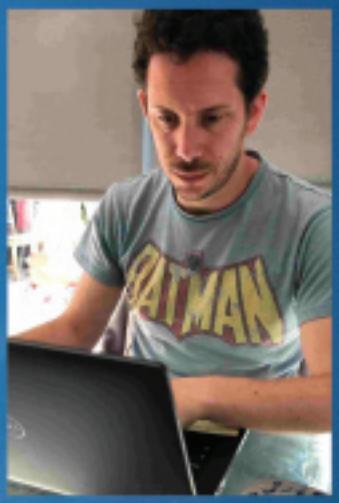
Hertsmere News

HERTSMERE

Hertsmere Borough Council's magazine

Autumn 2020



Still working with you, for you

Responding to the coronavirus crisis

Tributes paid to Hertsmere's Mayor

Our elected members and staff are deeply saddened by the death of the serving Mayor of Hertsmere, Councillor Cynthia Barker, following a period of illness.

Cllr Barker was appointed to the highly prestigious role in June, having served as Deputy Mayor last year. She had been a borough councillor for Borehamwood's Kenilworth ward since last year and for Potters Bar from May 2015 until 2019.

She was the first Philippine-born elected representative in the borough, extremely proud of her heritage and committed to doing her utmost to champion equality and diversity for all our communities in Hertsmere. She was also chosen as one of the 100 most influential Filipinas by the Filipina Women's Network.

She was a tireless community advocate, volunteering for a range of local organisations and charities, including Elstree and Borehamwood Museum; Sixty Plus Club; St Nicholas Church of England School; Elstree and Borehamwood NSPCC branch and Rotary Club of Elstree and Borehamwood.

Managing Director, Sajida Bijle, added: "My sincere condolences, on behalf of all the staff at Hertsmere Borough Council, are extended to Cynthia's family and friends.

"I know how honoured she was to be appointed to Deputy Mayor last year and then as Mayor, and how much she enjoyed undertaking a whole host of duties across our communities. She will be greatly missed by us all."

All business was adjourned at our full council meeting on Wednesday 16 September to allow members to pay tribute to Cllr Barker.

A formal online book of condolence has been opened in memory of Cllr Barker. To add your tribute please go to **www.tolbc.com/CynthiaBarker**

It was Cllr Barker's intention to raise money for the NSPCC during her year as Mayor. Donations to the charity can be made, in her name, at **tribute-funds.nspcc.org.uk/cynthia-barker**

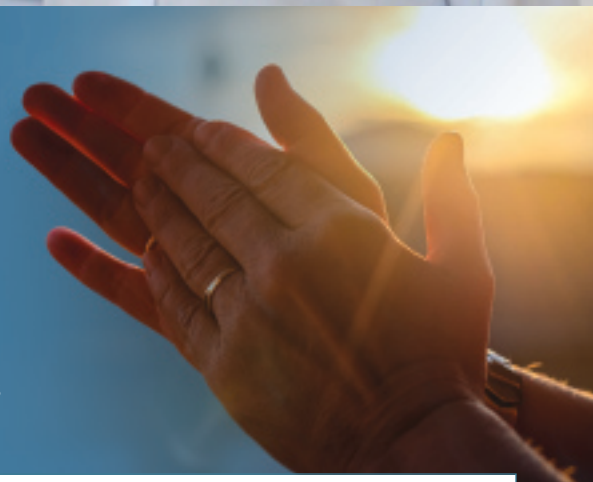
Holding out for our heroes

Plans to recognise Hertsmere's heroes at a formal awards presentation were postponed due to lockdown.

The winners of the Civic Awards 2019/20, who were all nominated because of the contribution they have made to the lives of others in the community, were due to be honoured at a Civic Dinner at Elstree Studios in April presided by the then Mayor, Cllr Rabbi Alan Plancey.

As Hertsmere News went to press, details of when the event would take place were still under consideration.

> For more information visit **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/civicawards**



Keep in touch

There are lots of ways that you can stay in touch with us, keep yourself posted on our news, raise questions and give us your views. Here's a rundown:

- Follow us on Twitter for tweets, photos and links to our press releases – **@HertsmereBC**
- Like us on Facebook for updates, links to our press releases and photos – **www.facebook.com/hertsmere**
- Follow us on Instagram, where we showcase the best Hertsmere has to offer **@hertsmerebc**
- Watch our short videos to find out about our services and events across the borough – **www.YouTube.com/HertsmereBC**
- Check our website regularly. The homepage is updated frequently and all our press releases can be found under 'Latest news' – **www.hertsmere.gov.uk**
- Subscribe to our FREE **News for You** e-alerts for the latest news straight to your inbox. Click on the purple button on our website.
- Watch our planning, executive and full council meetings online – **www.hertsmere.public-i.tv**
- Contact your local councillor – **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/findmycllr** or call **020 8207 7558**

Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of Hertsmere News.

We pay tribute to the Mayor of Hertsmere, Councillor Cynthia Barker, who passed away last month after a period of illness. See opposite page.

Cynthia was a much-admired colleague, a kind and loyal friend and she worked tirelessly for the Borehamwood and Potters Bar community. She will be remembered by all who knew her.

Cynthia's death comes after a terribly challenging six months for many families and businesses in our community due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Hertsmere saw a rise in infections from the end of August and was identified as an 'area of concern' by the government in September.

In response, our staff, firefighters, police officers and volunteers took to the streets for several weekends of activity aimed at stopping the spread of infections.

It was just another example of the Hertsmere community, including our own council officers, coming together to keep everyone safe. You can read more about this and the other work we have undertaken providing much-needed services for our residents on pages 4 to 7.

While the current situation can seem uncertain and difficult, there is good news ahead. On page 8 you will find updates on the new state-of-the-art television and film facility in Borehamwood, Sky Studios Elstree, which has been given the go-ahead. In addition, plans to build two new soundstages at Elstree Studios have been given a huge boost.

Both these projects will help ensure our borough is in a strong position moving forward, creating thousands of jobs and millions of pounds worth of investment.

There's a whole host of other updates too from across our services.

I hope you find this edition informative. Stay safe and well.

Councillor Morris Bright MBE
Leader of Hertsmere Borough Council
leader@hertsmere.gov.uk

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Contact us

www.hertsmere.gov.uk
customer.services@hertsmere.gov.uk
@HertsmereBC
www.facebook.com/hertsmere
020 8207 2277
hertsmerebc

Visiting us

Reception open 9.30am to 2pm for pre-booked appointments

Call 020 8207 2277 to make an appointment

Hertsmere Borough Council's Civic Offices, Elstree Way, Borehamwood, WD6 1WA is currently open by appointment only. Our area offices in Bushey and Potters Bar remain closed at this time as a health protection measure. We will keep you updated on any changes.

www.hertsmere.gov.uk/contactus

If you would like this magazine in a different format please call **020 8207 7445.**

This magazine is produced by Hertsmere Borough Council three times a year.

Each edition costs around 29p per copy to design, print and deliver. When you have finished with it, please recycle it in your blue box.

On the cover:
Hertsmere's staff rise to the challenges of the past few months

Coronavirus response – 'a huge team effort'

A massive council-wide response swung into action as staff across all our services stepped up to support residents and local businesses during the coronavirus crisis.

Our Revenues and Benefits team worked tirelessly to make contact with businesses eligible for assistance under the government support measures and, by early August, had paid out more than £17.5m to nearly 1300 local businesses.

The Customer Services team dealt with a huge volume of calls during the initial phase of lockdown whilst the waste and recycling crews, along with many services across the council such as our Planning and Housing teams, continued to provide as full a service as possible and to adapt to new demands.

Some staff were deployed to markedly different roles to those they usually undertake. They included Parking Services colleagues who spent much of the first few weeks of lockdown calling residents identified as vulnerable to make sure they had all they needed.

A number of staff supported the community voluntary sector, coordinated here in Hertsmere by Communities 1st, by helping with the recruitment of volunteers. During the first four weeks of lockdown, more than 270 hours of work was invested by Hertsmere employees supporting this raft of work.

Environmental Health colleagues worked to help local businesses adhere to new and changing guidelines around social distancing as they were introduced, as well as dealing with any reported contraventions in a constructive and supportive way.

To protect the health and safety of our workforce, wherever possible teams worked from home supported by technology mobilised at very short notice by our Information and Digital Services team.

Meanwhile our key decision-making meetings such as full council and executive were conducted mainly online, requiring time and care to set up the technology to ensure everything ran smoothly.

The communications team has worked to ensure that communities across Hertsmere were kept updated about service changes and to ensure that government health protection messaging was shared through our digital and print communication channels. The number of visits to our website increased by nearly 43 per cent during the first four months of the crisis, compared with the same time period last year.

> For further information about services, guidelines about managing businesses safely and for a whole host of other information about our response to the pandemic, visit **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/coronavirus**

Top: Allan Witherick in our council chamber setting up an online public meeting

Left: Heritage and Museums Officer Ruth Stratton running shopping errands during the pandemic

Funding boost for 'corona-heroes'

Thousands of pounds have been handed out to community organisations and charities who provided essential support to the most vulnerable members of Hertsmere's community during the coronavirus pandemic.

Our councillors have awarded £19,000 of Ward Improvement Initiative Scheme funding to 11 charities and organisations, which saw an increase in demand during the pandemic. Among the top beneficiaries are Potters Bar Foodbank; Communities 1st; Borehamwood Foodbank; Gratitude; St Albans and Hertsmere Women's Refuge; Homestart Watford and Three Rivers, which offers outreach services in the borough and Red Trust Bushey, which runs the foodbank for the town.

Another £57,000 of funding is available through our community grants programme. Just under half of the funding is being used to support small charities, voluntary and community groups facing financial difficulties because of a loss of income, while the rest will be used to support projects aimed at helping the community recover following lockdown.

> For more information about the community grants programme go to **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/communitygrants** or for more about WIIS go to **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/WIIS**

InspireAll – Helping customers stay safe and active

Our leisure providers, InspireAll, have worked hard throughout the pandemic to adapt Hertsmere's leisure facilities to ensure a safe and secure environment for our local communities.

Instructed by the government to close their doors in March, the team was ready to hit the ground running when the leisure industry at large was able to reopen for business in late July.

The measures implemented at Furzefield, Bushey Grove and The Venue leisure centres aimed to ensure customers felt comfortable and safe and included one way systems and signage.

A range of activities was available to allow everyone to take part in their chosen exercise. These included the gym, classes and lane swimming with all activities needing to be pre-booked to ensure the number of people taking part in each activity could be monitored.

To ensure these activities complied with social distancing rules some of the gym equipment was spaced out or temporarily unavailable.

The centres offered a reduced timetable of core classes, which was constantly reviewed and new additions added as the demand increased.

Emphasis has been placed on the highest possible standards of hygiene and cleanliness, with increased cleaning of equipment and hand sanitiser stations available throughout the centres.

As the government advice changes, the temporary measures will be adapted to offer further activities including other swimming sessions, café and children's activities.

> Further information is available at **www.inspireall.com**

Love Parks

Our parks and open spaces became a haven during lockdown with many people escaping for exercise, peace or to let little ones run about safely.

We took a number of measures to help keep you safe. Firstly, we'd like to thank those who helped to keep Hertsmere safe by respecting the rules and adhering to social distancing.

Between March and July play areas were closed, multi-use courts were locked and gym equipment sealed off in line with government guidance. On police request, a number of car parks at busy parks were shut to prevent overcrowding and encourage residents to stay local.

This period was extremely challenging for our parks team. Padlocks and barriers to equipment were continually damaged or stolen, vandals destroyed play equipment, safety signs were repeatedly ripped down, as well as increased reports of dog fouling and litter diverting officer time and financial resources.

A new campaign, developed by Keep Britain Tidy, aims to tackle it.

The 'Love Parks' campaign uses messages and images from individuals that talk about how anti-social behaviour makes them feel, with each one urging people to 'be kind' to their park.

> Find out more about Hertsmere's parks and open spaces on our website: **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/parks**

Efforts not gone to waste

Our waste and recycling crews worked hard to continue their rounds across the borough throughout the pandemic, with minimal impact to the service that they provide to our residents.

Thank you to them all for their hard work – which didn't go unnoticed by many local residents, with a youngster thanking them in their pavement artwork!

On those occasions where our crews are subjected to any form of abuse, we will report the incident to the police.

Covid-19 Compassionate Community Connector Programme

Communities 1st have pulled together along with us and a range of local charities, community groups and businesses to support our local communities amid the Covid-19 outbreak. Communities 1st focuses on providing much needed practical support to anyone that requires help during these challenging times.

Communities 1st recognises that whilst Covid-19 may affect everyone, there are some people who are at greater risk than others. Their team of volunteers can help you with:

- **Shopping**
- **Dog walking/Pet sitting**
- **Signposting you to other services**
- **Collection of prescriptions**
- **Or a friendly conversation if you're feeling lonely.**

> To access support:
020 8207 5115

help@communities1st.org.uk

www.communities1st.org.uk/covid19support

To volunteer:
www.communities1st.org.uk/COVID-19-community-signup

Coronavirus COVID-19
Communities 1st Response

Stopping the spread

Several weekends of activity were undertaken in the borough calling on residents to 'Play Your Part' and help stop the spread of coronavirus.

During the weekends, organised by Hertfordshire's Local Resilience Forum, our staff, volunteers, local police officers and firefighters, chatted to residents and shoppers in Borehamwood, Radlett and Potters Bar about what they could do to halt the rise in infections in the borough.

Our leader, Cllr Morris Bright MBE; Cllr Tim Hutchings, Executive Member for Public Health in Hertfordshire and Station Commander Colin Mead from Borehamwood Fire Station also lent their support to the campaign.

> To watch a short video about the campaign go to our Youtube channel **www.youtube.com/HertsmereBC** If you are feeling unwell, you should call **119** or book a test at **www.nhs.uk/coronavirus**

Play your part

Are you ready to Play Your Part to protect your community?

As part of a countywide 'Stay Safe Hertfordshire: Play Your Part' campaign, everyone is being reminded that the most important things you can do to help reduce the spread of coronavirus are to:

1. **Keep washing your hands as often as possible, for 20 seconds with warm water and soap.**
2. **Keep your distance from others, particularly in indoor spaces.**
3. **Wear a face covering in the places you are required to and when it is difficult to stay socially distanced.**
4. **Self-isolate and book a test immediately if you get symptoms.**

Hertsmere saw an increase in infections at the end of August, and was identified as an 'area of concern' by the government in September.

It is vital that we continue to play our part in protecting our communities and looking after those who are most vulnerable.

The 'Play Your Part' campaign is organised by Hertfordshire's Local Resilience Forum. The forum - a partnership of over 60 organisations including the emergency services, local councils, health services and volunteers, which plans, trains and responds to emergencies together - has been working to coordinate the county's approach to Covid-19.

> To find out more about the campaign and Hertfordshire's response go to **www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus**

Above, an artist's impression of the planned entrance to Sky Studios Elstree.

Below, left to right, Nigel Wilson, CEO of Legal and General, Helen Parker, NBCUniversal, Caroline Cooper, CFO of Sky Studios, and Cllr Morris Bright MBE at the construction site in Rowley Lane.

The Sky's the limit for Hertsmere

A huge boost to Hertsmere's reputation as the home of British Hollywood has been hailed after a unanimous decision to give the green light to a new state-of-the-art television and film studio.

Construction work on Sky Studios Elstree, the multi-million pound development off Rowley Lane in Borehamwood, began in July after our planning committee voted for a resolution to approve the scheme, in receipt of a satisfactory completed Section 106 legal agreement. The development represents a significant investment to the UK and European creative industries, and means the borough's long and illustrious history in film and television production will continue well into the future.

It is expected over the first five years of operation, the studio will generate up to an additional £3billion of production investment and create over 2,000 jobs in the local area, including 900 during the construction phase.

Caroline Cooper, Chief Financial Officer, Sky Studios, said: "Even during challenging economic times, Sky Studios Elstree represents Sky's continued commitment to the UK's cultural economy, as well as our goal to recruit, train and develop the leading creative talent of tomorrow.

"Alongside our colleagues at NBCUniversal and our partners at Legal & General, we will create a world-leading production studio that will turbocharge Sky Studios' plans to create even more award-winning Sky Originals for our customers."

The final design for Sky Studios Elstree will see 12 sound stages on site. As well as Sky Originals, major productions from Universal Pictures, Focus Features, Working Title and Universal Studio Group will be based there.

Meanwhile, as Hertsmere News went to press, agreement on loan funding for two new linked soundstages on the site of the former Big Brother house at the council-owned Elstree Studios was expected.

The stages, which are similar in design to the George Lucas studio building, will be available for use separately or combined to form a supersize soundstage.

And lastly, work on the new EastEnders set is continuing. The set, which involves permanent structures built with real materials, rather than the facades used on the original lot, is being constructed on the former staff car park. It is due to be completed next year.

It means all three centres of television and film production in the borough will be at the cutting edge of their industry.

Edwintree Court

The first development of its kind created to address Hertsmere's pressing need for temporary accommodation has been home to more than a dozen households since it opened earlier this year.

Edwintree Court is a state-of-the-art complex built on a former garage area off Crown Road in Borehamwood. The innovative 28-unit scheme, which we commissioned and funded in order to help ease the demand for housing in the borough, includes a mix of one and two-bedroom units. It provides safe, comfortable modular homes for short-term periods for local families in urgent housing need.

Another two households have been placed in permanent or alternative accommodation more suited to their needs after short spells in the complex.

Just under 150 local households are currently in temporary accommodation in Hertsmere. Some of that number have had to be placed out of the borough, away from family, friends, schools and facilities they know or use, because of the lack of suitable housing options in the borough.

Local services for local people

During the autumn, a Government white paper is expected to make recommendations for the reorganisation of local government over the coming few years.

Ahead of that white paper, Hertfordshire County Council has submitted a proposal for a single unitary authority providing all council services for the 1.2 million residents of the county.

Voicing opposition to that proposal, Cllr Morris Bright MBE, Leader of the Council, along with the nine other district and borough council leaders in Hertfordshire, has stated that a single council for the whole county would be too large and remote to support local communities and residents. The leaders have pointed to how local knowledge and services have been vital in supporting residents during the coronavirus crisis.

The ten district and borough council leaders are now working along with other key partners to develop alternative options for consideration by the Government alongside the county council's single unitary council proposal.

The aim will be to ensure that any future model for local government in Hertfordshire is both effective and efficient whilst also providing proper representation for residents.

> Stay in touch with us for more information and we will keep you posted. See **'keep in touch'** on page 2.

Revised timetable for Local Plan

The publication of a draft blueprint for development in Hertsmere has been delayed as the impact of the coronavirus pandemic continues.

The new draft Local Plan for the borough is now earmarked for publication in Spring 2021. The plan will be used to guide decisions on the delivery of new homes, schools,employment and services up to 2036. Following the publication, there will be a six-week consultation period when members of the public will be asked to give their views on the plan, before it is submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.

Three previous rounds of consultation have been held in order to help us prepare a new Local Plan, including an eight-week consultation on the Potential Sites for Housing and Employment in 2018.

> Details on this and the two previous rounds of consultation can be found at **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/newlocalplan**

Meanwhile, we've made changes to our planning regulations and processes in recent month to help protect key sites and enhance transparency:

- **We've formally adopted Article 4 directions for 13 major employment sites in the borough.** This means that developers must seek planning permission to convert any buildings into housing within the sites. It is hoped the move will safeguard businesses and jobs.
- **We've begun publishing financial viability assessments on our website.** These documents are produced by developers to show the economic worth of their schemes. They are taken into consideration when deciding the requirements developers must agree to, such as affordable housing, before their plans are considered for approval.

Welcoming a new Executive Director

We've welcomed an Executive Director to our leadership team who will focus on post-Covid recovery as well as broader regeneration and growth for the borough.

Peter Geraghty joins the council from his previous role as Director of Planning and Transport at Southend on Sea Borough Council. Among the services he will oversee are Planning, Economic Development, Asset Management, Street Scene, Engineering Services and Environmental Health functions.

Peter has more than 30 years' experience working across public, private and voluntary sectors.

Peter commented: "I am delighted to be joining Hertsmere. There is a real commitment at Hertsmere to deliver a first class service to the borough's residents and I am very excited about playing my part in helping to achieve that objective."

Q&A ROSS WHEAR

When Ross Whear accepted the post as our new Head of Planning and Economic Development at the beginning of the year, he knew there would be challenges. However, he never imagined he would be joining in the middle of a global pandemic and unprecedented lockdown. We've spoken to him about his first six months in the job and how he sees the role moving forward.

Q What was it like starting a new job in lockdown?

A It was a bit bizarre, but I am very much used to home working, having done two days a week in my previous role. I've been very impressed with the planning team. They have adapted well to working remotely, while continuing to deliver the planning service. Despite an initial dip, we have seen a jump in the number of applications and the team is rising to this challenge with more than 95 per cent of applications being determined within target time. We were actually one of the first authorities to hold a fully online planning committee in late April and have had four more since. We also recently carried out online planning training for all elected members.

Q What brings you to Hertsmere, and what were you doing before this?

A I've joined Hertsmere from London Borough of Lambeth, where I was the Strategic Applications Manager delivering large scale residential and commercial developments across the borough. Prior to that I was at London Borough of Redbridge for nearly 12 years working in the planning policy team and latterly in development management on strategic projects such as Crossrail and new school delivery. I was attracted to Hertsmere as a very ambitious pro-growth authority in a prime position on the edge of London. This role is about working with elected members in setting out a plan for appropriate and sustainable levels of growth, with infrastructure to support the long-term prosperity of existing and future communities and businesses.

Q What do you see as the challenges ahead?

A The team has a number of on-going work streams alongside our statutory function to process and determine planning applications. These include progressing on the Local Plan preparation for submission to the Government; developing a Climate Change and Sustainability Strategy and Action Plan; and supporting the local economic recovery following the coronavirus crisis.

Q How do you think the crisis will impact on the team in the medium to longer term?

A During the months of lockdown, we continued to deliver the planning service as fully as possible. Now as restrictions continue to lift, one of the biggest challenges facing Hertsmere, and the country as a whole, is how to support economic recovery. We are currently recruiting an Econonic Development Officer to really get this work underway. We have also just granted planning permission for the major new Sky studios in Borehamwood, which will bring significant investment and other opportunities into the borough.

Q Tell us one thing about yourself that people might not know …

A I am a huge Monty Python fan and can pretty much do any sketch or film scene. When I arrived for my interview, the first poster I saw in the Executive Suite was for Monty Python's *The Meaning of Life*, which was filmed in part at Elstree Studios. It felt like a good sign!

Extending planning permission

Automatic extensions for all planning permissions due to expire since lockdown measures were introduced are being considered by the government.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmed it was looking to extend until 1 April 2021 planning permission or listed building consent which would have lapsed between 23 March and 31 December.

Confirmation of the move is expected later this year. If ratified by central Government the measure could affect more than 1000 applications in Hertsmere.

Keep an eye on our website for updates **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/news** or you can subscribe to News for You e-alerts for updates on all planning issues. Select the purple button on our website.

Healthy Hubs Back in action

For anyone struggling to cut down the booze, trim their waistline or deal with anxiety post-lockdown, help is available via three lifestyle hubs re-opening this month.

The Healthy Hubs team is on hand to provide online support and advice to those looking for help with a range of physical and mental health issues. Healthy Hubs is a new initiative managed by InspireAll and Communities 1st, in partnership with us and Hertfordshire County Council.

Three hubs were officially launched in March, just days before lockdown measures were announced. The hubs in Potters Bar and 96 Shenley Road in Borehamwood shut temporarily, while a hub in Leeming Road continued to operate online.

Now all the hubs are back up and running offering online appointments, while face-to-face consultations will be available at a later date.

> For more information and to find your nearest hub, visit **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/healthyhubs**

To contact the **Healthy Hub at Leeming Road** call **020 3940 4865** or email **healthyhub@communities1st.org.uk**

To contact the **Healthy Hub at 96 Shenley Road or Potters Bar** email **sports.development@inspireall.com**

THIS GIRL CAN

Moving back

For those missing We Move, She Moves classes, plans are progressing to restart some activities soon.

We Move, She Moves is our award-winning programme of activities for women and girls aged 14 or over. The programme, includes yoga, Learn to Run, pilates, Pound and other sessions run across the borough.

In order to comply with social distancing measures, class sizes will be limited and sessions will need to be booked in advance.

> To keep up-to-date go to **www.wemoveshemoves.me.uk** or follow on Facebook **www.facebook.com/wemoveshemoves**

Hertsmere Museums

Hertsmere's experience of coronavirus

Our museums strive to tell the story of their towns and its people. The coronavirus lockdown has been a major event in our history, so it is important to capture this time for future generations.

The museums are keen for photographs, journals, letters and items to show life during the lockdown, such as:

- How the physical spaces in Hertsmere have been transformed – from bustling town centres to deserted streets, socially distanced gatherings, queues and empty shelves.
- The effects on key and home workers – clothing, stories and experiences, homemade facemasks, letters, cards and journals.
- How children and young people coped whilst the schools were closed – examples of home learning, games played, posters and pictures, diaries, coloured pebbles, chalk drawings on pavements and rainbow drawings in windows.

Pictures, posters, stories and information on items you would be willing to donate can be emailed to:

- **Bushey Museum and Art Gallery: busmt@busheymuseum.org**
- **Elstree and Borehamwood Museum: info@elstree-museum.org.uk**
- **Potters Bar Museum: pottersbarmuseum@gmail.com**
- **Radlett and District Museum: info@radlettmuseum.com**

> Please contact the **Heritage and Museums Officer** for more information: **ruth.stratton@hertsmere.gov.uk**

Supporting inclusivity

Two motions showing the council's support to continuing to fight against racism and promoting LGBTQ+ education received cross-party agreement at July's council meeting.

The first motion expressed support for the Black Lives Matter movement and sadness and revulsion at the killings of George Floyd and Breonna Taylor by police officers in the United States. The motion also put forward a raft of resolutions signposting approaches and events that we will look to undertake to ensure Hertsmere continues to strive to be actively inclusive and anti-racist.

The second motion asked the council meeting to note the critical role LGBTQ+ inclusive relationships and sex education has to play in both creating a more tolerant and open society and in supporting young LGBTQ+ people.

The motion also highlighted that the repeal of 'Section 28' in 2003 was a pivotal moment for LGBTQ+ rights and that the UK 'must never move backwards…by stopping LGBTQ+ inclusive education in schools'.

Designs on air quality

Right: Zainab Alani with her winning poster design.

Posters created by three young designers will be helping to promote how simple changes can improve the environment, thanks to a competition run by our Environmental Health Team and GAP Global Action Plan.

Fourteen schools in Hertsmere took part in the 'Clean Air 4 Schools' project looking at air quality and sustainable travel, which included undertaking scientific tasks, discussing sustainable travel and how they could help.

The final part of the session, which had to take place virtually due to lockdown, was to design a poster about air quality.

The winning design was created by 10-year-old Zainab Alani from The Wroxham School in Potters Bar, she was rewarded with a gold certificate and a pedometer. Second and third place winners, Eleanor Winfield, aged nine, also from The Wroxham School and Imogen Burton, aged 10 from Saffron Green Primary School, received a silver and bronze certificate respectively along with pedometers.

Collection calendar 2020

September 2020	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W2		1	2	3	4	5	6
W1	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
W2	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
W1	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
W2	28	29	30				

October 2020	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W2				1	2	3	4
W1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
W2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
W1	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
W2	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2020	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W2							1
W1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
W2	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
W1	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
W2	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
W1	30						

December 2020	M	T	W	TH	F	S	SU
W1		1	2	3	4	5	6
W2	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
W1	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
W2	21	22	23	24	**25**	26	27
W1	**28**	29	30	31			

Week 1 (W1)

Black bin: Anything that cannot be recycled.

Blue box collections are currently suspended. Paper can be put in your brown bin instead and all materials will still be recycled.

Week 2 (W2)

Green bin: Food and garden waste.
Brown bin/black box: Glass, cartons, plastics, cans, cardboard and paper.

Public holidays All collections in a week following a public holiday will take place a day later. For example, a Monday collection will take place on Tuesday and a Friday collection will take place on Saturday, unless you are notified otherwise. A new calendar will be issued with the winter edition of Hertsmere News. Collection calendars are also available on our website at www.hertsmere.gov.uk/collectioncalendar

Just about everything can be recycled at home but other items, such as clothes, electrical items and batteries, can be recycled at local recycling banks and/or your local tip also known as a Household Waste Recycling Centre.

For more information and details of new opening times please visit www.wasteaware.org.uk

recycle for Hertsmere

HERTSMERE

www.hertsmere.gov.uk/recycling

Would you like to advertise in Hertsmere News?

Promote your business locally

Your favourite read, which is distributed to 43,000 homes in Hertsmere three times a year, takes a limited amount of advertising on a first come, first served basis and priority is given to local reputable businesses. The next magazine will be published in December 2020.

Email **corporate.communications@hertsmere.gov.uk** to reserve your place and to obtain artwork specifications

Full Page £400 Plus VAT

Quarter Page £100 Plus VAT

Half Page £200 Plus VAT

Meet your Councillors

You can contact your ward councillors at any reasonable time. Hertsmere has a Conservative majority, with 29 Conservative councillors, six Labour councillors, three Liberal Democrat councillors and one vacant seat. Your councillors are listed in alphabetical order by ward. If you don't know which ward you live in, please visit **www.hertsmere.gov.uk/findmycllr** or call **020 8207 2277**.

Key

(Con) = Conservative

(Lab) = Labour

(Lib Dem) = Liberal Democrat

Aldenham East

John Graham (Con)
cllr.john.graham@hertsmere.gov.uk
07976 360961

Lucy Selby (Con)
cllr.lucy.selby@hertsmere.gov.uk
07973 710696

Aldenham West

Caroline Clapper (Con)
cllr.caroline.clapper@hertsmere.gov.uk
07818 427745

David Lambert (Con)
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07802 412714

Borehamwood Brookmeadow

Glenn Briski (Con)
cllr.glenn.briski@hertsmere.gov.uk
07771 688675

Susan Brown (Con)
cllr.susan.brown@hertsmere.gov.uk
07534 984703

Rabbi Alan Plancey (Con)
cllr.alan.plancey@hertsmere.gov.uk
020 8207 3759

Bentley Heath and The Royds

Sarah Hodgson-Jones (Con)
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07817 890541

Michael Reeve (Con)
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07960 056749

Borehamwood Cowley Hill

Richard Butler (Lab)
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07706 079439

Jeremy Newmark (Lab) – Group Leader
cllr.jeremy.newmark@hertsmere.gov.uk
020 3637 9930

Michelle Vince (Lab)
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07549 130736

Borehamwood Hillside

Victor Eni (Con)
cllr.victor.eni@hertsmere.gov.uk
07884 056187

Meenal Sachdev (Con)
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07973 401522

Farida Turner (Con)
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020 8953 4347

Borehamwood Kenilworth

VACANT SEAT

Rebecca Challice (Lab)
cllr.rebecca.challice@hertsmere.gov.uk
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Brett Rosehill (Con)
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07876 714422

Bushey Heath

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Seamus Quilty (Con)
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Bushey North

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Paul Richards (Lib Dem)
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Bushey St James

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Harry Mortimer (Con)
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Pete Rutledge (Con)
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Elstree

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Shenley

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Culture is not cancelled

The Hertfordshire Year of Culture (HYOC2020) is about celebrating Hertfordshire as a county of creative and cultural opportunity.

Although the year hasn't turned out as planned, we've been inspired by the cultural community in Hertfordshire. Many events have been cancelled but creativity hasn't.

Have a look at the **What's On Guide** on the **Creative Hertfordshire** website (**www.creativehertfordshire.com/listings/events**) to find events still taking place in line with current regulations.

HYOC2020 can also provide inspiration on how to keep your creative side active during lockdown. There's plenty of evidence to suggest that doing something creative can improve your own wellbeing and sharing your interests and creations is a great way to stay connected, even in isolation.

The **What's Online** section (**www.creativehertfordshire.com/whats-online**) has pulled together a whole range of activities and resources.

No matter what culture means to you, you can celebrate, share and explore as many cultural opportunities as you can. There really is something for everyone to try.

> If you want to share your creations and get involved, follow HYOC on social media **@HYOC2020** and use the hashtag **#HertsMyCreativeCounty**

ANNUAL CANVASS 2020

HERTSMERE

YOU MAY RECEIVE AN EMAIL/ TEXT MESSAGE

If Electoral Services have your contact details you may receive an email from electoral.services.hertsmere.borough.council@notifications.service.gov.uk **THIS IS NOT SPAM.**

Alternatively you may receive a text message if they have your mobile number. **Please respond as soon as you can!**

FORM IN THE POST

If Electoral Services do not have your electronic contact details, you do not respond by email, or your household requires a paper form, you will receive a form by post.

If the form requires you to respond, please do as soon as you can!

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO!

Check the details for your household by following the instructions on your email, text or paper form. If you need to respond, the easiest way to do this is online.

You'll need the security codes included on the email, text or form to respond electronically.

DON'T DELAY – CHECK TO MAKE SURE YOU ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE

Your vote matters – don't lose it

WWW.HERTSMERE.GOV.UK/ANNUALCANVASS