



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

Welcome to the first of several  
community events relating to

## **Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan**

Once you have watched this slide presentation please  
move to the right to the next display board



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

Some of you may be thinking what is a ***Neighbourhood Plan*** and why do we need one?

Firstly Neighbourhood Planning was introduced by Government under the ***Localism Act 2011***. This was an attempt to de-centralise decision making away from central government to the local level

In simple terms a Neighbourhood Plan is:

- A document that sets out planning policies for the neighbourhood area (planning policies are used to decide whether to approve planning applications)
- Written by the local community, the people who know and love the area, rather than the Local Planning Authority
- A powerful tool to ensure the community gets the right types of development, in the right place



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

So what does that mean in reality?

**In brief:**

A Neighbourhood Plan is a document that is ***produced*** and ***owned*** by a community which includes a vision of how the Town or Village, in which they live and work should be in the future

The final document if adopted has legal standing and is used by the Local Authority to shape the future development within the area



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

So what can a Neighbourhood Plan be used for?

An adopted Neighbourhood Plan can be used to:

- Develop a shared vision for your neighbourhood
- Choose where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built.
- Identify and protect important local green spaces
- Help protect existing assets like the Village Centre, Village Hall, other landmarks
- Influence the type of new buildings if additional development is required
- Influence what new buildings should look like



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

So why do we need a Neighbourhood Plan (NP)?

Well firstly we don't have to have one.

However the local authority planning department (*in Hunsdon's case **East Herts Council***), has a legal responsibility to consider any NP when deciding on planning applications within the parish

If there is no NP then they do not need to take it into account!



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

## So who is writing the Hunsdon Neighbourhood Plan?

Well firstly its NOT the Parish Council!

There are reasons why a Neighbourhood Plan cannot be written by the Parish Council however they have the power to “Commission” a plan to be written if they feel there is a need e.g.

- The current and planned development in Hunsdon which already impacts the village (e.g. adjacent Tanners Way, Wicklands/Drury Lane, Dixons Crane site etc.)
- Secondly the major development on Hunsdon’s doorstep agreed by EHDC (colloquially know as Harlow North) would have a major impact on Hunsdon and other adjacent villages

It was therefore felt a Neighbourhood Plan was essential to try and protect the Village



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

So who is writing the Neighbourhood Plan?

Well the team is made up from volunteers from the community.

- These are the people who are present today and hosting this first Open Event.
- They includes people who are on the Parish Council but they are not acting in the role of Councillors whilst involved in the group

Are you interested in being involved? We are still looking for local people to join. If you would like to become part of the group then you would be most welcome. Please make this known to a member of the group or leave your details with one of the team on the registration desk.



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

But isn't someone else already doing something about a Neighbourhood Plan?

Originally there was collaboration with Hunsdon, Gilston and Eastwick on a **Joint NP**. However this changed when EHDC announced Gilston Area as the preferred option in the District Plan. So there are now two **NP's** running concurrently

- The first is the Joint Plan (**HEGNP**) between Hunsdon, Eastwick and Gilston which is concentrating on the development largely outside the Village. This includes the Hunsdon Airfield!
- The second is the **Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan (HANP)** which concentrates on the Village itself and the immediate surrounding area within what's known as the **Designated Area** (You will hear more details and see a plan of the **Designated Area** on the other displays)
- Wouldn't it be a good idea to finish one before the other? Ideally yes but there is a deadline set by EHDC of 2021 for all NPs to be completed, so we cannot wait





# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

This was a very quick introduction to Neighbourhood Plans

You will read and see much more about the Plan on the next few displays.

- More importantly you will be able to have a say and make your contribution to the NP, both today and over the next year or so as we invite comments from the community on elements of the plan as it comes together
- There will shortly be a *House to House* survey delivered to every house and business in the Village which will allow you to further comment on particular areas of the plan. Please look out for the Survey and return it by the due date so your views are considered



# Hunsdon Area Neighbourhood Plan

Once you have visited the stands and made your contribution there is complimentary tea and coffee available in the kitchen which you can drink in the meeting room whilst watching a slideshow of old and current day photographs of the village.

- While you are drinking your tea and watching the slideshow think about how the Village has developed over the years and what it could become in the future and what you might like for your families and future generations.
- Hopefully this may prompt some thoughts for you to return to the stands and make some other suggestions.

Please now move clockwise to the next stand

