

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 Thursday, 23rd April, 2026 at 7.30 pm

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Val Bryant, Lisa Nash, Daniel Allen, Sarah Lucas, Cathy Brownjohn, Joe Graziano, Rhona Cameron, Michael Muir and David Barnard.

2 MINUTES - 13 JANUARY AND 26 FEBRUARY 2026

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the Meetings of the Committee held on 13 January 2026 and 26 February 2026 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 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.
- (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 did not apply to this meeting. A comfort break would be held at an appropriate time, should proceedings continue at length.
- (6) The Chair reminded Members of Members Development Week and the training sessions arranged during Monday 11 May to Tuesday 19 May 2026 to cover required and compulsory training.
- (7) The Chair asked Members to ensure they could successfully log in to their IT equipment ahead of the training sessions being held in Members Development Week.
- (8) The Chair reminded Members that the Council was piloting flexible voting in Royston at the upcoming elections on 7 May 2026 which meant that votes could be cast at any Hub on Saturday 2 May and Sunday 3 May 2026 between 10am to 3pm.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6 ITEMS REFERRED FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

The Chair advised that there were no referrals from other Committees.

7 ADOPTION OF THE PLANNING CONTROL COMMITTEE ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

The Chair advised that this item had been *DEFERRED* to a future meeting of Council to allow for more consultation.

8 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS

In accordance with Standing Order 4.8.11, one question had been submitted by the required deadline set out in the Constitution.

(A) Greater Cambridge Development Corporation

Councillor Matt Barnes to Councillor Donna Wright (Executive Member for Place).

9 NOTICE OF MOTIONS

There were two motions submitted in accordance with Standing Order 4.8.12.

(A) Verge and Footway Parking Protection Orders in Letchworth Garden City

RESOLVED: That Council:

- (1) Ask officers to identify suitable locations where verge and footway protection orders could help prevent damage caused by vehicles mounting and parking on grass verges and pavements and improve accessibility for pedestrians in North Hertfordshire.
- (2) Request that North Hertfordshire District Council, working with Hertfordshire County Council bring forward proposals for the introduction of verge and footway protection orders through the Traffic Regulation Order process in appropriate locations within Letchworth Garden City and other communities across North Hertfordshire, with the flexibility to include multiple streets where verge damage is occurring.
- (3) Ensure that any proposals are subject to appropriate consultation with residents. To report back to Members with proposals for implementation.

(B) Protection of North Herts Chalk Streams

RESOLVED: That Council:

- (1) Instruct the Executive Member for Place to write to MPs Pippa Heylings and Chris Hinchliff expressing the Council's support for the Bill to make all UK chalk streams a serial UNESCO Natural World Heritage Site.
- (2) Ensure the Chilterns Chalk Streams Project checklist with the two amendments shown is adopted and applied throughout the preparation of the Council's new Local Plan.
- (3) Ensure that the Council as LPA places the highest possible priority on the protection and conservation of the District's chalk streams, taking appropriate measures to safeguard their ecological integrity and the quality and quantity of their water, including the imposition of planning conditions as necessary.