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Focus

April 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

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MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: All

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: A better place to live, work and play

SUBJECT: Affordable Housing Development Update April 2005	CONTACT OFFICER: Joanne Albin, Maria Preston
TEL/EMAIL No.:01376 551414 ext. 2118, 2182 joaal@braintree.gov.uk marpr@braintree.gov.uk	BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
<p>INFORMATION:</p> <p><u>Development Programme Update – 2004/05</u></p> <p>Site Acquisitions, New Starts and Completions fourth quarter 2004/05:</p> <p><u>Site Acquisitions:</u> Bartrams Avenue, Braintree transfer of development land to Suffolk Heritage Housing Association to build 4 x 3 bed bungalows, fully adapted for wheelchair users. These bungalows will be built to specific requirements for individual tenants/families if necessary.</p> <p><u>New Starts - 107 units:</u> St.Michaels Hospital, Braintree 48 units – 26 rental units and 22 shared ownership. Gypsy Corner, Braintree 59 units – 29 rental units and 30 shared ownership</p> <p><u>Completions – 34 units:</u> 12 rental units at Wilkinson House, Hatfield Peverel completed. 22 rental units at Atlas Works, Earls Colne completed.</p> <p><u>Key Workers:</u> Moat Housing Group has assisted three households this quarter in purchasing property in Braintree. Two from education and one from NHS. One currently living and working in Braintree and two moving into Braintree. £78,300 of grant has been used towards purchasing 15%, 20% and 25% of these properties to help these families.</p> <p><u>Homebuy:</u> Estuary Housing Association have not completed any purchases this quarter</p> <p><u>Development totals for this financial year 2004/05</u></p> <p>Site acquisitions: 4 sites - 123 units to be developed</p> <p>New starts on site: 162 units – 95 rental units and 67 shared ownership</p> <p>Completions: 51 units – 51 rental units. 15 units built on one green field site and 36 on two brown field sites.</p> <p>Key Worker: 16 purchases using £412,235 government subsidy</p> <p>Homebuy: 2 purchases using £51,625 Government subsidy</p> <p>Section 106 Commuted Sum: £41,522 received in July 2004 from the developer at Station Approach, Braintree (attached database for 2004/05 shows these details)</p> <p><u>New developments currently in progress:</u></p> <p>Witham - Maltings Lane (LP3): 32 units started on site in December 2004, completion estimated December 2006.</p> <p>Witham – Maltings Lane (LP8): 11 units started on site in December 2004, completion estimated December 2006.</p> <p>Witham – Maltings Lane (LP9): 6 units started on site in December 2004, completion estimated December 2005.</p>	

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Great Saling - Grove Villas: 2 units started on site March 2004 estimated completion June 2005.

Braintree - Gypsy Corner: 59 units started on site February 2005 estimated completion August 2007.

Braintree – St.Michaels Hospital: 48 units started on site January 2005 estimated completion April 2007.

Housing Corporation funding / RSL funding has been received for the following developments with a start on site in the next financial year (2005/06):

Braintree - Bartrams Avenue: 4 fully adapted bungalows – start on site 4th April 2005

Braintree - Coggeshall Road: 35 units - Extra Care Scheme – work has started on clearing this site

Braintree – Warley Close: 10 units rental and shared ownership. Start on site expected June 2005.

Halstead - Abels Road: 11 units – redevelopment of garage site, transfer of site imminent

Halstead – Tidings Hill: 13 units rental and shared ownership. Start on site expected July 2005.

Witham - Bridge Hospital: 50 units – including 8 x 1 bed flats for care leavers. Land transferred in November 2004. Start on site expected June 2005.

Witham - Maltings Lane (LP 6 & 7): 14 + 25 units final plans with planning

Steeple Bumpstead - North Crescent: 8 units. Land transfer imminent.

Key worker funding: Moat Housing Group were allocated grant funding from the Housing Corporation for £5.1 million to assist with the purchases of Key worker housing units in Essex for two years. During 2004/05 they have assisted 16 households in the Braintree District to purchase property using £412,235 of the allocated funding. Of these 16: 9 Education, 5 NHS, 1 Police and 1 Social Worker. 10 have moved to Braintree from other areas and 5 are working in Braintree. Moat holds a share in the properties purchased ranging from 10% to 25% depending on what the purchaser can afford as their share.

Homebuy funding: Estuary Housing Association has been granted funding from the Housing Corporation for £236,946 towards properties in Essex during 2004/05 & 2005/06. Two families have completed the purchase of their properties, both of these in the third quarter: One BDC tenant and the other from the Housing Waiting list. Homebuy grant covered 25% on each property using £55,788 from the total grant leaving £185,321 towards further assistance. There are currently four families looking for property to purchase.

New Development 2005/06:

These figures are potential development figures for this financial year however due to the nature of new developments dates of deadlines can change - site acquisitions and weather, are some of the factors which could move dates around, also larger developments may have some properties completed on a weekly basis which could change the potential completions.

Potential Site Acquisitions: 5 sites with 49 units: 4 sites with 43 units in 1st quarter and 1 site with 6 units in 3rd quarter.

Potential Start on Site: 11 developments with 172 units: 138 in 1st quarter, 24 in 2nd quarter and 10 in 4th quarter.

Potential Completions: 5 developments with 38 units: 2 in 1st quarter, 10 in 3rd quarter

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and 26 in 4th quarter.
(attached database for 2005/06 shows these details)

Affordable Housing

'Pipeline' Submission to Housing Corporation

Bids for Housing Corporation Funding for 2006/07 and 2007/08:

Local authorities and Housing Associations were required to submit a detailed list of future potential affordable housing submissions for their area. The Housing Corporation is expected to hold a bid round for funding for 2006/07 and 2007/08 in the summer of this year.

For the Braintree District we identified a pipeline of 26 potential sites with guidance of 571 units on these sites. This includes 391 rental, 51 supported and 129 shared ownership units. These sites cover 273 growth, 162 local housing need, 61 rural, 51 supported housing and 24 regeneration units.

It is likely to be late 2005/06 before we know the outcome of future funding bids.

CURRENT YEAR BREAKDOWN		2005/06		brown/green field (B / G) purchase														
					April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March		
Site Acquired	<i>details from Housing Association or BDC legal services</i>	acquired date																
	North Crescent, Steeple Bumpstead			Br	Hastoe	8	8											
	Abels Road, Halstead			Br	BHP	11	11											
	Tidings Hill, Halstead			Br	BHP	14		14										
	Warley Close, Braintree			Br	BHP - Warden	10	10											
	Belchamp Walter			Br	Hastoe	6				6								
					TOTAL	49	8	21	14	0	0	0	6	0	0	0		
							43		0		6		0					
Starts / potential starts	<i>Date of developers contract start date and/or Housing Corporation drawdown</i>	potential start on site			Potential Projection											Actual totals		
Rental	Abels Road		Jul-05	Br	BHP-Swan	7			7									
(fully adapted bungalows)	Bartrams Avenue		Apr-05	Br	BHP-Suffolk Heritage	4	4											
	Belchamp Walter			Br	Hastoe	4							4					
(not HC funded)	Warley Close		Apr-05	Br	BHP-Warden	5	5											
	Tidings Hill		Jul-05	Gr	BHP-Swan	8			8									
(not HC funded)	Maltings Lane LP6		Jun-05	Gr	BHP-Flagship	12		12										
	Maltings Lane LP7		Jun-05	Gr	BHP-Warden	6							6					
	Maltings Lane LP7		Jun-05	Gr	BHP-Swan	19		19										
	Steeple Bumpstead		Oct-04	Br	Hastoe	8	8											
(not HC funded)	Bridge Hospital		Jun-05	Br	BHP-Swan	6		6										
Shared Ownership	Abels Road		Apr-05	Br	BHP-Swan	4			4									
(not HC funded)	Bridge Hospital		Jun-05	Br	BHP-Flagship	36		36										
	Warley Close		Apr-05	Br	BHP-Warden	5	5											
	Tidings Hill		May-05	Gr	BHP-Swan	5			5									
Supported Housing Units	Young Person Leaving Care (Bridge)		Jan-06	Br	Mosaic (New Essex)	8	8											
Supported Housing Units	Coggeshall Road, Braintree		Jul-04	Br	Abbeyfield	35		35										
					TOTAL	172	17	13	108	24	0	0	0	0	0	10	0	
					Quarterly totals		138		24		0		10			172		
Completions	<i>details from handover information from HA/allocations</i>	Potential Completion date																
Rental	Grove Villas		Apr-05	Br	Blackwater	2		2										
(fully adapted bungalows)	Bartrams Avenue		May-05	Br	BHP-Suffolk Heritage	4							4					
	Steeple Bumpstead		Aug-05	Br	Hastoe	8									8			
(not HC funded)	Maltings Lane LP9		Dec-05	Gr	BHP-Warden	6					6							
	Maltings Lane LP9		Dec-05	Gr	BHP-Swan	4					4							
Shared Ownership																		
Starter Homes/Homebuy	Estuary HA - Homebuy homes		Mar-06	Pu	Estuary	6									6			
	Moat HA - Starter and Equity Loan		Mar-06		Moat	?												
Purchase & Repair																		
Supported Housing Units	Young Person Leaving Care (Bridge)		Jan-06	Br	Mosaic (New Essex)	8							8					
					TOTAL	38	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	10	8	4	14	
					Quarterly totals		2		0		10		26			38		
	number/total*100=%																	
	Total completions				1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr										
	Total new build & purchase				2	0	10	26										
	% built on brown field land				0%	0%	0%	0%										
	% built on green field land				0%	0%	0%	0%										
	purchased units																	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: District wide

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: The Environment

SUBJECT: Animal boarding licences	CONTACT OFFICER: Andrew Potter
TEL/EMAIL No.: 551414 EXT 2217	BACKGROUND PAPERS: none
INFORMATION: Since introducing licenses for the purpose of the boarding of dogs and cats in their homes, in November 04. Which is an alterative to boarding kennels. I have sourced 4 companies and have licensed 7 carers which work in our District. This will be ongoing work where new licenses will be issued when further carers are sourced, making an income of £50 per licence.	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: All

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: A better place to live, work and play

SUBJECT: Blackwater Housing Association	CONTACT OFFICER: Joanne Albini
TEL/EMAIL No.:01376 551414 ext. 2118 joaal@braintree.gov.uk	BACKGROUND PAPERS: None
INFORMATION: The Anglia Housing Group – Streamlining Blackwater Housing Association Housing associations are tasked with delivering efficiency savings, and are seeking to ensure that they deliver their services in the most efficient way possible. The Anglia Housing Group are therefore streamlining their structures by reducing their cost of servicing their current legal structures which consist of a number of small housing associations. Blackwater Housing Association is part of the Anglia Housing Group and along with three other housing associations in the Anglia Housing Group they will deregister as housing associations and will reform into one new southern-based association named 'South Anglia Housing'. They will remain part of the Anglia Housing Group. South Anglia Housing will have a new board and there will be nominations from the 4 housing associations. Of the 4 'Blackwater' representatives on the new South Anglia Housing Board, there will be at least one BDC councillor nomination and at least one tenant representative. The existing Blackwater Charitable Housing Association Board will be replaced with a new 'Blackwater Neighbourhood Board', and this will consist of 12 individuals – 4 Members of BDC, 4 tenants, 4 independent members. The Neighbourhood Board will focus on the local delivery of local services including community development, voids, housing management, bad debt, anti social behaviour and development. The network of local area housing offices will be maintained to ensure that services are delivered at a truly local level These changes are expected to come into effect in the near future. (April and May 05). Blackwater Housing Association currently owns 504 rental units and 49 shared ownership properties within the Braintree District. They are also in the process of building 2 new 3 bed houses at Great Saling for rent and at St.Michael's Hospital site in Braintree they are developing 48 units: 26 for rent and 22 for shared ownership.	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: **Braintree Area**

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: Regeneration and Transportation

SUBJECT: Braintree Town Centre Improvements	CONTACT OFFICER: Barry Mills
TEL/EMAIL No.:01376 551414 ext 2592 e-mail barmi@brantre.gov.uk	BACKGROUND PAPERS: Braintree Area Committee 10 th September 2002
INFORMATION:	

Project News

Works on this key town centre project commenced in January with the historic drinking fountain being removed for refurbishment. This has now been returned to its original position and is now a wonderful centrepiece to Market Place and includes new granite seats around the perimeter. Final paving works around the drinking fountain are currently being completed, where upon the immediate area can be reopened to the public.

Construction works

The repaving works across the Market Place area have been split into phases, to minimise disruption in the town centre. Phase 1 is virtually complete apart from small detail areas. Phase 2 adjacent to the Bull Public House has started and will create an attractive, well-lit area for shoppers and visitors and will include new paving, improved street lighting and an area for café culture.(subject to approval of new permanent traffic orders)

Works will then move across the road to the other side of Market Place and finish with the Great Square area and the road resurfacing.

Quality

The materials for the project are all high quality materials with Portuguese granite being used for kerbstones and seating around the drinking fountain. Use has also been made of some of the original granite sets in Market Place, which have been reused for edging details around trees.

Lighting

The old concrete street light columns have been replaced by a high quality, modern design street light, supplied by a local supplier 'Light Engine'. The new lighting scheme will be a pilot scheme, as it will use a white light as opposed to the standard County Council 'yellow' light. The new light will give improved light quality for cctv coverage and will enhance the paved areas at night.

Programme

Work is due for completion in the summer when an improved town centre environment will be there to be enjoyed by all.

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Contact Details

If you have any questions you wish to ask please do not hesitate to contact one of the following who are part of the main project group.

Barry Mills	Project Manager	Tel 01376 551414 ext 2592
Barry Hardy	Project Engineer	Tel 01376 551414 ext 2252
Jenny Claydon	Landscape Architect	Tel 01376 551414 ext 2565

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

Time for a District spring clean

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Three environmental clean-up teams are working on the annual spring clean of the District to tackle litter and rubbish problems ahead of the spring season growth, which would otherwise trap unsightly and possibly dangerous litter, bottles and cans. This year, to improve safety for the cleaning teams, a large flashing warning sign will be used on busy roads to alert drivers to the verge cleaning ahead.

The spring clean improves the appearance of many routes and open spaces while reducing the risk of damage to grass cutting equipment once the new season is under way. It is one of the many ways the local council is working to drive down littering and make the District a better, cleaner place for everyone to live.

Inconsiderate drivers, and their passengers, are the main culprits of the litter on the many rural verges and routes across the District. In the past year 18 fixed penalty notices of £50 have been issued to car owners for litter thrown from vehicles, a further 20 penalty notices for littering on the street and 10 for dog fouling. The District Council has adopted a tough approach to littering of any kind and there are now over thirty officers empowered to issue fixed penalty notices including police community support officers, parking attendants, Environmental Protection and Environment Agency officers.

Cabinet member Roger Walters comments: "In the past year the number of litter hotspots in the District have been reduced from 33 to 17, thanks to the quick response of the clean teams and with help from residents. Don't drop litter in the street or throw it from your car window, put it in a bin - cleaning up littering, whether from verges, streets or fly tips, costs council tax payers hundreds of thousands of pounds every year."

ENDS

For more information contact:

PR Section, 01376 557752 Anne Proudfoot mobile 07817 334269

Issued by: PR Section 17 March 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

Fritch Way open to public again

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On Friday 15th April the Fritch Way, running from Braintree Station to Warner Close Rayne, will once again be open to the public following closure for improvement works. The project has included improvements to drainage, surfacing and the signage of this 3.5 kilometre section of the track. Some work remains to be done to signage and fencing but this will not affect public access.

The project has been made possible by a grant of £250,000 from Sustrans as part of its link to schools programme funded by the Department for Transport. The grant is the result of a joint bid by Braintree District Council and Essex County Council who will be managing the project.

The Fritch Way forms part of the National Cycleway Network, linking other parts of the network from Witham to Stansted: National Cycle Route 16 (Southend to Bishops Stortford).

ENDS

**For more information contact:
Rachel Stevens, Local Plans, 01376 551414 ext 2577**

Sustrans - it stands for sustainable transport - a charity that works on practical projects to encourage people to walk, cycle and use public transport in order to reduce motor traffic and its adverse effects.

www.sustrans.org.uk (Press office: Tel 0117 927 7555 Fax 0117 930 4149)

Issued by: PR Section 8 April 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

from Braintree District Council

New service to rural areas for garden waste

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Braintree District Council has begun a new service, collecting garden waste from 54 rural villages and parishes throughout the Braintree District – from households which do not have the wheeled bin service. The aim is to reduce the amount of bio-degradable waste collected in household rubbish and buried in landfill sites.

The new service will visit each village every four to six weeks throughout the year until October, at a site nominated by the parish council. It should help to cut down on car journeys to household waste sites and although gardeners are encouraged to compost as much as they can at home, the new service recognises that sometimes the nature or bulk of garden material can be too much for the home composter.

Cllr Roger Walters accompanied one of the three trucks on the first weekend trial. He says: "We're very pleased that this early in the year, people were coming out with garden waste. The new service gives the rural areas the opportunity to get rid of large amounts of green garden waste, without having to go the civic amenity sites, because we understand that while some people can make compost – not everyone has the capacity to compost everything." He added: "Having now launched the service; come the growing season, this will be a very valuable service to the rural areas. It will also help us to achieve the recycling targets and avoid green waste going to landfill."

Ends

Notes to editors:

Parish notice boards and parish magazines are being used to publicise the collection dates, which will in due course also appear on recycling calendars. District Councils can earn 'compost credits', for every tonne of green waste that does not go into landfill. In time this will earn more than the new service costs to provide, while helping to save the environment and produce high quality compost.

Council parks and gardens waste along with domestic composting is already transported in bulk for shredding and sieving, prior to conversion under factory conditions into high quality mushroom compost.

On the first day, over a tonne of green waste was collected and could rise to over 800 tonnes each year. This will help to avoid surcharges agreed under a European directive starting in the year 2008/9. Braintree District Council aims to encourage better waste disposal habits, before the penalties are brought in.

Photo caption: Councillor Roger Walters lends a hand to load some garden waste brought along by Helen Kemp of Gt Bardfield

For more information: Carole Love (01376) 551414 x 3375 or Roger Walters (01376) 553927.

Issued by: Braintree District Council - PR Section 1st March 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

Council needs to spend £100 million to keep housing

Braintree District Council must spend £100 million over the next five years if it is to improve its houses to meet Government guidelines by 2010.

The Council asked an independent consultancy to find out which of the four options made available by Government to meet the **Decent Homes Standard**, would best suit the future ownership and management of Council homes. The consultancy looked at how much it would cost to improve all of the Council homes to the Decent Homes Standard, and if each of the options could meet this cost.

Here are the results:

Option 1: Council continues to own and manage its homes

The Council would be able to find £40 million of the £100 million required to meet the Decent Homes Standard, but would be short of £60 million. The Government will not give the Council any money towards this. The report advises the Council should not follow this option.

Option 2: The Council owns its homes, which are managed by an Arms Length Management Organisation (ALMO).

An ALMO can apply for Government funding. The report suggests an ALMO may be an option for Braintree District Council.

Option 3: A Private Finance Initiative (PFI) consortium manages some of the Council's homes.

A consortium of businesses pay for all the improvements and maintenance to sections of Council housing in particularly bad condition, for 30 years. The report advises the Council should not follow this option, as the Council does not own any housing suitable for this.

Option 4: Housing is transferred to a housing association.

A housing association agrees to carry out all improvements and maintenance to sections, or all, of the Council's housing. The report suggests this may be an option for Braintree District Council.

What happens next?

The Council is inviting all tenants and leaseholders to participate in a series of events taking place throughout the district until Saturday 2nd April. The sessions promise to be lively, and will give everyone a chance to ask questions and have their say.

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Cllr Simon Walsh, lead member for housing, explains the importance of tenants' and leaseholders' involvement. "It is important that our tenants and leaseholders begin to understand and engage with the details and implications of this report. Tenants need to consider what is best for them and the wider community. In order to do that, I would encourage all tenants and leaseholders to get out to an event, and chat to the people there. This will help you decide how you wish to shape your future," he says.

In April, a telephone survey of 900 tenants and leaseholders will be carried out to find out which options they think should apply to their homes. The results will be used to help decide which option the Council will follow and recommend as its choice to the Government.

Also in April, tenants and leaseholders are invited to attend one of three events where they will be able to have their say about the future of Council houses in the Braintree District. BBC Essex radio presenter Dave Monk will facilitate these events.

Tenants and leaseholders can speak to their Independent Tenant Advisor, Solon Community Network, for more information on freephone 0800 169 4406.

Ends

Note

1. The independent consultants that carried out the financial evaluation are Pennington Consultancy. Its full report can be seen on the Council website on www.braintree.gov.uk

March 2005: Options events dates and venues

These two-hour events promise to be lively and entertaining and will give tenants and leaseholders the chance to ask questions and discuss their views about what the options mean for them.

Braintree area:

Wednesday 30th March, Alec Hunter School, Stubbs Lane, Braintree 7pm

Saturday 2nd April, Goldingham Hall, Goldingham Avenue, Braintree 2pm

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Witham area:

Tuesday 29th March, Dengie Hall, Dengie Close, Witham 7pm

Thursday 31st March, Spring Lodge Community Association, Powers Hall End,
Witham 7pm

The Council will revisit all of the sheltered accommodation that was involved in the first events in January and February.

If you need help with transport to the events, contact Jo Petchey, the Council's housing option officer, on 01376 551414 x2120.

Issued by: Braintree District Council - PR Section 24th March 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

Parliamentary Election – Braintree constituency

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The following persons have been nominated for election as Member of Parliament for the Braintree Constituency:-

James Edward ABBOTT (Green Party) – 1 Waterfall Cottages, Park Road, Rivenhall, Witham, Essex CM8 3PR

Alan Arthur HURST (The Labour Party Candidate) - 28 Whitefriars Crescent, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex

Roger Gordon LORD (U K Independence Party) - Claret Hall, Ovington Road, Ashen, Essex CO10 8LF

Brooks NEWMARK (The Conservative Party Candidate) - Park House, Church Road, Bradwell, Braintree, Essex CM77 8EP

Michael Anthony NOLAN (known as Buster) **(Independent)** - 8 Hall Villas, Great Bardfield, Essex CM7 4RY

Peter John Russell TURNER (Liberal Democrats) - 117 The Street, Black Notley, Braintree, Essex CM77 8LL

A poll will be taken on 5th May 2005 between the hours of 7.00am and 10.00pm.

ENDS

**For more information contact:
PR Section, 01376 557752**

Issued by: PR Section 20 April 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

Over £1,000 raised for Warner Archive

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The opening of the Warner Textile Archive took a step nearer when Trustees and Museum Friends Committee Members met together in the former Mill for a cheque presentation. The District Museum Friends raised a record £1,100 in this year's Christmas Raffle and made the commitment that they would donate the money to the Museum's Trustees towards the display scheme in the new Textile Centre.

On handing over the cheque to the Chairman of the Trustees Councillor Lynette Flint, Friends Chairman Jean Harrison commented that the sum raised represented a large number of people in the Braintree area who had purchased tickets and the work of Committee Members in making so many sales. Councillor Flint thanked the Friends for their continuing support. A further £1,000 was recently donated by Braintree & Bocking Civic Society towards the conversion scheme.

Museum Staff and Trustees are working towards a Summer opening for the Textile Centre. A Development Manager, Ann Wise, has been appointed and the interim fit out is close to completion.

Cultural Services Manager Jean Grice said, "We are so pleased to get local support from the Museum Friends and Civic Society, as they involve and represent the community."

The national importance of the Archive has earned the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund, the National Art Collection Fund, the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and GoEast, the Clothworkers' Foundation and many other charities including the Essex Heritage Trust, to raise the money to bring the collection back to Braintree where much of it was created.

ENDS

**For more information contact:
Braintree District Museum 01376 325266**

Issued by: PR Section 8 April 2005

MEMBERS' FOCUS

NEWS

Nominations for Essex County Council Elections

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The following candidates have been nominated for election as a County Councillor for the eight County Council electoral divisions in the Braintree District.

With regard to Braintree District Councillors standing for election, colleagues need to be careful that council resources are not used, nor perceived to have been used, to promote any particular candidate. National guidance on this is vague and in effect means avoiding council sponsored news or photo opportunities. The scope for unequal treatment of candidates and subsequent fair complaint is just too great.

DIVISION	CANDIDATE	
BOCKING	Terrence William Illedge Brooks	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	Wendy Anne Partridge	<i>Green Party</i>
	Jean Wendy Schmitt	<i>Conservative</i>
	Lynn Rosemary Watson	<i>Labour</i>
BRAINTREE EASTERN	Peter James Braley	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	Barbara Edith Coutts	<i>UKIP</i>
	Eileen Kirkpatrick Davidson	<i>Labour</i>
	Nigel David Charles Edey	<i>Conservative</i>
	Duncan Lee Stewart	<i>Green Party</i>
BRAINTREE TOWN	Elwyn Bishop	<i>Labour</i>
	Graham Butland	<i>Conservative</i>
	Philip John Hughes	<i>Green Party</i>
	Douglas Eric Albert Rice	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	Heather Mary Sheehan	<i>UKIP</i>
HALSTEAD	Christine Ann Bayley	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	Nelson Joseph Brunton	<i>Green Party</i>
	Joseph William Pike	<i>Conservative</i>
	Moia Thorogood	<i>Labour</i>
HEDINGHAM	Stephen John Bolter	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	David Malcolm Finch	<i>Conservative</i>
	Robert Maxen Kenney	<i>Green Party</i>
	John Kotz	<i>Labour</i>
THREE FIELDS WITH GREAT NOTLEY	Michael Victor Baker	<i>UKIP</i>
	Lesley Margaret Beckett	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	William Paul Edwards	<i>Labour</i>
	Kevin Andrew Peterson	<i>Green Party</i>
	Roger Glyn Walters	<i>Conservative</i>
WITHAM NORTHERN	James Edward Abbott	<i>Green Party</i>
	Martin Graham John Ashby	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>

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	Philip Robert Barlow	<i>Labour</i>
	Michael Charles Moore Lager	<i>Conservative</i>
	Bryan Melvyn Smith	<i>UKIP</i>
WITHAM SOUTHERN	Barry John Fleet	<i>Liberal Democrats</i>
	Stephen Eric Hicks	<i>Green Party</i>
	Derrick Jonathan Louis	<i>Conservative</i>
	Jacqueline Suzanne Marie Martin	<i>Labour</i>

The last day for withdrawals of candidature is no later than noon Tuesday 12th April, 2005.

ENDS

**For more information contact:
PR Section, 01376 557752**

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2001 County Council results for the Braintree District follow:

2001 County Council results for the Braintree District

Results of the poll for election of Essex County Councillor for the seven County Council electoral divisions in the Braintree District on 7th June 2001 were:-

BOCKING

Peter James BRALEY (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	1068	
Frederick Ernest Thomas CARD (<i>Labour</i>)	3301	
Duncan Lee STEWART (<i>Green</i>)	531	
Simon Michael WALSH (Conservative)	3421	elected / 120 majority

BRAINTREE EAST

Elwyn BISHOP (<i>Labour</i>)	4290	
Terrence William Illedge BROOKS (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	1672	
Nigel David Charles EDEY (Conservative)	4372	elected / 82 majority
Jeremy Martin Russell SMITH (<i>Green</i>)	688	

BRAINTREE WEST

Barbara Anne BUCHAN (<i>Labour</i>)	3741	
Anthony John MEADOWS (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	2843	
Wendy Anne PARTRIDGE (<i>Green</i>)	473	
Roger Glyn WALTERS (Conservative)	4304	elected / 563 majority

HALSTEAD

Stephen John BOLTER (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	1668	
Malcolm John FINCKEN (<i>Labour</i>)	3021	

MEMBERS' FOCUS

Philip John HUGHES (<i>Green</i>)	390	
Joseph William PIKE (Conservative) majority	4046	elected/ 1025
HEDINGHAM		
Trevor Keith ELLIS (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	1910	
David Malcolm FINCH (Conservative) majority	4084	elected/ 1918
John KOTZ(<i>Labour</i>)	2166	
Nicholas David SCALES (<i>Green</i>)	409	
WITHAM NORTH		
James Edward ABBOTT (<i>Green</i>)	1458	
Philip Robert BARLOW (Labour) majority	3626	elected/ 1113
Barry John FLEET (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	1035	
Jennifer Anne JARVIS (<i>Conservative</i>)	2513	
WITHAM SOUTH		
Lesley Margaret BECKETT (<i>Liberal Democrat</i>)	1063	
Keith Edward BIGDEN (Conservative) majority	3304	elected / 213
Nelson Joseph BRUNTON (<i>Green</i>)	460	
John Edward Barrington GYFORD(<i>Labour</i>)	3091	
ENDS		

MEMBERS' FOCUS

AREA: DISTRICT

CORPORATE THEME HEADING: STRAY DOGS

SUBJECT: STRAY DOGS	CONTACT OFFICER: KAREN EVERITT
TEL/EMAIL No.: karev@braintree.gov.uk 01376 551414 Ext 2217	BACKGROUND PAPERS: BRAINTREE & WITHAM TIMES 19/03/04
<p>INFORMATION: Local Authorities deal with more than 100,000 stray dogs every year, a responsibility that is currently shared with the police. At present, the Control of Dogs Order 1992 requires all dogs whilst in a public place, wear a collar with the name and address of their owner inscribed on it. This will not change if the proposed Part 6 of the Clean Neighborhood and Environment Act 2005 comes into force.</p> <p>Braintree District Council's figures show that since the Dog Warden's have been actively organizing and promoting Microchipping events throughout the district, a 41.65% reduction in the need to re-home unclaimed dogs has been achieved, which is an excellent result. However, the Dog Wardens were still required to find new homes for 49 dogs picked up during 2004/2005, which could have been greatly reduced, had these dogs been permanently identichipped.</p> <p>In March 2004, Mr. Cross drove from the Isle of Wight to Braintree Council Offices to be reunited with his beloved dog, which was identified thanks to a microchip (B & W Times 19/03/04 34491-1)</p>	