

A pdf version will be on the village website at www.hempstead-essex.org.uk and a hard copy is available on the Parish Council Noticeboard.

Parish Council

Hempstead's Parish Clerk, Rebecca Cox, has taken the decision to resign after 6 years in office. Becca has performed her duties with dedication and enthusiasm and provided good counsel to the Council. If you are interested in taking up this vacancy, please see later in this Newsletter for details.

Highways

There has been suspicion that there are vehicles passing through Hempstead without MOTs or insurance. If you wish to check on car, go to: Vehicle tax, MOT and insurance - GOV.UK.

You can report a vehicle without and MOT here: Report a vehicle with no MOT - GOV.UK and you will need the vehicle's:

- number plate (registration number)
- make and model
- colours
- location

The closure of the road from Anso Corner to Gt Sampford by Affinity Water will last for 6 weeks.

Environment

The Council attended the AGM of the Hundred Parishes who are kindly funding the new posts to be installed later this month at the Ring o' Trees and thanked them for their contribution.

A new window frame will be installed at the bus shelter shortly too.

A 5-year plan will be created for the maintenance of the green space by Wellyards. This area will become known as Hempstead Spinney.

Please ensure you don't put dog poo in the litter bin by the children's Play Area but use the three dog bins around the village.

The next meeting is on **Wednesday 7th October at 8pm** in the Village Hall.

Members of the pubic are always welcome to attend Parish Council meetings to raise issues with the council but can't speak during the formal proceedings. Nick Turkentine - Chairman

HDS – Autumn Production

Fancy yourself as a Marple, a Poirot or a Ludwig? Well, well, well, then you are invited to an evening of mystery, intrigue and possibly a touch of murder.

Welcome to Wellgoode Manor.

Sir Phillip Goode, founder of global supplements empire, has assembled his family, staff and assorted hangers-on to celebrate his 80th birthday. There's cake, coughing, tea and tension. Listen carefully, watch everyone - and remember that almost everybody has something to hide!

On **Friday 9th and Saturday 10th October** from 7pm. Tickets are £20 each including dinner. Come on your own or get a table of friends together (tables of 6 or 8). Will your table be the one to find all the clues and solve the murder?

Tickets available from David Boreham Tel: [07379 730486](tel:07379730486)

Email: Basilcottage@btinternet.com



Ukraine – next collection

From John Tapscott:

In a few days UK-Aid (aka Felsted Aid for Deprived Children) will be embarking on another delivery to those in need in Ukraine. The convoy, consisting of both vans and HGVs, will contain a wide assortment of food and goods that are so desperately needed and will include 20 generators and 1,200 Pot Noodles donated by Rotary Saffron Walden on behalf of the people of Saffron Walden and surrounding villages. Pot Noodles were requested as they are a very quick source of hot food - just add boiling water - and so can be served up in bomb shelters, trenches or anywhere else a kettle can be boiled.

The funds to buy the generators and Pot Noodles came from donations made at collections on the Common and at Gt. Abington. Every penny donated is used to buy goods for Ukraine. Rotary covers its own costs of advertising, fuel etc

'Thank you' sounds inadequate to express the gratitude for the generosity that is reportedly felt and expressed by the many people who have been helped.

However, it is now time to start our preparations for our next collection on The Common on **Saturday 31st October** and Diana will open the village hall in Hempstead from 10-11am to receive Hempstead's donations.

The priorities are roughly the same: food (dried and tinned), toiletries, toys and educational items, babywear and clothes for the coming winter, washing powder and cleaning materials, wheelchairs and crutches, torches and batteries, mobile phone chargers and bicycles - a wide variety of needs.

Thank you for your continued support.

John Tapscott 01799 599395

Ukraine Collections Organizer, Saffron \Walden Rotary.



VHMC

The hall is delighted to have accepted a most generous gift of a new fridge/freezer from Hempstead Dramatic Society. This replaces our small, inadequate unit and is now splendidly installed in the same position. The Village Hall Management Committee are most grateful for the generosity of the Drama Society, and it will surely be put to good use during the forthcoming production in early October.

The hall continues to generate income at only half its annual operating costs so it is hoped that this new addition will encourage villagers to use the hall for more parties and gatherings.



Knitting Group

Meeting dates in August for the group are the **9th** and the **23rd** in the village hall from 10-11.30am.

No experience necessary so come and join a very sociable morning for just £2.

Activity over the last month has focussed on knitting blankets and baby outfits for Knit for Peace and several beautiful items have been produced. Even if you can only make one square towards a blanket, when they are all assembled, it makes a great result.

Why not join in?



HEMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

CLERK/RESPONSIBLE FINANCIAL OFFICER VACANCY

Hempstead Parish Council is currently hiring a new Parish Clerk/RFO. The ideal candidate should be self motivated and have good knowledge and experience in I.T. systems. Strong communication and organisational skills are also essential, as is the ability to write reports and minutes effectively. The position allows for remote working of 6 hours per week, which can easily fit around other commitments.

The council usually meets once a month on a Thursday evening, with occasional ad hoc meetings. Duties of the Clerk role include preparing agendas and minutes, managing correspondence, updating the Council's website, assisting with policy formation, circulation of planning information, and advice on statutory duties.

The RFO role (Finance Officer) includes maintaining and recording the Council's finances (excel spreadsheet), raising supplier payments, reconciling the bank statement, providing a financial report to the members every month throughout the year, reclaiming VAT on an annual basis and preparing the year end audit documentation.

Salary will be determined based on experience, and training and mentoring will be provided. Previous experience as a Parish Clerk or in a similar post is advantageous, but not essential.

Prospective applicants can contact the current Clerk, Rebecca Cox, via email or phone, 07468 413684, for more information or to have an informal discussion about the position.

Interested individuals should submit a letter of application and CV to:

parish.clerk@hempstead-essex.org.uk

Talking 2027

I know it's very early to start talking about next year, but there is a date you may wish to put in your diaries. We will be holding a plant sale with bric-a-brac on Saturday morning, the **24th April**, in the village hall.

If you are a gardener, like those of us who will be holding this event, you probably lost a lot of plants to drought in 2026. No-one wants to spend a fortune re-stocking a garden with expensive plants if they are just going to die, but if you can buy great plants at superb prices, then at least the early summer months can be gorgeous, and you have no need to feel guilty. Watch out for more information in the coming months.

T&C: Newsletter entries must be received by diana_frost@lineone.net by the **24th** of each month. Only village events will be promoted. No advertisements or personal profit promotions will be featured. To unsubscribe, email Diana Frost.