

Appendix 1: Issues raised at the Launch Event

The issues below appear as they were written down on the day. Figures in brackets show the number of attendees who expressed this opinion. Opinions are listed in no particular order.

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Village Day

A place where people can do art

Art exhibition (3)

Can more schools get involved?

Beer tent (12)

More recycling facilities on the day

Samba band like they has at Kimpton

Have a village day type Christmas lights switch on with fun fair etc. (3)

Faith

Churchyard needs maintaining better

Churchyard looked after very well (2)

A new bench in the churchyard

Sport and Leisure and Youth

Football is excellent for kids

Saturday morning cinema for children in the Memorial Hall

No suitable play area for 5-10 year olds (2)

Bats/pads for Junior Youth Cricket Squad

It would be nice to have an indoor swimming pool

A water park

Sue Dunkerley at the High School would like to integrate activities (3)

More free holiday activities please. Artskool too expensive for families with more than one child

We need a sports club – why not use the Wheathampstead Club for Sports/ Youth Club?

Consult a group of teenagers about what they would like to see in the village (2)

Mead enhancement offers few exciting play opportunities for youngsters- where can they build dens, tree houses, play hide away? Water not used for rafting, building floats, because its polluted by hepatitis – how about a paddling pool?

More open activities from Memorial Hall – cycling, running, etc.

Scouting in the village is full – over 120 youngsters – more adult help needed

Impossible to get into Brownies

We have a very active local fishing club – Verulam Angling – always looking for new members

How is the money from the rent of the old youth club being spent in the current financial year on youth activities? What are plans for the future? Can you tell us at AGM?

Provide a youth club/cyber cafe/youth meeting/music place (8)

Ice skating in winter

Fishermen leave litter, no one clears up

Stop dog owners allowing their dogs to foul cricket field where children play

Skateboarding area

Club house for W Wanderers football club (38)

A group to put on shows for young ones

Attract fayres, festivals and exhibitions to use the club, halls and open spaces

How about some squash courts?

Organise village social events so people have the chance to meet others

Public theatre

Village museum

Cricket club needs financial support following arson damage of 300k to provide facilities for the many youngsters wanting to play (2)

We need a path from the car park to the playground at Marford Playing fields.

The developers of the Butterfield Road site should finance improved facilities on the football pitch (2)

Extend tennis club floodlights to 10pm

Make football club responsible for condition of pavilion

Instead of building larger changing rooms on the Butterfield Road site, how about rebuilding/improving the changing rooms on Marford Road site?

Cycle Route around the park for safe leisurely cycling

Could we expand the memorial hall to include sports facilities?

Hard standing football pitch with floodlights for youngsters (2)

Bowling club (2)

A dog walkers car park

Dance classes for youth – hip hop, street dance, aerobics

What happened to plans for a bowling green?

Place where footballers get changed needs tidying up.

Better quality grass on Butterfield Road for WW footballers.

More youth activities to keep them off the streets, especially in winter.

Could Parish Council help with WI rent?

More activities for all ages to mix (eg dancing)

No car boot sale

Decent regular car boot sale (2)

Allotments

Empty allotments to be used for fruit trees, filling the area as plots become available, creating an orchard. Produce could be sold by auctioning at Harvest time.

Must insist that people who have not cultivated their allotment for 6 months to give it up. Also think about dividing larger plots into smaller ones to give more people a chance to take part.

Need to enforce allotment rules and encourage more active holders

Notice Board on Glebe field site

Some allotments are turning into garden extensions – is there a waiting list?

Excellent eco resource for everyone especially children and families. Use them or lose them (2)

Wonderful resource very badly promoted by Parish Council
Lets encourage more young people to use allotments
Allow allotment holders to sell surplus supplies at farmers market

Publications and Literature

Opinions page on Parish Web Site (2)
Keep notice boards up to date and not looking messy
Better publicity of events/clubs etc
Improve the village website – remove out of date info and keep up to date
Map showing parish boundaries, field names, named houses etc
Leaflet showing historic buildings and plan (2)

Signage

Local shops need to regularly repaint their frontage (5)
No more signs
Remove signs that are serving no purpose
More decorative road signs (2)
Too many signs on Lamer Lane (2)
A village sign in the centre of the village
Sponsors for roundabouts to improve their appearance
Better quality signs
A large village noticeboard in the high street (6)
Attractive sign at the entrance to the village
Dyke sign is still not there
Signage is a waste of money

Signs to Mill Walk shops (4)

Remove unsightly signs

Roads

Marford Road pedestrian crossing needed (23)

Crossing needed on Brewhouse Hill (2)

Marford Road/ Necton Road still very dangerous (3)

Speed cameras/ pedestrian crossing/ traffic calming on Lower Luton Road (13)

Children Playing signs and 20mph on Necton Road

Make lorries go one way (2)

Revised roundabout at Station Road/ Cory Wright way too restrictive, causing queues in High Street, widen back to 2 lanes on/off roundabout and add pedestrian crossings (2)

Bypass needed

40mph needed on road between Blackmore End and start of Give Way system on B651.

Stop parking on the pavement on Marford Road (2)

Safer parking for Marford Road residents – I have been hit twice while trying to get to my car

Cut back branches near road signs so that they are visible (2)

No waiting in village from 8-9am due to back log of traffic at Lower Luton Road Roundabout

Make the old building behind Ushers into a car park for shops

More speed cameras

Lorries mount pavement on Brewhouse Hill

East Lane car park should be free for first 2 hours only – shoppers have difficulty finding a space.

Irresponsible parking of 4 wheel drives outside Elysian

Slow sign needed on B651 coming from Kimpton on bend just before cross keys.

Traffic Island at junction of Bury Green and Brewhouse Hill to help children cross wide road

Move zebra crossing back to where it was

Walkers fill up free parking – no room left for shoppers

Stop on-street parking at the top of the hill

Repeat 30mph signage on Marford Road

Put the disabled parking sign higher

Dangerous parking on corners at Hilldyke

Roads are fine – its the inconsiderate drivers who need to be encouraged

Pedestrianise the High Street

Enlarge East Lane Car Park

Replace High Street speed humps with cameras to enforce speed limit

20mph limit needed on country lanes

Paint double yellow lines on road adjacent to bread shop – at the moment it is too dangerous for people exiting Beechcroft estate

Church Street – parking restricts and slows traffic to an unacceptable level – Should be prevented.

Move the large horse box parked on marford road – obstructing the traffic

Speed bumps needed at Brewhosue Hill (2)

CCTV to stop flytipping in country lanes

The rubbish men dump bags in front of cars which damages car wheels

Extend the bypass as rush hour traffic is making the village dangerous (2)

One of the cameras in the East Lane car park hits the apple tree (3)

Stop non disabled parking in disabled places (5)

Preserve country lanes – keep them narrow and avoid width creep.

Speed bumps are a waste of time and cause additional pollution

Sort out the parking on Hilldyke Road

Trim the hedge on the Leasey Bridge lane

Why are no School warning signs near the High School?

Traffic is too fast and lorries are too big (5)

Dangerous parking in East Lane and Meads Lane

Sort out parking on Brewhouse Hill (5)

Extend by pass across marford road roundabout and along dyke lane to join st Albans road behind the wicked lady – this would be a true village bypass (2)

More obvious 20mph signs (4)

New Houses in Meads Lane mean an accident waiting to happen- roads need widening

Cycle path to St Albans

Longer double yellow lines at the top of Necton Road (2)

Cycle path to Harpenden (9)

Clear the leaves in Brocket View

Enforce the 20mph speed limit in the village – average speed check cameras or larger speed bumps? (4)

Ban parking on church street during rush hour or widen road

High Street enhancement is detrimental to traffic flow – more queues now

Enforce the lorry ban in Church Street (3)

Enforce lorry ban in the High Street (7)

More cameras (2)

Road surfaces are a disgrace – repair them!

If the roundabout at the end of Marford Road was made into a T junction (Cory Wright Way) all through traffic would be stopped.

Move the pedestrian crossing outside the Bull to further up the high street - its dangerous where it is.(3)

The High School is very aware of the traffic problems and despite many and regular appeals to parents to have more consideration for other traffic, these are still ignored by some. A roundabout at the junction of Codicote Road and Cory Wright Way would improve the situation.

Entry and exit lanes on roundabout at north end of high street need to be replaced (2)

Zebra crossing in Marford Road is in a dangerous position – can we move it?

Traffic calming needed near St Helens School (3)

What is happening with chapel site and garage site on Lower Luton Road?

Lower Luton Road pavement from Melissa Field to the east are very poor

Mothers drop of children on corner of Bury Green and it is very dangerous (2)

Huge lorries ruining surrounding lanes – due to Sat Nav?

Too much traffic on East Lane

Extend 20mph speed limit to apply to all hills coming into village (3)

Look on the web at Speedwatch – it is a community project for raising awareness of the impact of speed on local residents

Shops and Businesses

We need a Tesco or equivalent (26)

No to Tesco (2)

Encourage new businesses to set up in the village, possibly with incentives (11)

Reopen the florist (13)

Dildar – wonderful food, lovely staff (2)

Local means of advertising vacancies and skills available

Vacant shop fronts should be used to advertise local events (2)

Demolish the One Stop Shop and replace with a building with more character (4)

We should not have discouraged Sainsburys when they wanted to set up here, as people are now going elsewhere to do their shopping.

Shops need to fit in with the character of the village

One stop – (summary) – dirty, smelly, service poor, too expensive, disgraceful, availability poor, big queues, doesn't support village (28)

DVD shop (9)

Could some shop space be adapted for young artists/craft businesses to set up workshops with subsidised rent?

Ladies clothes shop (5)

Freshly baked croissants

A doughnut stall (7)

The Swan should knock through in to Collins and provide a restaurant (5)

The Bull should allow children in the garden(2)

Closer association with WEB (2)

Don't close Brewhouse Gallery (11)

Car parking required to west of high street

Water marks above One Stop need to be made less obvious/more attractive

Green grocers shop (17)

Reopen T Pots (2)

Planning too harsh for High Street (6)

More easy parking in the High Street will mean local shops can survive (3)

A deli (10)

Brewhouse Gallery has been a wonderful addition

Hardware shop (4)

Proper renovation of the mill buildings – it needs updating

Regular breakfasts for all local businesses (including those working from home)

How can large deliveries take place without proper access/parking?

Paint woodwork on the mill – it looks messy (2)

Charge shops lower rent and rates and they may survive (5)

Need a Bank (3)

Make sure post office stays open (11)

Run a "Support your local shops" campaign (12)

Support community meeting point who are moving to building behind Ushers in January (2)

Change empty shops to residential – reserved for the young – starter homes

The general condition of the shops in the High Street is very poor and will not encourage investment or shoppers

The cafe is one of the best things in Wheathampstead

Free broadband access would help local businesses (2)

Don't let Tesco sell fresh bread or we won't have a baker's either (4)

Schools

Could Butterfield Road be turned back into a school, especially as secondary places seem to be limited around here (16)

Priority for local children at local schools – new to the area? Back of the queue...

Seek additional primary and secondary school places to reflect the additional housing on the Butterfield Road site

Pressure HCC into locating secondary schools in virtual locations which could make school place distribution less discriminatory

Provide affordable pre-school places for all children in the village

Health

The Wheathampstead Welfare Group has identified the need for a Patient Participation Group to be formed in partnership with the village surgery. Dr John Stephens has agreed that such a partnership would be of great benefit for all patients and indeed for the practice. The groups input would be to build constructive support links and lines of communication between the practice and its patients by the use of patient feedback, regular committee meetings, newsletters and health promotion public meetings. At regular intervals patients would be asked to fill in a satisfaction survey in order to establish any concerns of patients over the running of the practice (10)

Excellent surgery – helpful, kind, efficient. Can't praise it enough (4)

More proactive health awareness/preventative clinics/workshops

Commuter hours at surgery

Footpaths and Open Areas (inc. Nomansland)

No to cows (18) – issues included money, fences, cattle grids.

Yes to cows(5)

Fernery idea is an outrageous waste of public money, a whimsical idea (3)

Penalties for those whose dogs foul the footpaths

We need more people from the village to be actively involved in managing Nomansland Common rather than leaving it to CMS – local youth? (2)

The river at “New Bridge” is getting blocked with irises, logs and rubbish (4)

Need a rubbish bin on riverside area – far side of river as you enter from East Lane

Improve public toilets near the Bull (2)

Reinforce tree belt between Cory Wright Way and the village to screen traffic noise

Take more care on cutting the grass on the field and cut the hedge more often

Promote the Wheathampstead Area walks via St Albans Tourist information Centre.

Ensure motorbikes and cars cannot get onto meads

Street Lights in Lamer Lane – not lit up at night

Some of us like it dark!

Light in Mill Walk (8)

Light pollution from street lighting – when replacing lamps could they be changes to designs which prevent light scattering upwards, so contributing to light pollution

Dog poo bin in Sheepcote Lane

Dog poo bin at Lea Valley Walk (Ash Grove area)

Don't make country footpaths in to roads i.e. Ayot Green way

Paths around the river need sorting

An improved bridge across the river would be helpful for the elderly and safer for children. (5)

Higher railings on low wall on Mill Walk brick wall

We need someone (preferably a man) to be responsible for Parish Open spaces footpaths and playing fields

Lighting in the first part of the meads footpath by Pikes Leap/Dawes Lane is dark at night

Housing

Protect the green belt – don't build on it (34)

Affordable housing needed (9)

Better social integration – mix of young/old/private/social housing (4)

Stop people making money by knocking down bungalows and building bigger houses

Hillydyke estate regeneration needed (5)

Smaller homes needed for older residents

No gated communities (4)

No more houses – we do not have enough infrastructure (shops, schools) to support it (25)

Don't let developers demolish school

Provision for the Elderly

Replace 2 benches just below Memorial Hall

Older people enjoy walking but paths need fixing to be safe underfoot (2)

Extend Memorial Hall to accommodate more facilities

More interesting clubs for the elderly (2)

Thursday Club at UR Church would like a ramp

Elderly feel unsafe at night in the village (7)

Disabled provision?

Parish Council should get involved in pro-active support for the elderly in organising along with other bodies – church checks on people, give lifts to people and help those who are cut off and lonely

Public transport

Bus needs to take a quicker route to Hemel Hempstead

A better bus service to Harpenden (5)

Earlier bus to St Albans train station in the morning (2)

More frequent and reliable bus service needed (3)

Use more small buses on little-used routes

Better promotion of existing bus services

Evening buses between Wheathampstead and St Albans should also run to Harpenden (5)

Improve morning bus timetable to St Albans town centre

Subsidise local bus users to encourage use of buses and hopefully encourage bus companies to run more buses

We need a bus stop at Nomansland Common cross roads

Urgently provide much more public transport to help improve village and global environment

Others

Ban the plastic bag (2)

Open days in old historic village homes (3)

More consultation events (5)

The Farmers market is damaging local traders or at least not helping them

Community orchard as in codicote where juice is made/sold to the community. And an Apple Day

Fair-trade status

Farmers market should give free stalls to local groups such as scouts and guides

3 cheers for MRS who keep the village so clean and tidy

More recycling – cardboard recycle bank (14)

No new building in the walled garden next to the old rectory

Public toilets in Memorial Hall

The Old Rectory building is in poor condition and needs to be restored

Promote tourism – ensure the tourist info in st Albans have details from historical society

Why have some houses not been given a recycling bin?

Promote town/village Wheathampstead is twinned with

Village charity initiative –its a knockout – on the common to raise money for charity

We should have better visibility of what the local councils can do and are doing

Keep farmers market going (4)

More handing baskets in the village

Keep the weekly rubbish collection and enhance the recycling collection (3)

Have a nature park with benches

When is the church clock going to strike?

Erect large public clock in the village centre