



ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL



Town Clerk: Miss Caroline Mills PSLCC

10th February 2023

To all Members of the General Purposes & Highways Committee

Dear Councillor,

The next meeting of the General Purposes & Highways Committee will be held in Room 11, Town Hall, Royston on Monday 20th February 2023, at 7.30pm, and you are summoned to attend. The agenda is set out below.

Members of the public and press are welcome to attend any of the Council's Full Council or Committee meetings and listen to the debate. All agendas, reports and minutes can be viewed on the Council's website www.roystontowncouncil.gov.uk.

Please let me know if you are unable to attend.

Yours sincerely

Caroline Mills

Town Clerk

AGENDA

Climate and Biodiversity Emergency:

Chair to remind Members to be mindful of the climate and biodiversity emergency declared by Royston Town Council when making decisions on behalf of the council.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Time will be set aside for members of the public to address the Council on items on the agenda. A maximum of 15 minutes is allocated to public participation and any individual member of the public shall have three minutes to deliver their statement. Members of the public should contact the Town Clerk, in advance of the meeting, if they wish to speak.

1. Apologies:

To receive apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations.

2.1 To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda.

Members are reminded that they are required to notify the Chair of any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda 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 other declarable interests, which requires they leave the room under the Code of Conduct, can speak on the item, if members of the public are allowed to speak, but must leave the room before the debate and vote.

It is up to a member to determine whether to make a declaration, however, if you should require any assistance, please consult the Town Clerk prior to the meeting.

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- 2.2 Deputy Town Clerk to receive written requests for dispensations for interests.
- 2.3 To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.
3. **Minutes:**
To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the General Purposes & Highways Committee held on Monday 19th December 2022 (minutes 258/23 to 271/23, copy already circulated).
4. **Minutes of Sub-Committees and Working Party Meetings:**
Members to receive the notes of the Climate and Biodiversity Working Party meeting held on 23rd January 2023 into the workings of the Council (copy enclosed).
5. **To receive reports from County Councillors and the Chairman of the NHDC Royston Area Committee.**
6. **Seating:**
Members to discuss the proposal to install seats on Melbourn Road and Old North Road (report enclosed).
 - a) Members to agree the position of the seats
 - b) Members to recommend to the Finance Committee the use of reserves to cover the costs
7. **Parking charges:**
Members to receive an update on the investigation into the setting of car parking charges at Angel Pavement and Market Place car parks.
8. **Royston Project Board report:**
Members to receive the High Street Recovery Project evaluation (copy enclosed) and resolve to agree to make the trialled changes in the Royston High Street area permanent and for the Project Team to develop proposals and seek funding to deliver longer-term potential improvements.
9. **NHC Shared Prosperity Fund:**
Members are to discuss and agree ideas for projects to be submitted (information enclosed).
10. **Market Place Accessibility Ramp:**
At the September Finance Committee meeting, Members resolved to support this scheme and provide funding towards the feasibility study. However, it was resolved that the feasibility study should cover the whole area at the top of the Market Place to ascertain where the best access can be provided. We have been advised that Herts County Council officers have suggested a site meeting so that they can establish exactly what the Town Council would like and then they can provide the costs for the feasibility study. The quote, when received, will be referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.
Members are to discuss and either:



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- a) Decide on the scope of the feasibility study and give a detailed outline of the area that it should cover, or
- b) Appoint two councillors to a working party, along with the Deputy Town Clerk and the Market Manager, with delegated authority to explore and agree the area in conjunction with Highways Officers.

11. Climate and Biodiversity Action Working Party:

Members to resolve to appoint one member to the Climate and Biodiversity Action Working Party.

12. Bird and Bat Boxes for the Plantations:

At the Climate and Biodiversity Working Party meeting on 23rd January 2023, members discussed and approved the recommendation made in the HCC Countryside Management report to install more bird and bat boxes in the plantations. There are sufficient funds in the budget for the Plantations to purchase and install:

- 10 x Schwegler bat boxes = £649.99
- 10 x Forest Universal Bird Nest box = £199.50
- Fitting costs – no charge

Members to resolve to approve the installation of new bird and bat boxes in Green Walk and Stile plantations (information enclosed).

13. Illegal Parking on Melbourn Street:

Members to discuss the issues of drivers parking on the zigzag lines leading to the pedestrian crossing and formulate a response, if agreed, requesting the Police to take action (information enclosed).

14. Update from Chairman

Members are to receive an update from the Chairman of the committee.

15. Councillors' reports on Town Council activities and as representatives on outside organisations:

Members to give oral reports on the outside organisations on which they represent Royston Town Council and any Town Council activities. (Please notify the Deputy Town Clerk, by 4pm on the last working day prior to the meeting, if you intend to give a report).

Date of next meeting: 17th April 2023