

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Royston and District Committee held as a Virtual Meeting
on Wednesday, 1st July, 2020 at 7.30 pm

1 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Manager welcomed everyone to this virtual Royston and District Committee that it was being conducted with Members and Officers at various locations, communicating via audio/video and online.

She then gave guidance regarding the following:

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

2 ELECTION OF A CHAIR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2020/21

RESOLVED: That Councillor Tony Hunter be appointed Chair of Royston and District Committee for the Civic Year 2020/21.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Carol Stanier.

4 ELECTION OF A VICE-CHAIR FOR THE CIVIC YEAR 2020/21

RESOLVED: That Councillor Bill Davidson be appointed Vice-Chair of Royston and District Committee for the Civic Year 2020/21.

5 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was notified.

6 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair thanked those who attended Town Talk.
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council policy, this meeting was being audio recorded and live streamed on the Council's YouTube channel.
- (3) Members were reminded to make declarations of interest before an item, the longer reminder about this and speaking rights is set out under Chair's Announcements on the agenda.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no presentations by members of the public.

8 S106 OBLIGATIONS ANNUAL UPDATE

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the content of the report entitled Annual Update on S106 Obligations be noted..
- (2) That a report shall continue to be presented on an annual basis to Royston and District Committee, which sets out full records of all Section 106 activity for the preceding financial year and which reflects changes in legislation and practice.
- (3) That, other than where a contribution has been negotiated for a specific purpose or project, Ward Members of the area where the Section 106 Obligation or Unilateral Undertaking funding is generated and the Area Committee be consulted prior to funding being allocated away from that area. Members must note that the discretionary funds are rapidly diminishing and will not be replaced under current legislation and practice, for reasons that are set out in this report.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

- (1) To ensure that there is a robust system for negotiating and managing Section 106 Obligations and Unilateral Undertakings, that records activity for each financial year and is placed in the public domain.
- (2) To ensure that the process is kept under constant review and Member scrutiny and that the risk associated with this activity is managed in an appropriate manner.

9 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Councillor Surgeries in Royston be held on a monthly basis via Zoom and six weekly as socially distanced face to face and that the first face to face Surgery be planned for 25 July 2020;
- (2) That the award of £450 via Delegated Authority to Royston Round Table to assist the Royston Vs Coronavirus Support Group be noted;
- (3) That the Community Engagement Officer be requested to make enquiries as to the amount of reduction that could be expected in respect of the grant made from this Committee, County Councillors and the BID to free after three parking and that the amount paid this year is reduced accordingly;
- (4) That the Councillor Surgeries in Royston be held on a monthly basis via Zoom and six weekly as socially distanced face to face and that the first face to face Surgery be planned for 25 July 2020;
- (5) That the actions taken by the Community Engagement Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Royston be endorsed.

REASON FOR DECISIONS: To ensure the Committee is kept informed of the work of the Community Engagement Officer.

NB: Councillor Steve Jarvis left the meeting at 20.00..

10 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

County Councillor Fiona Hill gave the Committee a verbal update on highways issues.

11 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following matters were discussed:

- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion – Councillor Ruth Brown.
- Royston Community Transport – Councillor Tony Hunter.
- Coombes Community Centre Play Group – Councillor Jean Green.