

MEETING OF THE
TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

5 JULY 2016

Present:- Councillors Chapman (Chairman), Platt (Vice-Chairman), Amos, Baker, Bennison, Bray, Broderick, B E Brown, J A Brown, M Brown, Bucke, Calver, Cawthron, Chittock, Coley, Cossens, Davis, Fairley, Ferguson, Fowler, Gray, Griffiths, G V Guglielmi, V E Guglielmi, Heaney, J Henderson, Hones, Honeywood, Howard, Hughes, Khan, King, Land, Massey, McWilliams, Miles, Newton, Nicholls, Parsons, Pemberton, Poonian, Scott, M J Skeels, M J D Skeels, Steady, Stephenson, Stock, Talbot, Turner, Watling, Watson, White, Whitmore, Winfield and Yallop.

In Attendance:- Chief Executive (Ian Davidson), Corporate Director (Corporate Services) (Marty Knappett), Head of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer (Lisa Hastings), Head of Planning Services (Cath Bicknell), Senior Democratic Services Officer (Ian Ford) and Democratic Services Officer (Katie Sullivan)

Also in Attendance:- Management and Members' Support Manager (Karen Neath), Planning and Regulation Manager (Simon Meecham), Senior Development Technician (Mary Foster), Planning Officer (Will Fuller) and Planning Officer (Consultant) (Michael Nartey)

(7.30 p.m. - 9.14 p.m.)

33.. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Callender, Everett, I J Henderson, Porter and Raby.

34. MINUTES

It was moved by Councillor Stock, seconded by Councillor Turner and:

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council, held on Tuesday 17 May 2016, be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Head of Governance and Legal Services & Monitoring Officer (Lisa Hastings) reminded Members of advice that had previously been circulated by her, on 9 June 2016, in relation to the Tendring District Council Local Plan Preferred Options consultation document and Members' interests in relation thereto. That advice had also been read out at the meeting of the Local Plan Committee held on 9 June 2016 and the meeting of the Cabinet held on 10 June 2016. The minutes of the Local Plan Committee recording the advice was contained within the Council Book on page 23.

Councillors Coley, G V Guglielmi and V E Guglielmi each declared a non-pecuniary interest in respect of item A.4 – Tendring District Council Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation insofar as they were Directors of Lawford Housing Enterprise Trust. Councillor G V Guglielmi also stated that he would abstain from voting on that item.

36. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

The Chairman's and Vice-Chairman's engagements for the period 19 May 2016 to 5 July 2016 were tabled at the meeting.

The Chairman congratulated Councillor Stephenson on his recent wedding and Members gave Councillor Stephenson a round of applause.

The Chairman reminded Members that this year's Tendring Hundred Show would take place at Lawford on Saturday 9 July 2016.

The Chairman informed Council that a Chairman's Charity Pig Race Night, in aid of the Swimming Trust and Tendring Specialist Stroke Services, would be held on Friday 2 September 2016 at the Princes Theatre, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea. She urged all Members to attend and support those worthy causes.

The Chairman further informed Council that her Civic Service would be held at Christmas.

37. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There were none on this occasion.

38. STATEMENTS BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

Councillor Mark Stephenson

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Stock, added his personal congratulations to Councillor Stephenson and his Wife, on their recent nuptials.

Great British Coastal Conference

Councillor Stock informed Council that he, together with the Chief Executive, Ian Davidson, had very recently attended the Great British Coastal Conference held in Brighton. Councillor Stock stated that he and Mr Davidson had addressed the Conference immediately after the keynote speech made by the Minister of State for Community Resilience and Coastal Communities, Mark Francois MP. Their speeches had focused on the activities of the Coastal Community Team and all of the other work currently being undertaken in Jaywick and had been well-received with Jaywick quickly becoming the talk of the conference.

European Union Referendum

Councillor Stock thanked and congratulated the Counting Officer, Ian Davidson, and all his officers and polling station staff for yet another flawless exercise of democracy in action despite what had been a massive logistical exercise. Members showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

Councillor Stock then referred to the closeness of the result and the immediate resignation of the Prime Minister and the on-going leadership issues involving the Conservative, Labour and UKIP parties. He stated that it was very important that, whilst a political 'vacuum' continued at Westminster and there was much uncertainty and fear amongst sections of the community as to what the future held, the Council and its Members upheld their role as community leaders and strongly condemned any incidences of racial or xenophobic crime within the District.

To that end, Councillor Stock stated that he wished within a short space of time to issue a joint statement signed by all political group leaders on the Council that made it very clear

that Tendring District Council would not tolerate any incidences of 'hate' crime.

Councillor Stock then responded to questions and matters raised on his statements asked by Councillors Calver, Broderick, Parsons, Bray, Talbot and G V Guglielmi.

39. STATEMENTS BY MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

There were none on this occasion.

40. PETITIONS TO COUNCIL

There were none on this occasion.

41. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 9

There were none on this occasion.

42. QUESTIONS PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 10.2

The Council had received questions from Members in relation to:

- (1) Fatalities on the A133 Little Clacton and Weeley By-Pass;
- (2) Size of the Cabinet; and
- (3) Open Planning Enforcement Cases in Harwich and Dovercourt

Notice of the questions had been given in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 10.2.

Question One

From Councillor Mike Brown to Councillor Neil Stock, Leader of the Council:

"At the Council meeting held on the 5th April 2016 I moved the motion that urgent action be taken to immediately reduce the speed limit and introduce such other safety measures as are possible to reduce the number of accidents occurring on the A133 Weeley & Little Clacton by-pass. Sadly and extremely worryingly another fatal accident has recently occurred on this by-pass leading to 7 deaths in the past year including cyclists and motorists.

Please can the Leader of the Council inform me and this Council what measures have been taken and what progress has been achieved to prevent these accidents occurring?"

Councillor Stock responded as follows:

"Thank you, Madam Chairman and thank you Councillor Brown for your question. Following the Council meeting on 5th April, letters were sent from me to Councillor Bass, Cabinet Member for Infrastructure at Essex County Council and to Bernard Jenkin and Douglas Carswell. A letter was also sent to Councillor Bass from all the members of the Tendring Local Highways Panel. These letters set out the urgent motion agreed unanimously by this Council, expressed the concern felt, and asked for immediate and urgent action to be taken.

Work on a route based strategy for the A133 was already underway by Essex County Council. However, as a result of the recent fatalities the safety assessment, which forms part of this strategy, was immediately refocussed on the area of concern.

The Road Safety Team at Essex County Council has recently issued the following statement:

'Following the fatal collisions that occurred on 12/05/2015, 29/08/2015, 20/02/2016 and 20/03/2016 along the A133 Weeley Bypass, in Tendring, Essex Highways is currently in the process of undertaking a detailed route analysis of the whole length of the A133 to ascertain the potential causes and contributory factors to all of these collisions and whether they can be treated using safety engineering measures.

Part of the detailed route analysis will include a section on the options of potential remedial measures to address these collisions.

The most recent fatal collision which occurred yesterday (12/06/2016) along the A133 will also be incorporated into this detailed route analysis.'

I am sure that we all agree that this level of fatalities on one stretch of road cannot be allowed to continue. I will do everything in my power to ensure that Essex County Council implement appropriate safety measures as soon as possible. Thank you Madam Chairman."

Question Two

From Councillor Mary Newton to Councillor Neil Stock, Leader of the Council:

"In the light of the savings required by Tendring District Council due to the reduction of Government funding, the Council have been forced to reduce the number of Officers and staff.

Without prejudice to the Lady concerned:

Can the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stock, please explain why, when the opportunity recently arose to reduce his Cabinet by one, he chose to adopt another member on to his Cabinet?

Given that in the previous Council the Cabinet was only seven in number."

Councillor Stock responded as follows:

"Thank you Madam Chairman and thank you Councillor Newton for your question. As I explained at the time when I did it I had a thorough and exhaustive look at the actual portfolios themselves which is obviously in my gift to do so as Leader of the Council on roughly the first anniversary of this Administration following the elections last year and I focused on what were the priorities for this Council in terms of Portfolio positions and the number came out at ten. Whilst we still have 60 members on this Council having one-sixth of them in the Executive is not an unreasonable proportion. I think if you look at how Westminster is made up it is interesting to see that when you counted the number of resignations from the Shadow Cabinet I did not realise that there were that many people in the Shadow Cabinet to resign. We have ten people on the Cabinet here at Tendring; we are going to be reducing the size of this Council significantly and at the same time the Cabinet will naturally also reduce in size at that time but at the moment it works well and we have a good team running the Council and I thank you for your question."

Councillor Newton then asked the following supplementary question:

"Do you feel that, in the light of true democracy and the circumstances that this Council's Chief Executive finds himself in, do you actually feel that it was right to shore up your Cabinet and force your will on the people of Tendring by ensuring that the overall decisions go in his party's favour. I say this to Council that from where I sit I do not see democracy in action. I see an Administration Group struggling to stay in charge; where internal

dissension is growing by the actions and decisions of the Leader to the detriment of his own party and moreover to the people of Tendring. Thank you.”

Councillor Stock responded as follows:

“It is difficult to take lessons on party conflict and dissension from someone in UKIP. How many splits? How many Widdicombe Reviews? How many times have we had agenda items about Groups fracturing away from UKIP? You have an MP who thanked you all for electing him as UKIP who can’t stand the sight of any of you.

I don’t see too many splits this side of the room. I think we are all getting on really well. We’re running the Council; we’re being sensible; we’re making good, sensible decisions. There are four different political groups. You have got to remember that somebody has to run this Council. The electorate last year gave us the result they gave us and we have got to make it work. I made it quite clear at that time that I found myself leader of the largest group with 23 Councillors and I felt that I had, not just an opportunity but a duty to try to run the Council. Fine, if everyone had got together, as happened to me in 2007 when I was leading a group of 28 Councillors and all the other political groups got together quite democratically, quite legitimately, I didn’t like it, but they had every right to do it to form an Administration that excluded the largest group. That’s how democracy works. They had the votes. This time I got together with some other Groups. I put an invite out to all Councillors to come together, to work together. Some people wanted to do that, some people didn’t. That’s perfectly fine, that’s democracy. We’ve got the Administration, we’ve got. I’m quite comfortable with that. I think we’re making good decisions for the benefit of the District and we’ll carry on doing that. Thank you, Madam Chairman.”

Question Three

From Councillor Jo Henderson to Councillor Giles Watling, Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration:

“Will the Portfolio Holder for Planning please confirm how many Planning Enforcement files have been open for at least 6 months for sites in Harwich and Dovercourt and advise Members of how many of these are expected to be brought to a successful conclusion within the next 6 months?”

Councillor Watling responded as follows:

“Thank you for your excellent question, Councillor Henderson. Firstly I should point out that the Council’s planning enforcement powers are not an executive function that I am directly responsible for as the Portfolio Holder for Planning and Regeneration. This function is delegated to the Head of Planning, the excellent Cath Bicknell via the Council’s Planning Committee, chaired by the superb Councillor White. Having said all that I am very happy to answer your query.

There are currently 13 enforcement files in the Harwich and Dovercourt areas that have been open for more than six months. It is hoped that all of these can be resolved as quickly as possible but it is important that to recognise that the Council works in line with the Government’s guidance on how to deal with enforcement related matters and, as such, it is not possible to put a definitive date on the conclusion of any particular case. Thank you.”

Councillor Henderson then asked the following supplementary question:

“I thank the Portfolio Holder for his response. The residents of Harwich and Dovercourt would welcome a firmer approach from this Council and can I ask that Officers are able to use their given powers on enforcement instead of letting the developers always have the upper hand knowing that this Council will not carry through enforcement. Thank you.”

Councillor Watling responded as follows:

“Thank you for your supplementary question. I quite understand that it can be really frustrating when you want this resolved. We had a case in Frinton recently which took quite some time. In planning enforcement I’ve discovered that the wheels of God grind very slowly but they do grind exceedingly small and we get there in the end.

In assessing the need for enforcement action, the Council has to bear in mind that it is not an offence to carry out development without firstly obtaining planning permission. The use of planning enforcement powers is discretionary and the Government advises all Councils that they should act proportionately in responding to suspected breaches of planning control power and should only be used where a breach of planning control would unacceptably affect public amenity and that such action would be in the public interest. For example, an enforcement notice should not be issued simply to “regularise” development that is acceptable on its planning merits.

Accordingly, where the Council’s assessment indicates it is likely that unconditional planning permission would be granted for development that has already taken place or where a breach has occurred, the correct approach is to suggest that the owner submits a retrospective application.

Where it is established that a breach is in the public interest to pursue, I am satisfied that the Council’s excellent and hardworking Enforcement Team effectively pursues those breaches. In the recent past, the Council has issued proceedings in the County Court for an injunction where a landowner has failed to comply with the terms of an Enforcement Notice; Temporary Stop Notices have been issued to prevent traveller incursions; and a landowner has been prosecuted for the maximum penalty for allowing the unauthorised occupation of holiday accommodation in the closed season.

We are working very hard and it is worth noting that it is not appropriate to discuss individual cases but I do have here a list of those 13 cases and the action being taken which I am happy to let you have at the end of the meeting. Thank you.”

43. REPORT OF THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

There was no report on this occasion.

44. MINUTES OF COMMITTEES

It was moved by Councillor Stock, seconded by Councillor G V Guglielmi and:

RESOLVED that the minutes of the following Committees, as circulated, be received and noted, subject to the recommendations to Council contained in the Corporate Management Committee minutes and the Local Plan Committee minutes being taken in conjunction with, respectively, Agenda Items 13 and 20:

(a) Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee of Monday 23 May 2016;

(b) Service Development and Delivery Committee of Wednesday 1 June 2016;

(c) Local Plan Committee of Thursday 9 June 2016; and

(d) Corporate Management Committee of Monday 13 June 2016.

45. MOTION TO COUNCIL – PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE COUNCIL'S COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES IN RESPECT OF THE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX SETTING MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Council further considered the following motion, which had been moved by Councillor Chris Amos and seconded by Councillor Paul Honeywood at the meeting of the Council held on 5 April 2016 and which, by a decision of the Council, had stood referred to the Corporate Management Committee for consideration and report:

“(a) That this Council resolves that, with effect from the 2016/2017 Municipal Year, at the ordinary meeting of the Council at which the Council's Budget and Council Tax is approved and set no other significant business will be included on the Agenda of that meeting;

(b) That, consequently, the Council's Constitution be amended by the insertion of a new “Council Procedure 2 – Budget and Council Tax Setting Meeting of the Council” and that the subsequent Council Procedure Rules be renumbered accordingly and that all necessary textual amendments be made thereto;

(c) That the wording of the new Council Procedure Rule 2 – Budget and Council Tax Setting be as follows:

“At the relevant ordinary meeting of the Council when the Council's Budget and Council Tax is approved and set no business except that identified below will be included on the Agenda of the Budget and Council Tax Setting Meeting and all other Council Procedure Rules shall be construed accordingly. The Budget and Council Tax Setting Meeting shall:

- (i) Receive apologies for absence;
- (ii) Elect a person to preside if the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are not present;
- (iii) Deal with any business required by Statute to be dealt with before any other business;
- (iv) Approve the minutes of the last meeting;
- (v) Receive any announcements from the Chairman and/or the Chief Executive and any statements from the Leader of the Council and/or members of the Cabinet;
- (vi) Approve and set the Council's Budget and Council Tax;
- (vii) Deal with any business remaining from the last Council meeting; and
- (viii) Consider any Urgent Matters for Debate

Matters which are not on the agenda and which a Member considers should be reported urgently to the Council may, with the consent of, and in a form approved by, the Chairman, be brought before the meeting by way of a short written statement which shall be read by the Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer or Monitoring Officer, as part of his or her reports and communications. The Member concerned may, by leave of the Chairman, speak on the statement and move a motion unless advised otherwise by the Chief Executive, Section 151 Officer or Monitoring Officer.

(d) That the Council's Monitoring Officer be authorised to make the necessary alterations and amendments to the Constitution to give effect to the above.”

Council was informed that the Corporate Management Committee had considered Councillor Amos' motion at its special meeting held on 13 June 2016. That Committee had then made the following recommendations to Council:

(a) that Councillor Amos' motion to Council be approved and implemented; and

(b) that an additional ordinary meeting of the Council be held on 24 January 2017 (and during every subsequent January thereafter).

It was moved by Councillor Steady, seconded by Councillor Platt and:

RESOLVED (a) that Councillor Amos' motion to Council be approved and implemented; and

(b) that an additional ordinary meeting of the Council be held on 24 January 2017 (and during every subsequent January thereafter).

46. MOTION TO COUNCIL – DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL OFFICES, THORPE ROAD, WEELEY

Council further considered the following motion, which had been moved by Councillor Joy Broderick and seconded by Councillor Colin Winfield at the meeting of the Council held on 17 May 2016 and which, pursuant to Council Procedure Rule 11.4, had stood referred to the Cabinet for consideration and report:

"This Council agrees to sell the premises, Council Offices, Thorpe Road, Weeley for the best possible price.

It is no secret that this Council, like many others, is having to fund serious budget gaps in order to run basic services.

We are looking at a budget gap of £3.5 million over the next two years, we are in crisis. This council is lucky to have a team of fiscally astute officers who have managed to just about keep the Council's head above water - however there is a limit when faced with the task we now face.

We all know that staff numbers have been already cut to the quick so our only option now is look at other areas of expenditure for example to downsize underused or expensive council offices. The obvious choice is the Council's Weeley based building. This building and its running costs is a luxury that the Council can no longer sustain or justify, as I am sure all members of the Council would agree.

It is a remote location to most users, antiquated, uninviting and totally inadequate for planning committee public attendance. This 'mausoleum' sends out a message to Tendring residents and tax payers that Tendring Council is old fashioned and has money to burn.

This Motion suggests that services currently based at Weeley offices be transferred to the Town Hall."

The Cabinet had considered Councillor Broderick's motion, at its meeting held on 10 June 2016 (Minute 21 referred), and Council had before it the Cabinet's recommendation in respect of Councillor Broderick's motion.

Councillor Stock informed Council that a Members' Briefing would be held on Wednesday 17 August 2016 to enable Members to discuss and give their views on the future of the Council's buildings and office accommodation. He urged as many Members as possible to attend.

Councillors Stock, Broderick, Parsons, Heaney, Talbot, Watling, Calver, Bray and G V Guglielmi also participated in the debate.

It was moved by Councillor Stock, seconded by Councillor G V Guglielmi and:

RESOLVED that Councillor Broderick's motion be not supported on the grounds that the issue should be considered as part of the wider savings proposals and therefore it is premature at this stage.

47. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE CABINET – PERFORMANCE REPORT 2016/17 INCLUDING THE CORPORATE PLAN 2016 TO 2020 AND PRIORITIES AND PROJECTS 2016

Council's approval was sought in respect of the Performance Report 2016/17 including the Corporate Plan 2016 to 2020 and Priorities and Projects 2016.

The Cabinet had considered those documents at its meeting held on 10 June 2016 and Council had before it the Cabinet's recommendation.

Councillors Stock, G V Guglielmi and Howard participated in the debate.

It was moved by Councillor Hughes and:

RESOLVED that the Performance Report 2016/17 including the Corporate Plan 2016 to 2020 and Priorities and Projects 2016, as attached at Appendix A to item A.5 of the joint report of the Leader of the Council and the Corporate Services Portfolio Holder considered at the meeting of the Cabinet held on 10 June 2016, be approved.

48. REPORTS SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL BY AN OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

There were none on this occasion.

49. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES

The Chief Executive formally reported that, in accordance with the wishes of the Leaders of the Conservative, Holland-on-Sea Residents' and the Leave The EU (later the Vote Leave) Groups, and the authority delegated to him, the following appointments had been made since the last meeting of the Council:

Community Leadership and Partnerships Committee

Councillor King had been appointed to serve in place of Councillor Broderick.

Human Resources Committee

Councillor Broderick had been appointed to serve in place of Councillor King.

Councillor Porter had been appointed to the Committee.

Licensing and Registration Committee

Councillor Porter had been appointed to the Committee.

Local Plan Committee

Councillor Cawthron had been appointed to the Committee.

Councillor Amos had been appointed to serve in place of Councillor Baker.

Planning Committee

Councillor Baker had been appointed to serve in place of Councillor Nicholls.

Service Development and Delivery Committee

Councillor V E Guglielmi had been appointed to serve in place of Councillor Ferguson.

Standards Committee

Councillor Cawthron had been appointed to the Committee.

The Council noted the foregoing.

50. CHANGE OF NAME OF A POLITICAL GROUP ON TENDRING DISTRICT COUNCIL

The Chief Executive formally reported that, pursuant to Regulation 8(5) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, on 18 May 2016, formal notice was served on the Council by Councillors Peter Cawthron and Alex Porter that they wished to change both the name of their political group (previously Leave The EU) and its Leader and Deputy Leader (previously Councillors Cawthron and Porter respectively).

The formal notices stated that the Leave The EU political group had changed its name to the Vote Leave Group. The Leader of the Vote Leave Group was to be Councillor Porter and Councillor Cawthron was to be the deputy Group Leader.

The Chief Executive further reported that, since the publication of the Council Book, on 23 June 2016, and pursuant to Regulation 10(b) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990, Councillor Peter Cawthron had served formal notice on the Council that he no longer wished to be treated as a member of the Vote Leave political group.

As Regulation 8(1) of the Regulations required a political group to have a minimum of two members this meant that the Vote Leave Group had automatically ceased to exist as mandated in Regulation 8(2).

Council noted the foregoing.

51. REVIEW OF ALLOCATION OF SEATS TO POLITICAL GROUPS

The Chief Executive reported that, following the By-Election held in the St Pauls Ward and the formation of the Tendring Independents Group and in accordance with Section 15(1)(e) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and Regulation 17(b) of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 a review of the allocation of seats to political groups had subsequently been carried out. Following that review and in accordance with the wishes of the affected Group Leaders revised appointments had been made and were set out in the Schedule attached to the Chief Executive's report.

Councillor Calver and Councillor Stock thanked the Senior Democratic Services Officer (Ian Ford) for his hard work in administering the many Widdicombe Rules reviews and Political Group and Committee membership changes that had taken place over the last year. Members showed their appreciation with a round of applause.

It was moved by Councillor Stock, seconded by Councillor G V Guglielmi and:

RESOLVED that, in accordance with the wishes of Group Leaders, Council approves the schedule of Members that it is proposed should serve on each of the Council's Committees and Sub-Committee, which are subject to the Widdicombe Rules.

52. TENDRING DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION

Council's approval was sought in respect of the Tendring District Local Plan Preferred Options Consultation.

The Local Plan Committee had considered the consultation document at its meeting held on 9 June 2016 and Council had before it the Committee's recommendations.

Council also had before it a report of the Head of Planning Services which informed Members of major as well as minor changes to the consultation documents in order to make the Plan up-to-date prior to public consultation and to be consistent in not allocating sites for housing which had been refused permission. Some of those changes were a result of decisions made by the Planning Committee at its meeting held on 14 June 2016. The changes had been made to the Plan attached as Appendix A to the report of the Head of Planning Services and a schedule of those changes was provided in Appendix C thereto.

Members had had circulated to them prior to the commencement of the meeting amended maps in relation to Great Bentley and Frinton, Walton, Kirby-le-Soken, Kirby Cross and Great Holland. Those maps had been altered as a result of the recent refusal of related planning applications.

Councillor Stock, Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, thanked the Members of that Committee and the Officers, particularly the Head of Planning Services (Cath Bicknell) and the Planning & Regulation Manager (Simon Meecham), for their hard work and dedicated effort in getting the Local Plan to its current position. He also thanked the members of the public and representatives of parish councils who had participated in the public speaking scheme at meetings of the Local Plan Committee.

Councillors Stock, Turner, Scott, Winfield, Parsons, Stephenson, Calver, Bray, V E Guglielmi, Howard, G V Guglielmi, Coley, Broderick and M Brown participated in the debate.

It was moved by Councillor Stock, seconded by Councillor Turner and RESOLVED that Council:

(a) approves the content of the Tendring District Local Plan Preferred Options consultation document, attached as Appendix A to the Report of the Head of Planning Services, which incorporates the changes set out in Appendix C thereto and including the amended maps for Great Bentley and Frinton, Walton, Kirby-le-Soken, Kirby Cross and Great Holland, as circulated, for public consultation for a period of eight weeks;

(b) delegates authority to the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, to make minor amendments to the text of the Local Plan consultation documents up to the point of publication for consultation purposes. Such amendments are to be circulated to all Members of the Council prior to the commencement of the public consultation; and

(c) delegates authority to the Head of Planning Services, in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, to agree the content of the Sustainability Appraisals for the Local Plan Consultation Documents for public consultation for a period of six weeks. The content of the Sustainability Appraisals are to be circulated to all Members of the Council prior to the commencement of the public consultation.

NOTES: (1) in accordance with the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 18.5, Councillors Bray, Broderick, Parsons and Whitmore each requested that they be recorded in the minutes as having voted against the above decisions; and

(2) in addition, Councillor G V Guglielmi requested that he be recorded in the minutes as having abstained from voting on the above decisions.

53. URGENT MATTERS FOR DEBATE

There were none on this occasion.

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There were none on this occasion.

Chairman