

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Southern Rural Committee held as a Virtual Meeting
on Thursday, 10th December, 2020 at 7.30 pm**

1 WELCOME AND REMOTE/PARTLY REMOTE MEETINGS PROTOCOL SUMMARY

The Chair welcomed everyone to this virtual meeting of the Southern Rural Committee that was being conducted with Members and Officers at various locations, communicating via audio/video and online and advised that there was the opportunity for the public and press to listen and view proceedings.

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer undertook a roll call and gave advice regarding the following:

- Attendance;
- Live Streaming;
- Noise interference;
- Rules of Debate;
- Voting.

The Chair, Councillor Claire Strong, started the meeting proper.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Faye Frost, Steve Deakin-Davies and Ian Moody.

Councillor Sam North was absent.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation;
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (3) The Chair 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 - FC COMETS

Christopher White, FC Comets, thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Committee in support of their grant application.

The Chair thanked Christopher White for his presentation.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - KNEBWORTH FC

Stuart Biddle, Knebworth FC, thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Committee in support of their grant application.

The Chair thanked Stuart Biddle for his presentation.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - OFFLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Paul 'Ted' Edwards, Head Teacher of Offley Endowed Primary School, thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Committee in support of their grant application.

The Chair thanked Paul Edwards for his presentation.

8 GRANT APPLICATION - FC COMETS

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £959.51 be awarded to FC Comets for the purchase of a new set of metal goals as outlined in section 8.1.1 of the report of the Community Engagement Team Leader.

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

9 GRANT APPLICATION - KNEBWORTH FC

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £300 be awarded to Knebworth FC for the purchase of gazebos to be used on match days as outlined in 8.1.2 in the report of the Community Engagement Team Leader.

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

10 GRANT APPLICATION - OFFLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

RESOLVED: That grant funding of £1250 be awarded to Offley Primary School to go towards the cost of purchasing equipment for a new afterschool facility as outlined at 8.1.3 in the report of the Community Engagement Team Leader.

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

11 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the actions taken by the Community Engagement team 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 January 2020.

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- (3) The awarding of financial assistance to voluntary organisations and the use of discretionary spending allows the Committee to further the aims of the Council Plan.

12 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following issues were discussed:

- Introduction of 20 mile-per-hour zones in area villages;
- Grant application deadlines and procedure
- St Faith's Church, Hexton
- Drug dealing activity
- Subjects for the Hertfordshire Constabulary report