



COUNCIL

— MINUTES —

(ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING)

WEDNESDAY 26 JANUARY 2005



PRESENT:

The Mayor (Councillor Charlie Treloggan)
Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mercy Umeh)

Councillors:

Mike Adam
Colin Aherne
Mrs. Adronie Alford
Chris Allen
Will Bethell
Brendan Bird
Min Birdsey
Nick Botterill
Charlie Boyle
Stephen Burke

Michael Cartwright
Dominic Church
Siobhan Coughlan
Steve Cowan
Huw Davies
Gavin Donovan
Fiona Evans
Christine Graham
Stephen Greenhalgh
Wesley Harcourt

Alex Karmel
Jafar Khaled
Antony Lillis
Amanda Lloyd-Harris
Reg McLaughlin
Jolyon Neubert
Andrew Slaughter
Melanie Smallman
Tim Stanley
David Williams

35. MINUTES – 24 NOVEMBER 2004

7.01pm - **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 24 November 2004 be confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

36. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Al-Uzaizi, Dawson, Donald, Gibbons, Hands, Jones, Karian, Loveday, Napier, Pavelin, Powell, Stainton, Vaughan and Wicks.

37. MAYOR & MANAGING DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

The Mayor's Announcements were circulated to all Councillors and laid round the Council Chamber. (Copy attached as **APPENDIX 1** to these Minutes).

38. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting of the Council.

39. ITEMS FOR DECISION / COMMITTEE REPORTS (IF ANY)

7.03pm- **Council Tax Base & Collection Rate 2005/06**

Noted that the Council agenda had been printed and despatched before the Leader's Committee met to consider this item on 18 January and it had therefore subsequently been circulated separately to all Councillors and tabled at the Council meeting.

[Copy attached as **APPENDIX 2** to these Minutes.]

The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Andrew Slaughter, seconded by the Chief Whip, Councillor Colin Aherne.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR - 16
AGAINST -0
ABSTENTIONS -10

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED.**

7.04pm – **RESOLVED:**

That for the 2005-2006 financial year, the Council :

- (i) Determines that the council tax discount on second homes be reduced from 50% to 10% for the 2005 -06 financial year and subsequent years until revoked.

- (ii) Determines that the council tax discount on long-term empty properties be reduced from 50% to 0% for the 2005-06 financial year and subsequent years until revoked.
- (iii) That the estimated numbers of properties for each Valuation Band, as set out in this report, be approved.
- (iv) That an estimated collection rate of 97.5% be approved.
- (v) That the Council Tax Base of 74,965 Band “D” equivalent properties be approved.

7.05pm – **Proposal to transfer £3.102M from the HRA Balance to meet repairs expenditure in 2004/05**

The report and recommendation was moved for adoption by the Deputy for Housing, Councillor Stephen Cowan, seconded by Councillor Fiona Evans.

FOR – 15
AGAINST – 10
ABSTENTIONS – 0

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

7.06pm – **RESOLVED:**

That the Council approves the transfer of £3.102m from the Housing Revenue Account balance to meet repairs expenditure in 2004/05.

7.07pm – **Licensing Act 2003 – Final Constitutional Arrangements & Appointment of Members**

The report and recommendation was moved for adoption by the Chief Whip, Councillor Colin Aherne, seconded by Councillor Fiona Evans.

The Chief Whip formally invited the Opposition Leadership to nominate to the outstanding vacancies on the Licensing Committee. Councillor Greenhalgh stated that the Opposition would not be making any nominations to this Committee.

The Chief Whip therefore moved, under Council Procedure Rule 15(e)(vi), an amendment to recommendation 3 of the report to appoint Councillors Cartwright, Davies, McLaughlin, Pavelin, Smallman and Treloggan to the outstanding vacancies.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR – 18
AGAINST – 10
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED.**

7.08pm – **RESOLVED:**

1. That the terms of reference for the Licensing Committee be amended as set out in the appendix with effect from 7th February 2005.
2. That the Licensing Panel be dissolved at midnight on 7th February 2005.
3. That Councillors Cartwright, Davies, McLaughlin, Pavelin, Smallman and Treloggan be appointed to the outstanding vacancies on the Licensing Committee.

40. SPECIAL MOTIONS

7.09pm – **Special Motion No.1 – Re: Councillor Wicks**

Councillor Aherne moved, seconded by Councillor Evans, the special motion standing in their names:

- “1. The Council notes that Councillor Josie Wicks has been unable to attend meetings of the Authority since 22 September 2004 due to serious illness and hospitalisation.
2. The Council extends its sympathy to Councillor Wicks and wishes her a speedy recovery.
3. The Council approves Councillor Wicks’ non-attendance at meetings of the Authority due to illness until 26 May 2005, pursuant to s. 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.”

The motion was put to the vote:

FOR – Unanimous
AGAINST – 0
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

7.10pm – **RESOLVED:**

1. The Council notes that Councillor Josie Wicks has been unable to attend meetings of the Authority since 22 September 2004 due to serious illness and hospitalisation.
2. The Council extends its sympathy to Councillor Wicks and wishes her a speedy recovery.
3. The Council approves Councillor Wicks’ non-attendance at meetings of the Authority due to illness until 26 May 2005, pursuant to s. 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.”

7.11pm – **Special Motion No.2 – Council Appointments to the ALG**

Councillor Aherne moved, seconded by Councillor Evans, the special motion standing in their names:

"That the Council amends its representation to the ALG Leader's Committee as follows:

Delete "Councillor Slaughter" as substitute for Councillor Dame Sally Powell, and replace with "Councillor Aherne".

The motion was put to the vote:

FOR – Unanimous
AGAINST – 0
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

7.12pm – **RESOLVED:**

That the Council amends its representation to the ALG Leader's Committee as follows:

Delete "Councillor Slaughter" as substitute for Councillor Dame Sally Powell, and replace with "Councillor Aherne".

7.13pm – **Special Motion No.3 – Council Support for the 2012 London Olympic Bid**

Councillor Williams moved (in lieu of Councillor Dame Sally Powell), seconded by Councillor Aherne, the special motion standing in their names:

"This Council notes that:

1. The London Olympic bid, London 2012, would if successful be a sporting celebration for the whole country, and one that would boost businesses and the overall economy of the United Kingdom, as well as the local economy.
2. Our local communities would have the chance to engage with the Olympic nations in the build-up to the Games as the teams establish themselves in and around the capital's sporting facilities. These training facilities would provide a significant boost to the local and regional economy.
3. The tourism industry would also grow. Australia benefited from an extra 1.6 million visitors due to the 2000 Games. Business tourism also increased both before and after the Games, and Australia is still reaping the benefits.

4. Thousands of businesses and suppliers across the country would profit from a London Games, including many businesses within the area of this Council.
5. The wonderful community spirit shared by the 10,000 people who volunteered during Manchester's magnificent Commonwealth Games of 2002 would be seen on a larger scale across the UK as an army of volunteers would help out with the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games and many such volunteers are likely to be local residents.
6. Significant long term benefits can accrue to the host city from a well-planned games: sporting achievement, healthy lifestyles, civic engagement and volunteering, the legacy from the 4 year cultural festival, in addition to the sporting facilities.

This Council resolves to:

1. Fully support the London Olympic bid and to demonstrate that support by engaging with local communities to build support amongst them; and by the prominent display of the London 2012 flag over the Town Hall and other Council buildings.
2. Consider both how this Borough can benefit from a successful bid, and what the Borough can offer to contribute to the success of the bid – and to develop an Olympic strategy towards this aim.”

Councillor Williams (for the Administration) made a speech on the motion before it was put to the vote:

FOR – Unanimous
AGAINST – 0
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

7.14pm –**RESOLVED:**

This Council notes that:

1. The London Olympic bid, London 2012, would if successful be a sporting celebration for the whole country, and one that would boost businesses and the overall economy of the United Kingdom, as well as the local economy.
2. Our local communities would have the chance to engage with the Olympic nations in the build-up to the Games as the teams establish themselves in and around the capital's sporting facilities. These training facilities would provide a significant boost to the local and regional economy.
3. The tourism industry would also grow. Australia benefited from an extra 1.6 million visitors due to the 2000 Games. Business tourism also increased both before and after the Games, and Australia is still reaping the benefits.

4. Thousands of businesses and suppliers across the country would profit from a London Games, including many businesses within the area of this Council.
5. The wonderful community spirit shared by the 10,000 people who volunteered during Manchester's magnificent Commonwealth Games of 2002 would be seen on a larger scale across the UK as an army of volunteers would help out with the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games and many such volunteers are likely to be local residents.
6. Significant long term benefits can accrue to the host city from a well-planned games: sporting achievement, healthy lifestyles, civic engagement and volunteering, the legacy from the 4 year cultural festival, in addition to the sporting facilities.

This Council resolves to:

1. Fully support the London Olympic bid and to demonstrate that support by engaging with local communities to build support amongst them; and by the prominent display of the London 2012 flag over the Town Hall and other Council buildings.
2. Consider both how this Borough can benefit from a successful bid, and what the Borough can offer to contribute to the success of the bid – and to develop an Olympic strategy towards this aim.

41. MOTION THAT AN ITEM OF BUSINESS TAKE PRECEDENCE

7.15pm – Councillor Aherne moved, under Council procedure Rule 15(e)(iii), that Special Motion No.7 – Work Directions – be given precedence. The motion was put to the vote:

FOR – Unanimous
AGAINST – 0
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

7.16pm – Special Motion No.7 – Work Directions

Councillor Smallman moved, seconded by Councillor Burke, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council congratulates Work Directions in supporting more than 2000 local residents to find work since March 2003, helping halve unemployment in Hammersmith & Fulham since 1997, and we give our full support to the Labour Government’s plans to continue funding such valuable work for local people.”

Councillors Smallman and Burke (for the Administration) made speeches on the motion before it was put to the vote:

FOR – 18
AGAINST – 11
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**

7.26pm – **RESOLVED:**

This Council congratulates Work Directions in supporting more than 2000 local residents to find work since March 2003, helping halve unemployment in Hammersmith & Fulham since 1997, and we give our full support to the Labour Government's plans to continue funding such valuable work for local people.

42. SPECIAL MOTIONS (CONT'D)

7.27pm – **Special Motion No.4 – Extension of Congestion Charge Zone**

Councillor Karmel moved (in lieu of Councillor Loveday), seconded by Councillor Adam, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council resolves to oppose the westwards extension of the Congestion Charge Zone, as proposed by Mayor Livingstone.”

A speech on the motion was made by Councillor Karmel (for the Opposition).

Councillor Cartwright moved, seconded by Councillor McLaughlin, an amendment to the motion, to add after the words “Mayor Livingstone” :

“In the event that the zone is extended, the Council resolves:

- To support the campaign of the Edward Woods Residents' Association to exclude the Edward Woods Estate from the scheme; and
- To oppose the proposal from the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea to make the Borough boundary the zone boundary. “

Speeches on the amendment to the motion were made by Councillors Cartwright, Boyle, Botterill, Adam, Slaughter, Karmel and Khaled.

The amendment to the motion was then put to the vote:

FOR – Unanimous
AGAINST – 0
ABSTENTIONS – 0

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

The motion (as amended) was then put to the vote:

FOR – Unanimous
AGAINST – 0
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion as amended was declared **CARRIED**

7.59pm – **RESOLVED:**

This Council resolves to oppose the westward extension of the Congestion Charge Zone, as proposed by Mayor Livingstone. In the event that the zone is extended, the Council resolves:

- To support the campaign of the Edward Woods Residents' Association to exclude the Edward Woods Estate from the scheme; and
- To oppose the proposal from the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea to make the Borough boundary the zone boundary. “

8.00pm – **Special Motion No.5 – Smarter Borough Initiatives**

Councillor Botterill moved, seconded by Councillor Greenhalgh, the special motion standing in their names:

“Residents are deeply sceptical of well-publicised initiatives which prove to be no more than all spin and too little delivery. To this end, this Council insists that Phase 3 of the Smarter Borough initiative is concentrated on delivering quantifiable absolute improvements in the state of the Borough.”

Councillor Botterill (for the Opposition) made a speech on the motion.

Councillor Cartwright moved, seconded by Councillor Davies, an amendment to the motion to delete all words before the second “this” in the second line of the motion. [i.e.amendment reads:

“..This Council insists that Phase 3 of the Smarter Borough initiative is concentrated on delivering quantifiable absolute improvements in the state of the Borough.”]

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Cartwright and Davies (for the Administration) and Councillor Greenhalgh (for the Opposition) before it was put to the vote:

FOR – 19
AGAINST –11
ABSTENTIONS – 0

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

The motion (as amended) was then put to the vote:

FOR – 19
AGAINST –11
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion as amended was declared **CARRIED**

8.22pm – **RESOLVED:**

This Council insists that Phase 3 of the Smarter Borough initiative is concentrated on delivering quantifiable absolute improvements in the state of the Borough.

8.23pm – **Special Motion No.6 – Crime in the Borough**

Councillor Greenhalgh moved , seconded by Councillor Bethell, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council notes with alarm the increase in violent crime in Hammersmith & Fulham. The Council calls for police numbers to be restored at least to levels seen in 1997, and for a more visible police presence on our streets.”

A speech on the motion was made by Councillor Bethell (for the Opposition).

Councillor McLaughlin moved, seconded by Councillor Cowan, an amendment to the motion, to delete all after ” This Council” and add :

“...notes the recent completion of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Audit, which will inform the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy for the borough for 2005-8.

The Audit records a 2.8% fall in total crime, including a decline of violent crime by 1.4% from 1999 to 2004.

The introduction of the first 3 Safer Neighbourhood Teams last year and a further 5 this year means that there are now dedicated visible officers patrolling the borough's streets.

Whilst the Council recognises there is still more work to be done we will continue working in partnership with the Police and others to make the borough a safer place.”

Speeches on the amendment to the motion were made by Councillors McLaughlin, Cowan, Greenhalgh, Neubert, and Allen before the amendment to the motion was put to the vote:

FOR –21
AGAINST – 11
ABSTENTIONS – 0

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

The motion (as amended) was then put to the vote:

FOR –21
AGAINST – 11
ABSTENTIONS – 0

The motion as amended was declared **CARRIED**

8.54pm – **RESOLVED:**

This Council notes the recent completion of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership Audit, which will inform the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy for the borough for 2005-8.

The Audit records a 2.8% fall in total crime, including a decline of violent crime by 1.4% from 1999 to 2004.

The introduction of the first 3 Safer Neighbourhood Teams last year and a further 5 this year means that there are now dedicated visible officers patrolling the borough's streets.

Whilst the Council recognises there is still more work to be done we will continue working in partnership with the Police and others to make the borough a safer place.

43. INFORMATION ITEMS TO NOTE (IF ANY)

There were no information items to note at this meeting of the Council.

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

Meeting ended: 8.55 p.m. - Wednesday, 26 January 2005

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MAYOR

jpc/31/01/05