

Widford Parish Council

Minutes of the Widford Parish Council Ordinary Meeting
Tuesday 10th January 2023 at 7.30pm in Widford Village Hall



PRESENT: Cllr Babs Edwards (BE); Cllr Michael Ripsher (MPR); Cllr Mark Rome (MR)

Four members of the public

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

In the absence of Chairman Mike Allen and Vice Chair Ian Collins, Cllr Michael Ripsher was elected as Chairman for the meeting.

ACTION

The acting Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm

23.001 To receive and approve apologies for absence

1. Councillors: Cllr Mike Allen (work), Cllr Ian Collins (work): **Approved**
2. Others: PCSO Leon De Bruyn; Cllr Eric Buckmaster apologised that he would be late.

23.002 Declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations

1. Interests

As noted on the agenda: Cllr Babs Edwards: an interest and a dispensation in respect of Playing Field matters, her husband being Treasurer of the PFMC. Cllr Mike Allen has an interest and a dispensation in re Playing Field matters, being a trustee. Cllr Ian Collins has a dispensation for the remainder of the electoral term in respect of his wife having the Closed Churchyard maintenance contract.

2. Dispensation requests: None

23.003 Approval of Minutes

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st November 2022 were a true and accurate record. The Chairman signed the Minutes.

Clerk/MA

23.004 Police report

1. The Chairman read the following area crime report from PCSO Leon DeBruyn:

Crime report for December 2022.

ANSTEY – no reported crimes

HORMEAD – no reported crimes

BRENT PELHAM & MEESDEN – no reported crimes

STOCKING PELHAM – no reported crimes

FURNEUX PELHAM – no reported crimes

ALBURY –

- **THEFT** – a padlock to a garden gate was stolen in Upwick, Albury between the 1st June and 5th December 2022. Offender(s) have left the area in an unknown direction. No other information has been provided for this incident.

LITTLE HADHAM –

- **THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE** – 11th to 12th December 2022 victim left the vehicle in Chapel Lane, Little Hadham due to the snow, the following morning the vehicle was gone. The vehicle was left insecure with the keys inside. Offender(s) have found the keys inside removed the vehicle and taken it in an unknown direction. Vehicle was recovered 14th December 2022.

MUCH HADHAM –

- **CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO CROPS** – 1st December 2022 a field with arable crops was driven over with the vehicle destroying the crops in Bromley Lane, Much Hadham.
- **CRIMINAL DAMAGE** – 20th December 2022 front window to a residential property

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broken in ASH Meadow, Much Hadham. No witnesses and no suspects identified.

- CRIMINAL DAMAGE – 20th December 2022 signs pulled off fences and gate at a school in Much Hadham. No witnesses and no suspects identified.

HUNSDON –

- BURGLARY BUSINESS – 2nd to 3rd December 2022 unknown suspects have gained access to workshops to a business property in Stanstead Road, Hunsdon, removed several power tools and cash from within, and then made off in an unknown direction.

WIDFORD –

- THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE – 1st December 2022 tools stolen from inside a van parked on a driveway off Hunsdon Road whilst the victim was working at a property.

WARESIDE – no reported crimes.

EASTWICK & GILSTON –

- MOTOR VEHICLE INTERFERENCE – 29th December 2022 CCTV shows two male suspects attempting, unsuccessfully, to steal a vehicle in Bowlby Hill, Gilston. A vehicle blocking device has been used to try and gain entry, followed by Suspects making a hole in the rear of the vehicle.

BRAUGHING – no reported crimes.

STANDON & PUCKERIDGE-

- CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO A VEHICLE – 20th to 21st December 2022, windscreen wipers were broken on a vehicle in a residential parking area. No witnesses or suspects.

Other news and updates:

- HARE COURSING – There has been an increase in reports of suspected hare coursing or unpermitted vehicles on rural land.
- KEYLESS VEHICLE THEFTS – Land Rovers a preferred choice for this particular criminal offence, but other vehicles also targeted.
- OUTBUILDINGS TARGETED - There has been a notable increase in out building thefts including livery yards. We are strongly recommending property marking in all cases and directing residents to the Herts police website where there is further crime prevention help and advice.

Leon De Bruyn

Police Community Support Officer

23.005 Chairman's announcements

The Chairman said he had no announcements.

23.006 Reports by County and District Councillor Eric Buckmaster

This was deferred until later in the meeting when Cllr Buckmaster was expected to arrive.

23.007 Planning

1. New Applications:

None

2. Decision Notices. For information only, the following were noted:

3/22/1686/FUL Land to rear of the Green Man: Build two new dwellings.	REFUSED
3/22/1852/HH Phoenix Farm: Side extension	GRANTED
3/22/2261/HH Wilmoor: Replace conservatory with rear extension	GRANTED
3/22/2334/HH 14 Meadow Gardens: 2-storey rear extension	GRANTED
3/22/1196/HH Gilston, 42 Bell Lane: Installation of solar panels	GRANTED
3/22/1501/HH 28 Benningfield Rd: Remove garage; build side extension.	<i>Awaited</i>
3/21/2668/FUL: Ash View Stables: Additional capacity on existing site.	<i>Awaited</i>
3/19/1045/OUT Land North of the Stort Valley & A414, Gilston: Outline planning	<i>Awaited</i>
E/21/0288/ENF 30 Benningfield Road: Enforcement investigation.	<i>Awaited</i>

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

1. Late planning applications: None

23.008 Finance

1. Report of the Council's accounts

Finance Summary to 31st December 2022

	£
Opening cashbook balance 1 st November	44,362.64
Plus: income to 31 st December	0.00
Minus: expenditure to 31 st December	<u>3,151.99</u>
Balance available to Council at 31st December (cashbook balance)	41,210.65
Plus unrepresented cheques/payments	<u>0.00</u>
Bank balance: reconciled with bank statement at 31st December	<u>41,210.65</u>

RESOLVED: that the Accounts Statement to 31st December 2022 be approved.

2. Bank reconciliations

Copies of the bank statement were presented. **RESOLVED: to agree the bank reconciliation as presented.** Cllr Mark Rome signed the reconciliation statement.

3. Performance vs budget at 23rd December 2022

The Clerk's detailed report on the financial performance vs budget to 23rd December was received. There were no untoward transactions to note. Income for the year to date totalled £17,441 against a budget of £17,155. Expenditure for the year to date totalled £14,995 against a budget of £25,243. The projected closing balance at year end, 31st March 2023, is £36,750 (excluding VAT reclaim).

It was noted that £7,500 is held in reserves for the Playing Field play area equipment grant, to be paid when the play area funding is resolved.

RESOLVED: The performance report to 23rd December 2022 be accepted as presented.

4. Widford PCC grant request

RESOLVED: To approve a grant of £850 to Widford PCC towards the maintenance of the open churchyard, a granted in 2022.

Clerk

5. Widford Archive grant funding request

Report from Helen Giles:

Clerk

Thanks for inviting me to the last Parish Council meeting to update you on the Widford Archive.

I don't have much of an update for the January meeting, apart from following up on a few things I mentioned:

1. Database for the Widford Archive

I am hoping to meet up with Mark to see what his colleagues use as a database for their information. I don't have any details at the moment. I use a Mac at home, so can't access Microsoft Access which is rather annoying.

2. Back up storage for the Widford Archive

I am in the process of digitizing parts of the Widford Archive and need to think about back up storage (as the digitized records are currently on my laptop). It would be great if the Parish Council would consider funding the purchase of the following:

-2x hard drives for the archive (to be backed up regularly and kept in two different locations) – I use these which are really good:

https://www.amazon.co.uk/LaCie-Portable-Resistant-External-LAC9000298/dp/B00IRV005E/ref=sr_1_3?keywords=lacie&qid=1670326766&s=computers&sr=1-3
£183.00 in total

-Google Drive annual subscription – Premium 2TB £79.99 per year

I have created a new gmail account for the Widford Archive, which has an email address widfordarchive@gmail.com

3. An Ancestry subscription for the Widford Archive would also be really beneficial. It is £11.66 per month for access to all Uk records.

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Any help for the archive is very much appreciated.

Thanks

Helen

Helen Giles AMA

7 December 2022

The actual total expenditure came to £421.18. RESOLVED: To approve a grant of £421.18 to Helen Giles for the Village Archive, as per the detailed request provided.

6. List of payments.

RESOLVED: to approve the list of payments as presented by the Clerk, including a £100 donation to the East Herts Citizens Advice Service.

Clerk

All expenditure made under the General Power of Competence.

		Gross	VAT incl
Clerk	Expenses October-January	35.50	
Jo English	Litterpicking: October 10 of 12	125.00	
Helen Giles	Village Archive grant	421.18	
Widford PCC	Grant: new churchyard maintenance	850.00	
Citizens Advice Service	Donation	100.00	
Clerk	Salary	434.95	
HMRC	PAYE	108.80	
Recoverable VAT included			£0.00

7. 2023-24 budget and precept

1. The Clerk's detailed draft proposal for 2023-24 and projected draft proposals for 2024/25 and 2025/26 were considered.

RESOLVED: That the 2023/24 budget be approved as drafted, with the addition of a £100 to £250 maximum per quarter contingency for verge maintenance. With a budgeted precept of £16,000, the income would be £ 16,645 and budgeted expenditure would be £27,847. The £11,202 shortfall would come from the 2022-23 projected bank balance of £36,750.

Clerk

RESOLVED: That the 2023/24 precept be set at £16,000

It was agreed that the projected performance against budget will have to be carefully monitored for the next two years and that future budgets be adjusted accordingly to ensure the integrity of the Parish Council's finances.

Clerk

Clerk

2. The presiding Chairman, the Clerk and two councillors signed the EHDC precept form.

23.006 Reports by County and District Councillor Eric Buckmaster

Cllr Buckmaster arrived at 8.10pm and gave a brief overview of his report – this is reproduced in full as an Appendix to the Minutes of this meeting.

Since Drivesafe now seems to be impractical, Cllr Buckmaster agreed to follow up the provision of equipment for a speed and volume study. It is believed the 20's Plenty campaign would not produce any outcome in rural Hertfordshire. Cllr Buckmaster agreed to email Kevin Steptoe to clarify Gilston planning progress with Development Management.

Cllr Buckmaster confirmed that following the approval of the HCC budget, he will still retain a Locality Budget pot, although its size is to be confirmed.

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

- Cllr E Buckmaster: Update on Ware Road Enforcement case E/22/0295/ENF
- Cllr E Buckmaster: Council Tax base 2023/24
- Helen Giles: Archive report (23.013)
- EHDC: Holocaust Memorial Day event invitation, 26th January (Noted: The Clerk will attend)
- HCC Public Rights of Way Officer: Ploughed over FP6 (restricted byway 22) (23.011.1.2)
- CPRE/ACRE: Capital grant info for village halls (referred to VHMC)

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23.010 Village Reports

1. Village Hall

1. Village Hall poll update: The second draft of the proposed poll is being worked on by the Village Hall Chairman. Cllr Michael Ripsher agreed to check
Further events are planned.

MPR

2. Playing Field

1. Update report: No report received
2. Update on refurbishment plans, grant possibilities and S106 funding: No report received.

MR

3. Allotments

Cllr Babs Edwards reported that all is going well. Some adjustments need to be made to the water system.

BE

4. Closed Churchyard.

Nothing to report

Clerk

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

1. Footpaths and PRoW.

1. FP1: No update on PRoW replacing the stile with a suitable bollard. This remains under consideration in Nicholas Maddex's programme of works.
2. FP1 (Restricted Byway 22): Footpath was ploughed over; Nicholas Maddex is working with the landowner to get the FP reinstated.

MA

Clerk

2. Highways and footways

1. Update on general clean-up of verges, gutters and overgrown footways: Provision for quarterly maintenance was agreed in the 2023/24 budget. Cllr Babs Edwards to ask the contractors to draw up a maintenance rota.
2. Update on road safety concerns by Greenacres, Ware Road, including issues due to blocked storm drain: Cllr Eric Buckmaster is following up Issues with HCC and EHC Planning Enforcement.
3. Daintrees road closure notified as 23rd January was noted, as was the fact that the date could be put back.

BE

3. Other parish matters and concerns

1. Update: Alternative location for the QEII Platinum Jubilee Memorial bench. It was agreed to locate this at the bus stop by Priory Farm, simply replacing the existing decaying wooden bench at that location. The Clerk to make the purchase order

Clerk

23.012 Benningfield Green

1. Ongoing parking issues: No update. To be reviewed at the March Parish Council meeting.

MA/Clerk

23.013 Village Archive

The report from Helen Giles and grant request was agreed at agenda point 23.008.5 above.

23.014 Urgent matters received too late for inclusion on this agenda:

None received.

Suspension of Meeting for Public Comments

No comments made.

The meeting was restored to order

23.015 Items for future agendas

- May 4th Parish Council elections; everyone interested must stand for election (March meeting).
- Arrange internal and external audits (March meeting)
- Review and approve Financial Risk Assessment (May Annual Council Meeting)

Clerk

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23.016 Date of next Parish Council Meeting
Tuesday 7th March 2023, 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Clerk/MA

The Calendar of Meetings for 2023 was approved. The Clerk to email a copy to councillors and to the Magazine editor.

Clerk

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

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

APPENDIX

District and County Councillor Report, January 2023

November and December 16 Days of Activism in Hertfordshire to end Gender-Based Violence

The Hertfordshire Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Partnership called for people to stand up to violence against women and girls as part of the international 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign.

Running from 25 November to 10 December, the campaign called for an end to gender-based violence (also commonly known as 'violence against women and girls'). The international White Ribbon Day encouraged male allyship with women and girls, in addition to the UN UNiTE campaign to 'Orange the World' - symbolising a brighter future free of violence.

There were several ways Hertfordshire's residents took a stand against all forms of violence and abuse:

1. **Making the White Ribbon Promise**, 'to never use, excuse or remain silent about men's violence against women' and wear your white ribbon proudly. By doing so, you're becoming part of a wider movement to end violence and promote a culture of equality and respect.
2. **Supporting 16 Days of Activism events and initiatives** Organisations across Hertfordshire have worked hard to create a range of fun, informative and thought-provoking events to raise awareness of violence against women and girls and how we can all work together to eliminate it.
3. **Be the best ally you can be** by learning how to appropriately intervene and challenge harmful or abusive behaviours via the UK Government's 'Enough' campaign.
4. **Showing your support on social media** by re-sharing awareness-raising content from national and local organisations (or sharing your own message of allyship and support) with the hashtag #HertsUnitedAgainstAbuse.

Councils awarded grant to tackle sticky situation caused by chewing gum

East and North Herts councils have been awarded £60k from the Chewing Gum Task Force to tackle chewing gum pollution in our town centres.

The funding enables the councils to carry out more deep cleaning to remove chewing gum from pavements in our town centres, and to install new signage to encourage long-term behaviour change.

The Chewing Gum Task Force, established by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) is run by environmental charity, Keep Britain Tidy. Chewing gum litter wastes millions of pounds of taxpayers' money every year; the annual clean-up cost across the UK is estimated at £7 million.

Fixed penalty notices can be issued for littering, which includes chewing gum, and we hope the increased signage will encourage people to change their habits and bin their gum, not drop it on the floor or stick it to other unsuitable locations.

The damage and staining from chewing gum costs councils in the UK millions each year. The Chewing Gum Task Force grant fund represents a commitment from the Government and major gum manufacturers to work together to find long-term solutions to this issue.

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Stay Safe, Stay Warm – Hertfordshire residents urged to check electrical items

73% of electric blankets tested by Hertfordshire County Council Trading Standards fail safety checks.

With many households considering alternative heating methods this winter, residents are being encouraged to have their electrical goods tested for free at events organised by Hertfordshire County Council's Trading Standards Service, in partnership with Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service and Hertfordshire Libraries.

As part of the drive to improve safety in the home, a total of 48 electric blankets and 25 portable heaters were tested with 73% of electric blankets and 20% of portable heaters found to fail. A total of 40 items were deemed unsafe and were withdrawn from use.

In addition to testing equipment owned by residents, a selection of new electric blankets from both high street and online retailers were tested; one of which failed and is being investigated further.

Most electric blankets failed due to their age: the safety features built into them start to deteriorate over time and after 10 years may not operate properly or at all. Some residents had blankets that dated back to the early 1970s, whilst others had been subject to national recall due to failure to meet minimum safety standards. Electric blankets should be checked regularly for wear and tear and replaced at least every 10 years.

The council has dedicated advice and support for those who need it this winter. Get in touch with [HertsHelp](#) on 0300 123 4044 to find out what support is there for you. For more information, visit: hertfordshire.gov.uk/hereforyou.

Positive climate action takes root as thousands take part in tree giveaway

Over 4,000 people have taken up the offer of free trees as part of Hertfordshire's Your Tree Our Future scheme, which will see a minimum of 100,000 trees given away over the next four years.

On Saturday 3 December 46,000 trees were collected, as residents from across the county took up the offer of free trees. It is estimated that these trees could remove 77,000 tonnes of carbon from the atmosphere over their lifetime.

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

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

Working with partners across the county will be key in delivering this ambitious figure. The council has recently successfully bid for £78,983 on behalf of district and borough councils from the Local Authority Treescape fund. This funding will allow for a further 6,688 trees to be planted across the county this winter.

In addition, further funding from the Government's Woodland Creation Accelerator Fund will allow the council to hire two new members of staff to provide support and work in partnership with others to deliver tree, hedgerow, and woodland planting between spring 2023 and 2025.

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

"Tree planting remains one of the most effective tools for delivering our Sustainable Hertfordshire ambitions. Planting trees in the right place helps to improve nature, tackle air pollution and reduces the amount of carbon in our atmosphere, as well as having positive impacts on physical and mental wellbeing"

"We are thrilled that the Your Tree Our Future project has enabled and inspired so many of our residents to contribute to our fight against climate change through tree planting, and we are looking forward to the next giveaway window in Autumn 2023."

Anyone looking to take part in the Your Tree Our Future scheme can sign up to receive an email when the window re-opens in 2023 at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/yourtree

Pressure on the council's budget

In September, the council announced a projected shortfall in budget of £23.5 million in the

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current financial year. We've managed to balance the budget for the remainder of 2022/23, but we are facing very significant challenges in terms of the budgetary gap and pressures ahead, both next year and beyond. Councillors are likely to have to make some very difficult and unpopular decisions.

As an organisation, we have been awaiting clarity on future spending plans for key public services, including local government. We were pleased that the Government announced that they will provide extra funding for adult social care and schools. The Chancellor also announced that council tax 'flexibilities' will form part of their plan, but this won't be decided in Hertfordshire until February; we do know that council tax alone will not be the complete solution to the pressures we face.

The leader of the council has lobbied for the county via the Local Government Association, County Council's Network, working with MPs and directly to Government to make it plain that an enhanced financial settlement is essential in order to keep the vital services running for the people of Hertfordshire.

A public budget consultation for Hertfordshire is open until Sunday 18 December 2022 to canvass opinions from as many people as possible. We will consider the results of the public consultation and the government settlement when it is confirmed alongside the flexibility government has offered in terms of increasing council tax when setting the budget for next year at February 2023 Full Council.

The leader of the council said: "We will bring the strength of our partners and great working relationships with the NHS through the Integrated Care System, our District and Borough colleagues, and the voluntary sector to ensure that our council remains strong, vibrant, and confident to deliver for the people of Hertfordshire".

The rising cost of living

We are working with partners on a campaign to ensure the provision of accessible information, advice, and guidance to those most in need to help every resident navigate the rising cost of living and to stay well as we continue to adjust to life with Covid.

The winter health and wellbeing booklet landed on doorsteps across the county from 24 October. Aimed at helping residents stay safe and well during the colder months, particularly those without digital access, the guide shines a light on the services the council delivers, and those it funds other organisations to deliver.

International migration The Hertfordshire Strategic Migration Steering Group, a group initially stood up in response to the increased migration to Hertfordshire from Hong Kong residents, continues to lead on Hertfordshire's coordinated partnership response to the arrival of and support for refugees and asylum seekers from Afghanistan and Ukraine. Partners are working together to respond to and support the implementation of the national migration schemes locally and manage impact across the county. The numbers of people seeking asylum in the UK continues to increase and Hertfordshire has seen 3 further temporary accommodation sites open. There are currently 9 sites in Hertfordshire supporting around 1100 asylum seekers. Hertfordshire County Council is now urgently seeking new sponsors to host individuals and families from Ukraine who wish to remain in Hertfordshire.

Carers Strategy for Hertfordshire 2022-25

A new **Carers Strategy for Hertfordshire** has been published. This strategy aims to support carers' wellbeing to help them to balance caring with their own needs. For the first time a single Strategy for Adult Carers and Young Carers has been developed with carers. The Strategy reaffirms partnership working between carers, health and social care providers and other agencies. There are four objectives, based on carers' own priorities, which are: Be informed; Life beyond caring; Maintaining health and wellbeing; and Receiving consistent, joined up services. View the Carers Strategy at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/carersstrategy

Warm Spaces

Hertfordshire County Council is working with district and borough councils to create a new online directory of public spaces and buildings which people can use as warm, welcoming spaces are temperatures drop.

The directory will help people find libraries, family centres and community spaces near them where they can stay safe and warm. Many will also be running additional activities to provide Hertfordshire's residents with the opportunity to meet others and take part in events such as

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slipper swaps for older people in libraries and stay and play events in family centres for families with young children.

To support this initiative, the council is working in partnership to make £100,000 worth of funding available to local community groups, with grants of up to £2,000 to help them provide welcoming indoor spaces this winter. The funding can be used to cover energy bills, staff time, venue hire as well as other relevant costs such as transport to the venue. The grant scheme is being run by Hertfordshire Community Foundation.

If you can, please share the information about Warm Spaces and the grants available with residents, in newsletters or on your social media channels. Attached is a folder full of social media materials, and we also have videos to share:

<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLgtazLRY5Zd9gMQaEc19C1ipVn42hNz2s>

The warm spaces directory is just one of the ways Hertfordshire County Council is helping people to manage the cost of living and remain safe and well this winter. Other support available for residents is being highlighted through the council's Here for You this winter campaign which is shining a light on the services the council delivers, and those it funds other organisations to deliver.

Hertfordshire County Council says “thank you” to hosts of Ukrainian refugees

- Since the start of the war in Ukraine, hundreds of families across the county have opened their homes to Ukrainian refugees
- To date, over 1,700 Ukrainian refugees have settled across the county

Hertfordshire County Council announced that it will step in and pay an additional, one-off thank you payment of £500 to Hertfordshire residents who have signed up for the Homes for Ukraine scheme and welcomed guests to the county.

The Homes for Ukraine scheme was launched in February 2022 following the Russian invasion of Ukraine, with households asked to commit to hosting a Ukrainian refugee, or family for at least six months in exchange for thank you payments of £350 per month from government.

As many host arrangements come to the end of their initial six-month period, the county council has recognised the increased costs being borne by hosts, particularly given the surge in energy prices and inflation since the start of the year.

Additional financial support will sit alongside the range of practical support for hosts already put in place by the county council from regular webinars, advice on how to support guests and cultural differences as well as mental health advice such as the Flourish programme.

Many Ukrainian guests have settled well into the county, gaining employment, and children have started new schools, but the lack of social and affordable housing means that when hosts can no longer continue with their arrangements families are forced to relocate outside of the county. The county is therefore urging sponsors and guests to maintain their arrangements for as long as possible while calling on those who wish to come forward now to offer their homes, to do so.

Anyone who is interested in becoming a sponsor of a Ukrainian or family can contact the council for a no-obligation discussion by emailing H4Ukraine@hertfordshire.gov.uk

East Herts Parking charges .Changes to be implemented on Monday 9 January 2023

At a meeting of the Executive on Tuesday, 25 October 2022, the following changes were agreed for implementation on Monday 9 January 2023:

- Free parking periods not removed, but implementation deferred for two years and reviewed as part of the council's budget setting process.
- Chargeable hours extended from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in Bishop's Stortford, Hertford and Ware.
- Charges introduced for Sunday parking in Bishop's Stortford, Hertford and Ware at a fixed all-day rate of £1.50 to encourage longer stays, support the local economy, deter short stays and encourage more sustainable methods of transport.
- Charges introduced for bank holidays and public holidays parking in all towns at a fixed all-day rate of £1.50 (parking will be free on Christmas Day).
- 20% uplift in tariff applied in Buntingford, Sawbridgeworth and Ware.

None of the above changes are applicable to Jackson Square in Bishop's Stortford.

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Bell Street

- No increase in chargeable hours
- Free parking sessions remain, to be reviewed as part of council budget setting process, no later than June 2024
- 20% uplift in tariff

Mon - Fri (7.30am - 6.30pm)	Old tariff	New tariff
Up to 30 mins (Free)	£0.00	£0.00
Up to 1 hour	£0.30	£0.40
Up to 2 hours	£0.60	£0.70
Up to 3 hours	£1.10	£1.30
Up to 4 hours	£1.50	£1.80
Up to 5 hours	£2.20	£2.60
Up to 11 hours (All Day)	£3.80	£4.60

*District and County Councillor Eric Buckmaster
January 2023*