

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Hitchin Committee held in the Lucas Room,
Hitchin Town Hall, Brand Street, Hitchin
on Tuesday, 14th January, 2020 at 7.30 pm**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg and Mike Hughson.

2 MINUTES - 1 OCTOBER 2019

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 1 October 2019 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

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 and the Committee paid their respects to Alison Ashley, former North Hertfordshire District Councillor, who sadly passed away before Christmas. She had served on the Hitchin Committee for 15 years and had been Chairman of the Council for the Civic Year 2008/2009;
- (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 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - PURWELL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Ms Amanda Campbell-Phillips and Mr Mark Nash, Purwell School Association, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their grant application.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - LIONS MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

Mr Surtar Bachra and Mr Sanjeevan Theara, Lions Mixed Martial Arts, thanked the Chairman for the opportunity to address the Committee and gave a verbal presentation regarding their grant application.

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.

8 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;
- (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.

9 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the actions taken by the Community Engagement officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Hitchin 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.

10 GRANT APPLICATION - PURWELL SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £600 be awarded to Purwell School Association to cover the costs of materials needed to create a learning garden.

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

11 GRANT APPLICATION - LIONS MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £1000 be awarded to Lions Mixed Martial Arts towards the cost of buying extra equipment such as; gloves, shin guards, body pads, boxing bags with fittings and a temporary boxing ring.

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

12 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:

- The deletion of 'projects' from the table heading found at paragraph 3.1 of the Community Grants Policy on page 105 of the report, to read 'ELIGIBLE for funding' and 'NOT ELIGIBLE for funding';
- That the first item under NOT ELIGIBLE should be made clear that this relates to retrospective funding and not events that happen each year.

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.

13 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

RESOLVED: That a follow-up from the Churchgate Town Talk held in September 2019 be scheduled and put into the calendar of events.

REASON FOR DECISION: To keep the Hitchin Committee apprised of issues affecting the Hitchin area.

14 POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED: That the following be discussed at future meetings of this Committee:

- Transport.

REASON FOR DECISION: To keep the Hitchin Committee apprised of issues affecting the Hitchin area.