

**BRECKLAND COUNCIL**

**At a Meeting of the**

**COUNCIL**

**Held on Thursday, 25 September 2008 at 10.30 am in  
Anglia Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham**

**PRESENT**

Mr S. Askew	Mr C.R. Jordan
Mr G.P. Balaam	Mr R. Kemp
Mrs J. Ball	Mr M.A. Kiddle-Morris
Mr S.G. Bambridge	Mr R.G. Kybird
Mr W.P. Borrett	Mr J.P. Labouchere (Chairman)
Councillor Claire Bowes	Mr K. Martin
Mr A.J. Byrne	Mrs S.M. Matthews
Mrs M.P. Chapman-Allen	Mrs K. Millbank
Mr S.H. Chapman-Allen	Mrs L.H. Monument
Mr R.P. Childerhouse	Mr D.G. Mortimer
Mr P.D. Claussen	Mr D.S. Myers
Mr J.P. Cowen	Mr J.W. Nunn
Mr P.J. Duigan	Mrs P. Quadling
Lady Fisher	Mr J.D. Rogers (Vice-Chairman)
Mr P.S. Francis	Mr F.J. Sharpe
Mr R.F. Goreham	Mr I. Sherwood
Councillor E. Gould	Mr W.H.C. Smith
Mr M.J. Griffin	Mrs P.A. Spencer
Mr P.J. Hewett	Mr A.C. Stasiak
Mrs T. Hewett	Mrs A.L. Steward
Mrs S.R. Howard-Alpe	Mrs L.S. Turner
Mrs D.K.R. Irving	Mr D.R. Williams JP
Mr A.P. Joel	

**Also Present**

Mrs J. Jenkins Chairman – Standards Committee

**In Attendance**

Trevor Holden	- Chief Executive
Tim Leader	- Deputy Chief Executive
Andrea Long	- Environmental Planning Manager
Helen McAleer	- Member Services Officer
Ian Vargeson	- Member Services Manager
Robert Walker	- Sustainable Communities Manager

**95/08MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 1)**

Subject to the inclusion of apologies from Mr P and Mrs T Hewett at Minute No 81/08 and the correction of the last word on Page 7 to read Council in place of Committee the minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2008 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**96/08APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 2)**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Duffield, Mr M Fanthorpe, Mr T Lamb, Mr I Monson, Mr B Rose and Mr M Spencer.

**Action By**

**Action By**

**97/08 DECLARATION OF INTEREST (AGENDA ITEM 3)**

The following declarations of interest were noted:

**Lady K Fisher** Personal and Prejudicial interest in any reference to the Thetford Growth Point and planning in and around Kilverstone and Croxton Parishes.

**Mr J Labouchere** Anything to do with the LDF in North Elmham by virtue of being a landowner (Personal and prejudicial) or Hermitage Ward (Personal, non-prejudicial).

**Mr R Kemp** Personal and Prejudicial interest in Development Control Minute 148/08 (Harling) of 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008, (page 43 of the Council Agenda) by virtue of owning land in the vicinity.

**Mr W Smith** Interest in Overview and Scrutiny Minute 75/08 (b) (Panel 1) (Page 21), Development Control Minutes 132/08 (LDF) of 11<sup>th</sup> August (page 26) and 145/08 (LDF) of 1<sup>st</sup> September (page 41) by virtue of having put forward a site for consideration under the LDF.

**Mr G Bambridge** Personal interest in planning matters by virtue of being involved in the construction industry.

**Mr A Joel** Personal interest in anything to do with the LDF for Old Buckenham by virtue of being a Parish Councillor

**Mr R Childerhouse** Personal and Prejudicial interest in Weeting (a local service centre in the LDF) by virtue of being a landowner within the parish.

**Mr S Askew** Personal interest in Development Control Minutes 132/08 (LDF) of 11<sup>th</sup> August (page 26) and 145/08 (LDF) of 1<sup>st</sup> September (page 41) by virtue of having put forward a site for consideration under the LDF.

**Mr P Cowen** Personal interest in Overview and Scrutiny Commission Minute 67/08 (page 13) and Development Control Committee Minute 145/08 (page 41) as a consequence of his work as an Architect in practice in Breckland.

**Cllr C Bowes** Should reference be made to the LDF: - Personal interest in general matters and Personal and Prejudicial interest relating to site specific issues in Watton, Saham and Hilborough as family have submitted land in those areas.

**Mr J Rogers** Personal and Prejudicial interest in Council Minute 82/08 (page 2) and Overview and Scrutiny Commission Minute 67/08 (page 13) in relation to LDF matters in Carbrooke only.

**Mr W Borrett** Personal and Prejudicial interest in LDF matters by virtue of being a landowner.

**Mr P Hewett** Personal interest in LDF matters as a Shipdham Parish Councillor and landowner.

**Mrs T Hewett** Personal interest in LDF matters as a Shipdham Parish Councillor and landowner.

**98/08 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 4)**

**Action By**

Members observed a minute's silence in memory of Paul Howell. The Chairman described him as a good friend to the Council, the District and the County and offered condolences to his family.

All those who had attended the Chairman's Reception were thanked for their generosity. £1366 had been raised for Riding for the Disabled.

Those Members who had yet to attend for Member Development Interviews were asked to contact Ian Vargeson or Stephen McGrath to make an appointment as soon as possible.

The Development Control training day on Monday 29 September had been postponed.

A list of engagements attended by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman was tabled, for the period 7 August – 24 September 2008.

**Engagements List – Chairman**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Host</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> August, 2008	Lunch and an afternoon of racing	His Worship the Mayor of the Borough of Great Yarmouth, Councillor Terry Easter
28 <sup>th</sup> August, 2008	Opening Celebration	Broadland Housing Association Limited
29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2008	Institution of The Reverend Robin Stapleford	Upper Wensum Village Benefice
2 <sup>nd</sup> September, 2008	Presentation of the Queen's Awards for Innovation	<i>Liftshare Ltd.</i>
12 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	Chairman's Reception	
13 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	27 <sup>th</sup> Annual Joan Mann sports Day	Brigadier General John W. Hester, Commander 48 <sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, and Colonel Eden J. Murrie, Commander 100 <sup>th</sup> Air Refuelling Wing
15 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	Opening of Battle of Britain Week	Lord Mayor of Norwich – Councillor Jeremy Hooke
15 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	Reception to commemorate the	The Chairman of Norfolk County Council, Wyndham

**Action By**

	Battle of Britain	Northam
21 <sup>st</sup> September, 2008	Civic Service to commemorate the Anniversary of Battle of Britain	Lord Mayor of Norwich – Councillor Jeremy Hooke
24 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	Annual General Meeting of the Norfolk County Scout Council	Richard Jewson – The President

The Chairman gave special mention to the presentation to Liftshare on 2<sup>nd</sup> September and the Annual General Meeting of the Norfolk County Scout Council on 24<sup>th</sup> September, both of which he had particularly enjoyed.

**Engagements List – Vice-Chairman**

Date	Event	Host
24 <sup>th</sup> August, 2008	Olympic 2012 Flag Raising Ceremony	Forestry Commission
10 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	The Prince's Trust Annual Reception	The Chairman of The Prince's Trust Norfolk County Board
17 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	Civic Reception	Chairman of South Norfolk District Council, Councillor Margaret Dewsbury
18 <sup>th</sup> September, 2008	EDP Pride in Norfolk Awards Ceremony	Chairman of Norfolk County Council, Councillor Wyndham Northam and the Chairman of the EDP Pride in Norfolk Awards Committee, Mrs. Jean Wilson
21 <sup>st</sup> September, 2008	Battle of Britain Commemoration Service	Mayor of Thetford, Councillor John Harding

**99/08CABINET (AGENDA ITEM 5)**

- (a) The Use of Commuted Sums from Section 106 Agreements (Minute No 114/08)

Councillors Smith, Fisher and Cowen were concerned that this minute did not accurately reflect their comments during the debate.

**Action By**

It was agreed that any amendments would be made at the next Cabinet meeting when the minutes were presented for confirmation.

(b) Medium Term Financial Strategy (Minute No 115/08)

A Member pointed out a typing error in part 1 of the recommendation.

**RESOLVED** that the Medium Term Financial Strategy be approved subject to the following amendments:

- 1) Appendix A, page 32 of the report - additional wording be added to the end of the fourth paragraph, to read: "the Authorities annual assessment of reserves will be **used** to ensure this risk is mitigated against *by maintaining the Commercial Property Reserve at £2m*".
- 2) Appendix D, page 66 of the report - the wording to Budget Principles number 6, to read: "we should seek additional scrutiny and challenge for accessing capital resources and ensure the programme only reflects schemes that are sufficiently scoped to allow delivery *which commence* during the financial year (although schemes may cross over financial years where their nature necessitates this commitment)".
- 3) Appendix D, page 67 of the report - additional wording to Budget Principles number 16, to read: "A Revenue and Capital Budget *is set for one year with an indicative budget being set for a five year period* up to 2013/14 in line with the Business Plan".
- 4) Appendix F, page 71 of the report – additional wording be added to the fourth paragraph, to read: "the Cabinet receives quarterly governance reports *and the Audit Committee receives reports on financial and risk matters*".

(c) Capital Strategy (Minute No 117/08)

**RESOLVED** that the Capital Strategy be approved.

(d) Breckland Community Car Schemes – Reference from the O&SC (Minute No 124/08(b))

The Sustainable Communities Manager presented the report which had been requested in the recommendation (Agenda Item 12 refers). He explained why additional funding was required to support the effective operation of the schemes.

The Leader of the Council told Members that this item had received unanimous support at the Scrutiny stage and was a very important rural scheme.

**Action By**

The Leader of the Labour Group agreed and said he had seldom witnessed anything receiving such unanimous support and he hoped the Council would continue that support for many years to come.

**RESOLVED** that

- 1) robust governance arrangements and legal agreements between Breckland Council and all scheme operators and volunteer drivers be put in place as a requirement to qualify for funding support;
- 2) the principle of substantial funding for new and existing Community Car Schemes, to include meeting costs of required CRB and medical checks be supported; and
- 3) additional funding of up to £27,041 per annum be provided to support new and existing Community Car Schemes.

**100/08 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION (AGENDA ITEM 6)**

- (a) Watton Horse Fair – Licensing of land used for the stationing of caravans, Thetford Road, Watton (Minute No 69/08)

The Leader of the Labour Group said that this item had been dealt with over two and a half to three years and looked at in depth. In this case it had been deemed inappropriate to pursue further action.

He said it was important to continue to monitor future activities.

- (b) Adoption

**RESOLVED** that the unconfirmed minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting held on 4 September 2008 be adopted.

**101/08 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 7)**

**RESOLVED** that the confirmed minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting on 11 August 2008 be adopted.

**102/08 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 8)**

**RESOLVED** that the now confirmed minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 1 September 2008 be adopted.

**103/08 GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 9)**

**RESOLVED** that the unconfirmed minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 3 September 2008 be adopted.

**104/08 NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE AND OTHER SEATS (AGENDA ITEM 10)**

- (a) To receive nominations for any changes to Committee and other seats from political groups

There were none.

- (b) Historic Environment Champion

**RESOLVED** that Mr W Borrett be appointed as the Council's Historic Environment Champion.

**105/08 THETFORD NEW GROWTH POINT - CAPITAL FUNDING**  
**(AGENDA ITEM 11)**

The Environmental Planning Manager told Members that despite receiving substantial capital funding the Thetford Growth Point did not have a huge revenue sum. Permission was sought to use the interest earned by the Capital sum to support the revenue programme.

**RESOLVED** to agree that any interest generated from the £1,946,579m capital sum from CLG for 2008/9 may be spent on the Thetford Growth Point Initiative to support further revenue projects.

**Action By**

The meeting closed at 11.04 am

CHAIRMAN