

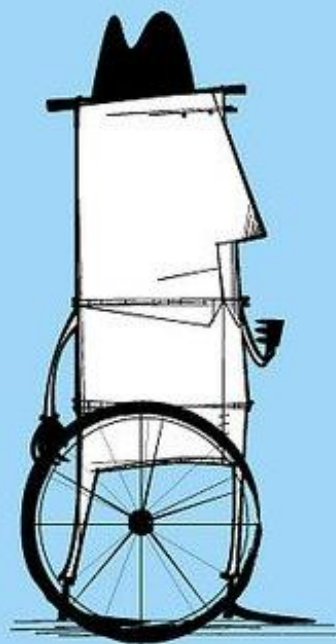
## Modernisation of the Town Council

‘We will transform the internal workings of the Town Council to become a more modern, innovative and forward thinking organisation with working practices that complement our priorities and benefit staff, partners and residents’.



**HARPENDEN  
TOWN COUNCIL**  
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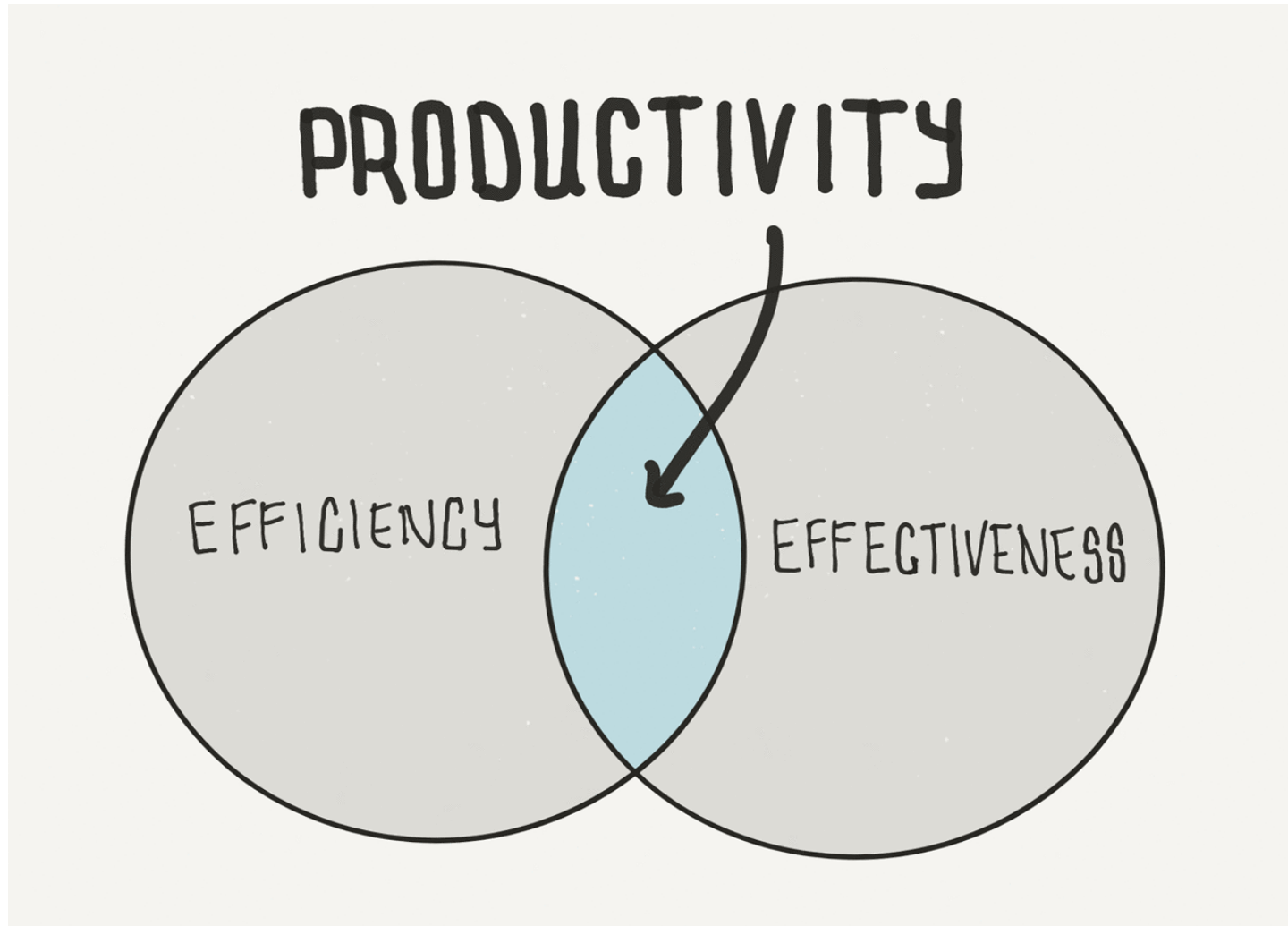
**ERRR...**



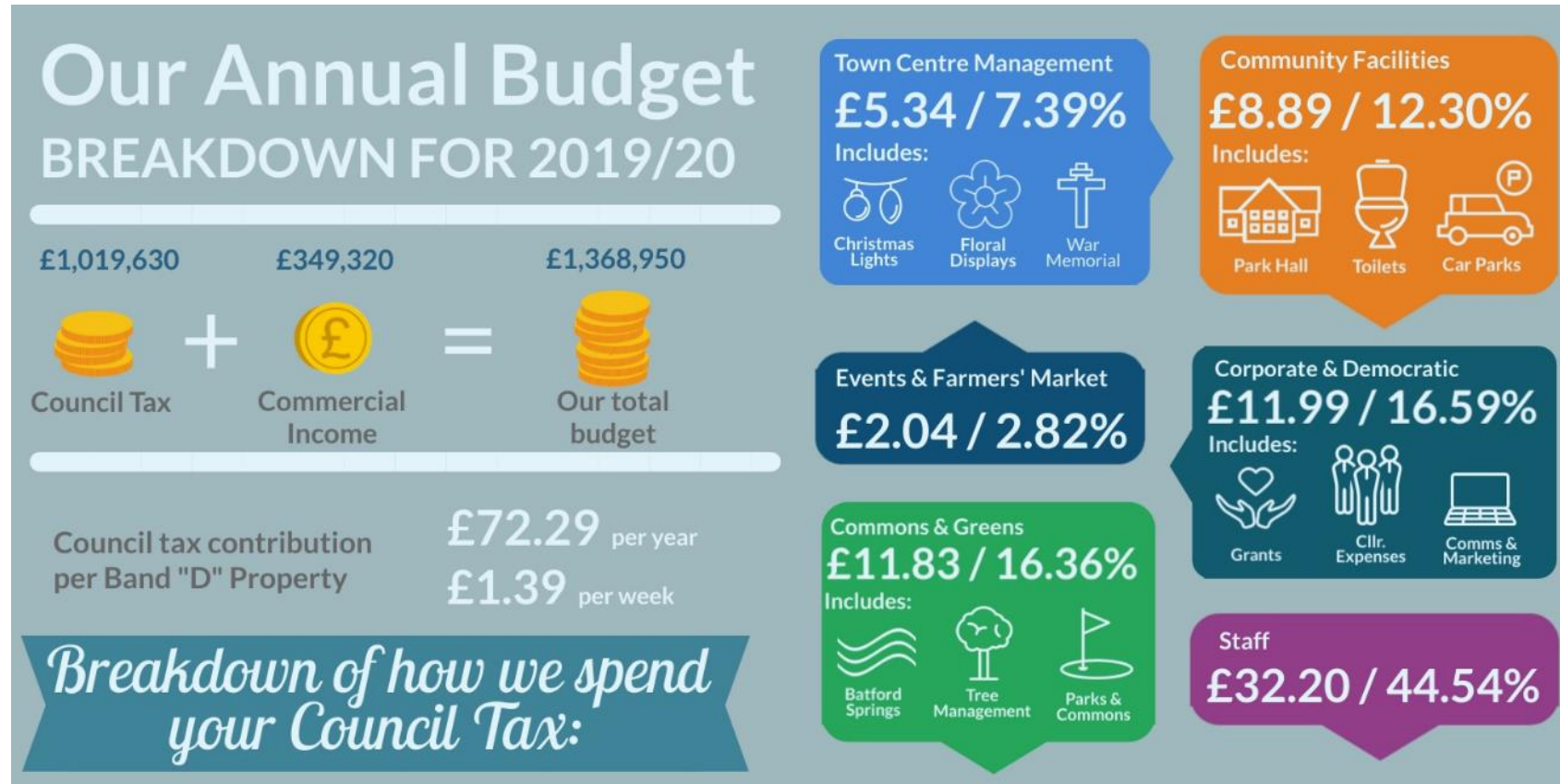
**CAN'T STOP.  
TOO BUSY!!**



We are doing it for this...



# Our Budget 2019-2020



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# Reviewing our processes...

- Essential in helping us to modernise and be more productive
- BUT it is a painful thing to do properly
- Our early focus was on Committees. A natural starting point as we generated hundreds of agendas and reports each year

**What did we find... WASTE – time, effort, paper**

# Reviewing our paper use...

- Look at where paper is essential and find ways to reduce it
- Where it isn't essential, remove it completely



# **There is no such thing as a paperless Council...**

**But maybe you could be like us and cut paper  
consumption by 60% and reduced officer time  
by c50%- 70% on each committee.**



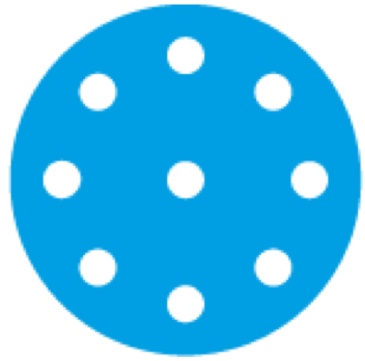
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# Reviewing our tools...

The right tools make success easier



# Embracing Technology



**MODERN.GOV**  
PART OF THE ERS GROUP



**EDGE**  
IT Systems Ltd



PEOPLE

# EMBRACERS

- Already embraced technology. Already changed their behaviours. Already committed to reducing paper

## HOW CAN WE HELP THEM:

- Give them the support, information and space to allow them to continue their positive habits

Embracing  
Change



# BACK-BURNERS

- They want to embrace change. They want to use technology. BUT
- Don't have the skills, confidence and/or equipment. SO
- They delay change

## HOW CAN WE HELP THEM:

- Break down the barriers that stop them from doing it now. Make them embracers



# The Uninterested

- Simply don't have an interest in changing

HOW CAN WE HELP THEM:

- We can't. Leave them alone!

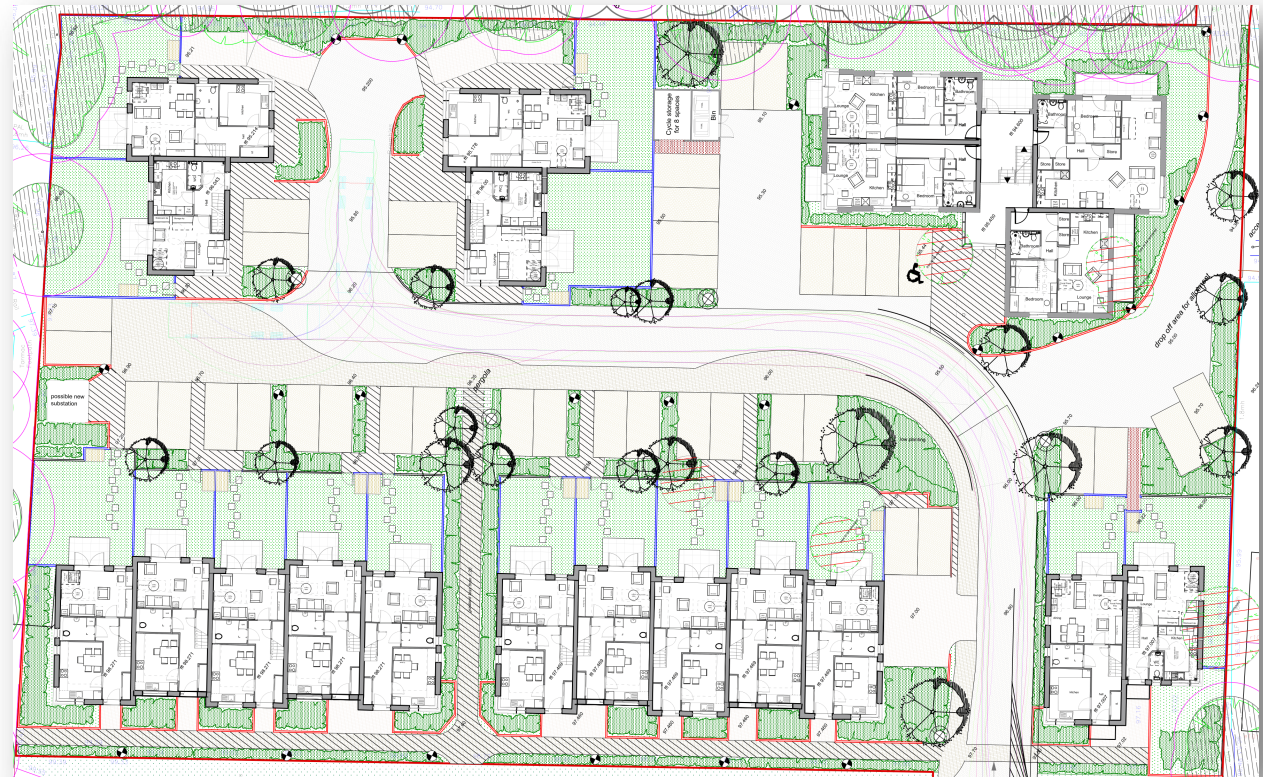


**Modernise your  
thinking...**

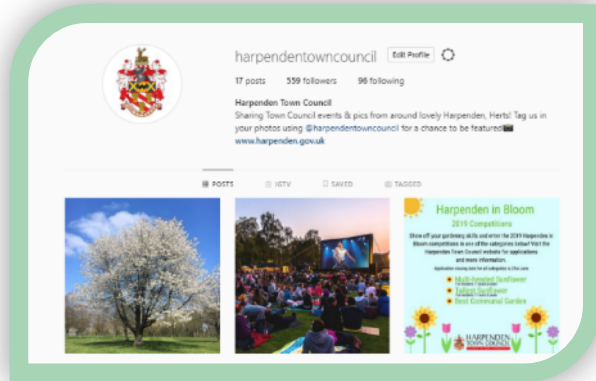


# ***Secured planning permission to develop the former Westfield Allotments into affordable housing***

- 100% Affordable Housing Scheme
- 24 homes
- 50% available for social rent
- Remainder affordable rent and shared ownership



# Continuing to grow our presence & engage with residents on social media



Since April 2018, our social media channels have seen...



132% growth



800% growth

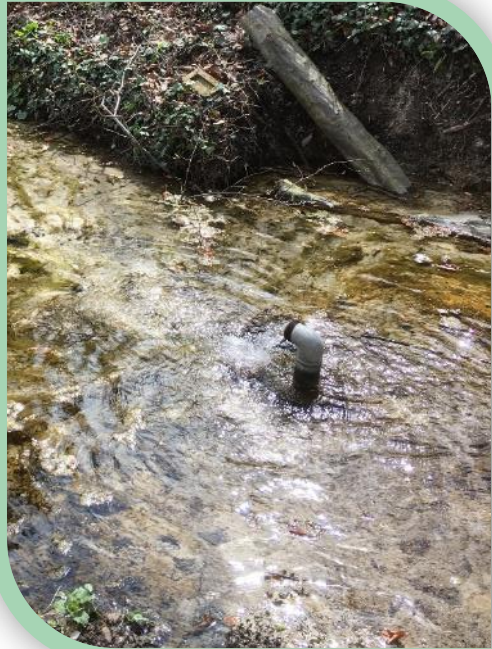


16.8% growth






# Delivering the Batford Springs Nature Reserve Management Plan



Boreholes in Batford Springs



Chalk stream restoration works




## Batford Springs

### NATURE RESERVE


In 2012, Harpenden Town Council took over the ownership of the Nature Reserve from St Albans City & District Council. Since then the Town Council has proactively invested time and money to make it an even better community asset.

**£250,000 INVESTED SINCE 2012**




#### TREE WORKS

Following health & safety tree surveys, priority one tree works have been completed to ensure residents can enjoy the reserve safely




#### HABITAT PROTECTION

Installed posts along Lower Luton Road to protect the meadow habitat from illegal parking




#### BOREHOLES

Three new boreholes added at a cost of **£40,000**  
£20,000 of which was funded by HMWT following a grant from Thames Water




#### ANNUAL CONSERVATION

We allocate a yearly budget of **£28,800** for conservation, with an additional **£2,500** earmarked for maintenance




#### CHALK STREAM RESTORATION

Batford Springs Volunteers narrowed a significant part of the chalk stream allowing for better water flow



#### THE VOLUNTEERS

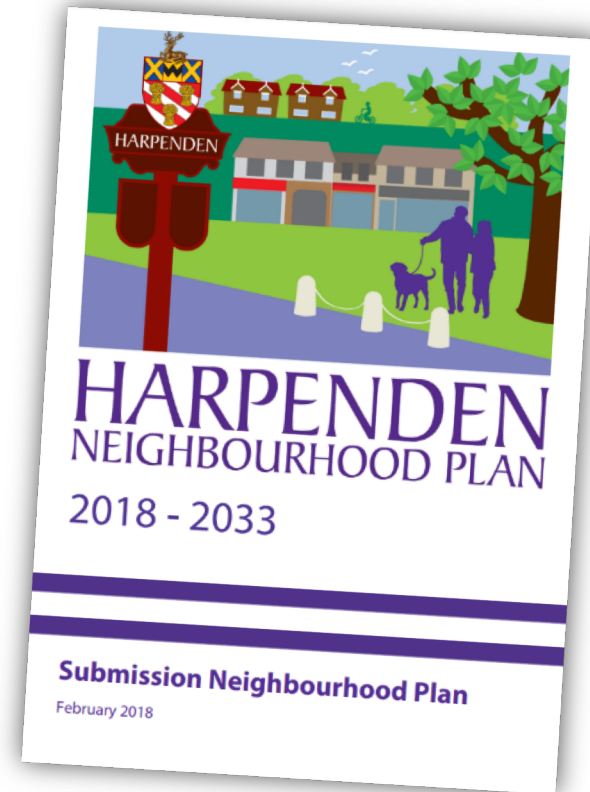
Batford Springs Volunteers are vital to the reserve's success  
**30+** volunteers currently support conservation of the reserve





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# *Implemented a community-led Neighbourhood Plan that provides a framework for development & growth in Harpenden*



The Harpenden Neighbourhood Plan referendum passed in February 2019 with 89.39% voting in favour of the plan



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# Community Engagement was key...

## Engagement 1

- Identifying the key issues in the Town
- Informing the Vision and Objectives

## Engagement 2

- Views on draft vision and objectives
- Exploring the policy options

## Engagement 3 (Statutory Reg 14)

- Draft Neighbourhood Plan
- Shaping the final version

## Engagement 4 (Statutory Reg 16)

- Post submission to SADC
- Final Neighbourhood Plan

1. Be Realistic
2. Make it a corporate priority
3. Be Brutal
4. Embrace technology
5. Forget 'the Uninterested'
6. START WITH YOURSELF





Don't let what you cannot do  
interfere with what you can do.

John Wooden

quote fancy

Contact me...

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