

23 September 2008

Our ref: R&D Ctte/Oct08  
Contact: Susanne Gow  
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To: Members of the Royston and District Committee of North Hertfordshire District Council

(Councillors Mrs F.R. Hill (Chairman), H.M. Marshall (Vice-Chairman), E. Beardwell, P.C.W. Burt, A.F. Hunter, R.E. Inwood, and F.J. Smith)

You are invited to attend a meeting of the

**ROYSTON & DISTRICT COMMITTEE**

to be held in

**THE COMMITTEE ROOM, ROYSTON TOWN HALL,  
MELBOURN STREET, ROYSTON**

on

**WEDNESDAY, 1 OCTOBER 2008**

at

**7.30 p.m.**

Yours sincerely,



David Miley  
Democratic Services Manager

**AGENDA**  
**PART I**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
<b>1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b>	-
<b>2. MINUTES</b> To take as read and approve as a true record the Minutes of the meeting of this Committee held on the 11 June 2008.	-
<b>3. NOTIFICATION OF OTHER BUSINESS</b> Members should notify the Chairman of other business which they wish to be discussed by the Committee at the end of the business set out in the agenda. They must state the circumstances which they consider justify the business being considered as a matter of urgency.  The Chairman will decide whether any item(s) raised will be considered.	-
<b>4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS</b> Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of business set out in the agenda, should be declared as either a prejudicial or personal interest, and are required to notify the Chairman of the nature of any interest declared at the commencement of the relevant item on the agenda. Members declaring a prejudicial interest should leave the room and not seek to influence the decision during particular item.	-
<b>5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> To receive petitions, comments and questions from members of the public as follows:  1) Royston Town Cllr R Smith on Flooding Problems on the Twigden estate 2) Royston Town Cllr L Davidson on Play Equipment in Royston  These will be followed by Committee discussion.	
<b>6. FLOODING IN ROYSTON</b> <i>The Royston and District Committee will discuss possible ways in which to resolve the current flooding problems.</i>	<b>1</b>
<b>7. PLAY AREAS IN ROYSTON</b> <i>The Committee will discuss future requirements for the play areas throughout Royston and District</i>	<b>3</b>

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|-----|---|---------------------------|
| 8.  | <p><b>HIGHWAY ISSUES</b><br/> <b>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL SERVICES</b><br/> <i>A discussion on the impact of recent Traffic Regulation Orders on the roads of Royston, amongst other traffic concerns and highway issues.</i></p>   | 5<br><br><b>To Follow</b> |
| 9.  | <p><b>CHAMPION NEWS</b><br/> <b>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</b><br/> <i>To advise the Committee of the activities and schemes with which the Community Development Officer has been involved since the last Committee meeting on 30 July 2008, and others which are scheduled for the future.</i></p>   | 7                         |
| 10. | <p><b>ROYSTON AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT AND AREA VISIONING BUDGETS 2008/2009</b><br/> <b>REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT &amp; CULTURAL SERVICES</b><br/> <i>Taking the Committee through the current budget balances (Appendix A) and a grant application forms for:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Reed Cricket Club (<i>Appendix B</i>)</li> <li>▪ Barkway Village Hall (<i>Appendix C</i>)</li> <li>▪ Royston Town Centre Forum (<i>Appendix D</i>)</li> <li>▪ Barkway Parish Council (<i>Appendix E</i>)</li> </ul> | 9                         |

**ROYSTON COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY SURGERIES -**

The dates for the rest of the Royston and District Committee Meetings for the Civic Year 2008-2009 are:

- 26 November 2008
- 21 January 2009
- 18 March 2009

The remaining dates for the Royston Community Surgeries for the Civic Year 2008-2009 are as follows:

- 4 October 2008 (Angel Pavement)
- 6 December 2008
- 7 February 2009
- 4 April 2009

The Community Surgery in October 2008 will take place in the open air and run from 10am to 11.30am: the remaining surgeries will take place in the Town Hall and run from 10.30am until 12 noon. All Royston Councillors are invited to attend.

The date of the next Royston & District Committee Meeting is **26 November 2008**.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ROYSTON AREA COMMITTEE</b></p>
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<p style="text-align: center;">1st October 2008</p>
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<p><b>*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT</b></p>	<p><b>AGENDA ITEM No.</b></p>
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**FLOODING IN ROYSTON**

THE ROYSTON AND DISTRICT COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS POSSIBLE WAYS IN WHICH TO RESOLVE THE CURRENT FLOODING PROBLEMS.

**\*PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

**AGENDA ITEM No.**

**7**

**PLAY AREAS IN ROYSTON**

THE COMMITTEE WILL DISCUSS FUTURE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PLAY AREAS THROUGHOUT ROYSTON AND DISTRICT.

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**TITLE OF REPORT: HIGHWAY ISSUES**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL SERVICES AND THE HEAD OF PLANNING AND BUILDING CONTROL SERVICES

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider forwarding a formal request to the North Hertfordshire Highways Joint Member Panel for:
- i) outline costings re. a feasibility study for a one-way traffic flow along Melbourn Street, Royston, and
  - ii) pinch points/bollards and possible pavement widening in the vicinity of Royston Cave, and
  - ii) a possible Traffic Regulation (TRO) in Garden Walk

**2. FORWARD PLAN**

- 2.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

**3. CONSIDERATIONS**

- 3.1 At their last meeting Members debated various issues around traffic circulation and parking issues. Members clearly wished to frame a resolution to seek further technical consideration of these issues from Hertfordshire Highways and through the Joint Member Panel.
- 3.2 These issues included –
- i) A one-way traffic flow eastwards along Melbourn Street
  - ii) pinch points/bollards and possible pavement widening in the vicinity of Royston Cave
  - iii) A possible additional Traffic Regulation Order in Garden Walk from Melbourn Road eastwards to Perry Drive.
- 3.3 Initial consultation has been undertaken with Hertfordshire Highways regarding the initiatives that the committee has identified. A detailed feasibility study from Hertfordshire Highways for a one-way traffic flow along Melbourn Street will attract a cost. A preliminary view from Hertfordshire Highways is that the suggestion of a one-way system along Melbourn Street needs much more information before it can be realistically considered, such as:
- i) Outlining the justification for the proposal, beyond the view that damage is being caused to the Cave by heavy goods vehicles. This would require supporting evidence.
  - ii) If the one way system proposed would be eastbound, then thought needs to be given to the routing of the (excluded) westbound traffic, where it is foreseen that big issues would occur on roads such as Queens Road, Mill Road and Stamford, Avenue, all of which are narrow residential streets and considered unsuited to the function of providing access to the town centre. It is Herts Highways' view that there are a number of legitimate destinations

within the town centre for drivers arriving from the south via the A10, who would find such streets attractive entry routes.

A detailed feasibility study from Hertfordshire Highways for a one-way traffic flow along Melbourn Street will attract a cost. It is likely that the cost of implementing any scheme will exceed the *de minimis* level of £28,000, and therefore could be met from the Capital Visioning budget. However, this can only be done after the proposed works have been completed, so alternative funding will have to be sought for the feasibility study in the first instance.

- 3.4 Such a study should have reference to the guiding principles relating to traffic movement and access as set out in the recently adopted Royston Town Centre Strategy. The wider impacts of such a proposal on traffic flows within and surrounding the town centre would need to be investigated and would have to satisfy Hertfordshire County Council as the Highway Authority. Ideally this should be pursued as part of the preparation of the Royston Urban Transport Plan due to start in 2009/2010 by HCC however, it is recognised that this has been highlighted as a priority by the Committee.
- 3.5 Herts Highways recognise that the Cave is an important and historic feature of the town, however before such a drastic change in the local highway network could be justified they would expect to see very robust evidence linking deterioration of its structure to traffic vibration or loading, plus a rigorous analysis of alternative methods of protection.
- 3.6 In the absence of such a supporting case Hertfordshire Highways have expressed an initial view that they are strongly opposed to the one way proposal in Melbourn Street and that to receive their support a full options investigation needs to be undertaken. Hertfordshire Highways have been asked to supply an indicative cost for such work and an oral update will be made at the meeting.
- 3.7 In terms of 3.2 (iii) above, it is the Planning Officers' view that Members need to be clear about the justification for this proposal as Hertfordshire Highways will only investigate the issue and implement a TRO if there is a road safety issue, and it is therefore best proposed to be investigated through the JMP with the support of joint funding from the Committee.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That the Committee forwards a request to the North Hertfordshire Highways Joint Members Panel, for their support for a feasibility study for a one-way traffic flow along Melbourn Street and/or other physical measures such as bollard/pinch points or pavement widening in the vicinity of Royston cave.
- 4.2 That the Committee forwards a request to the North Hertfordshire Highways Joint Members Panel, for a Traffic Regulation Order to be investigated and drawn up to restrict parking in Garden Walk from Melbourn Road eastwards to Perry Drive.

#### **5. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 The conservation of Royston Cave, and the continued amenity of local streets.

#### **6. CONTACT OFFICERS**

- 6.1. Alan Fleck, Community Development Officer. Ext: 4274.  
Email. [Alan.Fleck@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Alan.Fleck@north-herts.gov.uk).
- 6.2 Louise Symes, Projects Manager, Planning Services. Ext 4359.  
Email. [Louise.Symes@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:Louise.Symes@north-herts.gov.uk)



**TITLE OF REPORT: CHAMPION NEWS**

REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CULTURAL SERVICES

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Committee of the activities and schemes with which the Community Development Officer has been involved during the past month.
- 1.2 To bring to the Committee's attention some important community based activities that will be taking place during the next few months.

**2. FORWARD PLAN**

- 2.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

**3. PROJECT/ACTIVITY/SCHEME DETAILS****3.1 Young People's Activities**

- 3.1.1 The Royston Youth Council organised its Music Festival on The Heath on August 23<sup>rd</sup> with help from Rap Aid, the Royston Extended Schools Coordination Officer, the Police, Fire and Ambulance Services.
- 3.1.2 Whilst the weather on the day was fine and the event went well in terms of organisation, there was a lower turnout than had been expected to watch young bands from Royston and its surroundings perform. Notwithstanding this, it is hoped to repeat the event next year.

**3.2 Town Ditch**

The CDO has discussed the issue of ownership with Hertfordshire Highways, who have undertaken to provide written evidence of Anglian Water's ownership and responsibility for the Town Ditch. The CDO asked Hertfordshire Highways again to expedite this on September 2<sup>nd</sup> 2008.

**3.3 Coombes Community Centre**

Works on the refurbishment of the Community Centre are on track to complete on schedule. The works have included provision of a toilet for the use of the disabled, treatment to the hall floor, and sound-deadening treatment to the hall ceiling to attenuate the very lively echo.

**3.3 Reed Village Hall**

Works to upgrade Reed Village Hall are in progress, with work on the new front extension to the building and detailed work on the fitting-out of the kitchen. There has been additional Building Control requirements, but the hall has been able to continue to function for regular hire groups during the works, minimising the impact

on the hall's income streams. It is expected that work will be completed by the end of October 2008.

**4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1 That the Committee endorses the actions taken by the Community Development Officer to promote greater community capacity and well-being.

**5. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION**

- 5.1 To ensure that the Committee are kept informed of the work of the Community Development Officer.

**6. CONTACT OFFICER**

- 6.1. Alan Fleck, Community Development Officer. Ext: 4274.  
Email. Alan.Fleck@north-herts.gov.uk.

**TITLE OF REPORT: DEVELOPMENT AND AREA VISIONING BUDGETS 2008-2009**  
REPORT OF THE HEAD OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & CULTURAL SERVICES

**1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To advise the Committee on the current expenditure and balances of the Area Committee delegated budgets.
- 1.2 To request a Committee decision on the grant applications as set out in the Appendices.

**2. FORWARD PLAN**

- 2.1 This report does not contain a recommendation on a key decision and has not been referred to in the Forward Plan.

**3. FUNDING DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- 3.1 Four applications have been received seeking grant funding:

Reed Cricket Club  
Barkway Village Hall  
Royston Town Centre Forum  
Barkway Parish Council.

All the above grant forms are appended as Appendices B to E.

**4. STATEMENT OF COMMITTEE DELEGATED BUDGETS 2007/8**

- 4.1 The statement of the Committee's budgets is appended as Appendix A.
- 4.2 There is a balance of £1,710 available in the Small Area Grants budget, and £5,725 in the Discretionary Grants budget.

**5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications pertinent to this report.

**6. FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Members are asked to note the information detailed in Section 4 of the report (Appendix A) relating to previous awards.

## **7. CONSULTATION WITH EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS AND WARD MEMBERS**

7.1 Ward Members and applicant groups have been consulted.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 The Committee is asked to note the current expenditure and balance of the Development Budget.

8.2 The Committee is asked to consider the grant applications from Reed Cricket Club, Barkway Village Hall, Royston Town Centre Forum and Barkway Parish Council.

## **9. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

9.1 The awarding of financial assistance to voluntary and community organisations.

## **10 APPENDICES**

10.1 Appendix A – Budget Statement  
Appendices B to E – Grant Bids

## **11. CONTACT OFFICERS**

11.1 Alan Fleck, Community Development Officer, Royston,  
Tel 01462-474274  
E-mail [alan.fleck@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:alan.fleck@north-herts.gov.uk)

Lois Stewart, Group Accountant, Customer Services  
Tel 01462-464566  
E-mail [lois.stewart@north-herts.gov.uk](mailto:lois.stewart@north-herts.gov.uk)

## **12. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None.

ROYSTON AREA COMMITTEE BUDGET 2008/2009

<u>SUMMARY/ TOTALS</u>	<u>Funding</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Unallocated Budget</u>					
<u>REVENUE VISIONING</u>	£4,904	£4,904	£2,180	£2,724	£0					
<u>CAPITAL VISIONING</u>	£62,700	£62,700	£0	£62,700	£0					
<u>SMALL AREA GRANTS</u>	£4,960	£3,250	£2,907	£343	£1,710					
<u>DISCRETIONARY</u>	£32,880	£27,155	£4,896	£22,259	£5,725					
<b>Total</b>	<b>£105,444</b>	<b>£98,009</b>	<b>£9,983</b>	<b>£88,026</b>	<b>£7,435</b>					

APPENDIX A

<u>Revenue Visioning</u>	<u>Funding</u>	<u>Year Allocated</u>		<u>Project</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Unallocated Amount</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Preallocated Funds Brought Forward from 07/08	£4,904	2004/2005		Kneesworth St Bus stops - additional seating	£1,400	15.12.04	£988	£412		
		2005/2006		Royston Town Council/East of England	£2,000	24.03.06	£1,192	£808		
		2003/2004		Youth Council	£1,504	31.03.04	£0	£1,504		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,904</b>				<b>£4,904</b>		<b>£2,180</b>	<b>£2,724</b>	<b>£0</b>	

<u>Capital Visioning</u>	<u>Funding</u>	<u>Year Allocated</u>		<u>Project</u>	<u>Allocated</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Spent</u>	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Unallocated Amount</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Capital Visioning	£62,700			Various Highway Works - NHHP JMP	£62,700	23.08.06	£0	£62,700		
	<b>£62,700</b>				<b>£62,700</b>		<b>£0</b>	<b>£62,700</b>	<b>£0</b>	

APPENDIX A

**DEVELOPMENT BUDGETS**

<b>SMALL AREA GRANTS</b>	<b>Funding</b>		<b>Project</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>Unallocated Amount</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Preallocated Funds Brought Forward from 07/08	£1,150		Home - Start Royston & South Cambridgeshire	£1,000	28.11.07	£750	£250		
			Polish Residents Association	£150	28.11.07	£57	£93		
Base Budget for 2008/09	£3,810		Family Funday	£350	11.06.08	£350	£0		
			Royston Arts Festival	£1,000	30.07.08	£1,000	£0		
			Royston Kite Festival	£750	30.07.08	£750	£0		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4,960</b>			<b>£3,250</b>		<b>£2,907</b>	<b>£343</b>	<b>£1,710</b>	

<b>DISCRETIONARY BUDGETS</b>	<b>Funding</b>		<b>Project</b>	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Spent</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>Unallocated Amount</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Preallocated Funds Brought forward from 07/08	£12,890		Traffic Regulation Order	£2,180	14.03.07	£0	£2,180		
			SCOOTERS	£1,000	25.04.07	£0	£1,000		
			Stage Coach	£2,160	25.04.07	£1,981	£179		
			Ticket Issuing Machine Adjustments	£200	13.06.07	£0	£200		
			Fish Hill Gates	£2,770	30.01.08	£0	£2,770		
			Royston Town Council	£650	02.04.08	£650	£0		
			Youth Projects	£3,930	02.04.08	£0	£3,930		
Base Budget for 2008/09	£18,990		Refurbishment of Handbells	£600	11.06.08	£600	£0		
Plus Royston Celtic FC Grant Reallocated	£1,000		Notice Board for Templar Gate Estate	£165	11.06.08	£165	£0		
			Barkway Village Hall	£500	30.07.08	£500	£0		
			Young Person of the Year Award	£1,000	30.07.08	£1,000	£0		
			Speed limit countdown - A10 adjacent to VASS south of Royston	£1,500	30.07.08	£0	£1,500		
			No Right Turn - A10/Garden Walk junction	£2,500	30.07.08	£0	£2,500		
			Traffic Calming - junction of B1368 & B1039	£5,000	30.07.08	£0	£5,000		
			Royston Town Centre - various Highways Maintenance	£2,500	30.07.08	£0	£2,500		
			Relaying of cobbles in George Lane	£500	30.07.08	£0	£500		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£32,880</b>			<b>£27,155</b>		<b>£4,896</b>	<b>£22,259</b>	<b>£5,725</b>	