

# COUNCIL

## AGENDA



**THIS MEETING IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

<http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/councildemocracy/committees/Council>

**Date:** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2008

**Time:** 7.15 pm

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

### Membership:

Councillor J E Abbott	Councillor M G Gage	Councillor J P O'Reilly-Cicconi
Councillor M J Banthorpe	Councillor Mrs M E Galione	Councillor Mrs R O'Shea
Councillor Miss L Barlow	Councillor J E B Gyford	Councillor Mrs J A Pell
Councillor J Baugh	Councillor N R H O Harley	Councillor R Ramage
Councillor Mrs J C Beavis	Councillor Mrs S A Howell	Councillor D M Reid
Councillor D L Bebb	Councillor P J Hughes	Councillor D E A Rice
Councillor E Bishop	Councillor D L Hume	Councillor Mrs C Sandbrook
Councillor R J Bolton	Councillor M C M Lager	Councillor Mrs W D Scattergood
Councillor G Butland	Councillor S J Lambourne	Councillor Mrs J W Schmitt
Councillor J C Collar	Councillor E R Lynch	Councillor A F Shelton
Councillor M Dunn	Councillor M Lynch	Councillor Mrs L Shepherd
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
Councillor Mrs B A Gage	Councillor Lady Newton (Chairman)	<i>Vacancy</i>

### 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 Law & Governance Section on 01376 551414 or e-mail [eileen.self@braintree.gov.uk](mailto: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 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.**
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 held on 21<sup>st</sup> July 2008. (Copy previously circulated)
5. **Question Time.** (See above paragraph)
6. **Task and Finish Groups**
  - (i) Review of Fees and Charges Policy. Report enclosed (Councillor Mrs Sandbrook – Chairman)
  - (ii) Rural Isolation. (Report previously circulated) (Councillor Mrs Spray – Chairman)

Following discussion at this meeting, the recommendations will be considered at the next Cabinet meeting.

7. **Policy Recommendations and References.**

To consider any other policy recommendations and references which have arisen within the last meetings' cycle.

- Cabinet 1<sup>st</sup> September 2008 - Braintree District Strategic Assessment & Annual Partnership Plan. Extract of minutes and report attached – Page 1.

8. **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 10.4(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 8 shall not exceed 30 minutes)*

9. **Question Time**

- (i) **Leader's Statement** or statement by Cabinet Members 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. (Procedure rules 10.2 and 10.8 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 9 (ii) shall not exceed 30 minutes)*

- (iii) **Chairmen's Statements.** To receive statements from those Chairmen who have given prior notification in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.7 and to respond to questions on such statements. *None have been received.*
- (iv) To raise any matters arising from **meetings that have been held in public session.** (Paper attached – Page 13)

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

- Councillor Mrs Sandbrook as representative on the Braintree College Governing Body – to receive a report on the proposed merger

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

11. **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 10.4(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 11 shall not exceed 30 minutes)*

## 12. 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 10.2 and 10.8 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 12(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 10.7 and to respond to questions on such statements - *There are none.*
- (iv) To raise any matters arising from **meetings that have been held in private session** – *There are none.*

13. **Private Session Policy Recommendations.** To consider any policy recommendations (in private session) which have arisen within the last meetings' cycle – *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](mailto:eileen.self@braintree.gov.uk) The last page of this agenda is numbered 13.

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.

### **Mobile Phones**

Please ensure that your mobile phone is switched to silent or is switched off during the meeting.

Agendas, reports and minutes for all the Council's public meetings can be accessed via the internet at <http://www.braintree.gov.uk/Braintree/councildemocracy>

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.....