

DECISION LIST

COMMUNITY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING – 22 JANUARY 2009

AGENDA ITEM	ITEM	DECISION	REASON	OFFICER
5	Lead Officer's report	RESOLVED to note the report of the Lead Officer.		DB
6	Potential redevelopment of Holloway Crescent and Holloway Close	RESOLVED to note the consultation work carried out by officers.		RM
7	Community Committee Revenue Budget 2009/10	RESOLVED to approve its 2009/10 revenue budget as shown in the appendix to the report.	As part of the budget setting process, taking into account contractual commitments to staff, suppliers and service users; reflecting realistic estimates of activity levels; and reflecting fees and charges previously approved.	SJ
8	Housing Revenue Account estimates and rent levels 2009/10	RESOLVED to approve, for recommendation to Full Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The Housing Revenue Account 2009/10 original budget as shown in Appendix A to the report 2 An average increase in dwelling rents of 6.07% 3 An increase in garage rents of 6.07% 4 An increase in heating charges of 5.5% and sewerage charges to increase in line with actual costs 5 Confirmation that charges for warden services be set from April 2009 in accordance with the contracts with the Commissioning Body, and that protection be continued for tenants at 31 March 2003 who are ineligible for supporting people grant assistance; 	As part of the budget setting process, taking into account the need for robust financial management; to set an increase in the average weekly rent for Council housing in line with guidance issued by government; to increase garage rents with regard to the same criteria; to increase heating charges to no more than the inflation figure	SJ/RM

		charges for lifeline services similarly to be set from April 2009 in line with the contract with the Commissioning Body.	applied to rents; and to increase sewerage charges to reflect actual costs; to enable continued matching of charges for supporting people Lifeline services to the level of grant rates to be decided by the Commissioning Body	
9	Multi-agency Community Forums	RESOLVED 1 to note the report and questions raised at the January forums 2 to make representations to East Hertfordshire District Council regarding that authority's intention to reduce funding for the Bishop's Stortford Citizen's Advice Bureau, by means of a letter from the Chairman of this Committee.	1 to support partnership consultation 2 to communicate this authority's concern on behalf of Uttlesford residents who use the Bishop's Stortford Citizen's Advice Bureau.	GB/DB
10	Land adjacent to 4 Randall Close, Great Dunmow	RESOLVED to authorise Officers to enter into negotiations regarding sale of an area of land adjacent to Randall Close, Great Dunmow	To enable the resident of 4 Randall Close to buy the land for use as a private garage	EE
11	Lebanon evacuation	RESOLVED to note the report and authorise the Emergency Planning Officer to establish plans for any future evacuation of a similar nature.	To minimise costs and improve efficiency whilst continuing to provide appropriate support to those in humanitarian need.	LL
12	Grant request from Great Dunmow Museum	RESOLVED to recommend to Finance and Administration Committee a grant to the Great Dunmow Museum Society of £2,750 per year for the next three financial years, subject to final budget approval in February, such grant to be conditional on working towards the accreditation standard for museums and specifically on producing a draft Acquisition and Disposal Policy for the Great Dunmow Museum	To enable the Great Dunmow Museum Society to meet the running costs of the Great Dunmow Museum.	CW

		Society's annual general meeting by 31 March 2009.		
13	Museum Resource Centre Project	RESOLVED to note the verbal report of the Curator on the appointment of an architect.		CW
14	Tenant Forum Minutes	RESOLVED to note the Minutes of the Tenant Forum meeting of 3 November 2008.	To inform the Committee of issues raised by the members of the Tenant Forum.	EP

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COMMUNITY AND HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING – 19 MARCH 2009

AGENDA ITEM NO.	ITEM	DECISION	REASON	OFFICER
6	Public Conveniences in Felsted	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That the Committee notes the report and informs Felsted Parish Council, Greene King and the Landlord of affected public house, that it is minded to withdraw its management and maintenance of the public conveniences in Felsted and invites their observations with a view to consideration of them at the next meeting of the Committee.</p>	<p>To consult affected persons before progressing a pilot Community Toilet Scheme in Felsted to replace the existing facilities. Details of any pilot scheme will be brought back to the Committee for approval.</p>	SM
7	Land adjacent to Woodview Road, Great Dunmow	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>that the land be retained for residents parking and the future benefit of tenants.</p>	<p>If the land were sold as garden land it would realise relatively little proceeds and alternative parking facilities would have to be found for those tenants who currently used it.</p>	RM
8	2009/10 Rent Setting	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>(to enable the Notice of Motion to be debated and voted upon) that Procedure rule 9.1 be suspended for the duration of this item</p> <p>RECOMMENDED</p> <p>that the Finance and Administration Committee</p>	<p>In order to enable the Council to respond appropriately to the announced intention of the Government to halve the average guideline rent increase and make funding available to support Councils making this change.</p>	SJ/RM

		<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. agree in principle to amending the 2009/10 rent increase in line with the revised guideline rent increase, subject to there being no adverse financial effect on the Housing Revenue Account greater than £20,0002. delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Head of Housing Services to finalise and implement the revised 2009/10 rent increase in accordance with the above principle.3. delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to make the necessary budgetary adjustments within the Housing Revenue Account.4. approve the action set out in the notice of motion placed before the Community and Housing Committee on 19 March 2009 <p>at the appropriate time makes vigorous representations to the DCLG about the inconsiderate timing of its announcement halving the guideline rent increase.</p>		
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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE – 20 JANUARY 2009

Agenda Item No	Item	Decision	Reason	Officer
6	Environment Committee Budget 2009/10	RECOMMENDED that the 2009/10 revenue budget as set out in appendix A to the report be approved.	As part of the budget setting progress	AK
7	Local Development Scheme – 3 rd revision	RESOLVED that 1. the committee approve the revised LDS for submission to the Secretary of State. 2. A cross party workshop be held to agree a process for future consultations.	To agree the programme for the preparation of the LDF.	RH
8	River Bourn flood study Ashdon	RESOLVED that the Committee give its support to the ongoing programme of action proposed and agree to lobby for the River Bourn through Ashdon to be designated a “main river” enabling the Environment Agency to take the lead in the matter and also to ask Essex County Council to complete its work in this area.	To address the issue of flooding in Ashdon	PH

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ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING – 17 MARCH 2009

AGENDA ITEM.	ITEM	DECISION	REASON	OFFICER
6	Car park lighting policy Fairycroft Car Park	<p>RESOLVED</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 A trial period of 12 months be approved after which an evaluation is undertaken and reported to Members to enable a way forward to be agreed. 2 That Officers are authorized to commence a trial in accordance with option 3 in the report, ie that the lights on the ground floor only remain on all night and the remainder are turned off at midnight until 5 a.m. 3 Officers are further delegated authority to curtail the trial without notice should there be deemed a threat to community safety due to this trial and report back to Members at the meeting following this concern. 	To evaluate the options for reducing the lighting at the car park following a request to the Council.	DB
7	Response to the Government's consultation on its draft Eco-towns Planning Policy Statement	<p>RESOLVED</p> <p>That a robust report rebutting the Elsenham Eco town proposal be submitted for endorsement at the Full Council meeting on 21 April 2009.</p>	To reiterate the Committee's opposition to an Eco Town at this location, as resolved by Full Council on 22 April 2008.	RH

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FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING – 10 FEBRUARY 2009

AGENDA ITEM	ITEM	DECISION	REASON	OFFICER
5	Housing Revenue Account 2009/10	<p>RESOLVED To recommend to Full Council approval of the following, as set out in the report before the Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 The Housing Revenue Account 2009/10 original budget as shown in Appendix A to the report 7 An average increase in dwelling rents of 6.07% 8 An increase in garage rents of 6.07% 9 An increase in heating charges of 5.5% and sewerage charges of 5%. 5 Confirmation that charges for warden services be set from April 2009 in accordance with the contracts with the Commissioning Body, and that protection be continued for tenants at 31 March 2003 who are ineligible for supporting people grant assistance; charges for lifeline services similarly to be set from April 2009 in line with the contract with the Commissioning Body. 	To progress the Housing Revenue Account budget setting process.	SJ
6	Capital Programme 2008/09 to 2011/12	RESOLVED To recommend to Full Council the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix A to the report before the Committee.	To progress the Capital Programme.	TC
7	Treasury Management Strategy & Prudential Indicators 2009/10-2011/12	<p>RESOLVED To recommend to Full Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 The treasury management strategy as set out in the report before the Committee, subject to the following addition at 2 below 2 The Council to delegate authority to amend the financial 	To set out how risks in investing temporary cash surpluses will be managed.	SJ

		<p>strategy to the Chief Finance Officer jointly with the Chairman of Finance and Administration Committee</p> <p>3 Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix A to the report</p>		
8	Robustness of Estimates and Adequacy of Reserves	<p>RESOLVED To recommend to Full Council approval of the following:</p> <p>1 the minimum safe contingency level for 2009/10 at £1,084,543</p> <p>2 the risk assessment relating to the robustness of estimates as detailed in the report</p> <p>3 to take account of the advice in the report when determining the 2009/10 General Fund budget and Council Tax.</p>	To take into account the report of the Section 151 Officer under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003, applicable to the setting of the General Fund budget and Council Tax for 2009/10.	SJ
9	General Fund and Council Tax 2009/10	<p>RESOLVED To recommend to Full Council approval of the following:</p> <p>1 Approve for recommendation to Council the General Fund budget requirement of £8,769,838, as summarised in paragraph 26 and detailed in Appendices A to F.</p> <p>2 Approve for recommendation to Council the District Council Tax precept of £4,638,403, representing an increase of 4.875% on Council Tax.</p>	To progress the budget setting process.	SJ
10	Medium Term Financial Strategy	<p>RESOLVED To recommend to Full Council approval of the Medium Term Financial Strategy as set out in the report before the Committee.</p>	To identify and plan for financial challenges during the next few years.	SJ

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FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE MEETING – 26 MARCH 2009

AGENDA ITEM	ITEM	DECISION	REASON	OFFICER
5	Lead Officer's Report – Historical balance of VAT	RESOLVED to make written representations to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Local Government Minister and local Member of Parliament protesting at the decision of the HMRC.	To persuade them to reverse the HRMC refusal to repay money obtained by them due to mistake..	SJ
6	2008/09 Forecast Outturn	RESOLVED To approve the report of the Chief Finance Officer generally including the references to the contingency fund in paragraph 15.	To progress the financial recovery..	SJ
10	Rent Setting 2009/10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. RESOLVED to agree in principle to amending the 2009/10 rent increase in line with the revised guideline rent increase, subject to there being no adverse financial effect on the Housing Revenue Account greater than £20,000 2. delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Head of Housing Services to finalise and implement the revised 2009/10 rent increase in accordance with the above principle. 3. delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer to make the necessary budgetary adjustments within the Housing Revenue Account. 4. approve the action set out in the notice of 	In order to enable the Council to respond appropriately to the announced intention of the Government to halve the average guideline rent increase and make funding available to support Councils making this change.	SJ

		<p>motion placed before the Community and Housing Committee on 19 March 2009, as amended by that Committee.</p> <p>5. at the appropriate time make vigorous representations to the DCLG about the inconsiderate timing of its announcement halving the guideline rent increase.</p> <p>6. to report these matters to the next meeting of the Full Council.</p>		
13	Write-off	RESOLVED to approve the write off in the sum of £10,620.44	To resolve a situation regarding uncollectable debt.	