

# NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Hitchin Committee held in the Tilehouse Street Baptist Church,  
Upper Tilehouse Street, Hitchin SG6 2EE  
on Tuesday, 18th June, 2019 at 7.30 pm

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Judi Billing and Simon Harwood.

### 2 MINUTES - 4 DECEMBER 2018

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 4 December 2019 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

### 3 MINUTES - 5 MARCH 2019

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 5 March 2019 be presented to the next meeting of this Committee.

### 4 MINUTES - 21 MAY 2019

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 21 May 2019 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 thanked those who attended Town Talk and welcomed those who were speaking at Public Participation;
- (2) The Chairman thanked those who were no longer Members of this Committee, former Councillors Nicola Harris and Bernard Lovewell;
- (3) The Chairman welcomed Councillors Keith Hoskins and Kay Tart who were new to the Committee;
- (4) The Chairman advised that, in accordance with Council policy, this meeting was being audio recorded. Members of the public and the press may use their devices to film/photograph, or do a sound recording of the meeting. Please do not use flash and disable any sound notifications that may emit from your device.
- (5) Members were 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.

**7 HITCHIN BID MANAGER**

Mr Tom Hardy, Hitchin BID Manager, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding the issues and activities in Hitchin Town Centre.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That Hitchin Committee is supportive of the principal of Hitchin Market applying for external funding;
- (2) That the Hitchin BID Manager be requested to circulate details of the funding applied for and the application to all Members of the Committee.

**8 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - WHOLESOME WEIGH**

Ms Aimee Valinski and Eve, Wholesome Weigh, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding the future of Churchgate Shopping Centre

**9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - 8TH OUGHTON SCOUTS**

Ms Hazel Beadle, 8<sup>th</sup> Oughton Scouts, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their grant application.

**10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BUZZWORKS**

Ms Anne Taylor and Mr Chris Parker, Buzzworks, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their grant application.

**11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - CREATIVES**

Councillor Richard Thake declared a declarable Interest in that he had supported Creatives through his County Council Budget. He advised that he would listen to the presentation but take no part in the decision regarding the grant application.

Ms Amanda Ashley, Creatives, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their grant application.

**12 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - HITCHIN FORUM**

Mr Mike Clarke, Hitchin Forum, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their application for grant funding.

**13 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - STRATHMORE FUN CLUB**

Ms Lisa King, Treasurer, Strathmore Fun Club, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their grant application.

**14 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - TILEHOUSE PRE-SCHOOL**

Councillor Martin Stears-Handscomb declared a declarable interest in that he was a members of the Baptist Church. He advised that he would listen to the presentation but would take no part in the debate and vote regarding the grant application.

The Chairman of Tilehouse Pre-School thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their application for grant funding.

**15 GRANTS AND COMMUNITY UPDATE**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Committee endorses the actions taken by the Community Engagement officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Hitchin;
- (2) That the Community Engagement Team Leader be requested to discuss equipment requirements with Creatives.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To keep Members of the Committee apprised of the latest developments in community activities in Hitchin.

**16 GRANT APPLICATION - 8th OUGHTON SCOUTS**

**RESOLVED:** That grant funding of £712 be awarded to 8th Oughton Scouts towards the cost of litter picking and sports equipment.

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

**17 GRANT APPLICATION - BUZZWORKS**

**RESOLVED:** That grant funding of £915 be awarded to Buzzworks towards the cost of refurbishing their classroom.

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

**18 GRANT APPLICATION - CREATIVES**

Councillor Richard Thake declared a declarable Interest in that he had supported Creatives through his County Council Budget. He had listened to the presentation but take no part in the decision regarding the grant application.

**RESOLVED:** That grant funding of £1,500 be awarded to Creatives towards the cost IT Equipment for their youth facility.

**RESOLVED:** To improve services provided by local organisations and groups which are accessed by the community.

**19 GRANT APPLICATION - HITCHIN FORUM**

**RESOLVED:** That grant funding of £1,500 be awarded to Hitchin Forum towards the cost of purchasing Gazebos for community events.

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

**20 GRANT APPLICATION - TILEHOUSE PRE-SCHOOL**

Councillor Martin Stears-Handscorn declared a declarable interest in that he was a member of the Baptist Church. He advised that he would listen to the presentation but would take no part in the debate and vote regarding the grant application.

**RESOLVED:** That grant funding of £1,000 be awarded to Tilehouse Preschool towards the cost of volunteer training.

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

**21 GRANT APPLICATION - STRATHMORE FUN CLUB**

**RESOLVED:** That grant funding of £1,500 be awarded to Strathmore Fun Club towards the cost of venue hire.

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

**22 INFORMATION NOTE: SECTION 106 AND UNILATERAL UNDERTAKINGS**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Information Note on Section 106 and Unilateral Undertakings be noted:
- (2) That the Development and Conservation Manager be requested to take note of the comments and observations in the Minutes.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To ensure that the Hitchin Committee is fully updated regarding Section 106 and Unilateral Undertakings.

**23 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The updates regarding the following were provided by Members:

- Hitchin United Charities – Councillor Richard Thake;
- Proposed redevelopment of John Barker Place – Councillor Martin Stears-Handscomb;
- Green Issues in Hitchin – Councillor Sam Collins;
- Walsworth Community Centre – Councillor Martin Stears-Handscomb.

**24 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AT FUTURE MEETINGS**

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

- Charnwood and other assets in Hitchin;
- The Dell;
- Grant funding opportunities.