

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Hitchin Committee held in the Westmill Community Centre, John Barker Place.
Hitchin on Tuesday, 4th December, 2018 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from the following Councillors Nicola Harris, Simon Harwood, Sam Collins and Richard Thake.

2 MINUTES - 5 JUNE 2018

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

3 MINUTES - 11 SEPTEMBER 2018

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 11th September 2018 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

4 MINUTES - 13 NOVEMBER 2018

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 13th November 2018 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

5 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

6 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chairman welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation;
- (2) The Chairman advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be 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.

7 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

AFRICAN CARIBBEAN SENIORS & CARERS LUNCHEON CLUB

RESOLVED:

Funding of £3,500 was agreed which included an additional £1,000 which would be taken from the 2018/2019 budget

REASON FOR DECISION:

To allow services to continue and to assist with running costs.

INDIAN ART CLUB

- The community agreed by delegating decision of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to provide £500 to support the local art club;
- Invitation sent to members to the private members and there would be an exhibition in the Friends Meeting House at the end of October/beginning of November.

HITCHIN HACK SPACE

- Progress was being made and the exterior of the building was much improved;
- By early March there should be a report on further progress so they would attend the next meeting.

HITCHIN STROKE GROUP

- Following help from the Committee they were put in contact with The Rotary Club who supported them and gave them publicity at local GP's;
- Several new members;
- Volunteer job description being drawn with a view to recruiting more volunteers in 2019.

CHAIRMAN'S VOLUNTEERS' ACHIEVEMENTS AWARDS:

- Nominations were open;
- If anyone was aware of any volunteer doing any good work within the community, they were asked to nominate them for the Chairman's Award;
- Awards would be presented at the Chairman's Reception on 8th February 2019;
- Dinner would be provided along with various prizes which included: flowers, gift vouchers, etc;
- Prizes would be sponsored by Wilmot Dixon;
- Nomination form located on the Communities page on the Council website;

YOUTH ACTION GROUPS:

In response to a question, Councillor Clare Billing confirmed:

- The High Sherriff was interested in youth volunteering and actively encouraged it. Various groups were contacted inviting them to come and talk to High Sherriff about activities. Group gave presentations to the High Sherriff.
- Liaised with all the churches about youth activities as they ran youth clubs as they worked closely with one another and knew one another. Hitchin groups worked well together;
- Previously they were not communicating with one another but this had improved;

In response to a question from Councillor Paul Clark; Councillor Clare Billing confirmed:

- Section 8.26 mentioned Section 106 funding. It was confirmed that this was only for Hitchin.

In response to a question from Councillor Judy Billing, Councillor Clare Billing confirmed:

- Previously, there had been an absence of young people at the meetings. Councillor Clare Billing confirmed that this was as the meetings had been held during the daytime when children were at school. When the presentations to the High Sherriff were done, they had however taken time out of school to do this.

Tuesday, 4th December, 2018

- Councillors were asked by the Chairman to suggest that any groups who would benefit from a grant, to contact Councillor Clare Billing so they could be considered for the March meeting. Grants were quiet in December due to the lead up to Christmas and then there were many requests for grants in March.

8 HITCHIN BID MANAGER

Councillor Tom Hardy sent his apologies

9 AIR QUALITY

Peter Carey, Environmental Health Manager and David Carr gave a verbal presentation regarding air quality.

10 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

Members discussed the following issues:

- Hitchin United Charities

Proposal for the next meeting:

- Report for Hitchin Cow Commoners' Trust from Councillor Thake
- Museum associations – e.g. Walsworth/St Michael's
- Walsworth Festival – 19th May 2019

11 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS

The following items were suggested as items to be discussed at future meeting of this Committee:

- Church Gate
- Museum
- Parking Strategy Meeting
- Charnwood Building
- Town Council
- Link road
- The Dell
- The Fountain
- The Bridge
- Potential Highover Farm Development

12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

AFRICAN CARIBBEAN SENIORS & CARERS LUNCHEON CLUB

Dorothy Atkins, Vice-President of the African Caribbean Seniors & Carers Luncheon Club introduced herself and thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee regarding their grant application.

FEED-UP/WARM-UP GROUP

Shane Cole Local Feed-up/Warm-up Group and thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee regarding their grant application.