

COUNCIL

AGENDA



THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

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Please note that this meeting will be webcast

Date: Monday 15th February 2010

Time: 7.15 pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Causeway House, Bocking End, Braintree CM7 9HB

Membership:

Councillor J E Abbott	Councillor Mrs B A Gage	Councillor Lady Newton
Councillor M J Banthorpe	Councillor M G Gage	Councillor J P O'Reilly-Cicconi
Councillor Miss L Barlow	Councillor Mrs M E Galione(Chairman)	Councillor Mrs J A Pell
Councillor J Baugh	Councillor J E B Gyford	Councillor R Ramage
Councillor Mrs J C Beavis	Councillor N R H O Harley	Councillor D M Reid
Councillor D L Bebb	Councillor Mrs S A Howell	Councillor D E A Rice
Councillor E Bishop	Councillor P J Hughes	Councillor Mrs C Sandbrook
Councillor R J Bolton	Councillor D L Hume	Councillor Mrs W D Scattergood
Councillor G Butland	Councillor M C M Lager	Councillor Mrs J W Schmitt
Councillor G Cohen	Councillor S J Lambourne	Councillor A F Shelton
Councillor J C Collar	Councillor E R Lynch	Councillor Mrs L Shepherd
Councillor M Dunn	Councillor M Lynch	Councillor C Siddall
Councillor Mrs E Edey	Councillor D Mann	Councillor Mrs J A Smith
Councillor J G J Elliott	Councillor T McArdle	Councillor Mrs G A Spray
Councillor R Elliston	Councillor N G McCrea	Councillor F Swallow
Councillor Dr R L Evans	Councillor J McKee	Councillor Miss M Thorogood
Councillor A V E Everard	Councillor H J Messenger	Councillor S M Walsh
Councillor J H G Finbow	Councillor A M Meyer	Councillor R G Walters
Councillor Ms L B Flint	Councillor R G S Mitchell	Councillor R N Wilkins
Councillor T J W Foster	Councillor Mrs J M Money	Councillor T S Wilkinson

QUESTION TIME

Immediately after the Minutes of the previous meeting have been approved there will be a period of up to 30 minutes when members of the public can speak about Council business or other matters of local concern. During this period Councillors who have declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any item of business on the agenda may also speak as permitted by the Council's Code of Conduct for members. Whilst members of the public can remain to observe the whole of the public part of the meeting, Councillors with a prejudicial interest must withdraw whilst the item of business in question is being considered. Members of the public wishing to speak should contact the Council's Member Services Section on 01376 551414 or e-mail

eileen.self@braintree.gov.uk prior to the meeting. The Council's "Question Time" leaflet explains the procedure and copies of this may be obtained at the Council's offices at Braintree, Witham (library) and Halstead.

Members of the Council are requested to attend the above meeting to transact the following business: -

PUBLIC SESSION

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **To receive any announcements/statements from the Chairman of the Council.**
3. **Declarations of Interest.**
 - (a) To declare the existence and nature of any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda having regard to paragraphs 8 to 12 (inclusive) of the Code of Conduct for Members in Part 5 of the Constitution and having taken appropriate advice (where necessary) before the meeting.
 - (b) Any member with a personal and prejudicial interest to indicate whether he/she intends to make representations in accordance with paragraph 12 (2) of the Code of Conduct as part of Question Time
4. **Minutes.** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the Council meeting held on 14th December 2009. (Copy enclosed)
5. **Question Time.** (See above paragraph)
6. **District of Tomorrow Debate.**

The Leader of the Council will open the District of Tomorrow debate and then any Member can contribute to the debate.
7. **Budget Recommendations and References – Cabinet 1st February 2010.**

- Council Budget & Council Tax 2010/11. Reports circulated to all Members with Cabinet papers.
Councillors are reminded to bring their budget papers to the Council meeting.
(Extract from minutes of Cabinet sent separately)
8. **Council Tax Resolution 2010/11.**

To consider passing the appropriate resolution. (Report attached – Page 1)
9. **Policy Recommendations and References – Other Committees.**

To consider any other policy recommendations which have arisen since the last Council meeting

- **Cabinet 1st February 2010.** Extract from minutes sent separately
 - (i) Accommodation Options Review. Report (including Appendix E) circulated to all Members with Cabinet papers.
Councillors are reminded to bring the report to the Council meeting
 - (ii) Housing and Planning Delivery Grant 2009/10. Report sent separately.
- **Local Development Framework Panel 3rd February 2010**
 - (i) Local Development Framework Core Strategy. Report sent separately
 - (ii) Growth Area Funding Priorities for Expenditure. To endorse proposals.
Report attached (Page 10)
Extract from minutes sent separately

10. **Statements by Members.**

To receive any statements by Members of which the appropriate written notice has been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 18.4(a). -
- *There are none.*

The Chairman will invite the Leader or relevant Cabinet Member to comment on each statement.

(Please note that the maximum time set aside for item 10 shall not exceed 30 minutes)

11. **Questions by Members**

- (i) **Reports from the Leader and Cabinet Members.** To receive reports from Portfolio Holders.

- Councillor Butland, Leader of the Council (Page 17)
- Councillor Walters, Environment and Sustainability (Page 19)
- Councillor Harley, Enterprise and Culture (Page 23)
- Councillor Mrs Beavis, Customers and Communication (Page 25)
- Councillor Lager, Efficiency and Resources (Page 28)
- Councillor Lady Newton, Housing and Well-Being (Page 29)
- Councillor Mrs Schmitt, Communities (Page 31)

Under this item, Members may also ask questions without notice to the Leader or any Member of the Cabinet on any non-operational matter in which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district or its inhabitants. (Procedure rules 18.2 and 18.8 apply)

(Please note that the time set aside for this item shall not exceed 30 minutes)

- (ii) **Chairmen's Reports.** To receive reports from those Chairmen who have given prior notification in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 18.7 and to respond to questions on such reports. *None have been received.*

- (iii) To raise any matters arising from published **minutes of meetings that have been held in public session** since the last Council meeting on 14th December 2009. (Paper attached – Page 33)

12. To receive reports about and receive questions and answers on the **business of external organisations**.

Exclusion of Public and Press: - To give consideration to adopting the following Resolution: -

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the relevant paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act.

PRIVATE SESSION

13. **Statements by Members – Private Session**

To receive and give responses to statements by Members which contain confidential or exempt information of which the appropriate written notice has been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 18.4(a). The Chairman will invite the Leader or relevant Cabinet Member to comment on each statement.

There are no statements

(Please note that the maximum time set aside for item 13 shall not exceed 30 minutes)

14. **Question Time - Private Session**

- (i) **Leader's Statement** or statement by Cabinet Members containing exempt information on a key issue.
- (ii) **Oral questions** without notice to the Leader on any non-operational matter in which the Council has powers or duties or which affects the district or its inhabitants and which contain exempt information. (Procedure rules 18.2 and 18.8 apply) [*The Leader may respond directly, request another Cabinet Member to respond, provide a written response after the meeting or, if the question relates to an operational matter, request that the appropriate officer deals with the issue outside the Council meeting*]

(Please note that the time set aside for item 14 (ii) shall not exceed 30 minutes)

- (iii) **Chairmen's Statements.** To receive statements containing exempt information from those Chairmen who have given prior notification in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 18.7 and to respond to questions on such statements - *There are none.*
- (iv) To raise any matters arising from published **minutes of meetings that have been held in private session** since the last Council meeting on 14th December 2009.

15. **Private Session Policy Recommendations.** To consider any policy recommendations (in private session) which have arisen since the last Council meeting. *There are none.*

If you are unable to attend the meeting please forward your apologies for absence to Eileen Self on (01376) 551414 or email eileen.self@braintree.gov.uk The last page of this agenda is numbered 33.

A J REID
Chief Executive

Health and Safety

Any persons attending meetings in the Council offices are requested to take a few moments to familiarise themselves with the nearest available fire exit, indicated by the fire evacuation signs. In the event of a continuous alarm sounding during the meeting, you must evacuate the building immediately and follow all instructions provided by the fire evacuation officer who will identify him/herself should the alarm sound. You will be assisted to the nearest designated assembly point until it is safe to return to the building. Any persons unable to use the stairs will be assisted to the nearest safe refuge.

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Braintree District Council welcomes comments from members of the public in order to make its services as efficient and effective as possible. We would appreciate any suggestions regarding the usefulness of the paperwork for this meeting, or the conduct of the meeting you have attended.

Please let us have your comments setting out the following information

Meeting Attended

Date of Meeting

Comments.....

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Contact details.....