

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Royston and District Committee held in the Hardwicke Hall, Royston Town Hall,
Melbourn Road, Royston
on Wednesday, 30th November, 2022 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carol Stanier and Adam Compton.

2 MINUTES - 12 OCTOBER 2022

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 12 October 2022 be approved, as amended, 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 welcomed those present at the meeting, especially those who had attended to give a presentation.
- (2) 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.
- (3) The Chair advised those present that a consultation regarding the future of the Churchgate Shopping Centre, Hitchin was due to commence from Monday 5 December 2022, following the Council's purchase of the lease.
- (4) The Chair advised that there was also a consultation ongoing in Cambridgeshire regarding the proposed Congestion Charge.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Chair invited the following public participants to provide a verbal overview to support their grant applications:

- Ms Amanda Hourmand – Home-Start Royston, Buntingford and South Cambs
- Ms Laraine Upton – Royston Community First Responders
- Ms Carole Kaszak – Royston Choral Society

6 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED: That the Committee:

- (1) Allocated £1,221 to Home-start Royston, Buntingford and South Cambridgeshire to assist with costs for providing support service to one family in Royston as detailed in 8.1.1.
- (2) Allocated £980 to Royston Community First Responders to assist with costs for new uniforms and a mobile phone with contract as detailed in 8.1.9.

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- (3) Allocated £750 to Royston Choral Society to assist with costs for putting on a performance of Haydn's Creation, including publicity costs and venue hire costs as detailed in 8.2.4.
- (4) Endorsed the actions taken by the Community Engagement Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Royston.

REASONS FOR DECISIONS:

- (1) To ensure the Committee is kept informed of the work of the Community Engagement Officer.
- (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 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.

7 HIGHWAYS ISSUES

The Chair led a discussion regarding Highways Issues and invited Herts County Councillors Fiona Hill and Steve Jarvis to provide a verbal update to Members.

8 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

Councillor Ruth Brown provided a verbal update on Royston First.