NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road, Letchworth on Monday, 19th December, 2022 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Amy Allen, Kay Tart, Carol Stanier, Sam North, Ian Mantle, Jean Green, Gerald Morris, Juan Cowell, Adam Compton, Raj Bhakar, Sam Collins, David Barnard, Clare Billing and Adem Ruggiero-Cakir.

2 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

3 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair and Members paid tribute to former Councillor Judi Billing MBE who passed away on 24 November 2022 and a minute of commemoration was held in her memory.
- (2) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be audio recorded;
- (3) Members were reminded that this Council had declared a Climate Emergency. This was a serious decision and meant that, as this was an emergency, all of us, officers and Members had that in mind as we carried out our various roles and tasks for the benefit of our District.
- (4) 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.
- (5) The Chair clarified the rules of debate for Members.
- (6) The Chair advised that a comfort break would be taken at a suitable time in the meeting, should proceedings continue at length.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no petitions or public requests to speak at this meeting.

5 ELECTORAL REVIEW – RESPONSE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND ON PROPOSED WARDING ARRANGEMENTS

RESOLVED: That the Council approved the response to the LGBCE consultation, attached as Appendix A for submission to the LGBCE, subject to the following amendments:

- Point 4.e to remove suggested ward name 'Mimram' and retain the suggested ward name by the Commission of 'Codicote and Kimpton'.
- Point 4.f to include objection of the proposed ward name 'Langley, Preston and Walden' and that the ward name should instead be referred to as 'Hitchwood' (being the former name for this area and a more accurate reflection of the different communities in the proposed ward).

- Point 4.h to include objection of the proposed ward name 'Offley and Pirton' and the ward name should instead be referred to as 'Offa'.
- Point 7 to include that the Council 'strongly objects' to the proposals regarding Baldock and specifically the proposed Ashwell and Weston ward, rather than it 'has significant concerns'.