

25 November 2024

Our Ref Royston and District Community Forum 4  
December 2024

Contact. Community Partnerships  
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To: Members of the Committee: Councillors Ruth Brown (Chair), Bryony May (Vice-Chair), Matt Barnes, Cathy Brownjohn, Ruth Clifton, Tim Johnson, Sarh Lucas and Martin Prescott

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF A**

**MEETING OF THE ROYSTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY  
FORUM**

to be held in the

**HARDWICKE HALL, ROYSTON TOWN HALL**

On

**WEDNESDAY, 4TH DECEMBER, 2024 AT 7.30 PM**

Yours sincerely,

Jeanette Thompson  
Service Director – Legal and Community

**\*\*MEMBERS PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU DOWNLOAD ALL AGENDAS AND REPORTS VIA THE MOD.GOV APPLICATION ON YOUR TABLET BEFORE ATTENDING THE MEETING\*\***

## **Agenda** **Part I**

<b>Item</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	
<b>2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest or Declarable Interest and are required to notify the Chair of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda.  Members declaring a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest must withdraw from the meeting for the duration of the item. Members declaring a Declarable Interest, wishing to exercise a 'Councillor Speaking Right', must declare this at the same time as the interest, move to the public area before speaking to the item and then must leave the room before the debate and vote.	
<b>3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - GRANT APPLICATIONS</b> To consider community grant applications for recommendation to the Executive Member for Community and Partnerships.	(Pages 5 - 16)
<b>4. PRESENTATION - LEISURE</b> Presentation by Cllr Mick Debenham, North Herts District Council's Executive Member for Environment, Leisure and Green Spaces.	
<b>5. PRESENTATION - PARKING TARIFFS</b> Presentation by Cllr Daniel Allen, Leader of the Council.	
<b>6. COMMUNITY UPDATE</b> To provide the Forum with an update to ensure Members are kept informed of the work of the Community and Partnerships Team.	(Pages 17 - 18)
<b>7. ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL</b> Presentation by Mayor John Rees.	
<b>8. HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL</b> Presentation by Cllr Fiona Hill.	
<b>9. WARD MATTERS &amp; OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS</b> To receive any verbal reports from Members and members of the public regarding Ward matters and Outside Organisations.	
<b>10. OPEN DISCUSSION</b> To open the floor to questions and discussion relevant to Royston and the	

surrounding villages.

11. **FUTURE AREA FORUMS**  
To discuss topics for future meetings.

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## REPORT (FOR RECOMMENDATION & NOTING BY COMMUNITY FORUM)

ROYSTON COMMUNITY FORUM  
5 DECEMBER 2024

### \*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT

#### SERVICE DIRECTORATE: LEGAL & COMMUNITY

#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 To advise the Community Forum on the current expenditure and balances of the Community Grant budget.
- 1.2 To bring to the Forum's attention details of recent requests received for Community grant funding, made by community groups and local organisations.
- 1.3 To enable Forum Members to make recommendations to the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships on grant applications.
- 1.4 To advise the Forum of the activities and schemes with which Community & Partnerships officers have been involved in and some important community-based activities that will take place during the next few months.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

##### THAT THE COMMUNITY FORUM:

- 2.1 Considers and notes the information within this report.
- 2.2 Makes recommendations to the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships on the grant applications detailed below.
- 2.3 Carers in Hertfordshire - **£1,393** towards running costs of their support hub in Royston for unpaid carers.
- 2.4 Caudwell Youth - **£1,800** towards training volunteers and support worker salary.

#### 3. BACKGROUND/ RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Community Grant budget for Royston Community Forum 2024/25 is **£11,001**.
- 3.2 Community grant payments totalling **£7,574** have been made to date, as itemised in Appendix 1.
- 3.3 The remaining budget available for community grants for the Royston area for 2024/25 therefore stands at **£3,427**.

#### 4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Following the decision of Full Council on 18 April 2023, a Community Forum shall consider applications for community grants in its area and make recommendations to the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships on them. The Executive

Member has delegated authority to make these Executive decisions under section 14.6.8(b)((ii)A 5 of the constitution, in consultation with the Service Director: Legal & Community. That decision will be subject to a 5 clear working day call-in period, following publication in the Members Information Service (MIS) and on the Council's website.

- 4.2 Other issues raised in this report are for information and noting and therefore no direct legal implications arise.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 As outlined in Appendix 1 and under item 3.3 the remaining Community Grant budget available is **£3,427**.

- 5.2 The total amount of funding requested for this meeting is **£3,193**.

- 5.3 If the applications outlined in Appendices 2 and 3 are recommended by the Forum and subsequently approved by the Executive Member for Community & Partnerships, there would be **£234** available for Community Grants for the remainder of the 2024-2025 financial year.

## **6. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Good risk management supports and enhances the decision-making process, increasing the likelihood of the Council meeting its objectives and enabling it to respond quickly and effectively to change. When taking decisions, risks and opportunities must be considered.

- 6.2 There are no relevant risk entries that have been recorded on Ideagen Risk Management, the Council's performance and risk system. Individual events should have their own risk assessments in place to mitigate any health and safety issues. Whenever a request for grant funding for equipment is received, the recipient of the funding will be advised to obtain insurance for the item to avoid a repeat request for funding in the event of the equipment being stolen or damaged. There are no pertinent risk implications for the Authority associated with any items within this report.

## **7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 In line with the Public Sector Equality Duty, public bodies must, in the exercise of their functions, give due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between those who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- 7.2 Community Grant funds are awarded to community groups that clearly demonstrate positive impact on the community and wider environment. The projects outlined in this report seek to advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

## **8. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The Social Value Act and "go local" policy do not apply to the matters contained within this report, as there are no recommendations on procurement.

## **9. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no known Environmental impacts or requirements that apply to this report.

## **10. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 The activities of the Community & Partnerships team are covered by existing budgets.

## 11. BACKGROUND PAPERS

11.1 Terms of Reference for Community Forums, Section 9 of the Council Constitution updated April 2024.

11.2 Community Grants Criteria Policy May 2023.

## 12. APPENDICES

12.1 Appendix 1. Royston and District Community Forum Budget December 2024

12.2 Appendix 2. Carers in Hertfordshire

12.3 Appendix 3. Caudwell Youth

12.3 Appendix 4. Community Updates

## 13. CONTACT OFFICERS

### 13.1 Author

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### 13.2 Contributors

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## ROYSTON AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY FORUM

### SUMMARY FINANCIAL POSITION 2024/25

<u>Original Budget</u> <u>2024/25</u>	<u>Carry Forward</u> <u>Budget 2023/24</u>	<u>Total Funding</u> <u>2024/25</u>	<u>Grants</u> <u>Allocated</u>	<u>Unallocated</u> <u>Budget</u>
£11,000	£1	£11,001	£7,574	£3,427

### FUNDED PROJECTS

<u>Project</u>	<u>Forum Date</u>	<u>Grant Allocated</u>
<b>Royston Swimming Club</b> - training new swimming coaches	11-Jun-24	£1,295
<b>Barkway Preschool</b> - two ipads, sports equipment and sweeping brushes	11-Jun-24	£1,218
<b>Outside of the Box Community Investment Company</b> - six chrome books and two sensory mats	11-Jun-24	£1,294
<b>Angels Support Group Hitchin</b> - online support groups and workshops.	11-Sep-24	£1,063
<b>Creative Chefs Community Interest Company</b> - cooking sessions for children.	11-Sep-24	£1,612
<b>Royston and District Parkinsons Group</b> - Sum Up machines and venue hire.	11-Sep-24	£1,092
<b>TOTAL ROYSTON AND DISTRICT</b>		<b>£7,574</b>

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## Appendix 2. Carers in Hertfordshire

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Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	6103		
Name of Organisation	Carers in Hertfordshire		
Organisation Type	Registered Charity		
Ward	NA		
Project Type	Support for unpaid carers		
Green option considered?	/		
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	None that we are aware of.		
Previous financial support within six years	None		
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes	Yes
Total applied for	£1,393	Total project cost	£2,705
<b>Officer Summary</b>			
<p>Carers in Hertfordshire are a countywide charity for unpaid carers looking after a friend, neighbour or relative due to illness, frailty, mental health need, disability, or substance misuse. They support all carers, including very young children, either living, caring, or working in Hertfordshire to find support, advice, build connections and provide a platform to have their voice listened to.</p> <p>They are applying for funding towards their carer support hub, based at Royston Town Hall, which is free to unpaid carers. It runs once a month for two hours, offering refreshments, wellbeing and advice activities, and a place for carers to express the ups and downs of caring. The group are seeking a contribution towards the cost of running the hub for 12 months.</p> <p>They have built connections with local businesses, organisations and charities to provide free or reduced cost activities for the hub based on the wants and needs of the attendees. In addition to this, their Carer Support Advisors attend three times a year to provide additional 1:1 support for attendees, identifying those who may need further support and thus avoiding a potential crisis in their caring role.</p> <p>Royston is one of their 16 hubs, as the hubs have been designed to ensure there is a hub within 5 miles of any unpaid carer who is registered with them. Thirty-two unpaid carers have attended the Royston hub or live in Royston and attended a different hub. This resulted in 139 attendances over the past year.</p> <p>Breakdown of costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff support (volunteer manager, volunteer coordinator, hub coordinator, hub admin) £2170</li> <li>• Hire and refreshments £419</li> <li>• Activity costs, volunteer phone, advertising £116</li> </ul> <p>The are contributing £1,000 through fundraising and have applied for £312 to The Big Give.</p>			

\*Funding will only be released on receipt and approval of all supporting documentation

They have also applied to:

- Letchworth Community Forum for £1,393 towards costs of running their hub in Letchworth for 12 months.
- Hitchin Community Forum for £1,393 towards costs of setting up a hub in Hitchin for 12 months.

## z=Document Control:

Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	6081		
Name of Organisation	Caudwell Youth		
Organisation Type	Youth support organisation		
Ward	Royston area		
Project Type	Support for at risk young people		
Green option considered?	/		
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	None known.		
Previous financial support within six years	None.		
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes	Yes
Total applied for	£1,800	Total project cost	£15,311
<b>Officer Summary</b>			
<p>Caudwell Youth support young people at-risk aged 11 to 24 through person-centred volunteer mentoring for up to two years. They support young people with a wide range of needs, primarily in the categories of mental health, care experience, offending behaviour and exploitation. Further information can be found at <a href="#">Caudwell Youth</a>.</p> <p>Caudwell Youth are requesting funding towards the salary of a Youth Support Coordinator supporting young people in North Herts. It will also support the cost of training, DBS checking and supporting volunteer mentors.</p> <p>They are currently working with five young people in the Royston area.</p> <p>Support is person-centred using a range of tools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1:1 mentoring</li> <li>• Helping with education, access to functional skills learning</li> <li>• Supporting with housing related challenges</li> <li>• Applications for jobs, training, benefits, IDs, residency</li> <li>• Registering and accessing NHS services</li> <li>• Signposting to other services such as food banks</li> <li>• Opportunities that build resilience and positive use of time</li> <li>• Activities that build positive social connections</li> </ul> <p>Caudwell Youth are also applying for £1,800 from the Hitchin Community Forum.</p> <p>The total project cost reflects their overall running costs, the remaining amount of £11,738 is funded through John Caudwell match funding, donor contributions and core funding from trusts and foundations. Caudwell currently have several applications in progress to secure further funding to cover the remaining costs.</p>			

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<b>Districtwide Community Updates</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grants of between £5,000 and £20,000 have been approved for a range of community groups across the district using money from the North Herts Prosperity Fund, a pot of £210,000 funded by the UK Government. The press release is available <a href="#">here</a>.</li><li>• The Community Partnerships Team have launched the North Herts Heroes Awards in which we aim to celebrate people in the local community. There are five categories for nominations, please nominate anyone who you think deserves to be. The Awards will be presented at the Chair's Civic event on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February. Information on how to nominate is available on the <a href="#">North Herts Heroes web page</a>.</li><li>• The Community Partnerships team worked with the Royal British Legion to deliver the Letchworth Remembrance Day parade on 10 November 2024.</li><li>• Co-ordinating various local and district wide Network Groups including Youth Action, Food Provision, Arts and Culture and Green and Growing Group.</li><li>• Coordinating voluntary support response to Asylum Seekers based in North Herts.</li><li>• Continuing to facilitate NHC Councillors' Community Surgeries.</li><li>• Sharing and disseminating information on social media and to mailing lists, keeping in touch with the community, voluntary, statutory, and non-statutory agencies.</li></ul>
<b>Area Community Updates</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Community Partnerships Officer attended school visits to Roman Way, Icknield Walk, Studlands Rise and KJAR. Town, District and County councillors were in attendance at each visit. Councillors discussed the work they do and students had an opportunity to talk about democracy in school, as well as ask questions.</li><li>• The Community Partnerships Officer has met with organisations to build connections and support, this includes North Herts Minority Ethnic Forum and Royston Museum.</li><li>• Connections have also been built through networking at events such as the Community Breakfast, Royston Wellbeing Network, Home-Start RB&amp;SC AGM and Hertfordshire Trustees' Conference.</li></ul> <p><b>Below is a list of community groups in Royston that received funding from the Prosperity Fund:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• £20,000 – Royston Museum towards upgrading their storage.</li><li>• £6,589 – Royston Swimming Club towards swim meet costs and upgrading equipment.</li><li>• £19,250 – Reed Parish Council towards replacing playground equipment.</li><li>• Full list can be found here <a href="#">Over £200k given to 20 groups making a difference in North Herts   North Herts Council</a></li></ul>

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