

## RECORD OF DECISION MADE UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY

Any interest to declare/ or conflict and any dispensation granted [ <i>if applicable</i> ]	
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**DIRECTORATE:** PLACE

**1. DECISION TAKEN**

- 1.1 To approve Family Story Walk events by Hitchin Library at Smithson's Recreation Ground, Hitchin 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> July 2021 between 10.30 to 11.00 hrs and 8<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021 between 14.00 to 14.30 hrs.

**2. DECISION TAKER**

- 2.1. Andrew Mills, Service Manager Greenspace

**3. DATE DECISION TAKEN:**

- 3.1 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**4. REASON FOR DECISION**

- 4.1 The organisers have approached NHDC for approval to use the locations above as their location to hold these events for the local community.

**5. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 5.1 The organisers have approached North Herts District Council to host these events.

**6. CONSULTATION (INCLUDING THE EFFECT ON STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS AND THE PUBLIC)**

- 6.1 Consultation has been undertaken with colleagues in Environmental Health, Safety Advisory Group and the Park Ranger at these locations.

**7. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS**

- 7.1 The organisers have been made aware that each location is a public open space and that visitors have the right to access each park as appropriate and therefore no area can be fenced or enclosed to exclude the public at any time.

**8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 8.1 The authority has an obligation to ensure that the public open spaces it maintains are at a standard that are safe for everyone to use. Additionally, the authority has an obligation to ensure that any environmentally sensitive environment is not damaged due to actions or intentions of others.

**9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 There are no financial risks.

**10. RISK IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 There are no risk implications. However, risk assessments have been considered to endeavour that this is a covid 19 safe event.

**11. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 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.

11.2 Central Government and national groups have expressed the continued importance of public Green Space in the health and well-being of communities. From April 2013 local authorities at county level are required to take on the statutory duty to improve the health of their communities as required by the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and with it, to acquire many of the public health services currently the responsibility of the NHS. The use of open spaces, parks, playgrounds and relevant leisure facilities are promoted in terms of reducing the impact of obesity on long term health, the importance in the management of wellbeing and in aiding relaxation, as well as sensory' enjoyment.

**12. SOCIAL VALUE IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 The event is open to everyone.

**13. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 This item of work is contained within the Place Directorate existing work programs.

**14. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

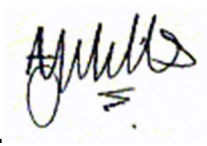
14.1 Application Form including supporting documentation

**15. NOTIFICATION DATE**

15.1 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021

**Signature of Executive Member Consulted .....Not Applicable.....**

**Date ..... 7<sup>th</sup> July 2021.....**



**Signature of Decision Taker .....**

**Please Note: that *unless urgency provisions apply* EXECUTIVE decisions cannot be implemented until 5 clear working days have elapsed after the decision has been taken to allow for scrutiny call-in.**