

# NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

## DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Hitchin Committee held in the This will be a Virtual Meeting  
on Tuesday, 1st December, 2020 at 7.30 pm

### 1 WELCOME AND REMOTE/PARTLY REMOTE MEETINGS PROTOCOL SUMMARY

The Chair welcomed everyone to this virtual Hitchin Committee meeting 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 gave advice regarding the following:

- Attendance;
- Live Streaming;
- Noise interference;
- Voting.

The Chair, Councillor Ian Albert, started the meeting proper.

### 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Kay Tart.

Apologies for absence were also received from Tom Hardy – Hitchin BID Manager.

### 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.
- (4) The Chair advised that Tom Hardy – Hitchin BID Manager had sent his apologies and therefore there would be no update as per Item 6 on the Agenda.
- (5) Members were reminded that it had been agreed that in view of the ongoing Local Plan Examination Hearings there would be no discussion of matters connected to Priory Fields.

### 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

**Tuesday, 1st December, 2020**

Christine Kell, Hitchin Quaker Meeting, thanked the Chair for the opportunity to address the Committee in support of their grant application.

The Chair thanked Christine Kell for her presentation.

**8 INFORMATION NOTE - CHARNWOOD HOUSE**

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee note the content of the Information Note of the Interim Property Consultant entitled "Information Note - Charnwood House"

**REASON:** That the Committee be kept informed of matters of interest to residents of Hitchin.

**9 INFORMATION NOTE - RIVERSIDE WALK**

**RESOLVED:** That the Committee note the content of the Information Note of the Interim Property Consultant entitled "Information Note – Riverside Walk."

**REASON:** That the Committee be kept informed of matters of interest to residents of Hitchin.

**10 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE**

**RESOLVED:** To endorse the actions taken by the Community Engagement Team to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Hitchin.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To ensure the Committee is kept informed of the work of the Community Engagement Team.

**11 AIR QUALITY STATUS REPORT**

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Environmental Protection & Housing Manager be requested to arrange attendance at a future meeting of the Hitchin Committee to discuss some of the issues contained in the 2020 Air Quality Status Report.
- (2) That the Committee, Member and Scrutiny Officer be requested to convey the views of the Hitchin Committee and to refer the 2020 Air Quality Status Report to the joint Chairs of the Cabinet Panel on the Environment as a possible item for debate at a future meeting.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

- (1) That the Committee be apprised of issues affecting the Hitchin area.
- (2) To further the Council objective of responding to challenges to the environment.

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

The Chair led a discussion regarding ward matters and outside organisations.

Members gave updates on the following:

- Hitchin Station Access – Councillor Paul Clark

**Tuesday, 1st December, 2020**

- North Herts College Development – Councillor Elizabeth Dennis-Harburg
- Hitchin Initiative – Councillor Keith Hoskins
- Hitchin Town Hall – Councillor Paul Clark
- Hitchin Band – Councillor Dr Simon Harwood

### **13 POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

The Chair requested that, should any Members have any suggestions for agenda items for future meetings, they advise himself, officers or the Committee Clerk.

**RESOLVED:** The following would be discussed at a future meeting of the Committee:

- The Food Provision Network
- Arts & Culture in Hitchin
- Managing complex Council issues and maximising effectiveness as a Committee
- Mental health provision in the area
- Air Quality

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