



**COUNCIL ASSEMBLY
(ORDINARY)**

MINUTES of the open section of the meeting of the ordinary Council Assembly held on
October 19 2005 at 7.00 p.m. at the Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Vicky Naish

Councillor Alfred Banya	Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Paul Bates	Councillor Alison Moise
Councillor Columba Blango	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Catherine Bowman	Councillor Gavin O'Brien
Councillor David Bradbury	Councillor Michelle Pearce
Councillor Denise Capstick	Councillor Caroline Pidgeon
Councillor Fiona Colley	Councillor Richard Porter
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor Mark Pursey
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Stephen Flannery	Councillor Tony Ritchie
Councillor John Friary	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor Norma Gibbes	Councillor William Rowe
Councillor Mark Glover	Councillor Jane Salmon
Councillor Aubyn Graham	Councillor Andrew Simmons
Councillor James Gurling	Councillor Tayo Situ
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Robert Skelly
Councillor Jeffrey Hook	Councillor Robert Smeath
Councillor David Hubber	Councillor Charlie Smith
Councillor Kim Humphreys	Councillor Nicholas 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 Jelil Ladipo	Councillor Sarah Welfare
Councillor Lorraine Lauder	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Dermot McInerney	Councillor Anne Yates
Councillor Eliza Mann	Councillor Lorraine Zuleta

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

1.1 ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The Mayor made the following announcements:

1. That Liz Owens, a teacher at Charles Dickens primary school, had been named Teacher of the Year at the Pride of Britain Awards 2005. Council assembly congratulated Liz on her award.
2. That Peter Brittle, who had been the council's macebearer for seventeen years, had died during the summer.

Members paid tribute to Peter Brittle. The tributes were followed by a minute's silence.

The leader, Councillor Nick Stanton made the following announcements:

1. That Councillor Richard Porter had resigned his position as executive member for regeneration and economic development and Councillor Jeffrey Hook had been appointed in his place.
2. That Councillor Denise Capstick was due to spend the next three months in Iraq as a member of the Territorial Army. On behalf of council assembly, he wished her a safe tour of duty and return.

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

The Mayor agreed to accept as late and urgent the following report:

Appointment of Chair of the Planning Committee

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

The following members declared personal interests, but non-prejudicial interests, in the following items:

1. Councillor Lorraine Zuleta: Item 4.2 "Wells Way, Southampton Way and Coleman Street Triangle – deputation" and the motion arising thereof, as she resided in the area;
2. Councillor Nick Stanton: Item 4.1 "Southwark Credit Union – deputation" as a member of the credit union;
3. Councillor Ann Yates: "Southwark Credit Union – deputation" as a member of the credit union; and
4. The Mayor, Councillor Vicky Naish: Item 4.2 "Wells Way, Southampton Way and Coleman Street Triangle – deputation" and the motion arising thereof, as she resided in the area.

1.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Danny McCarthy and Catriona Moore and on behalf of Councillors Kenny Mizzi, Dominic Thorncroft, Alun Hayes, Dr. Abdur-Rahman Olayiwola and Beverley Bassom.

Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillors Kim Humphries, William Rowe and Dora Dixon-Fyle.

2. MINUTES

Council assembly considered the open minutes of its meetings held on September 14 and 24 2005.

RESOLVED: That the following minutes be agreed and signed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor:

1. The open minutes of the council assembly ordinary meeting of Wednesday, September 14 2005 were approved and signed as a correct record.
2. The minutes of the council assembly extraordinary meeting of Saturday, September 24 2005 were approved and signed as a correct record subject to the following amendments:
 - Councillor Robert Smeath's name be added to the list of names of those members present.
 - Councillor Dermot McInerney's name be deleted from the list of members who gave their apologies for absence.

Members recorded their thanks to those members of staff involved in arranging the successful honorary alderman ceremony and, in particular, to Gillian Allwright, Member Services Manager, and Sonia Sutton, the Mayor's personal assistant

3. PETITIONS

There were none.

4. DEPUTATION REQUESTS

4.1 DEPUTATION FROM SOUTHWARK CREDIT UNION (see pages 1-4)

The meeting agreed to hear the deputation. Members were addressed by the deputation's spokesperson, Tina Barnes. Councillors Paul Kyriacou, Lorraine Zuleta, and Andy Simmons asked the deputation questions. The deputation then withdrew to the public gallery.

At this point in the proceedings, council assembly agreed to consider Motion 2 – Southwark Credit Union (see item 7.2)

4.2 DEPUTATION FROM WELLS WAY, SOUTHAMPTON WAY AND COLEMAN STREET TRIANGLE (see pages 1-4)

The meeting agreed to hear the deputation. Members were addressed by the deputation's spokesperson, Michael Wallace. Councillors Ian Wingfield, Richard Porter and Billy Kayada asked the deputation questions. The deputation then withdrew to the public gallery.

At this point in the proceedings, council assembly agreed to consider the motion arising from the deputation – (see item 7.4).

5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS SUBMITTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL ASSEMBLY PROCEDURE RULE 3.9 (see pages 1 – 38 of the yellow papers circulated at the meeting)

Thirty-four questions were submitted, the answers to which were circulated round the chamber. Eighteen supplementary questions were asked. A summary of the questions is attached at appendix 1 to these minutes.

6. OTHER REPORTS

6.1 SCRUTINY REPORT ON SOUTHWARK ALLIANCE: LINKS WITH THE COUNCIL'S DECISION MAKING PROCESS (see pages 11-23)

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.15(2) the Mayor moved the recommendations contained within the report.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor John Friary, moved amendment A.

Following debate (Councillors Nick Stanton, William Rowe, Kim Humphries, Richard Porter, Michelle Pearce and Alison Moise), amendment A was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

Councillor David Bradbury, seconded by Councillor Lewis Robinson, moved amendment B.

Amendment B was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

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

RESOLVED: That council assembly note the report from the overview and scrutiny committee and endorse the recommendations on page fourteen of the report.

7. MOTIONS

7.1 LONDON 2012 OLYMPICS (see pages 25-26 and supplemental agenda 1, pages 4-6)

Councillor Lisa Rajan, seconded by Councillor Columba Blango, moved the motion.

With the consent of council assembly, Councillor Aubyn Graham, seconded by Councillor Peter John, moved amendment C.

Following debate (Councillors Jonathan Hunt, Mark Glover, David Bradbury, Tony Ritchie, Dermot McInerney, Catherine Bowman), Councillor Paul Bates, seconded by Councillor David Hubber, moved that amendment C be put to the vote.

The motion was declared to be carried.

Councillor Lisa Rajan exercised her right of reply. Amendment C was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

Councillor Toby Eckersley, seconded by Councillor David Bradbury, moved amendment D.

Following debate (Councillors Peter John, Tony Ritchie, Michelle Pearce), Councillor Aubyn Graham exercised his right of reply. Amendment D was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

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

AGREED: 1. That council assembly congratulates the successful London 2012 Olympic bid team and pays tribute in particular to the commitment and hard work of the Mayor of London Ken Livingstone, Tessa Jowell MP, and Lord Sebastian Coe, and notes Southwark's potential as a host for events in the cultural programme of the Olympics;

2. That council assembly hopes that in its stated aim of helping some of the most deprived areas, the London 2012 plan will extend to parts of Southwark and notes the potential benefits including improved sports facilities, promotion of sporting excellence to young people, creation of jobs and increased tourism;
3. That council assembly notes the tremendous success of the Community Games in involving local people of all ages and backgrounds in sporting activities and calls on officers to promote the Community Games as a model for community involvement and the promotion of a healthy lifestyle across all London boroughs;
4. That council assembly notes that the success of the Community Games and also the success of the Southwark team in coming third in this year's London Youth Games, highlighted the sporting potential of young people in the borough. Council assembly further notes that the Southwark team's achievement of third place in the London Youth Games is the highest place an Inner London Borough has ever achieved since the first games over 25 years ago, and congratulates the young people who took part;
5. That council assembly therefore urges Southwark's department of environment and leisure to work closely with the London 2012 organising bodies and Tessa Jowell's Department of Culture, Media and Sport to ensure that Southwark receives the fullest benefits from the Olympic legacy; and
6. That council assembly requests that the executive receives a report covering all potential opportunities the Olympics and Paralympics may provide for Southwark, including opportunities for investment in sports facilities, for hosting cultural events and for attracting countries to the borough for their training and preparation camps. The report should also set out what has been done so far to engage Southwark Council in the forthcoming London 2012 Olympic activities and should outline plans to ensure that potential benefits are realised across all sections of Southwark. Council assembly also requests that the executive consider appointing a designated officer responsible for making the best use of Southwark's involvement with the Olympics.

7.2 SOUTHWARK CREDIT UNION (see pages 26-27 and supplemental agenda No. 2)

Councillor Nick Stanton, seconded by Councillor Lorraine Zuleta, moved the motion.

Councillor William Rowe, seconded by Councillor Toby Eckersley, formally moved amendment E which was declared to be carried.

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

RESOLVED: That council assembly notes:

- That personal debt in the UK has already topped £1 trillion and is rising;
- The dangers of relying on credit without proper financial advice;
- The expansion of the high-interest, easy-to-access loan and credit industries;
- That the people least able to afford extortionate interest rates are the most likely to feel that they have to turn to such high-interest companies;
- The recent YouGov survey that found only 20% of people say they are saving enough for a comfortable retirement, 52% of the over 50s are still paying off debts, and 45% of the over-60s are in a similar situation;
- The fact that debt charity the Consumer Credit Counselling Service (CCCS) has seen a rise in the proportion of clients in the 18-25 age group from less than 6% in 2002 to nearly 13% in 2005.

That council assembly therefore applauds the work of Southwark Credit Union in providing excellent incentives to save and providing low-interest loans with no penalties for early repayment to Southwark residents.

Council assembly further welcomes the work that has been done to promote the credit union within the council and to residents.

That council assembly therefore:

- calls on officers to find ways for the council actively to further promote Southwark Credit Union across the borough; and
- calls on members to provide information on the services of Southwark Credit Union, and other organisations that provide savings and debt counselling services, to residents through surgeries and other meetings.

7.3. INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY FRAMEWORK (THE "OUSELEY REPORT") (see page 28 and supplemental agendas No's. 1 and 2)

Councillor Jonathan Hunt, seconded by Councillor Dermot McInerny, moved the motion.

After discussion (Councillors Andy Simmons, Nick Stanton, Catherine Bowman, and Peter John), it was moved that the motion be put to the vote.

Councillor Jonathan Hunt exercised his right of reply. The motion was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

7.4 WELLS WAY, SOUTHAMPTON WAY AND COLEMAN ROAD TRIANGLE (see supplemental agenda no. 1, page 7)

Councillor Ian Wingfield, seconded by Councillor Alison Moise, moved the motion.

After discussion (Councillors William Rowe, Richard Porter, Veronica Ward, Nick Stanton), the motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.17, Councillor David Bradbury asked that his dissent to the motion be recorded in the minutes.

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RESOLVED: That this council assembly requests the executive to commission a feasibility study into the regeneration and environmental improvements of the area bounded by the Wells Way, Southampton Way and Coleman Road triangle. In particular this study should concern itself with a regeneration scheme of the shopping area along the lines of the Bellenden Neighbourhood Renewal Project. It is expected that the study will report to the executive early in the new year.

8. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR OF PLANNING COMMITTEE (see supplemental agenda no. 1, page 8)

The Mayor formally moved the recommendations contained within the report.

The recommendations were put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED: That Councillor James Gurling be appointed chair of the planning committee.

9. EXCLUSION MOTION

RESOLVED: That under the access to information procedure rules of the Southwark constitution, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in section(s) 1–15 of paragraph 10.4 of the council assembly procedure rules.

10. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the closed minutes of the council assembly ordinary meeting of Wednesday, September 14 2005 were approved as a correct record.

The meeting closed at 10.52 p.m.

MAYOR:

DATED: