

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

26 February 2009
6.00pm – 11.50pm

Present: The Mayor (Councillor Dixon), Councillors Al Bander, Armstrong, Baker, Benstead, Bick, Blackhurst, Blair, Blencowe, Boyce, Bradnack, Cantrill, Hart, Herbert, Hipkin, Holness, Howell, Kightley, Liddle, Lynn, McGovern, McPherson, Newbold, Nimmo-Smith, Pitt, Reid, Rosenstiel, Sanders, Shah, Smart, Smith, Stuart, Taylor, Todd-Jones, Walker, Ward, Wright, Zmura

For the Information of the Council

09/01 MINUTES

The minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting and the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on 4 December 2008 were confirmed as correct records and signed by the Mayor.

09/02 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were noted from Councillors Ellis-Miller and Levy and McPherson.

2. SERGEANT-AT-MACE

This was the first Meeting for the new Sergeant-at-Mace Mr Chris Cracknell. The Mayor welcomed him and wished him all the best in his new role

3. CIVIC RECEPTION FOR THE COUNCIL'S RETIRED STAFF

This year's reception for the Council's retired staff was to take place on Wednesday, 25th March 2009.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor	Item	Interest
Ward	05/09	Prejudicial: As wife worked at CUP
Shah	05/09	Personal: Member of CUP Pensions Fund
Taylor	05/09	Personal: Employee of Cambridge University and Member of CUP Pensions Fund
Baker	05/09	Personal: Author published by Cambridge University
Blackhurst	05/09	Personal: Employee of Cambridge University
Smith	05/09	Personal: Employee of Cambridge University

Councillor	Item	Interest
Todd-Jones	05/09	Personal Employee of Cambridge University
Rosenstiel	05/09	Personal: Member of Unite Union
Taylor	05/09	Personal: Member of Unite Union and employee of CUP
Newbold	05/09	Personal: Former Shop Steward with Unite
Nimmo-Smith	05/09	Personal: Member of Universities and Colleges Union

09/03 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Mrs Sara Bennett (Chair of the Publishing Division Union at Cambridge University Press) addressed the Council and highlighted the issue of the proposed redundancies at CUP. The University was celebrating its 800th Anniversary yet was proposing job cuts, resulting in the loss of highly skilled and educated employees that would be hard to replace. Cambridge University was a big employer in the City and Councillors were urged to back the motion proposed by Councillor Al Bander.

The Leader commented that the Council did take seriously the potential impact of any redundancies within the City.

Mrs Sara Bennett stressed that CUP was the oldest University Press in the world and that it was important that a 'knee jerk' reaction was not taken on the issue of redundancies.

09/04 CHANGE OF AGENDA ORDER

As representatives of Cambridge University Press were present at the meeting the Mayor used his discretion, under paragraph 4.2.1 of the council Procedure Rules, to alter the order of the business so that Agenda Item 9c was taken next.

09/05 MOTION: Cambridge University Press redundancies

Councillor Al Bander proposed and Councillor Shah seconded the following motion:

The Council notes with concern the rising count of redundancies being announced by Cambridge-based employers during the current economic recession.

It notes with alarm, in particular, the recent proposals of Cambridge University Press to make 150+ redundancies locally, and the impact that these would have on the fabric of the community and the tradition of an indigenous industry of the City.

Acknowledging the campaign of the employees at CUP (supported by David Howarth MP and Richard Howitt MEP), and the interests of those affected by redundancy proposals elsewhere, the Council calls on employers contemplating redundancies to ensure:

- that their statutory obligations to consult are carried out scrupulously and meaningfully;
- that all alternatives to redundancies are rigorously investigated and, if at all viable, pursued;
- that in their consultations they give weight to the cumulative impact on the local community and economy, in addition to the livelihoods of those who would be directly affected.

Under Procedure Rule 13.8.1, it was agreed to deal with the business at the meeting.

Councillor Herbert proposed and Councillor Newbold seconded the following amendment:

Insert extra paragraph after 2nd paragraph

'The Council supports the actions by employees and their trade union Unite to save jobs at CUP, and calls on CUP not to export any jobs to other locations or countries.'

On a show of hands the amendment was lost by 11 votes to 22.

Resolved (unanimously) that:

The Council notes with concern the rising count of redundancies being announced by Cambridge-based employers during the current economic recession.

It notes with alarm, in particular, the recent proposals of Cambridge University Press to make 150+ redundancies locally, and the impact that these would have on the fabric of the community and the tradition of an indigenous industry of the City.

Acknowledging the campaign of the employees at CUP (supported by David Howarth MP and Richard Howitt MEP), and the interests of those affected by redundancy proposals elsewhere, the Council calls on employers contemplating redundancies to ensure:

- that their statutory obligations to consult are carried out scrupulously and meaningfully;
- that all alternatives to redundancies are rigorously investigated and, if at all viable, pursued;
- that in their consultations they give weight to the cumulative impact on the local community and economy, in addition to the livelihoods of those who would be directly affected.

09/06 BUSINESS REMAINING FROM COUNCIL MEETING ON 4 DECEMBER 2008

Taxicard

At the Council meeting on 4 December 2008, Councillor Blencowe had moved, and Councillor Walker had seconded the motion set out below.

“The Council is committed to retaining and improving the taxicard scheme and asks the Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth to bring forward improvements in the 2009 budget to address issues raised by users, disability organisations and COPE including greater flexibility on vouchers and entitlement.”

The Council had resolved, under paragraph 13.8.1 of the Council Procedure Rules, not to deal with the motion at that meeting. As a result, the motion stood referred to the Environment Scrutiny Committee and the Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule paragraph 13.8.2, the motion was re-submitted to this meeting as deferred business.

Members' attention was drawn to the Minute/ Record of Decision of the Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth and the officer's report

Under Procedure Rule 13.8.1, it was agreed to deal with the business at the meeting.

On a show of hands the motion was lost by 11 votes to 24.

DRY RECYCLING

At the Council meeting on 4 December 2008, Councillor Newbold had moved, and Councillor Herbert had seconded the motion set out below.

'The Council is concerned:

- that Cambridge City recycling performance on paper, glass and other materials is falling behind that by neighbouring and other Councils
- that plans for major recycling collection changes in 2009 have not been adequately shared with the public or Councillors

and calls for detailed consultation with households before any significant recycling changes are made, including to make sure that any changes address the different needs and sizes of homes and households across the City.'

The Council had resolved, under paragraph 13.8.1 of the Council Procedure Rules, not to deal with the motion at that meeting. As a result, the motion stood referred to the Environment Scrutiny Committee and the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule paragraph 13.8.2, the motion was re-submitted to this meeting as deferred business.

Members' attention was drawn to the Minute/ Record of Decision of the Executive Councillor for Environmental and Waste Services and the officer's report

Under Procedure Rule 13.8.1, it was agreed to deal with the business at the meeting.

On a show of hands the motion was lost by 9 votes to 21.

09/07 CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT – A SUB-COMMITTEE TO MAKE A NEW CHIEF EXECUTIVE APPOINTMENT

RESOLVED (unanimously) to:

Establish an Appointment Sub-Committee of 6 councillors (4 Liberal Democrats, 2 Labour) to make a recommendation on the appointment of a new Chief Executive and to agree the terms and conditions of appointment for the successful candidate.

The following Members were appointed:

- Councillor Cantrill
- Councillor Herbert
- Councillor Nimmo-Smith
- Councillor Reid
- Councillor Smart
- Councillor Hart
- Liberal Democrat Alternates: Bick and Stuart
- Labour Alternate: Walker

09/08 RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE

The Mayor ruled that under 100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act 1972 Budget agenda items 7a and 7b be considered despite hard copies not being made publicly available five clear working days prior to the meeting, as it was not practical to defer setting a budget and Council Tax.

The Executive presented its budget recommendations to Council as set out in Agenda Item 7a.

Labour Group Alternative Budget Proposals

Councillor Herbert presented the Labour Group's alternative budget as set out in the Council Agenda. , which under the Procedure was deemed to have been moved and seconded as an amendment.

Green/Independent Budget statement

Councillor Hipkin presented a budget statement on behalf of the Green/Independent Group and thanked colleagues for the opportunity to do so. No detailed budget had been produced but numerous discussions had taken place with the Director of Finance to work on the figures.

The Green/Independent Group proposed:

- Abolition of Area Committees (which if implemented in March would produce a saving of £120,000)
- Further reduction of CCTV staff
- Reduction in spend on Equalities (*just* covering statutory requirements would produce saving of £20,000)
- Reduce Corporate Communications post to ½ time (saving of £30,000)
- Merging of the publications budget (saving of £22,000)
- Reduction of Members allowances by 5%

These measures would produce a total saving of approximately £175,000 which would mean a rise of Council Tax of 1.64%.

Councillor Howell Budget Statement

Councillor Howell presented his budget statement and said that a reduction in Council Tax was imperative. He described the Liberal Democrat proposal as an 'officers' budget' which highlighted no long term core savings. He said that the folk festival ticket and the Icelandic bank issues should have been picked up earlier. He called for every service line to carry out a full review to assess the impact of the recession on receipts and demand. He stated that the Leading Groups budget was based on one off cuts and did not offer long-term savings.

A Conservative group budget would control spending by:

- Introducing zero based budget reviews and encouraging partner agencies and the voluntary sector to provide more services.
- Reviewing services and prioritising those that have the highest impact on local residents while cutting those with a lower impact
- Reviewing Area Committees viability

and a Council Tax cut would be a priority.

Labour Group Alternative Budget Amendment

Under the Council's budget procedure, the Labour Group's alternative budget was deemed to have been moved and seconded as an amendment.

On a show of hands the Labour Group's alternative budget amendment was lost by 10 votes to 21.

In accordance with the Procedure, Councillor Herbert moved separately the following proposals which formed part of the Labour Group alternative budget:

Reference	Details
	Reducing the planned Council Tax increase to 3.3% instead of 4.5%

On a show of hands the proposal was lost by 10 votes to 21

Reference	Details
R1A	Reinstate interest to Section 106 capital programme to retain previous level of funding for projects including youth and recreational facilities, cycleways and environmental Improvements [RB2140 / S2138 / S2139]
R1B	Recovery of Section 106 interest only balances [RB2161]

On a show of hands the proposal was lost by 11 votes to 21

Reference	Details
R2	Return planning decisions to Planning Committee

On a show of hands the proposal was lost by 12 votes to 21

Reference	Details
R6	Leisure contract procurement [S2172]
R7	Leisure contract extension [B2171]

On a show of hands the proposal was lost by 9 votes to 21

Reference	Details
R9	Appointment of Scrutiny & Review Manager through redeployment

On a show of hands the proposal was lost by 9 votes to 21

Reference	Details
R11	Expand Taxicard budget to fund allocation to all users of double tokens for use on rides costing over £8

On a show of hands the proposal was lost by 11 votes to 21

RESOLVED (by 20 votes to 10) to agree the Executive's budget proposals:

- a) **Draft revenue and capital budgets revised 2007/08 and proposed 2008/09 and forecast 2009/10** – incorporating amendments tabled at Strategy & Resources Scrutiny Committee 8 February 2008

Unless otherwise specified, all references in the recommendations to Appendices, pages and sections related to the updated version of the Budget-Setting Report (Version 4 - Council)

In relation to the General Fund Revenue Budgets 2008/09:

- a) Approve the 2008/09 revised budget savings and bids as shown in Appendix C *[page 105 refers]*.
- b) Approve the overall revised budget for 2008/09, with net committee spending at £22,350,750, as shown in Appendix Y *[page 276 refers]* for General Fund Services.
- c) Approve the level of reserves to be used to support the 2008/09 budget, at £4,962,560 (including temporary use of Reserves for Customer Access of £972,410, Guildhall Working Party of £40,380 and Memorials of £30,000), as shown in Appendix Y *[page 276 refers]*.

In relation to the General Fund Revenue Budgets 2009/10 :

- d) To approve increases in savings targets in 2011/12 and 2012/13 by £100,000 in each year, as shown in Appendix Y *[page 276 refers]*.
- e) To authorise entering into short-term borrowing, if required, in 2010/11 as described in section 13 *[page 77 refers]*.
- f) Approve a change in accounting policy and practice, with effect from 2008/09, whereby the Council ceases to allocate interest to unspent developers contributions under planning obligations (commonly referred to as Section 106 funds) held by the Council, as described in section 6 *[page 43 refers]*.
- g) Approve the Revenue Bids and Savings shown in Appendix G *[page 145 refers]* and which are built into the General Fund Summary, Appendix Y *[page 276 refers]*.

h) Approve the Bids to be funded from External or Earmarked Funds, set out in Appendix E *[page 134 refers]*.

i) Approve the overall base budget for 2009/10, as shown in Appendix Y *[page 276 refers]* and summarised below:

	2009/10
	£
SPEND:	
Scrutiny Committees / Portfolios	
Community Services – Arts & Recreation	5,215,270
Community Services – Community Development & Health	4,078,380
Community Services – Housing	2,482,000
Environment – Climate Change & Growth	6,585,270
Environment – Environmental & Waste Services	6,693,900
Strategy & Resources - Customer Services & Resources	(4,999,460)
Strategy & Resources – Strategy (including central Provisions to be allocated)	1,567,850
Committees Total	21,623,210
Capital Adjustments Account	500,600
Minimum Revenue Provision	(2,708,690)
Contribution to Capital Spending	5,166,530
Additional Council Tax earmarked for growth (unallocated)	62,660
Technology Investment Fund (TIF) contribution	84,320
Spending Requirement	24,728,630
FUNDING:	
Revenue Support Grant	(2,320,950)
Business Rates	(10,055,540)
Collection Fund Deficit (net)	47,140
Raised from Council Tax (based on recommendation k, below)	(6,443,050)
Total Funding	(18,772,400)
Contribution from Reserves (5,476,210)	
including temporary (use) / payback of reserves for :	
Customer Access	541,860
Guildhall Working Party – Option 1	(71,840)
Memorials	10,000

j) Approve the level of reserves to be used to support the 2009/10 budget, at £5,476,210, including temporary use of reserves for Guildhall Working Party – Option 1 of £71,480 and payback of temporary use of reserves for Customer Access of £541,860, and Memorials of £10,000, as shown above and in Appendix Y *[page 276 refers]*.

k) Approve the Council Tax Base and set the level of Council Tax for 2009/10, based on a 99% collection rate *[Section 8 refers]*, Appendix H (a) and (b) *[page 184 refers]* and that all necessary steps be taken to collect and recover the Council Tax. In summary:

- The Council Tax base has been calculated at 39,647 – see Appendix H(a) *[page 182 refers]*;
- The increase in the City Council level of Council Tax at band D to be from £155.51 in 2008/09 to £162.51 in 2009/10 (4.5%) – see Appendix H(b) *[page 184 refers]* also attached;

Note that the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority met on 11th February 2009, Cambridgeshire County Council met on 12th February 2009 and Cambridgeshire Police Authority met on 13th February 2009 and respectively approved the amounts in precepts to be issued to the City Council for the year 2009/10.

l) Approve:

i) The Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix L, Annex 1 *[page 209 refers]* and to note that the “authorised limit” determined for 2009/10 will be the statutory limit determined under section 3 of the Local Government Act 2003 *[Section 14, page 83 refers]*.

ii) To delegate to the Director of Finance, within the borrowing totals for any financial year within the above mentioned prudential indicators, authority to effect movement between the separately agreed figures for “borrowing” and “other long-term liabilities”;

iii) The Treasury Management and Annual Investment Strategy set out in Appendix U *[page 256 refers]*.

iv) The changes to the Council’s approved counterparty list as detailed in Appendix V *[page 269 refers]*.

m) Delegate to the Director of Finance authority to finalise changes relating to the reallocation of support service and central costs in accordance with the CIPFA Best Value Accounting Code of Practice *[para 6.39, page 43 refers]*.

in relation to the Capital Plan:

n) Approve the following project appraisals, which have been referred by Executive Councillors :

Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources:

- Replacement of Oracle Financials (FMS) Server
- Update to the Council's Decision Management ICT Systems
- LPG Replacement Programme (2008-09)
- Vehicle Replacements Programme (2009-10)
- Relocation of Streetscene

Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth:

- Revenue and Benefit Services – Replacement Northgate Sun Server
- The supply, installation and monitoring of a corrosion monitoring system at Park Street Multi-Storey Car Park.

Executive Councillor for Environmental & Waste Strategy:

- Purchase of the Refuse Vehicle for Flats
- Modernisation of Romsey Recreation Ground Conveniences.

o) Agree to delete the following schemes, which have been referred by Executive Councillors, which will result in the return to reserves of a total of £174,000 to enable funding of other capital items.

Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| • Information Boards (SC073) | £15,000 |
| • Corn Exchange Air Handling (SC110) | £60,000 |

Executive Councillor for Community Development & Health:

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| • Youth Bus (SC401) following agreement that South Cambridgeshire District Council will lead on the project | £nil effect |
| • Purchase of Land abutting the Crematorium following the failure of negotiations with relevant landowners (SC315) | £84,000 |

Executive Councillor for Customer Services & Resources:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Replacement and upgrade of PS2000 (SC067) | £10,000 |
|---|---------|

Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth:

- CCTV line from Grafton West Car Park to Guildhall (SC247) £5,000

p) Approve the transfer of £4,000 from the Local Nature Conservation Capital Programme (PR022) to the Local Nature Reserves revenue budget in 2009/10 and 2010/11 (as referred by the Executive Councillor for Climate Change and Growth).

q) Approve applying the additional Year 3 LABGI grant (provisional sum £530,930) announced on 4 February 2009 towards funding for the Phase 2 of the Lion Yard refurbishment scheme, in continuance of the previous policy of reinvesting the grant in the growth of business within the City [*Section 5, page 35 refers*].

r) Approve that the new capital bids, shown in Appendix S [*page 233 refers*], should be included in the Capital Plan or added to the Hold list, as indicated.

and, in addition,

s) Agree the available funding shown in Appendix M, the Hold list shown in Appendix R, and the re-phased Capital Plan as presented in Appendix N [*page 212 refers*] for the General Fund and Appendix O [*page 220 refers*] for the HRA which incorporate the impact of the above decisions in respect of the capital plan.

t) Note the impact of revenue, capital and other approvals and approve the level of reserves to be used to:

i) support the 2008/09 budget

ii) support the 2009/10 and future years budgets.

[*Section 16, page 89 refers*].

in relation to the Housing Revenue Account

u) To note that minor amendments resulting from the announcement of the final subsidy determination for the HRA are reflected in the updated Budget-Setting Report (Version 4 – Council).

Appendix H (b) – Council Tax Setting 2009/10

(1) The Council calculated its Council Tax Base to be **39,647** for the year 2009/10 in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 as shown in the schedule of properties in this Appendix.

(2) The following amounts are now calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) £132,511,150 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act [**the Council's gross expenditure**]

(b) £113,738,750 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act [**gross income including a contribution from Reserves for 2009/10**]

(c) £18,772,400 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year [**net expenditure**]

(d) £12,329,350 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed non- domestic rates and revenue support grant, reduced by the amount of any sum which the Council estimates will be transferred from its General Fund to its Collection Fund in accordance with section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 [**Council Tax Deficit**]

(e) £162.51 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount at (1) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(f) The resulting City Council element of the Council Tax at Band D is shown in the table below, representing an increase of 4.5%.

City Council element of Council Tax

Band	City Council 2008/09 £s	Council Tax 2009/10 £s	Difference £s
A	103.67	108.34	4.67
B	120.95	126.40	5.45
C	138.23	144.45	6.22
D	155.51	162.51	7.00
E	190.07	198.62	8.55
F	224.63	234.74	10.11
G	259.18	270.85	11.67
H	311.02	325.02	14.00

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands [**Council Tax relating to the City Council's expenditure**].

(3) Note that the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority met on 11th February 2009, Cambridgeshire County Council met on 12th February 2009 and Cambridgeshire Police Authority met on 13th February 2009 and approved the amounts in precepts to be issued to the City Council for the year 2009/10, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Band	County Council £s	Police Authority £s	Fire and Rescue Authority £s
A	678.18	109.80	37.56
B	791.21	128.10	43.82
C	904.24	146.40	50.08
D	1,017.27	164.70	56.34
E	1,243.33	201.30	68.86
F	1,469.39	237.90	81.38
G	1,695.45	274.50	93.90
H	2,034.54	329.40	112.68

(4) Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (2)(f) and (3) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2009/10 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	Council Tax £s
A	933.88
B	1,089.53
C	1,245.17
D	1,400.82
E	1,712.11
F	2,023.41
G	2,334.70
H	2,801.64

09/09 MOTION: Duration of the Meeting

Resolved at 10.30pm under Council Procedure Rule 10.1 that the meeting not be adjourned.

09/10 ORAL QUESTIONS

1. From Councillor Pitt to the Leader

How does the City Council compare with other authorities in Cambridgeshire in the recent independent statutory Place Survey assessment of residents' involvement in local decision making?

2. From Councillor Howell to the Executive Councillor for Housing

Did City Homes grit the paths it is responsible for during the recent cold snap, and if not, why not?

3. From Councillor Bradnack to the Leader

Does the Leader of the Council agree that the Liberal Democrat-proposed increase of 4.5% in the City Council Tax is significantly higher than the current inflation rate

4. From Councillor Hart to the Leader

The City Council expects new developments to mitigate the impact they will have on infrastructure and community facilities in the city and can be addressed either through the provision of facilities on site as part of new development, for example public open space, or through the provision of a financial contribution to the City Council which will be used to improve appropriate infrastructure in the city. The budget papers show that the interest gained from the unspent financial contributions is being deducted, this year and in future years. Is the Leader of the Council intending to leave the financial contributions unspent in order to secure the income on the interest?

5. From Councillor Herbert to the Leader

What progress has been made in recovering the Council's £618,000 loss on 2008 folk festival tickets, and what progress has been made on the independent external inquiry he announced on 7th January would be investigating the issue?

6. From Councillor Walker to the Executive Councillor for Arts and Recreation

When, prior to her decision to extend the SLM contract, did she last visit Abbey Pool?

7. From Councillor Newbold to the Leader

What is the adopted City Council policy which is being used to take interest from s106 monies? What is the legislation that allows Cambridge City Council to do this, and do any other Cambridgeshire councils have, or intend to adopt, a similar Policy?

8. From Councillor Howell to the Executive Councillor for Housing

How long has Tiverton house been partially or fully empty, and what costs have been incurred relating to Tiverton House since then?

9. From Councillor Newbold to the Leader

Given budget approval, what will the 2008/09 s106 interest removed from this budget be used for?

10. From Councillor Bradnack to the Executive Councillor for Customer Services and Resources

What steps will the City Council take to enable City Life to vacate the Howard Mallett site and occupy its preferred site in Kings Hedges?

09/11 MOTION: Approval of Cllr Levy's absence at Meetings

Councillor Ward proposed and Councillor Rosenstiel seconded the following motion:

That the Council notes that Cllr Alan Levy is unwell and that his illness means that he is at present unable to attend meetings of the Council. The Council therefore, for the purposes of section 85 of the Local Government Act, 1972, gives its approval to his absence at meetings by reason of his ill health. The Council wishes Cllr Levy a full and early recovery.

Under Procedure Rule 13.8.1, it was agreed to deal with the business at the meeting.

RESOLVED (unanimously) that the motion be agreed as set out above

09/12 MOTION: Community involvement in Local Government

Councillor Walker proposed and Councillor Lynn seconded the following motion:

Members of Cambridge City Council:

- Recognise the importance of community involvement in Local Government and support national Government's initiatives to empower local people.
- Wish to ensure that residents and community groups in Cambridge are not only kept informed but genuinely enabled to initiate ideas and solutions, and therefore to actively and effectively engage in council policy making and decisions.

This Council therefore calls upon the Director of Customer & Democratic Services to submit a report to the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee by July 2009, that examines examples of best practice, including in other local authorities, and brings forward proposals for Cambridge City Council to further develop and enhances its own consulting mechanisms.

On a show of hands, under paragraph 13.8 of the Council Procedure Rules, 18 members voted against dealing with the motion at the meeting and 10 in favour. The motion therefore stands referred without discussion to the Strategy and Resources Scrutiny Committee for consideration and recommendation and to the Leader for decision.

09/13 TO RECEIVE RECORDS OF DECISION MADE BY MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

The Council received the records of decisions made by Executive Councillors as set out in the agenda.

09/14 WRITTEN QUESTIONS/INFORMATION MINUTES

Members noted the written questions and answers circulated around the Chamber and received the minutes of Committees which were for information.

The Council concluded its business at 11.50pm

MAYOR