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**BRECKLAND COUNCIL**

**At a Meeting of the**

**GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**Held on Wednesday, 24 June 2009 at 10.00 am in  
Norfolk Room, The Conference Suite, Elizabeth House, Dereham**

**PRESENT**

Mr R.W. Duffield (Chairman)      Mr D.S. Myers  
Mr P.J. Duigan (Vice-Chairman)      Mr I. Sherwood  
Mr G.P. Balaam      Mr A.C. Stasiak  
Mrs J. Ball

**In Attendance**

Ian Vargeson      - Member Services Manager  
Julie Britton      - Senior Member Services Officer  
Michael Horn      - Head of Legal Services

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**35/09 MINUTES (AGENDA ITEM 1)**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to it being noted that Mr I Sherwood was not in attendance for Minute No. 33/09.

**36/09 APOLOGIES (AGENDA ITEM 2)**

Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames M Chapman-Allen, K Millbank, L Turner, M O'Mahony and Mr D Williams.

**37/09 LOCAL JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE :9 JUNE 2009 (AGENDA ITEM 5)**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Local Joint Consultative Committee meeting held on 9 June 2009 be adopted.

**38/09 HEAD OF PAID SERVICES - CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT (AGENDA ITEM 6)**

The Head of Legal Services presented the report which sought the Committee's authorisation to vary the Chief Executive's current contract of employment from a fixed term contract to a permanent contract with six months notice.

Legally, in terms of security of tenure, Members were informed that there was no difference between the present situation and what was being proposed. The Chief Executive would still have to be subject to six months notice either way.

The Head of Legal Services drew Members' attention to paragraph 3.2.1 of

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the report, regarding the effect of the Local Government Review. In this scenario, to be on a fixed term contract could be deemed as a disadvantage to the Chief Executive.

The Head of Legal Services explained that the issue here was that if the LGR did happen, the Chief Executive would stand a much better chance of securing his position if he was on a permanent contract. There would be absolutely no negative to the Council by providing the Chief Executive with the requested variance.

Another Member felt that by tidying up this contract would provide the Chief Executive with a greater clarity of his position. It would not be good if the Council lost him through the LGR process and it might, perhaps, put Breckland in a stronger position going forward.

**RESOLVED** that the Chief Executive's contract of employment be varied from a fixed term (4 years, subject to a 6 months notice period) to a permanent contract with 6 months notice.

**Maxine  
O'Mahony**

**39/09 NEXT MEETING (AGENDA ITEM 7)**

The Chairman sent his apologies for the next meeting on Wednesday, 29 July at 10.00am in the Norfolk Room.

A Member stated that the item on mobile working that he had asked to be reported back to the General Purposes Committee in six months time was now due.

**RESOLVED** that a report on mobile working be presented to the General Purposes Committee at its meeting on 7 October 2009.

**Maxine  
O'Mahony**

The meeting closed at 10.15 am

CHAIRMAN