

COUNCIL MINUTES

(ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING)

WEDNESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2008



PRESENT:

The Mayor (Councillor Andrew Johnson)
Deputy Mayor (Councillor Alex Karmel)

Councillors:

Colin Aherne
Mrs Adronie Alford
Helen Binmore
Nicholas Botterill
Paul Bristow
Victoria Brocklebank-
Fowler
Aidan Burley
Jean Campbell
Michael Cartwright
Alex Chalk
Stephen Cowan
Gill Dickenson
Belinda Donovan
Gavin Donovan

Caroline Ffiske
Rachel Ford
Sarah Gore
Stephen Greenhalgh
Lucy Gugen
Steve Hamilton
Wesley Harcourt
Lisa Homan
Robert Iggulden
Lucy Ivimy
Donald Johnson
Jane Law
Ali de Lisle
Antony Lillis
Mark Loveday

Reg McLaughlin
Lisa Nandy
Ed Owen
Harry Phibbs
Dame Sally Powell
Alexandra Robson
Minnie Scott Russell
Greg Smith
Frances Stainton
Peter Tobias
Mercy Umeh
Rory Vaughan
Eugenie White

21. MINUTES – 25 JUNE 2008

7.01 pm - The minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 June 2008 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mike Adams and Will Bethel.

Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillors Gavin Donovan and Alexandra Robson.

23. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor's Announcements were circulated and tabled at the meeting. (Copy attached as **Appendix 1** to these minutes).

The Mayor congratulated and presented Simon Jones, Head of Communications, with an award from CIPR (Chartered Institute of Public Relations) - Public Sector Campaign of the Year where his team was a finalist in recognition of successfully leading a media campaign relating to the 3% reduction in council tax. He advised that the National Anthem would be played at the conclusion of the meeting.

24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

25. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

7.04pm - The Mayor called on those members of the public who had submitted questions to the Leader or to Cabinet Members to ask their questions:

Question No. 1 – Ms Bren Simson on behalf of Mr. Ian Griffiths to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh)

Question No. 2 – Ms Henrietta Bewley to the Leader of the Council (Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh)

Question No. 3 – Ms Catherine Remy to the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for the Environment (Councillor Nicholas Botterill)

[Copies of all public questions submitted and the reply given are attached at **Appendix 2** to these minutes.]

26. TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT

7.15 pm - The report and recommendation was formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh.

The report and recommendation was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The report and recommendation was declared **CARRIED.**

7.15 pm **RESOLVED:**

To note the borrowing and investment activity for the period 1 April 2007 to 31 March 2008.

27. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2007/08 YEAR

7.16 pm - The report and recommendation was formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh.

The report and recommendation was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The report and recommendation was declared **CARRIED.**

7.16 pm **RESOLVED:**

That the Council approves the annual report

28. SPECIAL MOTIONS

Special Motion No. 1 – Borough Examination Results

7.16 p m – Councillor Antony Lillis moved, seconded by Councillor Victoria Brocklebank - Fowler, the special motion standing in their names:

"This Council congratulates the Head teachers, staff and pupils of the borough's schools on an improved set of GCSE/'A' level results announced recently. This Council praises the hard work that has led to these results and will continue to support and work with our schools for sustained success in future years."

Councillor Antony Lillis reserved his right to speak.

Under Council Procedure Rule 15 (e) (vi), Councillor Dame Sally Powell moved, seconded by Councillor Reg McLaughlin, an amendment to the motion, after the word "staff" in the first line insert:

"governors, parents"

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Dame Sally Powell and Councillor Reg McLaughlin before it was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTION	0

The amendment to the motion was declared **CARRIED**.

Councillor Antony Lillis made a speech winding up the debate before the substantive motion was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTION	0

The substantive motion was declared **CARRIED**.

7.36 pm - **RESOLVED**:

This Council congratulates the Head teachers, staff, governors, parents and pupils of the borough's schools on an improved set of GCSE/'A' level results announced recently. This Council praises the hard work that has led to these results and will continue to support and work with our schools for sustained success in future years.

Special Motion No. 2 – Super Sewer

7.37 pm – Councillor Paul Bristow moved, seconded by Councillor Nicholas Botterill, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council is firmly opposed to any attempt by Thames Water to place the entrance to the Thames Tidal Tunnel in Furnivall Gardens or one of the Borough’s other precious open spaces; notes that this plan would blight the area concerned for years, when even Thames Water admit it will make little difference to the already much-improved water quality of the Thames; believes the Government is only calling for the super-sewer to avoid EU fines; is dismayed that the estimated £2.5 billion cost would be added to residents’ water bills; and urges Thames Water and the Government to look at more effective solutions.”

Councillor Paul Bristow reserved his right to speak. While a speech on the motion was made by Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

Under Council Procedure Rule 15 (e) (vi), Councillor Stephen Cowan moved, seconded by Councillor Michael Cartwright, an amendment to the motion to delete all words after “open space’ and insert:

“We deeply regret the highly partisan, secretive and incompetent approach to this matter taken by the Conservative leadership and call on them to join with the Labour ward councillors and run a cross-party campaign that put the residents’

need to stop Thames Water blighting our open spaces for years to come above the Conservative Party's political considerations.”

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Stephen Cowan and Michael Cartwright before it was put to the vote:

FOR	11
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTION	28

The amendment to the motion was declared **LOST**.

Councillor Paul Bristow made a speech winding up the debate before the substantive motion was put to the vote:

FOR	27
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTION	12

The substantive motion was declared **CARRIED**.

7.59 pm - **RESOLVED**:

This Council is firmly opposed to any attempt by Thames Water to place the entrance to the Thames Tidal Tunnel in Furnivall Gardens or one of the Borough's other precious open spaces; notes that this plan would blight the area concerned for years, when even Thames Water admit it will make little difference to the already much-improved water quality of the Thames; believes the Government is only calling for the super-sewer to avoid EU fines; is dismayed that the estimated £2.5 billion cost would be added to residents' water bills; and urges Thames Water and the Government to look at more effective solutions.

Special Motion No. 3 – White City Collaborative Care Centre

8.01 pm – Councillor Mark Loveday moved, seconded by Councillor Lucy Ivimy, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council welcomes the proposed White City Collaborative Care Centre scheme developed by the H&F Primary Care NHS Trust and Building Better Health.

The scheme will deliver over £30 million of new investment, innovative health care facilities, 23 shared ownership homes and 47 low cost homes for sale in one of the most disadvantaged parts of our community.

This Council condemns the intervention of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government by issuing a directive under Article 14 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 and calls for the directive to be lifted to enable this visionary scheme to proceed.”

An amendment to the motion was immediately moved to delete paragraph three and replace it with:

“This Council welcomes the decision of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government not to call in the scheme and her withdrawal of the directive under Article 14 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 which will now enable this visionary scheme to proceed.”

A speech on the amended motion was made by Councillor Lucy Ivimy before it was put to the vote:

FOR	27
AGAINST	11
ABSTENTION	1

The amendment to the motion was declared **CARRIED**.

Under Council Procedure Rule 15 (e) (vi), Councillor Lisa Nandy moved, seconded by Councillor Rory Vaughan, an amendment to the amended motion to delete all after the first paragraph, and insert:

“and calls on the administration to reinstate social rented housing in this development.”

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Lisa Nandy, Rory Vaughan and Sally Powell (for the Opposition) and Councillors Lucy Ivimy and Stephen Greenhalgh (for the Administration) before it was put to the vote:

FOR	12
AGAINST	30
ABSTENTIONS	1

The amendment to the motion was declared **LOST**.

Councillor Mark Loveday made a speech winding up the debate before the substantive motion was put to the vote:

FOR	30
AGAINST	12
ABSTENTIONS	1

The motion was declared **CARRIED**.

8.25 pm - **RESOLVED**:

This Council welcomes the proposed White City Collaborative Care Centre scheme developed by the H&F Primary Care NHS Trust and Building Better Health.

The scheme will deliver over £30 million of new investment, innovative health care facilities, 23 shared ownership homes and 47 low cost homes for sale in one of the most disadvantaged parts of our community.

This Council welcomes the decision of the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government not to call in the scheme and her withdrawal of the directive under Article 14 of the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 which will now enable this visionary scheme to proceed.

Special Motion No. 4 - Changes to Committee Memberships

8.26 p.m – Councillor Francis Stainton moved, seconded by Councillor Jane Law, the special motion standing in their names:

“The following changes to the Pension Pensions Fund Investment Panel memberships will be made, effective from the day after the Council meeting:

Councillor Alexandra Robson - to come off Pensions Fund Investment Panel.

Councillor Donald Johnson - be appointed a member of Pensions Fund Investment Panel.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**.

8.32 pm - **RESOLVED**:

The following changes to the Pension Pensions Fund Investment Panel memberships will be made, effective from the day after the Council meeting:

Councillor Alexandra Robson - to come off Pensions Fund Investment Panel.

Councillor Donald Johnson - be appointed a member of Pensions Fund Investment Panel.

20. INFORMATION REPORTS TO COUNCIL (IF ANY)

There were no information reports to this meeting of the Council.

* * * * * CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS * * * * *

Meeting ended: 8.34 pm. - Wednesday, 17 September 2008.

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MAYOR

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY
THE MAYOR**

1. On 28th June 2008, I attended 'Celebrating Fulham, which was part of the 2008 Fulham Festival, Jerdan Place, SW6
2. On 30th June, I was delighted to attend the commemorative plaque unveiling ceremony for Connie Mark MBE, Mary Seacole House, Invermead Close, W12
3. On 5th July, I attended the Wendell Park and St Saviour Church, Summer Fair, Wendell Park, W12
4. On 5th July, I attended the Giles Hart Solidarity Memorial Committee, plaque unveiling ceremony, Ravenscourt Park, W6
5. On 7th July, I attended St James Independent School for Senior Girls, Speech Day event, Royal Geographical Society 1 Kensington Gore SW7
6. On 9th July, I attended the H&F lunch reception for the London In Bloom official judges, St Peter's Square, W6
7. On 10th July, I was delighted to attend and cut the ribbon to the newly refurbished Normand Park, Lillie Road, SW6
8. On 12th July, I attended a concert in aid of Leukaemia Research and The Royal Marsden Cancer Campaign, St Peter's Church, St Peter's Square, W6
9. On 13th July, I attended the Al-Muntada Primary School Community Fun Day, Hurlingham Park, SW6
10. On 18th July, I attended LAMDA Graduation Diploma Day, MaCowen Theatre, Logan Place, W8
11. On 18th July, I attended Vanessa Nursery Barbeque Fund Raising evening, Vanessa Nursery, Cathnor Road, W12
12. On 19th July, I attended the opening celebration of the first ever Shepherds Bush Festival, Shepherds Bush Green, W12
13. On 19th July, I attended Rev Joe Hawes 'Summer Drinks' reception, 70a Fulham High Street, SW6
14. On 21st July, I attended the London Mayor's Association AGM, Millbank Tower, Millbank SW1

15. On 23rd July, I attended H&F MIND and HAFAD Project Reception, London Bridge, Shad Thames, SE1
16. On 24th July, I was delighted to host a reception with Cllr Stephen Greenhalgh, Leader of the Council, to congratulate Sir William Atkinson's on his recent knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honours in recognition of his services to education and the community of Hammersmith & Fulham
17. On 24th July, I attended the Air Training Corp 344 (Fulham) Squadron's Presentation evening, 190 Hammersmith Road W6
18. On 25th July, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Ealing 'Jazz Festival' charity event, Warpole Park, W5
19. On 28th July, I attended the Mayor of Greenwich, charity guided tour of Eltham Palace, SE9
20. On 30th July, I attended Olympia's Local Residents Associations' Social Evening, Olympia Hammersmith, W14
21. On 3rd August, I attended the Mayor of Kingston charity Picnic and Polo match, Ham Polo Club, Richmond
22. On 6th August, I attended the H&F Playday event, Ravenscourt Park, W6
23. On 8th August, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Independence Day Celebrations at the Bhavan Centre, Castletown Road, London W14
24. On 10th August, I attended Ace Café's 'British & Classic Bikes' event, Ace Café, North Circular Road, NW10
25. On 11th August, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Newham regeneration tour of Newham and 2012 Olympic Stadium, Newham
26. On 4th September, I attended Pocklington Lodge 50th Anniversary Celebrations, Rylett Road, W12
27. On 4th September, I attended the Mayor of Ealing, charity canal boat trip, Little Venice, W2
28. On 6th September, I attended the Annual Polish Air Force Wreath Laying Memorial Service, Polish War Memorial, Northolt
29. On 6th September, I attended the Trinity Free Church anniversary service, Askew Road Methodist Church, Askew Road, W12
30. On 8th September, I was delighted to receive a cheque, presented by Mr George Irvin, Chief Executive of Irvin Leisure Ltd for my charity, Alzheimer's Society, Mayor's Parlour, HTH

31. On 10th September, I attended the Green Chilli Pepper restaurant re-launch, 220 King Street W6
32. On 10th September, I attended the Limerick Association (London) Annual Dinner, which Cllr John Gallahue, Cathaoirleach, of Limerick County Council and Frank Hamilton, News Editor also attended, St. Augustine's Church Hall, Fulham Palace Road, W6
33. On 13th September, I was delighted to attend the Mayor of Richmond charity race, 'The Michael Jones Riparian Challenge Trophy' which is part of the Great River Race. I accepted on behalf of LBHF and sailed onboard a Viking long boat from Richmond to Docklands. I also attended the Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Post Event Reception, Island Gardens, Isle of Dogs, E14
34. On 14th September, I attended and waved the chequered flag for the start of Ace Café London, Annual Motorbike ride-out to Brighton, Ace Café, North Circular Road, NW10
35. On 14th September, I attended the Licensing, Commission and welcome service, for Reverend Penelope Anne Seabrook MA, as Associate Vicar, All Saints Church, SW6
36. On 14th September, I was delighted to attend Boris Johnson, Mayor of London 'Thames Festival and Reception', OXO Tower Wharf, SE1
37. On 15th September, I hosted a visit from Fulham Brownies to the Mayor's Parlour, HTH
38. On 16th September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended Chelsea vs. Bordeaux Champions League football match, Stamford Bridge, SW6

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 25 JUNE 2008

Question by: Ian Griffiths, 15 Cambridge Grove, London, W6 0LA

To the: Leader of the Council

QUESTION

The cast iron railings of Cambridge Grove and Leamore Street have been allowed to fall into a very poor state. Why has this been allowed to happen?. How does this fit into the Council's plan for the regeneration of Hammersmith.

RESPONSE

Officers would normally undertake structural repairs through the Bridge Maintenance budgets allocated in the Local Improvement Programme funded by Transport for London but their funding criteria does not include repairs to retaining walls and therefore an alternative funding source has to be identified. The wall has been kept in a safe condition and essential safety checks have been carried out.

A short section of the wall in Cambridge Grove just north of the railway bridge has recently been reconstructed as the it had become dangerous because of the heavy use from unloading to the railway arches at this location.

Whilst the entire length of this retaining wall would benefit from similar repair it would not resolve the fundamental traffic problems which have given rise to the continual vehicle impacts on the railing bracings.

Essential brickwork re-pointing in Leamore Street has been carried out but the completion of this work has been delayed in Cambridge Grove due to utility company works. This work including the repair of the drainage pipes along the wall is programmed to be done shortly.

We do not just think that money should be spent refurbishing these railings until the traffic issues can resolved and the resources identified to carry out the design and refurbishment.

In order to successfully refurbish these railings the road alignment and parking arrangements need to be reviewed because a great deal of the damage to these historic railings has been caused by vehicles parking adjacent to the wall and impacting on the bracings.

Members of the administration met with representatives from the resident's association to discuss what possible options might be considered to resolve this problem. Further consultation will take place to determine a way forward once a funding source has been identified and preliminary feasibility work has been carried out.



PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 17 SEPTEMBER 2008

Question by: MS Henrietta Bewley, 4 Ravenscourt Place, London, W6 0UN.

To the: Leader of the Council

QUESTION

The Council claims it wants to help local businesses so why does the Council not want to sell the 10 unit trading estate on Askew Crescent to the existing tenants?

RESPONSE

The Council decided to sell the freehold of the site following the courts granting in October 2006 forfeiture of the head lease held by Bullitron Management. The Council marketed the estate in February 2008 and invited the occupiers to submit a bid. The Council received a number of bids including one submitted on behalf of the occupiers received on 3rd March 2008. This bid was not successful being less than other bids received. The occupiers were advised of this on 10th March 2008. The downturn in the market meant the preferred bidder was unable to proceed and all the previous bidders including the occupiers were invited to re bid by 10th July 2008 on the basis of a best and final offer. The occupiers re submitted a bid in the sum of £1 million but this was not pursued further as it did not offer value for money for the Council compared to other bids received. The Council has a legal duty to obtain Best Consideration from all its property disposals as well as a fiduciary duty to its Council Tax payers. In this case the Council received amongst others a bid in the sum of £1.325 million fully funded and with the bidder able to exchange in seven working days. The Council was keen to exchange before the market dropped further and the advice we received from our professional advisers was to accept this bid. Contracts were exchanged on 18th July and the sale completed on Friday 15th August 2008.

The Council is indeed keen to support local businesses by using its planning powers to ensure that viable business estates remain in employment use. This is why it has resisted approaches to develop this particular site for housing.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 17 SEPTEMBER 2008

Question by: Ms Catherine Remy, 43 Rylett Rd ,London, W12 9ST

To the: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment

QUESTION

Considering the number of schools and nurseries in the vicinity of Wendell Park, what plans does the Council have for traffic calming measures around Wendell Park Primary School?

RESPONSE

Hammersmith & Fulham Council is committed to meeting and surpassing the Government and Mayoral 2010 casualty reduction targets. These include a 60% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured on our roads. We have made good progress towards this target, and actually met it early with only 7 children seriously injured in 2007. In the most recent three year period there have been no accidents resulting in injury to children in the Wendell Park area.

We are also working towards two other mayoral targets of reviewing safety around schools and ensuring schools have approved travel plans (STP). I am pleased to tell you that both Wendell Park Primary School and Good Shepherd Primary School have been safety reviewed and have had their school travel plans approved. The most recent speed surveys we have are for Gayford Road, which isn't traffic calmed, and show an average speed of 20mph.

The above approval and review allowed us to bid for funding from Transport for London (TfL) to address the concern identified both actual and perceived. In 2007 we bid for funding to implement a 20mph zone in the Wendell Park area under the STP programme of works, however we were unsuccessful. Furthermore in both 2005 and 2006 we bid for a similar scheme under the casualty reduction programme of works, again without success.

Based on the bidding history of this location, the continued low occurrence of personal injury accidents and the prioritisation of other sites and locations in the borough we have not submitted a further bid for traffic calming in this location.

We will continue to monitor casualty rates here and across the borough to inform our priorities in line with the current casualty reduction targets.