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## BRECKLAND COUNCIL

### At a Meeting of the

### COUNCIL

Held on Thursday, 26 February 2009 at 10.30 am in the  
Anglia Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham

#### PRESENT

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

#### In Attendance

Mark Finch	- Head of Finance
Trevor Holden	- Chief Executive
Andrea Long	- Environmental Planning Manager
Helen McAleer	- Member Services Officer
Ian Vargeson	- Member Services Manager

#### 15/09 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 1)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 29 January 2009 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### 16/09 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr S Chapman-Allen, Mr R Childerhouse, Mr P Cowen, Mr R Duffield, Mr M Fanthorpe, Councillor E Gould, Mr M Griffin, Mr P Hewett, Mr A Joel, Mrs S Miller, Mrs P Quadling and Mrs L Turner.

#### 17/09 DECLARATION OF INTEREST (AGENDA ITEM 3)

There were no declarations of interest.

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**18/09CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 4)**

Members joined the Chairman in offering their best wishes to Mr Borrett on his forthcoming marriage.

The Chairman then told Members that this was the last Council meeting that Andrea Long would attend, before leaving the Authority. He thanked her personally for all her help and advice over the years.

The Executive Member for Planning and the Environment echoed those sentiments and thanked Andrea for her dedication and hard work, especially concerning the Local Development Framework and the Thetford Growth Point. She wished Andrea all the best in the future.

Members joined in with a round of applause in appreciation.

Andrea said it had been a pleasure and an interesting 15½ years. She felt she had grown up whilst serving the Council. She thanked Members for their kind wishes.

**Engagements List - 29 January to 25 February, 2009**

**Chairman**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Host</b>
10 February, 2009	Cutting the Sod ceremony, Wayland Community High School	Andrea Smith, Director of 14-19 Learning Pathways
14 February, 2009	Ceremonial Opening of Mart	The Worshipful the Mayor of the Borough Council of King's Lynn West Norfolk, Councillor David Johnson
23 February, 2009	Launch of YMCA in Breckland	YMCA Norfolk

**Vice-Chairman**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Host</b>
23 February, 2009	Launch of YMCA in Breckland	YMCA Norfolk

**19/09COUNCIL TAX 2009-2010 (AGENDA ITEM 5)**

Appendix F to the report, which had been inadvertently missed from the agenda, had been tabled at the start of the meeting.

The Executive Member for Governance introduced this item and said

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that the process had been long and painful due to the many financial fluctuations outside the Council's control.

Following wide consultation and having received feedback from many sources she was pleased to announce a minimal 4p per week increase on a Band D property and to assure Members that good services would continue to be delivered.

The Council's precept had been set on 29 January and since then the precepts for others including the County Council, Police and Town and Parish Councils had been agreed. These included the re-charge for public lighting, details of which were in the report.

A Member asked why the bill for lighting in Thetford was so much greater than that for the other towns and it was pointed out that when the town was re-developed footpaths linking the town and residential areas had been located separately from the highways, meaning that provision for extra lighting was required.

**RESOLVED** that

- 1) the formal Council Tax resolutions for 2009-2010 be approved;
- 2) the Special Expenses for 2009-2010, as set out in paragraph 3.3 of the report, be approved;
- 3) it be noted that the Council has calculated the following amounts for the year 2009-2010 in accordance with regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
  - a) £42,050.69 being the amount calculated by the Council, in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 as amended by Statutory Instruments 2003/3012 & 2003/3181 made under the Local Government Act 2003, as its Council Tax base for the year;
  - b) the figures shown in **Appendix B** to the report, being the amounts calculated by the Council in accordance with Regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.
- 4) the following amounts be calculated by the Council for the year 2009-2010 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government and Finance Act 1992 as amended:-
  - a) £68,812,098 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act;
  - b) £52,466,720 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of

- the Act;
- c) £16,345,378 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
- d) £11,297,632 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant, increased by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its collection fund to its general fund in accordance with Section 97(3) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (council tax surplus);
- e) £120.04 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount at (a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year;
- f) £2,354,228 being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34(1) of the Act;
- g) £64.05 being the amount at (e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at (f) above by the amount at (a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its areas to which no special item relates;
- h) the figures shown in **Appendix C** to the report, being the amounts given by adding to the amount at (g) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its council tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate;
- i) the figures shown in **Appendix D** to the report, being the amounts given by multiplying the amounts at (g) and (h) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in

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that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

- 5) it be noted that for the year 2009-2010 the Norfolk County Council and Police Authority have stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

	<b>Norfolk County Council</b>	<b>Police Authority</b>
<b>Band A</b>	£749.16	£123.72
<b>Band B</b>	£874.02	£144.34
<b>Band C</b>	£998.88	£164.96
<b>Band D</b>	£1,123.74	£185.58
<b>Band E</b>	£1,373.46	£226.82
<b>Band F</b>	£1,623.18	£268.06
<b>Band G</b>	£1,872.90	£309.30
<b>Band H</b>	£2,247.48	£371.16

- 6) that having calculated the aggregate in each case the amounts at 4(i) and 5 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the amounts in **Appendix E** to the report, as the amount of Council Tax for 2009-2010 of the categories of dwellings shown.

**20/09 NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE AND OTHER SEATS (AGENDA ITEM 6)**

**RESOLVED** that the following change be noted:

General Purposes Committee

Mrs M Chapman-Allen to replace Mr S Chapman-Allen.

**21/09 BUSINESS COMPETITION**

The Member Services Manager informed Members that at its meeting on 24 February 2009 the Cabinet had resolved to support the recommendation at Item 2.1 of the report.

The Executive Member for the Housing and Economic portfolio presented the report and said that the competition had been the Chief Executive's idea. He said it showed that there were still opportunities available despite the difficult times. The winners would receive full funding of a business unit and support for one year, for the first prize and six months for the second prize. He had also just heard that Poultec were giving leadership training and a laptop to the winner. He hoped Members would support this exciting opportunity.

The Leader of the Labour Group fully supported this idea and said that it gave a window of opportunity to small businesses which did not have the same overheads or the same level of borrowing as big businesses. He also supported the Open Days planned, which would give advice to small businesses and individuals, and was pleased that the Council was joining forces with other agencies to offer this help.

**RESOLVED** to

- (1) authorise the release of £30,000 from the Local Area Business Growth Initiative Reserve (LABGI) to deliver the project; and
- (2) delegate authority to the Portfolio Executive Member to authorise the project criteria and guidance once it has been developed by the Economic Development / Asset Management teams.

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The meeting closed at 10.52 am

CHAIRMAN