

**48/07 (8) - Information Technology and Development Business Unit:** The Cabinet Member (Finance and Resources) was invited to present the budget. The Cabinet Member outlined the approach taken to the budget, the key issues and the key variations, the proposed efficiency savings and the main risks to the budget and advised that there were no growth items. He stated that there was an overall increase in the budget of £241,000 and major variations included reductions in the corporate charge for Access to Services of £80,000 and a reduction of £30,000 in appropriations and an increase of £351,000 in ITD rechargeable spending mainly due to increased annual support costs, increased IT development spending and reduced staffing costs in Reserve Account of £57,000. There were no cash efficiency savings and the main risks to the budget were identified as the long term investment in new technology.

Questions were then invited and the Head of ITD responded to comments over the use of the Council website and agreed that this should be as usable and accessible as possible. One Member queried whether the Council had systems in place to deal with spam and junk emails. The Head of ITD advised that the Council had appropriate systems in place and there was also the ability for members of staff to flag emails as junk in the Council's groupwise email system. One Member enquired as to whether Councillors would be allowed access to the Council's network. The Head of ITD stated that the section were looking at improving the network security to allow Members to be given access.

Members agreed the budget.

(Eight Members voted for the motion and there was one abstention)

(7.03 pm - 7.20 pm)