



Royston Town Council

Chief Officer: Paul A. Arnill MBE

MEETING OF ROYSTON TOWN COUNCIL

MONDAY 20th July 2026

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL: Cllrs. Elizabeth Freeman, Ed Nutting, Tim Johnson, Bryony May, Edward McGowan, Bulbul Ahmed, Steve Claydon, Lisa Thompson, Piotr Zolopa, Callum Bartram-Bell, Paul Brown, Gerald Jackson, David May

PRESENT: Cllrs. Elizabeth Freeman, Ed Nutting, Tim Johnson, Bryony May, Steve Claydon, Piotr Zolopa, Callum Bartram-Bell, Paul Brown, Gerald Jackson, David May

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Officer, Deputy Chief Officer

The chair gave notice that the meeting was being recorded.

FC/20.07.2026/1. APOLOGIES:

To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies Received From: Cllrs. Lisa Thompson and Cllr McGowan

Substitutes: None Provided

No Response From: Cllr Bulbul Ahmed

FC/20.07.2026/2. INFORMATION FOR COUNCILLORS AND PUBLIC

The Chair informed the council regarding the climate and biodiversity emergency and reiterated the rules for public participation.

FC/20.07.2026/3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS, GIFTS, HOSPITALITY AND DISPENSATIONS

The Chair reiterated the requirements regarding pecuniary declarable interests and otherwise declarable interests.

FC/20.07.2026/4. DECLARATIONS RECEIVED

None received.

FC/20.07.2026/5. DISPENSATIONS GRANTED OR DECLINED

Not applicable.

FC/20.07.2026/6. COMMUNITY GRANT PROPOSAL – HOME-START

The council **RESOLVED** to award a **£1500 Grant** to Home-Start.



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- FC/20.07.2026/7. COMMUNITY GRANT PROPOSAL – ROYSTON INDIAN SOCIETY**
The Council **RESOLVED** to award a £1000 grant to the Royston Indian Society.
- FC/20.07.2026/8. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS**
The council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the minutes, and the chair signed the following minutes: 22.06.2026 (FC/22.06.2026/1. – FC/22.06.2026/20.)
- FC/20.07.2026/9. TOWN MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
The Mayor gave a brief outline of events she had attended during the month.
- FC/20.07.2026/10. MINUTES FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES**
The Council **RESOLVED** to **ADOPT** the following minutes of committee meetings as a true record since the previous full council meeting. Please note that these are received for information purposes only, as the relevant committees are those which approve the minutes for accuracy.
15.06.2026 – Human Resources Committee (HR/15.06.2026/1. – HR/15.06.2026/4.)
29.06.2026 – Finance Committee (F/29.06.2026/1 – F/29.06.2026/9.)
06.07.2026 – Planning & Infrastructure Committee (PI/06.07.2026/1. – PI/06.07.2026/6.)
- FC/20.07.2026/11. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT:**
The Council **RESOLVED** to **ACCEPT** the internal audit report for the period ending 31st March 2026 and extended their thanks for all the officer’s hard work.
- FC/20.07.2026/12. PENSIONABLE ROLES**
The council **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the following roles to be pensionable roles with the caveat that the roles were added to the local government pension scheme: Venue Manager, Communications Officer, Finance Assistant, Cave Assistant.
- FC/20.07.2026/13. REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE RCA**
The Council **RESOLVED** to Appoint Cllr. Lisa Thompson as the Council’s RCA representative



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- FC/20.07.2026/14. BARKWAY ROAD APPEAL DECISION UPDATE AND MOTION FROM CLLR. JOHNSON.**
The council **RESOLVED** that a letter be sent from Royston Town Council to North Herts Council and Hertfordshire County Council regarding clarification on the Green Walk Plantation, delegated to the Deputy Chief Officer to write in consultation with relevant councillors.
- FC/20.07.2026/15. CREATION OF A WORKING PARTY ON SPORT AND RECREATION FROM CLLR. DAVID MAY.**
The council **RESOLVED** to create a working party for Sport and Recreation provision in Royston
- FC/20.07.2026/16. EXPLORATION OF CEMETERY SITES PROPOSAL – CLLR. FREEMAN**
The Council **RESOLVED** for the council to explore potential Cemetery/Woodland burial sites within the boundary of the Royston and Village Community Forum and speak to Hertfordshire Country Council regarding potentially leasing Land.
- FC/20.07.2026/17. DELEGATED AUTHORITY REGARDING OFFICE EQUIPMENT AND FURNISHINGS**
The council **RESOLVED** to delegate authority to the Human Resources Committee to approve expenditure for any furnishing and equipment required for new hires in the future when the roles are approved.
- FC/22.06.2026/18. LIVING ROOTS SCULPTURE TRAIL PROPOSAL – CLLR. MCGOWAN - WITHDRAWN**
- FC/20.07.2026/19 WORKING PARTY FOR TRUSTS**
The council notes that the following Councillors are creating a working party from the Mayor's Charity Trust meeting with regards to trusts the council is related to or involved with.
Cllrs. David May, Tim Johnson, Paul Brown, Steve Claydon and Chief Officer Paul Arnill M.B.E.
- FC/20.07.2026/20. COUNCILLORS REPORTS**
Members to report on Town Council activities and as representatives on outside organisations.
Cllr. Bryony May provided a report on HAPTC
Cllr. Ed Nutting provided a report on Litlington Music Festival
- FC/20.07.2026/21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC:**
The council **RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public under the provision of The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.



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FC/20.07.2026/22. CAVE VISITOR CENTRE TENDER

Council are requested to consider the tender bids for the Cave Visitor Centre project and make resolutions where required.

The council **RESOLVED** to **SELECT** the tender from Mills Building Company citing option A as their preference.

FC/20.07.2026/23. Date of next meeting: 21st September 2026

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting

Signed: Paul Arnill

Date: 21.9.26