



January 2022

Dear HVS members and friends,

Given all the recent activity with Planning, and our Traffic Calming Framework presentation to the Hurst Parish Council (HPC) on the 7th December (see below for details), as well as other exciting initiatives, it seems a good moment to update you all on our recent activities.

HVS exists to do its best to enhance life in the Village, and like most of the groups and societies around Hurst we are all volunteers on the Committee. So if the current plans and issues facing the Village are of interest to you, or you have other ideas to enhance life in the Village and would like to get involved please [get in touch](#).

Despite the Covid Restrictions we were able to do some social events in 2021 and this included our usual Archery stand at the Hurst Country Show in June. Although we were located down at the Orchard and it was raining on the Sunday, we still raised a brilliant amount of more than £400 towards our funds, so a massive thank you to all our volunteers.

We also put together a new event this year, the first annual HVS vs PTA cricket match and BBQ which took place in late September. It was a big success, attended by over 200 people and was a fabulous sunny day. The cricket match was an extremely close affair with the HVS XI winning in the final over. We had great feedback with many requests to make it an annual event. A small surplus of over £500 was shared between HVS and the St Nicholas PTA. Note: This year's event and repeat match is scheduled for Sunday 28th August 2022 – more information to follow.

We were also finally able to launch the Hurst Archives in October. We were lucky enough to hold the launch at the [Stanlake Park winery shop](#), which is where the Hurst Archives are now held, The event was attended by invited guests who had helped pull together the archive or helped with the book. Further contributions of material on the history of Hurst and the surrounding area are always welcome. If you have something to contribute, please email the [HVS secretary](#). To view the archives at Stanlake, please email them directly to make an appointment on [natalia@stanlakepark.com](mailto:natalia@stanlakepark.com)

Our local MP Theresa May attended the event, at which the new book by **Henry Farrar 'A new look at an Ancient Parish'** was launched. Unfortunately, Henry was unable to be with us on the night due to ill health, but we were lucky enough to have the historian Hugo Vickers to speak at the launch. The book is now available to all, and if you would like to buy a copy, please email the [HVS secretary](#). **It is also on sale in the [Stanlake Wine Shop](#).**

Onto more formal matters:

## COMMUNICATIONS

Since the Spring of 2021 we have included planning letters and related information on the [HVS website](#), where it is available for everyone to see. New content and articles are being added regularly about local businesses and what is going on in the village. It is important to report on planning matters but also on other topics that we feel members and residents will be interested in – again if you feel we should be including something that isn't currently covered please [let us know](#).

Our regular email newsletter goes out every month as well as dedicated planning emails when there are key events. If you know anyone who would like to receive our emails please ask them to either [email us](#), or click [here](#).

We also post on our [Facebook page](#) when there is something of significant interest we believe our members would be interested in.

Publishing the printed magazine requires an enormous amount of time from our volunteers and associated costs. With so many other priorities during 2021 it has not been possible to create one recently, but we plan to revive it when we can.

In addition to the extra content on the website, facebook and in our enhanced newsletters, we also are still producing our traditional annual summary and accounts which, as always are distributed at the AGM and will be covered at this year's AGM, the date of which will be circulated as soon as it is confirmed. Please do let us [know](#) if you have any other questions.

## PLANNING

Planning is a massive issue for Hurst and particularly so just now. HVS responds on any planning applications which it considers may have a serious impact on the Village, and all such letters sent by HVS are put on our the [planning page](#) of the HVS [website](#), unless to a private individual. We do our best to make relevant information on planning issues available to members and visitors to our [website](#) – which helps many to voice their own opinion by sending their personal communications to the planning authorities (usually Wokingham Borough Council "WBC") with points of particular concern to them.

The following are of particular current interest:

### Land East of Lodge Road (Tape Lane)

To date no Outline or Full Planning Application for this site has been submitted to WBC. HVS continues to ready itself for making the appropriate objections when any such application is made. This includes making contact with statutory consultees such as Thames Water, The Environment Agency and Natural England with a view to them providing us with expert technical advice on specific aspects of any future application in respect of topics such as drainage, flooding and biodiversity etc. which will greatly assist HVS in preparing our formal objections to any development proposals. View the HVS [website](#).

### 5G Mast on Broadwater Lane – Appeal (Planning Application No: [211667](#))

The application has gone to Appeal and HVS have submitted a formal objection to the Planning Inspectorate. The HVS letter is available to view on our [website](#). This appeal will be by written submissions only, so if you felt strongly about this matter, hopefully you already have sent a letter of objection.

### Junction of Sawpit Road & School Road (Planning Application No: [211532](#))

Appeal Ref; APP/X0360/W/21/3280255

Following an Appeal made against the decision of WBC to refuse planning permission. The Planning Inspectorate have decided that the Appeal will be determined on the basis of an Informal Hearing at a date and venue to be confirmed. The Appeal documentation that has been submitted to WBC can now be viewed on their planning portal under the original application number; [211532](#). If you submitted any comments in relation to the original application these will automatically be forwarded to the Planning Inspectorate by WBC but you still can send additional information or submit comments for the first time by email to [east1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:east1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) (quote the Appeal Ref; APP/X0360/W/21/328055). The deadline for submission of any comments is **Thursday 20th January 2022**. Please look on our website for HVS's original letter of objection and any further updates on the Appeal process and don't hesitate to [contact us](#) should you require any further information. You can also submit comments by post, by sending three copies to Stephen Bartle, The Planning Inspectorate, Room 3B, Temple Quay House, 2, The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN.

### Land at Broadcommon Road (Planning Application [213378](#))

WBC having taken regard to all the material planning considerations has **refused the outline planning** application for the proposed erection of up to 33 custom and self-build homes (plots) on the above site. Full details regarding the application, including the [Decision Notice](#) can be viewed on the [WBC Planning Portal](#).

## LOCAL PLAN UPDATE

### Right Homes, Right Places, Revised Growth Strategy Public Consultation Nov. 2021 - 24th.Jan. 2022

The Local Plan is a key document which sets out the strategy and associated policies for managing development. WBC has prepared this current consultation document to seek views on an updated approach to managing development across the Borough up to 2037/38.

A new Local Plan should provide greater certainty as to where development will occur (with the accompanying infrastructure) and where it won't. This is a detailed process and it is unlikely that WBC will submit an updated plan to Government until the latter part of 2022 after which any plan will be subject to a public examination by the Planning Inspectorate and therefore unlikely to be adopted until the end of 2023.

There are three sites allocated for development in Hurst:

- 5HU002 : Land next to Whistley Green Cottage, Hurst (3 dwellings);
- 5HU030 : Land Northwest of Hogmoor Lane, Hurst (12 dwellings); and
- 5HU051 : Land North of London Road and East of the A329M (45 dwellings).

HVS has previously raised concerns with WBC (with the support of HPC) as to the methodology used in the selection of site 5HU030 and also the necessity for grouping this site together with site 5HU002, when HVS believes for the purpose of the Revised Housing and Economic and Land Availability Assessment for these sites should be assessed on their individual merits as to suitability for inclusion or not in the Draft Local Plan Update. HVS is currently undertaking a review of any updated information and evidence included in the revised Draft Plan in consultation with those residents in close proximity to these sites before formally responding to WBC. As always a copy of our response will be available on the planning pages of our

website.

HVS will also be supporting the designation of Dinton Pastures as a green space in the Draft Local Plan. The closing dates for comments to be submitted to WBC is 24th January 2022. If you wish to submit comments you can either [email](#) the Growth and Delivery team at WBC or write to Revised Growth Strategy Consultation, Wokingham Borough Council, Shute End, Wokingham, Berkshire RG40 1BN.

If anybody has any interest in, comments, views or questions in relation to planning, in and around Hurst please look on the planning pages of our [website](#) or get in touch directly with the [HVS planning representative](#).

## TRAFFIC

Speeding and the increase in traffic through and around Hurst continues to be a massive concern for residents. Whilst the HPC have already done a lot of work on this issue over the years, and continue to do so, this tends to be one road at a time as that is the way the Police and local authority work. HVS is suggesting a holistic approach: stepping back and asking what the Village would like to see in the long term and how best to work towards that.

To launch the process a 'Traffic Calming Framework' proposal was presented to the HPC on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at their public meeting. Much will need to be refined in future discussions and with input from the Village but the outline proposal is now with the HPC for their consideration of the key suggestions. We hope for a positive early response from the HPC – as they will be a key player in helping to move this forward.

The proposal and presentation which helps to explain the thinking can be viewed by all on our [website](#). It is a new approach, however HVS strongly believe that Hurst residents deserve to be safe when walking, cycling, running, and driving around the village – and in the long run this framework will help to deliver that. We will continue to refine the proposals and expect to put much more information on our website in the next few months so members and residents can comment on the Framework and what they feel would or would not work. There are a number of 'Traffic Calming options' that we offer information on, some will be more in tune with the Village than others, and there are many more which could be considered.

Some residents may be in favour of more calming than others and we must work together as a village on these tough but important issues which affect us all. Do please [email](#) any thoughts or comments you have.

## 1992-2022 - 30 YEARS OF THE HVS SKILLS REGISTER

For 30 years the HVS Skills Register has been promoting local Hurst trades and businesses to the residents of Hurst. The Register is on the HVS [website](#). We also include a feature in our monthly email newsletter. Our Hurst Villager Magazine is delivered to - hopefully - every household in the Village and includes the full skills register. The next issue is due out in the late spring.

If you live or work in Hurst and you would like to be included in the Skills Register, please fill in the form on the [HVS website](#). We charge an annual fee per entry: £20 if you are a member of the Hurst Village Society, £25 if you are a non-member.

## MEMBERSHIP

If you would like to support HVS and our activities, membership is only £5/year. To join either [email](#) the membership secretary or you can download a form from the [website](#). You can use the same form to renew your membership - it is that time of year - though if you have a standing order you do not need to do anything.

We do hope that you have found this update useful, please feel free to [email](#) us with any feedback.

With Warmest Regards

**HVS Committee**

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