



The HTC Action Plan was last visited in 2022. Since that time some of the actions listed have been completed or have developed. In addition, there are new items which need to be considered. After some discussion with the Chair of the Climate Change Action group, the Climate Change Action plan has been incorporated, as Climate change issues are so central now to all our lives. Items requiring updating, are shown in red, and new ones in blue. Items which are completed and can be removed are shown in purple. Councillors are encouraged to make further suggestions. It might be helpful to set up a working group to work closely on the plan.

_____ new _____ needs updating _____ completed/no longer relevant

Halstead Town Council Action Plan

No	Action	Action
Climate change action		
1	Install a network of EV charging points in Halstead	1.4 EV charging points installed in Chapel Street car park in February 2023
		2. Planned installation of further EV chargepoints in Butler Road carpark and Courtaulds sport ground will encourage drivers to rely on being able to charge in Halstead
2	Install lamppost or Trojan charging points, on streets other than the High Street	Consult with Essex Highways. Given the EV charging strategy from ECC, we should contribute to consultation and communicate with ECC
3	Preserving resources	Encourage the use of water container /waterbutt on all allotments/cemeteries
		Encourage householders to think about their use of water: -reuse tumble dryer water on garden -do not fill the kettle for 1 cup of tea -have a shower rather than a bath -turn off electrical appliances when not in use -dry clothes outside in warm weather
4	Community energy	Explore the development of Community energy networks in Halstead

	Transport and Highways	
1	Communicate the residents' desire for a bypass to Essex County Council and local MP	This does not appear to be a current issue requiring action

2	Pursue the removal of the strategic lorry route through Halstead.	Consulting with Essex Highways and Sudbury TC over strategic lorry routes	ECC officer consulting with counterpart at SCC.
3	Seek funding to repair and restore Riverside Bridge, bring it back into use and take ownership of the bridge for the future	Remaining work to be completed underwater	
4	Inform residents of the Essex County Council procedures for reporting potholes, pavement issues, and other highways issues	This is a permanent feature on HTC website	
5	Parking issues on Trinity Road and Butler Road	Involve LHP and NEPP	
6	Zebra crossing on Colchester Road	Involve LHP and NEPP	
7	Raise awareness of walking/footpaths/cycling in and around Halstead	P3	
8	Lobby for improved bus services in rural areas, and for inclusion of Halstead on Stansted bus route		
	Housing and Development		
1	HTC to continue to ensure that residents' comments are taken into account when reviewing planning applications at Council meetings	HTC is has resolved to explore the possibility of undertaking a Neighbourhood development plan. HTC currently has no plans to carry out a Neighbourhood Plan, due to inability of HTC councillors to commit to the work needed.	
2	Communicate residents' views to BDC planning committee, referring where necessary to the Local Plan.		
3	Seek boundary changes to include any developments adjoining Halstead that are outside of the town boundary.	Boundaries have recently been changed to include the new developments and thus ensure that precept comes to HTC	
4	Constantly monitor the BDC rolling five year housing trajectory to understand the future population growth and the impact upon the town.	HTC councillors who are also BDC councillors monitor the housing supply constantly	
6	Upgrade and modernise car park payment systems	Card payments have been introduced on the car park machines. Paying by phone with Mipermit also introduced.	
7	Lobby for installation of solar panels and EV charging points on all new builds in Halstead		

Community Services		
1	Meet the Police and Crime Commissioner to seek measures to increase the police presence and support to Halstead. More work to be done in this area as recent contact with the police has not resulted in more policing. Police surgeries very poorly attended No officer now allocated to Halstead. Inspector tour planned for August 23	Regular meetings held in Queens Hall with the community policing team. 2 Councillors appointed to work with the police as champions.
2	Investigate the use of "Specials" and implement if appropriate	Complete . Now 3 specials working in Halstead. More specials needed
3	Meet with Elizabeth Courtauld Surgery team and NHS to press for measures to increase surgery capacity to support housing growth Halstead Hospital now opened up as second facility	2 councillors continue to work as champions for the provision of NHS services in Halstead This is becoming a more urgent problem
4	Geo spatial study to consider community energy	
5	Work with local organisations and authorities with the aim of reducing anti-social behaviour	HtC installing barrier at Rosemary Lane carpark to prevent antisocial behaviour. Working with Safer Streets to enable the employment of Street wardens and installation of CCTV in Chapel Street carpark.
6	HTC volunteer force for shopping and prescriptions set up in 2020 and continuing	Still collaborating with surgery and pharmacies. This service has been recognised by HTC. It should continue to be a service provided to the community
7	Work with H4C Trust to explore the potential provision of a new Community Centre	Update needed since funds given to the Halstead Community Fund

Environment Conservation and Heritage		
1	Ensure that Halstead heritage, conservation and environment areas are preserved and respected in the planning process Closer collaboration with Halstead History Society	Planning committee is active in defending the environment and heritage in all applications.
2	Express residents' disgust concerning dog-fouling to Braintree District Council	New dogfouling signs recently erected
3	Identify to Essex County Council residents' concerns on inadequate street lighting and seek resolution	Liaising with ECC on the replacement of the hard-fought-for heritage lamps by inappropriate modern lights. This will happen as part of the Regeneration work
4	Put forward appropriate green spaces for Local Green Space designation	

5	Promote and maintain the cleanliness and wild life habitat of the river, consulting local bodies	Local public meeting took place to energise action on the river. 2 councillors appointed to focus as champions on the state of the river. Liaison with the Environment Agency and the Riverclean group.
6	Encourage all residents to compost small garden and kitchen waste	
7	Advise BDC not to charge for collections	
8	Encourage all residents to recycle plastic as well as paper, glass textiles and cans.	Notify residents of plastic and battery recycling points
9	Lobby BDC/ECC for roadside separated collection points for all waste (as often seen in towns in Europe)	
10	Establish a community-based repair hub – possibly in the Mensshed	
11	Explore anaerobic digestion	

	Leisure and recreation	
1	Work with Braintree District Council to deliver facility improvements to the Ramsey Road playing field site	BDC have taken over this project, as they own the land, but make regular updates to HTC through presentations This project is part of the Town Centre Regeneration and should be finished by the end of 2023.
2	Press the Environment Agency to make improvements to the aesthetic appearance of the river, particularly along the Causeway	Environment Agency have been cooperative and have agreed for some action to improve the aesthetics of the river, but will not allow the level of water to rise, as this would be considered a flood risk.
3	Monitor the implementation of the Open Spaces Action Plan	The OSAP has been updated but BDC has been very slow to take action on the recommended improvements BDC has been contacted and has agreed to update the plan and allowing the allotment fencing plan to happen, using S106 funds,
4	Monitor availability of school places to support the increasing population	2 councillors have been appointed as champions for education, and are in close touch with the 3 local primary schools, and the secondary school
5	Work with front line youth services to assist in providing improved facilities for the youth of the town	The local youth group Halstead Action Promoting Positive Youth (HAPPY) has grown from the Youth Council established by Halstead Town Council. It is now an active force in the town, volunteering to help with events and involved with other local groups.
6	Work with local groups and organisations and to promote activities for young children	HTC provides free activities for Key stage 1 children on 4 Saturdays in the summer holidays.
7	Press Braintree District Council to deliver an appropriate town centre regeneration plan	HTC is liaising with BDC over tourism and town centre regeneration. It is increasing the number of events it provides in the town
8	Promote and support initiatives for improving tourism	The time has come for more pressure to be put on BDC to get this project completed

9	Work with BDC to understand their plans to support business development	
10	Review the current means of communication of council information and town events and make recommendations for improvement	HTC are considering a digital bulletin board This could be a very useful way of keeping the public informed of everything HTC is doing – many people are more likely to look at this than a website
11	Encourage residents to engage with the council	

Actions for Halstead Town Council and the community		
1	Seeking further opportunities to counter climate change including the installation of solar panels, encouragement to cyclists and for electric vehicles, encouragement of reduction in waste and recycling projects	Solar panels should be seriously considered now for Queens Hall roof – there is room for 100, and electricity produced could be stored in batteries. .
2	Van and tractor to be electric when replaced along with other mechanical items as relevant	Review replacement plan to consider budget implications and plan for future replacement including provision of charging facilities in council properties
3	HTC Energy supply	Investigate renewable energy suppliers