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24 August 2018

Our Ref Baldock 03.09.18
Your Ref.
Contact. Amelia McNally
Direct Dial. (01462) 474514
Email. amelia.mcinally@north-herts.gov.uk

To: Members of the Committee: Councillor Janine Paterson (Chairman), Councillor Valentine Shanley (Vice-Chairman), Councillor Steve Jarvis, Councillor Jim McNally, Councillor Michael Muir and Councillor Michael Weeks

You are invited to attend a

MEETING OF THE BALDOCK AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE

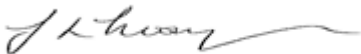
to be held in the

**BALDOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE,
SIMPSON DRIVE, BALDOCK**

On

MONDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER, 2018 AT 7.30 PM

Yours sincerely,



Jeanette Thompson
Service Director – Legal and Community

Agenda **Part I**

Item	Page
1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE	
2. MINUTES - 4 JUNE 2018 To take as read and approve as a true record the minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on the 4 June 2018.	(Pages 1 - 8)
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, wished 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. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION To receive petitions and presentations from members of the public including: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Baldock Crusaders Netball Team;2. Saracens Cricket Club;3. Baldock Town Cricket;4. Royal British Legion;5. North Herts Multiple Sclerosis Society.	
6. BALDOCK COMMUNITY EVENTS To receive a quarterly oral update on Baldock Community Events.	
7. GRANTS AND COMMUNITY UPDATE 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.	(Pages 9 - 22)

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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Agenda Item 2

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

BALDOCK AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE

MEETING HELD IN THE BALDOCK COMMUNITY CENTRE, SIMPSON DRIVE, BALDOCK
ON MONDAY, 4TH JUNE, 2018 AT 7.30 PM

MINUTES

Present: *Councillors Councillor Janine Paterson (Chairman), Councillor Valentine Shanley (Vice-Chairman), Steve Jarvis, Jim McNally, Michael Muir and Michael Weeks.*

In Attendance: *Simon Ellis (Development and Conservation Manager), Ashley Hawkins (Communities Officer) and Ian Gourlay (Committee and Member Services Manager).*

Also Present: *At the commencement of the meeting approximately 10 members of the public, including registered speakers.*

4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

5 MINUTES - 5 MARCH 2018

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 5 March 2018 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

6 MINUTES - 17 MAY 2018

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 17 May 2018 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

7 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

8 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.

9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BALDOCK COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

[Note: Prior to the consideration of this item, Councillor Jim McNally made a Declarable Interest as his partner was a member of the Baldock Community Orchestra)

Roy Scott and Brenda Marriott gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for the Baldock Community Orchestra.

Mr Scott (the Chairman) advised that the Orchestra had started in 2015. The Orchestra attempted to reach out in the community by encouraging returning musicians, as well as young musicians, to join their ranks. They had performed at a number of local events, and were hoping that a small group of them would soon to be performing at local Care Homes.

Brenda Marriott (the Treasurer) explained that the Orchestra had a membership of 18-20 musicians, but wished to undertake a publicity campaign to attempt to attract new members, including a prominent advertisement in the Comet advertisement. She hoped that the Committee would support the Orchestra's request for grant funding.

After some questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Roy Scott and Brenda Marriott for their presentation.

10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BALDOCK YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

Susan Clark gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for the Baldock Young at Heart Club.

Susan Clark advised that the Club, which was formerly known as the Baldock Senior Citizens' Club, had started over 30 years ago and met in the Baldock Community Centre. It had 20 or so members, and had recently attempted to attract new members through articles in local publications.

Susan Clark stated that the Club charged £8 a year membership and £2 per meeting for members and £3 per meeting for non-members. Due to declining membership and finances, the Club had started to meet on a monthly (rather than the previous weekly) basis. The Club was hoping to reduce costs by meeting in a smaller room at the Community Centre, but wished to revert back to more regular (possibly fortnightly) gatherings, in order to be more attractive for potential new members. The grant request was for £500 was to assist with venue hire, publicity costs and entertainment costs.

After some questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Susan Clark for her presentation.

11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - MERRY GO ROUND UNDER 5s

{Note: Prior to the consideration of this item, Councillor Michael Muir made a Declarable Interest in view of his role as a Governor of Hartsfield School, on whose land the Merry Go Round Under 5s is situated.}

Karen Forsdike gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for the Merry Go Round Under 5s.

Karen Forsdike advised that she was the volunteer Chair of the Merry Go Round Pre-School and Nursery, which was started 30 years ago by 2 Baldock mothers, and which was based in the grounds of Hartsfield School. Most of the children attending the Pre-School and Nursery were from Baldock, although some came from Weston and others from the eastern side of Letchworth Garden City.

Karen Forsdike stated that the grant request was for £880 to assist with the provision of a fruit/vegetable and garden area for the children, for both sensory and educational reasons. Funds of £350 had already been raised by the Pre-School/Nursery.

After some questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Karen Forsdike for her presentation.

12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - ASHWELL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Jackie Embury gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for the Ashwell United Reformed Church.

Jackie Embury (the Church Treasurer) advised that Phase 1 of the Church refurbishment works had been completed. Phase 2, comprising the refurbishment of the Vestry rooms was programmed to commence in July 2018. The costs for Phase 2 would be £53,000. Grants had been achieved for £30,000 of these costs, with the remaining £23,000 proposed to be covered by donations and fund raising events. However, the provision of kitchen equipment post-refurbishment had not been included in the calculations, hence the request to the Committee for grant funding of £250.

After some questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Jackie Embury for her presentation.

13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - ASHWELL VILLAGE TRUST

There was no one in attendance to present the grant application request from the Ashwell Village Trust.

14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - FRIENDS OF SANDON SCHOOL

Steph Clark gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for the Friends of Sandon School (FOSS).

Steph Clark (the Chairman of FOSS) advised that the school playground, which was used by the school and for community purposes, was in a dangerous state of disrepair. Community events held on the playground included a market, fetes and fairs. The cost of resurfacing the playground would be £25,000, of which £22,000 had already been raised through fundraising. The grant request was for £500 to assist with the remaining balance for the works.

After some questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Steph Clark for her presentation.

15 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - HEADWAY

John Archer gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for Headway.

Mr Archer advised that Headway was a charity supporting those with brain acquired injuries, together with their carers. The charity tried to achieve a level of resourcing to provide enhanced support to local group and home-based therapeutic sessions, peer support groups and activity sessions.. The cost to establish this service in North Hertfordshire would be £20,000. £6,000 had been secured from the Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation and £4,000 from the People's Post Code Lottery. In order to finance the remaining £10,000, Mr Archer was requesting grant funding of £2,500 from the Committee and would be requesting £3,750 from each of the Hitchin and Letchworth Committees.

After a period of questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Mr Archer for his presentation.

16 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - LETCHWORTH, BALDOCK AND ASHWELL SCOUTS

Wendy Tierney gave a verbal presentation regarding the grant funding application for the Letchworth, Baldock and Ashwell Scouts.

Wendy Tierney advised that she was the new District Commissioner for the Scouts, and had been asked by two local sections to request funding to assist with the purchase of 30 numbered bibs to be used for both day and night hikes. The funding request to the Committee was for £164, and the balance of £246 would be requested from the Letchworth Committee.

After a period of questions and answers, the Chairman thanked Wendy Tierney for her presentation.

17 SECTION 106 AND UNILATERAL UNDERTAKINGS

The Development and Conservation Manager presented a report in respect of Section 106 and Unilateral Undertakings.

The Development and Conservation Manager advised that the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) contained three statutory tests that must be satisfied in order for planning obligations to be required:

- Necessary to make the proposed development acceptable in planning terms;
- Directly related to the proposed development; and
- Fair and reasonable related in scale and kind to the proposed development.

The Development and Conservation Manager explained that the pooling limit introduced in April 2015 applied to any obligations completed after 2010. From April 2015, in the determination of a planning application after this date the Local Planning Authority was not allowed to request Section 106 funding for an "infrastructure project" or "types of infrastructure" if more than 5 obligations since 6 April 2010 had already been committed to that project.

In relation to Baldock, the Development and Conservation Manager drew attention to the following Section 106 discretionary funds which remain to be allocated projects over the coming year:

Sustainable Transport: £7,188.32

Play Space: £21,010.36

Open Space: £17,546.50

Leisure: £34,106.00

Informal Open Space: £13,887.12

Community Centres: £22,499.80

The Development and Conservation Manager commented that, in terms of the discretionary funding element, the emphasis going forward would be on deciding would any Section 106 funding would be used for at the beginning of the process, rather than nearer the end of the process.

In respect of the future proposed housing expansion north-east of Baldock, the Committee urged the Development and Conservation Manager to ensure that the Section 106 contributions relating to the expansion contained appropriate levels of funding to be earmarked for leisure/playing fields provision for the Baldock area.

It was noted that the appendix pages only related to Section 106 matters for Baldock and not the Arbury and Weston and Sandon Wards. The Development and Conservation Manager apologised for this oversight and undertook to send the relevant Ward Members the details for the above Wards.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (2) That a report continue to be presented on an annual basis to each of the Area Committees; and
- (3) That, other than where a contribution has been negotiated for a specific purpose or project, Ward Members of the area where Section 106 or Unilateral Undertaking funding is generated and the Area Committee be consulted prior to funding being allocated away from that area or from a village location to a town.

REASON FOR DECISION: To ensure that there is a robust system for negotiating and managing Section 106 and Unilateral Undertakings.

18 BALDOCK COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Committee considered an oral update from Councillor Jim McNally regarding Baldock Community Events.

Councillor McNally advised that the Baldock Big Lunch held on Sunday, 3 June 2018 had been a great success, and had epitomised the spirit of the Baldock community. Over 250 people had attended and experienced al fresco dining in the town centre, provided by local restaurants, as well as entertainment throughout the day. He thanked everyone involved, and paid special tribute to the Communities Officer for his help with the event.

Councillor McNally stated that the next Baldock Community Event would be the Cycle Challenge on 15 July 2018, and advised that the date for the annual Christmas Fair would be 1 December 2018.

RESOLVED: That the oral update on the work of the Baldock Community Events Forum CIC be noted.

19 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

The Communities Officer introduced the report of the Communities Manager in respect of Grants and Community Update.

The Communities Officer referred to the update on local issues and community events, as set out in Paragraphs 8.1.9 to 8.2.5 of the report, regarding the St. George's Day Parade, Baldock Festival, Sports Therapy 4 U Charity 5km run, Baldock Big Lunch and Baldock Cycle Challenge, Baldock Fair, Baldock Community Fireworks and Developer Contributions/Section 106 and other Capital Funding projects.

RESOLVED:

- (1) That grant funding in the first instance be allocated from underspent budgets from the 2017/18 Financial Year; and
- (2) That the actions taken by the Communities Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Baldock be endorsed.

REASON FOR DECISION: To keep Members of the Committee apprised of the latest developments in community activities in the Baldock and District area.

20 GRANT APPLICATION - BALDOCK COMMUNITY ORCHESTRA

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £400 (split between the Baldock Town and Baldock East Ward Budgets) be awarded to the Baldock Community Orchestra, to assist with the purchase of equipment.

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

21 GRANT APPLICATION - BALDOCK YOUNG AT HEART CLUB

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £500 (split between the Baldock Town and Baldock East Ward Budgets) be awarded to the Baldock Young at Heart Club, to assist with venue hire, publicity costs and entertainment costs.

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

22 GRANT APPLICATION - MERRY GO ROUND UNDER 5s

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £615 (split between the Baldock Town and Baldock East Ward Budgets and with £60 from the Weston & Sandon Ward Budget) be awarded to the Merry Go Round Under 5s, to assist with the costs of a fenced off vegetable garden and storage unit.

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

23 GRANT APPLICATION - ASHWELL UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £250, from the Arbury Ward Budget, be awarded to the Ashwell United Reformed Church, to assist with the purchase of equipment.

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

24 GRANT APPLICATION - ASHWELL VILLAGE TRUST

RESOLVED: That the application by the Ashwell Village Trust for grant funding be deferred to a future meeting.

REASON FOR DECISION: To promote the Committee's decision that applicants for grant funding should attend the meeting to present their case..

25 GRANT APPLICATION - FRIENDS OF SANDON SCHOOL

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £500, from the Weston & Sandon Ward Budget, be awarded to the Friends of Sandon School, to assist with the costs of resurfacing the playground at the school.

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

26 GRANT APPLICATION - HEADWAY

RESOLVED: That, whilst fully supporting the work carried out by Headway, no grant funding be approved, and that Headway be advised that a more appropriate place for them to apply for grant funding would be via Hertfordshire County Council and/or County Councillor Locality Budgets.

REASON FOR DECISION: To direct the applicant to a more appropriate source of grant funding..

27 GRANT APPLICATION - LETCHWORTH, BALDOCK AND ASHWELL SCOUTS

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £164 (split between the Baldock Town and Baldock East Ward Budgets and with £41 from the Arbury Ward Budget) be awarded to the Letchworth, Baldock and Ashwell Scouts in principle, to assist with the purchase of 30 numbered bibs to be used for both day and night hikes, subject to officers receiving the appropriate supporting documentation in line with the Authority's grant criteria.

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

28 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

No Ward matters were raised by Members.

The meeting closed at 9.36 pm

Chairman

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**BALDOCK AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE
3 SEPTEMBER 2018**

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

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 considers Grant Award of £1,000 to Baldock Crusaders Netball Club to help towards the costs of equipment and coaching as detailed in 8.1.1.
- 2.2 That the Committee considers Grant Award of £800 to Saracens Cricket Club to help towards equipment and training costs as detailed in 8.1.2.
- 2.3 That the Committee considers Grant Award of £750 to Baldock Town Cricket Club to help towards equipment and coaching costs as detailed in 8.1.3.
- 2.4 That the Committee considers Grant Award of £154 to Royal British Legion (Baldock Branch) to help towards the costs of equipment including a gazebo and a banner as detailed in 8.1.4.

- 2.5 That the Committee considers Grant Award of £740 to North Herts Multiple Sclerosis Society to help towards the cost of a new exercise bike as detailed in 8.1.5.
- 2.6 That the Committee considers the allocation of £200 for the renewal of the Union flag permanently flown on the High Street as detailed in 8.1.6
- 2.7 That the Committee allocates funding in the first instance from underspent budgets from the 2017/18 financial year.
- 2.8 That the Committee endorses the actions taken by the Community Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Baldock.

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 Baldock Area Committee Budget Spread sheet, which relates to the Area Committee budget balances for 2018/19.
- 7.2 The spreadsheet also details pre-allocated sums carried forward from the previous financial years, including balances and past expenditure relating to the allocated and unallocated Budgets available to the Committee.
- 7.3 Funding remaining for the Committee to allocate in the 2018/19 is summarised below:

	2017/18 Carry Forward	2018/19 Base Budget	Total
Baldock Town	£2,070	£3,400*	£5,470
Baldock East	£1,604	£1,400*	£3,004
Arbury	£806	£1,200*	£2,006
Weston & Sandon	£0	£440*	£440

**Includes transfer of member allowances – Baldock Town £400 / Baldock East £200 / Arbury £100 / Weston & Sandon £100.*

8. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

8.1 Grant Requests

8.1.1 Applicant	Baldock Crusaders Netball Club
Project	Assist with equipment and coaching costs
Sum requested	£1,000
Total project cost	£2,820
Match funding	£1,570 from the Club's own funds
Annual expenditure	£8,770.23
Funds held	£5,558.97
Previous support	£1,000 to help with the expansion of the club Nov 2011 £500 assist with equipment & coaching fees March 2015
NHDC Policy met	Yes
Strategic objective met	Prosper & Protect

Baldock Crusaders Netball Club is seeking funding support from the Baldock & District Area Committee to assist with costs for setting up a new youth team at the club. Funding will go towards coaching & equipment costs. Baldock Crusaders already has a successful Youth Team but due to increased interest it is necessary to set up an additional team.

Baldock Crusaders Netball Club has been running since 2004. It is a very successful club which offers both Senior and junior netball.

The application is criteria compliant and the group is putting in substantial match funding.

This organisation receives no Rate Support or other formal benefits from NHDC.

8.1.2	Applicant	Saracens Cricket Club
	Project	Assist with equipment and training costs.
	Sum requested	£800
	Total project cost	£3,175
	Match funding:	£2,600 own funds and fundraising initiatives
	Annual expenditure	£1,791.15
	Funds held	£2112.51
	Previous support	£500 assist with coaching & equipment costs May 2012 £500 general funding support March 2015
	NHDC Policy met	Yes
	Strategic objective met	Prosper & Protect

Saracens Cricket Club is seeking funding support from the Baldock & District Area Committee to assist with the purchase of new equipment and training costs for new members.

Saracens Cricket Club was set up in 1929 and currently consists of 10 Committee Members and 12 volunteers. Saracens Cricket Club is one of a very few local wandering sides who don't play league cricket but instead provide the opportunity for people (men, women and young people) to play commitment free cricket for fun with no ability trials or financial ties. 90% of the current members of the club come from Baldock and the surrounding villages.

The application is criteria compliant and the club has match funding in place.

This organisation receives no Rate Support or other formal benefits from NHDC.

8.1.3	Applicant	Baldock Cricket Club
	Project	Assist with equipment & coaching costs for junior section
	Sum requested	£750
	Total project cost	£1,250
	Match funding	£500 Club's own funds
	Annual expenditure	£8,903
	Funds held	£10,844
	Previous support	£1,500 refurbishment of changing & shower rooms
	NHDC Policy met	Yes
	Strategic objective met	Prosper & Protect

Baldock Cricket Club is seeking funding support from the Baldock & District Area Committee to assist with equipment and coaching costs for its junior cricket section.

Baldock Cricket Club has been operating since 1879 and is made up of 8 Committee Members who are all volunteers. The funding requested is for the junior cricket section and will enable the club to purchase new equipment and to pay for coaches to enable professional training for the youth members.

The application is criteria compliant and the club has match funding in place.

This organisation receives no Rate Support or other formal benefits from NHDC.

8.1.4	Applicant	Royal British Legion – Baldock & District Area
	Project	Purchase of a new gazebo and banner
	Sum requested	£220
	Total project cost	£220
	Match funding	£0
	Annual expenditure	tbc
	Funds held	tbc
	Previous support	£400 new British Legion Flag
	NHDC Policy met	Yes
	Strategic objective met	Prosper & Protect

This organisation receives no Rate Support or other formal benefits from NHDC.

The Royal British Legion is seeking funding support from the Baldock & District Area Committee to assist with the purchase of a new gazebo and banner which will be used at events throughout the year.

It should be noted that the group is seeking the full funding for the equipment and not providing any match funding. In line with the grants criteria, officers are only allowed to recommend funding up to 70% of the total project cost. In light of this, the officer recommendation is for an award of £154.

This organisation receives no Rate Support or other formal benefits from NHDC.

8.1.5	Applicant	North Herts Multiple Sclerosis Society
	Project	Purchase of a specialist exercise bicycle
	Sum requested	£740
	Total project cost	£12,720
	Match funding	£8,000
	Annual expenditure	£26,964.44
	Funds held	£26,568.13
	Previous support	None
	NHDC Policy met	Yes
	Strategic objective met	Attractive & Thriving and Prosper & Protect

North Herts MS Society is requesting £740 towards the total of £4,480 cost of a specialist exercise bicycle.

The group are trying to raise £12,720 towards a range of physiotherapy methods for the group who meet weekly at Hadleigh a sheltered housing scheme in Letchworth.

Their members are drawn from across North Herts District to attend and undertake activities such as Neuro Physiotherapy, Pilates and Occupational Therapy. The addition of the specialist exercise bicycle will be a huge help to their members' health and wellbeing enabling them to stay stronger for as long as possible when living with a condition such as MS.

The group have fundraised £8,000 towards these activities but are requesting that NHDC provide the necessary funding to purchase the exercise bicycle.

As their members attend from all areas of North Herts officers have split this grant by a per capita percentage and the sums being requested from each Area Committee are:

Hitchin	£1,500
Letchworth	£1,500
Baldock & District	£740
Royston & District	£740

A contribution from the Southern Rural Area Committee is not being requested as very few people attend from that area.

This organisation receives no Rate Support or other formal benefits from NHDC.

This organisation has never received an NHDC grant in the past.

8.1.6 Renewal of Union Flag on Baldock High Street

Members are asked to consider the allocation of £200 from the Committee's budget towards the renewal of the Union Flag which is permanently flown on the High Street, as the current flag has become faded and extremely frayed.

At the time of compiling this report officers were procuring quotes and seeking a replacement which might be more substantial and have greater longevity.

8.2 **Update on Community Engagement Initiatives**

8.2.1 Baldock Cycle Challenge

The Baldock Cycle Challenge was held for a 6th time on Sunday 15th July. The Baldock CO provided full event management support for the event. The event was supported by 180 riders and passed without incident.

8.2.2 Sports Therapy 4 U Charity 5km Run

The Baldock CO continues to support Sports Therapy 4 U with plans for a 5km run which will be held for the first time in Baldock on Sunday 9th September.

The event is being organised by the business as part of its 10 years of operation celebrations. The race will start and finish on the grassed area of Whitehorse Street and will be called the Baldock 5km Rat Run.

The Baldock CO is providing advice on the course route and continues to liaise with colleagues in Highways and Police regarding the road closure requirements.

8.2.3 Baldock Fair

The Baldock Fair will be returning to Baldock High Street and Whitehorse Street in October, operating on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th October.

The Baldock CO has drafted the required paperwork for the TTRO and has submitted this to Highways for processing and has circulated all necessary event paperwork to the North Herts Safety Advisory Group.

The Baldock CO will be helping with the event paperwork and will be assisting with Traffic Management arrangements and publicising the event to the households and businesses of the town.

The Baldock CO and Community Manager will also assist and oversee the removal of street furniture prior to the fairs arrival and will be attendance to oversee the Fair pulling onto Baldock High Street at midnight on 1st October.

8.2.4 Baldock Community Fireworks

The Baldock Community Fireworks event will be returning to Hartsfield School for a sixth time on Saturday 20th October. The Baldock CO will assist the event organisers with the planning of the event and will also provide marshal support at the fireworks.

8.2.5 Developer Contributions / s106 & other Capital Funding projects

The Baldock Community Officer & Communities Manager have worked with external groups and colleagues in the Planning Department in the potential utilisation developer contributions and other sources of capital funding available.

Sandon School Friends of Group

- As well as assisting the friends of group to find external funding to enhance the outside sporting & play provision at the school, officers have also received confirmation from the Parish Council that it fully supports the utilisation of developer contributions funds collated under Pitch Sports & Play Space to go towards the scheme of works. Officers will formally seek authority from colleagues in the Planning Team to potentially assign such funds over to the scheme.

Baldock Arts & Heritage Centre

- The Management Committee at the BH&C plans to refurbish and reconfigure the majority of the ground floor of the former Town Hall Building utilising funding via a number of sources including a Capital Projects Grant from the Authority, Phase 2 improvement works capital funds and some developer contributions assigned to DDA works which are to be encompassed within the overall enhancements.

Baldock Community Centre

- As with the Arts & Heritage, the Management Committee at the Community Centre is seeking to refurbish the foyer and toilet area possibly next summer. Community Officers will assist & advise the project team in securing appropriate funding for the scheme as well as procuring project plans & specification costings in order for the works to be tendered out.

Ashwell Parish Council

- Officers have met with the Parish Clerk & Vice Chair to run through possible schemes likely to be able to make a call on collated developer contributions collated for the Ashwell area.

- The main project the PC is considering relates to significant enhancements of the toilet facilities on the recreation ground. At present approximately £40k of developer contributions have been assigned to such works and officers have suggested that the PC submits a grant application to the next round of the Community Facilities Capital Projects Fund schedule for later in the year.

Graveley Parish Council

- Officers are assisting the Parish Council re the potential utilisation of collated developer funds re enhancements to the Cricket Pavilion and provision of a new Scoreboard.

If members have any projects in mind which may potentially benefit from utilising capital funds derived via the Planning process please contact the Communities Officer to investigate further possibilities.

The Communities Team is also collating a database of future requirements in terms of community need across the District in preparation & response to potential developments arising from the Local Plan.

Such perceived need will be communicated to planning officers to assist when negotiating any new planning obligation with prospective developers. Similarly, if members have any suggestions of suitable projects or possible future requirements within their wards please inform the Communities Officer.

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 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. Section 9.8.2 (g) of the 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".
- 9.2 Chapter 1, s1-8 of the Localism Act 2011 provides a General Power of Competence which gives local authorities the powers to do anything provided that it is not specifically prohibited in legislation.

9.3 Section 137 of the 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 In 2018/19 the Baldock & District Area Committee has an overall budget of £6,200, which is split as follows –

Baldock Town £3,000
Baldock East £1,200
Arbury £1,100
Weston & Sandon £900

10.2 The Baldock & District Area Committee has carried over budget of £6,349 from 2017/18 which is split as follows –

Baldock Town £3,269
Baldock East £1,983
Arbury £1,097

10.3 Members are asked to consider utilising any carry forward funds prior to allocating awards from the 2018/19 base budget.

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 Area committee funding is awarded to community groups that clearly demonstrate a positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between all members of the community. ..

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 – Budget Sheet 2017/18

16. CONTACT OFFICERS

- 16.1 Author: Ashley Hawkins Community Officer
Email: ashley.hawkins@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

Yvette Roberts, - Legal Officer
Email: yvette.roberts@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.

BALDOCK AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2018/19

FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 2017/18

SUMMARY/ TOTALS	Funding	Allocated	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget					
BALDOCK TOWN	£9,011	£6,941	£3,047	£3,894	£2,070					
BALDOCK EAST	£3,753	£2,149	£920	£1,229	£1,604					
ARBURY	£2,057	£1,251	£360	£891	£806					
WESTON & SANDON	£2,628	£2,628	£1,878	£750	£0					
Total	£17,449	£12,969	£6,205	£6,764	£4,480					

SUMMARY/ TOTALS	Funding	Allocated	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget					
BALDOCK TOWN	£3,400	£0	£0	£0	£3,400					
BALDOCK EAST	£1,400	£0	£0	£0	£1,400					
ARBURY	£1,200	£0	£0	£0	£1,200					
WESTON & SANDON	£1,000	£560	£0	£560	£440					
Total	£7,000	£560	£0	£560	£6,440					

BALDOCK TOWN	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
Funds Brought Forward from 17/18	£9,011		Baldock Community Mini Bus	£3,800	07.03.16	£0	£3,800		
			Baldock Community Forum CIC	£1,520	05.03.18	£1,520	£0		Total grant £2,000
			Wallington Village Hall	£55	05.03.18	£55	£0		Total grant £500
			Weston Cricket Club	£300	05.03.18	£300	£0		Total grant £1,500
			Sandon Strollers Cricket Club	£67	05.03.18	£67	£0		Total grant £500
			Baldock Community Orchestra	£304	15.06.18	£304	£0		Total grant £400
			Baldock Young at Heart Club	£380	15.06.18	£380	£0		Total grant £500
			Merry Go Round Under 5's Association	£421	15.06.18	£421	£0		Total grant £615
			Letchworth, Baldock & Ashwell Scouts	£94	20.07.18		£94		Total grant £164
Total	£9,011			£6,941		£3,047	£3,894	£2,070	

BALDOCK TOWN	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
18/19 Base Budget							£0		
Original Budget	£3,000						£0		
Transfer re Member Allowances	£400						£0		
							£0		
Total	£3,400			£0		£0	£0	£3,400	

BALDOCK EAST	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
17/18	£3,753		Baldock Community Mini Bus	£1,200	07.03.16	£0	£1,200		
			Baldock Community Forum CIC	£480	05.03.18	£480	£0		Total grant £2,000
			Weston Cricket Club	£90	05.03.18	£90	£0		Total grant £1,500
			Baldock Community Orchestra	£96	15.06.18	£96	£0		Total grant £400
			Baldock Young at Heart Club	£120	15.06.18	£120	£0		Total grant £500
			Merry Go Round Under 5's Association	£134	15.06.18	£134	£0		Total grant £615
			Letchworth, Baldock & Ashwell Scouts	£29	20.07.18		£29		Total grant £164
Total	£3,753			£2,149		£920	£1,229	£1,604	

BALDOCK EAST	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
18/19 Base Budget							£0		
Original Budget	£1,200								
Transfer re Member Allowances	£200						£0		
Total	£1,400			£0		£0	£0	£1,400	

ARBURY	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
Funds Brought Forward from 17/18	£2,057		Baldock Community Mini Bus	£850	07.03.16	£0	£850		
			Weston Cricket Club	£110	05.03.18	£110	£0		Total grant £1,500
			Ashwell United Reform Church	£250	15.06.18	£250	£0		
			Letchworth, Baldock & Ashwell Scouts	£41	20.07.18		£41		Total grant £164
Total	£2,057			£1,251		£360	£891	£806	

ARBURY	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
18/19 Base Budget									
Original Budget	£1,100								
Transfer re Member Allowances	£100								
Total	£1,200			£0		£0	£0	£1,200	

WESTON & SANDON	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
Funds Brought Forward from 17/18	£2,628		Baldock Community Mini Bus	£750	07.03.16	£0	£750		
			Wallington Village Hall	£445	05.03.18	£445	£0		Total grant £500
			Weston Cricket Club	£1,000	05.03.18	£1,000	£0		Total grant £1,500
			Sandon Strollers Cricket Club	£433	05.03.18	£433			Total grant £500
Total	£2,628			£2,628		£1,878	£750	£0	

WESTON & SANDON	Funding		Project	Allocated	Date	Spent	Outstanding	Unallocated Budget	Comments
18/19 Base Budget			Merry Go Round Under 5's Association	£60	15.06.18	£60	£0		Total grant £615
Original Budget	£900		Friends of Sandon School	£500	15.06.18	£500	£0		
Transfer re Member Allowances	£100								
Total	£1,000			£560		£560	£0	£440	

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