EXTRAORDINARY ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT COMMITTEE held at COUNCIL OFFICES SAFFRON WALDEN at 6.30 pm on 3 FEBRUARY 2004

Present:- Councillor A R Thawley – Chairman.

Councillors C A Cant, K J Clarke, C M Dean, C D Down and

E Tealby-Watson.

Also present at the Chairman's invitation:- Councillor M A Gayler.

Officers in attendance:- M Cox, J B Dickson and B D Perkins.

ET55 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor E J Godwin.

ET56 POLICY PRIORITIES AND BUDGETS 2004/05

At the meeting on 13 January 2004, the Committee had decided not to give final approval to the proposed car parking charges increase. This had created a shortfall of £137,000. The Resources Committee at its meeting on 22 January 2004 had decided to accept saving proposals, exceeding the saving target set for its own services by £84,000. This largely off-set this Committee's shortfall, but leaving a further £53,000 to be found to achieve the Council's overall spending and Council Tax level plan. Officers had met and examined the complete committee budget in some detail.

A list of ideas for reductions had been prepared and these options were put before the Committee for approval. Members discussed these options and made a number of comments. With regards to the newly announced DEFRA recycling grant, Members said it would be useful for a report to be prepared for a future meeting giving details of the new grants for recycling and how they were to be spent.

RESOLVED that the Committee approves the savings contained in paragraph 5 of the report and informs the Resources Committee of its decision.

The meeting ended at 6.45 pm.