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**Martin's  
30 years  
of hard  
work**

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## Justice for postmaster

**A wrongful conviction was overturned**



Abiodun Omotoso was 33 when he was wrongfully convicted of the theft of more than £50,000 from a Hitchin post office - the ruling was overturned in 2021

Picture: HARRY HUBBARD

**BIANCA WILD**  
biancawild@archant.co.uk

**A former sub-postmaster from Hitchin who was jailed in 2008 after being accused of stealing £50,000 from the Post Office has had his conviction quashed amid a national scandal.**

Abiodun Omotoso, who was in charge of Walsworth Road Post Office, was wrongly convicted for theft from his workplace and sentenced to two years and four months in prison at the age of 33.

A public inquiry launched

into the scandal on Monday. There were around 700 similar cases of wrongful conviction after the UK Post Office introduced the Fujitsu Horizon computer accounting system in 1999, which caused unexplained discrepancies and losses.

Throughout the case Mr Omotoso maintained his innocence, after initially telling the police he borrowed the money to get treatment for a sick relative in Nigeria, because he was told his truthful account would not be believed and if he accepted liability the matter could be dealt with internally.

**Full story: Page 9**

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**Protest against  
cost of living**



**HENRY ISAAC  
FIREPLACES LTD.**

Unit 4c St Francis Way,  
Sheffield S17 5DZ

Our new showroom in Shefford now has some terrific new displays installed, including gas fires, multi fuel stoves, and fireplaces, more to come very soon. Please phone or email us for more details, or to make an appointment either at the showroom or at your home.

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## NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

### MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2022/23

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Regulation 16 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003, that North Hertfordshire District Council has approved a Member's Scheme of allowances for 1 April 2022.

The main features of the Scheme are set out in this Notice:

#### Basic Allowance

Councillor £5,100

#### Special Responsibility Allowance

Leader of the Council	£14,280
Deputy Leader of the Council	£2,550
Cabinet Executive Members (x7)	£6,120
Chair - Area Committees (x 5)	£1,020
Chair - Finance, Audit and Risk Cttee	£3,570
Chair - Overview and Scrutiny Cttee	£3,570
Chair - Planning Control Cttee	£6,120
Chair of Licensing and Appeals Committee	£1,530
Leader of each Opposition Group	£2,550

The full Scheme (detailing other allowances: travel/subsistence, childcare/dependence, conferences etc) is available to inspect at the Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays) or the Council's website:

<https://www.north-herts.gov.uk/home/council-and-democracy/councillors/councillors-allowances>

Melanie Stimpson

Democratic Services Manager  
January 2022



### Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976, section 65

The Licensing Authority hereby gives notice that it is proposed that the scale of Hackney Carriage fares should be varied as follows:

#### TARIFF 1

Applicable between 06:00 and 23:00 hours Monday to Sunday

For the first 528 yards	£3.60p
for each additional 176 yards (or part thereof)	20p
(The equivalent of £2.00 for each additional mile)	
Waiting time = 30 pence per minute	

#### TARIFF 2

Applicable between 23:00 and 06:00 hours Monday to Sunday + 06.00 to 23.00 hours on designated bank/public holidays & Easter Sunday + 18.00 – 23.00 hours on New Year's Eve and 18.00 to 24.00 hours on Christmas Eve

For the first 528 yards	£5.40p
for each additional 176 yards (or part thereof)	30p
(The equivalent of £3.00 for each additional mile)	
Waiting time = 45 pence per minute	

#### TARIFF 3

Applicable all day (00.01 – 24.00 hours) on Christmas Day and Boxing Day + 23.00 hours on New Years Eve to 06.00 hours on New Years Day.

For the first 528 yards	£7.20p
for each additional 176 yards (or part thereof)	40p
(The equivalent of £4.00 for each additional mile)	
Waiting time = 60 pence per minute	

Additional charges (which must be added on the meter at the start of the journey)

Up to two items of baggage or shopping	20 pence
Three or more items of baggage or shopping	40 pence (maximum)
For each person in excess of one	20 pence

Additional charges should total no more than £2:00

Soiling charge (for whatever reason) £50 (maximum)  
Credit/Debit card payments (where accepted) may incur a surcharge of up to 12.5% of the total fare, or at a minimum of £1.00 per journey.

#### The above tariff is proposed to take effect from 1st April 2022

A copy of this notice will be available for inspection at the Council Offices during public opening hours. Any objections to the above proposal must be made in writing to:

The Commercial and Licensing Manager, Stevenage Borough Council, Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage, SG1 1HN or via email to [licensing@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@stevenage.gov.uk) no later than 3 March 2022.

Dated: 17th February 2022

Signed:

Zayd Al-Jawad  
Assistant Director of Planning and Regulation

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PUBLIC NOTICES

### Legal and Public Notices

#### HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL:

##### TEMPORARY CLOSING OF BYWAY OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC HITCHIN 7

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council intend to make an Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to prohibit pedestrians, horse riders, cyclists and vehicles from using that length of Byway Open to All Traffic Hitchin 7, heading south from junction with Victoria Road, for an approximate distance of 30m. Alternative Route: via Victoria Road and Lavender Way. The purpose of the Order is to enable utilities connection works to take place. The section of Byway Open to All Traffic Hitchin 7 will be closed on or after 07 March 2022 for up to 3 days, when signs are in place. If you have any queries about the works or closure, please contact Countryside & Rights of Way Officer Andrew Burton Tel: 01992 556178 Hertfordshire County Council.

##### (TEMPORARY CLOSING OF THE CYCLEWAY SITUATED ON THE WEST SIDE OF A602 LYTTON WAY, STEVENAGE) ORDER 2022

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council intends to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to prohibit all pedal cycles from using the cycleway situated on the west side of A602 Lytton Way, Stevenage from its junction with Green Street south eastwards to its junction with Bridge Road, a distance of approximately 139m ("the Cycleway"). Pedal Cyclists will need to dismount and use the adjacent footway. The Order is needed because telecom works are proposed to be executed near the Cycleway. If the Order is made, it shall come into force on 7 March 2022 for a period of up to 18 months. However, the restrictions specified shall only take effect at the times indicated by signs on or near the Cycleway. If you have any queries about the proposed Order, please contact Adam Fails Tel: 01652 638366 at Shift Traffic or Brad Cook Tel: 0300 123 4047 at Hertfordshire County Council.

##### (TEMPORARY CLOSING OF NORTON ROAD, BALDOCK) ORDER 2022

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council intends to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to prohibit all vehicular traffic from using that length of Norton Road, Baldock from its junction with B656 Hitchin Road eastwards for a distance of approximately 50m ("the Road"). An alternative route will be via B656 (Hitchin Road/Whitehorse Street), A507 Station Road, Icknield Way and Norton Road.

The Order is needed because the replacement of existing gas mains is proposed to be executed near the Road. If the Order is made, it shall come into force on 7 March 2022 for a period of up to 18 months. However, the restrictions specified shall only take effect at the times indicated by signs on or near the Road. If you have any queries about the proposed Order, please contact Steve Dungar Tel: 0330 016 9696 at MLP Traffic or Shannen Powers Tel: 0300 123 4047 at Hertfordshire County Council.

##### (TEMPORARY CLOSING OF WOOLGROVE ROAD, HITCHIN) ORDER 2022

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council intends to make an Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to prohibit all vehicular traffic from using that length of Woolgrove Road, Hitchin from its junction with Grove Road south eastwards for a distance of approximately 144m ("the Road"). An alternative route will be via Grove Road, A505 (Nightingale Road/Cambridge Road) and Woolgrove Road. The Order is needed because carriageway repair works are proposed to be executed on the Road. If the Order is made, it shall come into force on 9 March 2022 for a period of up to 18 months. However, the restrictions specified shall only take effect at the times indicated by signs on or near the Road. If you have any queries about the proposed Order, please contact Kelly Goulding Tel: 01652 656291 at Shift Traffic Events Ltd or Shannen Powers Tel: 0300 123 4047 at Hertfordshire County Council.

##### (TEMPORARY CLOSING OF B656 WHITEHORSE STREET, BALDOCK) ORDER 2022

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council has made the above Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to prohibit all vehicular traffic from using the northbound carriageway of B656 Whitehorse Street, Baldock from a point 52m south west of its junction with Alexander Court north eastwards to its junction with Alexander Court, a distance of approximately 52m ("the Road"), except for access. An alternative route will be via B656 Whitehorse Street, B197 (High Street/London Road), A505 Baldock Bypass and B656 (Roston Road/B656 Whitehorse Street). The Order is needed because utility service works are proposed to be executed on or near the Road. The Order has been made and shall come into force on 22 February 2022 for a period of up to 18 months. However, the restrictions specified shall only take effect at the times indicated by signs on or near the Road. If you have any queries about the Order, please contact Amanda Blee Tel: 03457 145145 at Anglian Water/Clancy Dowra or Shannen Powers Tel: 0300 123 4047 at Hertfordshire County Council.

##### (TEMPORARY CLOSING OF GUN ROAD, KNEBWORTH) ORDER 2022

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council has made the above Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, to prohibit all vehicular traffic from using that length of Gun Road, Knebworth from its junction with Gun Lane south eastwards for a distance of approximately 42m ("the Road"), except for access. An alternative route will be via Gun Lane, Station Road, B197 London Road and Gun Road. The Order is needed because water service connection works are proposed to be executed on or near the Road. The Order has been made and shall come into force on 21 February 2022 for a period of up to 18 months. However, the restrictions specified shall only take effect at the times indicated by signs on or near the Road. If you have any queries about the Order, please contact Clare Smith Tel: 01787 237509 at Capital Traffic or Shannen Powers Tel: 0300 123 4047 at Hertfordshire County Council.

A copy of the proposed Orders may be inspected free of charge at County Hall, Hertford between the hours of 9am and 5pm (excluding weekends, bank and public holidays).

##### THE HERTFORDSHIRE (A602 LYTTON WAY, STEVENAGE) (BUS LANE AND BUS GATE) ORDER 2021 THE HERTFORDSHIRE (STEVENAGE BUS INTERCHANGE, A602 LYTTON WAY, STEVENAGE) (PROHIBITION OF ENTRY) ORDER 2021

NOTICE is given that the Hertfordshire County Council has made Orders under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to introduce restrictions in parts of Lytton Way and Danesgate, Stevenage in connection with the implementation of the new Stevenage Bus Interchange as specified in the Schedules to this Notice. The Orders will come into effect on Friday 4 March 2022.

Documents giving more detailed particulars of the Orders are held on deposit and may be viewed from 17 February 2022 to 31 March 2022 during normal office hours at Main Reception, Hertfordshire County Council, County Hall, Pegs Lane, Hertford. The documents may also be viewed online from 17 February 2022 at [www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/trafficorders](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/trafficorders) by selecting Stevenage and looking at Ref: S00121.

Enquiries relating to the Orders should be referred to the Highways Engineer concerned Whitney Idoozee Tel: 01992 658228 or [whitney.idoozee@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:whitney.idoozee@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Any person wishing to question the validity of the Orders, or of any provision contained in them, on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of the Act or any Instrument made under it has not been complied with in relation to the Orders, may within 6 weeks from the date of this Notice apply to the High Court for this purpose.

**SCHEDULE 1: Bus Lane and Bus Gate for Local Bus use only** – affecting those sections of road herein listed and as set out in the Order and accompanying plans – **Bus Lane** – (i) A602 Lytton Way northbound on approach to and in the vicinity of Stevenage Railway Station. (ii) southbound opposite Stevenage Police Station. **Bus Gate** – A602 Lytton Way southbound in the vicinity of southern end of the Gordon Craig Theatre, on approach to Stevenage Bus Interchange. **SCHEDULE 2: Prohibition of Entry to Stevenage Bus Interchange** – affecting those sections of road herein listed and as set out in the Order and accompanying plan – From A602 Lytton Way. No entry except Local Buses, into the Stevenage Bus Interchange. From Danesgate No entry for any motor vehicle or cycle pedal cycle.

The making of Traffic Regulation Orders is a statutory function of the County Council. Any personal data you provide in responding to these Notices will be treated as confidential but will be shared with HCC Officers; County Councillors and contracted third parties who are involved in the statutory process. We will not share identifiable data with third parties outside of the statutory process. Guidance on your rights in respect of personal data are published in the Privacy Policy on our website, [Hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://Hertfordshire.gov.uk)

17th February 2022  
Mark Kemp, Executive Director Environment and Transport,  
County Hall, Hertford, Herts, SG13 8DN



#### PUBLIC NOTICE OF AN APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE UNDER SECTION 34 OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Notice is hereby given that an application was made to Central Bedfordshire Council for a premises licence under the above Act on 14th February 2022 and will commence its consultation on the 15th February 2022. Applicant: Highway Stops Retail Limited. Address of premises: Astwick Service Station, A1 Trunk Road Northbound, Stotfold, SG5 4BL. Proposed licensable activities: Sale of alcohol for consumption off the premises, removal of all annex 2 conditions and replace with alternate conditions. Update premises scale drawing. Proposed days and hours of licensable activity: Monday to Sunday alcohol sales 00:00 to 24:00 hours. The postal address of the Licensing Authority where the register is kept and the application may be inspected is: "Licensing Authority, Public Protection, Central Bedfordshire Council, Watling Street, High Street North, Dunstable, Bedfordshire, LU6 1LE. Any person wishing to make representations on this matter shall give notice, in writing, stating the nature and grounds for making such representations to The Licensing Officer at the above address" within 28 days of the date of this notice – by the 14th March 2022. Further information is available on the web site [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) by following the links.

It is an offence, under section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003, to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in or in connection with an application and the offence is punishable on summary conviction on or after that day by a fine of any amount.

RB RETAIL & LICENSING SERVICES LIMITED - DULY AUTHORISED AGENT

#### NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL LICENSING AUTHORITY - NOTICE OF APPLICATION UNDER the Licensing Act 2003

Notice is hereby given that we, Sophia's Wine and Cocktail Bar Limited have applied on 4th February 2022 in respect of the premises 133 London Road, Knebworth, SG3 6EX, under the provisions of the Licensing Act 2003 for a licence to authorise the following licensable activities: Sale of alcohol by retail: Sunday to Thursday 09:00 to 23:00 Friday and Saturday 09:00 to 00:00 Christmas Eve 09:00 until 01:00 Boxing Day 09:00 until 01:00 New Years Eve 09:00 until 01:00. Live and Recorded Music: Friday and Saturday 23:00 to 00:00 Christmas Eve 23:00 until 01:00 Boxing Day 23:00 until 01:00 New Years Eve 23:00 until 01:00. Opening Hours: Sunday to Thursday 09:00 to 23:30 Friday and Saturday 09:00 to 00:30 Christmas Eve 09:00 until 01:30 Boxing Day 09:00 until 01:30 New Years Eve 09:00 until 01:30. Any person wishing to make representations should do so in writing to: North Hertfordshire District Council Licensing Authority - Licensing and Enforcement PO Box 10613, Nottingham, NG5 6DN Tel: 01462 474000 website: [www.north-herts.gov.uk](http://www.north-herts.gov.uk) e-mail: [licensing@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:licensing@north-herts.gov.uk) within 28 days from the date of this notice. The full application can be inspected by appointment at the above Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City. Persons wishing to make representations must be prepared to attend in person at a public Licensing & Appeals Committee hearing. Copies of all representations, including names and addresses, will be passed to the applicant and included in a public report. It is an offence to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with an application.



### STEVENAGE BOROUGH COUNCIL THE BOROUGH OF STEVENAGE (CHURCH LANE NORTH AND CHURCH LANE SOUTH - STEVENAGE) (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2010 (AMENDMENT NO. 1) ORDER 2022

### and THE BOROUGH OF STEVENAGE (PRIMETT ROAD SOUTH) (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2010 (AMENDMENT NO. 1) ORDER 2022

### and THE BOROUGH OF STEVENAGE (TOWN CENTRE) (OFF-STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2008 (AMENDMENT NO. 2) ORDER 2022

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Stevenage Borough Council, acting as agents for the Hertfordshire County Council and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police proposes to make the above named Orders under Sections 32-35C and Parts III-IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

These Orders are proposed in order to better manage parking places to relieve and prevent congestion, and maintain and improve the amenity of the area by allowing the application of a thirty minutes tariff band and monthly season tickets.

The effect of these Orders would be to provide updated definitions for the terminology used in these Orders, introduce monthly season tickets and/or update the tariff bands as set out in the Schedules of these Orders.

Full details of these proposals are set out in the draft Orders which, together with plans and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders, can be examined during normal opening hours at the Council's offices in Daneshill House. Details can also be viewed on the Council's web site at [www.stevenage.gov.uk](http://www.stevenage.gov.uk)

For general enquiries about this order, please contact the parking team via email at [tro@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:tro@stevenage.gov.uk) or by telephone on (01438) 242 242.

Formal objections to the proposals, stating the grounds upon which they are made and the names and full address of the person making the objection should be in writing to Stevenage Borough Council, at the address below or via email to [tro@stevenage.gov.uk](mailto:tro@stevenage.gov.uk) before 11 March 2022. Comments in support of the proposals will also be received during this time.

M. Partridge Chief Executive, Stevenage Borough Council Daneshill House, Danestrete, Stevenage, SG1 1HN.

17 February 2022