

HATFIELD PEVEREL PARISH COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

2022/23

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Chairman's Report

I would like to thank all my fellow councillors for all their hard work throughout the year. I would also like to extend an invitation to any residents of Hatfield Peverel who would like to get involved with Parish Council matters to contact Sarah Gaeta the Parish Clerk and register your interest. As I write this report I there are vacancies for councillors available. You can find Sarah's email address on the council's website.

After the Covid years life has changed for all of us; things still don't seem the same, even in our village there are still concerns about the risk of the Covid virus amongst the older and vulnerable, but with the vaccines and our better understanding of this virus gradually things will return to a new normality.

I would just like to take a few minutes to just give you a quick overview of the things the Parish Council has been doing for the community and the projects the councillors have been working on.

Play Equipment

You may have seen the plans for the new play equipment to go into the infant children's play area on the main recreation ground. This will refresh the area and offer new and exciting play and interactive equipment for our young residents, and a nice place for families to come and have fun with their young ones.

New Projects

After surveys conducted online and via voting slips, people expressed their views on several projects:

(i) Gym Equipment

We are installing gym equipment in the recreation ground. This will be free to use and help those who may not be able to use the local gyms in the area. We are hoping this will promote and encourage all ages to use the facility and improve people's fitness and wellbeing.

(ii) Tennis courts

The Parish Council has listened to your requests and from the survey it was shown you would like tennis facilities, so we have consulted with the Lawn Tennis Association and decided to install two courts near the car park on the recreation ground. These will be operated through a booking system giving everyone a chance to play tennis.

How can we afford to do this work?

Housing developers must contribute toward improvements within the village. This funding is referred to as Section 106 monies. Every year we must update the Open Spaces Action Plan with what we would like to spend this money on, then put forward the projects for approval to Braintree District Council.

We have a team of councillors who will talk about all the different areas the council gets involved in within this report, and at the Annual Parish Meeting, so please come along, walk round and ask questions - and maybe get involved!

Just before I go, I'd like to thank all our councillors for the time and effort they put in. It is an unpaid role, so again many thanks to them and the volunteers on the working parties and advisory groups.

A special thanks also to Sarah and Carly for all the hard work they do for council.

Councillor Mark Weale - Chairman of Hatfield Peverel Parish Council

Environment Advisory Group Report

The EAG is tasked to consider those environmental concerns that affect us in Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley. We have been a group of councillors, including an interested member of the public, who have met each month to try and resolve these issues. As well as myself, we have Cllrs Diane Wallace, David Broddle and Marel Elliston, and the people's representative, Lesley Moxhay. Lesley is also the Tree Warden for the village. I am pleased to report that, since June, we have been joined by the new Urban Wildlife Champion – Donna Goddard. You will find a separate report from her later in this report telling you more about this new role. My thanks go to them all for volunteering their knowledge and services for the good of our parish.

It has been a quiet year for the group, with no major projects to report on. Note that there will be some major changes planned for the recreation ground later on this year. These will include the purchase of multi-play equipment for the youngsters, and adult gym equipment for the more mature residents. The area around the duck pond requires on-going maintenance. We are pleased to see that most of the flowers that were put in last year have survived, and have started to bloom again this year. Unfortunately, so have the nettles and brambles! They need to be kept on top of.

Cllr Diane Wallace has organised more working parties during the year. This included clearing the vegetation growth on the boundary of Hadfelda Place and Stone Path Meadow last autumn. It appears to have crowded out some of smaller saplings that had been planted. The working party went back to the area this spring and filled the gaps in the hedge with new saplings. She has also planted some Oak saplings. The one at The Green has a plaque commemorating the late Queen's jubilee.

We continue to tackle those day-to-day problems to ensure our village looks tidy and attractive. Areas covered during the year included:

- Attending to dangerous or dying trees and the cutting back/down of encroaching vegetation. Most of the work last year was fairly routine. Note that we can only deal with trees that are on Parish Council land! Can any owners who have hedges bordering on the footpaths within the village please ensure that surplus vegetation is kept trimmed back. This does not only apply to our country walks, but also to those hedges alongside our pavements.
- Refurbishing and renovation of the playground equipment at both the rec and the Nounsley play area. This is an ongoing issue. Health and Safety has to be paramount. Notable repairs carried out this year include putting new boards on the Nounsley Rocking Horse, as well as putting safety matting down on the roundabout.
- Refurbishment and installation of benches. The habitual users of the rec should have spotted three new benches. They have been strategically placed so that those of us that like to walk around the perimeter of the rec, are able to rest at regular intervals. We have very recently arranged for this path to be widened to its original dimension. Ramblers can now walk four abreast without getting their shoes muddy, should they wish.
- Purchase of both litter bins and dog waste bins. We bought some of the more jokey "No Trespooping" signs. They are slightly quirky, but they achieved the desired notice of being spotted. Whether some of the more irresponsible dog owners will now pick up after their dogs, is debateable. Two new sites for dog bins were at The Vineyards, and at Sorrells Field. We will also be buying some new signs asking that dog owners clean up after their pooches.

Most of the above duties are carried out by our handymen, David and Damon Wallace. We must thank them for their hard work and dedication in keeping our parish looking so pleasant. I know that they often carry out work, over and above, what is expected of them. A mention should also go out to our litter pickers. Please make their jobs easier by either taking your litter home with you, or by using the litter bins provided.

If you can think of any improvements regarding the environment, or facilities, within the parish, then please let our Clerk know. Who knows, the P.C. might be able to do something about it!

Councillor Ted Munt

Traffic Advisory Group Report

The TAG has met just three times during the past year, two of which were attended by one Parish Councillor and the co-opted Chair. The Group has lost two members through resignations and several meetings had to be cancelled owing to non-availability of the remaining members through personal circumstances. However, the business of the TAG has been maintained through email and telephone discussions.

We have continued to utilise the seven Speed Indicator and Vehicle Activated signs owned by the Parish Council, moving them at 3/4 monthly intervals around the 13 approved locations within the village. We have also had the benefit of the ECC owned VAS unit which has now been at The Green for some twelve months. With support from ECC Cllr Louis we are also pressing to have the VAS unit located near Crix repaired given that it reinforces the 50mph speed limit on the approach to the village from Boreham.

We continue to be involved in numerous traffic, speed, highway and parking issues, particularly (but not exclusively) in relation to the various new housing developments. The applications covering traffic calming measures in Station Road and Church Road (in the vicinity of the schools) and also for additional speed warning signs on all entrance roads to Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley, continue to make their way through the Local Highways Panel process. We have received support from ECC for speed control measures in Maldon Road in the vicinity of Letches Corner and the various bends and ECC Cllr Louis has applied through the LHP to have the speed limit on this stretch of highway reduced to 40mph. Consideration is being given to a possible application to North Essex Parking Partnership for an extension to the yellow line restrictions at the junction of New Road and Maldon Road.

We have made numerous reports, to ECC and BDC, in respect of potholes, defective streetlights, missing road signs and broken drain covers, and have followed up directly with the County Councillor responsible for Highways Maintenance and Sustainable Transport in cases where we believe that an incorrect assessment has been made of the seriousness of the issue, or where we feel that remedial action has been unduly delayed. However, ECC budget constraints have meant that the number of defects reported continues to rise faster than the number of cases successfully closed, despite the reporting of at least ten major defects through the ECC Councillors' Priority Pothole Scheme.

Representation at meetings on ECC's Local Area Transport groups has been re-established, following the suspension of all such meetings during the pandemic.

We remain in discussions with ECC with a view to them assuming responsibility for three footways in the village which are currently not formally recognised as such. This would ensure their future repair and maintenance by ECC. However, progress remains painfully slow despite regular requests for updated reports.

A contract has been awarded locally for the refurbishment of the four Parish Council owned bus shelters and this work should be undertaken during the next 3/4 months, weather permitting. Research into the possibility of installing electric car charging points in Hadfelda Square car park has been put on hold, owing to the lack of available resources within the TAG.

Ongoing work includes research into the possibility of using a new type of speed camera (Tru-Cam) in the village, installation of cycle racks at the village hall and participation in the "20's Plenty" national campaign for villages.

Finally, the TAG has played, and will continue to play, a key role in discussions with National Highways and ECC on the proposals to widen the A12. We continue actively to press for inclusion of a road from the new J21 to take Maldon bound traffic away from the village and from Maldon Road in particular. We are particularly grateful to ECC Cllr Louis for ensuring that this issue remains high on the ECC Highways agenda.

Thanks go to all members of the TAG over the past year, and those who have assisted with issues that have arisen. Their help and support has been invaluable and greatly appreciated

John Cockell, Chairman of TAG

Community Land Report

Stone Path Meadow

During the past year, the Parish Council Environment Advisory Group has worked with Essex Wildlife Trust to agree a management plan for the community land at Stone Path Meadow. The land is now being managed as wildflower meadows.

We have been observing the wildflowers growing in the meadows during the past year and hope that the new management regime will enable more species to self-seed, and thrive during the coming years.

A group of volunteers weeded between the new hedging which borders Hatfield Place and planted further whips where some of the previously planted whips had died during the hot and dry summer. This will need to be carried out again shortly.

The trees in the meadow have been surveyed by Place Services and the recommended management actions are to be implemented.

The pathway between the meadow adjoining Hatfield Place and the meadow adjoining the attenuation basin of the new development which had become very boggy during the winter months has kindly been piped and boarded by Bellway developers to make access easier for walkers. The Environment Advisory Group would like to thank the Site Manager for dealing with this so quickly.

Donna Goddard

Urban Wildlife Champion and member of the Parish Council's Environment Advisory Group

Community Park Report

Difficulties experienced while attempting to obtain an accurate registration of the Community Park site as held by the Parish Council have been resolved and the registration application has now been processed by the Land Registry.

The working party has produced a vision statement to be used as a guide in developing a long-term management plan for the site capable of meeting the varied needs identified.

The group have engaged with Essex Wildlife Trust seeking help in gaining knowledge of the status of habitats and wildlife currently present on the site.

Assistance from similar advisory groups will be sought in making assessments of other natural assets on the site and creating appropriate management strategies for them.

Correct registration of the site is seen as a major step forward which can be built on in the coming year.

Mike Renow, Chairman of the Community Park Working Group

Wildlife Champion Report

Wildlife Initiatives

The Parish Council and its Environment Advisory Group has embraced and supported various wildlife initiatives through Essex Wildlife Trust's "Urban Wildlife Champion" and "Wilder Towns, Wilder Villages" projects during the past year.

The Parish and District Councils have agreed to pilot a wildflower mini-meadow on Laburnum Way beside the duck pond to give bees and other insects more places to feed and rest while doing their important work pollinating flowers, plants and crops. We hope to see increased variety of colourful native wildflowers in the mini meadow that will be attractive to residents and insects alike. If successful, we hope that further mini meadows can be created throughout the village making a wildlife corridor to enable insects and other wildlife to move more easily around the village.

The Parish Council applied for and obtained funding from the Essex Association of Local Councils for a wildlife garden in the village cemetery. A group of willing volunteers from the village braved the winter weather to plant bulbs and wildflower plugs in the cemetery new wildlife garden area. We have seen snowdrops and bluebells starting to grow, and are excited to see other wildflowers in the coming months. The local Cub Scout group have built bird, owl, bat and bee boxes for the cemetery which will be installed in the wildlife garden very soon.

We invited Essex Wildlife Trust and the Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group to view potential sites on Council and local farmland to see where wildlife ponds might be restored.

We have drafted an Environmental Policy for Hatfield Peverel Parish Council which will soon be considered by the Council. Once the policy has been agreed, we will develop a "Wilder Village Plan" to progress the wildlife related objectives from the Environmental Policy. Some of the objectives are challenging and we hope that this plan will evolve through the coming months and years to keep us busy making Hatfield Peverel a wilder and happier place for people, for wildlife and for our planet.

Donna Goddard

Urban Wildlife Champion and member of the Parish Council's Environment Advisory Group

NDP Executive Committee Report

Work continued through the last year to review the Hatfield Peverel Neighbourhood Plan made in December 2019.

In March 2023 the revised plan was the subject of a six-week Regulation 14 consultation period.

The main changes made to the original plan relate to new and updated policies and a review of the development boundary following recent development activity. The plan period is also extended to 2038.

New documents were added to the evidence base supporting the current and new policies in the plan.

NEW & UPDATED POLICIES

New Policies have been added or updated to address coalescence, heritage assets, enhance housing policies and ensure air quality is given appropriate consideration in and around the built area of the parish.

NEW DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARIES

The HPNDP update extends Hatfield Peverel and Nounsley's development boundaries to accommodate approved planning applications and remove inconsistencies to ensure clarity for decision making.

Once responses to the recent consultation have been collated and the plan updated again to accommodate comments where appropriate, it will be submitted to Braintree District Council to arrange for independent examination, following which, with amendments made by the examiner, it can proceed to a referendum for adoption as part of the local Plan.

Thanks are due to the team and all who helped to progress the project over the last year.

Councillor Mike Renow

Section 106 Report

On determination of Planning Applications in the village for the old Arla site in Station Road, Sorrells Field and Bury Farm in Bury Lane, Stone Path Drive and Gleneagles Way, the developers entered into Section 106 Agreements with Braintree District Council covenanting to pay contributions to add to or to improve facilities in the Parish including Outdoor Sports, Play Space, Allotments, Community Buildings and Public Rights of Way. The trigger point for contributions which are payable to Braintree District Council are based on number of bedrooms and occupations of new properties. As you are no doubt aware all five developments are in the course of construction or indeed finished, and Braintree District Council currently hold monies which are now available to use.

A Section 106 Working Party under the Parish Council was formed to manage the contributions. Members include Councillors David Broddle, Charley Dervish, Marel Elliston, Ted Munt, Mike Renow, Lin Shaw, Diane Wallace, Mark Weale, John Cockell (Chair of the Traffic Advisory Group) Ken Earney and Richard Allston (Parish Footpath Representatives) and Lesley Moxhay (Environment Advisory Group).

An initial meeting was held with Braintree District Council (BDC) at the end of November 2021 to discuss how the process works, and regular meetings have since been held with BDC during 2022/2023. The Working Party has also held regular meetings including site visits with various suppliers and consultants.

Surveys were carried out within the community in 2022 in relation to:

1. Outdoor Sports which included a tennis court facility, adult gym equipment, running track around the Strutt Memorial Ground, and cross-country track at the proposed Community Park. These projects were nominated by the community during the course of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) engagement back in 2015/16, and were included in the NDP under the Non-Statutory Planning Community Action Plan, and also in the Open Spaces Action Plan. Developers and BDC look to the Open Space Action Plan for agreeing S106 contributions.
2. Play Equipment at Strutt Memorial Ground and Nounsley Playing Field

The surveys were available on the Parish Council website, social media sites and hard copies in the Library and Community Cafe at the Village Hall. Information was given in The Review, and also updates at each monthly Parish Council meeting.

Results of the Outdoor Sports survey showed adult gym equipment and a tennis court facility were popular. Therefore, a further survey was carried out in relation to types of outdoor fitness equipment that the community felt was needed.

Members of the Working Party also engaged with the Doctors surgery on the equipment needed for rehabilitation and building up strength following illness or operations.

Contact was made with various suppliers of tennis courts and outdoor fitness equipment to obtain information and quotation.

A design of the gym area was provided and agreed.

Surveys were also carried out within the community for play equipment, and members of the Working Party met with the Brownies, Guides and Cubs to look at play equipment they would like to have in their play areas.

Again, contact was made with suppliers of play equipment. A design of the infant play area and junior play equipment was provided for Strutt Memorial. At this point in time a design was also prepared for Nounsley Playing Field but in view of BDC not holding all of the play space contributions, it was agreed to put on hold this project until later in the year or next year.

Application was made to BDC to proceed with the Strutt Memorial Project for gym and play equipment, and the Parish Council was given the go ahead. The tender process was followed, and Kompan was awarded the contract. It is hoped that work will begin early July to be able to complete the installation ready for the summer holiday.

A lot of thought, discussions and site meetings have also taken place regarding the tennis court facility over the last year. The Parish Council agreed that a double court facility with floodlights should be provided on the Strutt Memorial Ground. It was also agreed a consultant should be engaged to oversee the project from start to finish. The tender process was followed and the contract awarded. A site meeting recently took place with the consultant who is now in the process of designing the courts.

As flood lights are proposed, Planning Permission will need to be obtained.

Meetings have taken place with representatives of the Allotment Association which are ongoing regarding improvements to the Old and New Sites in Church Road. It is anticipated that application to BDC for new fencing with access gates at the Old Site will be made in the not too distant future.

The Community Building contribution will be welcomed by the Village Hall Management Committee for improvements to the village hall when BDC are in receipt of such contributions.

The Public Rights of Way Representatives are currently identifying footpaths in the Parish that need improvements, and are in discussion with ECC and also contractors to obtain quotations for work that is needed to some of our footpaths using S106 contributions for PRoW.

There is a time frame for expenditure of all the monies and a process to follow through with BDC. Consultations, discussions and decisions will be on going during the course of 2023/24 with the aim to start work on each of the projects as soon as possible to benefit the community.

Thank you to all members of the Working Party, BDC and to the staff for all their work carried out so far to bring forward these projects.

Councillor Diane Wallace

Parish Paths Partnership representative (P3) report

Since the autumn of the current year Richard Alston has taken over from me as Parish Footpath Warden so this report is a joint effort. However, I continue to be responsible for progressing activities to deal with the Section 106 property developer funding for public rights of way improvements.

1 Parish Paths Partnership (P3) scheme

This scheme seems to be morphing into a DIY exercise by individual parishes and special interest groups like the Ramblers and a number of others. Some of us previously involved in our local volunteer working group continue to take action on particular problems they identify as they see the need and are able to do so. However, support from ECC Highways is difficult to secure and it's likely that the cuts to local authority funding of recent years by central government have much to do with this.

We currently have no local area ECC Footpaths Inspector; our very supportive Nicky Coleman was redeployed early this year (2023) to a neighbouring district and interviews are underway to recruit her replacement, so until that individual is in post, we have no local ECC contact.

2 FP4 - extension of path from The Street via Bennett Way, New Road to FP18 (Cutts Close to the Rec')

As reported last year, the parish needs the entire length of this key village path to acquire permanent legal protection, and to ensure it is maintainable at public expense by ECC. Currently only the length from The Street to the northern arm of the Bennett Way cul-de-sac has this status, appearing on the county Definitive Map as FP4.

John Cockell (TAG chair) reports that Eastlight Community Housing Ltd (ECHL) has recently dedicated the remaining two sections of path for takeover by ECC, ultimately to be added to the Definitive Map.

Although not an issue for ECHL it is vital that the short length (20m approx.) of path between numbers 14 and 16 Laburnum Way be added as the ultimate southerly extension of FP4. Its surface is in an appalling state and desperately needs attention. This is an 'orphaned' portion of the Hey and Croft development of the '70s but Hey and Croft no longer exist so it has been put to ECC Highways that since they have responsibility for maintaining all of the surrounding roads and footways, they must ultimately accept responsibility for this, but there will clearly be a legal process to be gone through before the matter can be resolved!

3 FP43 Stone Path Meadow

Development is under way on the site within a boundary fence bordering the path. The original historic York flagstones have now been relaid along the original line of the path in front of the new houses facing Stone Path Drive and can now be walked.

4 Public Rights of Way improvements under Section 106 agreements

Resulting from development approvals granted to developers within the parish, they entered into Section 106 agreements with Braintree District Council, covenanting to pay contributions to add to or to improve a number of our facilities. Some of this money has been allocated for public rights of way improvements. Three paths have so far been identified for attention:

4.1 FP18 - Cutts Close to The Rec' *(for more recent residents of the village, the park)*

Repairs to its crumbling 120m of ditch side edging and surface repairs at 9 locations along a total length of 150m. The potential cost of the necessary work means that it has to put out to competitive tender. A first contractor has submitted a detailed specification and quote; a further two are to be sought.

4.2 FP7 - Church Road to Sportsmans Lane

An outline solution measure for winter flooding of the section from Church Road to the lower kissing gate - a short drainage channel between the gate and an adjacent field ditch - will be put shortly to a first contractor once the landowner responsible for the field ditch has given consent.

4.3 FP34 - A12 underpass to Terling Hall Road - levelling of the surface of the length beside the railway embankment from the Ter to Terling Hall Road *(subject of a number of complaints by walkers since the diversion)*. Doubts have arisen over the value of further progressing this issue. It depends in part on the money still available after that for FP18 and FP7 has been committed.

One portion of this funding is required to be allocated for a parish map display showing the public rights of way to sited within the new housing on the old Sorrells Field site.

Once costs of the tasks have been established we will know what other needs could be considered within the allocated sum.

5 Nine Walks around Hatfield Peverel

The online version in PDF format of Catherine Voysey's booklet "Nine Walks around Hatfield Peverel" is now available on the parish council's website. Anyone finding anything misleading or inaccurate is asked to refer it in the first instance to parish clerk Sarah Gaeta.

6 Deadline for recording historic rights of way has been reinstated DEFRA

I reported here last year that DEFRA had decided to repeal the 2026 cut-off date for registering historic rights of way (HROW) as set out in the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW). This has been rescinded but the deadline will be extended from 1 January 2026 to 1 January 2031.

Ken Earney, Parish Paths Partnership (P3) representative, Hatfield Peverel

My name is Richard Alston and as Ken has said I have volunteered to take over as Footpath Warden for the parish. Ken continues to provide his knowledge and history of the various pathways. I will now be your primary contact for any issues and look forward to progressing the many improvements currently planned.

Richard Alston, Parish Paths Partnership (P3) representative, Hatfield Peverel

Heritage Report

DETAILS

Margaret Freeman, Heritage Warden for Hatfield Peverel Parish Council has worked/continues to work on the following during 2022/23:

PARISH COUNCIL

Attended Parish Council meetings; liaised with the parish clerk and councillors; engaged with the Neighbourhood Development Plan Group of which the Heritage Warden is also a co-opted member); and worked collaboratively with organisations, groups and residents across the parish.

LOCAL HERITAGE LIST PROJECT 2021/22

In May 2021 the Neighbourhood Development Plan Group instructed the Heritage Warden to compile a local heritage list for the parish of Hatfield Peverel. The Parish Council agreed to this in June 2021. A talented group of history researchers (a temporary/informal History Group) assisted with the task.

The aim of the Local Heritage List Project was/is to identify and research old buildings, structures, sites and features across the parish. The project centres on asset types considered 'at risk' due to the absence of a statutory grade I, grade II* or grade II designation.

The objective is to generate a local list of non-designated heritage assets (NDHAs). A local list informs the evidence base of the Neighbourhood Development Plan's re-instated Heritage policy. Funding was secured through ECC Locality Fund; BDC Councillors' Grant Scheme; and Hatfield Peverel Parish Council. ECC Place Services was commissioned by the Parish Council to assess and determine asset types that merit inclusion on a local list of non-designated heritage assets (NDHAs).

In September 2022 a historic buildings consultant from ECC Place Services conducted a site visit of the whole parish. The aim was to assess and determine whether asset types (nominated or not nominated) successfully met the criteria of non-designated heritage asset (NDHA) status in terms of:

Age; authenticity; rarity; aesthetic/architectural value; group value; archaeological interest; historic association; designed landscape; landscape/townscape status; and social/communal value.

An independent observer from Historic England joined the exercise. The Heritage Warden and two members of the NDP Group also observed.

In November 2022 ECC Place Services issued its final report called *Local Heritage List 2021/22, Hatfield Peverel Parish*. The following list of non-designated heritage assets (NDHAs) is proposed by Place Services for adoption by the Parish Council and Braintree District Council:

Springfield House; Milepost 35; Railway Station; Library; The Methodist Church; Walnut Tree Cottage; Milepost 34; Crix Lodge; Cardfields and Cardfields Lodge; York Flagstone Footpath; The Cross Keys PH; K6 Telephone Kiosk; Trinity Memorial Gateway; Cold War Nuclear Monitoring Post/ROC Post/Orlit Post; Nightingales; Stuarts; Former Telephone Exchange; Urban Cottages; The Sportsmans Arms; Water Pump; Bovingtons Farmhouse.

HATFIELD PEVEREL NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

In January 2023 the *Local Heritage List 2021/22, Hatfield Peverel Parish* (report) underwent a health check by Intelligent Plans. This was deemed necessary as the report by ECC Place Services is an evidence document of the revised Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP).

From 3rd March until 14th April 2023, the *Local Heritage List 2021/22, Hatfield Peverel Parish* (report) went out for Regulation 14 Consultation stage of the revised NDP.

On 20th March 2023 and 11th April 2023 respectively, the Heritage Warden attended two Community Drop-in events as part of the Regulation 14 Consultation stage of the revised NDP. The Heritage Warden answered parishioners' queries and attempted to address concerns raised by certain interested parties.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Heritage Warden has:

Made representations regarding planning applications where listed building (LBC) consent is a consideration.

Attended meetings with developers regarding planning applications where Heritage is a consideration.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT

The Heritage Warden has:

Attended meetings with managers, civil engineers and consultants regarding the A12 Chelmsford to A120 Colchester Widening Project.

Attended some hearings of the A12 Chelmsford to A120 Colchester Widening examination ie preliminary meeting; open floor sessions; and issue specific hearing.

FINANCE

Heritage Warden has been:

Accountable to the Parish Clerk & RFO regarding the allocation of money to the Heritage budget.

YORK FLAGSTONE PATH

The Heritage Warden has:

Liaised with the developer regarding retention of the historic York Flagstones, land off Stone Path Drive.

Organised interpretive signage for the historic York Flagstones Path with the assistance of a member of the former History Group.

Helped to ensure that the York Flagstone Path was successfully re-instated by the developer.

Helped to ensure that the interpretive signage (lectern and panel) was installed.



Unveiling of interpretive signage for the York Flagstone Path, Land Off Stone Path Drive, 12th October 2022
Councillor Mark Weale (Chairman, Parish Council);
Margaret Freeman (Heritage Warden);
& Scott Mangham (Site Manager)



Section of the re-instated York Flagstone Path,
Land Off Stone Path Drive

Liaised with the developer regarding naming of adjacent play area on a Heritage theme ie 'Stone Path Play Area'.

ARCHIVING

Heritage Warden's box contains:

Primary documents - eg historical papers and old photographs - that parishioners believe need to be preserved for future generations.

Secondary textbooks - eg scholarly textbooks - that contribute to parishioners' understanding of Hatfield Peverel's local history.

Note: Work is ongoing and involves scanning documents and uploading them to the Heritage Google Drive. The Heritage Warden informs parishioners that their documents be digitised and uploaded to the Parish Council's Heritage Google Drive. The hard copy then needs to be deposited at Essex Record Office. The Parish Council cannot offer a permanent secure depository for donated historical documents. Depositing such archives at the Essex Record Office means that such items will be centralised in a secure facility - available *in perpetuity* for parishioners to consult.

REMEMBRANCE

The Heritage Warden worked collaboratively with organisations, personnel and venues across the parish to deliver:

'Knit a poppy for Remembrance', at the Library, 14th September 2022.

'The Trinity Memorial Gateway', talk by the Heritage Warden about evacuees from Wood Green, North London during WW2, at the Library, 22nd October 2022.

'Launch of the Poppy Appeal Boxes', distributed by poppy collectors of the Royal British Legion, 27th October 2022.

'Service to mark the beginning of the period of Remembrance', commemoration of the Tommy soldier, service led by the Heritage Warden, Scout and Guides and Royal British Legion representative in attendance, outside the Village Hall, 29th October 2022.

'Hatfield Peverel's Heroes of the Great War, 1914-1918', a talk by the Heritage Warden for the Every Members Club, at the Village Hall, 9th November 2022.

'Remembrance Sunday', service at St Andrew's Church, 13th November 2022.



Maria Willingale (Librarian) and Margaret Freeman dressed in 1940s costume, Trinity Memorial Gateway, Remembrance talk at the Library, 22nd October 2022



Trinity Memorial Gateway replica draped in knitted poppies, Remembrance display at the Library, November 2022

FAMILY HISTORY

The Heritage Warden has:

Answered queries from parishioners researching their family histories.

Attended Family History Afternoon tutorial sessions run by a parishioner at the Library.

METAL DETECTORISTS

The Heritage Warden has:

Liaised with two metal detectorists who hope to detect on Stone Path Meadow, Summer 2023.

Liaised with Parish Council's Wildlife Champion and Environment Advisory Group to mutually formulate conditions that apply to metal detecting on Stone Path Meadow.

ARTICLES

List of Heritage publications on behalf of the Parish Council:

Rowland, J 'Delving beyond the bricks at new local heritage exhibition' in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (June 2022) p 17.

Shaw, L 'Cardfields - past and present' in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (June 2022) pp 10-11.

Shaw, L; Freeman, M; Peter, H; and Rowland, J 'How buildings change over time' in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (August 2022) p 7.

Freeman, M 'A history tour of St Andrew's Parish Church', (August 2022).

Freeman, M 'Historic path unveiled' in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (October 2022) p 9.

Freeman, M 'Parishioners reflect on two World War in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (December 2022) pp 20-21

Freeman, M 'Borrowing and retuning books - a little history' in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (February 2023) p 9

Freeman, M 'Celebrating our local heritage' in *Hatfield Peverel Review* (April 2023) p 11.

TRAINING

The Heritage Warden has:

Attended 'Roundtable, Rebuilding Heritage, past participants', delivered by Heritage Alliance, 5th September 2022.

Attended 'Retrofit Fundamentals', webinar about retrofit and energy efficiency of historic buildings, provided by Historic England, 7th March 2023.

Completed and passed 'House History' course, studies in research methodology provided by Past Search, October 2022-May 2023, (self-funded).

EDUCATION

Members of the former History Group who worked on the Local Heritage List 2021/22 visited the Infant School, chatted with the pupils about Hatfield Peverel's local history and built environment, 13th July 2022.

CELEBRATION

A tour of St Andrew's Church, grade II* historic building, took place on 28th June 2022. A site visit to thank the temporary History Group volunteers for their hard work on the Local Heritage List 2021/22 Project.



L-r: Councillor Lin Shaw; Councillor Diane Wallace; Val Doyle; Helen Peter; John Strange (Churchwarden); and Margaret Freeman

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sincere gratitude is expressed to Sarah Gaeta (parish clerk); Carly Truman (assistant clerk); ECC Councillor Derrick Louis; BDC Councillor Charley Dervish; BDC Councillor Darren White; parish councillors; The National Archives; Essex Record Office; Hatfield Peverel Library; editors of *The Review*; and the NDP group. A special mention to the former History Group volunteers who worked on the Local Heritage List 2021/22: Councillor Lin Shaw; Helen Peter; Jennifer Rowland; Valerie Doyle; Colin Moore; and Kevin Gallifant (former parish councillor). The Heritage Warden pays tribute to parishioners who share their knowledge of Hatfield Peverel's treasured history and past.

Margaret Freeman, Heritage Warden and Co-opted Member of the Neighbourhood Development Plan Executive Committee

Financial Report

On 31st March 2023, the Parish Council carried over £368,982.24 into the new financial year, with reserves broken down as follows:

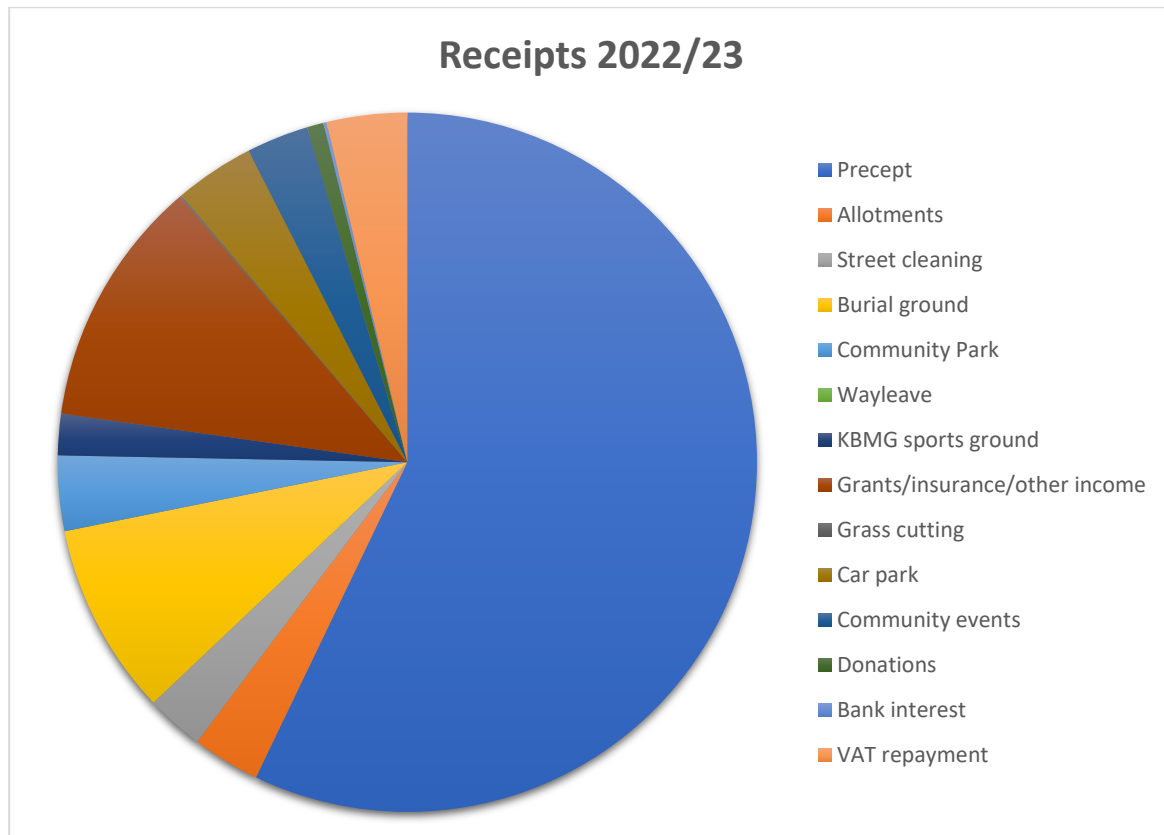
Earmarked reserves:

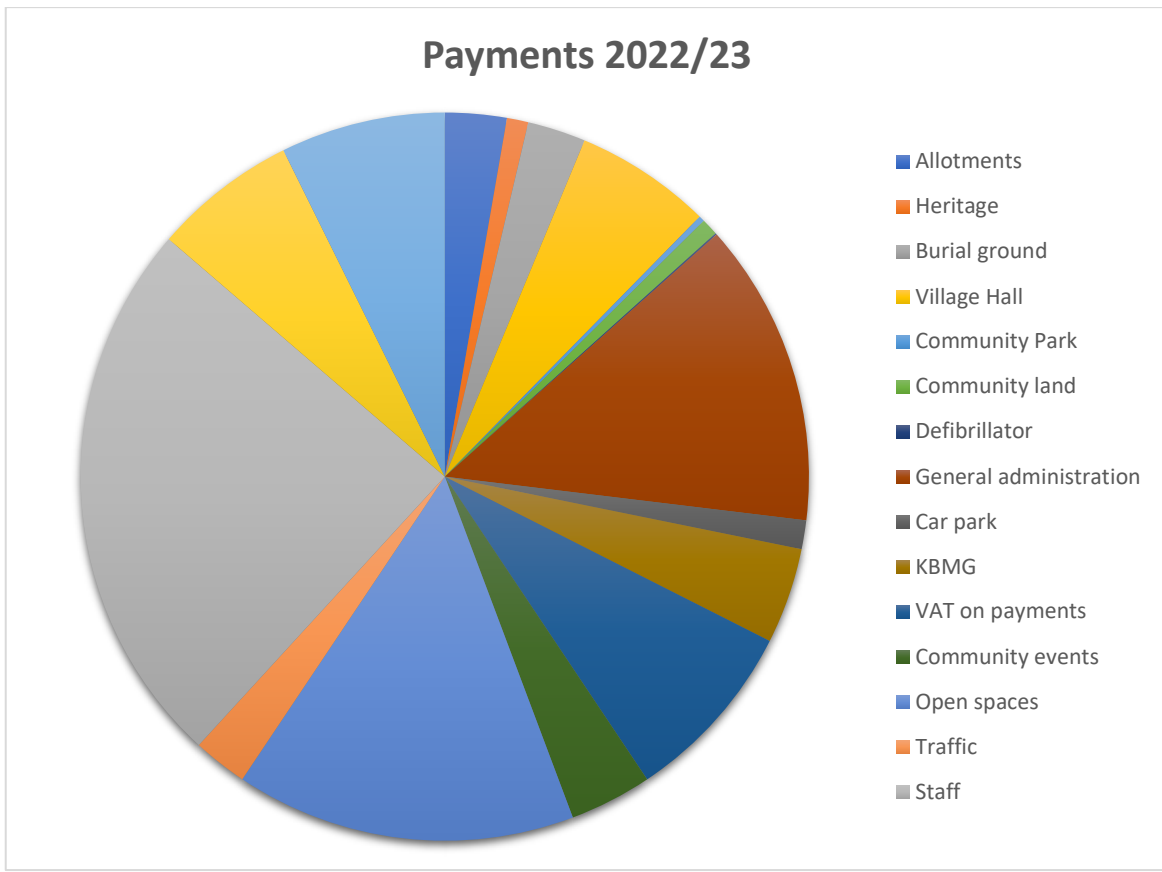
Football Club reinstatement fund	11,662.15	
MUGA pitch fund	3,027.90	
Community Events	2,788.72	
Community Park	36,628.90	
Hadfelda Square Car Park	19,342.92	
Cemetery Re-wilding Project	191.67	
Community Land	204,601.10	
Coronation Grant	419.00	
		278,662.36

General reserve	90,319.88	
		90,319.88

Total reserves		368,982.24
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Receipts and payments were apportioned as follows:





For further information, the **Annual Governance documents** submitted to the External Auditor can be viewed here:

[Finance - Hatfield Peverel Parish Council \(hatfieldpeverelpc.com\)](http://hatfieldpeverelpc.com)

Sarah Gaeta, Responsible Financial Officer

Braintree District Councillor Report

It has been a busy four years in office and especially busy over the last twelve months. Whilst we try to recover from the backlashes of COVID, we enter a period of unknown with the cost-of-living crisis. I will continue to serve our communities and find the support we need through this difficult period.

MY ACHIEVEMENTS

Over the last twelve months, I am pleased to have supported our communities on a number of projects, and found support through my community grant. To name but a few:

- Terling Primary School – New community library
- White Notley Parish Council – New bench
- Hatfield Peverel Knitters and Stitchers – Wool and essentials to knit blankets, hats and scarves to keep people warm
- Hatfield Peverel Toddler Group – New sign
- Terling and Fairstead Parish Council – Jubilee Commemorative Coins

I am proud to have also been able to volunteer and support a number of our local groups along with a number of projects such as the Jubilee celebrations and of course most recently the Coronation of King Charles III.

Some of the community groups I have been involved in:

- Terling Ladies Cricket Club
- Terling Football Club
- Hatfield Peverel Football Club
- Hatfield Peverel Traffic Advisory Group
- Hatfield Peverel Sports and Recreation Group
- Terling Women's Institute

I very much look forward to expanding my involvement within the Ward and supporting new and existing projects for the benefit of our villages and communities.

DISTRICT COUNCIL ACHIEVEMENTS

- Developed 65 acres of employment land at Horizon 120, Great Notley, which is attracting new jobs and companies to our area. On the same site we have also built The Plaza Enterprise Centre part funded by £7million of the Government's Get Building Fund.
- Developed the I Construct innovation hub which supports small companies in the development of new goods and services in the construction sector.
- Revenues from The Plaza and I Construct now support the authority's income.
- Completed a refresh of Braintree town centre including new homes, a hotel and the bus interchange.
- Started plans for a refresh of Witham and Halstead town centres.
- Enabled the building of 417 affordable homes against a target of 250.
- Over £250,000 given to Councillors for the community grant scheme.
- Delivered a Cycling Strategy to encourage a change of habits, allowing safer cycling connectivity across the District.
- Adopted a Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan to make the Council's activities carbon neutral as far as practical by 2030.

- Planted with the help of schools, Parish/Town councils and Community groups – 18,700 native tree whips and 73,000 bulbs.
- Distributed tens of millions of pounds of pandemic grants to our businesses.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce, I am very honoured to have been re-elected to represent the Hatfield Peverel, Terling and White Notley Ward, alongside James Coleridge. We pledge to work hard and represent the constituents to the best of our abilities.

District Councillor Charley Dervish