



# **SAWBRIDGEWORTH TOWN ACTION PLAN**

## **2016-2020**

***Monitoring Pack***

**PART ONE**

**ACTION TABLES**

## Amenities & Facilities

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue   | Proposed Action  | Lead Group | Support | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication    |
|---|---|--|------------|---------|----------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------|
| 1 | Toilets   | Get them refurbished or replaced<br><b>Under discussion with EHDC</b>  | EHDC       | STC     | H              | Y            | 2016       | Budget                  |
| 2 | Raising awareness, about CAB, Buses, STOMP, Time-Bank | Getting stories and articles in CM21 + Church & Town, Web-site<br>More notice boards   | EHDC       | STC     | H              | Y            | ASAP       | Administration capacity |
| 3 | Town Green  | Landscaped to be accessible space for all. More Seating to make it into a meeting place. <b>On hold until access to surgery development is established</b> | EHDC       | STC     | M              | Y            | 2016/17    | Finance                 |
| 4 | Children's services (Duckling Green)                  | To be retained in Sawbridgeworth<br><b>On hold until future of Library/Fire service determined</b>   | HCC        | STC     | H              | Y            |            | Finance                 |
| 5 | Youth Facility  | Find a suitable meeting place<br><b>On hold until future of Library determined</b>   | STC        | STC     | H              | Y            | 2017       | Finance Commitment      |
| 6 | Access for all  | Dropped kerbs  | HCC        | STC     | M              | Y            |            | Finance Consultation    |

## Crime & Disorder

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue                              | Proposed Action                            | Lead Group | Support | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication |
|---|------------------------------------|--|------------|---------|----------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Lack of police presence            | Approach Herts Police<br>1 PC and 2 PCSOs  | STC        | -       | M              | Y            | 2016       | Police priorities    |
| 2 | Recruit Street Pastors             | Revisit scheme                             | STC        | -       | M              | Y            | 2016       | None                 |
| 3 | Address litter problems            | Arrange litter picks<br>Mayor's initiative | EHDC       | STC     | M              | Y            | 2016       | EHDC policy          |
| 4 | Increase levels of street lighting | Approach HCC<br>No HCC budget for this     | STC        |         | M              | Y            | 2016       | HCC Policy           |
| 5 |                                    |  |            |         |                |              |            |                      |

## Economic Development

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue   | Proposed Action   | Lead Group | Support      | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication             |
|---|---|---|------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 | Empty Shops   | Lower Rents<br>New Communities Officer appointed by EHDC                    | EHDC       | STC          | H              | Y            | 2016/17    | EHDC economic environment        |
| 2 | Pavement not wide enough  | Widen one side  | HCC        | -            | -              | N            | -          | Investigated and rejected by HCC |
| 3 | Speeding in Bell Street and other town centre areas                     | Town centre speed limit of 20 mph<br>Under consideration by HCC             | HCC        | Herts Police | M              | Y            | 2016/17    | HCC Policy                       |
| 4 | Fair Green underused  | Regain Lordship of the Manor<br>Achieved                                    | STC        | -            | M              | Y            | 2016/17    | None                             |
| 5 | Town Green underused  | Work with District Council to develop scheme<br>Depends on surgery access   | STC        | EHDC         | M              | Y            | 2017/18    | Funding from s106                |
| 6 | New traffic management scheme for Bell Street, include traffic fee zone | Work with District Council and Herts Highways to develop scheme In progress | STC        | EHDC<br>HCC  | M              | Y            | 2018/19    | Funding from s106                |

## Environment

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue   | Proposed Action   | Lead Group | Support  | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication                   |
|---|---|---|------------|----------|----------------|--------------|------------|--|
| 1 | Flight path                                   | Confirm/reconsider routing to minimize pollution                        | EHDC?      | STC      | H              | Y            | 2015-7     | None                                   |
| 2 | Traffic pollution                             | Speed limit in town centre<br><b>Under investigation – but unlikely</b> | HCC        | EHDC/STC | H              | Y            | 2015-7     | Monitoring and implementation          |
| 3 | Maintenance of footpaths and Twitchells       | Schedule regular maintenance; set up volunteer monitoring group?        | EHDC       | STC      | M              | Y            | 2015-      | Monitoring and quality control; budget |
| 4 | Permissive paths                              | Clarify ownership and maintenance responsibility (health and safety)    | EHDC       | STC      | M              | Y            | 2015-      | Enforcement/monitoring                 |
| 5 | River area (banks; towpath; meadows; marshes) | Maintain/enhance; avoid over-development                                | EHDC       | STC      | H              | Y            | 2015-      | Budget                                 |
| 6 | Tree protection/preservation                  | Clarify/monitor procedures/schedule                                     | EHDC       | STC      | M              | Y            | 2015-      | Budget                                 |

## People in the Community

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue                 | Proposed Action   | Lead Group     | Support | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication      |
|---|-----------------------|---|----------------|---------|----------------|--------------|------------|---------------------------|
| 1 | Need Youth facilities | Youth Café/ Lemonade Pub<br><b>On hold at the moment</b>  | STC            | HCC     | M              | Y            | 2017/18    | Finance                   |
| 2 | Bullfields centre     | Develop for more activities<br><b>Management decision</b> | SYPRC Trustees | STC     | M              | ?            | 2016/17    | Availability for bookings |
| 3 |                       |   |                |         |                |              |            |                           |
| 4 |                       |   |                |         |                |              |            |                           |

## Planning and Housing

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue                                     | Proposed Action   | Lead Group | Support | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication                |
|---|---|---|------------|---------|----------------|--------------|------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Parking                                   | Additional parking for station; residents' parking schemes  | EHDC/HCC   | STC     | H              | Y            | 2015-20    | Cost (Section 106?) and enforcement |
| 2 | Over-development of central areas of town | Smaller phased developments on town fringes/Spellbrook with affordable and senior citizen housing<br><i>See District Plan</i> | EHDC       | STC     | H              | Y            | 2015-20    | Developer funding                   |
| 3 | Infrastructure                            | Plan for additional/wider access roads and improved traffic flow; health services; school places<br><i>See District Plan</i>  | EHDC/HCC   | STC     | H              | Y            | 2015-20    | Developer funding? S106?            |
| 4 | Air quality                               | Reduce traffic flow through central parts of town; 20mph speed limits<br><i>See District Plan</i>                             | EHDC/HCC   | STC     | H              | Y            | 2015-20    | As above                            |
| 5 | Conservation Area                         | Monitor and preserve/extend Extent interest into Essex fuller planning management   | EHDC       | STC     | H              | Y            | 2015-      | ????                                |
| 6 | Green Belt Review                         | Monitor implications of GB Review of August 2015<br><i>See District Plan</i>  | EHDC       | STC     | H              | Y            | 2015-17    | None                                |



# Spellbrook

## ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue            | Proposed Action  | Lead Group | Support | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale | Resource implication |
|---|------------------|--|------------|---------|----------------|--------------|------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Too much traffic | Bypass   | HCC        | -       | L              | ?            | 2020 on    | Massive              |
| 2 | Too much traffic | Provide a pelican crossing<br>New crossing established | HCC        |         | H              | Y            | 2020       | High                 |
| 3 |                  |  |            |         |                |              |            |                      |
| 4 |                  |  |            |         |                |              |            |                      |
| 5 |                  |  |            |         |                |              |            |                      |

## Traffic & Transport

### ACTIONS TO BE ADDRESSED AND MONITORED

|   | Issue   | Proposed Action  | Lead Group | Support      | Priority H/M/L | Feasible Y/N | Time-scale                 | Resource implication  |
|---|---|--|------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------------------|---|
| 1 | Speeding  | Speed restrictions on certain roads<br><b>In progress</b>  | HCC        | Herts Police | H              | Y            | 6-12 months                | Survey required – Police currently monitoring Station Rd, already done? |
| 2 | Parking (residential)   | Resident permit schemes. Analysis of current parking available compared with no. of households<br><b>Rejected by EHDC</b>          | EHDC       | -            | H              | Y            | Asap                       | Wardens may be required but will provide income from the permits        |
| 3 | Pot holes/road and pavement maintenance                               | Improved maintenance - fill in holes<br><b>Pursue with HCC</b>   | HCC        | EHDC         | M              | Y            | 6 mos from reporting issue | Budget  |
| 4 | Traffic congestion  | Consider mini roundabout Bell St with London Road<br><b>See District Plan</b>  | HCC        | EHDC         | M              | N            | 1-2 years                  | Study required by highways. Budget constraints                          |
| 5 | Expanding community bus service to other groups                       | Investigate needs of neighbouring parishes and groups<br><b>Under investigation</b>  | STC        | EHDC<br>EFDC | M              | Y            | 2016                       | Vehicle and driver costs  |
| 6 | Shared spaced in Bell Street (like Buntingford and Bishops Stortford) | Work with District Council and Herts Highways to develop scheme<br><b>No realistic prospect until Town Green project developed</b> | STC        | EHDC<br>HCC  | M              | Y            | 2017/18                    | Funding from s106   |

**PART TWO**

**ANALYSES AND WISH LISTS**

## Amenities & Facilities

### ANALYSIS

#### STRENGTHS

- Hailey Centre
- Memorial Hall
- Bullfields
- Sports facilities
- Allotments
- Community buses
- Organisations
- Thomas Rivers land behind The Crest

#### WEAKNESSES

- No public conveniences in other areas
- Disability access + Push Chairs
- Nothing for teenagers who do not wish to be part of a uniformed group
- PCSO's not enough and very seldom seen
- Library depends on voluntary staff
- Toilet facilities should be thoroughly cleaned, maintained and open at all times, as people try to use Hailey Centre which is not allowed
- No mention of sporting facilities in town i.e. Cricket, Tennis, Bowls club
- Need full-time paid librarians open Mon – Sat
- Lack of well-lit safe environments for teenagers to meet
- Charity bins in Bell Street car park overflowing

## OPPORTUNITIES

- Raise awareness of all services ( Buses, CAB, Town Diary, Time Banking, STOMP)
- Work with EHDC to improve public conveniences, and make more accessible for all
- Move library into Bell Street to increase footfall as good community asset.
- Produce a comprehensive 'what's on' website to publicise regular & occasional events
- Provide Youth café
- Provide more activities for young people at Memorial Hall
- Utilise wall space on short underpass at Bakers Walk for outreach/connection/communication
- A safe place outreach initiative to vulnerable/isolated people possibly via local surgery/church or therapeutic practice i.e. creative workshop.

## THREATS

- Duckling Green
- Funding for buses
- May lose our library which is essential asset
- Antisocial behaviour due to lack of facilities for young people
- Cars parking on pavements hazardous to pedestrians particularly disabled and mum's with pushchairs.
- Children's centre moved into library and now only available during very limited opening hours, leaving parents with young children vulnerable and in isolated position

## Amenities & Facilities

### WISH LIST

|  |
|--|
| No obstructed pavements  |
| More dropped kerbs   |
| Continuing Community Bus service<br>DONE, looking for expansion of services  |
| More PCSO's to be seen around the town<br>1 PC and 2 PCSOs assigned to Sawbridgeworth  |
| Keep Library open and for more hours   |
| Publicise events at Memorial Hall<br>DONE – regular updates on web=site and postings to Facebook pages                       |
| Provide AstroTurf on Vantorts play area to make it useable all year  |
| Stop cars parking on the grass verges near Reedings School<br>IN PROGRESS – this is on Herts Highways To Do list for 2017/18 |
| Provide lighting on approach road to Mandeville School<br>INVESTIGATED – in conjunction with Herts CC                        |
| Tighten rules re: drinking in bars   |
| Clear streets of dog ends outside Goose Fat and Garlic   |
| Publicise Time-Banking<br>DEFUNCT – project terminated in favour of another approach   |

# Crime & Disorder

## ANALYSIS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>STRENGTHS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low crime</li><li>• Crime Watch e-mails are helpful</li></ul>  | <b>WEAKNESSES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Low police presence</li><li>• Small group of troublemakers</li><li>• Poor lighting in some streets / areas</li><li>• Drunks &amp; drug users moved from streets</li><li>• Lights need to be on all night particularly twitchels/footpaths &amp; parks – unsafe for women</li><li>• Perception of being unsafe</li></ul> |
| <b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• More visible police presence</li><li>• Recruit street Pastors</li><li>• Use the Hailey Day Centre as a youth café</li><li>• Erect litter notices/fines along Cambridge Road to keep our town tidy and set a higher precedent</li><li>• Better information about crimes</li></ul> | <b>THREATS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lack of police / PCSO's = more crime</li><li>• Drugs and legal highs</li><li>• Difficult (if not impossible) to contact police</li></ul>   |

## WISH LIST

|             |
|-------------|
| More police |
| Less drugs  |

# Economic Development

## ANALYSIS

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Free Car Parking for one hour</li> <li>• Good core of shops in the town centre</li> <li>• Good footfall to visit             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Doctor’s surgery</li> <li>○ Cafes</li> <li>○ Hairdressers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  | <p><b>WEAKNESSES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Too many vacant shops</li> <li>• Pavements too narrow along Bell Street</li> <li>• Too many charity shops</li> <li>• No bus service from Lower Sheering to heart of town</li> <li>• Need to do more to encourage people to shop local</li> <li>• Shop fronts need improvement</li> <li>• Lack of a Farmers Market</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regeneration</li> <li>• Speed bumps &amp; 20mph limit imposed making it safer for pedestrians along Bell Street, Knight Street, Fair Green &amp; Church Street.</li> <li>• Pedestrianise part of Bell Street</li> <li>• Start a New Business Group</li> <li>• Conduct an independent ‘Fair Price ‘ rent &amp; rates review for shops</li> <li>• Hold a French Market say 3 times per year</li> <li>• Encourage specialist shops i.e. Foodie, Wedding etc. become a ‘Hub’ for same</li> <li>• Reverse flow in Bell Street car park</li> <li>• Enforce use of Free 1 hour parking to avoid congestion on Bell Street</li> <li>• Offer temporary occupation of empty shops for projects/business start ups</li> <li>• Improve Street lighting</li> <li>• Encourage residents to shop local and make aware of impact on town</li> </ul> | <p><b>THREATS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A significant landlord restricts improvement</li> <li>• Rents from significant landlord too high</li> <li>• Shops threatened by planning applications for change of use to residential – Stop this</li> <li>• Retailers affected by empty shops in town forced to close due to lack of footfall</li> <li>• Significant landlord restricts shop occupancy</li> <li>• Shops diversifying and selling mix of cards/stationary &amp; food could affect other retailers in the long run.</li> </ul> |



## Economic Development

### WISH LIST

Repair broken kerbs & Remove pavement obstructions near Christine's

East Herts District Council change boundary area to include Lower Sheering as wide geographical gap between here and Epping

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# Environment

## ANALYSIS

### STRENGTHS

- Good range of green recreational, play areas and sporting facilities: Pishiobury, Fair Green, Bullfields, Rivers; Stort; Van Torts/West Road play areas; allotments; Forebury Green?; Surgery Green?; fishing lake; nature reserve; cricket/bowls/tennis clubs; school fields; old bowling green; Redricks?
- River Stort: banks, towpath, meadows and marshes (environmental and recreational value)
- Spellbrook Heritage Village status?

### WEAKNESSES

- Effective maintenance of Twitchells and footpaths by EHDC; quality control?
- Traffic congestion/parking/air pollution/speed limits
- Pollution from Stansted traffic (noise and air - fuel pollution) Keep Planes further west.
- Overhanging trees obscuring road signs and street lights (EHDC maintenance plan?)
- Flooding (drains, gully maintenance; EHDC/HCC)
- River area: East Herts old tip with boundary on tow path; permissive path to Southbrook allotments; appearance/maintenance of Esbies site
- Risk of accident on London Road, need 30mph speed camera
- Too many overhanging trees obscuring drivers view of Bus Stops
- Footpaths need resurfacing as real problem for pushchairs, mobility scooters etc.
- Vantorts to Fair Green very badly maintained, regular clearance of leaves, dog excrement needs to be done
- Maintenance of area/rubbish clearance behind wire fence leading from Station along station road
- Dog fouling problem on school routes

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- River area: improve access, maintenance, quality of environment (tow path; banks; meadows and marshes; establish ownership of unoccupied land bordering river; permissive paths etc.)
- Provide cycle track from Sawbridgeworth to Bishops Stortford
- Distribute maps showing footpaths & twitchels to encourage more people to walk
- Mitigate impact of proposed M11 new junction)
- Town walks route; improve tourism opportunities and thereby retail support (compare proposals for e.g. Hertford)
- Support 20 mph speed limit in central area: Bell Street, Fair Green and Knight Street
- Sleeping policemen in Bell Street to slow traffic
- Impose Weight limit along Bell Street to cut out pollution from large Lorries.
- Encourage walking and cycling to school to cut down on congestion
- Provide cigarette butt bins especially outside station
- Erect sign at level crossing encouraging motorists to turn off engines
- Enforce clearance of foliage adjacent to footways by property owners.
- Upgrade street & pathway lighting to improve safety
- Town sign needs more colour – very bland
- Provide enclosed area for dog owners to have pets off lead for training purposes

**THREATS**

- Impact of budget cuts
- Development along riverside
- Water meadows (Sheering Mill Lane); marshes; deterioration of towpath and banks (lack of maintenance)
- Impact of over-development and infilling (services, parking, traffic); impact of EHDC overruling STC objections to planning applications because of National Policy Planning Framework pressure to develop
- Adjacent developments in Essex/impact on conservation area (see wish list)
- Danger of Town becoming urbanised if lose green areas
- Bypass essential if Harlow North goes ahead, serious traffic concerns with new planned houses

## Environment

### WISH LIST

|  |
|--|
| More protection for our green spaces; maintain what we've got as a budget priority |
| Clarify parish boundaries  |
| Status of Spellbrook within parish   |
| Ownership of permissive paths and unoccupied land e.g. in river area.              |
| Traffic volume increase following Harlow North and M11 developments: bypass?       |
| Encourage walking and cycling.   |
| What is happening at the old rubbish tip?  |
| Reduce bureaucracy around control of preserved trees                               |
| Control the shooting of Snipe (once populous in Sawbo)                             |
| Keep footpaths clear of vegetation   |
| Get more colour in town sign   |
| Reduce air pollution on Fair Green   |
| Make use of the wasted area outside the doctors surgery                            |
| Provide a seat at Sheering Mill Lock   |
| Keep airplanes well to the east of Sawbo   |

# People in the Community

## ANALYSIS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>STRENGTHS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good facilities for over 55's</li> <li>• Churches</li> <li>• Street Pastors</li> <li>• Existing Youth club at congregational church alternate Fri nights</li> <li>• Good existing uniform groups i.e. Beavers, Scouts, and Brownies etc.</li> <li>• Happiness Club – monthly meetings in place</li> <li>• University of the Third Age (U3A)</li> </ul> | <p><b>WEAKNESSES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of things for youngsters</li> <li>• Refurbishment of church park needed as equipment ageing and accidents have been caused</li> <li>• Hailey Day centre needs facilities improved</li> <li>• Town Crier needed</li> <li>• Not enough facilities not linked to religious organisations</li> <li>• Lack of utilisation of Town Council controlled facilities for youths</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>OPPORTUNITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth café</li> <li>• Expand facilities at Bullfields</li> <li>• Lemonade Pub for teenagers</li> <li>• Introduce Youth council to have their say &amp; express their opinions</li> <li>• Find a way to mix young and older people together</li> <li>• Encourage youth facilities for non-uniformed groups on Fri &amp; weekend</li> </ul>          | <p><b>THREATS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vandalism</li> <li>• Teenagers smoking cannabis in bushes in church park while young children are playing.</li> <li>• Fences need mending</li> </ul>   |

## WISH LIST

|   |
|---|
| <p>Museum or Gallery to provide a history of Sawbo and hold archives (e.g. River Orchard)<br/> <b>Established at Town Council offices</b></p> |
| <p>Why aren't people of all ages using the facilities at the Memorial Hall? There is no age restriction for the cinema.</p>                   |

## Planning and Housing

### ANALYSIS

#### STRENGTHS

Good town centre basis: retail opportunities

#### WEAKNESSES

- congested environment
- in-filling
- Implications (of over-development) for parking etc.
- loss of town's 'character' new buildings should reflect their surroundings
- need to plant more wild flowers along roadside together with more effective and regular litter picking
- Inadequate parking at Sawbridgeworth Station
- Lower Sheering should come under Herts CC to properly reflect the demands on the town's infrastructure
- Housing Association new flats/housing being given to people outside area

| OPPORTUNITIES   | THREATS   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phased development on town fringes/Spellbrook</li> <li>• Improved infrastructure and services including more schools &amp; doctors</li> <li>• Provide more school places for local children</li> <li>• Provide affordable housing for young people &amp; first time buyers who are already local</li> <li>• Co-ordinated defence with EHDC to prevent Harlow North development</li> <li>• Avoid building on green belt around Sawbridgeworth but a development in Spell brook would breathe life into this village</li> <li>• Improve traffic flow on 'T' junction at Bell St lights crossing</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gridlock</li> <li>• Increased air pollution/health issues</li> <li>• Lack of sufficient infrastructure/service to cope with development</li> <li>• Erosion of Green belt (Green Belt Review August 2015) what are Town Council doing about proposal north of Leventhorpe</li> <li>• Traffic from Chalks Farm development</li> <li>• Residents parking NOT good idea – cause more problems</li> <li>• People parking on dropped kerbs</li> <li>• Inconsiderate parking in Bullfields</li> </ul> |

**WISH LIST**

|   |
|---|
| <p>Explore possible further commissioning of conservation area where it overlaps with Essex as a possible buffer against over-development (as part of existing duty to co-operate while formulating the District Plan?). Protect green areas e.g. beyond railway crossing.<br/> <a href="#">See District Plan</a></p> |
| <p>Monitor impact of Harlow North development and proposed additional M11 junction and flyover. Sound and vision proofing?<br/> <a href="#">See District Plan</a></p>   |
| <p>Allocate two off-road car parking spaces to each new flat or house.<br/> <a href="#">See District Plan</a></p>   |
| <p>Use Kecksys area for housing<br/> <a href="#">See District Plan</a></p>  |
| <p>Provide affordable parking at the station</p>  |
| <p>Sort out traffic congestion resulting from new housing developments<br/> <a href="#">See District Plan</a></p>   |
| <p>School places problems should have been addressed year ago<br/> <a href="#">See District Plan</a></p>  |

# Spellbrook

## ANALYSIS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>STRENGTHS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rural</li><li>• Lots of undeveloped land</li><li>• There is now a café in Spellbrook</li></ul>   | <b>WEAKNESSES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Not really a village</li><li>• Overdevelopment</li><li>• Lack of infrastructure and facilities</li><li>• No shops or health facilities</li></ul> |
| <b>OPPORTUNITIES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Plenty of potential opportunities for development</li><li>• Expansion of primary school</li><li>• Expand Spellbrook School to 1 Form entry to ease over subscription in Sawbridgeworth &amp; provide school bus from Sawbridgeworth to Spellbrook</li><li>• Maintain Spellbrook as a Green Area and only build on 'Brownfield' site when use changes</li><li>• Encourage sensitive development</li></ul> | <b>THREATS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Overdevelopment</li><li>• Too much traffic in rush hours</li></ul>  |

## WISH LIST

Sensitive development



## Traffic & Transport

### ANALYSIS

#### STRENGTHS

- Good train links to London/Cambridge
- Twitchels available around town to avoid main roads
- Community bus service (Sawbobus)
- Self-drive bus available for groups (e.g. football/scouts)
- Dial-a-ride service for hospital/dentist appointments for elderly

#### WEAKNESSES

- Cars speeding on certain roads (e.g. Station Road, Knight Street, Bell Street). Congestion on Cambridge/London road
- Imposed parking restrictions – reducing resident parking. Lack of permit schemes in place at present as alternative
- Pavement widths are narrow
- Increase in number of cars per household causing parking issues
- Better lighting needed in Twitchels to encourage use
- Pot holes around the area
- Vantorts Road to Fair Green no footpath, speeding cars cause danger to pedestrians at school times
- Road surfaces unacceptable
- Inadequate parking at station for commuters
- Enforcement needed to prevent cars parking on zig-zag lines near to schools
- Pedestrian lights – time needs adjusting to allow elderly/disabled to cross safely
- Lack of and cost of parking at the station

**OPPORTUNITIES**

- Resident parking schemes and a survey of the town’s residents parking options.
- Junction at Bell St/London Road suggested mini roundabout to ease congestion
- Speed restrictions where narrow pavements in place for pedestrians
- Consider over ground/underground parking options
- Expand community bus service to wider groups (e.g. stay at home mums/dads)
- Improve cycle path along river to Harlow Mill
- Junction Brook Rd/London Rd suggested mini roundabout
- Bypass to ease congestion/pollution
- Introduce bike motorway for school children to encourage health, ease congestion. Suggest visit to Kesgrave where scheme is in action
- Pedestrianise Bell Street
- A414 Harlow North to St James Way needs dual carriageway to promote through traffic & faster access to airport

**THREATS**

- Housing developments with limited parking is compounding current issue
- Lack of support from East Herts District Council – no funding for resident permit schemes
- Lack of resource to undertake surveys/planning considerations
- Service on trains has declined
- Lack of support to erect bollards to stop parking on grass verges

**WISH LIST**

|  |
|--|
| Underground parking facilities   |
| Clarify ownership of permissive paths and maintenance responsibilities |
| Stop people mounting the kerb to park                                  |
| Maintain surface drains to prevent flash flooding                      |
| One way system at end of Fair Green with a pedestrian priority         |
| More co-operation between Cyclists and pedestrians on tow paths        |
| Better maintenance of Twitchells ( e.g. opp. Budgens, Roseacres)       |