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EAST
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

COUNCIL – 20 FEBRUARY 2020
DECISION LIST

Prior to the formal commencement of the meeting, the Chairman announced the recent death of former District Councillor PJ Bridge, Independent Member for Cheveley from 1973 to 1999. One minute's silence was observed as a mark of respect.

Agenda Item No.	Report Ref.	Item	Issue	Decision	Action by
1.	-	Public Question Time	To answer questions from members of the public.	<p>8 Questions were submitted regarding Agenda Item 9: Call-in of the decision made at Operational Services Committee on 20 January 2020 relating to the review of grant to Citizen's Advice Rural Cambridgeshire (CARC) by the following people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anita Mills (Volunteer) – 2 questions• Karl Relton (Ely Foodbank)• Revd Robert Ely & Mrs Teresa Ely• Chris Prescott (Volunteer)• Pat Del Grazia (CARC Advice Service Leader)• Linda Spiers (Volunteer)• Penny Taylor (Volunteer) <p>The questions and responses will be detailed in full in the Council Minutes.</p>	

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				<p>A statement/question was asked by Susan Bussell from the newly formed East Cambridgeshire Climate Action Network (CAN) regarding the sustainability of the Kennett development. Ms Bussell stated that East Cambridgeshire CAN was a diverse Group and would welcome the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Council on the issue of Climate Change.</p> <p>Ms Bussell stated that concerted action was needed on Climate Change both nationally and locally, as it was affecting the health, safety and well-being of all people and the delivery of public services. The Kennett development would be a potential source of significant levels of carbon emissions and needed to be designed to be as sustainable as possible. Therefore, she questioned what the new build standards would be and how issues such as flooding mitigation would be addressed? Ms Bussell emphasised that what was good for the local community should be at the heart of the development and therefore urged Councillors to support the Motion on the Council Agenda tonight relating to Climate Change and Kennett Garden Village and to commit to consultation with experts and organisations such as East Cambridgeshire CAN to provide a sustainable community at Kennett that will thrive.</p>	

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				<p>The Leader of the Council, Councillor Anna Bailey, thanked Ms Bussell for her question and commended the title of the new East Cambridgeshire CAN, which reflected the 'can do' approach of this Council, and stated that the Council would welcome the opportunity to meet and work with the network. The Council was planning for a highly sustainable development at Kennett and this was also reflected in the Supplementary Planning Document on the subject currently being drafted, that would come to Committee in the summer. Similarly, Building Control Regulations were being revised to ensure sustainable development. More detail on these issues would be given in response to the Motion contained later on this Agenda.</p> <p>The following question was submitted by retired District Councillor, Mr Peter Cresswell:</p> <p>'Will East Cambridgeshire District Council please enter into negotiations with neighbouring authorities, West Suffolk Council and Newmarket Town Council, in order to convince Suffolk County Council that the household waste and recycling site, in Depot Road, Newmarket, should be re-opened as a matter of priority? Despite being in Suffolk, a great many East Cambridgeshire District Council residents used this facility, prior to its closure.</p>	

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				<p>Households in the south of the district, particularly those in Woodditton Ward, have to travel up to 20 miles to their nearest waste disposal centre. How does this square with the Council's policy to reduce the carbon footprint in the district?</p> <p>This is yet another cross border issue that needs addressing.</p> <p>In the event of the above question receiving a positive response, will the Council please report back on discussions that take place with neighbouring authorities at the next Council meeting on 16th April 2020?'</p> <p>The Leader of the Council, Councillor Anna Bailey, thanked Peter Cresswell for the question and stated that this Council had received a number of letters and lobbying on the issue. This Council was committed to keeping all of its Household Recycling sites open. Whilst this was not a site within East Cambridgeshire, there did need to be some cross-border discussion and co-operation. Following a request for data from our officers, there had been no evidence of increased instances of fly-tipping in the South of the District as a result of the closure of the Newmarket site. However, the Leader stated that she had written to Suffolk County Council on the closure of the Newmarket site and a copy of</p>	

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				that letter had been circulated at the meeting. In addition, Councillors Starkey and Sharp, as local Ward Members, were in dialogue with Suffolk Councils on the issue.	
2.	-	Apologies for Absence	-	Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Edwards and Trimarco.	-
3.	-	Declarations of Interest	To receive declarations of interests from Members in respect of any items on the Agenda in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct.	At the request of Chairman, the Democratic Services Manager confirmed that Members had a statutory exemption to allow them to vote on the Budget. No declarations of Interests were made by Councillors.	-
4.	-	Minutes – 17 October 2019	-	It was resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman, subject to clarification that the meeting had concluded at 12.25am, having continued into the following day of 18 th October.	Democratic Services Manager
5.	-	Chairman's Announcements	Announcement of items of interest.	The Chairman made the following announcements: <u>Council Procedure Rules</u> The Chairman reminded Members of relevant Council Procedure Rules and the Code of Conduct regarding debate at this meeting, including length of speeches; points of order and personal explanation; treating others with respect. The Chairman also noted the Procedure Rule on Members	

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				<p>standing for speeches, but respected those Members not able to stand, without them needing to make a formal request to remain seated.</p> <p><u>Alteration of Order of Business</u></p> <p>Due to the level of public interest and attendance for the item, the Chairman stated that she had agreed to an amendment to the order of business to take Agenda Item 9: Call-in of decision made at Operational Services Committee on 20 January 2020 - review of grant to Citizen's Advice Rural Cambridgeshire (CARC) after Agenda Item 6 on Petitions.</p>	
6.	-	Petitions	To receive public petitions.	<p>A Petition had been received containing over 500 local signatures requesting East Cambridgeshire District Council to reinstate its grant to Ely Citizen's Advice Bureau:</p> <p>East Cambridgeshire District Council has decided to cease its grant funding to the Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) in Ely and provide the service itself. This means the CAB office may close, or its service be reduced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Council does not have, and will not be seen to have, the independence which is essential to the service offered by the CAB, so it is probable that many 	-

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				<p>people who need advice in the Ely area will be reluctant to use the Council's proposed service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council will be wasting public funds by employing and training staff to replace the free service provided by the CAB's many, experienced volunteers. <p>The Petition Organiser, Mr John Shippey, presented the Petition to the Council and addressed the Council. He stated that the Petition now had reached over 650 local signatures. He highlighted that the review had taken place without consultation, which was against the spirit of the community compact, even if it was not mandatory in this instance. Mr Shippey also drew particular attention to the issues of independence and value for money. With regard to independence, Mr Shippey was not questioning the Council's ability to deal with a range of queries from local residents but about whether such advice would be perceived as independent, particularly where a member of the public was in dispute with the Council. With regard to value for money, Mr Shippey highlighted that the independently verified value of CARC volunteers was almost twice that of the £47,000 grant and CARC was continuously looking to identify new funding</p>	

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				<p>streams. The Council will be spending twice the money of the grant to CARC to employ staff to undertake the services.</p> <p>As the Petition related to the Call-in on the review of grant to CARC, Members were requested to consider the Petition and the comments of Mr Shippey as part of their deliberations on this item.</p>	
9. (out of Agenda order)	-	Call-In of decision made at Operational Services Committee 20 January 2020 – Review of Grant to Citizen’s Advice Rural Cambridgeshire	To consider the Notice of Call-in relating to the decision made at Operational Services Committee on 20 January 2020 regarding the review of Grant to Citizen’s Advice Rural Cambridgeshire (CARC).	<p>In the absence of a decision by Council on the matter, the decision of Operational Services Committee on 20 January 2020 regarding the review of Grant to Citizen’s Advice Rural Cambridgeshire (CARC) stands unchanged as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the availability of grant funding to CARC in 2020/21 and future years cease. 2. That the recommendation to directly deliver the service as set out in paragraph 5.12 of the report to Operational Services Committee be approved. 	Director Operations/ Director Commercial/ Housing & Community Safety Manager/ Communities & Partnership Manager
7.	-	Notice of Motions Under Procedure Rule 10	<p>(i) <u>Antisemitism</u></p> <p>The following Motion was proposed by Cllr Anna Bailey and seconded by Cllr David Brown:</p>		

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			<p>East Cambridgeshire is a welcoming, safe and tolerant district; incidents of police reported hate crime are low compared with the wider Cambridgeshire Constabulary area.</p> <p>Nevertheless, East Cambridgeshire District Council acknowledges with concern the Community Security Trust's (CST) 2019 report "Antisemitic Incidents January - June 2019" which cites a worrying increase of antisemitic incidents in the UK and the highest total on record in the first six months of 2019. Home Office statistics from October 2019 show that 18% of religiously motivated hatred is targeted at Jewish people, up from 12% in 2018.</p> <p>East Cambridgeshire District Council is currently drafting a revised Inclusivity, Equality and Diversity scheme to replace its Single Equalities Scheme 2016 - 2020.</p> <p>East Cambridgeshire District Council wishes to join with the Government and other local authorities across the UK in adopting the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) definition of antisemitism, including its associated 11 contemporary examples, as follows:</p>	<p>On being put to the vote, the motion was carried.</p>	<p>HR Manager</p>

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			<p>“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”</p> <p>To guide IHRA in its work, the following examples may serve as illustrations:</p> <p>Manifestations might include the targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as antisemitic. Antisemitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.</p> <p>Contemporary examples of antisemitism in public life, the media, schools, the workplace, and in the religious sphere could, taking into account the overall context, include, but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the 		

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			<p>name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making mendacious, dehumanising, demonising, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective - such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions. • Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews. • Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust). • Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust. • Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations. • Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a 		

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			<p>State of Israel is a racist endeavour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applying double standards by requiring of it a behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation. • Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterise Israel or Israelis. • Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis. • Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel. <p>Council therefore resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Condemn all forms of racism in all its manifestations 2) Adopt the IHRA definition of antisemitism as the working model of challenging and confronting incidents of antisemitism 3) Include the IHRA definition in the Council's updated Inclusivity, Equality and Diversity scheme 		

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			<p>(ii) <u>Climate Change and Kennett Garden Village</u></p> <p>The following Motion was proposed by Cllr Simon Harries and seconded by Cllr Charlotte Cane:</p> <p><u>Preamble</u> The Council notes with approval the decision taken on October 17th 2019 to declare a climate emergency in the East Cambs district. The Council further notes that the climate emergency should be the catalyst for changing methods, working practices and principles in order to deliver real, measurable benefits to the district and its people.</p> <p>The Council understands that positive action will be required in priority areas to deliver maximum benefit as quickly as possible. The priorities for action should be those activities that have the greatest potential for creating carbon and other greenhouse gas emissions, and therefore offer the greatest opportunity for benefit if successfully addressed.</p> <p>The Council accepts that the most carbon intensive activity undertaken today is in housing development and requests officers to review principles, methods and working practices in this area as a matter of urgency to ensure</p>	<p>On being put to the vote, the motion was lost.</p>	<p>Director Commercial</p>

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			<p>that measurable emission reductions are delivered without delay. The Council wishes priority focus to be given to the largest current development that is in S106 discussions. This development is the Kennett “Garden Village”, which will therefore become a best practice exemplar for the future.</p> <p><u>Actions</u> The Council instructs officers to review proposed actions related to Kennett in two specific areas: integrated transportation and build policy. The goal will be to identify actions that can be updated, improved and amended as a result of the climate emergency declaration. Using a real test case will make it possible to model real information, even if regulations do not permit substantive changes to this specific development.</p> <p>By testing methods and identifying alternatives, we will learn lessons, develop better methods for the future and turn the climate emergency declaration into positive benefit.</p> <p><i>Integrated Transportation</i> The Council notes that a thorough review of current and projected medium-term road traffic movements has been carried out but believes that insufficient work has been done in</p>		

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			<p>evaluating the likely road traffic impact of the new development, itself. The Council therefore asks officers to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluate the likely number of additional road vehicles passing along the B1085 once the development is complete, to reflect car ownership within the 500 housing units in the Kennett Garden Village area, together with workers and visitors to the 100 bed care home, visitors and students to the primary school and workers / visitors at the light industrial park. Having evaluated the number of new vehicle movements, officers should provide the best available estimate concerning the increase to carbon emissions caused by this increase. 2. Liaise with Highways England and the CCC Highways Department to determine whether there is any long-term plan to close the Railway Bridge at the south of the B1085 to HGVs or if the current restrictions are only temporary. 3. Clearly state whether or not the requirements set out by Network Rail regarding the car park and rail bridge close to Kennett station have been agreed by ECDC. Notably, transfer of land ownership at no charge to NR, agreement to 		

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			<p>move the car park, agreement to replace the rail bridge at developer cost.</p> <p>4. Liaise with Network Rail and the rail franchisees to give a clear date by when service frequency to Kennett station, especially for Greater Anglia trains, will be at least doubled. This needs to be a commitment, not an aspiration.</p> <p><i>Build policy</i> The Council notes that air pollution levels are likely to rise in the area of Kennett by an estimated 2100% as a result of building work for the development, with other factors noted in the MLM Consultancy reports.</p> <p>The Council further notes that issues have been raised by the Environment Agency, Anglia Water and Heritage England concerning potential for pollution of aquifers and damage to the natural and archaeological environment.</p> <p>The Council also notes that declaration of a climate emergency implies new and measurably higher build standards in order to move fast towards a zero-carbon standard. The Council therefore instructs officers to:</p>		

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			<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enumerate the changes to build standards for the future that will be set for developers in order to raise build standards related to emissions, heat loss, use of materials and building methods that go above and beyond current building regulations. In simple terms, what do we wish to change as a result of the climate emergency declaration? 2. Enumerate the clear mitigations, in terms of measurable actions, to be required from developers in order to avoid the projected growth in emissions. Where legally permitted these mitigations should be applied to Kennett, where not they should be introduced for future developments. 3. Enumerate the mitigations set in place to address issues related to possible chemical pollution, damage to the natural environment and protection of aquifers. <p><i>Long-term changes</i> The Council notes that the climate emergency declaration will require systemic changes in the way that planning activities are carried out, and will also require better decision-making tools for officers. The Council therefore requires officers to present a strategy for upgrade, change and improvement in their own working methods and use of tools in order to accelerate the move</p>		

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			<p>to zero carbon development by the council and its trading companies.</p> <p><i>Temporary halt to work</i> The Council instructs officers to take no major or irrevocable steps, such as issuing contracts, for work to commence at Kennett until the information requested in this motion has been presented to Full Council.</p>		
8.	-	Questions from Members	To receive questions from Members of Council.	<p>Questions were received and responses given by the Leader of the Council as follows:</p> <p>Question from Councillor Mark Inskip:</p> <p>Question to the Leader of the Council on Carbon Footprints: What is the current annual carbon footprint of the district council? What is the current annual carbon footprint of the East Cambs Trading Company? What is the current annual carbon footprint of East Cambs Street Scene? What methodology has been used to derive those carbon footprints? Has there been any independent audit of the figures?</p>	All to note

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				<p>Response from Leader of the Council:</p> <p>The Council has undertaken work to assess its carbon footprint and this will be included as part of the Environment and Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan being submitted to Operational Services Committee in April 2020. This assessment applies the tried and tested methodology from the Carbon Trust used by other authorities and independently verified.</p> <p>Questions from Councillor Lorna Dupré:</p> <p>(1) No money has been allocated in the budget for the next five years for the development of a new local plan. Given the importance of an effective local plan, and the significant changes (such as the growing urgency of tackling climate change) that have occurred since the current plan was adopted five years ago, on what date will the council consider whether to begin the process of drawing up a new local plan?</p> <p>(2) The council's Corporate Plan 2017-2019 promised an options appraisal for redevelopment of The Grange and relocation of the council office, and a plan to realise a capital receipt from The Grange and deliver a fit for purpose and efficient</p>	

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				<p>council office in an accessible location. What has happened to the options appraisal and the plan?</p> <p>Responses from Leader of the Council:</p> <p>(1) At the October 2019 Council meeting, it was resolved to review the development of a new Local Plan within 18 months and a report will come back to full Council within that period.</p> <p>(2) When reviewed at the start of the current year, the 2019-22 Corporate Plan did not include a separate item for an options appraisal for redevelopment of The Grange and relocation of the Council Offices.</p>	
10.	U184	Schedule of Items Recommended from Committees and Other Member Bodies	To consider and take decisions on items recommended from Committees and other Member Bodies.	<p>1. <u>FINANCE & ASSETS COMMITTEE – 28 NOVEMBER 2019</u></p> <p>(a) <u>Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2019-20 Review</u></p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>(i) That the Council retain the 8.5% benefit scheme, i.e. the maximum benefit to working age claimants to be 91.5%;</p> <p>(ii) That enhancements to the treatment of Universal Credit income be introduced as detailed in the submitted report.</p>	Finance Manager & S151 Officer

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				<p>(b) <u>Treasury Operations Mid-Year Report</u></p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the mid-year review of the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2019/20, as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report, be noted.</p> <p><u>2. FINANCE & ASSETS COMMITTEE – 6 FEBRUARY 2020</u></p> <p><u>2020/21 Annual Treasury Management Strategy, Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy (AIS)</u></p> <p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That approval be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2020/21 Treasury Management Strategy; • The Annual Investment Strategy; • The Minimum Revenue Provision Policy Statement; • The Prudential and Treasury Indicators; <p>as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report.</p>	<p>Finance Manager & S151 Officer</p> <p>Finance Manager & S151 Officer</p>

11.	U185	Revenue Budget, Capital Strategy and Council Tax 2020/21	<p>To consider the Council's proposed Revenue and Capital Budgets and the required level of Council Tax for 2020/21.</p> <p>To assess the robustness of the budgets, the adequacy of reserves and update the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>1. That approval be given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The formal Council Tax Resolution which calculates the Council Tax requirement as set out in Appendix 1 to the submitted report (circulated separately). • The draft 2020/21 Revenue Budget and MTFS for 2021/22 to 2023/24 as set out in Appendix 2 of the submitted report. • A Council Tax freeze. • The Statement of Reserves as set out in Appendix 3 of the submitted report. • The 2020/21 Fees and Charges as set out in Appendix 4 of the submitted report. • The Capital Programme and financing as set out in Appendix 5 of the submitted report. • The awarding of discretionary Business Rate relief as set out in paragraphs 6.5 and 6.6 of the submitted report. 	Finance Manager & S151 Officer
12.	U186	Anglia Revenues Partnership (ARP) Revised Partnership Agreement	To consider revisions to the ARP Agreement.	<p>It was resolved:</p> <p>That the revised Anglia Revenues Partnership (ARP) Agreement as set out at Appendix 1 to the submitted report be approved.</p>	Director Commercial/ Legal Services Manager

13.	U187	Pay Policy Statement 2020/21	To consider the Council's Pay Policy Statement for 2020/21 in accordance with the requirements of the Localism Act 2011.	It was resolved: That the 2020/21 Pay Policy Statement be approved and adopted.	HR Manager
14.	-	Combined Authority Update Reports: October & November 2019 January 2020	To receive reports on the activities of the Combined Authority from the Council's appointees.	It was resolved: That the reports on the activities of the Combined Authority from the Council's appointees be noted.	-
	-	EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC	That the press and public be excluded during consideration of the remaining agenda item because it is likely, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings, that if members of public were present during the item(s) there would be disclosure to them of exempt information of Category 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).	It was resolved: That the press and public be excluded during consideration of the remaining agenda item.	-
15.	-	Exempt Minutes – 17 October 2019	-	It was resolved: That the Exempt Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2019 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.	Democratic Services Manager