

### Districtwide Community Updates

- The Community Investment Fund has now closed. Successful grant applicants have been informed.
- Coordinating voluntary support response to Asylum Seekers based in North Herts.
- The winners of the North Herts Heroes awards have all been contacted and filming is underway. The Awards ceremony will take place at the Chair's Civic event on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March.
- Co-ordinating various local and district wide Network Groups including Westmill, Youth Action, Food Provision, Arts and Culture and Green and Growing Group.
- Continuing to facilitate NHC Councillors' Community Surgeries.
- Sharing and disseminating information on social media and to mailing lists, keeping in touch with the community, voluntary, statutory, and non-statutory agencies.
- The Community Partnership Team met with the Royal British Legion and Letchworth BID to discuss this year's Letchworth Remembrance Day Parade and how they can recruit more members from across North Herts.

### Area Community Updates

Community/Partnerships Officer is continuing to build up connections with local groups/organisations in Hitchin, such as Rotary at Hitchin Tilehouse, Hitchin Pantry and Queen Mother Theatre.

#### North Herts Museum

[Camden Town to Garden City: work by Gilman, Gore and Ratcliffe](#)

**9 March – 30 June 2024**

A major exhibition of paintings and drawings by three artists who worked in Letchworth in the years before the First World War, with loans from museums across the country including Tate, the Government Art Collection and the National Museum of Wales.

#### **HCC's Bus Service Improvement Plan: Public Consultations on Local Schemes until Sunday 17 March 2024**

As part of its Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP), Hertfordshire County Council is proposing to give buses greater priority on two roads in Hitchin to shorten journey times and make them more reliable. The aim is to encourage more people to use buses, which make more efficient use of limited road space, and to support the sustainable growth of Hitchin.

The two schemes in Hitchin are:

- A new southbound bus lane along the A600 Bedford Road
- A new northbound bus lane on B656 Queen Street, upgrades to bus stops and new pedestrian crossings

#### **Public Consultation**

There is a four-week consultation, ending on Sunday 17 March, for you to review and feed back on the proposals. You can find more information online at:

- [Detailed maps and visualisations](#)
- [Survey](#)
- [General info about all Hertfordshire schemes](#)

You can also talk to officers at two in-person sessions:

- Hitchin British School Museum      Monday 11 March      3.30 – 7pm

If you have any questions about the proposals or would like a paper copy of the survey, please contact [BSIPBusPriority@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:BSIPBusPriority@hertfordshire.gov.uk).