



YOUR LOCAL CIVIC SOCIETY

December 2014

Hartford Conservation Group AGM

Hartford Conservation Group held its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 28th October 2014 in the Village Hall. The President, Gerald Gibbs, welcomed Members and residents of Hartford then introduced the Chairman, Angela Owen Smith, who conducted the business part of the evening. The Minutes of the 2013 A.G.M. were accepted and signed and this was followed by the presentation of reports from the Chair and Treasurer. The Chairman announced that a new website had been set up - www.hartfordconservation.org.uk.

The 2013/14 Committee stood down.

The President conducted the election of the 2014/15 Chairman and Mike Humphrey, Vice Chairman in 2013/14 was elected. Mike Humphrey joined Hartford Conservation Group after moving to Hartford and in 2012 designed the History Board which is now installed on the wall of the Barley Mow. He also refurbished the Notice Board on the wall of the Red House opposite the Barley Mow. The President took the opportunity to make a presentation to Angela Owen Smith in recognition of her 24 years as Chairman of Hartford Conservation Group. Kath Carr did not stand for re-election and Mike Humphrey made a presentation to thank her for her years of service.

Mike Humphrey then took the Chair and the committee members were elected.

Treasurer James Fell
Secretary Gilly Perry
Publicity Officer Betty Trevett
Membership Secretary Peter Gibbins
Auditor 2014-15 Peter Gibbins

Members

Mary Clubb; Bernie Froggatt
Angela Owen-Smith



President Gerald Gibbs with outgoing chairman Angela Owen-Smith on presentation of a vase of flowers following her retirement as Chairman

The Meeting was then closed and the new Chairman introduced Cambridgeshire County Councillor Ian Bates, Chairman of the Economy & Environment Committee, who gave a presentation about the Transport Strategy and the Local Plan which includes the proposed new river crossing. Councillor Bates explained that Local Plans are drawn up by District Council who must have land available for building houses for the next 5 years and if they do not have such a plan developers will be allowed to build on application, Cambridgeshire is the fastest growing County in the country, Cambridge and Peterborough having among the fastest growing populations. Transport is not just about roads, it includes rail, cycling and walking. Broadband can also have an effect as more people work from home, reducing commuter journeys and flexible working hours become more widely available

Councillor Bates then introduced Jeremy Smith, a member of the Transport and Infrastructure Policy Unit, who took us through the transport options for our area and the need to like the proposed development at Wyton to the new A14 to ease traffic congestion

Registered Charity Number 1025575

Chairman: Mike Humphrey

Secretary: Gilly Perry

Treasurer: James Fell

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Mike Humphrey, newly elected Chairman with Councillor Ian Bates on the left and Jeremy Smith following the presentation on Cambridgeshire Long Term Transport Plan

on the A1096, A1123, A141 and B1514 during busy periods, the link road from Hartford to Godmanchester being the preferred option. Development is looked at town by town identifying infrastructure requirements, costs and timings. Huntingdon and St Ives have the highest number of new houses planned in Cambridgeshire which will impact on transport demands.

Councillor Bates said that a further consultation will be taking place in the coming months and he said it was up to local residents to make their views known, in writing, to the District Council.

The Chairman then asked for questions from the floor and a lively discussion followed. Local Councillors Mike Shellens, Colin Hyams, Sarah Conboy, Graham Wilson and former Councillor Steve Greenall took an active part in the discussion.

So, residents of Hartford and Godmanchester please make your views known when the next consultation takes place.

Local Groups need a voice in the Local Plan

It is a matter of concern that Hartford could be without a voice in the Local Plan to 2036.

Currently the only parties with input are the Town and Parish Councils. This leaves Hartford with no direct say in a matter with major implications for the village, notably

the proposed building of 5700 home on the RAF Wyton site and its infrastructure needs ie roads.

The Hartford Conservation Group is lobbying the Councils to be a part of the working party with full access to the consultation process

Hartford Community Fayre



Hartford Conservation Group had a stall at the Village Fayre on 18 October. £140 was raised for the Conservation Group. The committee thank you for your support.

Seasons Greetings

The Chairman and members of the committee send all our members very best wishes for Christmas and the New Year. We are planning events for 2015 and suggestions would be welcome.



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