

## **Churchgate Resurgence Pro Bono**

c/o Hitchin Town Centre Initiative 1 Churchyard Hitchin 14 March 2019

## Letter of Support for Hitchin town centre's FHSF Expression of Interest

To whom it may concern,

We write in support of North Herts District Council's Expression of Interest for **Hitchin Town Centre** as part of the Government's Future High Streets Fund.

Hitchin is at a turning point. The ideas that NHDC council officers and Resurgence have been working on, particularly around transforming Hitchin's struggling market, have received broad public and stakeholder support for the first time in decades.

What is needed now is an injection of pump prime funding to develop that vision into an achievable set of mixed-use initiatives, that could be largely self-funding.

This new approach is focused on transforming the town's outmoded 20<sup>th</sup> century model into a more flexible, experience-based economy, with built-in adaptability to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century needs.

A successful FHSF funding bid has the potential to be transformative not only for Hitchin, but for the North Herts and beyond. Through FHSF Hitchin could become a beacon of revitalisation for the region and a standard bearer for government regeneration.

Yours in strong support

## **Churchgate Resurgence Pro Bono**

Robin Dartington – Management Consultant (retired)

Stephen Boddey – Director at bbr Architects

Vicky Wyer – Landscape Architect at Bowles & Wyer

John Wyer – Director at Bowles & Wyer

Steven Haynes – Property Lawyer