

## HITCHIN AREA COMMITTEE

18 March 2008

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**PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**AGENDA ITEM No.**

**A.1**

**TITLE OF REPORT: HITCHIN COMMUNITY SURGERY – 5 JANUARY 2008**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Page 1

**PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**AGENDA ITEM No.**

**A.2**

**TITLE OF REPORT: HITCHIN COMMUNITY SURGERY – 2 FEBRUARY 2008**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Page 2

**PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**AGENDA ITEM No.**

**A.3**

**TITLE OF REPORT: HITCHIN COMMUNITY SURGERY – 1 MARCH 2008**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

Page 4

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**TITLE OF REPORT: HITCHIN COMMUNITY SURGERY – 5 JANUARY 2008  
INFORMATION NOTE****REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

District Councillors: Judi Billing, Clare Body and Lawrence Oliver were in attendance assisted by Susanne Gow as Support Officer.

Six Hitchin residents and one St. Ippolyts resident attended the Surgery with **12** enquiries. These enquiries were passed to the Customer Services Centre for processing. The Customer Services Manager is requested to copy to Ward Councillors the responses sent to the surgery visitor.

**ENQUIRY**

- Request for information update regarding pedestrian crossing at junction of Crabbs Close and Old Park Road (two residents of Crabbs Close);
- Request for enforcement officers conduct a 'dawn raid' in St. John's Road to monitor on pavement parking;
- Request for enforcement officers to conduct a 'dawn raid' in Hampden Road to monitor on pavement parking;
- Request for relevant authorities to investigate very low seats in Garden of Rest adjacent to Church House and increase height of seat;
- High Street drains are blocked by tarmac used by contractors to make repairs to pavement;
- High Street rain gullies are broken;
- Complaint about the lack of plastic bottle collection OVER Christmas and New Year at bring banks; Brink Banks at St. Johns Road, Woodside, Walsworth and Woolgrove Road (West) overflowing and lots of bags and boxes adjacent to bring banks.
- Graffiti in many parts of Bearton Ward needs to be cleaned, also NHDC should advise BT of the need to cleanse the green junction boxes at street corners and footways;
- Could the Transport Policy Officer and the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport make the necessary enquiries and prepare a response to the enquiry;
- A visitor requested assistance in her search for suitable housing via NHH;
- Graffiti needs cleaning in Portmill Lane, Monks Way, West alley and the Hitchin Market Area;
- Pavement outside Rosebys in High Street needs repair.

**TITLE OF REPORT: HITCHIN COMMUNITY SURGERY – 2 FEBRUARY 2008  
INFORMATION NOTE****REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

District Councillors: Deepak Sangha, Martin Stears, Lawrence Oliver and Ray Shakespeare-Smith were in attendance assisted by Janette Smith as Support Officer.

Ten Hitchin residents and one Stevenage resident attended the Surgery with **20** enquiries. These enquiries were passed to the Customer Services Centre for processing. The Customer Services Manager is requested to copy to Ward Councillors the responses sent to the surgery visitor.

**ENQUIRY**

- Cadwell Lane resurfacing work is of a poor standard and not in accordance with Hertfordshire Highways commitment, nor as expected by the Cadwell Lane Task and Finish Group;
- The Land Allocation Consultation Document indicates that the railway sidings in the industrial area have been allocated for a sports ground (cricket or football). This is contrary to the Cadwell Lane Task and Finish Group recommendations that the sidings be allocated for scrap metal movement in and out of the scrap metal processing plant;
- Plastic recycling bring bank in Nightingale Road has been removed – why? And when in position was not emptied frequently enough (not even once a week);
- Insufficient supply of black and blue boxes to residents of St. Annes Court – please supply to all residents to ensure enough boxes, even if residents do not apply for such boxes;
- Too much industrial traffic using Cadwell Lane, a link road to the Stotfold Road is essential;
- Information requested on the retention of Transco site for possible rail link;
- Concern over state of roads in Hitchin, potholes in Walsworth Road and Hermitage Road;
- Gratings at bottom of Hollow Lane need attention – blocked;
- Is there a river warden? (Hiz?) – ‘river is a mess’;
- Graffiti on footpath from Windmill Hill to Highbury should be cleaned up and the litter is not collected;
- Large refuse bins outside Starbucks in Market Place are permanently outside – should be moved;
- Hitchin Town Centre retail outlets should keep their pavement areas clean and clear of rubbish;
- Regular updates on the proposed location for ROTW Festival in 2008;
- Request for Licensing Department to provide details of regulations to prevent unlicensed events on open fields, such as former Priory Park;
- Request for the timing at Pelican Crossing at Paynes Park to The Lairage to be increased – 30 seconds is too short for elderly people;
- Request for lockable bollards at all entrances to the Churchyard area in order to stop vehicles driving to shops as pavement is breaking;
- Request for pedestrian traffic light controlled crossing in Bancroft opposite Regal Court because vehicles are driven too fast along Bancroft. Dangerous for elderly people to cross the road;

- Why was Woodside Car Park taped off on Sat 2 February ?– more than one third closed;
- Visitor's daughter with cerebral palsey is on North Herts Homes and Howard Cottage housing registers. Currently in a Hampshire Twinning Housing Association. Applicant has points with NHH. Applicant would like to move to LGC to be much nearer her family.

**TITLE OF REPORT: HITCHIN COMMUNITY SURGERY – 1 MARCH 2008  
INFORMATION NOTE****REPORT OF THE HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**

District Councillors: Alison Ashley, Lawrence Oliver and Ray Shakespeare - Smith were in attendance assisted by Janette Smyth as Support Officer.

Six Hitchin residents and one Cockernhoe resident attended the Surgery with **13** enquiries. These enquiries were passed to the Customer Services Centre for processing. The Customer Services Manager is requested to copy to Ward Councillors the responses sent to the surgery visitor.

**ENQUIRY**

- Recycling boxes in Maxwells Path are not collected as per schedule and when they are the boxes are not placed where collected from. 'left in the middle of the road';
- Enquiry of expansion of Luton into North Hertfordshire and development of East Luton;
- Request for pedestrian crossing in Redhill Road near roundabout junction with Bedford Road and at Bearton Road also near roundabout junction with Bedford Road;
- Recently laid tarmac in Lylec Row is breaking up;
- Water mains leak at top of Kershaws Hill, passageway across to St. Johns Road;
- Water is ponding at pedestrian crossing in Hermitage Road;
- Request for details of next chewing gum removal campaign from Hitchin Town centre pedestrian areas and footways;
- Request for details of next painting of street furniture in Hitchin Town Centre;
- When will broken paving slabs, damaged gullies and sunken drain in high street be attended to?
- When will parking on pavements be prohibited in Hitchin?
- Request for details of introduction of part time enforcement to regulate evening parking in Hitchin Town Centre;
- Request for names of which Councillors will be attending the Community Surgery;
- Visitors to surgeries are not receiving any feedback or acknowledgement.