

Minutes

Cabinet

29th November 2016



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.

Present:

Portfolio	Cabinet Member	Present
Leader of the Council	Councillor G Butland	Yes
Deputy Leader of the Council	Councillor Mrs W Schmitt	Yes
Environment and Place	Councillor R Mitchell	Yes
Planning and Housing	Councillor Lady Newton	Yes
	Councillor Mrs L Bowers-Flint	Yes
Economic Development	Councillor T Cunningham	Yes
	Councillor B Rose	Yes
Health and Communities	Councillor P Tattersley	Yes
Finance and Performance	Councillor D Bebb	Yes
Corporate Services and Asset Management	Councillor J McKee	Yes

Also present as invitees of the Leader:

Councillor Mann, Leader of the Labour Group

Councillor Mrs Pell, Leader of the Halstead Residents Association

Councillor Siddall, Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Canning, Chairman of the Task and Finish Group into Apprenticeships

Councillor Mrs Parker, Chairman of the Task and Finish Group into Bus services and Community Transport.

Councillors Banthorpe, Barlow, Mrs Garrod and Schwier were also in attendance.

42 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

INFORMATION: The following interests were declared:

- Councillor G Butland declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to him and he had passed on the initial contact to Council officers. Councillor Butland left the meeting when the item was considered and determined.

- Councillor D Bebb declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to him.
- Councillor T Cunningham declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 9a – 'Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2017-18 to 2020-21.' as a non-paid Director of Ignite Business Enterprise.
- Councillor T Cunningham declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to him.
- Councillor J McKee declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 9a – 'Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2017-18 to 2020-21.' as a Director of the Braintree District Museum Trust Ltd and the Warner Textiles Archive Trading.
- Councillor J McKee declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to him.
- Councillor Lady Newton declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to her.
- Councillor B Rose declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to him.
- Councillor Mrs Schmitt declared non-pecuniary interests in Agenda Items 10b and 15a - 'Proposed Freehold purchase of 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree' as the owner of the property was known to her.
- Councillor C Siddall declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 9a – 'Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2017-18 to 2020-21.' as a non-paid Director of Ignite Business Enterprise and Warner Textiles Archive Trading.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Members remained in the meeting for the item, unless stated otherwise, and took part in the debate and decision thereon.

43 **MINUTES**

DECISION: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 12th September 2016 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

44 **QUESTION TIME**

INFORMATION: There were no statements made, or questions asked.

45 **LEADER'S UPDATE**

The Leader of the Council had nothing additional to report.

Minutes Published: 13th December 2016
 Call-in Expires: 21st December 2016

INFORMATION: Cabinet were asked to agree to the publication of the Housing Strategy which formed the basis for housing related policy for the next 5 years.

The Strategy set out the functions that the Council was responsible for and the environment in which the Council were operating. The main aims of the Strategy were to provide new affordable homes, to help the elderly and vulnerable to live independently, and to help people access the private rented sector.

The Strategy had gone out to consultation for 12 weeks and had been amended as a result of comments received.

DECISION: That the Housing Strategy for 2016-2021 is published and forms the basis for housing related policy over the next 5 years.

REASON FOR DECISION: To agree the Strategy for housing in the Braintree District.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GARDEN COMMUNITIES LOCAL DELIVERY VEHICLES AND FUNDING REQUIREMENTS

Minutes Published: 13th December 2016
 Call-in Expires: 21st December 2016

INFORMATION: Braintree District Council, Colchester Borough Council, Essex County Council and Tendring District Council were collaborating to identify an agreed strategic approach to the allocation and distribution of large scale housing led, mixed use development, including employment opportunities and infrastructure provision, in the form of Garden Communities.

The development of Garden Communities was yet to be determined, and would be discussed at the Local Plan Sub-Committee where recommendations would be put to Full Council next year. The report set out the mechanisms that would be needed should the Garden Communities developments be agreed and proposals whereby the Councils could take a much more direct approach to ensuring that the proposed Garden Communities are delivered and that they met the high standards expected of them.

A delivery mechanism would be needed to initiate the development and would require specialised skill set and expertise that may not be readily available at present. The recommendations put before Cabinet were to establish an overall North Essex Garden Communities Ltd which would act as a mediator to distribute shares equally between the four Local Authorities and subsequently provide local delivery vehicles for each of the potential three sites should any of them make progress.

There were significant issues in respect of the debt that would be acquired during the lifetime of the development. There would be an upfront debt as a result of installing

infrastructure ahead of residential developments. In the case of Braintree there would be a debt requirement of up to £145million if both proposed Garden Communities went ahead. The arrangements that were proposed to be put in place were significant, however they would not be required if the development of the Garden Communities was not agreed.

Due to the large scale of the developments and as part of the project, an Independent Peer Review has been commissioned and has commenced. The review is being led by Lord Kerslake and the results are due in December and would be made public in the New Year. The findings would be carefully considered as the project progressed

DECISION: That Cabinet agreed to;

1. Note the external legal advice received that these decisions cannot and do not prejudice the outcome of any future decisions that the Council may make about the Local Plan to be made by Council in relation to the allocation of any Garden Community.
2. Note that it is proposed that, if appropriate terms can be agreed, the Local Delivery Vehicles will enter into legal agreements with landowners to enable the delivery of the proposed schemes. North Essex Garden Communities Limited
3. In line with resolution 56 Cabinet on the 4th February 2016, Cabinet agrees to set up and subscribe to North Essex Garden Communities Ltd in accordance with the terms set out in the report and Appendix 2.
4. To approve the North Essex Garden Communities Ltd shareholder agreement between the Local Authorities in accordance with the terms set out in the report and Appendix 3.
5. To appoint Councillor G Butland to represent the Council as a Director on the Board of North Essex Garden Communities Limited.

Colchester Braintree Borders Limited

6. In line with resolution 56 Cabinet on the 4th February 2016, Cabinet endorses the formation of Colchester Braintree Borders Limited by North Essex Garden Communities Limited in accordance with the terms set out in the report and Appendix 4.
7. To approve the Colchester Braintree Borders Limited shareholder agreement between the Local Authorities in accordance with the terms set out in the report and Appendix 5.
8. To appoint Jon Hayden (Corporate Director) to represent the Council as a Director on the Board of Colchester Braintree Borders Limited, and gives Delegated Authority to the Chief Executive of the Council to terminate the appointment and to undertake any future appointments.
9. That in principle it agrees to provide an appropriate proportion of necessary funding to the Colchester Braintree Borders Limited (by an appropriate combination of loan or equity) subject to a satisfactory business case setting out

the full terms of the arrangement, which will need to accord with the approved Business Plans and masterplans for the project and the funding options available at the time any funding is required by the LDV. Such commitment to be subject to Council approval.

West of Braintree Limited

10. In line with resolution 56 Cabinet on the 4th February 2016, Cabinet endorses the formation of West of Braintree Limited by North Essex Garden Communities Limited in accordance with the terms set out in the report and Appendix 6.
11. To approve the West of Braintree Limited shareholder agreement between the Local Authorities in accordance with the terms set out in the report and Appendix 7.
12. To appoint Jon Hayden (Corporate Director) to represent the Council as a Director on the Board of West of Braintree Limited, and gives Delegated Authority to the Chief Executive of the Council to terminate the appointment and to undertake any future appointments.
13. That in principle it agrees to provide an appropriate proportion of necessary funding to the West of Braintree Limited (by an appropriate combination of loan or equity) subject to a satisfactory business case setting out the full terms of the arrangement, which will need to accord with the approved Business Plans and masterplans for the project and the funding options available at the time any funding is required by the LDV. Such commitment to be subject to Council approval.

That Cabinet Recommends to Council that it:

14. Notes the decision of the Cabinet to set up and subscribe to the North Essex Garden Communities Limited.
15. Notes the Cabinet's endorsement of the formation of the Colchester Braintree Borders Limited and West of Braintree Limited
16. Endorses the in principle decision of Cabinet to provide an appropriate proportion of necessary funding to the Colchester Braintree Borders Limited (by an appropriate combination of loan or equity) subject to a satisfactory business case setting out the full terms of the arrangement, which will need to accord with the approved Business Plans and masterplans for the project.
17. Endorses the in principle decision of Cabinet to provide an appropriate proportion of necessary funding to the West of Braintree Limited (by an appropriate combination of loan or equity) subject to a satisfactory business case setting out the full terms of the arrangement, which will need to accord with the approved Business Plans and masterplans for the project and the funding options available at the time any funding is required by the LDV.
18. Notes the external legal advice received that these decisions cannot and do not prejudice the outcome of any future decisions that the Council may make about the

Local plan to be made by Council in relation to the allocation of any Garden settlement.

REASON FOR DECISION: To provide Members with a comprehensive overview of the proposals which have been developed over the past twelve months jointly with Colchester Borough Council, Essex County Council and Tendring District Council for Garden Communities in North Essex, in particular to provide Members with information and recommendations to enable them to:

- Establish governance arrangements for the project;
- Agree in principle to be a long term funder for the project, in partnership with the other Councils, subject to the terms and requirements set out in this report.

48 **CABINET RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TASK AND FINISH REVIEW IN TO APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT**

INFORMATION: Further to the Task and Finish Group's report into Apprenticeships submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny committee in July 2016, the recommendations were presented to Full Council on 5th September 2016. In line with the corporate process, Council requested Cabinet to respond to the Committee's recommendations.

The Cabinet Member for Economic Development had considered these and had provided a response to each of the recommendations put forward by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Cabinet was requested to consider the responses to the recommendations contained within the report and request Officers to take forward the recommendations.

Councillor Canning, Chairman of the Task and Finish Group in to Apprenticeships, passed on his thanks to Officers for their contribution to the review, and thanked Cabinet Members for considering the report and welcomed their responses.

DECISION: Cabinet approves this response put forward by the Cabinet Member for Economic Development and delegates any actions to the Corporate Director and/or relevant Heads of Service to take forward.

REASON FOR DECISION: To consider and respond to the recommendations made by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to Full Council.

49 **CABINET RESPONSE TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE TASK AND FINISH GROUP REVIEW INTO BUS SERVICES AND COMMUNITY TRANSPORT IN THE BRAINTREE DISTRICT.**

INFORMATION: The Task and Finish Group into Bus Services and Community Transport had reported to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21st September 2016 and the recommendations were presented to Full Council on 17th October 2016. The Cabinet Member for Health & Communities had considered these and responded to each of the recommendations accordingly.

Cabinet was requested to consider the responses to the recommendations contained within the report.

DECISION: That Cabinet approved the responses to the recommendations put forward by the Cabinet Member for Health and Communities and delegates any actions to the Corporate Director and/or relevant Head of Service to take forward.

REASON FOR DECISION: To consider and respond to the recommendations made by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee to Full Council.

50 **MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2017/18 TO 2020/21**

INFORMATION: Councillor Bebb, Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance highlighted the following points;

The efficiency plan that had been put forward in September 2016 had been agreed by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG).

Until the actual Settlement Funding Assessment (SFA) figures were confirmed following the Autumn Statement, it was expected that the revenue support grant from the SFA will fall from £777,000 next year to £272,000 for the following year and for the year after an extra tariff to be payable from business rates of £291,000.

The administrative subsidy for Local Council Tax Support and Housing Benefit schemes made up a total of £658,620 in 2016/17 and it was anticipated that this would be reduced by 7% per annum from 2017/18.

The surplus anticipated from the Council Tax collected for the year was higher than in previous years and it was proposed to make a portion of this payable to Town and Parish Councils. The Council's share of the surplus was £194,255 and it was proposed that £34,820 was allocated to Town and Parish Councils in 2017/18.

The Council had balanced its budget for 2017/18; however, it was proposed to make provision of £150,000 for homelessness and the impact of welfare reforms, resulting in a net withdrawal from General Fund balances of £107,571.

The results of the recent Pension Fund Triennial Review showed that whilst the Council's part of the Fund continued to be in deficit, i.e. liabilities of £134.084m exceed assets of £119.627m; this had reduced such that the funding level was 89.2%, compared to 82.4% as at the last review conducted at 31 March 2013. The ongoing employer contribution rate was set to rise to 16.5% from the current level of 14.4%; however, this has largely been offset by a reduction in the amount of deficit payment due. The pension deficit recovery period had diminished from 20 years in 2010 to 14 years in 2013 and had now dropped to 10.5 years.

The Council had the option to pay the total pension deficit over the next three years of £4,232,683 in one payment on 1st April 2017. This would be paid by borrowing from unallocated balances or earmarked reserves and paid back over the following two years. As a result of this, the Council would make a saving of £217,000 over the three years.

Members were advised that it was not proposed to make any changes to the current Local Council Tax Support Scheme.

DECISION: Cabinet recommends to Full Council to agree:

- a) The Braintree District Council's Local Council Tax Support scheme for 2017/18 as detailed on the Council's website:
http://www.braintree.gov.uk/info/200302/benefits/367/housing_benefit_and_council_tax_support

; and

- b) That the surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund be allocated between the District and parish/town councils as detailed in Appendix B to this report.

Cabinet to agree that:

- c) The Pension Deficit payments for the period 2017/18 to 2019/20 due to the Essex Pension Fund be made in a single payment on 1st April 2017, as detailed in section 6.3 of the main report ; and
- d) The Revenue Budget and Capital Programme for 2017/18, as presented in this report, constitute the initial Budget proposals and that views are sought as appropriate.

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

To recommend to Council to agree the Local Council Tax Support scheme for 2017/18 for the Braintree District.

51 **STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2015/16**

INFORMATION: Following an internal review, the accounts were signed as representing a 'true and fair view' by Chris Fleetham, Corporate Director and Section 151 Officer, on 22nd June 2016, ahead of the statutory deadline date of 30th June 2016.

The Council's External Auditor, Ernst & Young LLP (EY), commenced the audit of the accounts on 18th July 2016 and the accounts were available for public inspection between 24th June and 4th August 2016. During this time no requests to inspect the accounts or any questions for the external auditor were received.

A Member's seminar on Understanding the Statement of Accounts was held on 8th September 2016, giving a fuller explanation of the accounts and the various key statements and notes contained within them, as well as providing opportunity for Members to raise any queries.

The Statement of Accounts for 2015/16 together with the External Auditor's Audit Results Report were received and approved by the Governance Committee on 28th September 2016.

The Statement of Accounts was published on 29th September and was available to be viewed on the Council's website.

DECISION: Members received and noted the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2015/16.

REASON FOR DECISION: To formally receive the Council's Statement of Accounts for 2015/16 following the external audit and approval by the Governance Committee.

52 **SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT 2016/17**

INFORMATION: In terms of the projects for the second quarter, five projects had been completed and 41 projects were progressing well. However, the second quarter of the year had been challenging with two projects closed and four projects with an amber status due to delays experienced either by a third party involved in the project or due to requiring additional time to develop proposals or carry out additional research and engagement.

Thirteen performance indicators had achieved or exceed target, three had missed target by less than 5% and two had missed target by more than 5%. Of the two performance indicators that had missed target by more than 5%, in respect of recycling, the tonnage of residual waste had reduced in the second quarter with an outturn of 104kg, previously at 120kg, but had not yet achieved the target of 99kg. In relation to the customer service centre in the second quarter, the customer service team had met a response time of 17 seconds against the target of 15 seconds.

With regard to financial performance for the second quarter, an overall positive variance for the year was forecast at £303,000 (-2%) against the budget of £13.107million. This was an improvement of £99,000 from the position reported at the first quarter. Income was forecast to be overachieved by £169,000 of which £69,000 was due to the decision to acquire the property at Braintree College to support the provision of health facilities and £86,000 of additional interest from the decision to invest a further £2 million in pooled funds. There was a projected net underspend of £134,000 on staffing and other expenditure of which £67,000 was due to the cost of fuel continuing at a lower level than allowed when setting the budget and lower costs of refuse sacks.

DECISION: To note and endorse the report.

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

53 **STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT**

INFORMATION: The report provided Members with an updated Strategic Risk Register for the Council. The Strategic Risk Register agreed by the Cabinet on 21st March 2016 had been reviewed by Cabinet Members and the Corporate Management Team; the outcome was an updated draft register for approval by Cabinet.

The number of strategic risks identified continued to be nine, although the narrative for each of the risks had been updated as appropriate.

The number of risks above the Risk Tolerance Line and therefore requiring active management had remained the same at seven. The risk rating for the Local Plan risk relating to land owners submitting planning applications on unallocated sites had been reduced to C2 from B2 (likelihood of the risk reduces from High to Significant).

DECISION: Members agreed the updated Strategic Risk Register and the Action Plans, for managing the high rated risks, as detailed in Appendix B to the report.

REASON FOR DECISION: To demonstrate that the Council regularly identifies the strategic risks which may affect the achievement of its objectives and that it actively manages them, as appropriate.

54

PROPOSED FREEHOLD PURCHASE OF 3/4 CENTURY DRIVE, FREEPORT OFFICE VILLAGE, BRAINTREE

Minutes Published: 13 th December 2016 Call-in Expires: 21 st December 2016
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INFORMATION: Councillor Butland, Leader of the Council, left the Cabinet meeting whilst this item was considered and determined. Councillor Mrs Schmitt chaired the meeting in Councillor Butland's absence.

Members were reminded that this Item was linked to Item 15a in the Private Session of the Agenda, and that if any Member wished to refer to the private information contained within the report for that Item, it would be necessary for the meeting to be moved into Private Session.

DECISION: That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the meeting if it is necessary to discuss Item 15a of the Agenda and from the Private Report, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 2 of Schedule 12 of the Act.

Both agenda items were taken together to enable consideration of all issues. It was not necessary for the meeting to be moved into Private Session.

INFORMATION: In accordance with its investment strategy the Council had completed various property investment purchases within the last two years that had supported growth, created job opportunities and generated valuable revenue streams through annual rent.

The recently adopted District Investment Strategy recognised the need for the District Council to prepare for growth by investing and delivering supporting infrastructure improvements across the District. An opportunity had come forward for the Council to purchase the freehold interest in an office property at 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree. The property was a high quality, two storey, modern office building forming part of the Freeport Office Village. The purchase price has been verified by independent valuers as representing 'market value' and accordingly the Council can be recommended to proceed on the agreed terms.

The intent was to purchase this property by way of reserves and borrowing, with income reinvested in to services across the District.

DECISION (PUBLIC REPORT):

1. That Cabinet approves the acquisition of the freehold interest at 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, subject to contract and due diligence or such other purchase price and terms as may be approved by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Asset Management and the Corporate Director (Sustainable Development).
2. That Cabinet recommends to Full Council approval of the funding to purchase the property.
3. That Cabinet gives delegated authority to the Council's Section 151 Officer to approve to Opt to Tax the property if required.

DECISION (PRIVATE REPORT):

1. That Cabinet approves the acquisition of the freehold interest at 3/4 Century Drive, Freeport Office Village, Braintree at a purchase price of the sum set out in the report, plus purchaser's costs, subject to contract and due diligence or such other purchase price and terms as may be approved by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Asset Management and the Corporate Director (Sustainable Development).
2. That Cabinet recommends to Full Council approval of the funding to purchase the property.
3. That Cabinet gives delegated authority to the Council's Section 151 Officer to approve to Opt to Tax the property if required.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Council to obtain better rates of return on its investments.

55 PROPOSED PURCHASE OF HEAD-LEASEHOLD INTEREST AT 15 SPRINGWOOD DRIVE, BRAINTREE

Minutes Published: 13 th December 2016 Call-in Expires: 21 st December 2016
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INFORMATION: Members were reminded that this Item was linked to Item 15b in the Private Session of the Agenda, and that if any Member wished to refer to the private information contained within the report for that Item, it would be necessary for the meeting to be moved into Private Session.

DECISION: That, under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press be excluded from the meeting if it is necessary to discuss Item 15b of the Agenda and from the Private Report, on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 of Part 2 of Schedule 12 of the Act.

Both agenda items were taken together to enable consideration of all issues. It was not necessary for the meeting to be moved into Private Session.

INFORMATION: The recently adopted District Investment Strategy recognised the need for the District Council to prepare for future growth by investing and delivering supporting infrastructure improvements across the District. An important element of the investment was the provision of increased opportunities for new business and employment and also investment that provided a return for the Council.

An opportunity had come forward for the Council to purchase the head-leasehold interest in an industrial/warehouse property situated at 15 Springwood Drive, Braintree on the Springwood Industrial Estate.

Income generated from the 15 Springwood Drive investment would be re-invested in services and in the District.

Braintree District Council currently owned the freehold of the premises, with a ground rent of £12,480 per annum. The property was subject to a long ground lease which commenced on 23rd April 1971 for a term of 99 years. The head-lessees, Messrs R & T Swann, had granted an under-lease of the whole of the premises to First Essex Buses Limited which commenced on the 3rd August 2010 for a term of 15 years. First Essex had sub-underlet the whole of the premises to Gresham Land and Estates Limited for a term of 5 years expiring, on the 19th July 2020.

The agents acting for Messrs R & T Swann had approached the Council to see if the Council would be interested in acquiring the head-leasehold interest. Following an evaluation by the freehold interest, consultants had been brought in to inspect the valuation of the freehold, leasehold and the valuation of the two combined. The Council had agreed terms with the agents of the leasehold, subject to Cabinet's approval and contracts and a purchase price with the head-leasehold interest had been agreed.

DECISION (PUBLIC REPORT):

1. That Cabinet approves the acquisition of the head-leasehold interest at 15 Springwood Drive, Braintree for the sum set out in the report subject to contract and due diligence, and on such other terms and conditions as agreed by the Corporate Director (Sustainable Development) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Asset Management.
2. That Cabinet notes that this acquisition will be funded via the Member approved Opportunity Purchase Fund.

DECISION (PRIVATE REPORT):

1. That Cabinet approves the acquisition of the head-leasehold interest at 15 Springwood Drive, Braintree for the sum set out in the report subject to contract and due diligence, and on such other terms and conditions as agreed by the Corporate Director (Sustainable Development) in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services and Asset Management
2. That Cabinet notes that this acquisition will be funded via the Member approved Opportunity Purchase Fund of that set out in the report.

REASON FOR DECISION: To enable the Council to facilitate business and employment opportunities in the District and generate a valuable source of revenue income to support the delivery of services.

56 **CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS MADE UNDER DELEGATED POWERS**

DECISION: That the delegated decisions set out in the report be noted.

REASON FOR DECISION: The reasons for each decision can be found in the individual delegated decisions.

57 **MINUTES FROM CABINET SUB-GROUPS – LOCAL PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE – 5TH OCTOBER 2016 AND LOCAL PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE – 31ST OCTOBER 2016**

DECISION: That the Minutes of the meetings of the Local Plan Sub-Committee held on 5th October 2016 and the Local Plan Sub-Committee held on 31st October 2016 be noted.

59 **RECOMMENDATION FROM GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE - 28TH SEPTEMBER 2016 - TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REPORT 2016/17**

DECISION: Consideration was given to the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2016-17.

REASON FOR DECISION: That Cabinet agreed;

1. To consider the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2016/17
2. Refer the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2016/17 to Full Council

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 8.46pm.

COUNCILOR G BUTLAND
(Leader of the Council)