

Parish Council Action Plan Report of St Ippolyts Parish Plan Committee April 2005

Background. This committee has a duty to continually monitor and review the implementation of the requirements of the Parish Council Action Plan. Meetings were held in September 2004 and February 2005 and further meetings are planned.

Cherish and preserve

Protection of the parish environment (timescale ongoing).

- The Council continues to respond to national and local government consultation / stakeholder documents and have responded robustly with objections to the East of England Plan.
- The Council also continues to watch over and respond to planning applications in the parish.

Conservation Area Appraisals: (timescale Autumn 2003-05 target ongoing).

- The volunteer co-ordinator has been unable to proceed as anticipated - timing adjusted

Village Design Statements: (timescale Autumn 2003-05 target not met)

- It was considered that the above appraisals should be completed first.

Travel

Review of public transport – buses: (timescale initial meeting to be arranged Autumn 2003 target met)

- Various issues have been raised about the bus connections, their frequency and timings and how the service could be improved. The discontinued bus service to St Ippolyts village is also missed. Requests have been made to Hertfordshire County Council and will be actively pursued.

Road safety

Review traffic issues etc: (timescale initial meeting to be arranged Autumn 2003 target met).

- Regular meetings take place at areas of concern with Hertfordshire Highways engineer.
- Bollards have been erected on London Road plus new footway at Post Office and St Ippolyts School.
- Improvements to former Gosmore pond area.
- Drainage work at Little Almshoe plus drainage work at Church Lane to take place shortly.
- Various items added to the 'Local issues list' such as pedestrian crossing on London Road, traffic calming in Gosmore and weed killing programme.

Routine maintenance is carried out; please use the **Customer Call Centre 01438 737320** for reporting highway matters.

Housing

- The Inquiry decision for the land west of Stevenage is awaited.
- **The Planning Panel of EERA (East of England Regional Authority) will meet on 22 June to consider a full analysis of the 26,000 plus responses and this will be made public. Later on this year an Examination in Public (EiP) will be carried out.** We will need to monitor the situation regarding additional housing.

Personal safety

Neighbourhood Watch coverage for the whole parish: (timescale Autumn 2003 target not met).

- The Broadmeadow Estate scheme is now fully functional
- The Blackhorse Lane area is unfortunately not yet covered by a scheme.
- A road co-ordinator for Millfield Lane is also needed.

If you are interested in either area please contact Angela Clark 01462 425033
Police non-emergency number is 0845 33 00 222

Review street lighting: (timescale 2003-05 target met)

- Survey completed - various faulty street lights (including those shrouded by branches) reported and all now working
No further action required at this time.

Facilities

Facilities enhance existing play areas: (timescale ongoing).

- Playground grant for £2,900 approved by North Hertfordshire District Council for proposed roundabout on the Recreation ground.
- It is considered that there will then probably be sufficient equipment on the recreation ground, and at Dellfield, and also at Gosmore Green, which is not a play area.
- When surveyed residents in the North Ward did not want playground equipment.

Promote existing facilities: (timescale ongoing)

- St Ippolyts Church and Parish Hall websites are www.stippolytschurch.co.uk and www.stippolytshall.co.uk
- Local clubs now promoted on Hertfordshire County Council website www.hertsdirect.org including the Bowls Club and the Football Club playing in the district Premier League.

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Attempt to start new groups: (timescale 2003-07).

- Daisy Chain a pre-school Art and Craft group meets at St Ippolyts Hall on Tuesday mornings.
- North Hertfordshire District Council ran four sessions for young people on the Recreation Ground during the school summer holiday and a three sessions during Easter.
- New youth group supported by the Youth Development team at North Hertfordshire District Council will be meeting at St Ippolyts Hall on Wednesday evenings (except the 3rd Wednesday), term time only from May.
- Volunteer is required to organise proposed Lunch Club assistants are already identified. If you are interested contact Ellie Titmuss 01462 434856.

Attempt to start Good Neighbour scheme:(timescale 2003-07)

- St Ippolyts PCC is unable to take on this activity. It is considered that no further action can be taken

New facilities: We are pleased to see that

- Kingshott School new building was open for young children in September 2004
- St Ippolyts School new hall and refurbishment was completed in December 2004
- The Council is investigating improvements to the Pavilion used by the Football Club.

Countryside and Environment

Organise litter pick days: (timescale April 2004 target met)

- **Next event will take place on Sunday 24 April at 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. meet at the Post Office Everyone welcome.**
For more information contact Sara White 01462 453920

Discourage fly tipping: (timescale summer 2003 target met for posters and publicity)

- Parish enhancement grant for £1000 was obtained and work successfully carried out by Bob Williams and Harry French on areas not covered by Service Team.
- Litter clearance by residents to look after their own area is also encouraged and effective.

Flytipping enforcement no **01462 474373** Removal **0800 3286023**

Enhance door-to-door service: (timescale ongoing)

- Part of the North Ward now covered by the North Hertfordshire District Council's brown bin scheme.
- No further progress with the proposed can collection

Parish composting and recycling facilities: (timescale 2003-07)

- Insufficient demand for these facilities within the parish.
- St Ippolyts Post Office has a shoe collection point.
- Hertfordshire County Council has a home compost bins offer.

Recycling enquiries **01462 474336** and for recycling facilities in local towns see www.wasteaware.org.uk

Provision of walks leaflet: (timescale 2003-2004 target not met)

- Work continuing and funding is available from Countryside Management Service for one further year.

General

Effective communication: (timescale ongoing)

- The Council has regular contact with various agencies and authorities
- Invites appropriate representatives to address Council meetings.
- Council representatives also attend meetings and workshops as required
- The use of email now commonplace and accepted.
- The Council publicizes activities on three notices boards and in other media.
- The Council welcomes residents and other interest parties to all meetings.

The Action Plan is a living document and a continuous process. Your input is welcomed.

Process and documents

Survey forms blank – Delivered to Residents, Businesses and Organisations

Draft Report

- * Final report presented at the Annual Meeting 2003
- * Summary Report circulated to all households May 2003
- * Parish Council Action Plan circulated to all households September 2003
- Annual report 2004 presented at the Annual Meeting 2004
- Info on website www.themawers.co.uk and in * Hitchin Library

Members of the Parish Plan Committee are:

David Mawer, Pam Skeggs, Brent Smith, William Steel, Ellie Titmuss, Pat Veasey, Sara White and Bob Williams