

CABINET MEMBER REPORT TO COUNCIL – 26TH OCTOBER 2009

Agenda Item 9 (i)

CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Nigel Harley

CABINET PORTFOLIO: Enterprise & Culture

Portfolio covers:-

- District growth and infrastructure (inc. Transport Strategy)
- Economic Development Strategy
- Cultural Strategy
- Built Environment (planning policy)
- Business Support
- Tourism

REPORT COVERS ACTIVITY DURING PERIOD COMMENCING 22ND SEPTEMBER AND ENDING 15TH OCTOBER 2009

EAST OF ENGLAND PLAN TO 2031

EERA have published a consultation document on scenarios for residential and business development that extends to the year 2031. The consultation period runs to 24th November.

In view of the huge importance of this plan to the District a meeting has been arranged for all Members on 27th October to discuss the plan, when a representative of EEDA will be present.

At the same time Cabinet has given its approval for the formal response to EEDA to be formulated by the LDF Panel. However, there will be an opportunity for changes to the response to be made by Full Council in December. EEDA have approved this extension to the deadline for consultation.

GROWTH AREA FUNDING

With the allocations of Growth Area Funding now confirmed for the period 2008-11 to is necessary to address the arrangements for governance of the fund. A Braintree Growth Fund Board was established and met in October 2008 to set the priorities for 2008/09. The Board has not met since that time, and Cabinet have now agreed to extend the responsibilities of the LDF Panel to include Growth Area Funding for the period 2009/11.

TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT

Braintree

Four bidders have been short listed to proceed to the next stage of the OJEU process and Cabinet has authorised the appointment of solicitors to proceed with the legal work associated with the various stages.

Other issues regarding Braintree are progressing and Members are requested to read the Private Session of the Cabinet minutes of 12th October for further information.

Witham

With regard to the plans to develop the Newland Shopping Centre in conjunction with the owners further details on this matter can also be found in the Private Session of the Cabinet minutes for 12th October.

FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE CONTENTS OF THIS REPORT CAN BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING:

Cabinet Member Cllr Nigel Harley Tel 01787 277309

***Deputy Cabinet Members Cllr Nigel McCrea Tel 01440 785001 and Cllr Tim Wilkinson
Tel 01376 529133***