



COUNCIL ASSEMBLY
(ORDINARY MEETING)

MINUTES of the OPEN section of the meeting of the COUNCIL ASSEMBLY held on WEDNESDAY 25th JUNE 2003 at 7.00 P.M. at the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Columba Blango

Councillor Alfred Banya	Councillor Abudl Mohamed
Councillor Michael Barnard	Councillor Kenny Mizzi
Councillor Beverley Bassom	Councillor Alison Moise
Councillor Paul Bates	Councillor Catriona Moore
Councillor Catherine Bowman	Councillor Vicky Naish
Councillor David Bradbury	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Denise Capstick	Councillor Gavin O'Brien
Councillor Fiona Colley	Councillor Dr. Abdur-Rahman Olayiwola
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor Michelle Pearce
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor Caroline Pidgeon
Councillor Stephen Flannery	Councillor Richard Porter
Councillor John Friary	Councillor Mark Pursey
Councillor Norma Gibbes	Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Mark Glover	Councillor Tony Ritchie
Councillor Aubyn Graham	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor James Gurling	Councillor Andrew Simmons
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Tayo Situ
Councillor Alun Hayes	Councillor Bob Skelly
Councillor Jeffrey Hook	Councillor Robert Smeath
Councillor David Hubber	Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Kim Humphreys	Councillor Nick Stanton
Councillor Jonathan Hunt	Councillor Richard Thomas
Councillor Peter John	Councillor Dominic Thorncroft
Councillor Billy Kayada	Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor Paul Kyriacou	Councillor Neil Watson
Councillor Lorraine Lauder	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Linda Manchester	Councillor Sarah Welfare
Councillor Eliza Mann	Councillor Lorraine Zuleta
Councillor Dermot McInerney	

8. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

8.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Lisa Rajan on her recent marriage and Councillor Catriona Moore on the birth of a baby daughter.

The Mayor reported on his meeting with the President of the Russian Republic, Vladimir Putin which had been conducted entirely in Russian.

The Mayor joined Council Assembly in congratulating Councillor Veronica Ward on her 60th Birthday.

The Mayor thanked Council Assembly for offering its support to the campaign to bring the Olympic Games to South London.

8.2 NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE MAYOR DEEMS URGENT

The Mayor agreed to accept the following items as late and urgent for the reasons set out in the reports:-

Item 13.1 : Best Value Performance Plan – updated report.

Item 14 : Concurrent reports to Items 14.2, 14.3, 14.4, 14.8 and 14.9

Item 15 : Adjournment Debates

8.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Councillor Richard Thomas declared a personal and-prejudicial interest in Item 14.8 – as an employee of a company lobbying on the Sustainable Energy Bill.

Councillors Mark Glover and James Gurling both declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Item 14.9 relating to their respective employments.

8.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Margaret Ambrose, William Rowe and Anne Yates and Father Robert Ellis. Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillor Alun Hayes.

9. MINUTES

RESOLVED: The Open Minutes of the Council Assembly meetings held on 30th April 2003 , 21st May 2003 (Constitutional) and 21st May (Extraordinary) were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor with the following amendment to the Minutes of 21st May 2003 (Constitutional):-

Item 3 – Nominations for Chair of Licensing Committee – replace ‘Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle’ with ‘Councillor Norma Gibbes’.

10. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.6** (see pages 214-215 and Supplemental Agenda No.3)

The answer to two public questions were circulated on green paper. One member of the public was in attendance at the meeting (Ms Lucia Hinton) to ask a supplementary question of the Leader of the Council.

The Mayor announced that the minutes remaining for public question time would be added to the 30 minutes allowed for Members Question Time.

11. **DEPUTATION REQUESTS**

11.1 **SOUTHWARK GROUP OF TENANTS ORGANISATION.** (see pages 216 – 219)

Council Assembly agreed to accept a deputation from the Southwark Group of Tenants Organisation.

Members were addressed by the deputation’s spokesperson Nancy Horwood, following which Councillors Vicky Naish, Caroline Pidgeon, Fiona Colley, Andy Simmons., Richard Thomas, Alfred Banya, Alison Moise, Toby Eckersley, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Peter John and Kim Humphreys asked questions.

The Mayor concluded by thanking the deputation for attending and inviting its members to withdraw to the public gallery.

12. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.8** (see pages 220 - 225, and yellow and blue papers circulated at the meeting)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.11 ‘Urgent Questions by Group Leaders’, a question was submitted by Councillor Kim Humphreys to the Leader of the Council. A copy of the question and answer is attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Thirty one ordinary questions were submitted and answers were circulated around the chamber on yellow paper. Within the time available supplementary questions were asked on questions 1 to 5, 9 to 15 and 17 to 21. A copy of the questions and answers are attached as an appendix to these minutes. The Leader of the Council indicated the circulated answer to question 6 was not his intended answer and his intended answer is included in the appendix to these Minutes.

13. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE

13.1 BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2003/04 (see pages 226 – 227 and Supplemental Agenda No.1)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.10(1), Councillor Nick Stanton presented the report.

Councillor Mark Glover, seconded by Councillor Andy Simmons moved an Amendment. Following a response from Councillor Nick Stanton, the amendment was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED: That the Southwark Best Value Performance Plan be agreed.

13.2 SOUTHWARK YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN – ANNUAL UPDATE REPORT 2003/2004 (see pages 228 – 283)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.10(1), Councillor Richard Porter presented the report.

Following debate (Councillor John Friary), the substantive motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED: That the Annual Update 2003/04 of the Southwark Youth Justice Plan 2002/05 be approved.

13.3 MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULE 3.9 – BUS ROUTES (see page 284)

This item was not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm. As it was not an item requiring consideration under the terms of Council Procedure Rule 1.13(3) it stands deferred until the next meeting of Council Assembly.

13.4 MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULE 3.9 – SCRUTINY OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ICT AND CORPORATE CALL CENTRE PROJECTS (see page 285)

This item was not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm. As it was not an item requiring consideration under the terms of Council Procedure Rule 1.13(3) it stands deferred until the next meeting of Council Assembly.

13.5 MOTIONS FROM MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURE RULE 3.9 – DISABLED PARKING (see page 286)

This item was not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm. As it was not an item requiring consideration under the terms of Council Procedure Rule 1.13(3) it stands deferred until the next meeting of Council Assembly.

14. MOTIONS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 3.9 (see pages 287 – 294 and Supplemental Agenda 2)

14.1 MOTION NO.1 – RESTRUCTURING OF NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSING OFFICES
(see pages 288 - 289)

This motion was considered following Item 11.1 – Deputation from the Southwark Group of Tenants Organisations.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Fiona Colley and seconded by Councillor Charlie Smith.

The Amendment was proposed by Councillor Kim Humphreys and seconded by Councillor Toby Eckersley.

Following a general disturbance involving Members, the Mayor adjourned the meeting in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.7(4) for a period of 10 minutes at 8.36pm.

Following debate (Councillors John Friary, Beverley Bassom, Michelle Pearce, Tony Ritchie, Alison Moise, Andy Simmons, Ian Wingfield, Nick Stanton, Dermot McInerney, and Fiona Colley) the amendment was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

Note: In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.17 (5) the following Members requested that their vote against the Amendment be recorded:-

Councillors Alfred Banya, Mick Barnard, Paul Bates, Fiona Colley, John Friary, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Norma Gibbes, Mark Glover, Aubyn Graham, Barrie Hargrove, Alun Hayes, Peter John, Billy Kayada, Lorraine Lauder, Dermot McInerney, Adbul Mohamed, Alison Moise, Vicky Naish, Michelle Pearce, Tony Ritchie, Andy Simmons, Tayo Situ, Robert Smeath, Charlie Smith, Dominic Thorncroft, Veronica Ward, Sarah Welfare and Ian Wingfield.

Following debate (Councillors Beverley Bassom, Andy Simmons, Tony Ritchie, Ian Wingfield, Michelle Pearce, Nick Stanton and Kim Humphreys), the substantive motion was put to the vote.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.17(4) more than 45% of Members present requested a recorded vote, the results of which were as follows:

In favour of the motion (30)

Councillors Beverley Bassom, Columba Blango, Catherine Bowman, David Bradbury, Denise Capstick, Toby Eckersley, Stephen Flannery, James Gurling, Jeffrey Hook, David Hubber, Kim Humphreys, Jonathan Hunt, Paul Kyriacou, Linda Manchester, Eliza Mann, Kenneth Mizzi, Catriona Moore, Graham Neale, Gavin O'Brien, Dr. Abdur-Rahman Olayiwola, Caroline Pidgeon, Richard Porter, Mark Pursey, Lisa Rajan, Lewis Robinson, Bob Skelly, Nick Stanton, Richard Thomas, Neil Watson, and Lorraine Zuleta.

Against the motion (28)

Councillors Alfred Banya, Mick Barnard, Paul Bates, Fiona Colley, John Friary, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Norma Gibbes, Mark Glover, Aubyn Graham, Barrie Hargrove, Alun Hayes, Peter John, Billy Kayada, Lorraine Lauder, Dermot McInerney, Adbul Mohamed, Alison Moise, Vicky Naish, Michelle Pearce, Tony Ritchie, Andy Simmons, Tayo Situ, Robert Smeath, Charlie Smith, Dominic Thorncroft, Veronica Ward, Sarah Welfare and Ian Wingfield.

In abstention (nil)

Absent (5)

Councillors Margaret Ambrose, Jelil Ladipo, Daniel McCarthy, William Rowe and Anne Yates.

The Mayor declared that the motion was carried.

RESOLVED:

That This Council notes that at its meeting 18th December, 2002, Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommended to the Executive as part of its call-in that "the important role of sub-offices within option 4 of the Best Value Review of Housing Management in providing opportunities for tenants and residents to discuss matters in person be acknowledged." Further, Council Assembly notes that Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommended, "the option of sub-offices be actively pursued in the implementation stage of the Best Value Review.

Council Assembly notes that consultation on the implementation of these recommendations appears to have become stalled and urges the Executive to progress the overall

proposals including details of the functions and locations of potential sub-offices.”

Note: This decision is referred to the Executive for consideration.

14.2 MOTION NO.2 – NEW CHILD TAX CREDIT (see page 289 and Supplemental Agenda No.2)

This motion had been proposed by Councillor Stephen Flannery and seconded by Lorraine Zuleta. An amendment had been proposed by Councillor Andy Simmons and seconded by Councillor Michelle Pearce.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(5) Council Assembly signified that both the motion and amendment were unopposed. The motion as amended was therefore put to the meeting and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED: This Council welcomes the introduction of the new Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit and Childcare Tax Credit as valuable tools for raising the income of low and middle income families in Southwark in order to tackle poverty in the borough.

This Council notes and regrets the delay and consequent hardship experienced by some families in the implementation of the new tax credits.

This Council therefore resolves to ask the Chief Executive and the borough's three MPs to write to the Paymaster General to request her to:

1. Resolve the current difficulties in the administration of child tax credit as soon as possible;
2. To compensate families, who have experienced hardship as a result of the delay;
3. To apply the lesson that will have been learnt in the roll-out of these tax credits to the introduction of all future tax credits.

14.3 MOTION NO.3 – POLICY ON OWNER-OCCUPIERS DISPLACED BY COMPULSORY PURCHASE (see page 290 and Supplemental Agenda No.2)

This motion and an amendment were not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.4 MOTION NO.4 – BUSES ALONG RYE LANE (see page 290 and Supplemental Agenda No.2)

This motion and an amendment were not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.5 MOTION NO.5 – VOTING AGE TO BE LOWERED (see page 291)

This motion and an amendment were not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.6 MOTION NO.6 – ALG SCRUTINY NETWORK (see pages 291 to 292)

This motion was not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.7 MOTION NO.7 – REPRESENTATION ON THE SOUTHWARK ALLIANCE (See page 292)

This motion and an amendment were not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.8 MOTION NO.8 – SUSTAINABLE ENERGY (see pages 292 – 293 and Supplemental Agenda No. 2)

This motion and an amendment were not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.9 MOTION NO 9 – PLANNING POLICY ON MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATION MASTS (see page 293 and Supplemental Agenda No. 2)

This motion and an amendment were not considered prior to the Guillotine at 10.53pm and in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 1.13(6) will be referred to the Council Assembly meeting on Wednesday July 23rd.

14.10 MOTION NO.10 – TRAFFIC CALMING PROPOSALS (see page 294)

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.9(3) this motion was referred to the Executive without debate.

15 ADJOURNMENT DEBATES

15.1 BALLOT FOR 23rd JULY 2003 COUNCIL ASSEMBLY ADJOURNMENT DEBATES

The Mayor drew the names of the following Councillors in the ballot for Adjournment Debates to be held at the 23rd July Council Assembly:

1. Councillor Dr Abdur Rahman Olayiwola
2. Councillor Lisa Rajan
3. Councillor Tayo Situ
4. Councillor Stephen Flannery
5. Councillor Denise Capstick
6. Councillor Kim Humphreys

15.2 ADJOURNMENT DEBATE No.1 – COUNCILLOR ALISON MOISE (BRUNSWICK PARK WARD)

Councillor Alison Moise highlighted problems caused by anti social parking and anti social behaviour at Muscatel Place and untaxed, unlicensed, abandoned vehicles in Wilson, Dagmar and Graces Road, Camberwell.

The debate was responded to by Councillor Richard Thomas who informed Members of action taken to respond to complaints raised by Councillor Moise and indicated he would be prepared to investigate any specific further issues raised by her.

15.3 ADJOURNMENT DEBATE No.2 – COUNCILLOR GAVIN O'BRIEN (SURREY DOCKS WARD)

Councillor Gavin O'Brien described problems in his Ward associated with the night time closure of Rotherhithe Police Station and asked for an update on action taken since the closure.

The debate was responded to by Councillor Richard Porter who reported meetings which had taken place with the Local M.P, GLA Representative and Metropolitan Police Borough Commander. He said plans to staff the Station at night with volunteers were under examination.

15.4 ADJOURNMENT DEBATE No.3 – COUNCILLOR DORA DIXON-FYLE (CAMBERWELL GREEN WARD)

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle explained the serious problems caused by the low numbers of registered Black and Ethnic Minority organ donors, as tissue typing often necessitated recipients and donors sharing the same ethnic background.

The debate was responded to by Councillor Nick Stanton who indicated steps to encourage greater organ donor registration, including the scheme promoted by Taunton Deane Borough Council, would be actively considered.

The meeting closed at 12.02 a.m

MAYOR:

DATED: