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BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At a Meeting of the

CABINET

Held on Tuesday, 25 June 2019 at 9.30 am in
Town Hall, 4 London St, Swaffham PE37 7DQ

PRESENT

Mr S. H. Chapman-Allen
(Chairman)
Mr P.D. Claussen (Vice-
Chairman)
Mr S.G. Bambridge

Mr J.P. Cowen
Mr I. Sherwood
Mrs A. M. Webb

Also Present

Mr D. Wickerson
Mr N.C. Wilkin

Mr P. S. Wilkinson

In Attendance

Ross Bangs

- Corporate Innovation, Change & Performance
Manager (shared)

Christine Marshall

- Executive Director Commercialisation (S151
Officer)

Maxine O'Mahony

- Executive Director of Strategy & Governance
(Monitoring Officer)

Riana Rudland
Teresa Smith

- Breckland Place Manager
- Democratic Services Team Leader

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41/19 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 May were confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

42/19 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Hewett and Robinson.

43/19 URGENT BUSINESS

None.

44/19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None.

45/19 NON-MEMBERS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE MEETING

Councillors Wickerson, Wilkin and Wilkinson.

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46/19 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

The Chairman informed Members that Breckland had pledged to support the Armed Forces Covenant on 7 March 2012.

The commitment did not detract from the support given to residents who were not part of the Armed Forces Community. He proposed to refresh the Council's commitment with a view to making Breckland's support of the Armed Forces Covenant "head and shoulders above the rest".

It was known that Councils have a higher awareness of the needs of the Armed Forces Community, compared to other non-public organisations however more could still be done, and the Local Government Association had also indicated that they were wanting to engage with the Armed Forces Covenant more. Currently the Council primarily support the Armed Forces Covenant effectively through the Housing team, Contact Centre and DWP.

He informed Members that a re-launch of Breckland's commitment would coincide with the raising of the flag event for Armed Forces week on Friday 28 June. It would include raising awareness by the creation of a webpage on the Council's website to inform members of the Armed Forces Community of the support the Council could offer and signpost to other key Stakeholders who could also support the Armed Forces Community in areas outside of the Councils remit.

47/19 BRECKLAND COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATIONS (STANDING ITEM)

None.

48/19 REFERENCE FROM THE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION (STANDING ITEM)

Nothing to report.

49/19 Q4 2018-19 PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW REPORT

The Deputy Leader and Executive Member for Governance presented the report that detailed the Council's performance for the period 1 January 2019 to 31 March 2019. Members heard that the way in which the indicators would be reported in future was changing to a live document to allow effective reporting in the future.

The Executive Member for Finance and Growth was pleased to see that the number of working days lost as sickness had reduced as a lot of effort had gone into supporting Officers and their wellbeing. However he raised concern at the number of missed waste bins which were showing as red. Members were assured that Serco had an aging fleet, but were able to swap vehicles or spot hire when required

The Executive Member for Housing, Health and Environment expressed her thanks to Officers that the way the report would look in the future would change which would allow Breckland to effectively manage performance.

Councillor Wilkin felt concerned with the increase in the number of fly-tips that had been collected across the District and asked what could be done. The Breckland Place Manager said it was a concern not only for the District but for

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the County too. The Norfolk Waste Partnership were looking at how authorities can work better together which included looking at how fly-tips were categorised to ensure all councils report in the same way. Social Media also played a part to advertise the 'Scrap It' campaign that encouraged residents to carry out checks on licensed waste carriers.

Members noted the contents of the report.

50/19 REVIEW OF LOCALISED COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

The Executive Member for Finance and Growth presented the report that asked Members to consider options for the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2020 – 21.

Reasons for Recommendation

The changes made to the current scheme have worked well – introducing a tolerance rule for the treatment of UC awards will reduce the number of notifications customers receive to amend their Council Tax payments, and provide stability for customer repayments whilst reducing customer contact.

Options

A number for consideration are outlined in the report.

RESOLVED that the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2020-21 is reviewed in line with the recommendations outlined in the report and consultation is undertaken.

51/19 NEXT MEETING

The arrangements for the next meeting on Monday 9 September 2019 at 9.30am in the Norfolk Room, Elizabeth House, Dereham were noted.

The meeting closed at 10.50 am

CHAIRMAN