PART 2 – ARTICLES OF THE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1 - THE CONSTITUTION

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1. POWERS OF THE COUNCIL

1.1 This article sets out the fundamental provisions of the Constitution. It confirms that the Council will exercise all its powers and duties in accordance with the law and the provisions of this Constitution.

2. CONSTITUTION

2.1 This Constitution, in all its parts, is the Constitution of the Maldon District Council.

3. PURPOSE OF THE CONSTITUTION

3.1 The purpose of the Constitution is to:

a) set out the Council's overall governance arrangements.

b) enable decisions to be taken efficiently and effectively.

c) create an effective means of holding decision-makers to public account.

d) enable the Council to provide clear leadership to the community, working in partnership with the local community, businesses and other organisations.

e) encourage and support the active involvement of the local community in the process of local authority decision-making.

f) help Councillors represent their constituents more effectively.

g) ensure that those responsible for decision making are clearly identifiable to local people and that they explain the reasons for decisions taken.

h) provide the framework and structure in which cost effective quality services to the community can be delivered.

3.2 The Corporate Plan and Strategic Themes underpinning it will guide the Council in all the things it does and the decisions it makes.

4. INTERPRETATION AND REVIEW OF THE CONSTITUTION

4.1 Any interpretation of the Constitution must have regard to the purposes stated above. The Council will monitor and evaluate the operation of the Constitution as set out in Article 15.