

Minutes

Council Meeting



26th July 2021

These Minutes principally record decisions taken and, where appropriate, the reasons for the decisions. An audio recording of the meeting is available for six months at www.braintree.gov.uk

Present:

Councillors	Present	Councillors	Present
Councillor J Abbott	Yes	Councillor Mrs J Pell	Yes
Councillor J Baugh	Apologies	Councillor I Pritchard	Yes
Councillor Mrs J Beavis	Yes	Councillor M Radley	Yes
Councillor K Bowers	Yes	Councillor S Rehman	Yes
Councillor G Butland	Yes	Councillor F Ricci	Yes
Councillor J Coleridge	Apologies	Councillor B Rose	Yes
Councillor G Courtauld	Yes	Councillor Mrs J Sandum	Yes
Councillor Mrs M Cunningham	Yes	Councillor Miss V Santomauro	Yes
Councillor T Cunningham	Yes	Councillor Mrs W Scattergood	Yes
Councillor Mrs C Dervish	Yes	Councillor Mrs W Schmitt	Yes
Councillor P Euesden	Yes	Councillor P Schwier	Yes
Councillor T Everard	Yes	Councillor Mrs G Spray	Yes
Councillor Mrs D Garrod	Yes	Councillor P Tattersley	Yes
Councillor A Hensman (Vice-Chairman)	Yes	Councillor P Thorogood	Apologies
Councillor S Hicks	Yes	Councillor N Unsworth	Yes
Councillor P Horner		Councillor R van Dulken	Yes
Councillor D Hume	Apologies	Councillor D Wallace	Yes
Councillor H Johnson	Apologies	Councillor T Walsh	Apologies
Councillor Mrs A Kilmartin	Yes	Councillor Mrs L Walters	Yes
Councillor W Korsinah	Apologies	Councillor Miss M Weeks	Yes
Councillor D Mann	Yes	Councillor D White	Yes
Councillor T McArdle	Yes	Councillor Mrs S Wilson (Chairman)	Yes
Councillor J McKee	Yes	Councillor J Wrench	Yes
Councillor A Munday	Yes	Councillor B Wright	Yes
Councillor Mrs I Parker	Yes		

Councillor Mrs S Wilson, Chairman of the Council welcomed everyone to the Council meeting, which was being held 'in person' at Braintree Arts Theatre, Notley Road, Braintree.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

INFORMATION: The following interests were declared:-

Councillor J Abbott declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 8 – ‘Motion by Councillor J Abbott – Targets for Tree Planting and Community Woodlands in Braintree District’ as a member of the Essex Climate Action Commission.

Councillor Abbott declared a non-pecuniary interest also in Agenda Item No. 11 – ‘Horizon 120 Revised Local Development Order and Design Code and Proposed Wayfinding Strategy’ in his role as a Member of Braintree District Council’s Horizon 120 Project Reference Group.

Councillor G Butland declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest as an Elected Member of Essex County Council, particularly in respect of Agenda Item 8 – ‘Motion by Councillor J Abbott – Targets for Tree Planting and Community Woodlands in Braintree District’ as he was an Executive Member for the Essex Forest Initiative.

Councillor Butland declared a non-pecuniary interest also in Agenda Item No. 11 – ‘Horizon 120 Revised Local Development Order and Design Code and Proposed Wayfinding Strategy’ in his capacity as a Member of Great Notley Parish Council, which had submitted representations about the revised Local Development Order/Design Code and proposed Wayfinding Strategy following consultation.

Councillor T Cunningham declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest as an Elected Member of Essex County Council.

Councillor Cunningham declared a non-pecuniary interest also in Agenda Item No. 11 – ‘Horizon 120 Revised Local Development Order and Design Code and Proposed Wayfinding Strategy’ in his capacity as a Member of Great Notley Parish Council, which had submitted representations about the revised Local Development Order/Design Code and proposed Wayfinding Strategy following consultation.

Councillor S Hicks declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 13, ‘Cabinet Report to Full Council,’ as a contractor for the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA). Councillor Hicks stated that he had no knowledge of the inspection carried out by the DVSA, which had assessed the legal compliance of the Council’s Transport Service with its Operator’s Licence.

Councillor F Ricci declared a non-pecuniary interest in Agenda Item No. 11 – ‘Horizon 120 Revised Local Development Order and Design Code and Proposed Wayfinding Strategy’ in his capacity as Vice-Chairman of Great Notley Parish Council, which had submitted representations about the revised Local Development Order/Design Code and proposed Wayfinding Strategy following consultation.

Councillor P Schwier declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest as an Elected Member of Essex County Council.

Councillor N Unsworth declared a Non-Pecuniary Interest in Agenda Item 8 - ‘Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan Adoption’ as a Member of Coggeshall Parish Council. Councillor Unsworth stated that he was not a member of Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan Group.

In accordance with the Code of Conduct, Councillors remained in the meeting, unless stated otherwise and took part in the debate and decision when the Items were considered.

26 **MINUTES**

DECISION: The Minutes of the meeting of Full Council held on 7th June 2021 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

27 **QUESTION TIME**

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

28 **TO RECEIVE ANY ANNOUNCEMENTS/STATEMENTS FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND/OR LEADER OF THE COUNCIL**

The Chairman's announcements covered the following:

The Queen's Birthday Honours for 2021

The Chairman was very pleased to announce that two residents of the Braintree District had been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours and that she had written to the recipients to congratulate them.

The awards were Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) for services to construction; and the British Empire Medal (BEM) for services to the food supply chain during Covid-19.

Councillor G Butland, Leader of the Council, made the following announcement:

Retirement of Mr Trevor Wilson - Head of Finance

The Leader of the Council stated that Trevor Wilson, Head of Finance would be retiring in August 2021 after 33 years' service to the Council. The Leader thanked Trevor for his huge contribution to the Council and to the residents of the Braintree District and he thanked Trevor for his consistent wisdom, knowledge and advice. On behalf of the Council, the Leader thanked Trevor for his service and he wished him a long and happy retirement.

Councillor J Abbott, Leader of the Green and Independent Group, Councillor D Mann, Leader of the Labour Group and Councillor Mrs J Pell, Leader of Halstead Residents Association thanked Trevor for always being approachable, helpful, polite and kind and being able to explain the difficult subject of local government finance in a clear and understandable way. Councillors Abbott, Mann and Mrs Pell wished Trevor a long and happy retirement.

29 **CUSTOMER SERVICES EXCELLENCE AWARD**

INFORMATION: The Chairman invited Councillor J McKee, Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Transformation, to present the Customer Service Excellence Award to the Council.

Councillor McKee stated that this year's corporate Customer Services Excellence assessment had taken place virtually. This had been the sixth annual assessment and the feedback from the assessor had been extremely complimentary. The Council had been praised for its insight into commercial and business areas and its approach to the Covid-19 pandemic. Partnership working, communications and the organisation's culture had also been commended. The Council had retained 'compliance plus' in three areas and had gained 'compliance plus' in four areas, which equated to a total of 21 areas of 'compliance plus' over a rolling programme of three years.

Councillor McKee thanked everyone for their hard work, which had culminated in the achievement of the award and a positive assessment in a difficult year.

30 **MOTION BY COUNCILLOR G BUTLAND – EUROPEAN FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2020**

INFORMATION: Consideration was given to a Motion submitted by Councillor G Butland. Appropriate Notice of the Motion had been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedural Rule 12.17 of Chapter 2 of the Council's Constitution.

The Motion:

'This Council congratulates the England football team on reaching the Final of the European Championship 2020.

In addition to acknowledging their success on the field the Council believes that, under the leadership of Gareth Southgate, the team behaved in a way that lifted the spirit of the country and set an excellent example to young sportspersons.'

There followed a discussion on the Motion.

On being put to vote the Motion was declared **CARRIED.**

In supporting this Motion, Members agreed that the Chairman of the Council should write to Gareth Southgate and the England team to congratulate them on their achievements.

31 **MOTION BY COUNCILLOR J ABBOTT – TARGETS FOR TREE PLANTING AND COMMUNITY WOODLANDS IN BRAINTREE DISTRICT**

INFORMATION: Consideration was given to a Motion submitted by Councillor J Abbott. Appropriate Notice of the Motion had been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedural Rule 12.17 of Chapter 2 of the Council's Constitution.

The Motion:

'Targets for Tree Planting and Community Woodlands in Braintree District

Council notes the multiple benefits of planting trees and public access woodlands - including improved health for residents, habitat and species gain, improved air quality, reduced flooding and combating climate change.

Council also notes the national tree planting project for The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) which is an initiative created to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Council recognises and welcomes the Essex Forest Initiative being led by Essex County Council which aims to plant 375,000 trees by 2024 with an ambition for a million new trees by 2030 across the county. The Essex Climate Action Commission Interim Report states that 'The main driver behind the initiative is to lock up carbon and offset the carbon produced which is contributing to ongoing climate change'.

Council notes that as part of the county-wide tree planting initiative, neighbouring authorities of Colchester and Chelmsford have set substantial tree planting targets.

Council therefore agrees that to demonstrate ambition in Braintree District and to support both national efforts and the wider Essex programme of aiming to plant a million new trees, this authority will set specific tree planting targets, which will include new community woodlands, and that these will be included in the final Climate Change Strategy, Action Plan and other relevant documents.

Council invites the Climate Change Working Group to develop the details of the targets, to be later ratified by Full Council.'

Members of the Council were advised, that in accordance with Council Procedural Rule 12.20 of Chapter 2 of the Council's Constitution Councillor Mrs W Schmitt had proposed an amendment to the Motion. This proposal had been seconded by Councillor G Butland.

Councillor J Abbott and Councillor Unsworth, as the Proposer and Seconder of the original Motion, had accepted the amendment in advance of the meeting. The amended Motion had therefore become the Substantive Motion as follows (changes from the original are shown in italics and underlined):-

The Substantive Motion (following amendment of the original Motion)

'Targets for Tree Planting and Community Woodlands in Braintree District

Council notes the multiple benefits of planting trees and public access woodlands - including improved health for residents, habitat and species gain, improved air quality, reduced flooding and combating climate change.

Council also notes the national tree planting project for The Queen's Green Canopy (QGC) which is an initiative created to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Council recognises and welcomes the Essex Forest Initiative being led by Essex County Council which aims to plant 375,000 trees by 2024 with an ambition for a million new trees by 2030 across the county. The Essex Climate Action Commission Interim Report states that 'The main driver behind the initiative is to lock up carbon and offset the carbon produced which is contributing to ongoing climate change'.

Council notes that as part of the county-wide tree planting initiative, neighbouring authorities of Colchester and Chelmsford have set substantial tree planting targets.

Council therefore agrees that to demonstrate ambition in Braintree District and to support both national efforts and the wider Essex programme of aiming to plant a million new trees, this authority will set specific tree planting targets, which may include new community woodlands where achievable.

Council invites the Climate Change Working Group to develop the details of the targets, for consideration by Full Council.'

There followed a discussion on the Substantive Motion.

On being put to vote the Motion, as amended, was declared **CARRIED**.

32 **MOTION BY COUNCILLOR T CUNNINGHAM – SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AND JOBS THROUGH THE PANDEMIC**

INFORMATION: Consideration was given to a Motion submitted by Councillor T Cunningham. Appropriate Notice of the Motion had been given to the Chief Executive in accordance with Council Procedural Rule 12.17 of Chapter 2 of the Council's Constitution.

The Motion:

'This Council acknowledges the support that businesses and their employees have received during the pandemic from the Government, enabling a 'plan for jobs' that has ensured:

- 11.6 million jobs supported through Furlough,
- 70,000 Apprentices hired,
- 40,000 kickstart jobs started by young people.

This Council also commends the work of both Essex County Council and Braintree District Council in supporting businesses and would continue to recommend all levels of Government work together to support economic recovery and renewal, so our area can bounce back better'.

There followed a discussion on the Motion.

On being put to vote the Motion was declared **CARRIED**.

33 **COGGESHALL NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ADOPTION**

INFORMATION: Consideration was given to a report on the adoption of the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan. Once approved, the Neighbourhood Plan could be used in the determination of planning applications within the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan area.

In accordance with the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012, Coggeshall Parish Council had applied for the Parish to be designated as a Neighbourhood Area and this designation had been confirmed on 14th August 2015.

Following submission of the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan to the District Council, the Plan had been subject to public consultation. Subsequently, the District Council in

agreement with the Parish Council had appointed an independent examiner to review if the Neighbourhood Plan met the basic conditions required by legislation and whether it could proceed to a referendum. The examiner's reports published in October and December 2020 had concluded, that subject to modifications the Plan did meet the basic conditions. A referendum had been held on 6th May 2021 at which 89.64% of those people who had voted had supported the Neighbourhood Plan. In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) the District Council was required to 'make' a Neighbourhood Plan if more than half of those voting voted in favour of the Plan unless this would breach, or would otherwise be incompatible with a European Union obligation, or any Convention rights within the meaning of the Human Rights Act 1998.

It was therefore proposed that the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan should be 'made', that it should form part of Braintree District Council's Development Plan, and that the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan Regulation 19 Decision Statement attached at Appendix 1 to the report should be approved.

DECISION: That the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan – Regulation 19 Decision Statement attached at Appendix 1 to the Agenda report be approved, and the Coggeshall Neighbourhood Plan made under Section 38A(4) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended).

34 **HORIZON 120 – REVISED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT ORDER AND DESIGN CODE AND PROPOSED WAYFINDING STRATEGY**

INFORMATION: Consideration was given to a report on the proposed revision of the Local Development Order (LDO) and accompanying Design Code for the Horizon 120 Business and Innovation Park, and a proposed Wayfinding Strategy for the site. The proposals had been considered and supported by the Council's Planning Committee on 20th July 2021.

Braintree District Council had made the LDO in April 2020 pursuant to Section 61A (2) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended). The LDO provided planning permission for the development of a range of employment uses at Horizon 120, subject to conditions and limitations. The LDO was accompanied by a Design Code, which set further parameters for the development of the site, including the design of buildings, landscaping and parking standards.

The Council proposed to make a new LDO for the Horizon 120 site and to amend the accompanying Design Code. A Wayfinding Strategy was also proposed. The proposed revisions to the LDO and Design Code reflected changes in national policy and legislation, including amendments to the Use Classes Order. Other changes were proposed in respect of the floorspace cap and in response to the experience of working with the LDO and the Design Code to date. The proposed changes to the LDO were summarised in the Agenda report. No changes were proposed to the arrangement of the Zones across the Horizon 120 site.

It was reported that the Government had amended the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987 to provide flexibility and to enable the use of buildings to change more easily. With regard to the floorspace cap, it was reported that the original LDO had restricted the total gross internal floor area within the Horizon 120 site to 65,000sq.m. This restriction had been imposed based on the transport

assessment analysis undertaken at the time and had sought to ensure that proposals did not have a detrimental impact on the strategic and local highway networks. The revised LDO sought to amend this restriction by increasing the floorspace cap to 75,000sq.m.

The Wayfinding Strategy reflected the aspirations for the Horizon 120 site and it set out how wayfinding proposals would be implemented, particularly with regard to signage, public art, and furniture and exercise equipment.

Public consultation on the revised LDO and Design Code and the proposed Wayfinding Strategy had commenced on 3rd June 2021 and had expired on 15th July 2021. Details of the representations which had been submitted and the Council's response to each of these were set out in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report. It was reported that a late response had been received from the Council's Historic Buildings Consultant who had raised no objection. Following consultation and in response to the representations, it was proposed that some amendments should be made to the LDO and the Design Code. These changes were summarised in Appendix 3 of the report. Reference was made, in particular, to a representation by Highways England. Whilst Highways England had not objected to the proposals, it had requested the inclusion of a condition (G12) within the revised LDO for off-site mitigation. The wording of this condition had subsequently been agreed with Highways England as follows:-

Condition (G12) 'Prior to the occupation of any buildings approved as part of this LDO, a mitigation scheme, outlined for the A120 slip (West) at Panners Interchange for the road marking alterations and additional signage to facilitate the provision of an additional lane as shown in outline on Drawing IT2021/HD/501, shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with Highways England. The approved mitigation scheme, referred to above, shall be completed and open to traffic prior to the occupation of 20,000 sq.m of floor space within the Horizon 120 LDO area or the first occupation of any Primary E(g)(i) Office Development floor space within the Horizon 120 LDO area, whichever is earlier.'

DECISION:

- (1) That the revised Local Development Order and Design Code and the proposed Wayfinding Strategy for Horizon 120 be approved.
- (2) That the existing Local Development Order and Design Code for Horizon 120 be revoked.

35 **APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE - CHANGES**

INFORMATION: Consideration was given to a report on proposed changes to the membership of the Council's Appointments Committee.

It was reported that the Council was required to establish an Appointments Committee as part of the process for recruiting Statutory Officers and Senior Officers. The appointment of a Statutory Officer was made by Full Council following a recommendation from the Appointments Committee and the appointment of a Senior Officer could be made by the Committee itself. The responsibilities and membership of the Committee had been agreed by the Council on 7th October 2019 and these were set out in the Council's Constitution. The Constitution stipulated that the

Appointments Committee should comprise six Members, three of whom had to be the Leader of the Council, the Chairman of the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee and at least one Cabinet Member. Currently, the current membership of the Appointments Committee was the Leader of the Council - Councillor G Butland; the Chairman of the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee - Councillor M Radley; the Leader of Halstead Residents Association - Councillor Mrs J Pell; and three Cabinet Members - Councillor T Cunningham; Councillor J McKee and Councillor Mrs G Spray.

However, it was proposed that a more flexible approach should be taken in future to enable Cabinet Members who had responsibility for the area of work to which the Statutory Officer or Senior Officer was being appointed to be selected as Members of the Appointments Committee and that the Leader of the Council should be authorised to appoint to the seats occupied by Cabinet Members. Furthermore, it was proposed that the seat currently held by the Leader of Halstead Residents Association should instead be held by the Leader of the Opposition. The membership of the Appointments Committee would therefore be the Leader - Councillor G Butland; the Chairman of the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee - Councillor M Radley; the Leader of the Opposition - Councillor J Abbott; and three Cabinet Members to be appointed by the Leader of the Council.

The provision of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 that seats on Council Committees should be allocated on a politically proportionate basis did not apply to the Appointments Committee and it was proposed that this exemption should remain.

DECISION:

- (1) That the membership of the Appointments Committee as contained in paragraph 3.7 of the Agenda report and set out below be approved:-

Leader of the Council - Councillor G Butland
Chairman of the Performance Management Scrutiny Committee - Councillor M Radley
Leader of the Opposition - Councillor J Abbott
Cabinet Member - to be appointed by the Leader of the Council
Cabinet Member - to be appointed by the Leader of the Council
Cabinet Member - to be appointed by the Leader of the Council

- (2) That the Leader of the Council be authorised to make appointments to the three seats allocated to Cabinet Members dependent on the responsibilities of the Statutory Officer or Senior Officer being recruited at the time.

36 CABINET REPORT TO FULL COUNCIL

Before opening the debate, the Chairman reminded Members that following the Council's adoption of a new Constitution, the Procedural Rules relating to this Item had changed.

Each Member may put up to two questions to the Cabinet which would be responded to by the Leader of the Council, or a Cabinet Member. Councillor Abbott, as the Leader of the Opposition may put up to four questions to the Cabinet.

Questions should relate to the functions of the Leader, or a Cabinet Member, the powers and duties of the Council, or matters pertaining to the District. Members may not ask supplementary questions and no statements may be made.

Where a response cannot be given during the meeting, a written answer will be issued within 10 working days of the meeting and circulated to all Members.

A period of 1 hour will be allowed for this Item.

INFORMATION: The Chairman invited the Leader of the Council to introduce the Cabinet Report to Full Council. Following this, the Chairman invited Members to ask their questions. Questions were not limited to the content of the report and could be about matters relating to a portfolio, the powers and duties of the Council, or matters pertaining to the District.

In an update to the report, Councillor Mrs G Spray, Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure referred to recent correspondence from the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding proposed reforms to the planning system and, in particular, a national model design code.

Councillor Mrs Spray stated also that a meeting would be taking place on 9th August 2021 between Officers of Braintree District Council and Essex County Council regarding an update to the Silver End Conservation Area Guide. Following this initial meeting further meetings would be arranged, which other representatives would be able to attend.

Members then asked several questions arising from the report. An audio recording of the questions to and the responses of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members is available on the Council's website and its YouTube channel at <https://www.braintree.gov.uk/youtube>

The main topics were as follows:-

- Councillor J Abbott asked whether joint working arrangements between Braintree District Council and Essex County Council would include devolving low risk highway work to Braintree District Council.

Councillor J Abbott referred to the net zero report which had been issued by Essex County Council's Essex Climate Action Commission and he queried whether Braintree District Council's Climate Action Plan should align with the report.

- Councillor J Abbott asked the relevant Cabinet Member if there would be a clear timetable and process for the review of the Silver End Conservation Area Guide and if local representatives would be involved in the review.
- Councillor J Abbott asked the relevant Cabinet Member if he agreed that Essex County Council should repair potholes on roads where these were a danger to cyclists.
- Councillor Mrs J Beavis welcomed the agreement which had been reached for the development of Sible Hedingham Medical Centre, but she queried when other community facilities that had been agreed as part of the Section 106 Agreement for

the development of the former Premdor site at Sible Hedingham would be provided.

- Councillor Mrs C Dervish supported Braintree District Community Safety Partnership's social media campaign during the European Football Championships 'show domestic abuse the red card' and she asked the Cabinet Member if more could be done to stem domestic violence in the community.
- Councillor Mrs D Garrod sought agreement from the Cabinet Member that the transfer of land to a specialist development partner for the development of Sible Hedingham Medical Centre was to be welcomed and that it would assist in improving the health of people in the District.
- Councillor Mrs A Kilmartin asked whether the Council was making plans to commemorate the platinum anniversary of the Queen's reign in 2022.
- Councillor Mrs A Kilmartin queried if additional medical facilities would be provided in Witham to cater for its growing population.
- Councillor Mrs I Parker referred to the Government's proposal to introduce a national model design code for development and she sought agreement from the Cabinet Member that the Council already emphasised the importance of design by engaging a design consultant when required and also via negotiations between applicants and Planning Officers.
- Councillor S Rehman asked the Cabinet Member if he agreed that it had been an amazing achievement by the Council's staff to have collected 20.56% of Council Tax as due at 31st May 2021.
- Councillor Mrs J Sandum queried when the proposed Members' Forum for the consideration of planning applications would commence.
- Councillor N Unsworth asked what progress was being made on the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy.
- Councillor N Unsworth asked for more detail about the District Councils' Network (DCN) meeting which the Leader of the Council had attended on 12th July 2021 regarding proposed waste reforms.
- Councillor J Wrench was pleased that as part of the Spin e-scooter trial in Braintree, e-scooters were being used by businesses on Springwood Industrial Estate, Braintree, but he sought re-assurance that the use was in line with requisite legislation.
- Councillor B Wright stated that some residents of Rivenhall had been advised that they would not be able to register with Silver End Doctors' Surgery. Councillor Wright questioned whether the Council should stop granting planning permission for new development in the area until the capacity of the Surgery had increased.
- Councillor B Wright queried why Braintree District Council owned Silver End Doctors' Surgery if the NHS was responsible for the expansion of the Surgery.

The following actions were agreed in response to questions raised by Members. Written answers would be issued within 10 working days of the meeting and circulated to all Members:-

- Councillor G Butland, Leader of the Council, agreed to provide a written response about the District Councils' Network (DCN) meeting held on 12th July 2021 regarding proposed waste reforms.
- Councillor T Cunningham, Cabinet Member for Economic Growth, agreed to provide a written update on the Spin e-scooter trial within the Braintree District.
- Councillor Mrs G Spray, Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure, agreed to provide a written response regarding progress on the provision of community facilities that had been agreed as part of the Section 106 Agreement for the development of the former Premdor site at Sible Hedingham.
- Councillor Mrs G Spray, Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure, agreed to provide further information if it was available on when the proposed Members' Forum for the consideration of planning applications would commence.
- Councillor Mrs G Spray, Cabinet Member for Planning and Infrastructure, agreed to provide a written response regarding progress on the adoption of the Community Infrastructure Levy.

The meeting commenced at 7.15pm and closed at 9.35pm.

Councillor Mrs S Wilson
(Chairman)