

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment held in the Council Chamber,
District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City
on Thursday, 28th November, 2019 at 7.45 pm**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kay Tart.

Having given due notice, Councillor Mike Hughson advised that he would be substituting for Councillor Kay Tart.

2 MINUTES - 11 SEPTEMBER 2019

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 11 September 2019 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

3 MINUTES - 15 OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 15 October 2019 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

4 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.
- (4) The Chairman reminded those present that the theme for this meeting was biodiversity

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BUZZWORKS

Mr Alex Inzini thanked the Chairman for the invitation to address the Panel and gave a verbal presentation regarding trees and plants that would benefit bees and other pollinators.

The Chairman thanked Mr Inzini for his presentation.

RESOLVED: That the list of trees and plants provided by Mr Inzini be forwarded to the Service Manager- Greenspace.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - CHALK STREAMS AND THE RIVER IVEL

Ms Sharon Moat and Mr Richard Meredith-Hardy thanked the Chairman for the invitation to address the Panel and gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding the River Ivel.

The Chairman thanked Ms Moat and Mr Merideth-Hardy for their presentation.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - TRANSITION TOWNS LETCHWORTH

Ms Julia Sonander and Ms Diane Ketcher, Transition Towns Letchworth, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Panel and gave a verbal presentation regarding biodiversity and food sustainability.

The Chairman thanked Ms Sonander and Ms Ketcher for their presentation.

8 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - LETCHWORTH ORGANIC GROUP

Ms Sue Lines and Ms Diane Ketcher, Letchworth Organic Group, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Panel and gave a verbal presentation regarding biodiversity and the development of green spaces.

The Chairman thanked Ms Lines and Ms Ketcher for their presentation.

9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BALDOCK FRIENDS OF GREENSPACES

Ms Katrina Nice and Glyn Holt, Baldock Friends of Greenspaces, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Panel and gave a verbal presentation regarding the use of greenspaces and the River Ivel.

The Chairman thanked Ms Nice and Mr Holt for their presentation.

RESOLVED: that the Communications Manager be requested to investigate ways to use the website to publicise ways to save water in a similar way to Dorset Council. This information could also be used in emails and in Outlook.

10 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - RON'S PLOT COMMUNITY ALLOTMENT GARDEN

Ms Mary Marshall, Ron's Plot Community Allotment Garden, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Panel and gave a verbal presentation.

The Chairman thanked Ms Marshall for her presentation.

11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - ANDY WHITE

Mr Andy White, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Panel and gave a verbal presentation regarding CO2 production and mitigation.

The Chairman thanked Mr White for his presentation.

12 DISCUSSION REGARDING BIODIVERSITY

The Chairman invited Members of the public to ask brief questions or make brief comments.

The Chairman introduced the discussion regarding biodiversity and summarised some of the suggestions made by the presenters.

Members took part in the debate.

13 INFORMATION NOTE - WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKER FOR 2019/2020

RESOLVED: That the Work Programme and Action Tracker for 2019/20 be noted.

Thursday, 28th November, 2019

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Cabinet Panel on the Environment to plan and manage its workload and monitor actions requested.