

BRECKLAND COUNCIL

At a Meeting of the

COUNCIL

Held on Thursday, 8 April 2021 at 10.00 am
Virtual meeting via Zoom

This meeting is in line with the Local Authorities and Police and Crime Panels
(Coronavirus) (Flexibility of Local Authority and Police and Crime Panel Meetings)
(England and Wales) Regulations 2020.

PRESENT

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Cllr Lynda Turner (Chairman) | Cllr Kay Grey |
| Cllr Roy Brame (Vice-Chairman) | Cllr Chris Harvey |
| Cllr Tristan Ashby | Cllr Paul Hewett |
| Cllr Stephen Askew | Cllr Jane James |
| Cllr Roger Atterwill | Cllr Terry Jermy |
| Cllr Gordon Bambridge | Cllr Mark Kiddle-Morris |
| Cllr Timothy Birt | Cllr Robert Kybird |
| Cllr Bill Borrett | Cllr Ian Martin |
| Cllr Mike Brindle | Cllr Keith Martin |
| Cllr Hilary Bushell | Cllr Linda Monument |
| Cllr Trevor Carter | Cllr Philip Morton |
| Cllr Marion Chapman-Allen | Cllr Mike Nairn |
| Cllr Sam Chapman-Allen | Cllr William Nunn |
| Cllr Ed Colman | Cllr Rhodri Oliver |
| Cllr Harry Clarke | Cllr Mark Robinson |
| Cllr Paul Claussen | Cllr Sarah Suggitt |
| Cllr Philip Cowen | Cllr Taila Taylor |
| Cllr Helen Crane | Cllr Stuart Terry |
| Cllr Vera Dale | Cllr Alison Webb |
| Cllr Richard Duffield | Cllr David Wickerson |
| Cllr Phillip Duigan | Cllr Nigel Wilkin |
| Cllr Fabian Eagle | Cllr Peter Wilkinson |
| Cllr Keith Gilbert | |

In Attendance

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| Maxine O'Mahony | - Executive Director of Strategy & Governance (Monitoring Officer) |
| Rob Walker | - Executive Director Place |
| Alison Chubbock | - Chief Accountant (Deputy Section 151 Officer) (BDC) |
| Jason Cole | - Executive Manager People & Innovation |
| Paul Corney | - Head of ARP |
| Rory Ringer | - Democratic Services Manager |
| Sarah Wolstenholme-Smy | - Legal Services Manager (Deputy Monitoring Officer BDC) |
| Teresa Smith | - Democratic Services Team Leader |
| Julie Britton | - Democratic Services Officer |

37/21 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 1)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Bowes, Kiddell and Sherwood.

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38/21 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 2)

The Minutes of the meeting held on 25 February 2021 were confirmed as a correct record.

39/21 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS (AGENDA ITEM 3)

None declared.

40/21 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 4)

On behalf of Lady Pippa Dannatt, the Lord-Lieutenant of Norfolk, the Chairman was delighted to announce that Mr Michael Gurney would soon be appointed as the new High Sheriff of Norfolk taking over from Lady Georgina Roberts.

Mr Gurney had also recently been made a Deputy Lieutenant (DL) as part of Lady Dannatt's Team.

The Chairman had attended several virtual events since the previous meeting that had been detailed in the attached engagements list including making a short film on YouTube on the 23 March 2021, which had been marked as the National Day of Reflection to remember those whose lives had been lost from the pandemic in the past year.

41/21 LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM 5)

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Sam Chapman-Allen made the following announcements.

Lockdown Roadmap

On Monday, 12 April 2021, the Country would begin to move into step 2 of the national roadmap out of lockdown. He was pleased to confirm that Breckland was already helping local businesses across the District in preparation to open safely.

From the 12 April, non-essential retail would be permitted to open for business which would hopefully bring back much activity to the High Streets.

The Council had launched a £2m support package to help businesses to begin trading again and provide residents with the confidence they needed to shop locally and support businesses whilst remaining safe.

This package was being branded as 'Spring Back' and this programme of support had already received tremendous uptake from several businesses across the whole of the District including rural areas. This funding of up to £5k would help with new equipment to trade in a Covid compliant way including extra protective equipment such as screens marquees, benches etc to allow individuals to be safe and ensure social distancing could take place. This money was already available and beyond that Breckland was looking to improve shop fronts making the towns attractive destinations for shoppers to visit not just in Breckland but the wider county.

Training and support were also being offered to help local businesses trade on-line optimising on the new 'click and collect' digital market that had proved such a phenomenon over the last 12 months. This support was not just available to existing businesses but for start-up businesses too and this funding would be paid

directly to businesses to get their initial platform launched, their initial rent paid, or their initial capital outlay paid for premises. Any businesses across the District or any individual who had a scheme they were looking to launch should contact Breckland Council for further information.

Over the coming days and weeks residents would see sight of several shops displaying Covid safe schemes in the form of a window sticker to show that they were Covid safe. The Covid Support Officers were continuing to patrol the towns to carry out assessments and to distribute these accreditation stickers for such premises. Whilst the re-opening of High Streets was welcomed and the easing of restrictions were gradually eased, it remained essential that everyone continued to follow the latest guidelines to keep everyone safe.

The Covid Support Teams were out every day in the Breckland communities alongside the Public Protection and Licensing Officers, as well as Trading Standards, health & safety teams and of course the Police to ensure that all premises were ready to open, answering questions and helping them go through the legislation ensuring that they were ready to open their doors.

On the subject of keeping safe, the asymptomatic testing continued throughout the District and many residents and Members of the Council would have seen the pop-up testing sites in the market towns. Anyone who had any concerns were urged to log onto any of the following websites for further information:

Breckland Council:

<https://www.breckland.gov.uk/article/16896/12-03-21-Asymptomatic-covid-testing-to-launch-in-Breckland>

Public Health England:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england>

Local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG):

<https://www.norfolkandwaveneyccg.nhs.uk/coronavirus-testing>

Individuals did not need to leave their household as everyone would be able, from the end of this week, to book some home test kits via the following government website:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Flood Management

At the previous meeting, a few Members had asked about Lord Dannatt and the new County Strategic Flood Group meetings. The second meeting had recently taken place with all key stakeholders addressing all the initial concerns and feedback had been offered from the Working Group. The vast number of initial challenges were still being considered and were on-going, and the 'patchwork quilt' of responsibility was causing much consternation for individuals to work out who was responsible and who were leading on these various matters. Lord Dannatt was taking control of the whole situation with several positive outcomes from key stakeholders. Conversations were continuing throughout the County and with George Freeman MP and with other groups to ensure that all had a mechanism to raise any concerns and issues directly to ensure that the District had a real long-term change for residents and businesses to protect them against flood and water management.

Government Funding

At the previous meeting, a question had been asked about 'claw back' from Government funding particularly in relation to the national Grants Scheme. Breckland Council had administered fourteen separate grant schemes across the national Covid Grant Programme. A phenomenal amount and sometimes immensely confusing for individuals but the Council had changed and pivoted to what had been required to support businesses.

A number of these legacy schemes were now ending, and all were being reviewed to ensure that the Council had 100% payment against all those eligible businesses within the area. According to the schemes based on national criteria, the Leader was hopeful no monies would be clawed back by the Government. There was a material risk that the Government could move the goal posts as this was within its gift and the additional restriction grant from the ARG that was initially meant to move to April 2022 had been pulled forward and the Council was moving at pace to ensure that 100% payments were sent out.

Town Delivery Plans

The Town Delivery Plans had recently gone live. This was a Breckland Council initiative to ensure that every single market town was treated fairly, and each had an opportunity to plan and shape their future needs as well as the rural parishes and the villages that were so important to the towns. Moving forward out of Covid, this was the perfect opportunity to pull this plan together as part of the Council's longer term growth strategy that was being supported by a company called Hatch. This company had extensive experience and an excellent track record in this field and some ambitious plans were expected.

This was a long-term programme and would be a year in the making and could end up being many years in the planning with detailed engagement, and evidence to help shape new places.

The first town would be Dereham, and the programme was now being developed. This would be a shared vision, and everyone would have a key role to play from Town Councils, local resident associations, local businesses, the voluntary sector, health, education, and the plethora of individuals who would be pivotal to the success. The Leader hoped that everyone would join in this process and not stand on the side-lines and criticise but roll up their sleeves and get involved to ensure that this became a positive piece of work.

Questions were then invited.

In respect of flooding, Councillor Gilbert advised that the Chairman of the Watton & Saham Flood Action Working Group had attended the meetings with Lord Dannatt. He felt that a small step forward had been made in respect of the successful joint bid for funding submitted by Norfolk and Suffolk County Councils to look at the re-use and storage of surface water. The funding was £6m over 3 years - £500k for each County and he hoped that something would come out of this and action be taken on issues to protect people in the future.

Councillor Terry advised that it had recently been revealed that those aged under 25 years of age made up two thirds of the 700,000 newly unemployed people across the UK since the start of the pandemic. He was aware of several people in this age group who had been impacted in the Breckland area describing job hunting as a confidence shattering process during this pandemic amid fears of lack of opportunities and he asked the Leader to confirm what Breckland Council was

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doing to support this demographic to ensure that this generation was able to recover as everyone emerged out of Covid.

The Leader advised that Breckland Council had a strong track record of working with partners such as the DWP and independently starting schemes such as KickStart to ensure that local individuals had the opportunities to find employment or further education. This was a national issue and as the furlough scheme drew to a close over the next few months an increase in those numbers would be seen.

A District Council could not work in isolation it needed to ensure that it worked across the geography of Norfolk with DWP and linked with industry and further education establishments to ensure that there was a record and a transition for those individuals who were coming through the education system and for those who were unemployed. Breckland Council had already provided many thousands of pounds for employment and skills officers prior to Covid and throughout the pandemic as the recovery process began, those Officers within the Business Regeneration Team would be looking at a long-term approach to this issue within the Breckland area.

Further details on these matters would be provided to Councillor Terry and any other Members but, at this point in time, Breckland and would continue to provide the necessary funding, not in isolation, but with other partners who had bigger funding models and longer-term outcomes for residents.

Councillor Jermy followed up on the Leader's comments about flooding and asked the Leader if he could provide some assurance that all Members of the Council would be kept informed of the work of the new County Strategic Flood Group as it was a very complicated subject and affected everyone in different ways.

The Leader explained that that he had conversations frequently with individuals on a plethora of subjects and did not have the ability to brief Members on every matter but for something as important as flooding, once a delivery plan and some objectives and targets had been agreed such information would be shared with Members. He felt that there would also be an opportunity for the Overview & Scrutiny Commission to scrutinise this work. The Leader had been pleased that Councillor Gilbert had highlighted the fantastic work carried out by Norfolk County Council thus far particularly with the £6m re-use water bid.

42/21 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 6 (AGENDA ITEM 6)

None received.

43/21 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE UNDER STANDING ORDER NO 7 (AGENDA ITEM 7)

Councillor Jermy directed his question about virtual meetings to the Leader. He was aware that such meetings would be coming to an end after 6 May 2021 despite many Councillors and staff not being fully vaccinated and without clear opportunities to allow larger meetings to go ahead in a socially distanced way. He asked the Leader if he could confirm what representations he had made to the Government on this matter. He also asked the Leader to confirm that once 'in person' meetings did return what Breckland would be doing to ensure that the new opportunities that had been afforded to residents to engage with and scrutinise the Council through virtual meetings would be maintained.

The Leader advised that he had made representations for the eastern region as a

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Member of the District Councillors Network for the East of England and the Local Government Information Unit. At both these forums he had stressed the importance of hybrid meetings moving forward beyond step 4 of the roadmap; however, when the Government legislation ended in May all councils would have to react to that decision accordingly.

A decision had already been made to pull forward the AGM from 20 May to 29 April so that everyone could remain Covid compliant and Covid safe and the Committee Chairmen had already made their own decisions to either pull forward their meetings or postpone them until after 21 June. All Members had a duty as public leaders and as community champions that when all businesses opened again the Council should follow suit when safe and practical to do so whilst bearing in mind that beyond 17 May the numbers of how many people could meet inside could increase.

In relation to public participation, part of the works that was still on-going under Cllr Paul Hewett's Portfolio, the Conference Suite at Breckland Council now had livestreaming facilities in place so the public would not necessarily have to attend in person. Members would soon be invited in small groups to the Conference Suite to discuss how the new technology was going to work.

Councillor Birt said that the questions that he had asked at the previous Council meeting had not, as yet, been responded to and were as follows:

- How much money had been collected in the New Homes Bonus for his local area of Carbrooke, Saham Toney and Watton?
- Information required in respect of the Operational Recovery document and the Worksmart 2020 Programme.

Referring to the latter question, Councillor Birt said that he had been having difficulties getting hold of the aforementioned documents and had contacted the Legal Team accordingly. The legislation permitted him to view these documents but again he had not received any response and felt that he was being unlawfully denied access to such information.

The Leader advised that he was not aware of any Officer preventing this legal ability but felt that if every Member asked for the level of detail that Councillor Birt demanded on a continuous basis the Officers would not be able to carry on with their day job. He had not been aware that Cllr Birt had not been privy to the information that he had requested in respect of the New Homes Bonus and would ensure that this was passed onto him. In relation to the recovery document that had been shared with all Members in July 2020, this had obviously been superseded but he would be more than happy to send such information to Cllr Birt.

Councillor Atterwill asked the Leader a question about the new waste contract and asked him to confirm if the Council had purchased smaller capacity refuse vehicles. He had been informed of this concern by the refuse collectors in his area. The Leader asked Rob Walker, the Executive Director of Place to respond to this question. Members were informed that the exact specification would be confirmed in due course.

Councillor Atterwill asked Councillor Claussen, the Executive Member for Planning about a question he had asked him at the previous meeting in respect of whether he would commit to undertake an internal review of the S106 process including the outsourcing of such work. At the time, Councillor Claussen had said that he would speak to the Chairman of the Planning Committee and he asked what the outcome

had been from that discussion.

Councillor Claussen advised that the conversation was still on-going. A verbal update had been provided but nothing had been received in writing, but this would be shared with Councillor Atterwill once received.

Councillor Atterwill raised another question to Councillor Claussen. Earlier in the year he had raised a concern in respect of the staffing levels and resourcing in the Building Control department and he had been informed that a recruitment process was taking place. He asked Councillor Claussen for an update on this matter and if the department was now adequately resourced.

Members were informed that one person had been successfully recruited but he was unsure of the start date but once his/her employment commenced the Team would be fully resourced. Councillor Atterwill asked for this person's start date to be emailed to him.

Councillor Wickerson asked Councillor Hewett, the Executive Member for Contracts & Assets if the Council was in a position to complete the sale of the Green Britain Centre in Swaffham. Members were informed that the completion date would be finalised very shortly.

Councillor Kybird asked Councillor Bambridge, the Executive Member for Environmental Services & Public Protection a question about the new waste vehicles and if he could be provided with an update on the new trade waste service and whether it was proving popular.

Members were informed that this was one of the largest local authority contracts that had been awarded for many years, three local authorities were involved and was a cross border contract with Kings Lynn & West Norfolk, North Norfolk and Breckland. This would not only make significant savings but would also be of real benefit to the relevant communities. The new contract provided everyone with a better service and the new vehicles incorporated 'green' technology to extract the waste from the bins electronically and was the best outcome for a rural area. Additionally, some of the vehicles would be entirely electric. Trade waste was a new very flexible service in Breckland and would work much better for smaller businesses in remote areas and was something that should be promoted by Members to their Parish & Town Councils. It was still early days, but Councillor Bambridge was pleased to report that the feedback thus far had been excellent. An update from the Officers involved in the contract and would soon be provided and he would be happy to report back such information to Members if they so wished.

Councillor Bushell asked the Leader if he was aware of the very positive feedback that she had received in respect of the Councils speed and efficiency in dealing with businesses and charitable organisations during the pandemic and the on-going support that still being offered. She asked the Leader if he would join her in thanking all the Officers involved for their hard work and the sensitivity displayed in handling difficult cases and their commitment in helping both businesses and charities who could all look forward to the future with confidence.

The Leader was delighted with the positive feedback received within the Dereham area and he hoped that individuals across the Chamber had received the same. Breckland Council had not been the fastest out of the blocks but had been the most efficient and as everyone emerged through the final stages of lockdown the Officers were now focusing on what the businesses were asking for and what the granular support needed to be. He would ensure that this positive news was fed

back to the Officers concerned to what had been a thankless task of helping businesses and organisations to access the tens of millions of pounds.

Councillor Atterwill asked Councillor Hewett if he would soon be able to update Members on the current situation in respect of Barnham Broom Golf & Country Club and asked if he would provide a private & confidential briefing at the next Full Council meeting. Councillor Hewett agreed to Councillor Atterwill's request.

44/21 MINUTES (FOR INFORMATION ONLY) (AGENDA ITEM 8)

(a) Cabinet Minutes

The unconfirmed Minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 22 March 2021 were noted.

(b) Overview & Scrutiny Commission

The unconfirmed Minutes of the Overview & Scrutiny Commission meeting held on 4 March 2021 were noted.

(c) Governance & Audit Committee

The unconfirmed Minutes of the Governance & Audit Committee meeting held on 11 February 2021 were noted.

(d) Planning Committee

- The confirmed Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 15 February 2021 were noted.
- The unconfirmed Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 15 March 2021 were noted.

45/21 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS FOLLOWING THE COUNCIL'S DECISION TO ACTIVATE CLAUSE 8 OF THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN BRECKLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL AND SOUTH HOLLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL AND THE ASSOCIATED DESIGNATION OF STATUTORY OFFICERS; AND THE APPOINTMENT OF PROPER OFFICERS, AND VIRTUAL MEETINGS (AGENDA ITEM 9)

Councillor Suggitt, the Executive Member for Governance presented the report that covered the urgent matters that needed to be addressed following the termination of the Memorandum of Agreement between Breckland and South Holland District Councils.

The report dealt with the designation of the Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and the S151 Officer which were statutory posts and was a legislative requirement.

The names of the Officers designated to these posts had been highlighted on page 97 of the agenda pack. The Proper Officer appointment had also been updated as certain post titles had been amended in the interim structure.

The reference to the joint arrangements would also be removed and a new Committee titled the "Shared Memorandum of Agreement Committee" had been appointed to deal solely with any disputes that could arise following the termination

of the Agreement.

The report also dealt with the continued use of South Holland's Independent person in specific circumstances.

A few clerical errors had already been brought to the report author's attention on pages 83, 75 and 95 of the agenda pack and these would be corrected accordingly.

It had also been prudent to consider virtual meetings as the Constitution would need to revert to its previous version once the virtual meeting regulations came to an end.

Any further amendments would be dealt with at a later date.

The Executive Member for Governance thanked the Legal Team for all their hard work in getting the report prepared for this Full Council meeting. In normal circumstances this would have been a challenge, but she felt that it had been no mean feat to pull this together whilst working through the separation of the Councils itself.

The proposal to take the recommendations enbloc was seconded.

Before the vote was taken, Members were invited to ask questions.

Councillor Birt commented on the appointments being considered. He felt that the S151 Officer had proved her worth and was happy for the said Officer to continue in this role, but the remainder of the job placements seemed to him a little odd and asked in the longer term if these positions would be advertised or reviewed going forward.

In response, the Leader advised that colleagues would be aware that when the Council appointed the Head of Paid Service it had been for a short-term fixed period and the individuals concerned already existed as Chief Officers. The legislation as a Council required the designation of those relevant Officers to these posts and had been reflected in the recommendation.

There was no recruitment process or appointment to these posts, and it was not necessary to go through the normal committee process. It was this Council's duty to appoint such designations and those Chief Officers identified were the most suitable and as such had been brought forward to this Full Council meeting.

The Leader was sorry that Councillor Birt had not praised the other members of staff as he felt that all staff throughout the last 12 months had worked tremendously hard and he personally thanked Maxine O'Mahony and Rob Walker as both had 'stepped up to the mark' since the Chief Executive retired in September and had done a sterling job in leading Breckland Council, as the two Directors, supporting the Council's performance throughout the whole of the pandemic whilst also going through the dismantling of a 10 year partnership.

The Chairman echoed the Leader's thanks to all staff, she could not fault their support, their cheerfulness, their commitment, and their loyalty to Breckland Council.

The Chairman advised that those Members who could support most of but not all the recommendations would be asked to indicate clearly which recommendations

they supported and which recommendations they did not, and subject to 1 x vote against recommendation 3 and 2 x abstentions, it was:

RESOLVED that:

- 1) Following the decision by full Council at its meeting on 25 February 2021 to terminate the Memorandum of Agreement entered into by Breckland District Council and South Holland District Council and to approve an interim structure, the Constitution be amended as follows on the date that such termination takes effect:
 - (a) reference to the Council's joint arrangements with South Holland District Council be removed as detailed in Appendices A and B to this report; and
 - (b) a new Committee, called the "Shared Memorandum of Agreement Committee", be appointed in order to deal with any disputes submitted to it in accordance with sections 8(termination and review of joint arrangements) or 11 (dispute resolution) of the Memorandum of Agreement dated 1 April 2011, with terms of reference as detailed in Appendix C to this report, and the Constitution be further amended to take this into account, as also shown in Appendix C; and
 - (c) the Service Manager for legal services be identified as the Senior Legal Officer within the glossary of terms; and
- (2) Until such time as it is possible for the Council to appoint a further independent person for the purposes of attending any committee that considers the proposed dismissal of the Head of the Paid Service, Monitoring Officer, or the Section 151 Officer, the Council continue to use the independent person appointed by South Holland District Council, as reflected in Appendix B to this report; and

Amended Recommendation (3):

- (3) The following statutory designations be formally made to apply with effect from the date of termination of the existing shared arrangements:
 - Head of Paid Service - Maxine O'Mahony
 - Monitoring Officer - Rob Walker
 - Section 151 Officer - Alison Chubbockand the glossary of terms (relating to staff) be amended accordingly.
- (4) The existing Proper Officer appointments be amended as shown in the final column of the table at Appendix D; and
- (5) Rule 6.2.1(j) of the Contract Procedure Rules be amended to refer to the Senior Legal Officer in place of the Executive Manager Governance; and
- (6) With the exception of Standing Order no. 14.1 which will remain, the amendments to the Council's Standing Orders and Access to Information Procedure Rules approved by full Council at its meeting on 22 July 2020 to allow virtual meetings to be held remain within the Constitution unless and until (if applicable) the law is clear that virtual meetings can no longer lawfully be held, at which time the Senior Legal Officer be authorised to

remove such amendments from the Constitution without the need for a further report.

46/21 NOMINATIONS FOR COMMITTEE AND OTHER SEATS (AGENDA ITEM 10)

Councillor Claussen the Deputy Leader of the Council announced that he had been invited to join the East of England Local Government Association's Infrastructure and Growth Panel, a new Outside Body appointment.

No further changes were made.

47/21 ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT (AGENDA ITEM 11)

None.

48/21 EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC (AGENDA ITEM 12)

Following a show of hands and subject to two votes against the resolution, it was:

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involved the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 2 of Schedule 12A to the Act."

The Chairman announced that the public part of this Full Council meeting was now closed.

49/21 ARP SUCCESSION PLANNING (AGENDA ITEM 13)

Councillor Phil Cowen, the Executive Member for Finance & Growth and Chairman of the Anglia Revenues & Benefits Partnership Joint Committee presented the report.

Breckland Council had established the Anglia Revenues Partnership (ARP) with partner authorities and had been at the forefront of delivering a revenues and benefits service that had been a pathfinder in the field. As an organisation it had developed systems and working practices that had set new standards and brought significant savings and income to the Council.

As with all innovative business enterprises, ARP continued to look at ways of improving its service to its clients and thus to the residents of the Districts it served.

Opportunities presented themselves occasionally whereby organisations were able to rethink their business models and structures, and this was the case at ARP, hence the report that Members were being asked to consider.

The recommendation was proposed and seconded and following a vote, it was:

RESOLVED that the recommendation as highlighted on page 98 of the agenda pack be approved.

The meeting closed at 11.00 am

CHAIRMAN