

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At the Annual Meeting of the

COUNCIL

**Held on Thursday, 23 April 2009 at 10.30 am in the
Anglia Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham**

PRESENT

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Mr S. Askew | Mr R.G. Kybird |
| Mr G.P. Balaam | Mr J.P. Labouchere |
| Mrs J. Ball | Mr T.J. Lamb |
| Mr S.G. Bambridge | Mr K. Martin |
| Mr W.P. Borrett | Mrs S.M. Matthews |
| Councillor Claire Bowes | Mrs K. Millbank |
| Mr A.J. Byrne | Mrs L.H. Monument |
| Mrs M.P. Chapman-Allen | Mr D.G. Mortimer |
| Mr S.H. Chapman-Allen | Mr D.S. Myers |
| Mr P.D. Claussen | Mr J.W. Nunn |
| Mr J.P. Cowen | Mrs P. Quadling |
| Mr R.W. Duffield | Mr J.D. Rogers |
| Mr P.J. Duigan | Mr B. Rose |
| Lady Fisher | Mr F.J. Sharpe |
| Mr R.F. Goreham | Mr W.H.C. Smith |
| Councillor E. Gould | Mr M. Spencer |
| Mr J.R. Gretton | Mrs P.A. Spencer |
| Mr M.J. Griffin | Mr A.C. Stasiak |
| Mrs T. Hewett | Mrs A.L. Steward |
| Mrs D.K.R. Irving | Mrs L.S. Turner |
| Mr A.P. Joel | Mr N.C. Wilkin |
| Mr C.R. Jordan | Mr D.R. Williams JP |
| Mr M.A. Kiddle-Morris | |

In Attendance

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|---------------|---------------------------|
| Susan Allen | - Standards Officer |
| Trevor Holden | - Chief Executive |
| Helen McAleer | - Member Services Officer |
| Ian Vargeson | - Member Services Manager |

35/09CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 1)

The out-going Chairman gave a short speech in vacating the chair at the end of a 'fantastic' year in office.

He drew attention to the fact that it was St George's Day; St George had been chosen as patron saint for the Scouts, the cavalry and in the past for the Knights of the Round Table. He suggested that the qualities of chivalry and of being prepared were also relevant to Councillors.

He thanked everyone for their help and support; with particular mention for the Vice-Chairman, the Member Services Manager and Sue Allen in her role as the Chairman's Secretary.

Schemes he was particularly proud to have been involved with

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included the graduate and practical apprenticeships; the Pride in Breckland awards; and the Youth Council. He was also pleased with the sums of money that had been raised for the Riding for the Disabled and Help for Heroes charities.

He concluded with the fervent hope that the seven district councils in Norfolk would remain in existence and looked forward to welcoming everyone to the buffet after the meeting.

Nominations were then invited for a new Chairman.

(a) After being duly moved and seconded, it was

RESOLVED that Mr J Rogers be elected Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

(b) Mr Rogers signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Mr J D Rogers in the Chair.

36/09 VICE-CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 2)

(a) After being duly moved and seconded, it was

RESOLVED that Mrs L Monument be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

(b) Mrs Monument signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

37/09 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 3)

A Member thanked the out-going Chairman for his interesting year in office. He particularly thanked him for hosting the Carol Service and hoped this would become an annual event. Mr Labouchere was a good Ward Member and had been a good Chairman.

The Leader of the Labour Group endorsed these comments. He said that Mr Labouchere had enthusiasm and gusto and was a real character. He had given a lot of time, energy and effort to representing the Council in the district and that had been appreciated by all.

Mr Labouchere was presented with a 'Past Chairman of Breckland' medal.

38/09 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 4)

A correction was noted to the penultimate sentence of the first paragraph on page 7 to "unresolved concerns about drainage **and other** infrastructure."

Subject to this amendment, the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2009 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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39/09 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 5)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Childerhouse, Mr M Fanthorpe, Mr P Francis, Mr K Gilbert, Mr P Hewett, Mr R Kemp and Mr I Sherwood.

40/09 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 6)

The new Chairman informed Members that his charities for the year would be Diabetes and Cancer UK.

41/09 DECLARATION OF INTEREST (AGENDA ITEM 7)

The following declarations of interest were noted:

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| Mr W Smith | Personal interest in the ARP item(s) by reason of being a non-executive Director and a Personal and Prejudicial interest in Development Control Committee items on pages 36 and 42 (references to LDF) as he had submitted land for inclusion under the site specific policy. |
| Mr P Claussen | Personal interest in the ARP item(s) by reason of being a non-executive Director. |
| Lady Fisher | Personal and Prejudicial interests in items 49/09 and 34/09 relating to the LDF process, and 14/09 relating to Thetford Growth Point. |

42/09 ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER, DEPUTY LEADER, COMMITTEES, GROUPS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES AND CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN 2009-2010 (AGENDA ITEM 8)

(a) Leader of the Council

Having been duly moved and seconded, Members

RESOLVED that Mr J W Nunn be re-appointed as Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

(b) Deputy Leader of the Council

Having been duly moved and seconded, Members

RESOLVED that Mr W H C Smith be re-appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

(c) Committees and Sub-Committees

It was noted that in previous non-election years it had been the practice to reappoint Committees en-bloc and to note any changes.

The vacancies on the Development Control Committee, Overview & Scrutiny Commission and General Purposes

Committee would be left until after the by-election for the vacant Queens Ward seat on 4 June 2009.

A new Green Agenda Development Panel, to examine environmental issues and review the Council's Environmental Strategy, was proposed.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the Committees and Joint Consultative Committee Member representation be re-appointed en bloc as detailed in the report;
- (2) Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen where appropriate be re-appointed en bloc;
- (3) Mr P Claussen and Mr W Smith be re-appointed as the Council's representatives on the Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee;
- (4) Mrs J Ball replace Mrs S Miller on the Breckland Area Museums Committee; and
- (5) a Green Agenda Development Panel be appointed, with the following membership:

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|----------------|----------------|
| Mrs J Ball | Mr G Bambridge |
| Mr P Cowen | Mr P Duigan |
| Mr M Fanthorpe | Mr R Kybird |

43/09 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2009-2010 (AGENDA ITEM 9)

RESOLVED that representatives on Outside Bodies be reappointed en bloc subject to the following changes:

Hingham Foundation Trust

Mr N Wilkin

Norfolk Health Scrutiny Committee (sub)

Mr J Labouchere

EcoTech Centre Ltd

Place no longer available.

Brecks Partnership

Councillor C Bowes.

Norfolk & Norwich Hospital Trust

Mrs A Steward.

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It was noted that two vacancies still existed for the Wayland Partnership.

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44/09 AUDIT COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 10)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 13 March 2009 be adopted.

45/09 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION (AGENDA ITEM 11)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting held on 26 March 2009 be adopted.

46/09 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 12)

RESOLVED that the confirmed minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 9 March 2009 be adopted.

47/09 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 13)

RESOLVED that the now confirmed minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 30 March 2009 be adopted.

48/09 GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 14)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 April 2009 be adopted.

49/09 APPEALS COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 15)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed minutes of the Appeals Committee meeting held on 8 April 2009 be adopted.

50/09 MOVING THETFORD FORWARD BOARD (AGENDA ITEM 16)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed minutes of the Moving Thetford Forward Board meeting held on 11 March 2009 be adopted.

51/09 REFERENCES FROM ARP JOINT COMMITTEE (AGENDA ITEM 17)

(a) Additional Funding for Benefits Administration

RESOLVED that approval be given for the release of the grant funding to the Partnership and that the funding received by East Cambridgeshire and Forest Heath be paid into the Partnership budgets held by Breckland Council and allocated accordingly to the Partner Authorities.

(b) Local Housing Allowance (LHA) and Employment Support Allowance (ESA) Funding

RESOLVED that approval be given to a supplementary budget, to be funded from the DWP, as outlined in the report.

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52/09 YOUTH COUNCIL (AGENDA ITEM 18)

The minutes of the Breckland Youth Council meeting held on 17 March 2009 were noted.

53/09 FAREWELL

The Leader of the Council noted that Mrs Shirley Miller had stood down as a Councillor. He thanked her for all the work she had done and wished her good luck in her new life.

The meeting closed at 11.20 am

CHAIRMAN