tennis Club. He says there is still £1000 in the Tennis Club account which he wants to donate to the Parish Council for the court refurbishment. But the account is dormant so it may be some time.