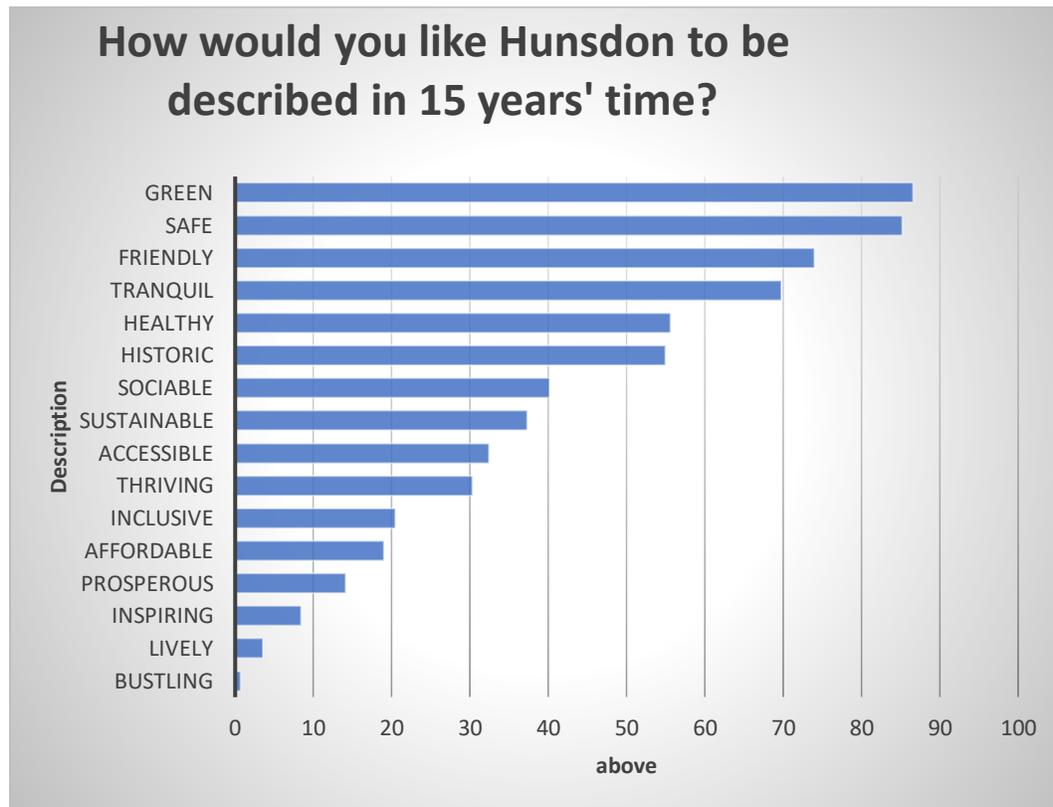


THE HUNSDON AREA NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN-HANP

The HANP covers the Parish minus the parts inside the Gilston development area, basically the Airfield and Village 7. In effect, this means HANP covers the main Village, Hunsdonbury, the houses is up to and including the Church and Hunsdon House and Briggens House, Hunsdon Pound and Hunsdon Mead.

Last year we sent a survey to every household in the Parish and held an Open Day to canvass opinion of residents and businesses. They said they wanted Hunsdon to remain “Green, Safe and a Friendly place to live” .



Three of the top 4 Bugbears about living in Hunsdon were problems with traffic, its speed and volume on our country roads and, above all, HGV traffic . The other was fly-tipping. The overwhelming priority for expenditure was on road safety.

Protection of the remaining green belt was important, and the majority of respondents said NO to further housing in the Hunsdon Area. This was not surprising given the policy of East Herts District Plan 2018 which removed a large tract of green belt in Eastwick and Gilston to build 10,000 houses.

There was good support for the village shop and pubs but little for new businesses in Hunsdon apart from a cafe, a taxi service and allowance for home working businesses.

The Neighbourhood Plan committee has been working with professional consultants on putting all this into policies and preparing the draft neighbourhood plan. It is intended that this work will be completed in the summer of 2020 and go to consultation to all residents of the Parish and other stakeholders as soon as possible thereafter when hopefully the restrictions of the COVID-19 emergency will have been lifted. When the Plan has gone through all its processes (expected 2021), it will be a statutory document which will be second only to the East Herts District Plan in determining Housing Policy in the Hunsdon Area.

The income and expenditure of the HANP committee appears in the Parish Council annual accounts but, broadly speaking, it has spent £8600 to date of which over £7000 has been covered by the Government grant scheme to assist Neighbourhood Plans.

Frank O'Shea
Chair
April 2020.