



Council Assembly (Ordinary Meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Ordinary Meeting) held on Wednesday 27 March 2013 at 7.00 pm at Harris Academy Peckham, 112 Peckham Road, London SE15 5DZ

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor for 2012/13, Councillor Althea Smith (Chair)

Councillor Kevin Ahern	Councillor Paul Kyriacou
Councillor Anood Al-Samerai	Councillor Lorraine Lauder MBE
Councillor James Barber	Councillor Richard Livingstone
Councillor Columba Blango	Councillor Rebecca Lury
Councillor Catherine Bowman	Councillor Eliza Mann
Councillor Chris Brown	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 Jonathan Mitchell
Councillor Fiona Colley	Councillor Michael Mitchell
Councillor Neil Coyle	Councillor Abdul Mohamed
Councillor Robin Crookshank Hilton	Councillor Adele Morris
Councillor Patrick Diamond	Councillor Graham Neale
Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle	Councillor Wilma Nelson
Councillor Nick Dolezal	Councillor David Noakes
Councillor Toby Eckersley	Councillor Paul Noblet
Councillor Gavin Edwards	Councillor The Right Revd Emmanuel Oyewole
Councillor Dan Garfield	Councillor Lisa Rajan
Councillor Mark Gettleson	Councillor Lewis Robinson
Councillor Norma Gibbes	Councillor Martin Seaton
Councillor Mark Glover	Councillor Rosie Shimell
Councillor Stephen Govier	Councillor Andy Simmons
Councillor Renata Hamvas	Councillor Michael Situ
Councillor Barrie Hargrove	Councillor Cleo Soanes
Councillor Helen Hayes	Councillor Nick Stanton
Councillor Claire Hickson	Councillor Geoffrey Thornton
Councillor Jeff Hook	Councillor Veronica Ward
Councillor David Hubber	Councillor Mark Williams
Councillor Peter John	Councillor Ian Wingfield

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

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

The Mayor

- Reminded everyone that the Mayor's Ball was on Saturday 4 May at 7.00pm at the Hilton Tower Bridge.
- Stated that the Community Youth Games were about to cease and therefore thanked staff for their contribution towards the games past success.
- Thanked those that had attended the relocation and rededication ceremony of war memorials from the former town hall, Peckham Road.

Councillor Peter John, leader of the council, made a statement about the recent fire at Walworth Town Hall.

Councillor Ian Wingfield, deputy leader and cabinet member for housing management, made a statement about the Lakanal fire inquests.

Councillor Fiona Colley, cabinet member for regeneration and corporate strategy, tabled a statement about the relocate of Ellison House approved premises.

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

With the meetings agreement the Mayor announced that she intended to receive one late item of business:

- Late Motion on the Fire at Walworth Town Hall.

The Mayor informed the meeting that the petition on the bail hostel had been withdrawn, therefore Motion 5.2.2 and its subsequent amendment had been withdrawn; and that the deputation from Originally Peckham Voluntary Sector Forum (PVSF) "Our Voices, Our Children, Our Future", had been referred to the cabinet.

The Mayor stated that following consultation with the group whips it had been agreed that the order of business be varied to allow the late motion to be considered as the first item of business. The whips had also agreed that there should be a single debate on the motions on the theme, the two motions and relevant amendments would be moved and seconded, followed by a single debate. At the close of the debate a separate vote would be taken on each amendment and motion.

The meeting agreed to suspend the following council assembly procedure rules:

- 1.6 Variation in order of business
- 1.14 (4) Order of debate – single debate
- 2.10 (3) Deadline for receipt of motions.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

Item 7.1: Establishing Southwark's Health and Wellbeing Board as a committee of the council

Councillor Andy Simmons declared a pecuniary interest in this item as he has honorary contracts with the NHS in Southwark.

1.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Rowenna Davis and Linda Manchester. Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Victoria Mills and Lewis Robinson.

1.5 MINUTES

(See supplemental agenda 1, pages 1 – 65)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 23 January and 27 February 2013 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

2. ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

2.1 PETITIONS - SAY NO TO BAIL HOSTEL CAMPAIGN

(See pages 1 – 2 of the main agenda and pages 1 – 2 of supplemental agenda 3)

The petition was withdrawn.

2.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(See page 1 of supplemental agenda 2 and green papers circulated at the meeting)

There was one question from the public, the answer to which was circulated on green paper at the meeting. The question and written response will be appended to the minutes.

2.3 DEPUTATION REQUESTS ON THE THEME

(See pages 2 - 4 of the main agenda)

Deputation from the St. Giles Trust

Council assembly considered whether to receive the deputation from the St. Giles Trust.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson, Rob Owen, addressed the meeting.

The deputation asked a question of Councillor Richard Livingstone, cabinet member for finance, resources and community safety. Councillor Richard Livingstone provided an oral response.

Councillors Mark Gettleson, Claire Hickson and Patrick Diamond asked questions of the deputation.

Thereafter the deputation returned to their seats in the public seating area.

Deputation from Southwark Young Advisors Scheme and the Southwark Anti Violence Unit

Council assembly considered whether to receive the deputation from the Southwark Anti Violence Unit.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson, Cleese Buck, addressed the meeting.

The deputation asked a question of Councillor Richard Livingstone, cabinet member for finance, resources and community safety. Councillor Richard Livingstone provided an oral response.

Councillors Anood Al-Samerai and Columba Blango asked questions of the deputation.

Thereafter the deputation returned to their seats in the public seating area.

Deputation from Southwark Youth Council

Council assembly considered whether to receive the deputation from the Southwark Youth Council.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson, Vanessa Glover, addressed the meeting.

The deputation asked a question of Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle, cabinet member for children's services. Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle provided an oral response.

Councillors Althea Smith, David Hubber, David Noakes and Rosie Shimell asked

questions of the deputation.

Thereafter the deputation returned to their seats in the public seating area.

3. THEMED DEBATE - CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

3.1 CABINET MEMBER STATEMENT

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.7(6) Councillor Richard Livingstone (cabinet member for finance, resources and community safety) invited the Police Borough Commander for Southwark, John Sutherland, to address the meeting for five minutes. Thereafter Councillor Livingstone spoke to the meeting for five minutes on the themed debate.

The opposition spokesperson for community safety, libraries and leisure, Councillor James Barber, replied to the cabinet members' statement.

3.2 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE THEME

(See page 9 of supplemental agenda 2 and green papers circulated at the meeting)

There was one question from the public, the answer to which was circulated on green paper at the meeting. The question and written response are attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

3.3 MEMBERS' MOTIONS ON THE THEME

The meeting had agreed that there would be a single debate on the two motions on the theme.

MOTION 1 – BASIC SAFETY AND SECURITY FOR RESIDENTS

(see pages 3 – 4 of the main agenda)

The Mayor announced that she had received notice of changes to the speakers on Amendment A, Councillors Dan Garfield and Mark Williams now wished to move and second the amendment rather than Councillors Cleo Soanes and Lorraine Lauder. The meeting consented to the change of speakers.

Councillor Michael Bukola, seconded by Councillor Adele Morris, moved the motion.

Councillor Dan Garfield, seconded by Councillor Mark Williams, moved Amendment A.

MOTION 2 – HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRIORITIES

(See pages 4 - 5 of the main agenda)

Councillor Cleo Soanes, seconded by Councillor Lorraine Lauder, moved the motion.

Councillor Lewis Robinson, seconded by Councillor Michael Mitchell, moved Amendment B.

Councillor David Hubber, seconded by Councillor Jonathan Mitchell, moved Amendment C.

Following debate (Councillors Mark Gettleson, Mark Williams, Paul Noblet, Gavin Edwards, Anood Al-Samerai and Helen Hayes), at 9.30pm the Mayor adjourned the meeting for a short comfort break. The meeting reconvened at 9.35pm and moved to the vote on the amendments and motions.

Vote on Motion 1 and Amendment A – Basic safety and security for residents

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.

Motion 2 was the same as Amendment A, which had been carried as the substantive motion, therefore Motion 2 fell.

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly believes that crime and the fear of crime are among our residents' main concerns and notes the council's fairer future promise to crack down on anti-social behaviour and implement a violent crime strategy.
2. That council assembly notes the progress being made against the 5 priorities in the violent crime strategy including:
 - 9% reduction in violence with injury
 - 4% reduction in most serious violence
 - 22% reduction in knives used to injure
 - 19% reduction in youth violence
 - 10% reduction in domestic abuse.
3. That council assembly notes that despite savings to Southwark's anti-social behaviour unit, the number of anti-social behaviour cases that have been managed by Southwark antisocial behaviour unit (SASBU and housing officers over the last three years has actually increased by 40%; the number of acceptable behaviour contracts issued increased by 19% on last year.
4. That council assembly welcomes the establishment of the Southwark anti-violence unit (SAVU), a multiagency team working together to support individuals and families affected by gang and serious youth violence. It welcomes the fact that, the first 10 months evaluation highlights that following engagement with SAVU, 45% of SAVU clients have not come to police notice, compared with the 12 months prior to their involvement in the scheme when 100% had come to notice. Council assembly further notes the favourable review of this work by the Home Office in October 2012, in which the council was praised by the review team for its 'political leaders recognising

and prioritising ending gang and youth violence work and sending out a very strong signal that this is a priority for the borough and will be resourced and supported'.

5. That council assembly also welcomes the announcement in last month's budget of £1.4m to upgrade outdated camera systems on Southwark's housing estates as well as 30 new redeployable cameras and an upgraded control room. It notes that CCTV has supported the police in making around 900 arrests between April and March of 2012/13.
6. That council assembly regrets the government's decision to cut the Met's budget by 20% and the impact this has had on police officer numbers in the borough and on closures to police stations in Rotherhithe and East Dulwich. It welcomes the council's decision to identify £750,000 for community safety initiatives including alternative police front counters.
7. That council assembly asks the cabinet to develop plans to:
 - Work collaboratively with customs and excise, police and neighbouring boroughs to tackle the drugs trade
 - Work with communities and registered social landlords to develop new approaches to resolve conflicts within communities
 - Help communities gain confidence to tackle anti-social behaviour in their midst
 - Continue the excellent work of SAVU despite government cuts
 - Develop further the work with our partners to reduce re-offending
 - Work with Solace, the voluntary sector and local hospitals to develop innovative approaches to tackling violence against women and girls.

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

MOTION 2 – CRIME AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

(see pages 4 – 5 of the main agenda)

Motion 2 fell.

4. OTHER DEPUTATIONS

(See pages 10 – 11 of supplemental agenda 2)

The deputation request from Originally Peckham Voluntary Sector Forum (PVSF) "Our Voices, Our Children, Our Future" was referred to the cabinet.

5. ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS

5.1 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

(See pages 6 - 12 of the main agenda and the blue and yellow papers circulated at the meeting)

There was one urgent question to the leader, the written response to which was circulated on blue paper at the meeting. Two supplemental questions were asked of the leader. All questions and written responses are attached as Appendix 2 to the minutes.

There were 42 members' questions, the written responses to which were circulated on yellow paper at the meeting. There were 11 supplemental questions, all questions and written responses are attached as Appendix 3 to the minutes.

At 10.07pm the Mayor announced that the guillotine had fallen.

5.2 MEMBERS' MOTIONS

MOTION 1 – LOCALISING PLANNING DECISIONS

(See page 14 of the main agenda)

The guillotine having fallen, Councillors Toby Eckersley and Lewis Robinson, formally moved and seconded the motion.

Councillors Helen Hayes and Darrell Merrill, formally moved and seconded Amendment D.

Amendment D 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 concerns which residents and members from all parties have raised about travel times to Tooley Street from the south of the borough.
2. That council assembly recognises the need to make planning decision-making as accessible to all residents as possible.
3. That council assembly further recognises the need for financial efficiency across all departments in this time of austerity, and the additional unsustainable costs which would be incurred by holding planning committee meetings in a range of different venues across the borough.
4. That council assembly therefore proposes that some planning sub-committee meetings should be held at the council offices at Queen's Road Peckham as soon as it is practical.
5. That council assembly requests the director of planning to report back on the impact of this change of venue in terms of the attendance of members of the public at planning sub-committee meetings in one year's time.

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

MOTION 2 – OFENDER HOSTEL ON OLD KENT ROAD

(see page 14 of the main agenda)

Motion withdrawn.

LATE MOTION – FIRE AT WALWORTH TOWN HALL

(Paper circulated at the meeting)

This motion was considered prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Prior to the late motion being moved, in accordance with CAPR 1.14(15), the mover and seconder of the late motion agreed to the following alteration to the motion:

Last bullet point delete 'urgently reconsider his' and insert 'have regard to this event before finalising the'.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Anood Al-Samerai, moved the late motion.

Following debate (Councillors Althea Smith, Richard Livingstone, Catherine Bowman and Mark Williams), Councillor Dan Garfield, seconded by Councillor Tim McNally, moved to the vote.

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

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

RESOLVED:

That council assembly:

- Expresses great sadness at the devastating fire this week at Walworth Town Hall and the damage it has caused to the Cuming museum and adjoining buildings
- Thanks the emergency services, council staff and local residents and businesses for their dedicated efforts to protect lives and heritage.
- Supports the work of officers in finding alternative temporary premises for the One Stop Shop and library study space.
- Recognises the need for community conversations to now take place to allow residents to share their thoughts about the buildings and the future, including preserving the external facade in any rebuilding work.
- Notes that the first fire engine on the scene came from Southwark Fire Station, which is currently on the Mayor of London's list for closure, and that other fire engines assisting were from stations also under threat of closure.
- Calls on the Mayor of London to have regard to this event before finalising the planned fire station closures in light of the events of this week, given how much worse the situation could have been without the quick response from our local fire stations.

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

6. REPORT(S) FOR INFORMATION FROM THE CABINET

6.1 REPORT BACK ON MOTIONS REFERRED TO THE CABINET

(See pages 16 - 20 of the main agenda)

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

7. OTHER REPORTS

7.1 ESTABLISHING SOUTHWARK'S HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AS A COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

(See pages 21 – 45 of the main agenda)

Councillor Andy Simmons, having declared an interest in this item withdraw from the meeting during the debate and vote on the report.

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11 (2), the Mayor formally moved the report.

Councillor David Noakes, seconded by Councillor Denise Capstick, moved Amendment F.

Following debate (Councillors Catherine McDonald, Neil Coyle, Toby Eckersley, Anood Al-Samerai, Peter John and Nick Stanton), the Mayor announced that the time allocated to this report had expired and the meeting would move to the vote on the amendment and substantive.

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

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

RESOLVED:

1. That the Southwark's Health and Wellbeing Board be established as a committee of the council from 1 April 2013 and the membership of the board be as set out in paragraph 22 of the report be agreed.
2. That the necessary constitutional changes including the roles and functions / matters reserved and procedural rules as presented in Appendices 1 and 2 of the report be agreed.

7.2 CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES - ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING OF COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

(See pages 46 – 56 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11 (2), the Mayor formally moved the report.

Councillor Lisa Rajan, seconded by Councillor Graham Neale, moved Amendment G.

Following debate (Councillors Dan Garfield, Lewis Robinson, Tim McNally, Nick Dolezal, Peter John and Anood Al-Samerai), the Mayor announced that the time allocated to this report had expired and the meeting would move to the vote on the amendment and substantive.

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

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

RESOLVED:

That the constitutional changes outlined in relation to the annual meeting set out in paragraphs 8 to 13 and Appendix 1 and 2 of the report be agreed.

7.3 ANNUAL PAY POLICY STATEMENT

(See pages 57 – 69 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11 (2), the Mayor formally moved the report.

Councillor Tim McNally, seconded by Councillor Catherine Bowman, moved Amendment H.

Following debate (Councillors Richard Livingstone, Poddy Clark, Peter John, Paul Noblet and Columba Blango), the Mayor announced that the time allocated to this report had expired and the meeting would move to the vote on the amendment and substantive.

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

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

RESOLVED:

That the council's pay policy statement as set out in Appendix 1 of the report, be agreed.

7.4 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK AND PERFORMANCE OF THE AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE IN 2012/13

(See pages 69 – 81 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11 (1), Councillor Mark Glover, chair of the audit and governance committee, moved 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 2012/13 be noted.

7.5 ANNUAL REPORT ON SPECIAL URGENCY DECISIONS (ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULE 21.3)

(See pages 82 – 87 of the main agenda)

This report was considered after the guillotine had fallen, therefore in accordance with council assembly procedure rule 1.12 (3) & (4), the report was afforded up to a maximum of 15 minutes.

In accordance with council assembly procedure rule 2.11 (2), the report was formally moved by the Mayor.

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

RESOLVED:

That the schedule of special urgency and urgent implementation decisions (Appendix 1 of the report) taken in accordance with overview and scrutiny procedure rules 18 and 19, be noted.

8. AMENDMENTS

Amendments are set out in Supplemental Agenda 3, pages 3 – 10.

The meeting closed at 11.01pm.

CHAIR:

DATED: