

# HUNGERFORD TOWN COUNCIL

The Mayor  
Cllr Helen Simpson  
The Library  
Church St  
Hungerford  
RG17 0JG  
Tel: 01488 686195  
Cllr.helen.simpson@hungerford-tc.gov.uk



The Town Clerk  
Mrs Claire Barnes  
The Library  
Church Street  
Hungerford  
Berkshire RG17 0JG  
Tel: 01488 686195  
[townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk](mailto:townclerk@hungerford-tc.gov.uk)  
[www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk](http://www.hungerford-tc.gov.uk)

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**DRAFT MINUTES** of the **Highways and Transport Committee** meeting held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 7.00pm, in the Library, Hungerford

**Present:** Cllrs, Keates, Reeves, Fyfe, Simpson, Cole, Alford, Carlson, Mulholland and Day. In attendance: Claire Barnes (Town Clerk), John Willmott and one prospective councillor.

**HT20250045. Apologies for absence** – Cllrs Winser and Hudson

**HT20250046. Propose co-opt Cllrs S Mulholland and N day to H&T committee**

**Proposed:** Cllr Keates

**Seconded:** Cllr Cole

**Resolution:** Agree co-option of Cllrs S Mulholland and N Day to H&T committee

**HT20250047. Declarations of interest** – None

**HT20250048. Agreement of minutes of meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

**Proposed:** Cllr Simpson

**Seconded:** Cllr Reeves

**Resolution:** Agree minutes of 27<sup>th</sup> May 2025 as a true record.

**HT20250049. Update on actions from previous meetings, not on this agenda**

The vicar has been contacted about the ARMCO and is in touch with Canal and River Trust. The overhanging trees opposite the ASDA garage have been cut back. A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow with WBC about them providing a new cycle store for Church St Car park.

**ACTION:** Cllr Keates will speak with WBC following a request for an electric bike locker and Cllr Simpson will feedback.

The Britain in Bloom judging has taken place and we await the results. The Clerk has requested the moving of the Great West Way sign to include Lancaster park and is waiting to hear from WBC.

Our request to WBC to install double yellow lines opposite Tarrant's Hill was turned down.

**ACTION:** Clerk to obtain quotes to include a reference to our Britain in Bloom entry on the sign and an additional metal sign to note the outcome.

**ACTION:** Add to the Sept agenda, the result of the BT consultation on the phone box.

**ACTION:** Chase up progress with safety improvements to the footway outside 25 Church Way.

**ACTION:** Chase WBC for clearance of escape areas along the A338 for pedestrians.

**ACTION:** Chase up the installation of yellow lines in The Croft.

Other actions are complete or on the agenda.

**HT20250050. Receive any reports from Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) – Please see attached report.** In addition, it was noted that there are complaints on Facebook about speeding up the hill at Hungerford Newtown. A meeting is planned with Cheryl Evans of WBC about Speed Awareness. The building of a new Aldi Store would reduce speeding in that location. Cllr Fyfe has written to the Police & Crime Commissioner about the speeding motorbikes along the A4. It was asked if the CCTV cameras, together with info from SIDs could be used to clamp down on speeding

vehicles. The Police if given a timeslot will carry out a speed check. Town & Manor tried to get a chicane by the Down Gate, but WBC wouldn't agree because of the cost.

Permission is still needed to charge the SIDS from lampposts.

**ACTION:** Raise the above queries with Cheryl Evans.

**ACTION:** Escalate to Stuart Gorley for permission to be reconsidered for use of an adaptor on lampposts to trickle charge the SIDS.

**HT20250051. Update on Remembrance Day and VJ Day plans** – Cllr Keates advised he has gone through the risk assessment with D Loft and there will be some updates in line with Martyn's Law. Barriers and vehicles are needed to block off the area physically from traffic. There will be a sunset service to mark 80 years since VJ day, at Bridge St War memorial on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> August. Arrive at 7.30pm for 7.45pm start. Royal British Legion will unveil a memorial bench and there will be a flyby.

**ACTION:** Advertise the VJ event on visit Hungerford website.

**HT20250052. Receive any comments on the WBC Winter Service Plan. WBC are not proposing any changes from last year to the carriage way and footway treatment networks, subject to the consultation process. The deadline should we wish to submit any comments is Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> August.** Committee reviewed the plan previously and didn't have any concerns to raise.

**HT20250053. Defibrillator replacement plan – Refer to the attached report.**

**Proposed:** Cllr Simpson

**Seconded:** Cllr Keates

**ACTION:** **Resolution:** Clerk to apply for grants and matched funding to replace 3 of the defibrillators and work towards getting the other 3. Ask SCAS if we can have their advice in writing.

Cllr Keates advised the church provided a working party and cut back around the Welcome to Hungerford sign. Network Rail has cleared the area behind the platform that was overgrown and full of rubbish and also along the Cuttings. Thanks were expressed to Broadmead who have offered to clear away the vegetation when the working party cut back the station car park in September.

**ACTION:** Cllr Keates and Hudson will do a survey of the Cuttings path and pass to Stuart Gourley.

**ACTION:** Report to WBC the poor state of the recycling area in Station car park.

John Willmott announced that Smarten Up Hungerford had won a category in Hungerford in Bloom.

**HT20250054. Moving of Great West Way sign – *Discussed above, see HT2025049***

**HT20250055. Sculpture for Asda Roundabout** – We are raising money to cover the cost of a new sculpture, and donations are welcomed. A highways licence is required for the installation. The rest of the roundabout will be hard landscaping e.g. gravel. The current sponsors of the roundabout will not be sponsoring again and were encouraged to donate to the sculpture instead.

**HT20250056. CCTV – (refer to the attached report which was read out)**

- **Consider suggestion for a CCTV camera at Bulpit Play Park.**

- **Receive quotation for future proofing of system**

**Proposed:** Cllr Keates

**Seconded:** Cllr Simpson

**ACTION:** **Resolution:** Agree £1300 expenditure for another set of replacement links. It was agreed links should be upgraded before any new cameras are added.

**HT20250057. Any H&S issues of concern including;**

- **Complaint about pigeons – Receive any quotations for humane methods of control.** The cost to scare away pigeons by flying a hawk is too expensive. Using contraceptives in food is labour intensive and expensive. It was noted that Town & Manor need listed building consent to net the Town Hall tower which is expensive.

**ACTION:** Raise awareness at E&P that solar panels without bird guards are providing pigeons a place to breed.

**ACTION:** Cllr Day will research the possibility of using a falconry drone.

**ACTION:** Write to Network Rail again about the netting repairs required under the railway bridge and any other businesses where netting/prevention measures are failing.

**ACTION:** Clerk to find out what equipment the streetcleaner needs to help wash away the guano.

- **Hedge obstructing line of footway in Church Way – Receive any update from WBC**

**ACTION:** Cllr Simpson will contact Jon Winstanley to chase up action. The Clerk will contact DC Gaines.

- **Poor state of garages in Park Way and Orchard View Close–Receive any update from WBC**

**ACTION:** Add update on garages to next H&T agenda.

Cllr Keates advise the pole is being removed from Atherton Road.

**ACTION:** Add adoption of streetlights to next H&T agenda.

- **Vans are parking on the grass by Hamblin Meadow which is preventing it from being cut.**

**ACTION:** Cllr Keates will take photos and report.

- **A letter of complaint has been received about the lorries parking along Charnham Park and the human faeces and urine being left behind.**

**ACTION:** Ask them to report to WBC and HTC will also. We already have requested double yellow lines which is in the WBC to do list.

It was reported that the weed spraying on paths has taken place.

**Meeting closed at 9.00pm**

## **Speed Indicator Devices (SID) Update: July 2025**

Signs are generally operating well and are effective at reducing speeds. It is surprising how consistent the reductions are when we leave the signs in place. There are four HTC SIDs and two Town & Manor signs.

We have some new longer-lasting batteries that are working well. We also have an updated app downloaded so I can obtain the data more efficiently again.

Having a SID on each main road approach to Hungerford seems to be the best way to slow traffic entering the town. Although the A4 exits at Dobbies, Charnham Street and Salisbury Road do have speeding problems. The Charnham Street solar panel has been trouble and Traffic Technology are checking the SID here currently. Updated results are on the latest spreadsheet attached as a pdf.

To summarise the sites:

- 1) A4 westbound from Newbury opposite Dobbies.

749	25/05/2025	02/07/2025	37	88	29	36	44	74	37	29	22
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Highest speed over the time was 88 mph, the average 29mph. The average speed entering the town is 37 and 29mph past the sign. A 22% reduction and a very effective sign in the gateway to Hungerford.

- 2) A4 Cotterell Close eastbound out of town

749	10/07/2023	24/07/2023	24	70	16	26	31	21.2	24	25	-4
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We have not had one here for sometime. It did not seem to have much effect, but that is in part as drivers are leaving the town and accelerating away.

3) A4 westbound by BMW garage.

15/05/2023	24/07/2023	27	98	21	29	34	35.1	27	28	-4
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Highest speed is 98mph and the average at 29mph. A small increase from 27mph to 28mph, but due to traffic accelerating out of the town. Any reduction would be a win.

This site has been a bit troublesome with downloading data.

It uses the solar panel which is not working properly, and the SID is being repaired as referred.

4) A4 eastbound on Charnham St by Charnham Lane

21804	22/03/2025	11/07/2025	32	90	26	31	37	55.8	32	27	16
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The maximum speed is 90mph, with an average of 32mph. On approach a speed of 32mph reduces to 27mph at the sign. This is a 16% reduction in speed and a real success.

5) A338 Salisbury Rd Southbound.

19577	24/06/2024	15/07/2024	30	57	26	31	37	59.0	30	28	7
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Maximum speed is 57mph, average speed 26mph. Speed on approach reduces from 30mph to 28 mph at the sign. This is a 7% reduction and an achievement given the wide road and that drivers are leaving the town.

6) A338 Salisbury Rd Northbound...approach to Priory Rd roundabout

19577	17/01/2025	02/07/2025	30	70	26	29	34	45.5	30	28	7
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The latest data shows its an important site to slow drivers approaching the roundabout at Priory Rd (accident location) and the High St. The maximum speed observed was 70mph and the average is 30mph. The speed reduction has improved by 7%, and given the down gradient this is a major success.

7) Common at the Kintbury gate

21550	05/11/2024	13/07/2025	31	106	26	31	37	56.2	31	30	3
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Max speed was a high 106 mph, the average 31mph. There is a reduction from 31mph to 30mph, which is at least something. The effect seems small probably as the gate with cattle grid slows traffic on the approach to the Common.

8) Common, Park Street eastbound towards Kintbury

751	15/11/2024	17/01/2025	30	60	26	29	34	40.4	30	27	10
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A maximum speed of 60mph. The average is below 30 at 26mph at the sign. There is a 10% reduction in speed, which suggests a real positive effect with vehicles leaving Hungerford.

**Recommendations:**

We are looking at several updates and recommendations:

- Repair of the A4 Charnham St BMW sign. There is a problem with the solar panel and or SID.
- Purchase a converter that allows charging via a street lamp. Claire obtained a quote for this which is £180.
- Need to find a suitable location on Church Street so we can check out speeds there as well.
- We no longer have the extra SID from the T & M during winter as they want to retain it. But suggest we keep the SID on the town approaches and use the A4 Charnham St one as a rotational sign.

**Hungerford Town Council**

**Public Report to:** Highways & Transport 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Agenda Item No:** HT20250053 Defibrillator replacement plan

**Background**

Many parish councils like HTC started installing their defibrillators some years ago. Recent advice is to check whether our devices are now over 10 years old or out of manufacturer warranty.

I have spoken with Stu who carries out the monthly checks and he has advised that all the defibs have a manufacturers date on of around 15 years ago and have been in service for 10 years. This doesn't include the T&M defib which has only been fitted recently

Whilst SCAS are not too worried about age, the advice is 10 years is a good life for a defib, and we should consider a replacement programme.

**Objective**

To maintain equipment in good reliable working order

**Options**

**If we wish to look at replacing them, we can consider adding to the action plan and budget for next year.**

As all defibs are roughly the same age we can prioritise replacement by location. The defib at One stop has been used a few times so would be first on the list.

I have obtained a quote from Defib Supplies.co.uk for a fully automatic (recommended by Stu rather than part automatic) **G5 Defibrillator £988 plus vat. Extra parts; Batteries £279 plus vat, Adult pads £61 plus vat.** Defib4 life also offer very similar prices. Neither offer discount for bulk buy. **We would be looking to replace 6 defibrillators costing approx. £5928 plus vat plus any spare parts.**

**Financial and Legal implications**

EMR funding available £2834.78. A limited number of funded defibrillators are available through British Heart Foundation. Applications are reviewed monthly against a set of criteria so awards can be made to communities that need them most. As we have some already, I doubt we would be successful. The Good exchange may be an option.

**Consultation:**

With SCAS

**Other information**

Our defibrillators are G3 Power hearts. This has been replaced with a newer model the G5 which came out 5 years ago. The existing consumables are not compatible with the newer model. All parts (pads and batteries) need to be replaced anyway as they run out.

**Recommendation(s)**

The best option, based on the above information

**Signed:** Town Clerk 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025

## Hungerford Town Council

**Public Report to:** H&T 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**Agenda Item No:** HT20250056 CCTV Future proofing of system

**Background – As a result of a report to H&T back in March we replaced two of the CCTV links and now have 14 links left to upgrade. I have included the background info in italics below from the previous report for your ease of reference.** *We are now regularly experiencing loss of connection with our CCTV system. This initially started with losing the Bear cameras on occasions but has recently escalated to losing 19 out of the 31 cameras on a fairly regular basis. The cameras that are not going down are the ones with their own direct broadband such as Skate Park, Triangle Field, Croft Field. The other cameras rely on links on lampposts along the High street and Bridge Street to relay the signal and footage back to the office.*

*Our CCTV provider has advised: Due to the proliferation of 5Ghz Wi-Fi in homes and businesses there is less available space in the wireless spectrum, resulting in system disruption and disconnection. Unfortunately, they are seeing this more and more with customers. They can arrange to set our device to auto-reboot if connections drop (site visit required) however this doesn't solve the problem and we will be losing footage for 30 mins or an hour each time. Alternatively we look to replace the existing 5Ghz links with 60Ghz Links.*

*The current 5ghz links are susceptible to interference, as they operate on a more common frequency band, and lots of modern equipment (wifi/5G/4G) etc. is competing to use this traffic, and has become more prevalent over the last few years.*

*60Ghz links use a different frequency band which is less common and allows more throughput to help combat against the outages we have been experiencing. There are 18 links across 10 locations in the Town, so this gives us some indication of the required investment to transfer the entire estate over to 60ghz. We can do this bit by bit.*

**Objective –** Achieve a reliable CCTV set up with minimal loss of footage.

### Options

**Upgrade the links as recommended above which can be done on a phased basis. Agree when this should be carried out.**

- 1. Please see attached plan of the camera locations and links required throughout Hungerford, there are 18 links in total, and 4 have been completed thus far.**

**The cost of £1,300.00 ex VAT per pair as per our previous order set would apply, and the key links of Church St to the Railway and Railway to Smiths would perhaps be the most critical. Total to do all 7 remaining pairs of links £9,100.00 ex VAT.**

The best way forward would be to change one of the key links out initially and let that settle, and SMART can test and evaluate signal strength/performance etc. before pressing on with a wider upgrade, to be sure it is working correctly and likely to fix our recurring problems. This would serve 2 purposes for us to test and to phase the roll out for the Council.

- 2. FYI previously we looked at installing a new Multiview camera at the Borough Arms and decided to not install any new cameras until the links had been upgraded. The quote back in May was as follows: Multiview 360 Cost £4596.27 ex vat. Alternatively, a 180' camera mounted on the same pole, wouldn't change anything from an infrastructure and main hardware required, but the cost of the camera etc would reduce the quote by approx. £500. SMART would recommend the Multiview 360' as it also captures the base of column (outside the pub which may be useful) and will provide a much better aspect of the top of the high street as such. To install a camera to cover Bulpit PP would require use of a broadband signal from the Swimming Pool House or elsewhere. Obtaining line of sight could be difficult with the avenue of trees adjacent so several links would probably be required.**

### **Financial and Legal implications**

In Ear Marked Reserves we have £6405.58.

We also have £2500 in our budget from April 2025, but this will need to cover the maintenance contract that last year was around £1500.

### **Reference to Council Strategy, where relevant**

Aim - Improve safety and help reduce crime by increasing conviction rates. Retain the 23 existing cameras in good condition and maintain accessibility of footage for the police. Consider expanding network of cameras.

### **Recommendation(s)**

The best option, based on the above information

**Signed:** Town Clerk 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025