

Public Document Pack

23 February 2018

Our Ref Southern Rural 02.18
Your Ref.
Contact. Hilary Dineen
Direct Dial. (01462) 474353
Email. hilary.dineen@north-herts.gov.uk

To: Members of the Committee: Councillor David Barnard, Councillor Cathryn Henry, Councillor John Bishop, Councillor Steve Deakin-Davies, Councillor Faye S Frost, Councillor Jane Gray, Councillor Steve Hemingway, Councillor Harry Spencer-Smith, Councillor Claire Strong and Councillor Terry Tyler

You are invited to attend a

MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN RURAL COMMITTEE

to be held in the

**FOUNDATION HOUSE, ICKNIELD WAY,
LETCWORTH GARDEN CITY**

On

THURSDAY, 8 MARCH, 2018 AT 7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,



David Miley
Democratic Services Manager

Agenda Part I

Item	Page
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. MINUTES - 30 NOVEMBER 2017 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on the 30 November 2017.	(Pages 1 - 6)
3. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS Members should notify the Chairman of other business which they wish to be discussed by the Committee at the end of the business set out in the agenda. They must state the circumstances which they consider justify the business being considered as a matter of urgency. The Chairman will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.	
4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chairman of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest which requires they leave the room under Paragraph 7.4 of the Code of Conduct, can speak on the item, but must leave the room before the debate and vote.	
5. HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY To receive a presentation from Inspector Richard Lilley, Hertfordshire Constabulary.	
6. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION To receive presentations and petitions from members of the public including: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Knebworth Football Club;2. Stepping Stone Pre-School;3. Cockenhoe Memorial Hall;4. Pirton Table Tennis Club;5. Waste Not Want Not.	

7. GRANTS AND COMMUNITY UPDATE
REPORT OF THE COMMUNITIES MANAGER

(Pages 7
- 18)

To update the Committee on the activities and actions of the Communities Officer, to advise on the current expenditure and balances of the delegated budgets and to consider applications for grant funding.

8. WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

To receive any oral reports from Members regarding Ward matters and Outside Organisations.

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

SOUTHERN RURAL COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD IN THE ICKLEFORD VILLAGE HALL,
ARLESEY ROAD, ICKLEFORD SG5 3TG
ON THURSDAY, 30TH NOVEMBER, 2017 AT 7.30 PM

MINUTES

Present: *Councillors David Barnard (Chairman), John Bishop, Steve Deakin-Davies, Faye Frost, Jane Gray, Steve Hemingway, Harry Spencer-Smith and Claire Strong*

In Attendance:

Claire Morgan (Communities Officer) and Hilary Dineen (Committee and Member Services Officer)

Also Present:

At the commencement of the meeting 13 members of the public.

36 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Cathryn Henry (Vice-Chairman).

37 MINUTES - 5 OCTOBER 2017

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 5 October 2016 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

38 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There were no notifications of other business.

39 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly those giving a presentation;
- (2) The Chairman reminded everyone that, in accordance with Council policy, the meeting was being audio recorded;
- (3) The Chairman drew attention to the item on the agenda front pages regarding Declarations of Interest and reminded Members that, in line with the Code of Conduct, any Declarations of Interest needed to be declared immediately prior to the item in question.

40 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - OFFLEY RECREATION CENTRE - JUNIOR SOCCER SECTION

Mr David Sample, representing Offley Recreation Centre, Junior Soccer Section thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their application for grant funding as follows:

- The Recreation Centre was situated in Kings Walden Road, Offley
- There was a Sports and Social Club that catered for tennis, fishing and had a MUGA and a gym;

- The Recreation Ground had 8 junior football teams;
- The Recreation Centre would be donating practice balls.

The Chairman thanked Mr Sample for his presentation.

41 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - OFFLEY FISHING CLUB - JUNIOR SECTION

Mr David Sample, Offley Fishing Club, Junior Section thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their application for grant funding as follows:

- The Fishing Club used two ponds which were leased;
- These ponds had been excavated in a field and were maintained by the Fishing Club;
- One pond was used for breeding, the other for fishing;
- Young people had been invited to attend the Club and be mentored by adult fishermen;
- This led to the introduction of a junior section of the Club;
- The aim was to purchase junior whips, high visibility vests and other equipment.

County Councillor Barnard advised that, notwithstanding the decision of this Committee regarding grant funding he, as a County Councillor, would be pleased to receive and application for funding from his Locality Budget.

The Chairman thanked Mr Sample for his presentation.

42 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - KIMPTON HISTORY GROUP

Mr John Pollington, Archivist of Kimpton History Group, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their application for grant funding.

Mr Pollington informed Members that thy History Group would like to make the history of the village more accessible and vibrant by creating a wheelchair friendly heritage trail.

They had created a heritage trail leaflet in 2005, however the leaflets related to this were now out of date and dated and the map was very poor.

The Group had been collecting historic data for 12 years.

They now wished to produce leaflets, with maps, one showing the footpaths around Kimpton and another showing the heritage trail based in the centre of the village.

The plan was to use the designer that the Countryside Management Service had previously used and tested for their Hertfordshire walking leaflets.

Grant funding would be used to redesign and print the heritage trail leaflet only.

Maps and leaflets for both footpaths and the heritage trail would be available free of charge in local places and details would be placed on the village website.

Members asked whether they had considered other methods of funding

Mr Pollington advised that the grant application covered only the design and printing of the heritage trail leaflet. All other work had been undertaken by members of the Group and that the maps, design and printing of the footpath leaflet had been funded from another source.

Members suggested that the History Group consider making an application for grant funding to London Luton Airport Community Chest and their County Councillor.

The Chairman thanked Mr Pollington for his presentation.

43 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - ICKLEFORD SPORTS CLUB

Mr Philip Crowe, representing Ickleford Sports Club, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their application for grant funding.

Mr Crowe informed Members that Ickleford Sports and Recreation Club had been established in 1975 and had a good sports field that provided pitches for both football and cricket, which were maintained by a groundsman,

The Club building provided changing rooms, squash courts, darts, a kitchen and a bar. It also provided an outside balcony from which sport could be watched.

The Club also hosted a Mother and Toddler Group.

This year had seen a change in the management of the club bar, which had already seen improvements and a number of new social events.

Minor maintenance of the club and grounds was undertaken by members.

The Parish Council provided support annually..

Many of the paving slabs on the path leading to the club were broken and needed to be repaired/replaced for which a quote of £980 had been received.

Members noted that membership fees were charged, the bar made a profit and the teams paid subscriptions and queried whether this was actually a business. They also queried whether the costs of maintaining the club had increased as it had aged.

Mr Crowe advised that the fees helped to maintain the club, however money was limited. In respect of maintenance, membership and therefore income fluctuated and the cricket club was the main supporter of the club. As the club aged more needed to be done and there were a number of issues that needed to be addressed.

The Chairman thanked Mr Crowe for his presentation.

44 GRANTS AND COMMUNITY UPDATE

Following a request by Members that all Ward Grants be presented to the Committee with supporting paperwork, the Communities Officer advised that the following Ward Grant requests would be presented to the next meeting of this Committee:

Councillor Deakin -Davies
£250 – Stepping Stones Pre-School, Knebworth;
£250 – Knebworth Football Club, Female Youth Team.

Members commented that three ward grant awards made on 2 March 2017 to Hexton Community Petanque Project continued to be described as “Project still at development stage” and asked that the Communities Officer investigate this project and provide an update to the Committee at the next meeting.

Members asked for clarification regarding the amounts available in each of the budgets

The Communities Officer advised that she would update the budget sheets to reflect any grants awarded and this meeting and would circulate then to all Members of the Committee.

In response to a comment by a Member, the Communities Officer advised that Lilley Village Hall had not submitted an application for funding from the Community Hall Capital Fund. Councillor Barnard agreed to contact the Village Hall Committee to make enquiries regarding their intentions in this respect.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the activities and schemes with which the Communities Officer has been involved with, as set out in the report, be noted;
- (2) That the budgetary expenditure, balances and carry forwards within the Area Committee Development Budget spreadsheet be noted;
- (3) That the Communities Officer be requested to update the budget sheets following this meeting and circulate them to all Members of the Committee;
- (4) That the Communities Officer be requested to provide an update to this Committee regarding the progress made regarding the Hexton Community Petanque Project at the next meeting of this Committee.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure that the Southern Rural Committee is kept informed of the work of the Communities Manager and to inform Members of the financial resources and current budgetary position.

45 WARD GRANT APPLICATION - OFFLEY RECREATION CENTRE - JUNIOR SOCCER SECTION

The Communities Officer advised that the application was for £120 to be taken from Councillor Strong's Ward Budget and that she would ensure that safeguarding policies were in place prior to making any payment.

RESOLVED: That, subject to the implementation of relevant safeguarding policies, grant funding of £120 be awarded to Offley Recreation Centre from the 2017/18 Ward Budget for Councillor Strong towards the costs associated with the training of the Junior Soccer Section.

REASON FOR DECISION: To improve services provided by local organisations and groups which are accessed by the community.

46 WARD GRANT APPLICATION - OFFLEY FISHING CLUB - JUNIOR SECTION

RESOLVED: That, subject to the receipt of safeguarding policies, grant funding of £140 be awarded to Offley Fishing Club from the 2017/18 Ward Budget for Councillor Frost towards the cost of purchasing junior sized kits.

REASON FOR DECISION: To improve services provided by local organisations and groups which are accessed by the community.

47 WARD GRANT APPLICATION - KIMPTON HISTORY GROUP

RESOLVED:

- (1) That grant funding of £500 be awarded to Kimpton History Group from the 2017/18 Ward Budget for Councillor Bishop towards the cost of design, artwork and printing of 500 heritage trail leaflets;
- (2) That grant funding of £480 be awarded to Kimpton History Group from the 2017/18 Discretionary Budget towards the cost of design, artwork and printing of 500 heritage trail leaflets.

REASON FOR DECISION: To improve services provided by local organisations and groups which are accessed by the community.

48 WARD GRANT APPLICATION - ICKLEFORD SPORTS CLUB

RESOLVED:

- (1) That grant funding of £300 be awarded to Ickleford Sports Club from the 2017/18 Ward Budget for Councillor Spencer-Smith toward the cost of repairing the path and paving leading from the car park to the clubhouse;
- (2) That grant funding of £650 be awarded to Ickleford Sports Club from the 2017/18 Discretionary Budget toward the cost of repairing the path and paving leading from the car park to the clubhouse;

REASON FOR DECISION: To improve services provided by local organisations and groups which are accessed by the community.

49 INFORMATION NOTE - GREEN SPACE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

The Committee received an information note regarding the Green Space Management Strategy.

Councillor Gray, Executive Member for Leisure, informed Members that the Parks and Countryside Development Manager had been doing a great job in encouraging people to take on the 13 play areas categorised to be green space and pavilions.

She clarified that the Green Space Strategy relied upon identifying less used play areas and that the identified play areas were not being closed but were being rationalised to green space with areas to play and sit, but no formal play equipment.

Great Ashby Community Council would be taking on responsibility for the play areas in their area.

In Hitchin Brook View play area had been re-categorised upwards and the Rosehill play area was being considered.

A lot of progress had been made so far and it was hoped that more people would come forward to take on play areas, but the worst that could happen was that a play area became a green space for public use.

Members were supportive of the strategy, which would result in non-parished areas paying for the upkeep of play areas in the same way as Parishes do. The commented that funding was available from other organisations such as BIFFA and Section 106 funding.

50 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

No outside body or ward matters were discussed.

The meeting closed at 8.17 pm

Chairman

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**SOUTHERN RURAL COMMITTEE
8 MARCH 2018**

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

AGENDA ITEM No.

7

TITLE OF REPORT: GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITIES MANAGER

EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS

PRIORITY: ATTRACTIVE AND THRIVING / PROSPER AND PROTECT / RESPONSIVE AND EFFICIENT

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To advise the Committee on the current expenditure and balances of the Area Committee budgets.
- 1.2 To bring to the Committee's attention details of recent requests received for Area Committee Grant Funding, made by community groups and local organisations, which conform to the Authority's Grants Policy approved by Cabinet on June 14th 2016.
- 1.3 To advise the Committee of the activities and schemes with which the Community Officer has been involved.
- 1.4 To bring to the Committee's attention some important community based activities that will take place during the next few months.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Committee be recommended to consider the provision of grant funding to the organisations outlined below:
 - 2.1.1 Knebworth Football Club, - £250 Ward Grant from Cllr Deakin-Davies as outlined below in 8.1.1
 - 2.1.2 Stepping Stone Pre-School- £250 Ward Grant from Cllr Deakin-Davies as outlined below in 8.1.2
 - 2.1.3 Cockenhoe Memorial Hall - £2,400 towards play ground equipment as outlined in 8.1.3
 - 2.1.4 Pirton Table Tennis Club - £ 1,066.00 as outlined below in 8.1.4
 - 2.1.5 Waste Not Want Not - £1,880 towards the installation of an disabled accessible portable toilet

2.1.6 That any unspent funds from the 2017/18 financial year be allocated to Community Initiatives.

2.2 That the Committee endorses the actions taken by the Community Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for the Southern Rural Area.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 To ensure the Committee is kept informed of the work of the Community Officer.

3.2 This report is intended to inform Members of the financial resources available to the Committee. It draws attention to the current budgetary situation by assisting in the effective financial management of the Area Committee's budget. This ensures that all actions are performed in line with the Authority's Financial Regulations, the Council's Constitution, and the guidance of the existing Grants policy as agreed by Cabinet in June 2016.

3.3 The awarding of financial assistance to voluntary organisations and the use of discretionary spending allows the Committee to further the aims of the Corporate Plan.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

4.1 There are no alternative options being proposed other than those detailed within the text of this report. However in the course of debate at committee, Members may wish to comment and offer additional views on any of the items included within this report.

5. CONSULTATION WITH RELEVANT MEMBERS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS

5.1 Consultation with Members has occurred in connection with the allocation of funds for Community Projects

5.2 Consultation with the respective officers and external bodies/groups has taken place with regard to funding proposals for Area Committee Funds.

6. FORWARD PLAN

6.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

7. BACKGROUND

7.1 Members are asked to note the information detailed in Appendix 1 Southern Rural Area Committee Budget Spread sheet, which relates to the Area Committee budget balances for 2017/18.

- 7.2 The spreadsheet also details pre-allocated sums carried forward from the previous financial years, including balances and past expenditure.
- 7.3 The current level of unallocated funds within the Committee's Development Budget for 2017/18 is **£7,470**.
- 7.4 The current level of unallocated within the Committee's Ward Members 2017/18 Budget is **£3,090**.

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Grant Applications for Consideration

8.1.1 Knebworth FC– Ward Grant Cllr Deakin-Davies

Knebworth Football Club are an FA Charter Standard Development Club, who provide facilities, promote and offer opportunities to play football, with teams for boys and girls from the age of 3 through to seniors and veterans.

Knebworth FC is looking to develop girl's football by offering free training sessions at a local school. They are requesting a total of £250 to cover the costs of equipment including footballs, cones and kit which will be used during the sessions. Providing free football sessions will create opportunities for girls to be physically active, learn new skills and provide pathways to playing football both inside and outside of school.

The KFC last received grant funding of £1000 in March 2016 towards improvements to the facility.

8.1.2 Stepping Stone Pre School– Ward Grant Cllr Deakin-Davies

Stepping Stone Pre School offers children a wide curriculum that allows them to explore both academic subjects, such as literacy, numeracy and science as well as creative and physical activities that currently include music, yoga and dance.

They are looking to introduce a sports programme, which will deliver weekly sport sessions to the children by a qualified sports coach. Stepping Stone Pre School are requesting £250 to cover the cost of the 10 super sports coaching sessions.

More traditional sports may benefit those children who are less drawn to dance and yoga and encourage them to be physically active. There is limited outdoor space for children to run around in for unstructured activity, so provision of safe organised sport is especially important.

The Stepping Stone Pre School last received grant funding of £500 from the Southern Rural Committee in 2009.

8.1.3 Cockernhoe Memorial Hall

The Elmtree Community land was given to the parish council after the completion of the new North Herts Homes houses back in 2012. The field is maintained by the parish council and a couple of new benches have been added with the request from the residents.

There has been great interest from the residents to build an under 11s play area with equipment including include swings, a slide and play mobiles (ride on animals on a spring). There are many social and developmental benefits for children, play areas enable children to exercise and participate in creative activities. It also creates a strong sense of community and belonging as it engages residents in more social activities.

The cost for equipment and installation has been quoted by Wickstead Playgrounds as £38,455 (excluding VAT)

Cockernhoe Memorial hall are requesting £2,400 from the Southern Rural Committee to cover some of the costs to build the play area. The group are hoping for a contribution from the Parish Council of £5000 via Section 106 funds and a discount from the supplier of £1,750.

If the group are successful in raising these funds in order to finance the project they would still need to find further funding in the region of £30k. They also have not mentioned how they intend to finance the regular inspections of the equipment that would be necessary to fulfil health and safety requirements.

If members are minded to allocated funding to the project officer recommendation would be that funds are not released until the group have the remainder of the funding in place to undertake the project.

The Memorial Hall has not received funding from Southern Rural Committee since 2012 when they were awarded £1000 towards an air conditioning system.

8.1.4 Pirton Table Tennis Club

Pirton Table Tennis Club are an unregistered charity, that provide members of the community with the opportunity to play a sporting activity which may be less physically demanding than some of the other sports available in Pirton.

Currently, the club are using Pirton Sports and Social Club as a venue. However, this venue is not ideal as the surrounding equipment makes it unsafe. In April this year, the club will be relocating to the Village Hall and are requesting £1,066 to cover the cost of purchasing two table tennis tables and nets, and nine sports hall dividers.

Members of the club and other local residents who play on a regular basis will benefit from the new venue and equipment. This will also allow members to play in a safe environment as well as provide more playing opportunities for the club to grow in numbers allowing more members of the community to take part as additional equipment will be available.

This is basically a new group setting up in the village hall and as such they have not received funds from NHDC in the past.

8.1.5 Waste Not Want Not

Waste not want not is a horticultural based social enterprise and community interest company which uses horticulture as a therapeutic tool, providing a safe environment where a wide range of people, often disadvantaged who can feel included in their local community through positive activity by working with plants.

The group would like to install a wheelchair accessible portable toilet with hand rails at their Roebuck site to enable them to welcome wheelchair users and those unable to use a standard portable toilet. Last year via fundraising efforts the group were able to install a large wheelchair accessible greenhouse at the Roebuck site to provide not only shelter for the volunteers but also an environment for those who are more comfortable working on a level surface and those in wheelchairs.

Currently the single standard portable toilet is not sufficient for the needs of wheelchair users and those who require the assistance of a walking stick or the help of others.

Currently this group of people are only able to attend the service for short periods of time. Waste Not Want not would like to provide an accessible toilet so that this group of people are able to benefit from the project with the knowledge that they can take a comfort break with confidence and not worry about struggling with a standard portable toilet.

Local care homes have clients who have expressed an interest in attending the project and the accessible toilet would allow for targeted sessions for them. The accessible toilet would also provide a much needed extra facility to cope with sheer numbers of volunteers. It is not uncommon to see fifteen or more volunteers on any given day. The standard portable toilet is serviced regularly by a local company, Superloo who have already agreed to service an extra accessible toilet for a minimal cost.

Research has been undertaken into accessible toilets with the help of a wheelchair user who has advised us on accessibility in general at our site. Etoilets in Nazeing are able to provide an accessible toilet suitable for this project.

The group are able to build the base for the toilet and build a wheelchair accessible path to link the toilet to the greenhouse and to the Cabin where people congregate at break times and enjoy lunch together. The project aims to be fully inclusive and the addition of an accessible portable toilet would help significantly to reach out to a wider proportion of the local community.

The total cost of this project to purchase and install the accessible porta-loo would be £2,783 the group have currently raised just over £900 and will provide in-kind contribution of the labour required to build the path and base for the unit. Waste Not Want Not are requesting grant funding for the remaining £1,880

The group last received funding from the Committee in December 2014 to the value of £1500

8.2 **Update on Community Engagement**

The following venues in the Southern Rural area are currently going through the application process for the Community Facilities Capital Grant programme:-

Knebworth Scout and Guide Group - It was agreed after discussion to recommend an award of £32,000.

Pirton Village Hall - After discussion it was agreed to recommend the award of £45,000

Dacre Rooms, Kimpton awarded £50,000. To refurbish & update the ground floor rooms to make building a community hub for the whole parish. Refit unisex toilets, refurbish kitchen/bar area; utility area, porch & lobby: replace boiler, renew joinery, new ceiling wall & floor finishes.

1st stage of funding has been released and work is well underway, undertook site visit to inspect work on 25th January

John Clements Sports & Community Centre awarded £50,000 for the provision of a stand alone Health & Wellbeing Facility adjacent to the existing facility.

The project was revised and scaled down with a proposal to locate the Discovery Centre within the existing Sports & Community Centre.

8.2.1 Funding Advice

The Community Officer has been approached by both the Offley Pre School and the Offley School Association for advice on grant funding. The Pre School are seeking a considerable amount in order to replace the Porta-cabin that they are currently using.

The Offley School Association is seeking advice on how to find funding to purchase a mini-bus.

Officers will be meeting with both groups to discuss potential funding streams.

8.3 **Highways Matters**

This section is included within the community update report for each committee cycle to facilitate debate and enable appropriate feedback on any of the proposed or listed Highways related schemes.

Any new proposals or revised schemes will be forwarded to the respective Herts County Councillor for consideration who will in turn report back and advise the Committee accordingly.

9. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Section 9.8.2 (g) of Constitution in respect of Area Committees' Terms of Reference provides that they may: "establish and maintain relationships with outside bodies/voluntary organisations operating specifically with the area including, where appropriate, the provision of discretionary grant aid/financial support etc. but excluding grants for district-wide activities". The Area Committees also have delegated power under section 9.8.1 (a) & (b) to allocate discretionary budgets and devolved budgets within the terms determined by the Council and outlined in the current Grant Policy agreed by Cabinet in June 2016.

9.2 Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a General Power of Competence which gives local authorities the powers to do anything:-

- An individual may generally do
- Anywhere in the UK or elsewhere
- For a commercial purpose or otherwise, for a charge or without a charge
- Without the need to demonstrate that it will benefit the authority, its area or person's resident or present in its area.

- 9.3 Section 137 Local Government Act 1972 provides specific authority for the Council to incur expenditure on anything which is in the interests of and will bring direct benefit to its area. This includes a charity or other body operating for public service.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 All Area Committees saw a 55% decrease in funding in the 2016/17 financial year.

There are 4 meetings in the 2017/18 Committee cycle and members must ensure that sufficient funding is available for all meetings.

Following the decision made at Full Council on 8th February to make efficiencies of a further 20% to Area Committee budgets the total budget for Southern Rural Area Committee for the 2018/19 financial year will be £11,000

11. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 There are no relevant risk entries that have been recorded on Pentana Performance, the Council's performance and risk system. Individual events should have their own risk assessments in place to mitigate any health and safety issues. Whenever a request for grant funding for equipment is received, the recipient of the funding will be advised to obtain insurance for the item to avoid a repeat request for funding in the event of the equipment being stolen or damaged. There are no pertinent risk implications for the Authority associated with any items within this report.

12. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- 12.2 All projects that are assigned area committee funding are assessed to ensure that they do not negatively impact on any part of the local community. The only deviation to this is where a minority or marginalised group may specifically receive funding or allocation of resources to address a particular area of need or 'gap' in provision.

13. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS

- 13.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to this report.

14. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 There are no pertinent Human Resource implications associated with any items within this report.

15. APPENDICES

- 15.1 Appendix 1 – Southern Rural Area Committee Budget Sheet 2017/18

16. CONTACT OFFICERS

16.1 Author: Claire Morgan, Communities Officer
Email: claire.morgan@north-herts.gov.uk

16.2 Contributors: Anne Miller, Assistant Accountant
Email: anne.miller@north-herts.gov.uk

Kerry Shorrocks, Corporate Human Resources Manager
Email: Kerry.shorrocks@north-herts.gov.uk

Tim Everitt, Performance & Risk Officer
Email: tim.everitt@north-herts.gov.uk

Reuben Ayavoo, Senior Policy Officer
Email: reuben.ayavoo@north-herts.gov.uk

Jeanette Thompson, Acting Corporate Legal Manager
Email: Jeanette.thompson@north-herts.gov.uk

Anthony Roche, Deputy Chief Executive
Email: Anthony.roche@north-herts.gov.uk

17. BACKGROUND PAPERS

17.1 Review of Policies and Procedures for Financial Assistance to Voluntary and Community Organisations, November 2002.

17.2 Review of Grant Policy Cabinet June 2016

SOUTHERN RURAL COMMITTEE BUDGET 2017/18

SUMMARY/ TOTALS	Funding	Allocated	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget					
<u>Development Budget Brought Forward from 16/17</u>	£3,200	£3,200	£1,600	£1,600	£0					
<u>Development Budget 17/18</u>	£10,600	£3,130	£1,880	£1,250	£7,470					
<u>Preallocated Member Ward Budgets Brought Forward from 16/17</u>	£3,450	£3,450	£2,644	£806	£0					
<u>Member Ward Budgets 17/18</u>	£5,000	£1,910	£1,910	£0	£3,090					
TOTAL	£22,250	£11,690	£8,034	£3,656	£10,560					

<u>DEVELOPMENT BUDGETS 1617</u>	<u>Funding</u>		<u>Project</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Unallocated Amount</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Preallocated Funds Brought forward from 2016/17	£3,200		Gt Ashby Community Gardening Project	£427	03.12.15	£0	£427		Original allocation £1500 spent £1073 balance to remain allocated pending re further planting / works in the future
(includes £1000 transferred from Highways Projects b/fwd budget as proposed 06/07/2017			Lilley Village Hall	£1,173	03.03.16	£0	£1,173		
			Whitwell Film Club Project	£500	18.08.17	£500	£0		Determined via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
			Ickleford Village Hall Pre-School	£600	02.03.17	£600	£0		
			Kimpton History Group	£480	30.11.17	£480	£0		
			Ickleford Sports and Recreation Club	£20	30.11.17	£20	£0		Total allocation £650 (£630 from 2017/18 funds)
	£3,200			£3,200		£1,600	£1,600	£0	

<u>DEVELOPMENT BUDGETS 17/18</u>	<u>Funding</u>		<u>Project</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Unallocated Amount</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Base Budget 17/18	£10,600		St Ippolyts United FC	£900	18.08.17	£900	£0		Determined via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
			Knebworth Youth Club	£350	05.10.17	£350	£0		
			Codicote FC	£1,250	05.10.17	£0	£1,250		Awaiting further information from Club prior to the funding being released
			Ickleford Sports and Recreation Club	£630	30.11.17	£630	£0		Total allocation £650 (£20 from 2016/17 c/fwd)
	£10,600			£3,130		£1,880	£1,250	£7,470	

PREALLOCATED MEMBER WARD BUDGETS	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Amount	Comments
Preallocated Member Ward Budgets Brought forward from 2016/17	£3,450								
Cllr Jarvis		Chesfield	Wymondley Village Day	£100	10.10.16	£100	£0		
			Youth Initiatives	£100	01.12.16	£0	£100		Awaiting relevant project to assign funds
Cllr Barnard		Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo	Hexton Community Petanque Project	£100	02.03.17	£0	£100		Project still at development stage
			St Pauls Walden Litter Picking Scheme	£100	02.03.17	£97	£3		
			St Pauls Walden - Mother & Toddler Group	£50	06.07.17	£50	£0		Determind via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
Cllr Frost		Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo	St Pauls Walden Litter Picking Scheme	£100	02.03.17	£97	£3		
			Hexton Community Petanque Project	£100	02.03.17	£0	£100		Project still at development stage
			St Pauls Walden - Mother & Toddler Group	£100	06.07.17	£100	£0		Determind via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
Cllr Strong		Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo	Hexton Community Petanque Project	£200	02.03.17	£0	£200		Project still at development stage
			Offley Village Hall Kitchen	£300	06.07.17	£300	£0		Determind via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
Cllr Deakin-Davies		Knebworth	Knebworth Youth Club	£500	05.10.17	£500	£0		
Cllr Gray		Codicote	Codicote Neighbourhood Planning Forum	£500	06.07.17	£500	£0		Determind via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
Cllr Tyler		Chesfield	Strawberry Fields Children's Centre	£200	02.03.17	£200	£0		
			For Allocation	£300		£0	£300		
Cllr Henry		Chesfield	Strawberry Fields Children's Centre	£200	02.03.17	£200	£0		
Cllr Spencer-Smith		Cadwell	Ickleford Village Pre-School	£500	02.03.17	£500	£0		
	£3,450			£3,450		£2,644	£806	£0	

MEMBER WARD BUDGETS 17/18	Funding			Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Amount	Comments
Base Budget 17/18 (£500 Per Member)										
Cllr Barnard	£500	Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo		St Pauls Walden - Mother & Toddler Group	£50	06.07.17	£50	£0		Determined via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
Cllr Frost	£500	Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo		Offley Fishing Club	£140	30.11.17	£140			
Cllr Strong	£500	Hitchwood, Offa & Hoo		Offley Recreation Centre	£120	30.11.17	£120	£0		
Cllr Deakin-Davies	£500	Knebworth					£0	£0		
Cllr Hemmingway	£500	Knebworth		Knebworth Youth Club	£500	05.10.17	£500	£0		
Cllr Henry	£500	Chesfield								
Cllr Tyler	£500	Chesfield								
Cllr Spencer-Smith	£500	Cadwell		Ickleford Sports Club	£300	30.11.17	£300	£0		
Cllr Gray	£500	Codicote		Codicote Local History Society	£300	18.08.17	£300	£0		Determined via Delegated Authority 18/08/17
Cllr Bishop	£500	Kimpton		Kimpton History Group	£500	30.11.17	£500	£0		
	£5,000				£1,910		£1,910	£0	£3,090	