

<b>Districtwide Community Updates</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Community Investment Fund has now closed. There was an oversubscription of three times the amount of allocated funds available, with those scoring highest from initial assessment progressing to recommendation by the panel.</li><li>• North Herts Heroes winners were chosen earlier this month. The winners will be celebrated at the Chair's Civic event on 1st March 2024.</li><li>• The Community Partnership Team worked with Letchworth BID to help deliver the Letchworth Remembrance Day event.</li><li>• Co-ordinating various local and district wide Network Groups including Youth Action, Food Provision, Arts and Culture and Green and Growing Group.</li><li>• Continuing to facilitate NHC Councillors' Community Surgeries.</li><li>• Sharing and disseminating information on social media and to mailing lists, keeping in touch with the community, voluntary, statutory and non-statutory agencies.</li></ul>
<b>Area Community Updates</b>
<p>Reshuffle of Community Partnerships Officers meaning that a new Officer is focusing on Hitchin.</p> <p>The Community Partnerships Officer has had introductory meetings with Cllrs, local initiatives, groups and organisations which include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ward walks/meetings with Cllr Hoskins, Cllr Dennis, Cllr Wright-Mason and Cllr Mason.</li><li>• Meeting with Secretary of Churches Together in Hitchin.</li><li>• Meeting with Hitchin BID Manager.</li><li>• Visited Hitchin Food Rescue Hub and due to visit Hitchin Pantry.</li><li>• Attended Hitchin Forum AGM meeting.</li></ul> <p>Also attended local events which include Ron's Plot's - <i>Food for life get-together</i> and Settle's <i>Westmill Place Festival</i>.</p> <p>The Officer has started chairing our Westmill Network meetings, an opportunity for local residents, groups and initiatives to share updates and discuss projects. Recent updates include a new Free <a href="#">Hertfordshire Health Walk</a> in Westmill. Also <a href="#">Create Community</a> and <a href="#">Settle</a> are working in partnership to have monthly hubs for Settle residents at Westmill Community Centre.</p> <p>North Herts Museum have a new exhibition of work by one of the most original and influential photographers of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, Diane Arbus <a href="#">ExhibitionsNorth Hertfordshire Museum (northhertsmuseum.org)</a></p>