

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 Thursday, 23rd March, 2023 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Carol Stanier.

2 MINUTES - 30 NOVEMBER 2022

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meeting of the Committee held on 30 November 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 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 placed on record thanks to the former Community Engagement Officer, Ash Hawkins, for the hard work and assistance he provided to the Committee and Councillors over the last few years. This was agreed with all Councillors present.

5 HERTFORDSHIRE CONSTABULARY - UPDATE

A verbal presentation was received from PS Jon Vine of Hertfordshire Constabulary.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

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

- Suzy Brandes – Cambridge Russian School
- Vicki O'Brien and Lucy Xia – Roman Way Supporters

7 GRANTS & COMMUNITY UPDATE

RESOLVED:

- (1) That £777 be allocated to the Cambridge Russian School towards social and English language sessions for Ukrainian residents as outlined in paragraphs 8.1.1-8.1.4 of the report.
- (2) That £2086 be allocated to Roman Way Supporters towards overhauling their nature garden as outlined in paragraphs 8.1.5-8.1.11 of the report.

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- (3) That the Committee agreed that any unspent funds from the 2022/23 financial year be allocated to the Royston Area Committee budget for the 2023/24 period.
- (4) That the Committee endorsed the actions taken by the Community Engagement Team to promote greater community capacity and well-being for Royston.

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.

8 WARD MATTERS AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS - MEMBERS' REPORTS

Councillor Ruth Brown provided a verbal update on Outside Organisations, including Citizens Advice and Royston First.

Councillor Brown also provided a Ward Matters update regarding the naming of a path.