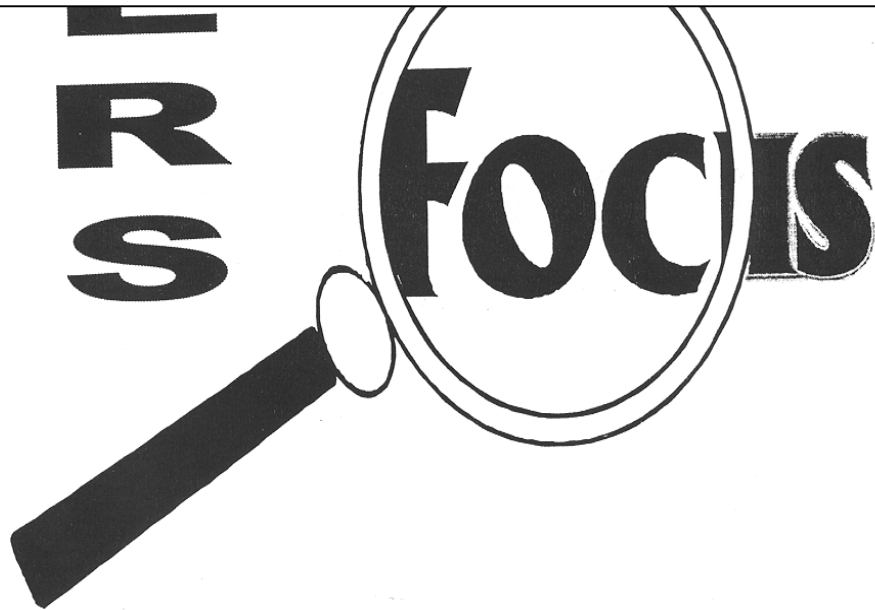


**M
E
M**

*Members' Focus is available on-line at www.braintree.gov.uk
- Choose "Council & Democracy" from the menu on the left,
then "Members Focus".*

**M
E
M
B
E
R
S**



Focus

December 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Page No

Anti-Social Behaviour	2
Essex in Bloom	4
News – Essex Air Ambulance	5
News – Bakers Donate Sports Goods	6
News – Braintree Refuse Collectors' Award	7
News – Council Leader Listens to Local Views	8
News – Glebe Hall Improvements	9
News – Mini Moto Poster Campaign	10
News – New Environment Strategy	11
News – Olympic Meeting	12
News – Texting the Council	14
News – Noise Control	15
News – Pandemic Influenza	17
Planning Appeals	19
Householders' Responsibility for Waste Disposal	22

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: HOUSING SERVICES

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

SUBJECT: Tenancy Terms and Conditions ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR	CONTACT OFFICER: Brenda Sipple
TEL/EMAIL No.: 01376 552525 Ext 2631	BACKGROUND PAPERS:
INFORMATION: On Tuesday 6 th December 2005 Colchester County Court granted possession of property 31a Parker Way Halstead Essex due to the tenant's anti social behaviour and the effect his behaviour had on neighbouring properties Neighbours had been complaining since February 2005 about the tenant's behaviour and the effects this was having on their quality of life. On hearing evidence from John Krishock Housing Officer for Parker Way the tenant was ordered to give possession by 22 nd December 2005 The tenant will now be deemed intentionally homeless.	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: HOUSING SERVICES

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

SUBJECT: ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR/BREACH OF TENANCY CONDITIONS	CONTACT OFFICER:Brenda Sipple
TEL No.:01376 551414 Ext 2631	BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
EMAIL brenda.sipple@braintree.gov.uk	
TWO BRAINTREE TENANTS ORDERED TO LEAVE	
<p>On Tuesday 13th December 2005 Colchester County Court after hearing evidence from Brenda Sipple granted Orders for possession of</p>	
<p>29 St James Road Braintree Essex and 32 Queens Road Braintree Essex</p>	
<p>Each tenant had separately been found guilty of conduct causing or likely to cause a nuisance or annoyance to a person residing visiting or otherwise engaging in a lawful activity in the locality of the dwelling and each had been convicted of using the dwelling house for illegal purposes.</p>	
<p>Any further information required can be supplied subject to Data Protection.</p>	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA:

CORPORATE THEME HEADING:

SUBJECT: Essex in Boom Winners of Winners Business Awards 2005	CONTACT OFFICER: Taiwo Ajayi (ext 2769) Brendan Walshe (ext 2342)
TEL/EMAIL No.: 01376 551414	BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
INFORMATION: <p>On Friday the 18th November at the Five Lakes Resort in Maldon the Nacro Braintree Community Sports Project won the Team Working Award at the Essex in Boom Winners of Winners Business Awards 2005. The Winner of Winners Awards is for a select group of business that have previously received business awards success during 2004 and represents the best of the best across the county.</p> <p>The Braintree Community Sports Project is a partnership project between Nacro the crime reduction charity and Braintree District Council. The project is funded through the Football Foundation and Building Safer Communities Fund and uses sport as a tool to engage young people into positive activities. The project covers the district of Braintree and aims to develop football and sports based sessions in local communities that provide a diversionary activity away from anti social behaviour for young people aged 8 – 25. Through the power of sport young people are engaged into a positive environment that has a positive impact on the self-esteem, self-confidence and feelings of self-worth of the young people as well as improving physical health and fitness.</p> <p>The team-working award was based on the work that is completed by the staff and the volunteers of the project working together. The project currently has 2 full time members of staff and a team of 12 active volunteers. The current team of 12 active volunteers deliver 8 sports based sessions a week alongside the projects full time staff. The volunteers are vital to the project's delivery and provide a positive role model example as well as developing positive relationships with the young people.</p> <p>This award recognises the dedication, commitment and impact that the project and its volunteers have on the young people of the district. Since the project began it has worked with over 2000 young people and more than 900 hours have been volunteered with the project having worked with over 65 volunteers.</p>	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

Residents win VIP visit to Essex Air Ambulance

Page 1 of 1

At 10.30am on Saturday 26th November, Gosfield resident Mrs Jean Brown and her grand-daughter Rebecca Norris (4) visited Essex Air Ambulance at Boreham, accompanied by Chairman Councillor John Finbow. Mrs Brown won the VIP visit in a prize draw offered in the autumn edition of the Council's household information leaflet 'Contact', shared with the Witham, Braintree and Halstead Care Trust and which focused on health issues. Mrs Brown's response card was first out of the hat.

Jean Twin, Community Fundraising Coordinator for Essex Air Ambulance said, " We are delighted that Jean and Rebecca won the prize draw. It costs in excess of £100,000 each month to keep the county's emergency helicopter in the air. It is competitions like the one run by Braintree District Council which help us to raise awareness about the helicopters essential work and the need for public support in order to keep it flying."

ENDS

Notes to Editor: At least £100,000 is needed every month to keep the Essex Air Ambulance flying and it is totally reliant upon donations from the people of Essex who give generously in order to keep the county's emergency helicopter service in the air.

For further information about supporting Essex Air Ambulance contact the Fundraising Office on 01787 221828.

For more press information, contact: Chris Trim on 01376 557752 or on 01376 551414 – just say the name.

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 28 November 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

More cake anyone?

Family bakers donate money to promote a healthy active lifestyle.

Page 1 of 1

Braintree Community Sports Project has received a cash donation from Warburtons, a Bolton based family owned bakers which trades nationally. In addition to baking bread, Warburtons regularly get involved in supporting community-based charities in their trading areas.

Warburtons have donated £150 worth of sports equipment to local causes in the Herts, Essex and Suffolk areas that would benefit from such a donation and The Braintree Community Sports Project was one of those selected.

Braintree Community Sports Project is a partnership between Nacro, England's leading crime reduction charity and Braintree District Council. The project is funded by the Football Foundation and The Building Safer Communities Fund and provides opportunities for young people aged 8-25 to develop their sporting ability and at the same time provide a diversion away from anti-social behaviour. The awarded donation has been used to purchase new football, tennis and hockey equipment for the project.

Cllr Wendy Schmitt said, "As a voluntarily run Project, I am delighted that it has been awarded with the donation. Credit must be given to the volunteers themselves as they play a vital part in motivating and guiding the youngsters, developing self-esteem and self-confidence, at the same time as improving physical health and fitness."

ENDS

Notes to Editors

Established in 1876 the family owned, Bolton based bakery supplies the whole of UK and this region from the Enfield branch. Warburtons is now 3rd in the top 100 grocery brands in the UK.

For further information on any aspect of the project please contact the Braintree Community Sports Project on 01376 55 25 25.

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

Braintree refuse collectors pick up top award

Page 1 of 1

The Council's refuse collection service has picked up the 'best overall performer' award at last Thursday's Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE)

Performance Networks Awards 2005, at the Blackpool Hilton.

Refuse team leader Doug Rigby and colleague John Cull received the award from TV presenter Adrienne Lawler.

Doug Rigby comments: "Every aspect of the service needs teamwork all the way: from vehicle maintenance and route planning to the individual teams who work out there on the streets in all weathers throughout the year. We're approaching the most demanding time of year and an award like this is a great morale booster."

Council Leader Graham Butland adds: "Our services undergo many inspections and detailed appraisal by government departments: so it's great when an independent association makes an assessment leading to a nationally important accolade like this."

ENDS

The assessment was based on comparisons with other councils and national targets: looking at how many households and how much refuse is collected, what proportion is recycled and at what cost, also taking into account how many staff are employed in the service. In November, a senior manager from a council in another part of the country visited to interview managers and inspect the service and during the course of a day, asked over 300 questions before the award could be made on an overall assessment of the council's performance.

For more press information, contact: Chris Trim on 01376 557752 or on 01376 551414 – just say the name.

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 9 December 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

Council leader listens to local views

Page 1 of 1

It was one of the coldest evenings so far this year, but not cold enough to prevent an invited audience putting their views and questions on the council's future priorities and finances to Council Leader Graham Butland.

Representatives of local community and business groups met in the comfort of the Braintree College conference room, and discussed topics from the difficulties of recycling for people in flats to the future challenges posed by the A120, the expansion of Stansted Airport and the health and well-being of an ageing local population.

Cllr Graham Butland comments: "This was the first of several opportunities for people to tell me and leading councillors what they think about the council's priorities and how their council tax should be used for local services. There were many useful points made and in January we'll be out and about in the town centres to hear what more people have to say – by which time we'll know how much government grant is available to the district and what effect that will have on the local budget for local services."

ENDS

For more press information, contact: Chris Trim on 01376 557752 or on 01376 551414 – just say the name.

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 28 November 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

Glebe Hall has fresh start for the New Year

Page 1 of 1

Council leader Graham Butland visited the next community hall in the District to see improvements completed as part of the district wide £5million plus improvement programme. 30 year old Glebe Avenue hall has been home to the privately run Glebe pre-school group managed by Enid Robinson since 1975. Now the hall has a new roof, new windows and doors, parking bays and new toilets (inc disabled access) and an extended porch area as part of a £180,000 scheme for the hall: giving it a fresh lease of life for local community use. The kitchen area is improved and an induction loop system installed for people with hearing difficulties. With all but a few finishing touches, the contract has been completed below budget, which should allow some additional work to be done outside in time for next spring and summer. The exterior play area and new equipment was installed in February this year by the council at an additional cost of £22,000.

Council Leader Graham Butland comments: "The improvements at this community hall show what can be done when the Council uses its resources effectively. All the improvements have been carried out without any additional charge to Council Tax payers. I am very pleased that the upheaval for the pre-school group has now come to an end."

Group leader Enid Robinson says: "The last three months haven't been easy, with all the building work going on, but we're looking forward to the new year with a fresh start."

ENDS

Notes: The scheme includes improvements to The Institute and Goldingham Hall in Braintree; Rivenhall and Silver End village halls and pavilion; an entirely new hall at Rickstones in Witham, improvements to Spring Lodge and Dengie Close halls in Witham and improvements to the senior citizen centre in Halstead.

The OFSTED inspected Glebe pre-school group takes up to 24 local children from between 2 and half and 5 yrs – to school age, offering a lively mixture of activities, every weekday morning.

For more press information, contact: Chris Trim or Anne Proudfoot on 01376 557752 or on 01376 551414 – just say the name.

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 15 December 2005

News

Mini moto poster campaign launched

Page 1 of 1

A bus poster campaign has been launched by the community safety group for Braintree District, with 22 buses now carrying a bright and hard hitting message about mini-motos. With the headline: "Mini motos are not toys" the group aims to make sure that in the lead up to Christmas, parents are fully aware that mini motos can bring more problems than pleasure to the families which may buy them.

Braintree DC cabinet member for public protection, Cllr Wendy Schmitt comments:

"It is important that people know where they stand within the law. Apart from safety, noise and possible difficulties with spares and repairs, mini motos are motor vehicles which are simply unfit for use on the road and which most riders cannot legally use, except on private land with the landowner's permission."

She added: "They are sold as toys, but a mini moto cannot be licensed or taxed, and under age or unlicensed riders run the risk that penalty points will be held against them when they do eventually apply for a licence. If a mini moto is repeatedly used illegally for example on paths or parks, it can be confiscated and the rider prosecuted. A BMX bike would be a far safer and healthier gift at Christmas."

Pictured with Cllr Schmitt is Graham Seward of the Braintree, Witham and Halstead Care Trust and Chairman of the Responsible Authority Group (RAG); and First Essex bus driver Dave Smith.

ENDS

Notes: A Police warning lasts for 12 months and if a first warning is ignored, and the bike used in a way which causes alarm, distress or annoyance, eg on footpaths, parkland, woodland or common land; it can be taken away. A fixed fee of £105 is charged for return, plus £12 per day storage, assuming that it is not ordered by a Magistrate to be destroyed. (Example in October 05 at Witham Magistrates' Court).

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 30 November 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

Braintree adopts new environment strategy

Page 1 of 1

A new programme aims to achieve sustainable energy efficiency and to eliminate fuel poverty during the next ten years.

The council's Cabinet has approved a new strategy and implementation plan, which at a local level will reduce energy consumption and encourage greater efficiency throughout the 256 square mile District.

The proposals have been produced by the council's environment policy group, which has seen what is done in other parts of the country and included everything which is practical, useful and achievable.

This new policy marks a big step forward in meeting the challenge of climate change, energy saving and fuel poverty and offers considerable benefits for council tax payers, as well as local businesses. The council invited constructive criticism from the Energy Saving Trust: identifying successes and areas for improvement. Their comments have influenced the final plan.

Council Leader Graham Butland says: "The plan splits our actions into three areas. The things we have to do – and are mostly already doing. The things we would like to do - within existing budgets: and the things for which new money must be found."

He added: "The council can't do everything and must act as a catalyst to encourage residents, local businesses and organisations to take action for their own benefit."

Chair of the environment policy group James Abbott comments: "This is a win/win situation and there aren't any downsides to it. There are now more affordable opportunities than ever before for people to have a good effect on the environment."

ENDS

Notes This council offers grants of £1000 towards solar hot water installations and separately, there is now a micro wind turbine available at less than £1000 after grants. People can call for energy advice from the Customer Service Centre (01376) 552525. The strategy and plan are available by e-mail and on the council's web site: www.braintree.gov.uk.

For more press information, contact: 01376 557752

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 7 December 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

News

Paralympic champion to promote Braintree district vision for 2012 Olympics

Page 1 of 2

Athens gold medal winner Danny Crates will share his on and off track experience and his personal vision for the 2012 Olympic games at the first 2012 stakeholder conference to be held in Braintree District and hosted by BBC Radio Essex presenter, Dave Monk.

This first 2012 Stakeholder Conference has been set for the evening of Friday 13th January 2006.

The purpose of the evening is to identify what benefits this District could gain by focusing on the Olympic event as a catalyst for lasting improvements.

The conference offers an opportunity for representatives from schools, sports clubs and business groups to play a part in developing a **Braintree Vision** for the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The event will also give local organisations the chance to share their thoughts and ideas, to identify potential partnerships with other groups, and to quiz representatives on the Council's Cabinet Working Group during a question time.

Councillor Tim Wilkinson is chairman of the Council's Cabinet Working Group for London 2012, and is sending invitations to over 400 local groups.

Cllr Tim Wilkinson, comments: "2012 provides the people of Braintree with fantastic opportunities for sport, entertainment, and industry in the District. We need to start planning now in order to maximise those opportunities and ensure Braintree makes the most of this global event. The World's attention will be on London in just six years time, and I'm hoping we can divert some of their attention our way!"

ENDS

MEMBERS' FOCUS

2 of 2

Notes

The Council's long term strategy aims to:

- Maximise the business and investment opportunities brought to the district through the Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Increase tourism in key locations
- Raise the cultural profile of the Braintree district
- Support, wherever possible, sport coaches and athletes who will participate in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Promote the sustainable development of assets used for sport, recreation and tourism.

Members of the Council's working group are: Cllr Tim Wilkinson (group chairman)

Cllr Mrs Jo Beavis, Cllr Nigel Harley, Cllr Martin J Green, Cllr Anthony Everard, Cllr Doug Rice

also from Braintree District Council are: Peter Crofts Development Director
Jean Grice Manager Cultural & Museum Services,
Taiwo Ajayi Community Manager (Leisure & Health)
Russell Everard Economic Development Manager

John O'Shea and Brian Day of Braintree Business Council.

For more press information, contact: Russell Everard on 01376 551414 – just say the name or Email: russell.everard@braintree.gov.uk

Issued by: Braintree DC PR December 2005

News

Texting the Council

Page 1 of 1

Braintree District Council has gone live with a new system that will offer customers a service whereby they can receive a text message to remind them of an appointment they have booked, for example, a quick reminder the night before to put out items for their special collection, or of dates and times of their housing repair visits. In the long term, the system will offer the option for residents to be alerted of any changes to refuse collections as a result of unforeseen circumstances.

Customers will be able to choose what kind of information they wish to receive. The system offers the option to leave a message on their home phone if customers do not have a mobile.

Customers will also be able to text in any service requests they have. The cost for customers to send a text to the Council will be their normal sending charge. But there is no charge to receive a text. The number to text in on is: 07797 803 203.

Councillor Joanne Beavis comments: "We know the feeling, we have booked an appointment but cannot remember the date it was for. This revolutionary new system is fantastic and will help us all as customers get the most out of the services offered to us by the Council."

ENDS

For more press information, contact: Katrina Bramwell on 01376 557752 or on 01376 551414 – just say the name.

Issued by: Braintree DC PR 7 December 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA:

CORPORATE THEME HEADING:

SUBJECT: NOISE CONTROL	CONTACT OFFICER: SCOTT CASTLE
TEL/EMAIL No.:2225 scoca@braintree.gov.uk	BACKGROUND PAPERS :None
<p>INFORMATION:</p> <p>This article is to highlight the effective work of the Environmental Protection team within Environmental Services. As the title suggests, noise is a large part of the teams day to day work. A number of recent cases have required a large amount of investigation and enforcement work in order to remedy the problem. Press releases were issued and appeared in the local papers. Both cases relate to domestic noise disturbance between properties which were occupied by council tenants. Investigations involved first having to determine whether there was a statutory noise nuisance occurring and this was carried out by using monitoring equipment, out of hours visits, pre arranged monitoring and visits by members of staff. Both cases in the Braintree area involved statutory noise nuisance being identified and witnessed by officers at an early stage.</p> <p>This subsequently led to abatement notices being served under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 which were served early in the investigation . Unfortunately, such notices did not have the desired effect and both tenants failed to moderate their behaviour, continuing to cause and allow disturbance to other residents.</p> <p>Given that adjacent residents were having the enjoyment of their property materially affected/effected by such regular and ongoing disturbance, a decision was made to seize equipment.</p> <p>Whilst seizure is a short term measure designed to bring an abrupt stop to a problem, it was also necessary to be keeping an accurate diary of events and to feed such breaches of notice up to the legal department to consider a prosecution. Seizure also provides the recipients with a short sharp shock demonstrating in real time that the council are not prepared to tolerate such behaviour.</p> <p>The seizure process requires obtaining a Magistrates warrant from Witham Magistrates to enter by force if necessary. In both cases, entry was obtained relatively easily without having to use the services of onsite carpenters and locksmiths. Both warrants were exercised immediately to enter and remove property capable of causing and allowing a statutory noise nuisance to occur. This included televisions, hi-fi systems, DVD players, CD's, videos, cassettes and a wide array of speaker systems.</p> <p>The property removed was all bagged and sealed with tamperproof seals, being stored in a secure location. A catalogue of the items taken was sent to the individuals stating that they were entitled to the return of their equipment after 28 days had passed and upon receipt of reasonable charges being paid. In both cases, such a charge amounted to £100.</p>	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Despite a seizure being carried out it was also necessary to prosecute the offenders in the magistrates court for continued breaches of the abatement notice. This was successful with both individuals being found guilty. Only one defendant attended court to defend themselves, pleading guilty in court and was subject to £50 costs and a £300 fine with a warning that the notice remains in force all the time the resident remains in that property. The costs and fine were a mere fraction of the large amount of officer time spent in demonstrating that ongoing statutory noise nuisance was occurring. Press releases were sent to the press stating that such behaviour would not be tolerated by Braintree District Council.

Action is also proposed by the Housing department in both cases to retake possession of the housing stock due to unreasonable behaviour.

The case continues.

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: All

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: Helping People Feel Safe and Well

SUBJECT: Pandemic Influenza	CONTACT OFFICER: Kathy Brown
TEL/EMAIL No.: 01376 557753 katbr@braintree.gov.uk	BACKGROUND PAPERS: NHS Flu Pandemic Key Facts Leaflet and PCT Influenza Pandemic Plan. Briefing from Trading Standards on Avian Flu.
<p>INFORMATION:</p> <p>1. Background</p> <p>The recent incidents of Avian Flu have raised concern with the public that a flu pandemic will affect the U.K. Members should have received the NHS leaflet “Flu Key Facts” in the Councillors’ mail and we will shortly be issuing NHS leaflets to Parishes with information posters from the Care Trust. The leaflet is an aide-memoire to develop an understanding of the action we can take to assist the Health Services in the event of a flu pandemic.</p> <p>A total of 133 people have been affected by the current strain of Avian Flu and 68 deaths have occurred as a result of the virus. The present virus only affects birds – those humans who have been affected by the virus were reported to have been in very close contact with an affected bird. The strain of the virus found in all cases so far has been the H5N1 strain. Until the virus mutates from birds to humans and/or human to human that strain of the virus remains unknown.</p> <p>An influenza pandemic occurs when a new influenza virus subtype appears to which no one is immune. If the virus mutates from another species to humans, then it could spread quickly worldwide with over 25% of the population affected. As soon as the strain can be identified the appropriate vaccination will be developed, but this is likely to take 4-6 months.</p> <p>If the virus reaches a pandemic level it is likely to last approximately 3-4 months and come in two or three waves with affected cases remaining seriously ill for up to 10 days or more.</p> <p>Current action in the UK</p> <p>The UK is currently stockpiling the anti-viral drug Tami-flu. A total of 4.6 million doses are required to cover a quarter of the population (25% likely infected cases). Approximately 800,000 doses of the drug have been produced so far. The Government has stated that the anti-viral drug will be distributed to frontline health workers in the first instance, and then the elderly and those people with long-term chronic illnesses. The anti-viral drug has to be administered within 24-48 hours post exposure to the virus (from the onset of symptoms). Once an appropriate vaccine has been developed the Government are intending that the whole population will be vaccinated, but the quantity required (14.6 million doses) will take some time to provide.</p>	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

2. Braintree District Council Roles and Responsibilities in the event of a Flu Pandemic

BDC's role will be essentially a **management role** and will include: -

- Identification of key workers so that when the 2nd wave of a pandemic strikes and vaccine has been developed then "key staff" can be vaccinated e.g.
 - Refuse collectors – human health issues
 - Benefits staff
 - Cemetery staff
 - Environmental health officers – avian flu issues

Based upon the Authority's Business Continuity Plan

- Liaise initially on behalf of the Care Trust with Parish/Town councils to identify and use local venues e.g. village halls/community centres/ centres used for polling stations.
- Assist in the information sharing process i.e. identifying vulnerable groups in the community off which Braintree District Council are aware. Ward Members/Parish Councillors/Community Nurses will be able to assist in identifying local people who may need assistance or a home visit.
- Coordinating and assisting the Care Trust with mortuary issues. Liaising with funeral directors/undertakers.
- The Strategic Health Authority would forward information to the Essex County Council Emergency Planning team and also to the Care Trust who would link into BDC Public Relations Team to assist with communicating key messages to the public.

At present Braintree District Council continues to work in partnership with the Care Trust and the Flu Pandemic Co-ordinator covering our District to develop the Care Trust Influenza Plan and assist in issuing information to our communities via a variety of media leaflets, posters, web page and local papers.

3. Further information

There are a number of useful web sites and leaflets that are available: -

www.ukresilience.info

www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk

www.dh.gov.uk/pandemicflu

www.immunisation.nhs.uk

www.hpa.org.uk

www.who.int/csr/disease/avianinfluenza/chronology/en/

Explaining Pandemic Flu (CMO Guide)

UK Influenza Pandemic Contingency Plan (October 2005)

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: PLANNING

SUBJECT: Planning Appeals	CONTACT OFFICER: Alison Webb
TEL/EMAIL No.: 01376 551414 Ext. 2614 alison.webb@braintree.gov.uk	BACKGROUND PAPERS: Nil
INFORMATION: To provide details of recently lodged planning appeals and appeal decisions.	

INFORMATION: APPEALS LODGED

Appellant: Mr R Newman
Site: Land adj. Woodhouse Nursery, London Road, Hatfield Peverel
Development: Erection of three bedroom bungalow
Application No: 05/01362/OUT
Start Date: 11th November 2005

Appellant: Fairview New Homes
Site: Rayne Foudry, The Street, Rayne
Development: Erection of 49 dwellings, access, car parking and landscaping
Application No: 05/01164/FUL
Start Date: 15th November 2005

Appellant: Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Site: Site 4A Galleys Corner, Braintree Road, Cressing
Development: Erection of 4 no. shop signs and 1 no. pole sign all illuminated
Application No: 05/01439/ADV
Start Date: 16th November 2005

Appellant: Orange PCS Ltd
Site: Abbey Farm, Abbey Lane, Coggeshall
Development: Installation of a 15 metre slim-line column supporting three dual polar antenna and associated equipment cabinets located at ground level and enclosed within a fenced compound
Application No: 05/00672/T56
Start Date: 21st November 2005

Cont'd

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Appellant: Orange PCS Ltd
Site: Highway Verge, Opposite Windmill Lodge, Ulting Road,
Hatfield Peverel
Development: Erection of 10m mock telegraph pole and equipment cabinet on
highway verge
Application No: 05/00720/T56
Start Date: 21st November 2005

Appellant: Mrs H Stock
Site: Land adjoining 21 Halstead Road, Gosfield
Development: Erection of one no. dwelling and the creation of a new vehicle
access for no. 21 Halstead Road,
Application No: 05/01156/FUL
Start Date: 22nd November 2005

INFORMATION: APPEAL DECISIONS

Appellant: Higgins Homes Ltd
Site: Motel Site, Colchester Road, Coggeshall
Development: Erection of 5 no. dwellings with associated garages, parking
and courtyard
Application No: 04/00776/FUL
Decision & Date: ALLOWED - 11th November 2005

Appellant: Mr & Mrs R Stephens
Site: Land adjoining 3 Ashlong Grove, Halstead
Development: Erection of new dwelling
Application No: 05/00461/FUL
Decision & Date: DISMISSED - 14th November 2005

Appellant: Mr D Bridges
Site: Land to the rear of Blue Boar House, 24 St James Street, Castle
Hedingham
Development: Residential development of four dwellings
Application No: 05/00023/FUL
Decision & Date: DISMISSED – 22nd November 2005

Cont'd

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Appellant: M & D Developments and Mr M Bronze
Site: Former Swimming Pool Site, Parsonage Street, Halstead
Development: Construction of detached two bedroom cottage with parking space (05/01098/FUL – M & D Developments)
First floor extension over existing garaging to create additional bedroom - cottage C approved under ref. no. 04/02331/FUL (05/01101/FUL - Mr M Bronze)
Application No: 05/001098/FUL and 05/1101/FUL
Decision & Date: DISMISSED - 24th November 2005

Appellant: Mr A Hilling
Site: Land adjacent 102 Maltings Lane, Witham
Development: Erection of one no. three bedroom house
Application No: 04/02138/OUT
Decision & Date: DISMISSED - 24th November 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA:

CORPORATE THEME HEADING:

SUBJECT: Householder's responsibility for their waste	CONTACT OFFICER: Mrs. D. Parsons
TEL/EMAIL No.: 2236	BACKGROUND PAPERS:
INFORMATION:	

HOUSEHOLDERS MUST TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR WASTE

New changes to waste regulations will help reduce the incidents of household waste being flytipped in our District.

From 21st November 2005 all householders will have a responsibility under The Waste (Household Waste Duty of Care) Regulations 2005, to ensure their rubbish is passed only to authorised carriers. Those householders who do not take reasonable steps to do so could face fines of up to £5,000.

The days of handing over waste to anyone who knocks on the door and offers to dispose of it for a relatively small sum of money have gone. Flytippers rely on people not asking questions and not asking to see documentation proving they are registered waste carriers. However, now all householders have a responsibility to do just that.

Illegal waste carriers can make huge sums of money by charging to take rubbish away, assuring the householder it will go to a civic amenity site, when in actual fact it is then dumped in a ditch down the nearest country lane, or in a layby on one of our roads etc. It is then necessary for the Council to clear these flytips. It is our practice to always search the waste for evidence of its origin and now if the rubbish is traced back to the property it came from, the householder could be fined. It will no longer be an excuse to say they "paid someone to take it away".

We have been working hard to catch these flytippers and the new powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act will assist us to do this, thereby saving Council tax payers money currently spent on clearing the hundreds of flytips found in our District.

If everyone now takes responsibility for their own waste, it will cut the supply to the flytippers and drive them out of business. Anyone using waste carriers other than the Council to remove household, garden, DIY type waste etc, are encouraged to contact the Environment Agency on 08708 506506 and request an instant validation check, or go online at www.environment-agency.gov.uk/public register. Householders can also enter a postcode into the website and the register will provide a list of all registered waste carriers in their area.

MEMBERS' FOCUS

It is not our intention to scare people. We do not want to fine people but want to encourage everyone to think carefully about who they give their waste to and not to simply choose the cheapest option. It may end up being far more expensive in the long run.

The target is not responsible citizens who keep their neighbourhoods clean, but those who dump rubbish anywhere for someone else to clean up.

Anyone who witnesses a flytip should report the incident to the Council, ideally providing the following information:

Date and time flytip witnessed

Location

Registration number of vehicle involved.

Any information received is treated as confidential.