

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Hitchin Committee held in the Christchurch, Bedford Road, Hitchin, SG5 1HF
on Tuesday, 28th March, 2023 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Raj Bhakar.

2 MINUTES - 8 DECEMBER 2022

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 8 December 2022 be approved as a true record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

3 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

4 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

(1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded.

5 HITCHIN BID - UPDATE

A verbal presentation was received from Tom Hardy of Hitchin BID.

6 HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY - UPDATE

A verbal presentation was received from PS Guy Westwood of Hertfordshire Constabulary.

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

RESOLVED: That the Committee allocated £932 to Buzzworks resources to help deliver educational sessions as outlined in paragraphs 8.1.1-8.1.4 of this report.

RESOLVED: That the Committee allocated £459 to Friends of Whitehill and Highbury Schools towards four gazebos as outlined in paragraphs 8.1.5-8.1.9 of this report.

RESOLVED: That the grant application from Red Media Love CIC be deferred to a later meeting of the Committee, so that further funding can be explored by the applicant with the support of Officers.

8 GRANT APPLICATIONS AND COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED:

(1) That the Committee agreed that any unspent funds from the 2022/23 financial year be allocated to the Hitchin Area Committee budget for the 2023/24 period.

(2) That the Committee endorsed the actions taken by the Community Engagement Team to promote greater community capacity and well-being.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

- (1) To ensure Members are 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 Grants Policy as agreed by Cabinet in July 2021.
- (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.

9 CHURCHGATE PROJECT UPDATE

The Chair and Councillor Keith Hoskins provided a verbal update on the progress of the Churchgate project.

10 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

The following items were discussed in relation to Ward Matters and Outside Organisations:

- Outside Bodies Survey 2022/23
- Hitchin Town Twinning reception

An update was provided on the situation of the homeless woman outside the venue.

11 POSSIBLE AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

The following items were discussed as topics for future meetings:

- Hitchin BID Christmas Light display