

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, Council Offices,
Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City
on Thursday, 6th September, 2018 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 2 minutes 37 seconds

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg, Faye Frost, Gary Grindal, Nicola Harris, Gerald Morris and Deepak Sangha.

2 MINUTES - 18 JULY 2018

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 3 minutes 19 seconds

RESOLVED: That, subject to Councillors Ruth Brown and Helen Oliver's name being corrected in the list of those present and the penultimate sentence of Minute 2 being amended to read "Councillor John Bishop then read and signed the Statutory Declaration of Acceptance of Office and the Chairman (Councillor Alan Millard) placed the chain of office upon him.", the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2018 be approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 4 minutes 31 seconds

No additional business was presented for consideration by the Council.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 4 minutes 34 seconds

(1) Vice Chairman Declaration of Office

The Chairman informed Members that Councillor Green had been unable to attend Annual Council and would like to declare her acceptance of the office of Vice-Chairman of the Council and introduce her Consort to Council.

Councillor Green read and signed the Declaration of Office and introduced her Consort, Mr James Graft to Council.

(2) Past Chairman Alan Millard – Presentation of Digned Resolution of Thanks

The Chairman invited Past Chairman Alan Millard to come forward to receive his copy of the signed resolution of thanks of the Council.

(3) Past Chairman Alan Millard – Presentation to Chairman's Charities

The Chairman invited Past Chairman Alan Millard to present cheques to his chosen charities.

The Chairman announced that Past Chairman Alan Millard had raised £3,100 during his year in office and cheques of £1,550 were presented to each of the chosen charities being Snappy G's and Helping Hands.

(4) Declarations of Interest

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, wishing to exercise a 'Councillor Speaking Right', must declare this at the same time as the interest, move to the public area before speaking to the item and then must leave the room before the debate and vote.

(5) Refreshments

All Councillors were invited to refreshments after the meeting in Committee Rooms 2/3.

(6) Comfort break

If the meeting goes on beyond 9pm I will call a 5 minute comfort break. Please remain in the room prior to this to ensure you can vote.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no presentations by members of the public.

6 ITEM REFERRED FROM CABINET: 31 JULY 2018 - CORPORATE PLAN 2019 TO 2024 AND CORPORATE OBJECTIVES FOR 2019 TO 2024

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 11 minutes 58 seconds

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Corporate Objectives (as amended below) be continued for 2019 to 2024
 1. To work with our partners to provide an attractive and safe environment for our residents, where diversity is welcomed and disadvantaged people are supported;
 2. To promote sustainable growth both within and where it affects our district to ensure economic and social opportunities exist for our communities, whilst remaining mindful of our cultural and physical heritage;
 3. To ensure that the Council delivers cost effective and necessary services to our residents that are responsive to developing need and financial constraints.
- (2) That the Corporate Plan 2019 to 2024, as attached as Appendix A to the report, be adopted.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS: The Council is required to have a suitable, high level strategic policy document to inform its corporate business planning process, and is required to approve the final Corporate Plan document as the formal overarching policy framework for the authority.

7 ITEM REFERRED FROM CABINET: 31 JULY 2018 - MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2019 TO 2024

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 31 minutes 20 seconds

RESOLVED: That the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2019-24 as attached at Appendix A be adopted.

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REASON FOR DECISION: Adoption of a MTFs and communication of its contents will assist in the process of forward planning the use of Council resources and in budget setting for 2019/2020 to 2023/2024, culminating in the setting of the Council Tax precept for 2019/20 in February 2019.

8 REVIEW OF ALLOCATION OF SEATS AND APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO COMMITTEES FOR REMAINDER OF 2018/2019 CIVIC YEAR

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 37 minutes 58 seconds

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the details of the political balance following the review for the remainder of the 2018/19 civic year and the allocated seats as set out in Appendix A be noted;
- (2) That, for the remainder of the 2018/19 civic year, Members be appointed to the various Committees and other bodies in accordance with the wishes of the individual groups, as detailed in Appendix B to the report.

REASON FOR DECISION: To comply with the provisions of Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and the Local Government (Committee and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 (1990 Regulations).

9 NOMINATION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON HITCHIN BID AND HITCHIN INITIATIVE 2018/19

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 41 minutes 16 seconds

RESOLVED:

- (1) That a District Councillor be nominated to both Hitchin Initiative and Hitchin BID;
- (2) That Councillor Ian Albert, as Chairman of Hitchin Committee, be nominated to Hitchin Initiative; and Councillor Nicola Harris be nominated to Hitchin

REASON FOR DECISION: To consider the deferred nominations issue following Full Council's resolution of 17 May 2018.

10 INQUORATE GRAVELEY PARISH COUNCIL - SECTION 91 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 ORDER

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 45 minutes 1 second

RESOLVED: That Council delegates authority to the Service Director Legal and Community to make an Order under section 91 LGA 1972 in respect of Gravely Parish Council, in consultation with the Group Leaders (in the form of the draft order Appendix A).

REASON FOR DECISION: Section 91 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows the District Council to appoint a sufficient number of Parish Councillors on a temporary basis, to enable the work of the Parish Council to continue until it has sufficient Councillors to be quorate.

11 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 47 minutes 7 seconds

A Question regarding the following was submitted:

(A) Charges for the use of Council Land

12 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 52 minutes 42 seconds

Motions regarding the following were submitted:

(A) Waste Contract

(B) Fire and Rescue Service

13 AUDIO VISUAL EQUIPMENT AND VOTING SYSTEM

Audio Recording – Start of Item – 12 Seconds

The Acting Committee and Member Services Manager informed Members that new Audio Visual equipment and voting system had been installed in the Council Chamber.

She explained how the audio visual and voting systems worked and that voting would now take place using the unit in front of each Member instead of the raising of hands.

Once each vote had taken place the result, including who voted and how would appear on the screens around the Chamber.