

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At a Meeting of the

COUNCIL

**Held on Thursday, 4 November 2010 at 10.30 am in the
Anglia Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham**

PRESENT

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

In Attendance

Mark Stokes	- Deputy Chief Executive
Stephen McGrath	- Member Services Manager
Phil Daines	- Development Services Manager (Capita Symonds for Breckland Council)
Mark Finch	- Head of Finance
Robert Walker	- Director - Community Services
Maxine O'Mahony	- Director of Corporate Resources
Robert Leigh	- Assistant Director, Communications and Communities
Steve Udberg	- Head of Asset Management
Margaret Bailey	- Senior Accountant Capital and Treasury
Terry Huggins	- Chief Executive
Julie Britton	- Senior Committee Officer
Jane Osborne	- Committee Officer

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN IN THE CHAIR

132/10 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 1)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**Action
By**

**Action
By**

133/10 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs S. Chapman-Allen, R. Duffield, M. Fanthorpe, P. Francis, K. Gilbert, J. Gretton, P. Hewett, T. Lamb, D. Myers, D. Williams and Mesdames T. Hewett, L. Monument and P. Quadling.

134/10 DECLARATION OF INTEREST (AGENDA ITEM 3)

Lady Fisher declared a personal and prejudicial interest relating to Agenda item 7 (Minute No. 172/10), Agenda item 8 (Minute No. 183/10) and Agenda item 19.

135/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 4)

Members were made aware of the following arrangements:

- Effective Communication Course being held in the St George's Room after the Member Briefing at the end of the Full Council meeting.
- Members Briefing at the end of Full Council which included a presentation by the Corporate Programme and Project Manager.
- Joint meeting of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission & General Purposes Committee on Monday, 6 December 2010 at 10.30am in the Norfolk Room.

**Engagements List – Chairman
23rd September, 2010 to 3rd October, 2010**

Date	Event	Host
30 th September,	Reception to showcase the Pride in Norfolk Awards 2010	Chairman of Norfolk County Council, Mr. Tony Tomkinson, and the Chairman of the EDP Pride in Norfolk Committee, Mrs. Jean Wilson
3 rd October,	Justice Service	The High Sheriff of Norfolk, Charles Barratt
8 th October,	Civic Reception	Mayor of Wymondham, Councillor Colin Foulger

**Engagements List – Vice-Chairman
23rd September, 2010 to 3rd October, 2010**

Date	Event	Host
15 th October,	Civic Reception	Chairman of Broadland District Council, Councillor Tom Gasson and Mrs. Brigid Gasson

**Action
By**

136/10 CABINET MINUTES - 19 OCTOBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 5)

- a) Housing Strategy (Minute No. 104/10)

RESOLVED that the Breckland Housing Strategy 2010-13 be adopted.

- b) Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings (Minute No. 105/10)

RESOLVED that the revised Calendar of Council and Committee Meetings for 2011-12 be approved.

- c) Implementation of a Licence for Home Boarding of Dogs under the Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963 (Minute No. 106/10)

RESOLVED that the fee for a home boarding licence in 2010/11 be set at £110.

- d) Attleborough and Snetterton Heath Area Action Plan (ASHAAP) – Issues and Options Consultation Document (Minute No. 108/10)

The Deputy Leader referred to the third paragraph on page 104 of the agenda which should read: “assured that all villages in the NR17 *and* NR16 area would be notified”.

- e) Adoption

Subject to Mr R Walker being added to the list of attendees, it was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 19th October 2010 be adopted.

137/10 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION - 7 OCTOBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 6)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission meeting held on 7th October 2010 be adopted.

138/10 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 20 SEPTEMBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 7)

- a) Schedule of Planning Applications – Harling: Grigsons Wood, School Lane: Part demolition of flint boundary wall and reconstruction (Minute No. 171/10(d))

A Member was most disappointed that the wall had still not been repaired even though the rebuild had been agreed by Members at the Cabinet meeting earlier in the year. He asked when the rebuild/repairs would be carried out. The Executive Member for the Economic & Commercial Portfolio reported that the quotes for the works had been much higher than expected. Further quotes were awaited for close-boarded fence panels to be installed which should work out to be a less expensive option. It was hoped that the Council would be able to move forward on this matter once received.

- b) Adoption

**Action
By**

RESOLVED that the confirmed Minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 20 September 2010 be adopted.

**139/10 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 11 OCTOBER 2010
(AGENDA ITEM 8)**

- a) Colkirk/Horningtoft/Whissonsett/Stanfield/Mileham/Beeston/Great Dunham/Kempstone/Little Dunham/Necton: Proposed Underground Electricity Cable System for Dudgeon Offshore Wind Limited (Minute No. 183/10)

A Member pointed out that on page 41 of the agenda, the ninth paragraph should read: "400KV and not 400KW".

- b) Adoption

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 11 October 2010 be adopted.

140/10 GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE - 29 SEPTEMBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 9)

Subject to Mr A Stasiak being added to the list of apologies, it was **RESOLVED** that the unconfirmed Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 29 September 2010 be adopted.

141/10 APPEALS COMMITTEE - 9 SEPTEMBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 10)

RESOLVED that the confirmed Minutes of the Appeals Committee meeting held on 8 September 2010 be adopted.

142/10 APPEALS COMMITTEE - 20 OCTOBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 11)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Appeals Committee meeting held on 20 October 2010 be adopted.

143/10 LICENSING COMMITTEE - 13 OCTOBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 12)

- a) Licensing Policy (Minute No. 17/10)

RESOLVED that the revised Statement of Licensing Policy be adopted.

- b) Adoption

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Licensing Committee meeting held on 13 October 2010 be adopted.

144/10 AUDIT COMMITTEE - 24 SEPTEMBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 13)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on 24 September 2010 be adopted.

145/10 STANDARDS COMMITTEE - 19 OCTOBER 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 14)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Standards Committee meeting held on 19 October 2010 be adopted.

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By**

146/10 YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES - 21 SEPTEMBER 2010 (FOR INFORMATION) (AGENDA ITEM 15)

The Minutes of the Youth Council meeting held on 21 September 2010 were noted.

147/10 CALENDAR OF MEETINGS 2011/12 (AGENDA ITEM 16)

The Member Services Manager explained that the revised calendar related to the Appeals Committee meeting date being changed to 4 April 2012 instead of 4 March 2012 which was a Sunday. It was further explained that the Council meeting to set the Council Tax on Wednesday, 29 February was a provisional date and could be changed.

RESOLVED that the Calendar of Meetings, as covered under Agenda Item 5 above (Cabinet Minutes for 19 October 2010), be adopted.

148/10 NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE AND OTHER SEATS (AGENDA ITEM 17)

None.

149/10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEM 18)

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1973, the press and the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A to the Act.

150/10 PROPOSED INVESTMENT PROPERTY ACQUISITION (AGENDA ITEM 19)

The Executive Member for the Economic and Commercial Portfolio presented the report.

A Proforma B was circulated. The Head of Finance asked Members to consider the full amount on the Proforma B which included stamp duty etc.

The headline benefits and the returns were explained.

The Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission asked the Officers to carefully monitor the operational side of the company as part of due diligence.

The Head of Asset Management was aware that the company had been rationalising its holdings due to pressure from similar businesses. He reassured Members by providing details of the lease and rental set up.

A Member felt that the percentage of return represented huge benefits for Breckland's constituents.

Questions were asked with regard to the market value of the property, the retail study and the risk analysis all of which had been included in the report.

It was proposed that the Audit Committee should consider the proposal on completion of the due diligence.

The Deputy Leader felt this was a wonderful opportunity and would assist

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Breckland Council in maintaining the lowest Council Tax in the country.

The Executive Member for the Economic & Commercial Portfolio moved the recommendation subject to it being presented to the Audit Committee following proper due diligence.

RESOLVED that following full due diligence, the report be considered by the Audit Committee and subject to a satisfactory outcome:

- 1) the freehold interest in the property be purchased for the sum as listed on the Proforma B (dependant on a formal valuation); subject to the existing lease of the company providing current rental income of £250,000 per annum; and
- 2) delegated authority be given to the Leader and the Chief Executive to legally complete the acquisition.

The meeting closed at 11.20 am

CHAIRMAN