Neighbourhood and Community Centre Visits, February 2020. Jim Brown.

This at 28 February PM

| | | | | Neigh | bourho | ood Basics | | | | | | Accessibility | Visual Check | Flowers | Condition | ASB |
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| Location | Community Centre | Place of Worship | Shops | Post Office | Pharmacv | GP | School | Café | Pubs | Take awavs | Cash Machine | | | | | |
| Oaks Cross (Visited 14 February 2020). | None | Longmeadow Evangelical across the road | | Yes, in convenienc e store. | Yes. | Not close. For example Roebuck SG2 8HW and Spring Drive SG2 8AZ. | over zebra crossing. Hideous | No. | Pied Piper. | Several | | Fairly frequent buses. Cycleway crosses | There is a vast expanse of pavement, parking areas and ramp all the same colour and design. Boring and a trip hazard. Very concrete. Rear of the Chinese carry out block is particularly unsightly. Cars sometimes park on the entry to the cycle route. Some trees missing. | There are no | Barbed wire. Is some concrete failing? Canopies seem OK. No lights in the bus stops. | Nothing observed during the visit but Pied Piper can be very loud during special events. |
| Oval (Visited 11 and 14 February 2020) | Large centre. Busy but part- time reception. A few years ago the centre got a new lease and funding for an extension and stairlift. | building. Multiple others nearby. Mosque on | Co-op. News'gnt. Amazing DIY shop. Butcher. | Yes. In Martins news'gent. | Yes. | The nearest may be Chells & St. Nicholas. | Trotts Hill? | Yes. In shopping area. Part-time in communit y centre, | | Several | ? But need to check on charge or free. | Fairly frequent buses. Cycleway parallel with Verity Way. There is a ramp up to the flats above shops. | Some maintenance issues at the community centre. Letters missing in "The Oval" sign. Concrete steps to homes just north of the neighbourhood centre collapsing. | There are no flowers in the community centre and shops areas. There is a community garden but is not visible from the community centre and active shops. | Some issues around responsibility for and condition of the former youth wing. | Nothing observed during our visit but some anecdotes from the café. |

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| Symonds Green (Visited 11 and 3p.m. 24 February) | play and neighbourhood centres. Busy programme including the | not aware of other religions or denominations | r may move round the front when the building work is | | Yes. | Yes. SG1 2JW. | Woolenwic k SG1 2NU is the nearest school. Some distance and the other side of a dual carriagewa y. | | Tom Tiddler s SG1 | pizza/ke | Yes and free. At | Cycleway the other side of the Co-op. The bus service is not great during the day and stops completely early evening. | Building work on top of the tops does not help the current appearance and caused the recent temporary closure of the shops. No public toilets after 2p.m. or at weekends. Pub garden privately owned - hard, flat and colourless. | immediately in front | Much of the exterior of the community centre is new. | Nothing observed during either visit. No obvious youth provision. There had been some in the neighbourhood centre. |

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| Bedwell (Visited about 4p.m. on Monday 24 Feb 2020). | Centre and | URC in Cuttys Lane. CofE at | off licence; bakery; | Yes. In a shop. | Yes. | Crescnt, | Homestead Moat, SG1 | | | and chips; pizza/ | One | Bus stops nearby on Bedwell Crescent. Steps up to flats above shops. No nearby cycle way but links either end of Bedwell Crescent. | Some cigarette ends in the gullies at the edge of the car park. Who knows what's happening at the old telephone exchange? | No much evidence in the shopping area but have a look at Bedwell Park which is nearby. | Back of shops much better than Oaks Cross. There is a fence. | Nothing observed during our visit. |
| St. Nicholas (Visited 24 February 2020). | Yes. Partly hidden behind the shops. Another community centre with a former youth wing. Also a separate building at the back. Office open in the mornings. Forbidding security fence from 1990s. | A long way from St. Nicholas Church. | Substantia I convenien ce store. Small shopping area. | No. | Yes. | Yes. Two but oversubs cribed. | and Giles | | St. Nichola s. | | a very high charge of | | neighbourhood shops but there's a lot of scaffoldinmg nearby which seems to have been there for a long | No much evidence but there is a large Christmas tree in a planter and flowers may appear around it in the Spring. | Community centre | Nothing observed at the time of the visit, about 3.30p.m, but some graffiti. |

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| Location | Community Cer | ce of Wors | Shops | Post Office | Pharmacv | GP | School | Café | Pubs | Take awavs | Cash Machine | | | | | |
| (No visit. | first floor would be difficult for those with mobility | Several in the old town including Baptist, Catholic, CofE and Methodist. | | No. | Yes. | | Fairlands Junior and Thomas | Revolutio n and | Several | Several. | Yes. Free still availabl e. | on routes between the new town centre, Lister Hospital and Hitchin. Cycleway up to the front of the community centre. Noted this is the only neighbourhood | Stevenage but spoilt by empty shops and the gyratory. The shops are not owned by SBC. The southern part of the High Street is dominated by parked | The old Bowling Green is very attractive. The planters further down the High Street are a bit sad. A start has been made but more missing trees need to be replaced. | Many of the buildings are quite old and in a conservation area. Interesting access to some flats. | There are complaints about young people in front of Tesco Express and issues with rough sleepers and asking for money. The lively night time economy can lead to noise complaints and other ASB issues. |
| Virtual 24 | Named after the links between young people and the rest of the people. At the edge of Nobel School. | St. Hugh and St. John (Anglican and Methodist) between the community centre and the shops. | Several including Tesco. TBC | TBS | ТВС | Stands apart from the rest of the neighbour hood | Lodge Farm Primary; Camps Hill Primary; Nobel secondary and not far from Marriotts. | | | Yes. Details TBC. | TBC. | Fairly frequent SB1 buses. | TBD. | TBD. | Recent refresh. TB | TBD. |
| Green. No visit. Virtual 27 | (Fairlands) Community Centre which was on Archer Road. It is more | | A few on Archer | TBD. | TBD. | TBD. | | In communit y centre. | | Not close. | | It's a walk to the bus stops. There are fairly frequent routes 2 and 3 buses along Vardon Road, Merdith Road and Archer Road. A cycleway runs close to the rear of the community centre. The centre is a single storey building. | | In the park. | The centre was opened in 2016. There may be some maintenance issues. | TBD. |

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| | The Shephall Centre was formerly known as the Broadhall Community Centre which was dominated by its social club. It's a | The Catholic | | | | | Peartree Way and Peartree Spring. The Heathcote site of Barnwell | Yes. | | | | | | | | |
| (Shephall. | building but | | The Hyde is a | | | | school is | Slightly behind | | | | | | | | |
| Virtual 27 | some distance from the local shops at The Hyde and | Hyde. There is a community church on Hydean Way. | local shopping | Foursquare shop at | 8 The | | next door to the Shephall Centre. | and to one side of the shops. | Yes. Vincent | TBD. | TBD. | Fairly frequent buses on routes 4 and 5 at the Hyde. | TBD. | TBD. | TBD. | Note the CCTV camera on Shephall Way. |