

# Welcome

**Do you want more parking spaces in Harpenden?**



## NOWHERE TO PARK

Are you ready to walk into town, cycle or take a bus?  
Can you manage without a car?

PUBLIC MEETING ORGANISED  
BY HARPARK,  
SUPPORTED BY



Registered Charity No. 278154

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# Agenda

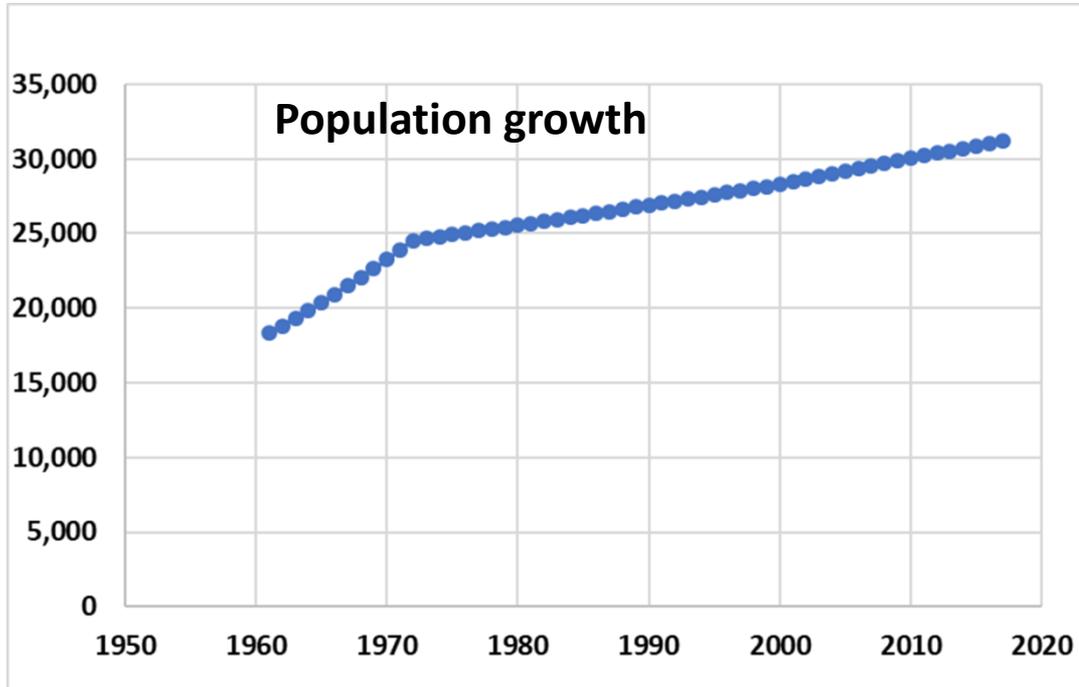
- Introductions – Phil Waters
- Background to meeting – John Talbot
- Council's Plans – Teresa Heritage
- Questionnaire Results – John Talbot
- Question Time – All
- Closing

# Who are HarPark?

- A group of concerned residents, with no political agenda.
- Originally set up to counter The Avenues CPZ scheme
- Now drawing attention to the town's parking problems
- Seeking for the Town council to seize ownership of the Harpenden Parking problem
- Pushing for a properly funded study
- Ensuring that an adequate budget is in place to fund new car parks

# Why we are all here today?

Success of Harpenden making it desirable place to live.



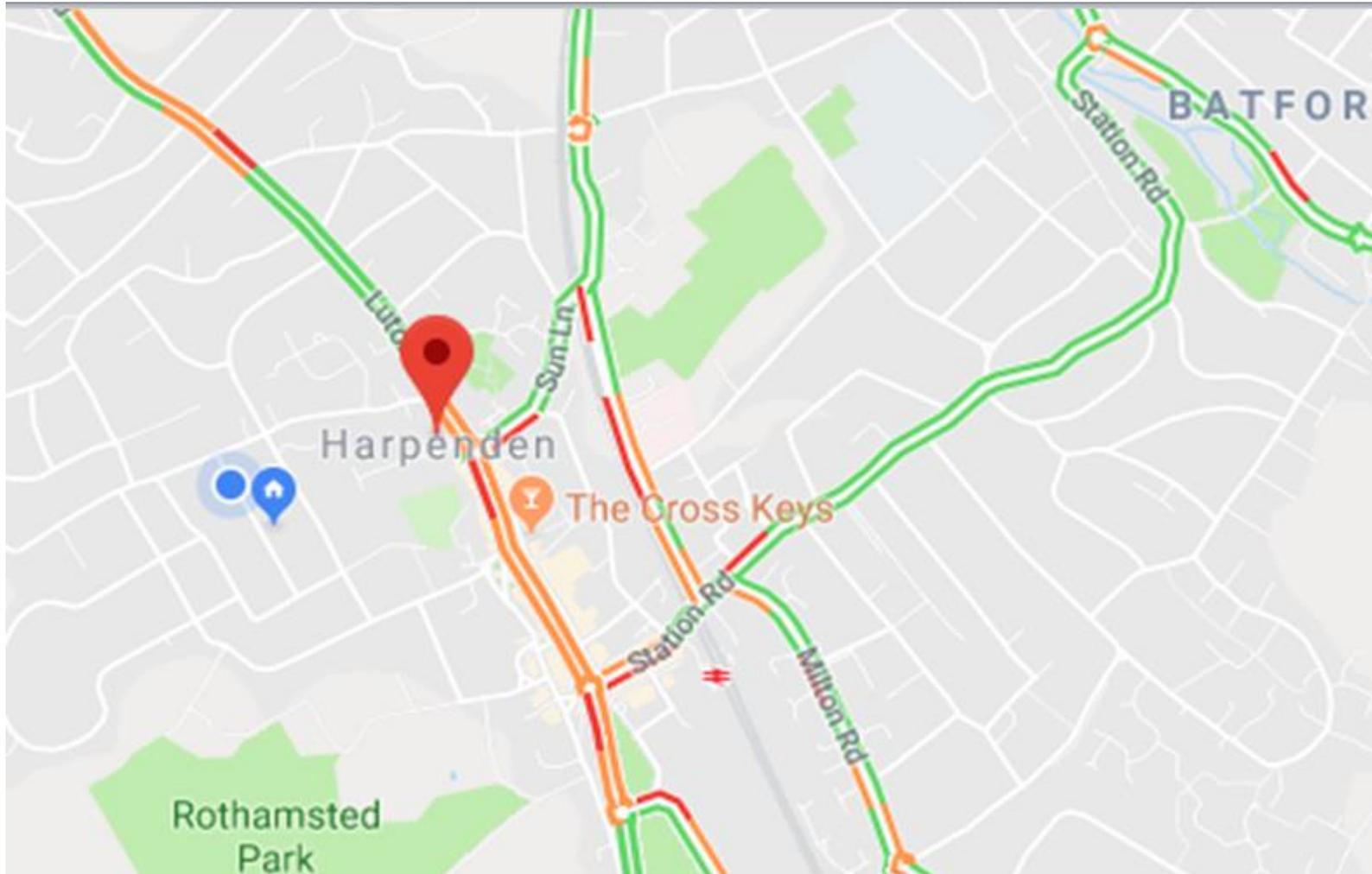
# Why we are all here today?

## Harpenden is a 'Good' Commuter Town



# Why we are all here today?

## Unique Geography – 2 valleys and hills



# A long term resident's view

*We have lived in Harpenden for 51 years and up until recently have not had a problem parking but in the last year or two we are frequently giving up trying to park in Harpenden and going elsewhere to shop.*

*When we visit our doctor's surgery, Davenport House, it now takes two of us, as one person will keep driving round trying to find a space, whilst the other goes in for the appointment.*

*Whilst Harpenden continues to build more and more houses and flats in every nook and cranny I can only see the limited parking we have now escalating unless something is done about it.*

Mike & Heather Fitz

# Why we are all here today?

## No Ownership of the problem by Harpenden Town Council

“Overall responsibility for parking lies with St Albans District Council”  
Chris Canfield, Mary Maynard etc

### Harpenden Neighbourhood Plan

*...“Appropriate proposals to increase car parking and cycle storage capacity within Harpenden Town Centre are supported. In particular proposals for a multi-level car park at the Station and an increase in parking provision alongside the proposed redevelopment of Harpenden Sports Centre and Swimming Pool. “*

November 2018

# Why we are all here today?

## SADC

- In last 30 years SADC have only provided extra parking at Lyddeker Park
- The SADC parking portfolio holder cannot be here “due an event following a seminar”.
- Why are developers not being required by SADC to adhere to market and government requirements of at least 1.5 cars per unit?
- Pan Autos application for 39 x 2 bedroom flats includes 44 spaces only.
- SADC allows infill, but does not compensate with extra parking in town

# Where is Harpenden going?

- New school - Batford
- Greenfield sites – in Harpenden & surrounding towns
- More infill all over
- Thousands of proposed new houses leading to more cars & more parking problems

# Harpenden Cars

- **34.000 cars a day along the A1081; 22,500 vehicles in the town generating a minimum of 25,000 'trips' daily, plus the unknown factor of incoming vehicles – along with major problems of parking and much grief for pedestrians...**
- **... and the prediction is that between now and 2021 traffic growth in the District of St Albans will be 11.5%**
- **'Harpenden may be characterised as an extremely busy highway running through a dense and heaving car park'**
- **....not the best of choices for major additional housing**

**Eric Midwinter report - 2014**

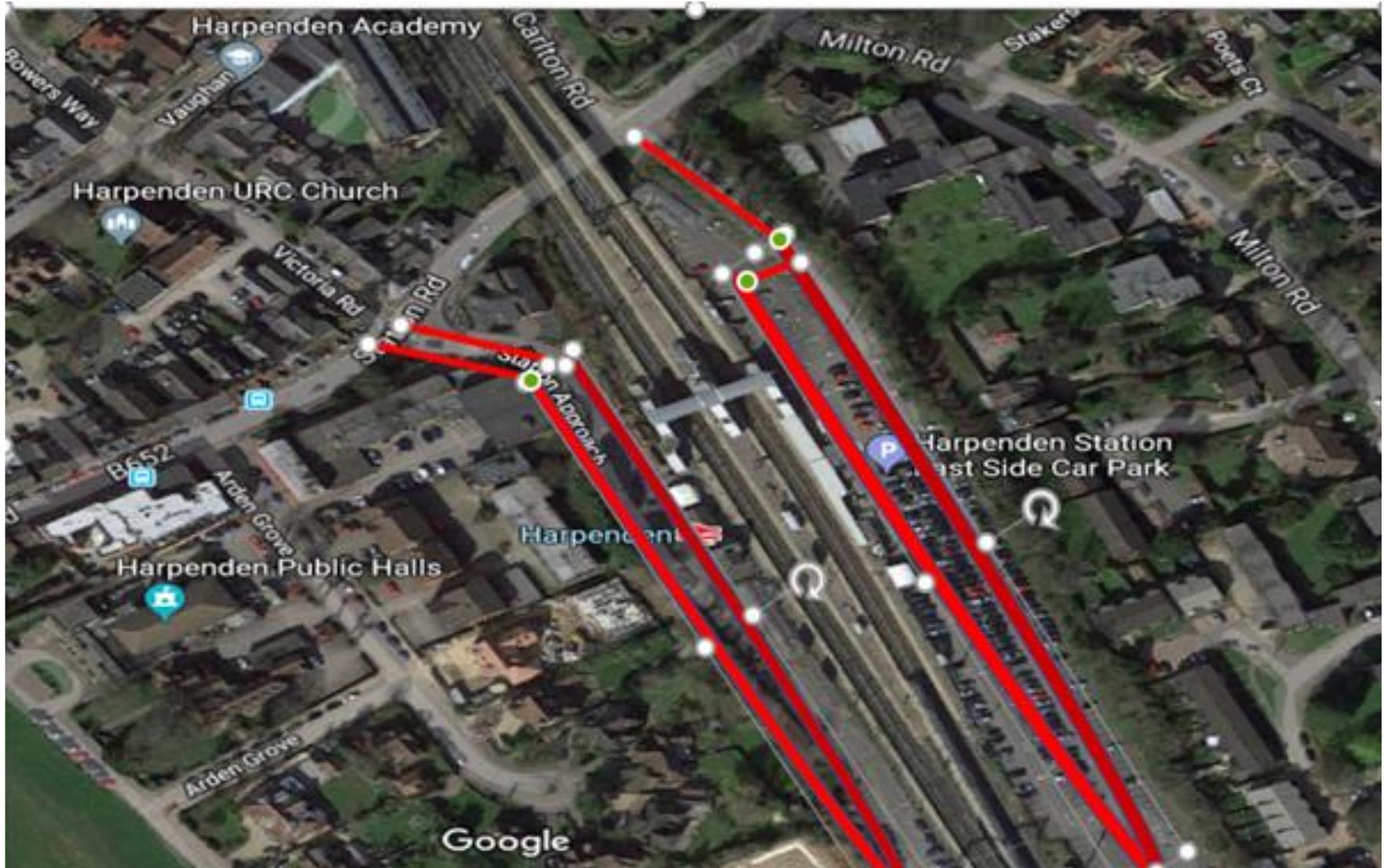
# HarPark offer some potential solutions

	Location	Action	Spaces Provided	Cost	Comment	Priority
1	Station parking - East	. Resolve the stalemate re 2 <sup>nd</sup> tiers	(420 now) 210 incr.	Met by Central Government	Likely to be forthcoming.	High
1a	Station parking - East	Access to East station parking needs to be significantly improved as the existing traffic congestion will become intolerable if parking capacity is increased. (See appendix B)			Seriously investigate a different exit -Purchasing a property on Milton Road to give access to the East Car park -Opening the Aysgarth Close exit onto Crabtree Lane with use (shared) of the Railtrack maintenance access.	High
1b	Station Access East	Improve the flow of traffic			-Improve traffic flow in Station Road via roundabout or traffic lights	High
2	Amenbury Lane	Add a second tier	(193 now) 96 incr.		Probably easier to do compared to other schemes	High
3	Bowers Way East	Add a second tier perhaps 3 <sup>rd</sup> tier	(158 now) 79 incr.		Relatively easy to accomplish	High
4	Pavement Part parking	Where pavements are wide enough allow cars to park partially on the pavement. This already happens on Clarence Rd		Low	Suggestions: Salisbury Avenue, Townsend Lane, etc etc	High
5	Rent-a-driveway	Actively encourage residents to rent a driveway for commuter parking			An innovative approach that requires examination.	High
6	Call for sites	Open the debate further by asking Harpenden residents for suggestions			Use local press and Social Media to elicit ideas	High
7	Free Parking	2 hours free parking in all car parks. Double or even treble the cost of parking fees after 3 hours.			This is to discourage all day parking.	High
8	Station parking - West	. Resolve the stalemate re 2 <sup>nd</sup> tiers	(210 now) 105 incr.	??? Met by train Company	Push to get a proper costing	Medium

# Some more solutions

	Location	Action	Spaces Provided	Cost	Comment	Priority
8b	Station parking - West	Access to West station parking needs to be significantly improved. (See Appendix B)			Investigate having a tunnel under the rail track to connect with East car park and create additional routes in and out. Examine having an additional exit between Lourdes Hall and St Dominic's school	Medium
9	The Common nearest to the town	Provide substantial underground parking		High	Could be expensive, needs realistic costing and understanding of where the fabled 'underground lake' is located.	Medium
10	New Sports Centre	Add a second layer	(96 prop.) 48 incr.			Medium
11	Lydekker, Sun Lane	Add 1 or 2 tiers of parking provision	(88 now) 44 or 88 incr.	Town Council owned	Maybe part underground and 2 tiers too.	Medium
12	Waitrose Supermarket	Add 2 <sup>nd</sup> tier to their own parking provision	(130 now) 65 incr.			Medium
13	Morecambe Hall	Demolish and build a tastefully integrated multi-storey car park ground plus 2 tiers	400		It will provide much needed centrally located parking. It should not be discounted just because some have designated it for housing development.	Medium
14	Co-Op Car Park	Add another layer	(115 now) 52 incr.			Medium
15	Field at the rear of the Fire station	This is used for parking on special occasions			It should be reviewed whether there is a way of bringing it into permanent use.	Medium
16	Aerial View of Harpenden	Investigate if there are potential sites			There can always be surprises	Medium
17	Review existing restrictions	Many of the current restrictions are historic			These have been introduced on an ad hoc basis and need reviewing	Medium
18	Park and Ride	2) North of Harpenden – Xmas tree farm?	300?			Low
19	Pavement reduction	Where safe, reduce the pavement width to provide more parking e.g. outside the Barnfield site on Bowers Parade and Barbarello			Makes for efficient use of space.	Low
20	Tunnel between Station Car Parks	Link the East and West Car Parks by a tunnel			Could create a flow with 'in' via East Car Park and 'out' by West Car Park	Low

# The Station today – 2 cul-de-sacs



# Possible Solutions

## Harpenden Station East Car Park - Improved Access



Opening a Furzedown Court Exit onto Milton Road.

Possible tunnel linking the 2 car parks, to create an in-out flow

Opening the Aysgarth Close exit onto Crabtree Lane with possible use (shared) of the Railtrack maintenance access.

Improved



## Harpenden Station West Car Park - Access

Create a new access road to the West Car Park.  
Examine having an additional exit between Lourdes Hall and St Dominic's school.

# Politicians and Parking

- National Government
  - You WILL plan for more housing
- County Council
  - Yes but no money for infrastructure and parking
- District Council
  - OK more housing, but too busy for parking
- Town Council
  - OK more housing , but parking not my problem mate!
- Residents and Villagers
  - Where can I park?