

NORTH HERTFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

DECISION SHEET

**Meeting of the Council held in the Council Chamber, District Council Offices, Gernon Road,
Letchworth Garden City, SG6 3JF
on Monday, 16th June, 2025 at 7.30 pm**

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nigel Mason, Sarah Lucas, Donna Wright, Vijaiya Poopalasingham, Laura Williams, Dominic Griffiths, Chris Lucas, David Chalmers, Ralph Muncer, Claire Strong, David Barnard, Steve Jarvis, Lisa Nash, Sam Collins and Cathy Brownjohn.

2 NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business notified.

3 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (1) The Chair advised that, in accordance with Council Policy, the meeting would be recorded.
- (2) The Chair reminded Members that the Council had declared both a Climate Emergency and an Ecological Emergency. These are serious decisions, and mean 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.

- (3) 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.

The Chair confirmed that a dispensation had been granted by the Monitoring Officer to all dual hatter Councillors (i.e. those who are both County and District Councillors) for Item 6, Growing Baldock Strategic Masterplan.

- (4) The Chair advised that the normal procedure rules in respect of debate and times to speak will apply.
- (5) The Chair advised that 4.8.23(a) of the Constitution applied to part of this meeting and that Members could not leave the Chamber during Item 6, Growing Baldock Strategic Masterplan. A comfort break would be held at an appropriate time, should proceedings continue at length.
- (6) The Chair advised of a change to the agenda order and Item 5, Referrals from Other Committees, would be taken following Agenda Item 6, Growing Baldock Strategic Masterplan, other than Referral 5A which would be taken alongside Item 6.
- (7) The Chair advised that Callum Reeve, Electoral Services Assistant, was leaving the Council and thanked him for his support to Members during his time at the authority.
- (8) The Chair advised that Jeanette Thompson, Monitoring Officer and Director – Governance, had been awarded the Lawyers in Local Government 'Legal Professional of the Year'. He paid tribute to the work Jeanette had done at the Council and congratulated her on the achievement.

4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Immediately before the respective Item, a presentation was received from Mr Paul Mumford, Ms Kitty Eyre and Mr Colin Haigh in support of Item 6, Growing Baldock Strategic Masterplan, as the developer team.

5 ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

The Chair advised that the referral 5A from Cabinet would be taken with the respective item on the agenda and referral 5B from Cabinet would be taken at the end of the agenda.

5B) Employment Committee – Director Recruitment

RESOLVED: That Full Council appointed Isabelle Alajooz to the role of Monitoring Officer.

REASON FOR DECISION: The appointment of the Monitoring Officer is a function of Full Council under 4.4.1(i) of the Council's Constitution.

6 GROWING BALDOCK STRATEGIC MASTERPLAN

RESOLVED: That that Growing Baldock Strategic Masterplan, attached as Appendix A, was approved and adopted as a material planning consideration for relevant planning decisions related to the site.

REASONS FOR DECISION:

- (1) To set an agreed design framework for the delivery of a strategic site within the Council's adopted Local Plan.
- (2) To provide a co-ordinated approach to the delivery of multiple planned sites around Baldock.
- (3) To accord with policy requirements of the Local Plan.

7 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE 2024-25

RESOLVED: That Council received and noted the Annual Report.

REASON FOR DECISION: In line with recommended good governance practice to report the work of Standards Committee to the full Membership, to promote and maintain high standards of conduct and to demonstrate a strong commitment to ethical values.