

Widford Parish Council

Minutes of the Widford Ordinary Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 12th January 2021 at 7.30pm via Zoom
under Coronavirus legislation



PRESENT: Cllr Mike Allen (MA) Chair; Cllr Babs Edwards (BE); Cllr Michael Ripsher (MPR);
Cllr Mark Rome (MR); Cllr Ian Collins (IC)

2 members of the public; Cllr Eric Buckmaster

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm

ACTION

21.001 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: None (all present)
2. Others: PCSO Leon De Bruyn

21.002 Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations

1. Interests

Cllr Babs Edwards: as noted on the agenda, a non-pecuniary interest in respect of Playing Field matters, her husband being Treasurer of the PFMC. Cllr Mike Allen noted an interest as a trustee of the Playing Field Committee.

Cllr Babs Edwards and Cllr Michael Ripsher have dispensations in respect of planning item 20.071.3.2 due to their properties being adjacent to any proposed development there.

2. **Dispensation requests:** Cllr Mike Allen and Cllr Babs Edwards submitted requests in respect of all financial matters concerning the Playing Field. Reason: to ensure the Council remains quorate when considering PFMC financial matters, including when these might affect the budget and precept. Cllr Allen is a trustee and Cllr Edwards' husband is the Treasurer of the PFMC.

RESOLVED: that for the reasons stated, dispensations be granted to both councillors until the next election.

Clerk's note: Dispensations granted under Localism Act 2011, S33 (2) (a).

21.003 Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd November 2020 were a true and accurate record.

MA/Clerk

21.015 Reports by County and District Councillor Eric Buckmaster

Brought forward

It was agreed at 7.35pm to bring this item forward. Cllr Buckmaster touched on matters concerning Gilston Villages 1-6 consultation, the Hunsdon, Gilston, & Eastwick NP consultation, Herts Transport Plan consultation, Schools, Speed Management Strategy, Police Precept, the introduction of a charge for green garden waste bin collections, and Old River Lane development update. There were questions about the impact on the quarry development now that the Hatfield option has been turned down.

The report is reproduced in full in the Appendix.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Buckmaster, who then left the meeting.

21.004 Police report

In PCSO Leon De Bruyn's absence, the Chairman read the following report he had submitted:

There have been no crimes reported throughout December 2020 for Widford.

Our Local policing priorities remain as Speeding and Fly-tipping and regular patrols continue to be carried out in the local areas.

With the current Covid 19 lockdown measures extended, we are also policing the area for Covid breaches, however these Local policing priorities still continue to be monitored.

I was noted that suspicious activity related to dog napping has recently been reported in this

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

part of East Herts. Dog owners are advised to be aware and not to let dogs run free, even in a garden unless it is completely inaccessible.

21.005 Chairman’s announcements

Mr Taylor-Young wants to continue with the Village Archive and is open to the possibility of it being digitised as far as possible so that it is more accessible to all. Any offers of help from residents willing to help pursue this would be most welcome. The ensuing discussion touched upon the possibility of the Community Facebook Group providing some photos for the website (see 21.007 below), and also a brief village history.

MA

21.006 Planning

1. New Applications:

3/20/2616/HH The Old Rectory: Replacement extension. **RESOLVED: No objections** Clerk

3/20/2617/LBC The Old Rectory: Replacement extension. **RESOLVED: No objections** Clerk

2. Decision Notices. The following were noted:

3/20/1787/HH Greenacres: Create vehicle crossover. **GRANTED**

3/20/2019/HH Plovers: Swimming pool and pool house. **GRANTED**

3/20/1624/FUL The Green Man: Change of use to residential **GRANTED**

3/19/1902/FUL The Old Orchard: Demolish store, erect bungalow. **APPEALED to P.I.** **APPEAL DISMISSED**

3/20/0565/PL Wineos Ltd, 4 Church Barns: Licence application (online a/cs only) **GRANTED**

3. Other planning matters, including items received too late for the agenda

1. Late planning applications

3/21/0040/FUL Land adj to Wayside: Three detached and two semi-detached dwellings with new access from Pegs Lane. Concerns were expressed about additional vehicles exiting Pegs Lane on to the B1004. **RESOLVED: No objections** Clerk

2. Adams Farm & Priory Farm proposed development: Nothing received

3. Toad Abode glamping site, Pegs Lane: EH Planning Enforcement has confirmed that the site is not breaching temporary camping site planning regulations.

4. Stop Harlow North transfer of funds: Following a request for agreement to transfer funds, it was **RESOLVED to agree to formally cease Stop Harlow North and to transfer its remaining funds to HEGNPG.** Clerk

21.007 New Parish Council accessibility compliant website

This is now up and running. Apart from the ongoing PC documents, input is now needed for additional content and photos. Clerk/ALL

21.008 Finance

1. Report of the Council’s accounts 1st October to 31st December 2020

Finance Summary	£
Opening bank balance 1 October	41,169.49
Plus: income to 31 December	367.34
Minus: expenditure to 31 December	4,930.22
Minus late presented payments	<u>0.00</u>
Balance available to Council at 31 December (cashbook balance)	36,606.61
Plus unrepresented cheques/payments £162 + £50	<u>212.00</u>
Bank balance: reconciled with bank statement at 31 December	<u>36,818.61</u>

Reconciliation of the Accounts to the bank statements was considered and it was unanimously **RESOLVED: that the Accounts Statement to 31st December 2020 be accepted.**

2. The Clerk’s detailed report on the financial performance vs budget to 31st December 2020 (third quarter) was received. Apart from £600 for tree safety work on Benningfield Green, there was no untoward expenditure, currently standing at £12,505 net against the total budget of £18,214; Income included an unanticipated New Homes Bonus of £9,333, the income to date standing at £25,714 against the total budget of £16,725.

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

RESOLVED: *that the financial report for the third quarter to 31st December be accepted as presented.*

3. List of payments for approval

RESOLVED: *to approve the list of payments as presented by the Clerk:*

Clerk

All expenditure made under the General Power of Competence.

11/11	Clerk Reimburse	Safety Supply Co delivery charge	6.78	bacs
13/11	B Edwards reimburse	Kiosk and notice materials	31.02	bacs
13/11	David Jarrett	Tree work Benningfield Green	720.00	bacs
23/11	Clerk	Salary November	400.37	bacs
23/11	HMRC	PAYE November	100.00	bacs
25/11	EH Citizens Advice	Donation	100.00	bacs
25/11	E&H Air Ambulance	Donation	100.00	bacs
23/11	Mrs J English	Litter pick November 8 of 12	125.00	S/O
01/12	Clerk reimburse	Notice Board deposit	250.00	bacs
16/12	Notice Board Co	Notice Board balance	650.00	bacs
01/10	David Newton	Install litter bin	39.94	300004
16/12	Clerk	Salary December	400.17	bacs
16/12	HMRC	PAYE December	100.20	bacs
18/11	TEEC	New website hosting 12 months	151.19	bacs
18/11	TEEC	Website migrating content	264.00	bacs
16/12	TEEC	Moving Wiford.com to TEEC	14.40	bacs
16/12	TEEC	Wiford.com hosting annual fee	144.00	bacs
18/12	Imperative Training	New AED battery	162.00	bacs
23/12	Mrs J English	Litterpick December 9 of 12	125.00	S/O
31/12	Unity Trust Bank	Quarterly Service charge	18.00	bacs
04/10	ICO	Annual Data Protection fee	35.00	D/D
20/12	TP Jones & Co	Running payroll Oct - Dec	58.50	bacs
31/12	Clerk	Expenses May - December	57.50	bacs
Rec'ts	Clerk – Petty Cash	Petty cash May - December	13.55	bacs
		Recoverable VAT included	402.35	

4. Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2019/20

The Clerk confirmed that PKF Littlejohn had signed off the AGAR with no issues being raised. It was also confirmed that the level of the Council's turnover did not meet the £25k threshold that would attract the external auditor's fee.

Clerk

5. Budget and Precept for 2021/2022

The draft budget presented by the Clerk was considered. It was noted that precepts may be capped at some point in the future and that there is no reserve provision for a Neighbourhood Plan. **RESOLVED:** *to agree the budget as drafted and that the 2021/22 precept be set unchanged at £14,500.* The Clerk to arrange for the Chairman and two councillors to sign the EHC Precept form.

Clerk

6. It was noted that the Citizens Advice Service had sent a letter of thanks for the donation.

21.009 Correspondence

The list of correspondence was noted as it appeared on the Agenda:

- HCC: Hertfordshire Eastern and South East Growth & Transport Plan - Open for Consultation until 31 January (21.14)
- Parishioner: Enquiry about Toad Abode glamping site (21.06.3.3)
- Parishioner: re status of the pavilion
- Citizens Advice: Poster for notice boards etc re Christmas holiday period arrangements.
- HCC: TRO15693 temporary road closure notice B180 (21.011.2.4)
- Chairman Stop Harlow North: Proposal to cease SHN and transfer funds (21.006.3.4)
- EHC: Request to advertise for Covid-19 vaccination centre volunteers (21.011.3b)
- EB/HCC: Covid vaccination information Q&A (21.011.3a)

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

- Citizens Advice Service: Thank you letter for donation (21.008.6)

21.010 Village Reports

1. Village Hall and archive. Susie Brickwood said the AGM was next week (date in the Magazine). It was agreed to check with the VH Chairman what the future plans are. **MA**

2. Playing Field. It was noted that there is a funding meeting on Jan 15th and that a Biffa 90% grant is being pursued for new play area equipment. The question was raised as to whether the Parish Council would consider putting up the required 10% balance, possibly from the New Homes Bonus "windfall". For future consideration.

3. Allotments. Convert Water will not be completing the project and alternative options are being worked on. **BE**

4. Closed Churchyard. Nothing reported.

21.011 Highways, Public Rights of Way, and other Parish matters

1. Footpaths and PRoW.

Confirmed: that Bridleway 10 has now been cleared. **Clerk**

2. Highways and footways

1. Bus shelter repair: The Chairman is pursuing options for the work to be done. **MA**

2. Verges, gutters and overgrown footways: The Chairman and Cllr Babs Edwards still to walk round and take photos, with precise locations. Cllr Mark Rome reported to the Highways fault line a blocked gully opposite Lilly Wood. **MA/BE**

3. 20mph speed limit campaign in Hertfordshire: HCC is considering implementing 20mph speed zones in certain appropriate areas in the County. **MR**

4. TRO15693 temporary Hunsdon Road closure notice was noted.

3. Other parish matters and concerns

1. The HCC Covid vaccine Q&A information was noted.

2. The Covid vaccine volunteer flyer was noted. It was agreed to add this to the website, Facebook, and the Magazine. **MA/MR**

21.012 Benningfield Green

1. New Notice Board update: On order; to be painted before delivery. **Clerk/MA**

2. Parking issues: Vehicles are coming off the agreed trackway and churning up the grass. Agreed to raise the matter with vehicle owners. **MA**

3. Tree Maintenance and bird boxes: Bird boxes will be done by volunteer parishioner once tree maintenance has been completed.

4. Other: Benches need some maintenance work. Where safety is compromised by broken or loose slats, it was agreed to tape them off with hazard tape until repairs can be done. **BE/Clerk**

21.013 AED Monthly check: The arrangement was agreed for Cllr Edwards to do the monthly check and for the Clerk to report monthly via the Heartbeat Trust website. **BE/Clerk**

21.014 Consultations

1. Hertfordshire Eastern and South East Growth & Transport Plan - Open for Consultation until 31 January: It was agreed that anyone could comment as they felt fit.

2. Hertfordshire Waste Local Plan draft consultation: It was agreed that anyone could comment if led to do so. It was noted that from April, EHC green garden waste bins will be charged at £49 a year and that the bin cannot then be used for food waste.

21.015 Reports by County and District Councillor Eric Buckmaster: Taken earlier in the meeting following 21.003 and reproduced in full in the Appendix below.

21.016 Urgent matters received too late for inclusion on this agenda: None raised.

Suspension of meeting for parishioners' comments

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

No comments made.

21.017 New items for future agendas: Neighbourhood Plan (March 2021 meeting).

21.018 Date of next meetings

- 1. Ordinary Parish Council Meeting: Tuesday 2nd March 2021 at 7.30pm:** Virtual meeting via Zoom, subject to prevailing Covid-19 legislation.

Clerk/MA

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.12pm.

Signed.....Dated.....

APPENDIX

Agenda item 21.015

21.015 County Councillor report January 2021

Major Consultations

Planning Gilston Villages 1-6 – Planning Application Documents

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

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

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

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

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

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

The draft East, and South East Growth & Transport Plan (GTP), covering the towns of Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth, down to Hertford, Ware, Hoddesdon, Broxbourne, Cheshunt

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

and Waltham Cross, and the key transport links between these towns and to surrounding areas, will start the process of public consultation in October and is due to finish in December 2020. The consultation documents already includes feedback from workshops with County Councillors and District Portfolio Holders as well as officers for the area have been used to refine the initial schemes and packages that considers the key problems and opportunities which currently exist or may in the future on the transport network and identifies what types of interventions are needed to improve the transport network.

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

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

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

The GTPs set the following 6 objectives:

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

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

Sustainable Hertfordshire

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

This public engagement closes on **24 January 2021**

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

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

Carbon neutral for our own operations by 2030

All operations and services are ready for future climates

Improve biodiversity on our land by 20% by 2030

Reduce what we throw away. Send nothing to landfill by 2030

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

Net zero greenhouse gas county before 2050

Our communities are ready for future climates

Improve wildlife in our land and water by 20% by 2050

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

Clean air for all by 2030

Increase resource efficiency threefold in the County by 2050

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

Diversity & inclusion Strategy

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

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

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

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

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

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

HERTFORDSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (HSCP) ARE WORKING WITH NSPCC TO LAUNCH A COUNTYWIDE NEGLECT Survey CAMPAIGN IN EARLY 2021

SURVEY LAUNCHED TO GAUGE UNDERSTANDING OF NEGLECT ACROSS COUNTY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

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

New Consultation on Waste Local Plan.

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

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

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

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

Hertfordshire schools come top of the class in national performance tables

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

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

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

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

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

UNAPPROVED DRAFT²

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

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

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

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

Commissioner plans for Hertfordshire's largest ever police force Hertfordshire is set for its largest ever police force, funded by a planned a £1.25 a month Council Tax increase. (£15) Police and Crime Commissioner David Lloyd is aiming to fund extra frontline officers as part of a £14.1m budget increase, on top of the number provided by the government national uplift programme.

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

Matters agreed at East Herts Executive on 5th January

No. Item

- 5 To Contract out of Homelessness Reviews to specialist organisation
- 6 Affordable Housing Research and Overview and Scrutiny Review. To inform future housing affordability.
- 7 Note a decision of the Chief Executive to approve a scheme for Local Authority Discretionary Provisions. To expedite the process of launching government support schemes for business or ability to supply.

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

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

Eric Buckmaster January 2021