



Council Assembly (Ordinary Meeting)

MINUTES of the Council Assembly (Ordinary Meeting) held on Wednesday 17 October 2012 at 7.00 pm at Walworth Academy, 34 - 40 Shorncliffe Road, London SE1 5UJ

PRESENT:

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

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

1. PRELIMINARY BUSINESS

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

The Mayor announced the sad passing of:

- Former councillor Ron Slater JP MBE, on 18 September 2012. Ron served as a councillor in the 1970s and 1980s and was an Alderman and Free Citizen of the Borough. His daughter, Past Mayor Lorraine Lauder, followed her father into local politics as a councillor.

Tributes were paid by Councillors Ian Wingfield, David Hubber and Toby Eckersley.

- Councillor Helen Morrissey who passed away on 12 October 2012 after battling cancer over the past year. She was a councillor for East Walworth ward since May 2010 and Labour Group chief whip.

Tributes were paid by Councillors Peter John, Anood Al-Samerai and Lewis Robinson.

- Junior Nkwelle, who was a pupil at Walworth Academy.
- Hichame Bouadimi, who was a pupil at Charlotte Sharman Primary School in St. Georges Road.

The Mayor read out a poem offering words of comfort and thereafter the meeting stood for a minute's silence.

Councillor Peter John, leader of the council, stated that Councillor Fiona Colley had been appointed to the cabinet in May 2012 but had been on maternity leave from her cabinet role since April 2012. He thereafter formally announced that Councillor Fiona Colley remained appointed to the cabinet but he was extending her absence from the cabinet for a further three months.

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Fiona Colley back from her maternity leave and congratulated her on the birth of her son.

Councillor Veronica Ward, cabinet member for culture, sport, the Olympics and regeneration (South), thanked all the young people and the community support team who had contributed to the success of the London Youth Games. She also took the opportunity to thank all those involved in making Southwark's contribution to the Olympics so outstanding. A brief written version of the announcement was circulated at the meeting.

At 8.40pm the Mayor welcomed Councillor Victoria Mills back from maternity leave and congratulated her and Councillor Gavin Edwards on the birth of their twins, Ida and Matthew.

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

With the meetings agreement, the Mayor announced that she intended to accept one late and urgent item of business - Late and urgent motion: Urgent help on St George's Road. The Mayor stated that she intended to vary the order of business so that the late motion could be considered prior to members' question time.

The Mayor announced that following consultation with the political group whips, the following items had been withdrawn:

- Item 3.3: Motion 2 – Opportunities for young people, including youth employment
- Item 5.2: Motion 1 – Social housing in mixed communities
- Item 5.2: Motion 2 – Tuition fees apology.

With the meetings consent, the Mayor announced that the four deputations on the theme would be considered but the deputation from Starlight Music Academy on item 6.1 – Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan, would not be heard.

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

- 2.10(3) Deadline for receipt of members' motions
- 1.6 Variation in order of business
- 2.6 (11) No more than three deputations shall be considered at any one meeting.

1.3 DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

There were none.

1.4 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Linda Manchester and Michael Mitchell. Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillors Victoria Mills and Patrick Diamond.

1.5 MINUTES

(See supplemental agenda 1, pages 1 – 18)

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of council assembly meeting held on 4 July 2012 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

2. ISSUES RAISED BY THE PUBLIC

2.1 PETITIONS

There were none.

2.2 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(See supplemental agenda 2, page 1 of the green paper circulated at the meeting)

There were two questions from the public the answers to which were circulated on green paper at the meeting. The public questioners were present and asked a supplemental question. All questions and written responses are attached as Appendix 1 to the minutes.

2.3 DEPUTATION REQUESTS ON THE THEME

See pages 2 - 5 of supplemental agenda 2)

Deputation from the BOSCO Centre

Council assembly considered whether to receive the deputation request from the BOSCO Centre.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson, Sister Cecily, addressed the meeting.

The deputation asked a question of Councillor Peter John, leader of the council. Councillor Peter John provided an oral response.

Councillors Anood Al-Samerai and Claire Hickson asked questions of the deputation.

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

Deputation from Orchard Hill College

Council assembly considered whether to receive the deputation request from Orchard Hill College.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson, Caroline Allen, 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 Peter John and Rowenna Davis asked questions of the deputation.

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

Deputation from young people who had received university scholarship from the council

Council assembly considered whether to receive the deputation request from the young people who had received a university scholarship from the council.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson addressed the meeting.

The deputation asked a question of Councillor Peter John, leader of the council. Councillor Peter John provided an oral response.

Councillors Catherine McDonald, Paul Noblet and Gavin Edwards 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 request from Southwark Youth Council.

RESOLVED:

That the deputation be received.

The deputation's spokesperson 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, Martin Seaton, Poddy Clark and Mark Gettleson asked questions of the deputation.

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

3. THEMED DEBATE - OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, INCLUDING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

3.1 CABINET MEMBER STATEMENT

Councillor Dora Dixon-Fyle (cabinet member for children's services) and Councillor Claire Hickson (cabinet member for communities and economic development), introduced the theme of the meeting.

The opposition spokesperson for children's services, Councillor Rosie Shimell, replied to

the cabinet members' statements.

3.2 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON THE THEME

(See supplemental agenda 2, page 6 of the green paper circulated at the meeting)

There was one question from the public on the theme, the answer to which was circulated on green paper at the meeting. The question and written response is attached as Appendix 2 to the minutes.

3.3 MOTIONS ON THE THEME - OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE, INCLUDING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

MOTION 1 – APPRENTICESHIPS AND WORK PLACEMENTS

(See page 4 of the main agenda)

Councillor Paul Noblet, seconded by Councillor Tim McNally, moved the motion.

Councillor Peter John, seconded by Councillor Ian Wingfield, moved Amendment A.

Following debate (Councillors David Hubber, Mark Glover, Catherine Bowman, Cleo Soanes, Lisa Rajan, Sunil Chopra, Eliza Mann, Richard Livingstone and Anood Al-Samerai), the Mayor announced that the time allocated to the themed section of the meeting had expired.

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:

1. That council assembly recognises the importance of providing real opportunities for young people in Southwark if we are to have fair and resilient communities and a thriving local economy.
2. That council assembly believes that when the economy is in recession and youth unemployment is high, it is the role of government at both national and local level to take action.
3. That council assembly notes that opportunities for young people mean more than just employment opportunities. Many young people in Southwark want to go to college and university and the council should do everything it can to support that ambition.
4. That council assembly notes the increase in the number of long-term young unemployed people in Southwark and regrets the complacency of the government regarding youth unemployment. It also regrets the government's disastrous decision to treble tuition fees and scrap educational maintenance allowance and notes the negative impact this is already having on the number of people applying for university.

5. That council assembly recognises the value of schemes like the Foot in the Door project run by Southwark Works since 2008 with funding from Southwark Council. Council assembly welcomes the experience which the work placements provide and which leads to permanent paid jobs but notes the project is currently part of a review of the council's economic wellbeing strategy. The aim of the review is to highlight youth unemployment as a major area of focus and will also determine the priorities for allocation of limited resources to support the council's aims for employment and enterprise.
6. That council assembly therefore notes that while the council is reviewing its economic wellbeing strategy it should work to promote other schemes that are creating apprenticeship opportunities for Southwark's young people.
7. That council assembly therefore welcomes this Labour administration £3 million youth fund which is supporting:
 - Talented Southwark scholars through university by paying all of their tuition fees
 - Paying an educational maintenance supplement to 1000 young people so that they can stay on in further education
 - Creating 1,500 job opportunities for young people in the borough.
8. That council assembly calls on councillors on all sides to support the youth fund and consider what more can be done to support employment opportunities for young people and to enable young people to access further and higher education.

MOTION 2 – HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRIORITIES

(See page 5 of the main agenda)

Motion 2 was withdrawn.

4. OTHER DEPUTATIONS

(See pages 7 - 12 of supplemental agenda 2)

RESOLVED:

That the meeting agreed not to receive a deputation from Starlight Music Academy on item 6.1 – Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan.

5. ISSUES RAISED BY MEMBERS

5.1 MEMBERS' QUESTION TIME

(See pages 7 - 13 of the main agenda and the blue and white 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 3 to the minutes.

There were 42 members' questions, the written responses to which were circulated on white paper at the meeting. There were nine supplemental questions, all questions and written responses are attached as Appendix 4 to the minutes.

At 10.06pm the bell was rung and the Mayor announced that the guillotine had fallen.

5.2 MEMBERS' MOTIONS

MOTION 1 - SOCIAL HOUSING IN MIXED COMMUNITIES

(See page 15 of the main agenda)

Motion withdrawn.

MOTION 2 - TUITION FEES APOLOGY

(See pages 15 – 16 of the main agenda)

Motion withdrawn.

LATE MOTION: URGENT HELP ON ST GEORGE'S ROAD

(See paper circulated at the meeting)

This motion was considered prior to the guillotine having fallen.

Councillor Adele Morris, seconded by Councillor Barrie Hargrove, moved the motion.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That council assembly deeply regrets the tragic and devastating death of 5 year old Hichame Bouadimi on St George's Road and sends deepest condolences to his family, friends and school.
2. That council assembly recognises that there is much work to be done to make St George's Road safer including looking at the railings, speed limits and other traffic calming measures, and councillors from all parties call on cabinet and Transport for London to help with these issues.
3. That council assembly appreciates that, in the meantime, parents and teachers from the three schools and residents of the many homes on St George's Road are very distressed about the dangers on this road and calls on cabinet for a lollipop person to be funded from the council's contingency funds and placed on this road immediately

and until the longer term safety measures are implemented.

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

6. REPORT(S) FOR DECISION FROM THE CABINET

6.1 PECKHAM AND NUNHEAD AREA ACTION PLAN - PUBLICATION/SUBMISSION VERSION

(See pages 17 - 35 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 Veronica Ward, cabinet member for culture, sport, the Olympics and regeneration (South), moved the report.

Following debate (Councillors Paul Noblet, Mark Glover and Fiona Colley), Councillor Veronica Ward exercised her right of reply.

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

RESOLVED:

1. That the Peckham and Nunhead Area Action Plan (AAP) publication/submission version (Appendix A), be approved for publication.
2. That the following supporting documents be noted: the consultation report (Appendix B), the consultation strategy (Appendix C), the consultation plan (Appendix D), the sustainability appraisal (Appendix E), the equalities appraisal (Appendix F), the appropriate assessment (Appendix G) and the schedule of proposed changes to the adopted policies map (Appendix H).
3. That the Peckham and Nunhead AAP publication/submission version be approved for submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government provided no substantive changes are necessary following consultation.
4. That the approval of any minor amendments resulting from consultation on the publication/submission AAP be delegated to the director of planning in consultation with the cabinet member for culture, sport, the Olympics and regeneration (South).

7. REPORT FOR INFORMATION FROM THE CABINET

7.1 REPORT BACK ON MOTIONS REFERRED TO CABINET FROM COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

(See pages 36 - 38 of the main agenda)

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

8. OTHER REPORTS

8.1 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

(See pages 39 – 41 of the main agenda)

This item was considered in the closed section of the meeting. See item 10 below.

8.2 EXEMPTION FROM THE RULES GOVERNING FAILURE OF A MEMBER TO ATTEND MEETINGS

(See closed agenda)

Item withdrawn.

9. AMENDMENTS

The amendments are set out in supplemental agenda 3.

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded for the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in category 1 of paragraph 10.4 of the Access to Information Procedure Rules of the Southwark Constitution.

10. APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT PERSONS

This item was considered in the closed section of the meeting as it contained personal information about the appointees. As council assembly agreed the appointments the open minutes can record the decisions of the closed section of the meeting.

RESOLVED:

1. That Mr Mark Roelofsen and Mr Steve Phillips be appointed as independent persons subject to resolution 2.
2. That the commencement date of each term of office be confirmed by the director of legal services.

11. EXEMPTION FROM THE RULES GOVERNING FAILURE OF A MEMBER TO ATTEND MEETINGS

Item withdrawn.

The meeting closed at 10.22 p.m.

CHAIR:

DATED: