

# Minutes

## Cabinet



### 5 December 2011

These minutes principally record decisions taken and, where appropriate, the reasons for the decisions. A webcast of the meeting is available at [www.braintree.gov.uk](http://www.braintree.gov.uk).

Present:

<b>Cabinet Members</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Present</b>
Councillor G Butland	Leader of the Council	Yes
Councillor C Siddall	Deputy Leader, Efficiency and Resources	Yes
Councillor J Beavis	Communities	Yes
Councillor Lady P Newton	Enterprise, Housing and Development	Yes
Councillor W Schmitt	Environment	Yes

<b>Deputy Cabinet Members</b>	<b>Portfolio</b>	<b>Present</b>
Councillor D Bebb	Leader's Portfolio	Yes
Councillor J McKee	Enterprise, Housing and Development	Yes
Councillor R Mitchell	Environment	Yes
Councillor J O'Reilly-Cicconi	Efficiency and Resources	Yes
Councillor P Tattersley	Communities	Yes

The following Councillors were also present as invitees of the Leader:  
Councillor Barlow - Leader of the Labour Group, Councillor Dr Evans - Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and Councillor Sutton - the Council's representative on Braintree District Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Board.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Abbott - Leader of the Green Group.

The following Councillors were also in attendance: Councillors Horner and Mann.

#### 58 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**INFORMATION:** The following interests were declared:-

Councillor P Barlow declared a personal interest in Item 6c – Voluntary Sector Service Level Agreements as he was a member of the Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Committee.

Councillor J Sutton declared a personal interest in Item 6c – Voluntary Sector Service Level Agreements as she was the Council's representative on Braintree District Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Board.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, both Members remained in the meeting for the Item and took part in the debate thereon.

59 **QUESTION TIME**

**INFORMATION:** There was one statement made, details of which are contained in the Appendix to these Minutes.

60 **MINUTES**

**DECISION:** That the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2011 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Leader.

61 **RESULTS FROM PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON PRIORITIES FOR 2012-2016**

**INFORMATION:** Nicola Beach, Corporate Director and Jon Hayden, Director of Sustainable Development gave a presentation on the responses received following public consultation on the Council's priorities for 2012-16. This information would be used to compile a corporate action plan and to highlight priorities as part of the budget setting process.

The outcome of the consultation was noted.

62 **MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2012-13 TO 2015-16 UPDATE**

**DECISION:** That it be agreed:

- (1) That the budget for 2012-13, as presented in the updated Financial Profile contained in Appendix E and the supporting detail contained in Appendices A to D of the report, constitutes the initial budget proposals.
- (2) That the capital projects for 2012-13, as listed in Appendix G of the report, constitute the initial proposed capital programme.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To provide good governance arrangements through the proactive management of the Council's finances over the short and medium term.

63 **SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT 2011-12**

**INFORMATION:** In discussing this report, the Leader thanked Allan Reid, Chief Executive, and all Council staff for maintaining a very professional, effective and efficient service to the public against difficult economic conditions and reducing budgets.

**DECISION:** That the report be noted and endorsed.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To inform the Cabinet of the performance of the Council.

64 **VOLUNTARY SECTOR SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS**

**INFORMATION:** Councillor Sutton, the Council's representative on Braintree District Citizens' Advice Bureau Management Board, spoke on this item.

**DECISION:**

- (1) That a Service Level Agreement with Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency for the period 1st April 2012 to 31st March 2013 and funding of £22,720.00 for core services be supported to be incorporated in the 2012-13 budget.
- (2) That Councillor J Beavis, Cabinet Member for Communities, be requested to review the funding arrangements for Braintree, Halstead and Witham Citizens' Advice Bureau and to report back to the next meeting with a final proposal.
- (3) That Councillor J Beavis considers whether it would be possible to extend the Service Level Agreements with the two organisations for a three year period.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To provide core service funding support to Braintree District Voluntary Support Agency and core service funding and premises subsidy support to Braintree, Halstead and Witham Citizens' Advice Bureau to contribute towards their costs of delivering services that meet the needs of local residents and local voluntary organisations. This funding is provided under Service Level Agreements.

#### 65 **CONSTRUCTION OF NEW ENTERPRISE FACILITIES/START-UP UNITS AT SPRINGWOOD DRIVE, BRAINTREE**

**DECISION:** That Councillors McKee and Siddall be appointed to work as part of the future Board of the newly merged BDS/BEAU organisation.

That it be **RECOMMENDED to Council:**

- (1) That the Council's land be transferred to the new BDS/BEAU merged organisation under a long lease and the Director of Sustainable Development authorised to agree a lease covering the existing BEAU site and the extension site with BDS/BEAU for a 125 year term in accordance with the proposals set out in the report.
- (2) That the expenditure of £866,000 of Growth Area Funding to design and build the extension of the Enterprise Centre be approved.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** The commitment of the land and funding will enable the new organisation, under a new lease, to provide additional business start-up units in the District and to continue to provide business start-up support across the District.

#### 66 **CABINET MEMBERS' UPDATES**

**INFORMATION:** There were no updates from Cabinet Members.

#### 67 **REFERENCES FROM COUNCIL/COMMITTEES/GROUPS**

**INFORMATION:** Consideration was given to a Recommendation contained in Minute 14 Growth Area Funding - Update from the Local Development Framework Panel meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

**DECISION:** That it be **RECOMMENDED to Council:** That the re-allocation of Growth Area Fund capital and revenue funding, as detailed in the report, be approved.

**REASON FOR DECISION:** To recommend approval of funding for Growth Area Funding projects.

#### 68 **REPORTS/DELEGATED DECISIONS/MINUTES TO BE NOTED**

**INFORMATION:** There were no reports, Delegated Decisions, or Minutes from Cabinet Sub Groups to be noted.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 8.46 pm

G BUTLAND  
(Leader)

**Cabinet Meeting, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011, Questions Asked/Statements Made**

<b>Speaker</b>	<b>Subject</b>
Donald Smith Chairman of Braintree, Halstead and Witham Citizens Advice Bureau	Item 6c – Voluntary Sector Service Level Agreements