

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Southern Rural Committee held in the Council Chamber,
District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth Garden City
on Wednesday, 8th January, 2020 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Terry Tyler.

2 MINUTES - 10 OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 10 October 2019 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman;
- (2) That the Strategic Planning Manager be requested to provide an update on the Local Plan at the next meeting of the Southern Rural Committee on 26 March 2020.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chairman welcomed those present at the meeting;
- (2) The Chairman reminded those present that the Council had declared a Climate Emergency. This was a serious decision and meant that, as this was an emergency, all of us, officers and Members had that in mind as we carried out our various roles and tasks for the benefit of our District;
- (3) The Chairman advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (4) 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.

5 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the actions taken by the Community Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for the Southern Rural Area be endorsed.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

- (1) To ensure the Committee is kept informed of the work of the Community Engagement Team.

- (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) 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.

6 NHDC PARKING STRATEGY DRAFT PARKING OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Draft North Hertfordshire District Council Parking Operational Guidelines at Appendix A of the report be noted;
- (2) That the Draft North Hertfordshire District Council Parking Issues Reporting Pack 1 and Part 2 at Appendix B and C of the report be noted.

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:

- (1) That the Draft North Hertfordshire District Council Parking Operational Guidelines at Appendix A be considered and adopted, subject to the following amendments:
 - The deletion of point 7 on page 42 of the report as the resourcing cost was covered in point 5 on page 42 of the report;
 - The deletion of 'and at least once during the life of NHDC parking strategy' under Policy 5 – Off-street Car Park Tariff Reviews on page 42;
 - Add 'if required' to the end of point 3 on page 42 of the report.
- (2) That the Draft North Hertfordshire District Council Parking Issues Reporting Pack 1 and Part 2 at Appendix B and C be considered and adopted;
- (3) That delegated authority be given to Service Director - Regulatory to approve minor amendments and format changes to the draft Parking Operational Guidelines as required in consultation with the Executive Member and Deputy for Planning and Transport;
- (4) That officers proceed with the work associated with the key projects listed in the Parking Strategy Strategic Action Plan using the Parking Operational Guidelines to implement the policy framework.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: The draft Parking Operational Guidelines will provide the necessary guidance and assessment criteria for the Parking Strategy policy framework for managing parking across the District in a most cost efficient way that accords with the Council's Corporate Objectives and its Medium Term Financial Strategy.

7 COMMUNITY GRANTS POLICY REVIEW

RESOLVED: That the proposed review of the Community Grants Policy and criteria be noted.

RECOMMENDED TO CABINET: That the criteria and outline consultation process be approved, subject to the following amendments:

- Grant eligibility criteria clause B on page 96 of the report - grants to only be given to organisations based within the North Hertfordshire District rather than broadly 'be for the benefit of North Hertfordshire residents.'

REASON FOR DECISION: The awarding of grant funding awards to organisations, charities and voluntary groups, and the use of grant budgets devolved to Area Committees allows the Authority to further its aims and overarching Priorities of the Council and District.

8 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

RESOLVED: That an informal discussion between Members and Parish Councils prior to the Southern Rural Committee meeting on 26 March 2020 named Village Voices be arranged.

REASON FOR DECISION: To inform Members about Ward Matters.