

DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
3rd APRIL 2008

- * Cllr. Mrs. S.A. Stavrou (Chairman)
- * “ A.B. Clark (Deputy Chairman)
- * “ Mrs. P.C. Brooks
- * “ S.C. Pryde
- “ W.J. Pryor
- * “ A.P. Watts
- “ Mrs. E.A. Webster

* Denotes Members Present.

In attendance: Town Clerk.

991. **Apologies for Absence:** Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Pryor and Cllr. Collier.

992. **Declarations of Interest:**

Member	Item	Interest	Reason	Action
Cllr. Mrs. E. Webster	ECC Municipal Waste Strategy	Personal	County Member for Waltham Abbey	Remained
Cllr. A.P. Watts	Hillhouse (COE) School	Personal	Related to staff member.	Remained
Cllr. S. Pryde	Hillhouse (COE) School	Personal	Member's children attend the school.	Remained
Cllr. S. Pryde	Planning Application EPF/2732/07	Personal	Friend of Applicant.	Remained

993. **Minutes:** RESOLVED – THAT the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17th January 2008, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Members, be taken as read, approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

994. **Public Questions:** There were no public questions.

995. **Planning Applications:** Members referred to lists of planning applications previously considered by the Town Council and showing District Council's decision/current situation. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

996. **Magic Lakes, Pick Hill – Vehicle Operators Licence:** The Town Clerk informed Members that he had been advised by VOSA that the application had been withdrawn. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT a) the information be noted and
b) the decision form the basis of an item in the next edition of the Town Crier.

997. **Town Centre Partnership:** Members referred to correspondence from Ian Willett, Assistant to the Chief Executive at Epping Forest District Council, setting out the remit of the Town Centre Partnership in relation to Planning Applications and advising Members of the action they should take. The Chairman added that Planning Applications were now discussed at Partnership Meetings after District Members had left the meeting. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the correspondence be noted.

998. **Bus Services:** Cllr. Mrs. Webster asked the Chairman for the current situation in respect of the National Bus Pass Scheme. The Chairman informed the meeting that this was still under discussion at District Council however there was currently a problem with issuing the new passes and despite District Council having piloted an early scheme which had proved unsuccessful they were near the end of the new issue list, therefore last year's passes were to be used until the end of April. Cllr. Watts referred to the National Scheme and asked who was responsible for the so called **HOT LINE** enquiry service, as constituents had advised him that they were unable to connect to anybody when using the number provided. The Chairman agreed to enquire at District level and asked Cllr. Mrs. Webster to enquire at County and advise Cllr. Watts. It was moved by Cllr. Watts and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

999. **Railings in Highbridge Street:** Cllr. Pryde informed the meeting that correspondence had been received from Essex County Council advising that they were no longer in a position to provide and install new railings in Highbridge Street and Cllr. Mrs. Webster was asked to take this matter forward at County Council. The Chairman went on to say that if necessary a delegation of Members would attend the next meeting of the County Council to protest. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Clerk respond to the correspondence setting out this Council's intentions.

1000. **Harold Crescent Highway Improvements:** Cllr. Clark referred to the loss of County funding for improvements to the highway in Harold Crescent. Cllr. Mrs. Webster in her capacity as County Councillor gave a current situation report on highways funding. Following full discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the County Council Cabinet Member for Highways and Transportation together with his Director of Service be invited to attend the next meeting of the Council on 24th April to answer Members questions and give details of the County Five Year Plan for Highways Maintenance.

1001. **Church Street/Market Square Barrier:** Members noted correspondence from County Highways advising that in their opinion it would be impractical to manage a barrier at this location. Following discussion it was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the Town Clerk respond stating that this Council is concerned at the potential safety issues at this point and advise that we do not believe the problems put forward are insurmountable and the Town Council will administer the scheme.

It was further moved by Cllr. Pryde and

RESOLVED – THAT in addition the matter be taken up with the Cabinet Member at the Council Meeting.

1002. **Street Cleaning:** Cllr. Watts remarked on the improved street cleaning service since the new contractor was appointed. The Chairman added that the Town Council input added to the improvement. It was moved by Cllr. Watts, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT a letter noting the improvement be sent to Epping Forest District Council.

1003. **Street Cleaner's Bags:** The Chairman referred to street cleaner's bags being left on the side of the highway for collection. It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT subject to the bags being collected daily an area at the side of the Town Hall be offered to Epping Forest District Council for this activity.

1004. **Hillhouse (C. of E.) Primary School:** Members noted that Year 3 & 4 pupils from the school had written to the Town Clerk setting out their concerns over litter and dog fouling and that he was in the process of replying to the pupils individually. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT a) subject to approval of the school the letters be displayed in the foyer of the Town Hall and
b) a litter pick be organised in the area and the school notified of the details.

1005. **ECC Municipal Waste Strategy 2007 to 2032 Consultation:** Cllr. Mrs. Webster referred to the importance of this document and asked Members to consider responding. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT this be noted.

1006. **Status List:** It was moved by Cllr. Pryde, seconded and

RESOLVED – THAT the following items be added to the Status List;

1. Railings in Highbridge Street
2. Barrier at Church Street/Market Square
3. Collection of street sweeper's bags
4. Bollards in Thaxted Way

1007. **Local Development Framework:** The Town Clerk informed Members that at the recent Liaison Committee at Epping Forest District Council the Forward Planning Officer had given a brief presentation on Community Engagement in the Local Development Framework which was now copied to Members. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

1008. **Local Biodiversity Action Plan:** At the Liaison Committee the Forward Planning Officer had referred to the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and a copy of the briefing note was now circulated to Members. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

1009. **Fifty Favourite Trees:** Epping Forest District Council had recently carried out a survey to discover the fifty favourite trees within the District and posters of those nominated from Waltham Abbey were on display. It was moved by the Chairman and

RESOLVED – THAT the information be noted.

MRS. S.A. STAVROU - CHAIRMAN

