



Council Assembly (Ordinary Meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Ordinary Meeting) held on Wednesday 14 July 2010 at 7.00 pm at Town Hall, Peckham Road, London SE5 8UB

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2010/11, Councillor Tayo Situ (Chair)

Councillor Kevin Ahern	Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai	Councillor Linda Manchester
Councillor Columba Blango	Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Catherine Bowman	Councillor Catherine McDonald
Councillor Michael Bukola	Councillor Tim McNally
Councillor Denise Capstick	Councillor Darren Merrill
Councillor Sunil Chopra	Councillor Victoria Mills
Councillor Poddy Clark	Councillor Michael Mitchell
Councillor Fiona Colley	Councillor Jonathan Mitchell
Councillor Robin Crookshank Hilton	Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Patrick Diamond	Councillor Adele Morris
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor Helen Morrissey
Councillor Nick Dolezal	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor Wilma Nelson
Councillor Gavin Edwards	Councillor David Noakes
Councillor John Friary	Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Dan Garfield	Councillor the Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole
Councillor Mark Gettleson	Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Norma Gibbes	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor Mark Glover	Councillor Martin Seaton
Councillor Stephen Govier	Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Renata Hamvas	Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Althea Smith
Councillor Helen Hayes	Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Claire Hickson	Councillor Nick Stanton
Councillor Jeff Hook	Councillor Geoffrey Thornton
Councillor David Hubber	Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor Peter John	Councillor Ian Wingfield
Councillor Paul Kyriacou	

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

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

The Mayor announced:

- The film maker Enrica Colusso would be filming the debate on the Elephant and Castle motion as she was making a documentary film about the regeneration of the Elephant and Castle. Completed release forms should be returned to the film maker or clerk.
- A list of people who work or live in Southwark who received an honour in the Queen's Birthday Honour's List 2010 had been circulated around the chamber. The meeting extended its congratulations to all those who had received an honour.
- A Charity Quiz Night will be held on the Friday 16 July 2010 at Tooley Street. The quiz will start at 7.00pm and all proceeds will go to the Mayor's chosen charity, Macmillan Cancer Support.
- Former councillor Roy Kennedy had recently been appointed to the House of Lords. The meeting congratulated him on his appointment.
- The recent deaths of Mary Boast, Historian and Freeman of Southwark and Nancy Hammond, secretary to the Mayor of Southwark's Common Good Trust and other worthy causes. Thereafter the meeting held a minute's silence.

The cabinet member for finance and resources, Councillor Richard Livingstone, made reference to his written statement concerning the government's emergency budget.

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

The Mayor advised that the following had been circulated:

- Treasury management performance – 2009/10 Annual report and prudential indicators for capital finance and treasury management
- Late Motion: Elephant and Castle regeneration agreement
- Late Amendment F to the Elephant and Castle regeneration agreement
- Late Motion: Nursery Row Park
- Revised wording on Motion 3: Southwark Park and the Olympics.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Item 6: Motion 6.3 - Southwark Park and the Olympics

Councillor Jeff Hook declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item as he lives in Hawkstone Road, which is adjacent to Southwark Park.

Item 8: Late Motion - Elephant and Castle Regeneration Agreement

Councillors Catherine Bowman, Geoffrey Thornton and Graham Neale declared a personal and non prejudicial interest in this item as they live in the Elephant and Castle area.

At this juncture Councillor Mark Gettleson, seconded by Councillor Nick Dolezal, moved that under council assembly procedure rule 1.1(m), the following rules be suspended in order that the late motions could be debated and to allow the late motion on the Elephant and Castle be considered third in the order of debate under item 6:

- CAPR 2.9 (3) - Notice for motions to be delivered
- CAPR 2.9 (4) - Notice for amendment to be delivered
- CAPR 1.5 (b) - Variation in the order of business to take the Elephant and Castle motion as the first Liberal Democrat motion.

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

Councillor Nick Dolezal, seconded by Councillor Mark Gettleson, moved that under council assembly procedure rule 1.1(m), the following rule be suspended in order that members motions and the late motions are debated after members question time:

- CAPR 1.5 (b) - Variation in the order of business to consider members motions and the two late motions following members question time.

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

1.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors James Barber, Neil Coyle and Andy Simmons.

2. MINUTES

Report: See supplemental agenda 1, pages 1-16

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 May 2010 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

3. MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

Report: See pages 1-6 of the main agenda, pages 1-2 of the blue paper and pages 1-20 of the yellow pages circulated at the meeting

There were two urgent questions to the leader, the answers to which were circulated on blue paper at the meeting. The leader answered two supplementary questions, the answers to which will be attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

There were 40 members' questions, the written responses to which were circulated on yellow paper. There were 21 supplementary questions, the answers to which will be

attached as Appendix 2 to the minutes.

4. REPORTS FROM CABINET FOR INFORMATION

4.1 DEMOCRACY COMMISSION PROGRESS REPORT

Report: See main agenda pages 7-8

The chair of the Democracy Commission, Councillor Abdul Mohamed, presented the report.

Following debate (Councillors Anood Al-Samerai, Mark Glover, Peter John, Columba Blango and Adele Morris), the recommendation contained within the report was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

That the report on the progress of the Democracy Commission be noted.

5. OTHER REPORTS

5.1 TREASURY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE - 2009/10 ANNUAL REPORT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS FOR CAPITAL FINANCE AND TREASURY MANAGEMENT

Report See supplemental agenda 2, pages 1-11

The report had not been circulated five clear business days in advance of the meeting. The report was accepted by the Mayor as late and urgent because council assembly must in accordance with financial standing orders consider an annual report on treasury management following the end of the year it relates to and it normally considers such a report before 30 September. This year, the council assembly meeting of 14 July 2010 presented the earliest opportunity that the report could be considered.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10(2) the Mayor formally moved the recommendation contained within the report.

The recommendation contained within the report was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

That the 2009/10 outturn report on debt, investments and prudential indicators be noted.

5.2 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

Report: See main agenda pages 9-17

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.10(2) the Mayor formally moved the

recommendations contained in the report.

Councillor Toby Eckersley, seconded by Councillor Lewis Robinson, moved Amendment A.

Following debate (Councillor Richard Livingstone), Amendment A 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 the following constitutional changes be agreed:

Budget and policy framework

1. That the current position as set out in points 1 to 6, 8 and 10 of the table in paragraph 15 of the report relating to the budget and policy framework be noted.
2. That in relation to points 7 and 9 of the table in paragraph 15 of the report, the constitutional and procedural changes drafted in consultation with the cabinet member for finance and resources as set out in paragraphs 20 to 24 of the report be agreed, subject to the following amendment in paragraph 20 at the end of new Part 3A clause 8 add:

“and the approval of virements over £10,000,000 between capital projects or programme headings as set out in the overall programme.”

and that the wording of new Part 3C clause 9, and the financial standing orders be changed accordingly.

Article 7 – Regulatory and other committees - Clarification of the constitution

3. That Article 7 – Regulatory and other committees – be amended to provide clarification of the role of the annual meeting in establishing committees. The amendment is shown as a strikethrough below:

Article 7 – Regulatory and other committees

7.1 Regulatory and other committees

The council will appoint committees to undertake non-executive functions. Council assembly will delegate powers to these committees to discharge their relevant functions.

~~The council assembly shall establish the following committees:~~

~~Appointments committee
Audit and governance committee
Corporate parenting committee
Disciplinary appeals committee~~

~~Licensing committee~~
~~Overview and scrutiny committee~~
~~Planning committee~~
~~Standards committee.~~

7.2 Key tasks of chairs of regulatory and other committees

Chairs of the authority's committees will take specific responsibility for the development of that committee's work plan and represent the service or function of the committee within and outside the authority as necessary to enable it to deliver its objectives consistently to corporate standards.

Reclassifying sections of the constitution as schemes

4. That the councillor call for action and the community council protocols be reclassified as schemes.
5. That the schemes in resolution 4 above together with others schemes including the publications schemes be held on the Library pages on the council's website as part of the constitutional framework. The petitions scheme is already held here.

Consequential changes

6. That officers be authorised to undertake any consequential and cross referencing changes arising from changes to the constitution.

5.3 APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIRS OF DISCIPLINARY APPEALS, LICENSING AND PLANNING COMMITTEES

Report: See main agenda pages 18-19

The clerk advised that the following nominations had been received:

- Councillor Catherine Bowman for the vice chair of the licensing committee
- Councillor Nick Dolezal for the vice chair of the planning committee
- No nominations had been received for vice chair of the disciplinary appeals committee.

The Mayor called for nominations for the vice-chair of the disciplinary appeals committee. There being none the other two nominations were put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That Councillor Catherine Bowman be appointed as vice-chair of the licensing committee for the ensuing year.
2. That Councillor Nick Dolezal be appointed as vice-chair of the planning committee for the ensuing year.

The clerk informed the meeting that the appointment of the vice chair of the disciplinary appeals committee would be considered at the next full meeting of the committee.

5.4 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK AND PERFORMANCE OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE IN 2009/10

Report: See main agenda pages 20-29

The chair of the audit and governance committee, Councillor Renata Hamvas, presented the report.

The recommendation contained within the report was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

That the work and performance of the audit and governance committee in 2009/10 be noted.

6. MOTIONS

Report: See main agenda pages 30-33 and revised motion 3 circulated at the meeting

6.1 SOUTHWARK'S RESPONSE TO THE EMERGENCY BUDGET

Following a variation in the order of business, the motion was considered after members' question time prior to the guillotine having fallen.

The clerk advised the meeting that the mover and seconder of Amendment B wished to revise the amendment by deleting the following from the end of new paragraph 13:

“and to vote against it in parliament.”

The meeting consented to the revision to Amendment B.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Victoria Mills, moved the motion.

Councillor Catherine McDonald, seconded by Councillor Richard Livingstone, moved revised Amendment B.

Following debate (Councillors David Noakes, Abdul Mohamed, Graham Neale, Lewis Robinson, John Friary, Mark Glover and Mark Gettleson), Councillor Peter John exercised his right of reply.

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

Councillor Rosie Shimell, seconded by Councillor Tim McNally, moved Amendment C.

Following debate (Councillors Anood Al-Sameria, Paul Noblet, Veronica Ward, Graham Neale, Nick Dolezal and Lewis Robinson), Councillor Catherine McDonald exercised her right of reply.

Amendment C was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

Councillor Catherine McDonald exercised her right of reply, after which the substantive motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly notes the unprecedented, game-changing cuts that government is making to public sector spending. It notes that local government will not be protected from those cuts and that, while we will know more after the comprehensive spending review in October, the council will face upwards of a 25% reduction in funding over the next five years.
2. That council assembly notes that the poorest Southwark residents and families will be hit hardest personally by the budget, with significant changes to:
 - Housing benefits
 - Tax credits
 - Child benefits
 - Disability Living Allowance
3. That it further notes the 2.5% increase in VAT, which as a deeply regressive tax will hit the poorest hardest, and will more than swallow up any savings Southwark residents make through changes to the income tax personal allowance and council tax freeze.
4. That council assembly notes the increase in VAT will lead to higher prices for goods and services; will have a disproportionate impact on pensioners and other low income groups; and will have a severe impact on businesses, charities and community groups in Southwark. It further notes the disproportionate effect of the budget on women and the disabled.
5. That council assembly notes the effect of the increase in VAT, when taken with other measures in the budget, will be unfair to pensioners, who have not had a compensatory increase in other benefits and allowances.
6. That council assembly notes that the way the VAT increase will affect pensioners and other low income groups runs counter to the Government's Coalition Agreement statement on 20 May 2010 that it would "ensure that fairness is at the heart of those decisions so that all those most in need are protected."
7. That council assembly notes the Institute of Fiscal Studies has stated the VAT increase was not "unavoidable," as the Chancellor of the Exchequer said in his budget speech.
8. That council assembly notes that these changes will take place at a time of rising unemployment and that the Office of Budget Responsibility's figures show that the actions in the budget itself will lead to weaker employment growth and more serious unemployment levels.

9. That council assembly notes that the cabinet has already committed to cutting waste and making efficiency savings, but that they will not be enough to prevent loss of services. It believes that the council will have to change the way it works by being innovative if we are to both continue delivering for Southwark residents and also try to meet the greater needs that the welfare reforms, VAT changes and persistent unemployment will cause in the community.
10. That council assembly further believes that meeting this challenge will require greater cooperation between the council, its neighbours, residents, businesses, local trade unions and stakeholders. It believes that the council's response will be stronger if local consensus can be achieved between the local parties wherever possible and resolves to go forward on that basis.
11. That council assembly therefore resolves to call on cabinet to open up the council's budget making process by finding innovative ways of involving residents in the tough choices that lie ahead and being honest with them about the scale of the challenge.
12. That council assembly resolves to call on the leader to write directly to the Chancellor of the Exchequer raising concerns about the impact of the proposed VAT increase on pensioners, other vulnerable groups and businesses in Southwark.
13. That council assembly resolves to call on the cabinet to write to members of parliament representing Southwark, asking that they stand up for Southwark's pensioners, businesses and wider community, to voice their opposition to this unfair increase in VAT.

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

6.2 PUBLICATION OF SPENDING ON GOODS AND SERVICES OVER £500

Following a variation in the order of business, the motion was considered after members' question time prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Councillor Lewis Robinson moved the motion. It was formally seconded by Councillor Toby Eckersley.

Following debate (Councillor Richard Livingstone), the motion was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly notes the cabinet resolution of 15 June 2010 in which it states it will "Open up the budget making process for public scrutiny so we make better decisions."
2. That in light of this commitment to the residents of Southwark, council assembly requests the cabinet to bring forward proposals, as requested by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government to make details of spending on all goods and services over £500 for the public to see and scrutinise.
3. That council assembly believes that local people should be able to hold politicians

and public bodies to account over how their hard earned cash is being spent, and welcomes these proposals, following the coalition government's own commitment demonstrated by the online publication of the COINS database, and urges the cabinet to follow this example.

4. That council assembly notes that by September, councils will be expected to make these details available and should be doing this as a matter of course by the start of next year and request the cabinet to take the appropriate steps to meet this deadline.

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

6.3 SOUTHWARK PARK AND THE OLYMPICS

A revised motion was circulated at the meeting.

The guillotine having fallen, Councillors Columba Blango and Wilma Nelson, formally moved and seconded the revised motion.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly notes the quashing of the council's planning permission for the refurbishment of the sports and athletics facilities at Southwark Park.
2. That council assembly notes the public statement of 'disappointment' by the leader at this setback, and that securing an Olympic legacy for Southwark remains a priority for the council.
3. That council assembly calls on the cabinet member for culture, leisure, sport and the Olympics to make all efforts to make a decision on the submission of a new application to allow the possibility of the project being delivered in time for the Olympics.

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

6.4 SOUTHWARK'S CAPITAL PROGRAMME

The guillotine having fallen, Councillors Anood Al-Samerai and Paul Noblet, formally moved and seconded the motion.

Councillors Richard Livingstone and Helen Hayes, formally moved and seconded Amendment D.

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

Councillors Graham Neale and Mark Gettleson, formally moved and seconded Amendment E.

Amendment E was put to the vote and declared to be lost.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly notes that in the budget on Tuesday 22 June, the Chancellor of the Exchequer specifically excluded capital spending from budget reductions and said he wished to focus on capital “projects with a significant economic return to the country”.
2. That council assembly believes that this announcement allows Southwark to make progress on delivering a variety of capital projects that will bring significant economic benefits to the borough and more widely across London. By continuing to invest in major capital schemes the council will ensure the borough’s residents have access to affordable housing, libraries, leisure centres, schools and sporting and youth facilities fit for the 21st century.
3. That council assembly supports the new administration’s view that the capital programme is of such strategic importance that it should be discussed and approved by the full council assembly.
4. That council assembly therefore also supports the proposal set out in item 5.2 (the report on constitutional changes) of this meeting’s agenda that the cabinet submit the capital programme to council assembly for their approval once every four years and requests that cabinet submit a revised programme to council assembly for approval during 2010.
5. That council assembly notes that the current capital programme, agreed on 9 February by the previous administration, made no commitment to fund refurbishment work of Seven Islands leisure centre. Instead it asked that the finance director provide more detailed options analysis and financial appraisals on the remaining bids received (including Seven Islands) for future consideration by the executive in the context of resources available and considering any additional resources which can be identified. The total costs for these bids totaled £115m, against a budget of £55.5m available.
6. That, however, council assembly also recognises the importance of Seven Islands leisure centre to a significant proportion of the borough and therefore asks the cabinet to consider carefully how its refurbishment could be funded through the capital programme.
7. That council assembly notes the report to the regeneration and leisure scrutiny sub-committee on 29 June identified that the Canada Water library will cost a further £0.5 million more than has been agreed in the capital programme as a result of the over-running of the construction phase of this project. Council assembly therefore asks cabinet to agree to this additional expenditure over and above the level of the commitment made by the previous administration so that this work can be completed.
8. That council assembly believes it is important that the capital programme demonstrates investment in all areas of the borough and not just one community council area. It therefore calls on cabinet to consider the needs of the whole borough

in its revision of the capital programme before submitting it for approval to council assembly.

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

7. AMENDMENTS

The amendments are set out in supplemental agenda 3.

8. LATE MOTION: ELEPHANT AND CASTLE REGENERATION AGREEMENT

Report: See supplemental agenda 3, pages 6-7

Following a variation in the order of business, the motion was considered after members question time prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Councillor Catherine Bowman moved the motion. During the councillor's speech, the deputy monitoring officer advised members that care should be taken not to disclose any confidential information during the debate on this item and that the meeting should move into closed session should members wish to discuss matters of a confidential nature. The deputy monitoring officer reminded members about the seriousness of disclosing confidential information.

The meeting continued in open session.

Councillor Geoffrey Thornton seconded the motion.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Fiona Colley, moved late Amendment F.

During the debate on late Amendment F (Councillors Lisa Rajan, Paul Noblet, Toby Eckersley, Nick Dolezal, Tim McNally), the deputy monitoring officer advised the meeting that members should take care not to disclose issues of a confidential nature and that if the meeting wished to debate such issues the meeting should move into closed session.

The debate continued in open session (Councillors Anood Al-Samerai, Helen Morrissey, David Noakes, Dora Dixon-Fyle, Linda Manchester, Barrie Hargrove, Eliza Mann, Martin Seaton, Nick Stanton, Renata Hamvas and David Hubber). At 10.07pm the bell was rang and the Mayor informed the meeting that the guillotine had fallen.

The guillotine having fallen late Amendment F was put to the vote and declared to be carried.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly notes the decision by the cabinet on 7 July to enter into an agreement with Lend Lease for the regeneration of the Elephant and Castle. It notes that it has delivered in eight weeks what the previous administration failed to deliver in eight years.

2. That council assembly notes that the Labour administration had three principal concerns about the heads of terms that the former administration signed last year:
 - 1) That it included no minimum commitment to affordable housing meaning that there was a very real risk that the existing community would have been displaced by the Liberal Democrats to make way for 100% luxury apartments
 - 2) That it indefinitely shelved the demolition and redevelopment of the shopping centre
 - 3) That it did not even mention the provision of new leisure facilities.
3. That council assembly notes that following 6 May the new cabinet renegotiated these parts of the deal with Lend Lease and managed to secure the following changes:
 - 1) A minimum provision of 25% affordable housing with the opportunity to secure more through the planning process
 - 2) Fresh negotiations between Lend Lease and St Modwens with the guarantee that Lend Lease will underwrite a compulsory purchase of the shopping centre if those negotiations are unsuccessful
 - 3) Progress on the provision of a new leisure centre on the site of the existing centre meaning that, unlike under the Liberal Democrat heads of terms, Elephant & Castle residents will not have to go to Lambeth or anywhere else to swim.
4. That council assembly, notes the following claims by the Liberal Democrat group and Labour responses to those accusations:
 - 1) The Liberal Democrats suggest “Taxpayers are set to lose tens of millions of pounds as a result of the revised capital receipts agreed by the Labour administration.” But there is no risk of the developer making millions at the council’s expense. Where their profits are set to increase then the council’s return will also increase. Labour took a positive political decision to secure a guaranteed minimum level of affordable housing provision because we believe that simply displacing the existing community and building luxury apartments would be a sell-out.
 - 2) The Liberal Democrats suggest “The minimum requirement of 25% for affordable housing will see less than 800 homes built on the Heygate site (and fewer than 400 affordable rented homes), shatters the council’s planning requirements of 35% affordable housing in the area and will deliver fewer affordable homes than would have been secured by using these planning rules effectively.” But Labour realised that without a minimum guarantee of affordable housing provision there was a serious risk that the developer would be able to build much lower than 25% affordable home provision, despite planning rules. We have built in this extra safeguard to ensure that this does not happen.
 - 3) The Liberal Democrats suggest the deal “Allows Lend Lease to find an alternative to the MUSCO making a carbon neutral development impossible and will affect the replacement of ageing district heating systems across the borough, including as part of the Aylesbury regeneration.” But this is just not true, the development will be carbon neutral. The MUSCO is being procured separately, which is the situation the Labour administration inherited.

- 4) The Liberal Democrats suggest: “Neither the shopping centre, nor the northern roundabout are included in the deal, despite Labour pledges.” But Labour has made progress on securing the demolition and redevelopment of the shopping centre as outlined above and that progress on the replacing the northern roundabout will be made through negotiations with Transport for London.
- 5) The Liberal Democrats suggest “The deal omits any reference to a new library or lifelong learning centre and puts under threat the future of both the Newington and Brandon libraries” But a new library was also not included in the heads of terms either and Labour was not in a position to renegotiate to secure this as well as our other priorities. Furthermore, the claims about Newington and Brandon libraries are baseless and irresponsible.
5. That council assembly therefore notes with regret the Liberal Democrats’ commitment to the gentrification of the Elephant and Castle over affordable housing provision, their desire for further dither and delay rather than progress in this vital regeneration project and believes that these stated positions are contrary to the interests of the borough.
6. That council assembly supports the agreement negotiated and approved by the cabinet on 7 July and resolves to do all that it can to deliver the community’s vision for the urgent regeneration of the Elephant and Castle.

9. LATE MOTION: NURSERY ROW PARK

Report: Circulated at the meeting

The guillotine having fallen, Councillors Martin Seaton and Helen Morrissey, formally moved and seconded the late motion.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That Nursery Row Park is currently protected as an open space and a site of importance for nature conservation under the category other open space in the Southwark Plan. Open spaces provide an essential amenity and recreational resource for people living and working in Southwark.
2. That council assembly notes that at council assembly on 4 November 2009 a decision on which sites to save from the Southwark Plan was taken and three sites on Nursery Row Park (including Sites 52P and 53P) were all saved for housing.
3. That council assembly also notes that sites 52P and 53P are no longer part of the development programme for the Elephant and Castle, therefore they are no longer contributing to delivery of the council's housing targets. It is also noted that the council owns the sites.
4. That council assembly therefore requests the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy to write to the Secretary of State inviting him to revise the council's request to save council's housing sites by omitting sites 52P and 53P.

5. That council assembly notes that at this stage it is only possible to save or not save policies from the Southwark Plan and it is therefore not possible to amend the boundary of site 51P that also covers the Stead Street car park which is required for housing. Council assembly notes the commitment given by the cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy that the council will not build on any part of the park and calls on the cabinet member to take steps to provide additional planning policy protection to this remaining part of the park at the earliest possible opportunity.

Note: This motion will be referred as a recommendation to the cabinet for consideration.

The meeting closed at 10.35 pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: