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BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At the Annual Meeting of the

COUNCIL

Held on Thursday, 13 May 2010 at 10.30 am in the
Anglia Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham

PRESENT

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

In Attendance

Mike Brennan	- Principal Planning Officer
Gill Brooks	- PA to Chief Executive
Dominic Chessum	- Marketing & Communications Officer
Sheila Cresswell	- Committee Officer
Mark Finch	- Head of Finance
Annalisa Graziano	- Member Development Officer
Lisa Green	- Senior Marketing & Communications Officer
Trevor Holden	- Chief Executive
Robert Leigh	- Marketing & Communications Manager
Stephen McGrath	- Member Services Manager
Leanne Neave	- Assistant Member Development Officer
Pam Sayle	- Corporate Consultation & Communications Officer

47/10CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 1)

The outgoing Chairman gave a short speech at the end of his term of office. He thanked Members and staff for their support during this period, and, in particular, the four female Members who had accompanied him at various events, acting as fellow Ambassadors for the Council.

Action By

Nominations were then invited for a new Chairman.

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

RESOLVED that Mrs L Monument be elected as Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

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

Mrs L. Monument in the Chair

48/10 VICE-CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 2)

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

RESOLVED that Mr N. Wilkin be appointed as Vice-Chairman of the Council for the ensuing year.

- (b) Mr Wilkin then signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

49/10 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE OUTGOING CHAIRMAN (AGENDA ITEM 3)

A Member then thanked the outgoing Chairman for his work during his year in office. She said that it had been a pleasure working with him, and her thanks were warmly endorsed by the Leader and other Members. Whilst the role of Chairman was a privilege, it should be remembered that it was also onerous – for the Chairman themselves, as well as their partner.

The Leader of the Labour Group also expressed his thanks, adding that the role as Ambassador for the Council commanded respect, not least because the combination of being Vice-Chairman and then Chairman involved a lot of time and hard work. The outgoing Chairman had been very diligent, and his meetings had been well conducted.

Mr J. Rogers was then presented with his 'Former Chairman of Breckland' medal.

50/10 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 4)

Mr K. Gilbert pointed out that in the first sentence of Minute Item 38/10 on page 6 (Wayland Community Radio), he had been speaking as a Member, not Ward representative, since the Wayland Radio was actually based in Ashill.

Subject to this amendment, the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 April 2010 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Action By

Action By

51/10 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 5)

Apologies for absence were received from Mr M. Fanthorpe, Mr P. Hewett, Mr K. Martin, Mr I. Monson, Mr D. Mortimer, Mrs P. Quadling, Mr M. Spencer, Mrs P. Spencer and Mr D. Williams.

52/10 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 6)

Engagements List – Chairman
1st April, 2010 to 12th May, 2010

Date	Event	Host
16 th April, 2010	Dinner Dance	Mayor of Thetford, Councillor Pam Spencer, and her Consort, Councillor Mike Spencer
18 th April, 2010	Civic Service followed by afternoon tea	Chairman of Broadland District Council, Councillor Mrs. Joella Cottingham and Mr. Laurie Cottingham
21 st April, 2010	Churches Discovery Project: Launch Norwich Cathedral Hostry	The Bishop of Norwich
21 st April, 2010	Civic Reception	Chairman of North Norfolk District Council, Councillor Simon Partridge
23 rd April, 2010	Mayor's Reception	Mayor & Mayoress of Swaffham, Councillor David and Mrs. Shirley Harman
24 th April, 2010	Charity Auction of Promises Evening	Mayor of Dereham, Councillor Ann Bowyer
28 th April, 2010	Installation of commemoration plaque marking the cleaning and protection of the City Hall bronze doors in the name of The World Family	Norfolk & Norwich World Family
29 th April, 2010	Naming of John Drake House, 10 Winalls Yard, All Saints Green, Norwich – YMCA Norwich	The Right Reverend Graham James, Lord Bishop of Norwich, Chairman of the Council of Patrons YMCA Norwich

			<u>Action By</u>
30 th April, 2010	Civic Reception	The Chairman of Norfolk County Council, Mrs. S. Gurney	
4 th May, 2010	Visit of Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh for the formal opening of the Hostry – Visitor and Education Centre and the Refectory	The Dean and Chapter of Norwich Cathedral	
7 th May, 2010	Reception and opening event of the 2010 Norfolk & Norwich Festival	Norfolk & Norwich Festival 2010	
9 th May, 2010	Civic Service	His Worship the Mayor & Madam Mayoress of the Borough of Great Yarmouth, Councillor and Mrs. Sara Smith	
12 th May, 2010	End of Year Civic Reception	The Lord Mayor of Norwich, Councillor Evelyn Collishaw and the Sheriff of Norwich, Professor Tim O’Riordan	

The Chairman announced that each Member would receive a copy of the Core Strategy Development Control policies.

53/10 DECLARATION OF INTEREST (AGENDA ITEM 7)

The following declarations of interest were noted:

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Mrs A. Steward | Personal interest in Agenda item 26 (Former Anchor Hotel and Adjacent Car Park and Bus Station, Thetford) as a Member of Norfolk County Council. |
| Mr B. Borrett | Personal interest in Agenda item 26 (Former Anchor Hotel and Adjacent Car Park and Bus Station, Thetford) as a Member of Norfolk County Council. |
| Lady Fisher | Personal and Prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 19 (Moving Thetford Forward Board) Minute Nos. 13/10 (in relation to housing to the north of the town) and 19/10 relating to transport and the property company Pigeon. |

Action By

**54/10 CONSTITUTION - AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS
(AGENDA ITEM 8)**

RESOLVED to adopt the following changes, in accordance with Standing Order No. 54 and the Resolution made by Council on 1 April 2010 at Minute No. 30/10(b):

John Chinnery

- To remove the specific numbers of Members for each Committee in Standing Order 32.
- To add at the end of Standing Order 39 the words "or as otherwise specified in legislation".

**55/10 CONSTITUTION - REVIEW OF COMMITTEE STRUCTURE
(AGENDA ITEM 8A)**

The Member Services Manager reminded Members that the Council had requested a review of the Committee structure. The proposed changes had passed through the Overview & Scrutiny Commission and Cabinet.

The Leader pointed out that at the second point on the Agenda supplement issued on 11 May 2010, the words "... excluding the Joint OSC on Shared Services and ARP" should be replaced with "...excluding the Joint Committee on Shared Services and ARP".

Subject to this amendment, it was:

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations from Cabinet on 11 May 2010 (Minute No 46/10).

Stephen McGrath

56/10 ANNUAL APPOINTMENT OF THE LEADER, DEPUTY LEADER, COMMITTEES, GROUPS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES AND CHAIRMEN AND VICE-CHAIRMEN 2010-2011 (AGENDA ITEM 10)

(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.

Mr T. Lamb abstained.

(b) Deputy Leader of the Council

Having been duly moved and seconded, Members

RESOLVED that Mr A. Stasiak be appointed as Deputy Leader of the Council for the ensuing year.

Mr T. Lamb abstained.

The Leader gave a vote of thanks to the former Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor W. Smith, for his hard

work during his time in office.

(c) Executive and Support Members

It was noted that the Executive and Support Member appointments were under the auspices of the Leader, who, in accordance with the Constitution, would notify the Chief Executive of any changes.

(d) Committees and Sub-Committees

There was some discussion about specific issues, as follows:-

Overview & Scrutiny Commission

It was confirmed that membership of the Commission would be reduced to 12, but would still include both a Labour and an independent Member.

The Chairman of the Committee wanted to encourage all Members to participate in the scrutiny process: items under consideration frequently covered issues affecting communities across the whole district. Even Executive Members (who were not allowed to be appointed to the Commission) could request items to be scrutinised.

Finally, he reminded everyone that scrutiny was the transparent mechanism which enabled the Council to be held to account by members of the public. All Members had a role to play in this process.

Development Control Committee

It had been agreed that this Committee would be reduced to a membership of 12 (at one stage it had comprised 19). Whilst this would include one Labour and one Independent Member, concerns were raised about the potential impact of this reduction in terms of maintaining a good representation across the whole district, as well as the impact that any absences might have on a particular meeting.

Both the Chairman of the Council, and the Chairman of the Committee itself, reassured Members that the aim of the reduction was to make the Committee more stable and productive. Its Members were responsible, and the fact that there would be named substitutes to call upon meant that any absences should have minimal impact on that meeting's effectiveness.

The Chairman of the Committee thanked those who were standing down for their hard work on this busy Committee.

Action By

Her thanks were echoed by the Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission for his Committee. He added that the intention behind the proposed reduction in membership was to develop an experienced core of Members.

RESOLVED that the membership and allocation of seats for each Committee be approved as listed on the attached Appendix A.

With respect to the record of attendance for the past year, the Chairman highlighted the fact that Councillor Keith Martin had managed to achieve 100% attendance – adding that the reason he was absent for this meeting was due to the fact that he was moving house!

57/10 REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES 2010-2011 (AGENDA ITEM 11)

RESOLVED that representatives on Outside Bodies be re-appointed en bloc, subject to the following changes:

Moving Thetford Forward Board

Mrs A. Steward to be replaced by Mr M. Kiddle-Morris.

Norfolk Health Scrutiny Committee

Mr J. Labouchere should be the main representative, with Mr R. G. Kybird becoming the substitute member.

Wayland Partnership

The Council would only have one representative (Councillor C. Bowes) and would not seek to fill the two vacancies.

Local Government Association

Assembly - the substitute should be Mr A. Stasiak.

Urban Commission - the main representative should be Mr A. Stasiak.

Rural Commission – the main representative should be Mr A. Stasiak.

58/10 SHARED SERVICES (AGENDA ITEM 11)

The Chief Executive presented the report, explaining that the Council was now at the vanguard of change for local government. The report sought authority to take the initiative by appointing an Interim Corporate Management Team, led by an Interim Joint Chief Executive. The process was moving faster than originally anticipated due to key vacancies across both senior management teams.

He said that neither South Norfolk nor Breckland District Councils

Action By

Stephen McGrath

Stephen McGrath

Action By

were looking to pre-empt any decision to be made in terms of the Business Case. This would be considered at Council on 24 June 2010. Instead, they were reacting to the senior vacancies by requesting a joint interim Management Structure to be created in order to take the process forward. Essentially the request was to avoid becoming mired in possible short term appointments and recruitment processes.

The report also recommended the establishment of key Director roles, again on an interim basis, which would align with the proposed new portfolios. He drew Members' attention to paragraphs 4.3 and 4.4 of the report, which explained the proposed portfolios and recruitment process. He requested that Members consider an amendment to the end of paragraph 4.4, as follows:

Para 4.4 Delete all after "31st December 2010"
and insert

"The interim Joint Director posts would be open to permanent Directors, interim Directors and those who have held an interim Director role since December 2009 (i.e. when the Agreement in principle to explore shared services was reached), congruent with their current roles and responsibilities in line with the above Panel arrangements. Should a post remain unfilled the recruitment process would be open to internal/external applicants concurrently."

South Norfolk District Council had considered the Shared Services report at their Council meeting earlier that week. They had proposed some amendments and, in order for the two Councils to maintain a consistent approach to this project, the Chief Executive presented these to Council, as follows:

Amendment to Recommendation (c)

The internal recruitment of interim Joint Directors with the exception of the joint interim Director of Transformation (see Resolution (h)), with external recruitment only being undertaken where a role would not be filled by the process set out in para 4.4 of the report.

Amendment to Recommendation (g)

To establish a joint Member Interview Panel with delegated authority to recruit all interim Joint Chief and Deputy Chief officers. The Panel to consist of the Leaders, Deputy Leaders and the Leader of the Opposition of each Authority, and the relevant portfolio holder, supported by both the interim Joint Head of Paid Service and the interim Joint Deputy Chief Executive, where these appointments have been made.

Action By

Amendment to Recommendation (h)

An immediate open contest to appoint a joint interim Director of Transformation for a fixed term of up to 18 months only, subject to the approval of the Business Plan.

(The Chief Executive said that, at this stage, there was no expectation that the process would go beyond 18 months. However, if it did, there would be the opportunity to re-visit this decision if appropriate, or desired.)

Amendment to Recommendation (i)

The total salary costs of the Joint Corporate Management Team would be shared equally across both Authorities, with the exception of the proposed interim Head of Paid Service, which would be the subject of a separate contract between Breckland and South Norfolk District Councils.

The Chief Executive reiterated that none of the proposals, or amendments, would affect the Business Plan which would be presented to Council on 24 June (and to the South Norfolk District Council at about the same time). He also explained that in the event that the shared services project did not go ahead, then, at that point, all interim arrangements would be unwound and postholders would return to their substantive posts.

Members expressed concern at being asked to consider wordy and complex amendments from the floor, rather than having had an opportunity to read and digest them in advance of the meeting. The Chief Executive acknowledged that this was a fair point, and apologised to Members. He explained that the proposed amendments were the direct result of the Council meeting held in South Norfolk earlier that week, together with the unexpected pace at which the process was moving forward. This was a dynamic situation, with one amendment literally having been agreed immediately prior to this meeting. In view of the fact that the Business Plan was due to be placed before Council in June, he believed that the interim arrangements really did need to be considered now.

The Leader also spoke in defence of the circumstances on this occasion, both in terms of the unexpected speed of events and also the fact that the Staff Appointments Panel had only met two days previously.

At the request of the Chairman, and in order to ensure clarity, the meeting was adjourned for half an hour (11.25 – 11.55 a.m.). The proposed amendments were typed up and circulated to Members, who then had the opportunity to read them before a vote was taken.

The Leader of the Labour Group stated his support for the concept of shared service provision, but asked for an assurance from the Leader

Action By

and Chief Executive that existing staff would be fully consulted and briefed throughout the process. There was understandably some uncertainty about the future, which could affect staff morale.

The Leader acknowledged that whilst the prospects were exciting there were uncertainties for many staff. However, he gave that commitment to staff (both at Breckland and South Norfolk), who were valued, adding that the need to maintain performance was underpinned by a need to be sensitive to staff morale.

The Chairman of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission said that there had been a meeting of the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee to discuss Shared Services on 18 May. The meeting – and discussions around it – had been very useful, not least in establishing good relationships. He encouraged all Members to attend future joint meetings, to help understand some of the concerns and issues being raised, as well as to air their views and inform the process.

The Chairman of the Audit Committee raised a concern about the Governance arrangements and the seeming lack of paperwork and clarity.

The Chief Executive said that the latest version of the Business Case had been received the day before and would be circulated to Members for consideration.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission then reminded Members that dates for all the joint meetings, as well as agendas and papers were available on the website. He reiterated his invitation for all Members to attend and participate in these meetings.

In response to questions, the Chief Executive confirmed that, under the Constitution, the Chief Executive carried the responsibility of the Head of Paid Service. Under the proposed plan for Shared Services, and given that he would be leaving post on 24 June 2010, it seemed inappropriate to have two Chief Executives. If adopted, the new Joint Head of Paid Services would hold that post on an interim basis until formal appointments were made.

He acknowledged that if Council accepted this recommendation, there would be an effective overlap for the short period until he formally left post on 24 June.

In drawing the discussion to a close, the Chief Executive stressed that the report was not designed to pre-empt or circumvent wider discussion, or to affect the Business Case itself, but to allow suitable interim recruitment and ensure that the project could be taken forward under aligned portfolios.

RESOLVED that the recommendations as set out on page 28 of the Agenda, incorporating the amendments as detailed above, be agreed and adopted.

Action By

59/10 APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE (AGENDA ITEM 12)

The Leader introduced Sandra Dinneen, Chief Executive from South Norfolk Council, who then left the room whilst this item was discussed.

He explained that the Staff Appointments Panel had met on 11 May to discuss the appointment of an interim Joint Chief Executive for a period of up to 6 months initially. In the event that the Business Plan was to be adopted, it was proposed that this interim appointment should be extended for up to a further 12 months.

He added that in the event that the business case failed and that shared services with South Norfolk did not materialise, any interim contract would be terminated.

RESOLVED to:

- (1) approve the recommendation from the Staff Appointment Panel to appoint Sandra Dinneen as Interim Joint Chief Executive for a period of up to six months on secondment subject to terms and conditions being agreed with South Norfolk District Council; and
- (2) authorise the Leader of the Council, in his role of Chairman of the Staff Appointments Panel, and the Chair of General Purposes Committee to negotiate and subsequently enter into a secondment agreement with South Norfolk District Council.

Trevor Holden

The Chief Executive then invited Sandra Dinneen back into the room, saying that whilst it would be inappropriate for her to speak formally until her Terms and Conditions had been agreed and formally enacted, she would be available at the end of the meeting to meet Members informally if they so wished.

60/10 CABINET MINUTES - 13 APRIL 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 13)

- (a) Budget Carry Over 2010/2011 (Minute No. 34/10)

RESOLVED to adopt the request for budget carry-over from specific reserves in 2009/2010, to draw upon in 2010/11.

- (b) Adoption

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 13 April 2010 be adopted.

Mark Finch

61/10 JOINT LDF/CABINET MEETING - 26 APRIL 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 14)

- (a) Minutes

Apologies (Minute No. 38/10)

Action By

The Leader of the Labour Group pointed out that both he and Mr M. Fanthorpe had sent their apologies.

- (b) Site Specific Policies & Proposals Development Plan Document 2001-2026: Preferred Options Consultation Document (Minute No. 41/10)

Dereham

There was some discussion about the proposals for Dumping Green, but the Leader reminded Members that this was an ongoing consultation process at this stage.

Watton

A Member raised a query about the owner providing six acres for the High School and asked if this could be double-checked.

Harling

A Member clarified that the site under reference at HAR.2 was a disused pit.

- (c) Adoption

RESOLVED that, subject to noting these points, the unconfirmed Minutes of the Joint LDF/Cabinet meeting held on 26 April 2010 be adopted.

62/10 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMISSION - 29 APRIL 2010
(AGENDA ITEM 15)

- (a) Task and Finish Groups (Minute No. 37/10)

A Member drew attention to the compliments from the Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission on the recent work done by the Parking Task & Finish Group and added his personal congratulations.

- (b) Adoption

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission meeting held on 29 April 2010 be adopted.

63/10 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 29 MARCH 2010
(AGENDA ITEM 16)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 29 March 2010 be adopted.

David Spencer

Action By

64/10 DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE - 19 APRIL 2010
(AGENDA ITEM 17)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Development Control Committee meeting held on 19 April 2010 be adopted.

65/10 APPEALS COMMITTEE - 17 MARCH 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 18)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Appeals Committee meeting held on 17 March 2010 be adopted.

66/10 MOVING THETFORD FORWARD BOARD MEETING - 25 MARCH 2010 (AGENDA ITEM 19)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Moving Thetford Forward Board meeting held on 25 March 2010 be adopted.

67/10 BRECKLAND AREA JOINT MUSEUMS - 12 FEBRUARY 2010
(AGENDA ITEM 20)

RESOLVED that the unconfirmed Minutes of the Breckland Area Joint Museums Committee meeting held on 12 February 2010 be noted.

68/10 MEMBER DEVELOPMENT TRAINING (AGENDA ITEM 21)

The Member Development Officer (MDO) and Assistant Member Development Officer (AMDO) gave a brief presentation about the new Member/Officer Training programme for 2010/11 and the 360 Portal (360 Appraisals for Members).

As a result of various meetings, the HR and Member Development Teams had concluded that, wherever practical, joint Member and Officer training should be provided. As well as helping to meet business needs and corporate goals, streamlined training would also achieve some financial savings - especially if most of the events could be undertaken in-house.

A proposed training programme had been agreed by the Member Development Panel at their meeting on 11 March 2010 and this would take immediate effect. Members would be able to reserve slots via a specific link which would appear on their Extranet training page later that afternoon.

The MDO asked Members to kindly complete the Self-Assessment Form which was a key part of their annual Personal Development Plan (PDP) and to return these by 24 May if at all possible. Alternatively they could be completed electronically. Once completed, individual one-to-one meetings would be arranged – and Members were asked to note that these needed to have been completed, and documented, by the end of June 2010.

The AMDO explained that the 360 Appraisals for Members involved inviting up to six respondents to give anonymous feedback on a

selection of criteria, such as job skills, behaviour, etc. Members could choose whoever they liked to participate in this exercise, provided that the respondents knew them well.

Members were reminded that the use of the 360 Portal had been adopted as part of the Charter Status Action Plan in November 2008. Members of the Cabinet, the Leader of the Labour Group and other key Committee Chairmen would be among the first to undertake a 360 appraisal as part of a pilot process.

The Chairman urged Members to take up this opportunity, saying that she believed it to be a valuable tool, offering a useful perspective.

69/10 DUTY TO RESPOND TO PETITIONS (AGENDA ITEM 22)

The Member Services Manager briefly explained the situation with regard to the introduction of new legislation on petitions and e-petitions.

The Local Government Economic Development and Construction Act 2009, places a statutory duty on the Council to publish a petitions scheme. This duty would take effect on 15 June 2010, with an implementation date of 15 December 2010 effective for e-petitions.

Given the tight timescale, Full Council was asked to request the Overview and Scrutiny Commission to draw up such a scheme and recommend this to Cabinet (8 June 2010) and Council (24 June 2010) for ratification. In the meantime, Council was furthermore asked to agree that the Overview and Scrutiny Commission be delegated to hear any petitions received before a full scheme was ratified.

RESOLVED that the Overview & Scrutiny Commission be asked to draw up a draft scheme and, in the interim period, be delegated to hear any petitions received before a full scheme is ratified by Council on 24 June 2010.

Action By

**Mark
Broughton**

70/10 YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES - 15 MARCH 2010 (FOR INFORMATION) (AGENDA ITEM 23)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Breckland Youth Council meeting held on 15 March 2010 be noted.

71/10 YOUTH COUNCIL MINUTES - 21 APRIL 2010 (FOR INFORMATION) (AGENDA ITEM 24)

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Breckland Youth Council meeting held on 21 April 2010 be noted.

72/10 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEM 25)

RESOLVED that under Section 100(a)(4) of the Local Government Act 1973, the press and 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.

73/10 FORMER ANCHOR HOTEL AND ADJACENT CAR PARK AND BUS STATION, THETFORD (AGENDA ITEM 26)

Action By

The Head of Asset Management presented the report which sought approval to transfer the freehold interest in the former Anchor Hotel, Thetford, along with the adjacent car park and bus station, to Norfolk County Council. This would enable them to become owners, which was necessary for the County Council to secure funding for an Academy in Thetford.

The Head of Asset Management added that, since publication of the report, a third recommendation (2.3) needed to be considered, concerning an obligation to purchase the land back should the Forum not proceed:

“If appropriate within the subsequent discussions with Norfolk County Council (NCC) regarding the basis of transfer, Breckland Council be bound to buy back the property (in the event that the Academy did not proceed on the site) at a price which equated to the sum paid by NCC to Breckland Council in consideration for the initial transfer (i.e. NCC would be obligated to buy back at the same figure that Breckland Council sold the property for). Such delegated authority be given to the Leader and the Chief Executive Officer. “

Members expressed alarm and unease at once again having to make key decisions without having received advance information. The Chief Executive explained to Members that this request was being made because of a change in time scale by the sponsoring Government Department. The land needed to be in the ownership of Norfolk County Council to progress the bid. This issue was not a complex one, and any delay would run the risk of preventing the bid going forward.

The Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission was particularly annoyed about the lack of opportunity to scrutinise important details. He also queried some of the details which had been given. At that stage he felt unable to support the recommendations.

During the ensuing debate, Members discussed the implications of the three recommendations and the level of delegated authority they wanted to give to the Leader to negotiate terms.

After Members had had the opportunity to ask questions and discuss this matter in full, it was

RESOLVED that:

- (1) The recommendations at 2.1 and 2.2 of the report be adopted, with the replacement of the word “Academy” by “Forum” in recommendation 2.1.

Mr Lamb voted against this recommendation.

- (2) The new recommendation 2.3, as above, be adopted.

Messrs Lamb and Gilbert voted against this recommendation.

Action By

The meeting closed at 1.15 pm

CHAIRMAN

Development Control

Constitution: 12 members – politically balanced (Con: 10, Lab: 1, Others: 1).

C Bowes
Mrs M Chapman-Allen
M Fanthorpe
P Francis
E Gould (Chairman)
Mrs D Irving
J Labouchere
T Lamb
S Rogers
F Sharpe
Mrs P Spencer
N Wilkin (Vice-Chairman)

Substitute Members:

P Duigan
B Rose
One vacancy, Labour/Independent, to be appointed at next Council

Overview and Scrutiny Commission

Currently 12 members, politically balanced (Con: 10, Lab: 1, Others: 1).

A Byrne
S Chapman-Allen
P Cowen (Chairman)
K Gilbert
R Goreham (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs D Irving
A Joel
R Kybird
K Martin
Mrs S Matthews
J Rogers
B Rose

Substitute Members:

P Balaam
G Bambridge
C Bowes

General Purposes

Constitution: 12 members – politically balanced (Con: 11, Lab/ Others: 1).

P Balaam
Mrs J Ball
G Bambridge
Mrs M Chapman-Allen
R Duffield (Chairman)
P Duigan (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs K Millbank
Mrs S Matthews
S Rogers
I Sherwood
Mrs L Turner
D Williams

Substitute Members:

R Goreham
J Gretton
One vacancy, Conservative, to be appointed at next Council

Licensing Committee

Constitution: 12 members – politically balanced (Con: 11, Lab/ Others: 1)

W Borrett
Mrs M Chapman-Allen
J Gretton
T Lamb
K Martin
Mrs K Millbank
D Myers
J Rogers
I Sherwood (Chairman)
Mrs P Spencer (Vice-Chairman)
Mrs L Turner
N Wilkin

Substitute Members:

C Bowes
A Byrne
One Vacancy, Labour/Independent, to be appointed at next Council

Appeals Committee

Constitution: 6 members – politically balanced (Con: 5, Lab/Others: 1)

Mrs J Ball
R Duffield
M Fanthorpe
P Francis (Chairman)
Mrs L Monument
I Sherwood (Vice-Chairman)

Substitute Members:

G Bambridge
K Martin
One Vacancy, Labour/Independent, to be appointed at next Council

Audit Committee

Constitution: 6 members – politically balanced (Con: 5, Lab/Others: 1)

P Balaam
R Childerhouse
P Hewett
C Jordan (Chairman)
R Kybird (Vice-Chairman)
D Myers

Substitute Members:

R Duffield
Mrs L Monument
One Vacancy, Labour/Independent, to be appointed at next Council

Standards

Constitution: 9 members – 3 Breckland Councillors, 3 Independent Members and 3 Parish Representatives.

Mrs S Matthews
F Sharpe
D Williams

Staff Appointments

Constitution: 9 members – politically balanced (Con: 8, Lab/Others: 1).

S Askew
W Nunn (Chairman)
P Claussen
R Duffield
Lady Fisher
R Goreham
Mrs T Hewett
M Kiddle-Morris
W Smith

Substitute Members:

P Balaam
S Matthews
S Rogers

Local Joint Consultative

Constitution: 5 Breckland Councillors (4 named members plus one “floating” Cabinet Member) and two substitute members and 5 Staff Representatives and two substitute representatives.

R Kybird
K Martin
Mrs S Matthews
D Williams (Chairman)
One Floating Cabinet representative

Substitute Members:

I Sherwood
N Wilkin
One Vacancy, Labour/Independent, to be appointed at next Council

Anglia Revenues and Benefits Partnership Joint Committee

Two Breckland representatives to be appointed to the Joint Committee:

Mr P Claussen
Mr W Smith.

Member Development Panel

Constitution: 6 Members (Con: 4, Lab: 1, Others: 1).

I Sherwood (Chairman)
G Bambridge
K Gilbert
R Goreham
Mrs D Irving
S Rogers