

# **NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

## **DECISION SHEET**

**Meeting of the Baldock and District Committee held in the  
Baldock Community Centre, Simpson Drive, Baldock  
on Monday, 27th January, 2020 at 7.30 pm**

### **1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Val Shanley (Chair).

### **2 MINUTES - 7 OCTOBER 2019**

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 7 October 2020 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Vice - Chair.

### **3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business notified.

### **4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (1) The Vice-Chair welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation;
- (2) The Vice-Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (3) Members were reminded to make declarations of interest before an item, the longer reminder about this and speaking rights was set out under Chair's Announcements on the agenda.

### **5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - BALDOCK TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

Prior to the item being discussed Councillor Michael Weeks declared a declarable interest in that his grandson was a member of the Baldock Town Football Club. He advised that he would take no part in the discussion nor any decision regarding this organisation.

Mr Juan Cowell, Chairman, Baldock Youth Football Club, thanked the Vice-Chair for the opportunity to address the committee in support of their grant application.

The Vice-Chair thanked Mr Cowell for his presentation.

### **6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - ASHWELL PLAY GROUP**

Ms Merry Smith and Ms Barbara Wolfe, Ashwell Play Group, thanked the Vice-Chair for the opportunity to address the Committee in support of their grant application.

The Vice-Chair thanked Ms Smith and Ms Woolfe for their presentation.

### **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 comments:

- That the ability for Parish Councils to apply for grant funding would increase the number of applicants, whilst the budget remained static;
- That additional pressure would be put on those committees with Parished areas;
- That the District Wide Budget of £10,000 be supported;
- That in allocation of grant funding, due cognisance be made that Hitchin and Letchworth Committees were not Parished;
- That the Policy, in respect of Parish Council eligibility to apply for grant funding, be reviewed in 2 years.

**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 GRANT APPLICATION - BALDOCK TOWN YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB**

Councillor Michael Weeks had previously declared a declarable interest in that his grandson was a member of the Baldock Town Football Club. He advised that he would take no part in the discussion nor any decision regarding this organisation.

**RESOLVED:** That, subject to the agreement of Councillor Val Shanley, grant funding of £1,250 be awarded to Baldock Town Youth Football Club to assist with costs for new equipment for the club including kits, goal posts, footballs, bibs, cones, tables and gazebos in the following proportions:

- Weston and Sandon £350
- Baldock Town £684
- Baldock East £216

## **9 GRANT APPLICATION - ASHWELL PLAY GROUP**

**RESOLVED:** That, subject to the agreement of Councillor Val Shanley, grant funding of £700 be awarded to Ashwell Play Group to assist with venue hire and publicity costs in the following proportions:

- Arbury £500
- Weston and Sandon £32
- Baldock Town £128
- Baldock East £40.

## **10 NHDC PARKING STRATEGY DRAFT PARKING OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES**

### **RECOMMENDED TO CABINET:**

- (1) That the following comments of the Baldock and District Committee be taken into account when considering recommendations (2) – (5) below:
  - (i) The reporting pack seemed over complicated and not user friendly;
  - (ii) There should be an easier way to feed back information;
  - (iii) Some problems only affected very small areas and this was not the way to provide solutions;
  - (iv) There should be a facility to upload photographs;
  - (v) If people can only complete part of the reporting pack it should not invalidate the information given;
  - (vi) Feedback should be sought from Councillors following adoption of the guidelines regarding parking issues in Baldock;
  - (vii) There did not seem to be any connectivity between the document and the Local Plan.

**Monday, 27th January, 2020**

- (2) That, subject to consideration of the comments in (1) above, Draft North Hertfordshire District Council Parking Operational Guidelines at Appendix A be considered and adopted;
- (3) That, subject to the comments in (1) above, the draft North Hertfordshire District Council Parking Issues Reporting Pack Part 1 and Part 2 at Appendix B and C be considered and adopted;
- (4) That delegated authority be given to the 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 Executive Member for Planning and Transport.
- (5) 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.

**REASONS 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.

## **11 GRANTS & 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 Baldock;
- (2) That the volunteers supporting the Baldock Events Forum be thanked for their hard work in organising the events in Baldock throughout the year.

### **REASONS FOR DECISIONS:**

- (1) To ensure the Committee is kept informed of the work of the Community Officer.
- (2) 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.

## **12 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS**

The following Ward and Outside Organisations were discussed:

County Councillor Locality Budgets – Councillor Michael Muir.