

	Issue	Suggested action(s)	Responsibility	Priority	Feasibility	Timing	Resources	Action(s) for STC (if not primarily responsible)	Mid-point update - November 2025
Traffic, roads & parking	Traffic and congestion, particularly on A1184/London Road/Cambridge Road	Explore a range of traffic alleviation options - including weight limits, traffic flow, and new routes (opportunities in District Plan review?)	HCC, EHDC	Higher	More Difficult	Over 4 years	Significant budget (HCC, EHDC)	Work with HCC Cllr, Highways and traffic experts to explore options	Regular meetings have been held with neighbouring parish councils to strengthen collaboration and improve communication. These discussions have focused on planning and sharing information regarding upcoming roadworks that may affect the A1184 and its feeder routes, ensuring proactive measures to minimise disruption and maintain traffic flow. STC also supported HCC Cllr in comms with utilities (e.g. Affinity Water), and their works have become less frequent and less disruptive, with the exception of gas works along the A1184, but these were scheduled and residents notified well in advance.
	Traffic flow along main road (too many stopping points)	Review plans for removing double roundabouts; and subsequently explore options for changes to other crossings on main road to improve traffic flow	HCC	Medium	Possible	Over 4 years	HCC budget	Work with HCC Cllr to get an update from Highways and develop plans	As part of the LCWIP, and supported by S160 monies, HCC are reviewing plans for the junction of West Road/Station Road/A1184.
	Speeding cars (e.g. Bullfields, Vantorts) and dangerous driving (e.g. Fair Green/SML)	Actions arising from 20mph consultations and introduction of one-way at SML, but in any case encourage active monitoring and enforcement by Police.	Herts Police / HCC	Higher	Likely	Ongoing now	Police resources	Continue to work closely with Police to monitor safety issues. Explore option of a community Speed Watch and support creation and development if requested	20mph zone introduced in Bullfields area following consultation. Police are aware of issues with speeding bikes and cars and taking more proactive action (also supported by STC CCTV). Introduction of one-way system on Sheering Mill Lane has reduced issues at this point. A proactive approach to publishing images of offenders through press and social media channels has contributed to a measurable reduction in reported incidents. This strategy has enhanced public awareness and acted as a deterrent, supporting overall community safety objectives.
	Regular unplanned roadworks by utility companies on main road and Bell Street	Better planning and coordination of works (where possible), preventative works to avoid emergency fixes, and better communication with HCC, STC & community	Utility Companies / HCC	Medium	Likely	Ongoing now	Time, admin, comms	Build on new relationships with utility companies to improve communication	As per the update above on traffic and congestion.
	Poor road conditions e.g. West Road, A1184 near Harlow	Resurfacing works on A1184 scheduled (2023/24); but consider scheduling for West Road after developments completed	HCC	Higher	Likely	Start in 2023/24	HCC budget	Work with HCC Cllr & Highways for update. Develop relationships with Essex County Council	Resurfacing works now complete on West Road and A1184. Work at Harlow Mill benefited from joined up work between HCC and EHDC.
	Public transport - frequency & routes of buses, timing & frequency of trains at night	Review current bus routes/destinations and frequency (STC to review for SawboBus); review train times and capacity with GA.	Arriva / HCC, Greater Anglia, STC	Lower	Possible	2024 onwards	Time, admin	Review SawboBus route and frequency. Support engagement with Arriva and Greater Anglia to examine bus/train frequency	SawboBus commuter time trial saw limited take-up and high cost to STC, so would need amending if we were to try again in the future. The train timetables are changing in December 2025, with a train to/from London every 15-20 minutes during peak time, and trains back from London running until just before midnight.
	Repeat flooding on roads (e.g. Parsonage Lane, Bullfields, Spellbrook, Harlow Road)	Investigate issues thoroughly to identify causes; consider works to improve drainage and run-off; plant more trees; and comms around non-flushables.	HCC, Thames Water	Medium	Possible	Ongoing now	HCC budget	Continue to support engagement with Thames Water & residents. Support comms around ways to help reduce blockages	Gullies and drains were cleared at Pishiobury, Parsonage and Spellbrook - all have been tested during heavy rainfall, and all have improved, with quicker drainage and minimal flooding/pooling. HCC Cllr has asked for gully clearance to be kept under review.
	Insufficient gritting of pedestrian routes during cold weather	Review A/B priority routes; ensure salt bins are full at start of winter; assist with STC supply where possible; and communicate responsibilities to businesses/groups/residents	HCC, STC	Medium	Likely	Ongoing now	STC Rangers, time, comms	STC Rangers to ensure bins are topped up, and if necessary assist in gritting pathways to town centre. STC to support in communicating routes and responsibilities.	Gritting routes were reviewed and fed back to HCC. STC are well-stocked with grit ahead of the winter, and purchased a small grit-spreader (thanks to HCC Cllr) to assist with Bell St pavements and route to GP surgery if required. HCC Cllr also secured further grit bins around the town. STC reminded businesses of responsibility to clear in front of properties. STC keeps pushing EHDC and HCC to explore ways to grit Bell St and the car park. The Town Action Plan and Amenities Committee has an agenda item to maintain focus on this issue. This has prompted debates and actions involving both East Herts District Council and Hertfordshire Highways to ensure that community safety remains a priority for all stakeholders involved in this area.
	Accessibility around town (uneven, narrow pavements; not enough drop kerbs)	Conduct assessment of town centre pavements to identify areas for resurfacing and additional drop kerbs.	HCC	Higher	Possible	2024 onwards	HCC budget, STC budget, time, admin	Assist in identifying pavement issues, and support HCC Cllr to highlight to HCC. Explore feasibility of adding a wheelchair ramp to SawboBus.	The Town Rangers works in partnership with East Hertfordshire District Council's street cleaning team to identify and report defects, such as damaged kerbs or hazardous pavements, to the appropriate authority for prompt action. A number of pavements around the town have been repaired, or completely resurfaced. STC Rangers have been cutting back paths where possible. Any future wheelchair ramp for SawboBus would have to be on a new, adapted bus.
	Lack of parking provision around the town	Identify areas of insufficient parking provision; explore options for additional bays; changes to yellow lines; and consider longer-term options e.g. layout changes, permits	HCC	Higher	Possible	2024 onwards	HCC budget, time, admin	Assist in identifying key areas, and work with HCC Cllr to highlight to HCC	EHDC introducing new parking charges, which is a challenge for Bell Street. HCC Cllr secured reduction in yellow lines on West Road and Station Road to create additional parking spaces.
	Concerns about Bell Street parking charges	Maintain free parking periods on evenings and weekends; and keep daytime costs low. Some costs could be offset by partnering with an EV charging supplier	EHDC	Medium	Possible	Ongoing now	Time, admin, EHDC budget	Continue to voice community's concerns about any possible future increases to EHDC and support local businesses	EHDC ran a consultation on parking charges - EHDC and STC Cllrs promoted the consultation, highlighted unique nature of Sawbridgeworth compared to larger towns, voiced concerns about impact on businesses, and encouraged residents and business owners to contribute to consultation.
	Cars parking on pavements	Assess locations and timings for likely issues (e.g. school pick-up/takeaways), and discuss enforcement with HCC and Herts Police.	HCC / Herts Police	Higher	Possible	2024 onwards	HCC & Police resources	Assist in identifying issue areas and highlight to HCC and police. Work with residents and Police on Priority Setting to include this.	Some additional yellow lines have been added in problem areas e.g. Bullfields roundabout. HCC Cllr also looking at Knight Street and the exit of Bell St Car Park. Police are issuing reminder notices/warnings to some vehicles.
	Noise & air pollution from vehicles	Encourage alternatives e.g. walking, cycling, EVs (see points below); promote a 'Don't Be Idle' comms campaign; and monitor air quality on main road	EHDC, HCC	Medium	Likely	Ongoing now	EHDC budget	Continue to push EHDC for updates on EV chargers, footpath repairs, and air quality monitor	STC secured access to Air Quality Monitor from EHDC. The Energy Hub has been very successful on the occasions used, with good community engagement. STC met with Stansted Airport to understand more about their expansion, and possible impact/improvements arising from that in terms of noise and pollution.

Sustainability & Environment	Lack of Electric Vehicle charging points in Sawbridgeworth	EHDC to move forward with over-due installations in Bell Street Car Park; also consider options for private investment e.g. at Shell Garage, and local car parks	EHDC	Lower	Likely	Ongoing now	Time, admin, EHDC budget	Continue to push EHDC for updates on EV chargers; and support in identifying possible additional sites	STC Clerk and EHDC Cllrs have all been pursuing EHDC over possibility of chargers in Bell Street car park. A provider has been finalised by EHDC, and installation is due to start in 3 bays in Bell St Car Park 'very soon'.
	Overgrown paths and footpath maintenance	Cut back overgrowth in key areas (Station Road, Twitchell, main road route to Spellbrook); and repair and reinstate Footpath 22	EHDC	Higher	Possible	Ongoing now	STC Rangers, EHDC budget	Push EHDC for update on FP22. Assess where STC Rangers may be able to support in clearing pathways. Encourage residents & Cllrs to continue to report issues online immediately.	STC Rangers have been cutting back overgrowth when reported e.g. Twitchell and by Keksays entrance on A1184. STC also issuing reminder letters to householders where maintenance is their responsibility. STC Cllrs also assisted with cutting back on Station Road.
	Better footpaths along river (e.g. boardwalks)	Conduct feasibility assessment of boardwalk installation (or other permanent alternatives) from Osier Bed (Pishiobury Park) to Keksays; and possible access to Saffron Crescent.	EHDC / Canal & River Trust	Lower	Possible	Ongoing now	Comms, EHDC/C&T budget	Support engagement between EHDC and Canal & River Trust and continue to develop relationship between STC and C&RT	STC Cllrs, EHDC Cllrs, and cross-border group all working together to explore possibilities, including possible future S106 money from new hospital. Much longer-term, higher-cost ambition.
	Greater provision of cycle paths	Assess where new/improved routes would have the greatest impact (e.g. to BS/Harlow) and explore development opportunities (including as part of District Plan review)	HCC / EHDC	Medium	More Difficult	2024 onwards	Time, admin, comms	Assist in identifying needs, and make representations to EHDC and HCC	STC and local groups responded to LCWIP consultation, which will underpin strategy for improving connectivity between Bishops Stortford and Harlow, through Sawbridgeworth. Funding and priorities likely subject to new District Plan and subsequent S106 money, all of which is progressing very slowly due to LGR.
	Loss of green spaces	Explore where green spaces can be better maintained, protected, and made accessible for sustainable use (e.g. River, between West Road/Leventhorpe, behind the Crest, Keksays)	EHDC	Higher	Possible	2024 onwards	EHDC work, STC Rangers, time	Support maintenance of access (e.g. via footpaths), and support local groups e.g. Friends of Pishiobury Park	STC responded to Open Spaces consultation. Footpath 9 upgraded, improving access to open countryside. New District Plan may include designating open/nature spaces.
Housing & Planning	New homes feel unaffordable to local residents	As part of the District Plan review, review housing affordability targets and opportunities to prioritise local residents, particularly first-time buyers	EHDC	Medium	More Difficult	2024 onwards	Time, admin	Help to ensure residents views' are included in District Plan review (via EHDC Cllrs and local groups)	Awaiting next phase of District Plan review, but note that around 40% of West Road developments were deemed affordable.
	Protecting character of town, whilst integrating new residents	Continue to develop community events, and improve the promotion of these and local groups to all residents, particularly those in the newer developments on West Road.	STC	Higher	Possible	Start in 2023/24	STC budget, comms	Develop community events and ensure better communication and engagement across town	Continuation of strong STC events programme inc. River Day, Fun on the Field, Christmas Fayre and Town Walk. Development of town information booklet was paused due to resourcing, but will be explored again. The Flyer magazine now includes a quarterly full-page update on Town Council activities, along with councillors' photographs and contact details. In addition, regular monthly features provide further updates, helping new residents stay informed and encouraging them to attend events or contact their council for information or support.
Development of local facilities	New/improved facilities for youth and teens e.g. youth cafe, games arcade	Identify possible sites for new/improved youth-focused facilities; and consider as part of District Plan review. Also consider possible uses of SYPRC/Bullfields.	EHDC, STC	Higher	Possible	Over 4 years	EHDC budget, STC time, budget	Explore options at existing facilities (e.g. Bullfields), and assist in identifying possible new sites	Development of SMH, SYPRC hosting more own events at Bullfields, and developing relationship with SSA to better promote sports activities and venues. The Mayor is launching a youth-focused initiative aimed at integrating younger people into local community groups. This project seeks to amplify the voices of young residents, ensuring their views are reflected in the goals and activities that support and strengthen our younger community.
	Investment in local essential services (doctors, dentists & school capacity)	HCC to continue monitoring statutory provision, and work with EHDC to assess future impacts as part of any developments, in line with S106 requirements.	HCC, EHDC	Higher	More Difficult	Over 4 years	HCC budget	Monitor demand, resident feedback, and future S106 assessments	Primarily funded from S106 money. Feedback/monitoring of GP surgery conducted by patient group - STC to continue to liaise with them.
	Expansion of sports facilities, especially football and cricket	Identify possible sites for new/improved sports facilities; and consider as part of District Plan review	EHDC	Medium	More Difficult	Over 4 years	EHDC budget, STC time	Support expansion of sporting provision as part of District Plan Review (via EHDC Cllrs)	Any new facilities are likely to be delivered as part of the District Plan Review. In the meantime, HCC Cllr funded new signage and STC is improving link with SSA to help promote their locations, fixtures and facilities. The Town Council has councillors sitting on local sports group committees to monitor activities and promote awareness at Council meetings. They will raise any concerns for discussion, applying a problem-solving approach where issues fall within the Council's remit. Where matters are outside the Council's authority, they will be escalated to the appropriate level.
	Improvements to Leventhorpe Pool and continued operation	Assign any unallocated S106 monies for 'Grange Paddock/Leventhorpe' to upgrade facilities at the swimming pool, and provide certainty over the future of the pool.	EHDC	Medium	Possible	2023/24 onwards	EHDC budget, STC time	Push EHDC for update on S106 money, and work with EHDC Cllrs to support Pool maintenance	HCC Cllr, EHDC Cllrs, and STC Cllrs all worked with the School, MP and DiE to explore options for additional funding to keep pool open, sadly unsuccessfully. Have maintained pressure on EHDC and HCC to explore assistance for those travelling further for swimming lessons.
	Play areas lacking shade and accessible activities	Explore opportunities and means to add trees (or shade sails) and accessible and/or sensory play equipment to play areas	EHDC, STC	Medium	Possible	2024 onwards	EHDC budget, STC budget, time	Explore feasibility and budget for implementing at STC-managed sites (e.g. West Road); and engage with EHDC on other sites	Issues with ongoing vandalism in West Road has made repairs/replacement the priority, but this site is also well-shaded. EHDC Cllrs to explore options for Vantorts Park. This may change if any new sites move to STC control post-LGR.
	Library facilities need upgrading	Continue to explore most sustainable location for library and associated investment in facilities	HCC	Medium	Possible	2023/24 onwards	HCC budget, STC time	Support HCC & Cllr in finding a permanent, sustainable home for the library and/or upgrade to facilities	No further update at this stage.

Safety, policing & social issues	Increase in crime (or perception of it), particularly burglaries and antisocial behaviour	Reassure residents with more visible presence; comms around preventative action; continued use of CCTV to deter and identify	Herts Police	Higher	Possible	Start in 2023/24	Police resources, STC comms	Continue to support police comms; support CCTV monitoring; consider future increase to CCTV footprint around town centre	STC CCTV has been expanded, and continues to provide reassurance, deterrence, and evidence. STC is working closely with the local police team.
	Lack of visible police presence & not enough patrols	Identify hotspot areas for increased presence and/or regular patrols e.g. Bell Street, Vanlorts Park, Bullfields	Herts Police	Higher	Possible	Start in 2023/24	STC time	Work with residents to assist in identifying areas that may benefit from more regular police patrols. Build on STC/Police working relationship e.g. through shared space	Police have a more visible presence and are being more proactive. Mayor, Deputy, Clerk and other STC Cllrs have met with local team regularly, and joined them for walkabouts. The Council has appointed a dedicated Councillor to act as the Police Liaison. Local police officers are invited to attend Town Council meetings and provide regular updates. Officers are encouraged to use the Council's office facilities to promote better communication and collaboration. In addition, regular police surgeries are held at this location to ensure accessibility for residents.
	Lack of street lighting, and a number of lights not working	Identify where lights are not working, and repair; and then longer-term consider needs and requests for additional lighting	HCC	Medium	Possible	Start in 2023/24	HCC budget, STC time & admin	Work with residents & HCC Cllr to identify and report areas of concern	Lighting repaired in a number of areas, including Twitchell and Station Road. Residents encouraged to report any issues/dark areas to HCC via their website.
	Overflowing litter bins and insufficient street cleaning	Review frequency of bin emptying and street cleaning, and ensure they are being followed; increase frequency if required.	EHDC, STC	Medium	Likely	Start in 2023/24	STC Rangers, budget, time, EHDC resources	Assess where STC Rangers may be able to support	STC liaising directly with street cleaner (rather than through EHDC) to keep town centre clean. STC reporting any wider issues directly to EHDC/HCC as required, and encouraging residents to do the same.
	Litter, graffiti and minor damage spoiling town appearance	STC to work with EHDC to establish a sustainable long-term plan for minor fixes and tidying	EHDC, STC	Lower	Possible	Start in 2023/24	STC Rangers, budget, time, EHDC resources	Assess where STC Rangers may be able to support	STC support residents in reporting issues to EHDC/HCC, and Rangers are assisting where they can.
Civic pride, engagement & businesses	Decline of Bell Street and low variety of shops	Explore methods to attract new businesses and encourage start-ups (facilities, rates); support existing businesses to revitalise frontage	EHDC, STC	Medium	More Difficult	Over 4 years	EHDC time, budget, STC time, budget	Work with EHDC to explore ways to attract new businesses; support existing businesses to revitalise frontage; consider establishing a business forum/network.	STC has now established businesses WhatsApp group for sharing updates, issues, and best practice. STC working with businesses on Christmas charity campaign again, which also helps to drive footfall in shops. Number of vacant units remains low.
	Lack of weekly market/farmers market	Revive plans for a weekly market, and identify new possible sites and traders.	STC	Medium	Possible	2024 onwards	STC time, budget, comms	Revive plans for a weekly market, and identify new possible sites and traders.	Subject to access, costs and logistics, Market due to launch by mid-2026.
	Requests for more evening entertainment e.g. live music, arts	Improve promotion of existing entertainment/venues; work with venues to encourage more music and arts events; explore possible food/drink festival idea	STC	Lower	Likely	2024 onwards	STC time, budget, comms	Improve promotion of existing entertainment/venues; work with venues to encourage more music and arts events; explore possible food/drink festival idea	SMH expansion is increasing programme there, as is Bullfields - inc. music festival explored this year and likely next year. Pubs (e.g. The Bell) had more live music over the summer. STC is monitoring The Vault to ensure their events add to the community without causing problems for neighbouring residents and ASB.
	Lack of communication about town events and STC meetings	Review all STC communications (responsibility, platforms, reach), and how STC can support and promote other events/groups across the community	STC	Medium	Likely	Start in 2023/24	STC time, budget, comms	Review all STC comms methods; consider idea for town website to support and promote other events/groups across the community; plan periodical councillor surgeries/drop-ins	Upcoming STC events and meetings now also listed in the Flyer. STC will reconsider producing a booklet to deliver to all households with key contacts, events calendar, business directory, local groups and venues. STC is also exploring email newsletter. Council officers have identified an alternative support company for the current website. This will allow updates and alterations to the existing system to be carried out more easily. Budgeting has also been planned for a full website renewal in two years' time.
	Public toilets could be improved, and perhaps more installed	STC Rangers to continue maintenance of Bell Street toilets; STC to monitor demand for any additional toilets e.g. in Pishiobury Park car park (discuss with EHDC)	STC	Lower	Possible	Ongoing	STC Rangers, time, budget, comms	STC Rangers to continue improved maintenance of Bell Street toilets; STC to monitor demand for any additional toilets e.g. in Pishiobury Park car park (discuss with EHDC)	STC Rangers continue to clean and maintain Bell Street toilets.
	Gathering places and spaces for hire could be improved and/or better signposted	As part of communications review, STC to consider better promotion of existing venues for hire. Also consider in development of Jubilee Gardens, Memorial Hall & Bullfields	STC	Lower	Likely	2024 onwards	STC time, budget, comms	As part of communications review, STC to consider better promotion of existing venues for hire. Also consider in development of Jubilee Gardens, Memorial Hall & Bullfields	Expanded SMH, Bullfields regularly booked up, STC chamber in use, but Hailey Centre use decreasing. Sports clubs could also raise revenues by better promoting venues. STC will coordinate a list of venues for hire.
	Residents on the edges of Sawbridgeworth feel less involved, and are impacted by lack of co-ordination over any works e.g. highways	Work to develop better relationships with neighbouring councils (e.g. Essex County, Uttlesford District, Harlow, Sheering, High Wych), with a view to ensuring better communication and collaborative working	STC	Lower	Likely	Ongoing	STC time	Following planned meeting with Sheering PC, work with HCC Cllr to build relationships between HCC and Essex CC as a priority given highways impact.	STC comms improving through flyer articles. Cross-border meetings are helping to improve wider comms and community engagement. Booklet will also help. Acknowledgement that STC could improve connections with Spellbrook. STC campaigned against CGR warding proposal, which could worsen this issue.