



Hempsted Residents Association

Annual General Meeting

09 Apr 2025



Housekeeping

1. Fire Assembly point
2. Phones
3. Breaks (Bar opens again as soon as we finish!)
4. Questions

Thank you for attending

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Election of 2025/26 committee members
3. Finance
4. Summary of 12 months
5. Projects
6. Future
7. Partnerships
8. Questions

Close approx. 2015hrs



Welcome

Meet the team

Chair –	Grant Bowden
Hon Sec –	Ian Pickup
Treasurer –	DiBs Bucknell
Committee -	Jen Caple
	Wayne Subryan
	Chris Royce
	Alex Kirby
	Gemma Bate
	Kiran Emery
	Sue Steggles-Cole

Opening remarks

Thanks to:

Active members:

Stephen Davies
Laura Royce
Huw Cole
Mickey Thomas
Rob Mills

Previous Cmte members:

Matt Selwyn
Kate Subryan
Jasmine Munford

Quorate: 25 Members (inc 5 committee of which 1 exec)

Projects *"HEMPSTED-Community"*

Themes

Highways

Environment & Open-Spaces

Media and Website

Planning and legislation

Safety & Welfare

Technologies

Easement

Development

-

Community **C**hampions

Points of Contact

Dibs Bucknell

Wayne Subryan & Gemma Bate

Kiran Emery

Grant Bowden

Chris Royce

Sue Steggles-Cole

Ian Pickup

Jen Caple

Alex Kirby

Election of 2025's Committee

1. At the last committee meeting 27/03/25, **All committee members** confirmed they are happy to **remain in post** with 3 retirement (KS, MS & JM)
 - a) 8 previously elected members (AGM '24),
 - b) 2 new members (AK, GB),
 - c) 0 new requests via Hon Sec,
 - i. Vote not required for previous **Elected Un-opposed**, **Vote required** for 2 new candidates
2. At the last committee meeting 27/03/25, it was agreed that the **executive roles** were happy to **remain**
 - a) Chair, Hon Sec, Treasurer
 - i. Vote not required – **Elected Un-opposed**

Finance FY 24-25

- In process of changing from Lloyds to Virgin (Avoid Bank Charges)

Accounts signed off by Bal Bhandal -08/04/25

“straightforward set of figures, and everything looks in order — income, outgoings, and balances all check out nicely. No issues to report”

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| • Balance of | £1266.42 |
| • Ring fenced for GLRFC Defib Move | £250 |
| • Ring-fenced Easter kiddy party | £500 |
| • Owed for Village Hall Defib battery | £220 |
| • Realistic balance | £296.42 (£100 down on last year) |
| • Total expenditure | £580 (Mainly defib battery & Support to Women’s group) |
| • Total Income | £1400 (Mainly £300 council grant, £128 Oktoberfest) £500 Quiz) |

- Income & Expenditure Spreadsheet available for those who wish

Summary of past 12 months

- **New Committee** – continued to keep the committee supported in the key areas, bringing in specialist skills/knowledge and accommodating ‘rest’ periods for existing members
- **Accessible website** for key information and suitable storage of committee artifacts
- **Developed professional relationships:** New Councillors, planners, council officers and developers and sub-contractors, and to continue post 1st May 2025
- **Prompt responses to current issues:** provided via Hempsted Village Noticeboard on FaceBook which has increased by 500 people since last year (Hempsted increased 2700 to 4000 in last 4 years)
 - 86 posts this 12 months
- **Working with Permal (Thank YOU):** HRA assisted to build strong relations between residents with industry, Council(s) and the regulator to accurately report issues
- **Purchase and planting of evergreen tree:** to support the ‘Christmas Tree Festival’
- **Increased social events:** to promote wider engagement for the community
- **Invested back to the community:** Local women’s group, empowerment, defib batteries and pads

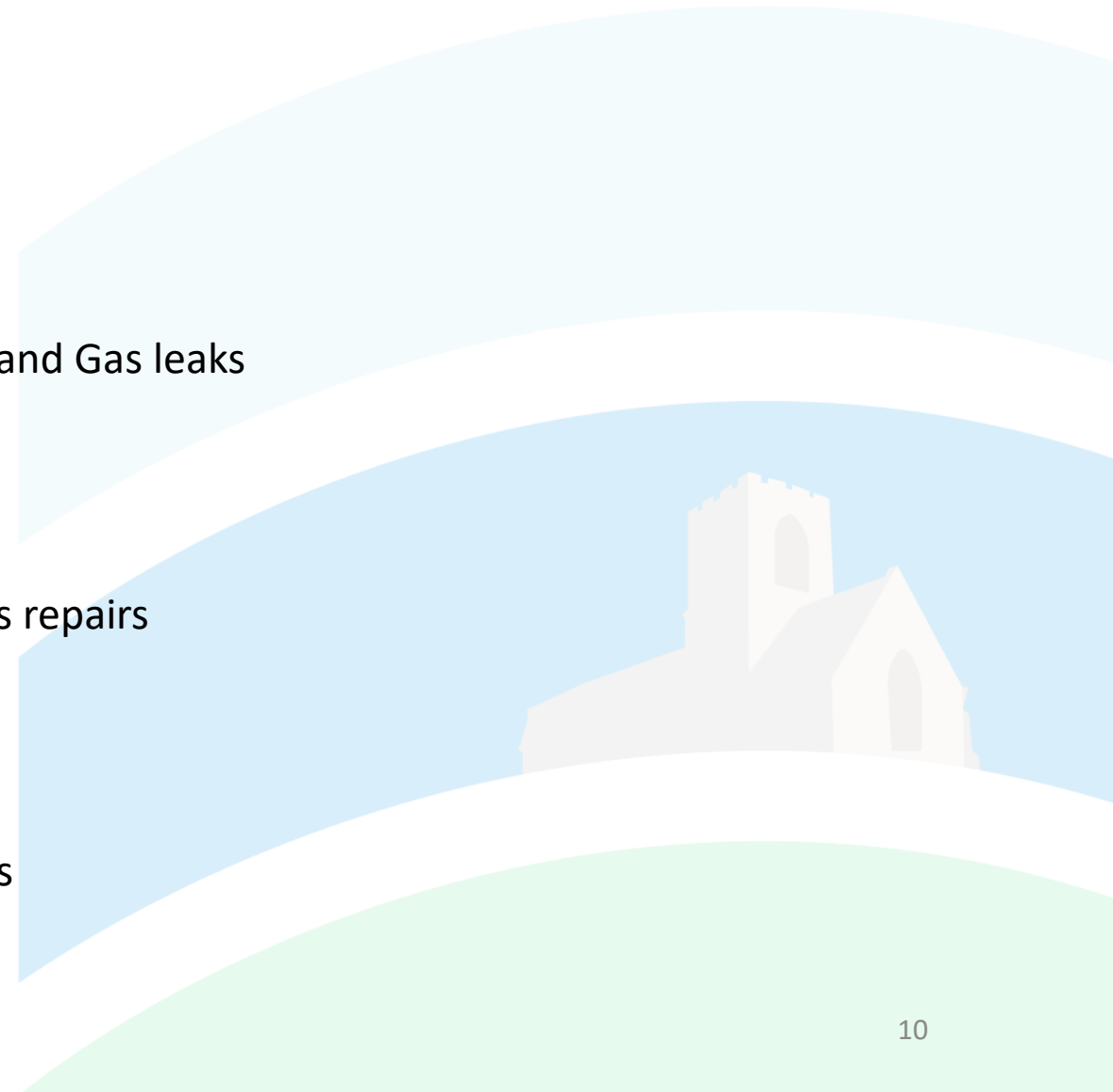
Committee’s 2025s Focus: **Increasing Digital Services** and **Enhancement of the local Environment**

Project - Highways

- **Key Point – Glos Highways now contacting your HRA direct and in the first instance (1730 last Friday!)**
- Lower Hempsted Bridge (by Anchorage) – despite emails from Councillors and MPs, still no further forward – with May’s council elections coming, we will be inviting the media to view the appalling state of the bridge.
- Road Closure ½ Marathon – points for next year:
 - DO NOT CLOSE the roads early than stated times!
 - No Diversion Signs – can signs state there is no diversion and length of closure?
 - Can Google Maps reflect closures
 - Please avoid Easter Sunday, Mothers’ Day and other days when local business expect to be busy
 - More marshals (particularly at junctions of: Anchorage, Gallops, Soran Larsen Way, Bittern, Quay-Side & “Sainsburys” houses/flats).
 - Could a single carriageway (ie NORTH) of the A430 be coned off and left open for traffic
- Over 2 dozen posts on HVNb in last 12 months, about traffic and highways alone
- Parking on Hempsted Lane – yes it does get a bit hairy, but NO, nothing can easily be done about it – ENFORCED yellow lines won’t work as most residents want the ability for guests to park near them!
- Speeding on Hempsted Lane – vast majority of speeding cars are within 20% of speed limit and contain schoolchildren on way to/from school. The one serious accident appeared to be a result of “boy racers” and traffic calming would not have stopped it. We can look at “sleeping policemen”

Project - Highways

- **Work with Councils to:**
 - Resurfaced Hempsted and Rea lane
 - Restore Mini roundabouts x2
 - Better sign and inform of St Annes bridge repair closure
 - Secunda road resurfacing and footpaths renovations
 - Alert of new issues such as Sewage Leaks, Mains pipes leaks and Gas leaks
 - Drain cleaning post floods
 - Reapply Line markings
 - Carboot queuing issues
 - Obstructions of highways – Repair trucks, caravan, Telecomms repairs
 - Hempsted lane road closure
- **Work with organisations to:**
 - Improve road closure notification for Cycle and Running Races
 - Parking issue for Fireworks night



Project – Environment and Open-Spaces

- Working alongside Eco-church
- Looking at opportunities to increasing recycling such as Terracycle
- Neighbourhood Plan – 3 members to form action plan in the next reporting year – Volunteers welcomed
- Continued engagement with the council on key matter such as:
 - Forest Litter tidy up
 - Appropriate fencing around swans' nest
 - Recreational area footpath (Surface and flooding)
 - Maintenance of unmanaged land such as by Waters reach corner
 - Tree planting (including Hempsted Forest)
- Nature Park Cycle Routes (includes National Cycle routes)



Project – Media and Website

- **In-year**

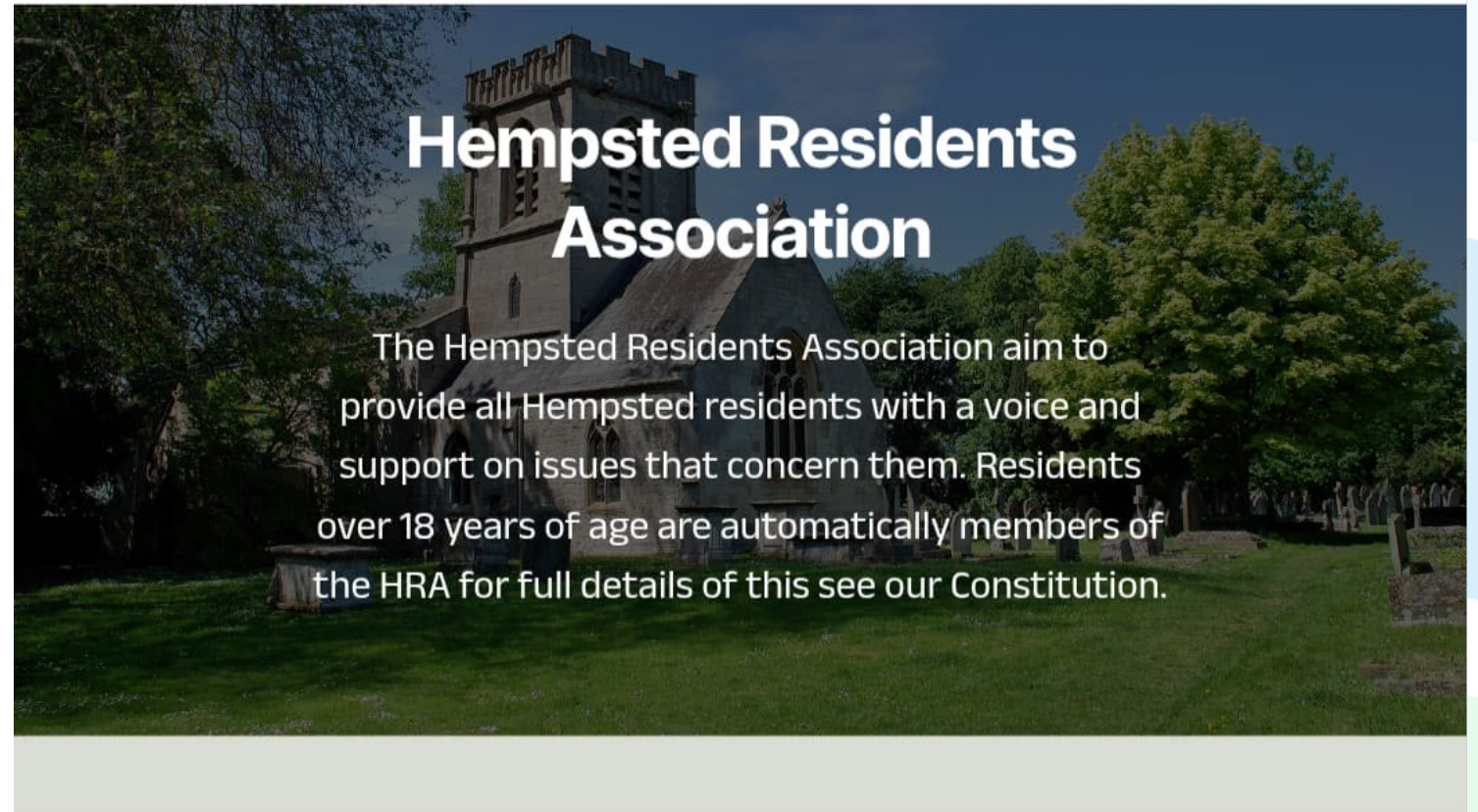
- New website and server
- Email system enhanced
- Media Policy review

- **Look forward**

- Include surveys, payment mechanisms to enhance engagement
- Increase accessibility - WCAG 2 standards for accessibility which is the same standards government websites



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Menu



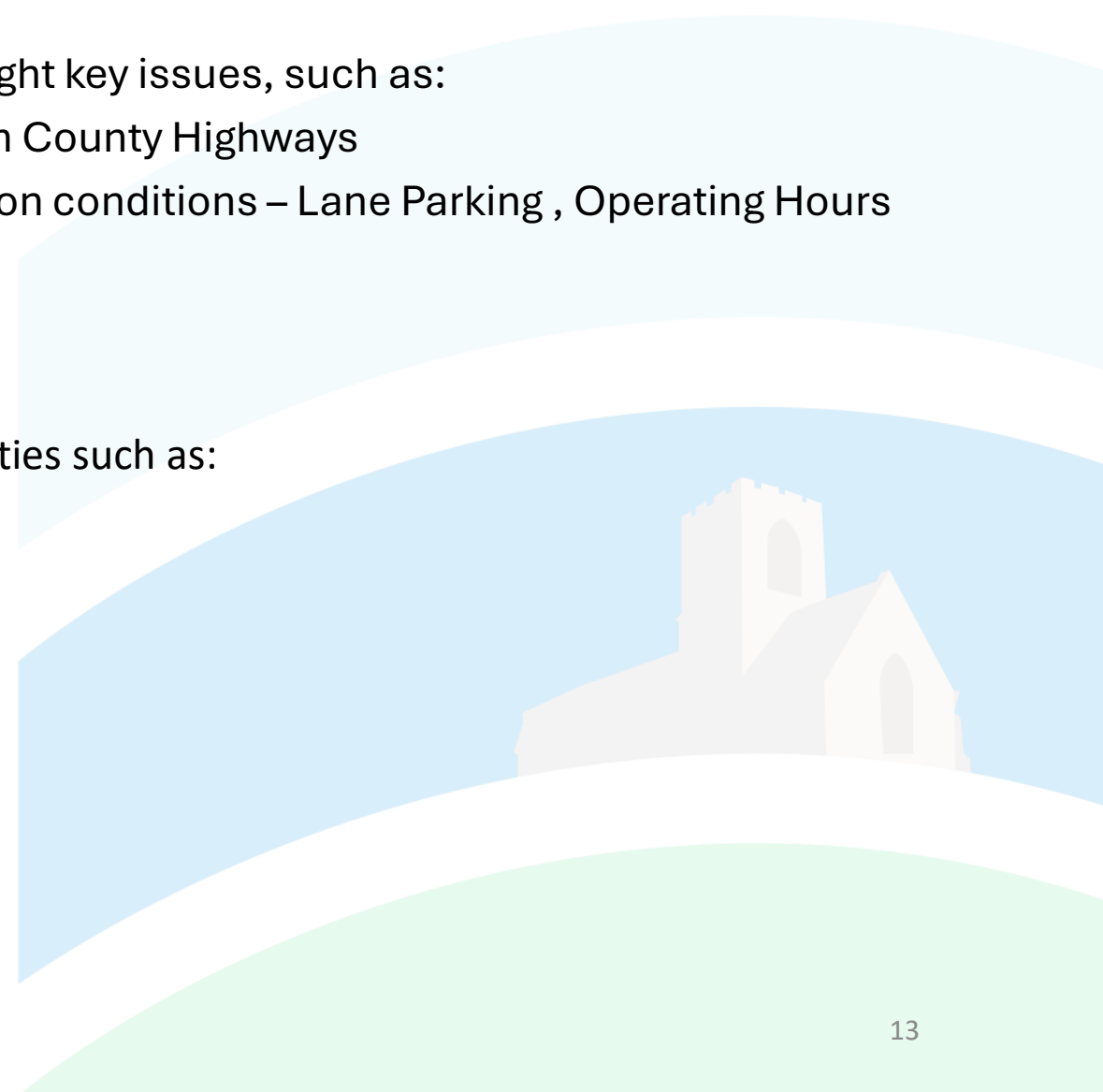
Project – Planning and Legislation

Working closely with Developers and Council(s) to highlight key issues, such as:

- Hempsted Bridge traffic lights safety review with County Highways
- Bellway compliance with the planning permission conditions – Lane Parking , Operating Hours
- Mud and hazards on roads
- Illegal parking blocking pavements and roads

Working with planning and oversight of key planning activities such as:

- 5G mast
- Permal Sound barriers
- Car boot site leasing



Project – Safety and Welfare

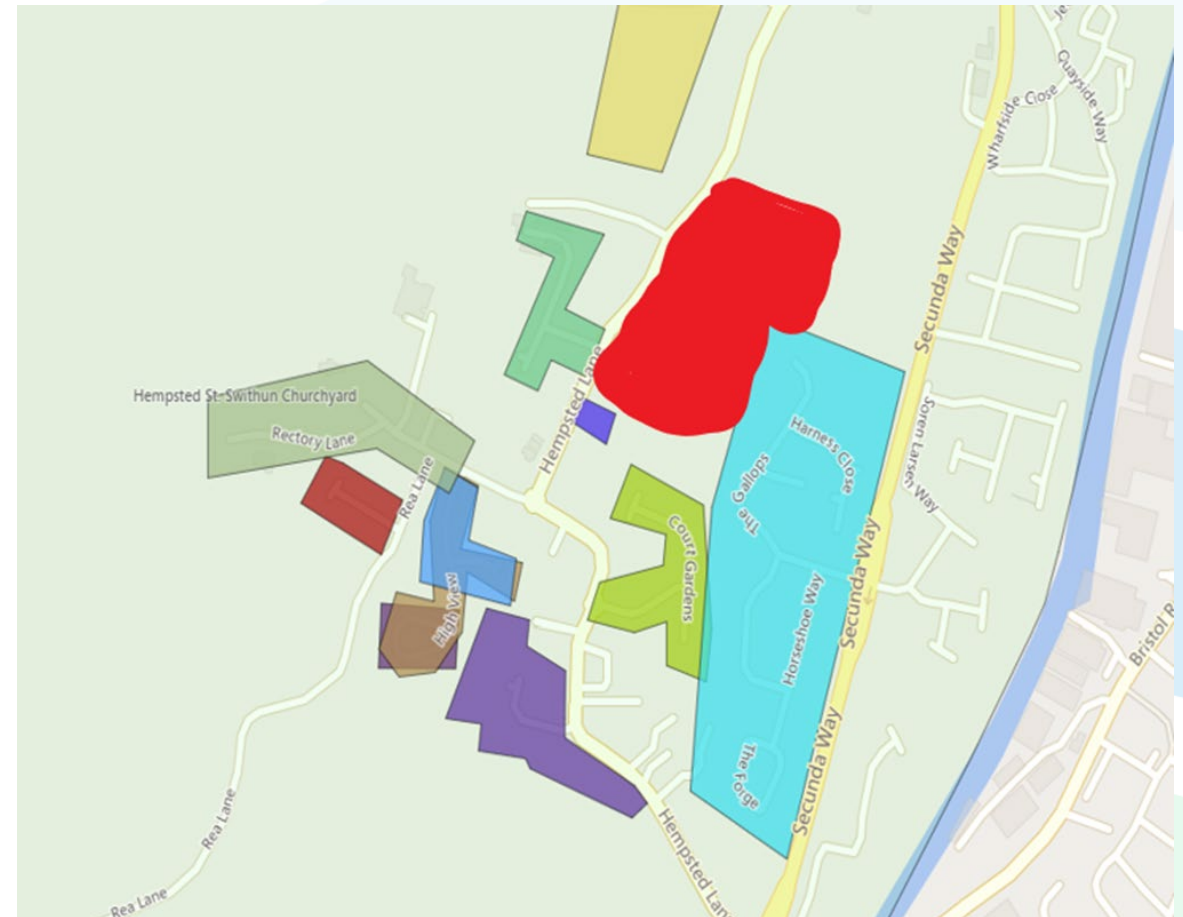
As a NHW coordinator I look after Ladywell Close, Newark Court and a few other properties close to my area . I have linked all the other NHW coordinators together in Hempsted.

If you are interested in joining a local NHW group or starting a new group in your area, then visit the NHW website below.

Please take a look the NHW website at:

www.ourwatch.org.uk

This is a map showing the areas presently covered by NHW:



Project – Safety and Welfare

- Key issue we have in Hempsted is speeding (3 accidents in the last 3 months)
 - Secunda way motorcyclist, Hempsted lane collision and Sainsbury carpark
- This is a problem both in the village (30mph) and the Secunda way (40mph)
- Secunda Way was visited 12 times in 2024
 - 141 speeding offences processed.
 - 14 seat belt offences processed.
 - 3 other offences recorded.

Project – Safety and Welfare

Crimes recorded in Hempsted

Data: comes under the Westgate ward which covers the city centre and the Quays!
so, the figures are not so true facts for our community.

Here are the true figures for Hempsted for this year:

Theft from shop:	31 (mostly Sainsburys)
Burglary residential:	02
Burglary business:	07
Robbery:	01
ASB:	54 (Inc. neighbour disputes, car meets, motorbikes/ tents on towpath, noise)
Theft from motor vehicle:	6
Criminal damage:	16 (including neighbour disputes and damage to motor vehicles)
Drugs:	25 (including dealing, but mostly personal use)

Project – Technologies - Broadband

Benefits
broadband
growth
job
economic

patterns applications platforms higher test results connections courses innovation seeking working movies kids loneliness lower social resources stay appointments consultations healthcare prescriptions incomes unemployment isolation touch reduce flexible employment education

openreach
Connecting you to your network



- Available early in 2026
- Starting work in October 2025
- Converting FTTC to FTTP
- Will share network



- Deemed unviable
- No longer coming



- Available early in 2026
- Finishing work in 2025
- Converting FTTC to FTTP

Project – Easements

- Trespassing on Farmer fields
- Path closures
- Rejuvenating land
- Land disputes (Sandlewood Green Gate)
- Bellway's Access to Hillside farm



Project – Development

Volunteers

- Initiative to combine volunteers to partners who need support

Support your Post office and Village Shop

- Help gave inside support staff
- Active communications of Post office arrangements
- Survey on how to improve the shop

Fun/ HRA Cup

- Judged the Social circles fancy dress

Support/ Social groups

- Sea Scouts access
- Womens Empowerment

Bin Campaign

- Moving some bins to better locations
- Increasing the size of well used bins
- Campaigning for new bins where there aren't any



Project – Community Champions

Objectives

- Supporting and promoting local community groups in the village
- Supporting a feeling of community in the village
- Supporting community-based events

Achievements

- Oktoberfest (raised enough to fund defib battery)
- Carols on the Quays (engaged with over 150 residents)
- Over 80 residents taking part in Quiz night at Gordon League
- 50% bookings for children's Easter Party on Easter Sunday

Future Plans

- More social events – quiz night/race night/bingo night
- Building connections with local clubs and community groups



Future

Working with local partners

- Councillors
- Canal & Rivers Trust
- Neighbourhood Watch and our PCSOs

Developing relationships

- Connecting with businesses within Hempsted (Village Shop, Gordon League, etc)
- Cross-partnerships work with Llanthony Secunda Priory

Promoting Hempsted

- Raising awareness of events
- Promoting our infrastructure (amenities and community groups)

Encouraging Engagement

- Keeping the community updated via the HRA website, Facebook and Parish Magazine

Active Members

- Recognising members with specialist knowledge

Partnership

Committed activities:

1150 volunteer hours, 7 key Projects, 2 volunteer days, 5 community engagements, 86 social media posts, 12 Parish magazine articles

Church – Support our church and a big thank you for community engagements such as: VE Day 80th, Festivals, food panty, and everything else!

Special Thanks:

MP & Councillors (past and present) – Mr Alex McIntrye MP, Pam, Howard and Rebecca

Police – Suzanne and team

GLRFC – Mary, Nigel, Alan

Parish Magazine – Terry, Don and team

Salvation Army for music at Carols on the Quays

Questions

15 minutes

Box at back for written questions

