Hitchin ‘Special’ Town Talk

Thursday 5th September 2019

***Flipchart Notes***

Areas identified for discussion

* Aspiration for Hitchin
* Sites/whole town
* Communication
* Existing Businesses
* Transport
* Market
* Environment
* Public Realm
* Working Together

Aspirations

* Young people
* 21st Century Market Town
* Preserve and enhance uniqueness
* Improve sustainability of transport including links
* Food market
* Independents/pop-ups/start-ups
* Affordable housing
* Car parking- availability; pay on foot
* Culture

Sites

* Moss Corner
* Market Place
* River Hiz walkway
* Paynes Park
* Church House
* Market
* The Dell
* Churchgate
  + Potential for Council ownership
  + Importance of existing traders
  + Need for investment
    - Frontages
    - Lighting
  + Alternatives to retail
  + Enhance existing e.g. retro/antique

Market

* Covered
* Food
* Location/use of space
* Need for Investment
* Build on current strengths
* Go up-market
* Pop-ups
* Increase trading hours/days
* Serve all community

Transport

* Public transport- buses- location of stops
* Park and ride
* Divert commercial traffic-town centre-depot-hub and industrial area
* Pedestrianisation
* Speed limits
* Open up station
* Sustainability/linkages
* Cycle including a hire scheme; electric; council strategy
* Accessibility
* Bypass?
* Lift share
* Air quality

Working Together

* Take conversation wider