

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Royston and District Committee held as a Virtual Meeting
on Wednesday, 17th March, 2021 at 7.30 pm

1 WELCOME AND REMOTE/PARTLY REMOTE MEETINGS PROTOCOL SUMMARY

The Chair welcomed everyone to this Royston and District Area Committee meeting that was being conducted with Members and Officers at various locations, communicating via audio/video and online. There was also the opportunity for the public and press to listen to and view proceedings.

The Chair invited the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer to explain how proceedings would work and to confirm that Members and Officers were in attendance.

The Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer undertook a roll call to ensure that all Members, Officers and registered speakers could hear and be heard and gave advice regarding the following:

The meeting was being streamed live onto YouTube and recorded via Zoom.

Extracts from the Remote/Partly Remote Meetings Protocol were included with the agenda and the full version was available on the Council's website which included information regarding:

- Live Streaming;
- Noise Interference;
- Rules of Debate;
- Voting; and
- Part 2 Items

Members were requested to ensure that they were familiar with the Protocol.

Due to a change in the software, voting at this meeting would be conducting using the raised hand button.

The Chair of the Royston and District Area Committee, Councillor Tony Hunter started the meeting proper.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

3 MINUTES - 15 JANUARY 2020 TO 2 DECEMBER 2020

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Minutes of the meetings of the Royston and District Committee held on 15 January, 1 July, 7 October and 2 December 2020 be approved as a true record of the proceedings, subject to a minor amendment to the Minutes of 1 July;

(2) That, with the authorisation of the Chair, his electronic signature and initials be attached to the Minutes approved in (1) above.

4 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

5 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation, and also thanked those who had attended the Town Talk;
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded as well as filmed. The audio recording would be available on Mod.gov and the film recording via the NHDC YouTube channel;
- (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;
- (4) The Chair advised that Councillor Bill Davidson has resigned as a Councillor and therefore as Vice-Chair of the Committee. The Chair passed on the Committee's thanks to Councillor Davidson for all his work with the Committee over the years and wished him and his family all the best for the future.

6 HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY

Sergeant Jonathan Vine, Hertfordshire Constabulary, thanked the Chair for the invitation to address the Committee and provided Members with a verbal presentation.

The Chair thanked Sergeant Vine for his presentation.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - MR ROBERT INWOOD

Mr Robert Inwood thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Committee in relation to parking charges in Royston.

The Chair thanked Mr Inwood for his presentation.

8 ROYSTON PARKING CHARGES

RESOLVED: That the Committee did not support an inflationary increase of car parking tariffs in Royston at this point in time.

REASON FOR DECISION: To support local residents and the vitality of Royston Town Centre, particularly in light of the Covid 19 pandemic.

9 GRANT APPLICATIONS AND COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED:

- (1) That the Committee be recommended to endorse the actions taken by the Community Engagement Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Royston;
- (2) That the Committee agrees to the carry forward of £1,500 from the current budget to the 2021/22 financial year to continue to support the Free After 3pm Parking Initiative in Royston;
- (3) That the Committee agrees that any unspent funds from the 2020/21 financial year be allocated to Community & Environmental Projects for 2021/22.

10 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

County Councillors Fiona Hill and Steve Jarvis gave the Committee a verbal update on highways issues.

11 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

The Chair led a discussion on ward matters and outside organisations including:

- Citizens Advice North Herts - Councillor Ruth Brown;
- Royston First BID - Councillor Ruth Brown;
- Town Twinning - Councillor Ruth Brown;
- Melbourn Area Youth Development - Councillor Carol Stanier;
- Coombes Community Centre - Councillor Carol Stanier;
- North Herts CVS - Councillor Tony Hunter.