



# COUNCIL

## MINUTES

(BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING)

WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2006



PRESENT:

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

Councillors:

Colin Aherne  
Adronie Alford  
Chris Allen  
Will Bethell  
Brendan Bird  
Min Birdsey  
Nicholas Botterill  
Charles Boyle  
Stephen Burke  
Michael Cartwright  
Dominic Church  
Siobhan Coughlan  
Steve Cowan

Huw Davies  
Gavin Donovan  
Fiona Evans  
Ivan Gibbons  
Chris Graham  
Stephen Greenhalgh  
Greg Hands  
Lucy Ivimy  
Wesley Harcourt  
Andrew Jones  
Ghassan Karian  
Alex Karmel  
Jafar Khaled

Antony Lillis  
Mark Loveday  
Reg McLaughlin  
Charlie Napier  
Dame Sally Powell  
Andrew Slaughter  
Melanie Smallman  
Frances Stainton  
Jenny Vaughan

**41. MINUTES – 25 JANUARY 2006**

7.01pm - The minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 25 January 2006 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

**42. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Al-Uzaizi, Lloyd-Harris, Pavelin, Stanley and Wicks.

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

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

The Mayor draws members' attention to the sad death on 30 September 2005 of Mr Roydon George Morgan, the last Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Fulham from 1964 - 1965, and called for members to stand for one minute's silence in his memory. A speech in tribute to Mr Morgan was made by Councillor Karmel.

**44. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Noted declarations of personal interest by all Councillors present at the meeting (see Minute attendance sheet) on item 6.4 – Councillors' Allowances: Annual Review – as personal beneficiaries of the scheme. Councillors remained at the meeting and spoke and voted on the item.

**45. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (20 MINUTES)**

7.04pm - The Mayor called on the member of the public who had submitted a question for this meeting of the Council (as published in the Council Agenda) to ask his question:

**Public Questioner**

1. Question to the Leader (Cllr Burke) from Mr. Thoby Young, 50 Wormholt Road, London, W12 OLS

(The text of the question submitted and the reply given is attached at **APPENDIX 2** to these minutes).

**46. ITEMS FOR DECISION / COMMITTEE REPORTS (IF ANY)**

7.11pm - **Revenue Budget and Council Tax Levels 2006/2007**

The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by Councillor Stephen Burke, Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor Steve Cowan, Deputy Leader.

Speeches on the budget report were made by Councillors Burke, Greenhalgh, Cowan, Botterill and McLaughlin.

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR - 23  
 AGAINST - 12  
 ABSTENTIONS - 0

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

8.00 pm – **RESOLVED:**

1. To note the Council Tax increase, for the Hammersmith & Fulham element, of 1.5% for 2006/07 and the planned increase of 1.5% for 2007/08 and 2008/09.
2. The Council Tax be set for 2006/07 for each category of dwelling, as calculated in accordance with Sections 30 to 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as outlined below and in full in Appendix A:
  - (a) The element of Council Tax charged for Hammersmith & Fulham Council will be £916.97 per Band D property in 2006/07.
  - (b) The element of Council Tax charged by the Greater London Authority will be £288.61 per Band D property in 2006/07.
  - (c) The overall Council Tax to be set will be £1,205.58 per Band D property in 2006/07.

Category of Dwelling	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Ratio	6/9 £	7/9 £	8/9 £	1 £	11/9 £	13/9 £	15/9 £	18/9 £
a) H&F	611.31	713.20	815.08	916.97	1120.74	1324.51	1528.28	1833.94
b) GLA	192.41	224.47	256.54	288.61	352.75	416.88	481.02	577.22
c) Total	803.72	937.67	1071.62	1205.58	1473.49	1741.39	2009.30	2411.16

3. The Council's own total net expenditure budget for 2006/07 is set as £176.558m
4. That fees and charges are approved as set out in paragraph 5.1 of the report.
5. That the Director of Finance's budget projections to 2008/09 be noted.
6. That the Director of Finance's statements under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 regarding adequacy of reserves and robustness of estimates be noted (paragraphs 6.4 and 7.2 of the report).

7. That the Director of Finance be authorised to collect and recover National Non-Domestic Rate and Council Tax in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1988 (as amended), the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Council Schemes of Delegation.
8. That all Chief Officers be required to report quarterly on their projected financial position compared to their revenue estimates (as part of the Corporate Monitoring Report).
9. That all Chief Officers be authorised to implement their service spending plans for 2006/07 in accordance with the recommendations within this report and the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and relevant Schemes of Delegation.

8.05 pm – **Capital Programme 2006/07 TO 2008/09**

The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by Councillor Stephen Burke, Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor Steve Cowan, Deputy Leader.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote :

FOR	- 23
AGAINST	- 0
ABSTENTIONS	- 12

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

8.06 pm – **RESOLVED –**

1. To approve the General Fund Capital Programme for 2006/07 of £23.933m, and of £72.370m for the 2006/07 HRA Capital Programme.
2. To note that the General Fund Capital Programme includes the schemes and allocations identified in paragraph 2.8.
3. To earmark the Education Supported Borrowing of £1.239m for 2006/07 as match funding towards the Targetted Capital Fund of £4.535m.
4. To approve the use of £3m capital receipts in 2006/07 to repay debt and other funding switches as set out in paragraph 2.7

8.07 pm – **Treasury Management Strategy and Overall Borrowing Limits 2005/06**

The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by Councillor Stephen Burke, Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor Steve Cowan, Deputy Leader.

The report and recommendations were then put to the vote:

FOR - 23  
AGAINST - 12  
ABSTENTIONS - 0

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

8.08 pm – **RESOLVED:**

1. To approve the future borrowing and investment strategies;
2. To approve the Prudential Indicators as set out in Section 3 of the report.
3. To approve the amendments to the Lending List of Financial Institutions.
4. To approve the use of Bond Funds.

8.09 p.m. – **Councillors' Allowances: Annual Review**

[Noted declarations of personal interest by all Councillors present at the meeting (see Minute attendance sheet) as personal beneficiaries of the scheme. Councillors remained at the meeting and spoke and voted on the item.]

The report and recommendation was moved by Councillor Stephen Burke, Leader of the Council, seconded by Councillor Steve Cowan, Deputy Leader.

The report and recommendation was put to the vote:

FOR - 23  
AGAINST - 0  
ABSTENTIONS -12

The report and recommendation was declared **CARRIED**

8.09 p.m. – **RESOLVED:**

That the scheme of Councillors' Allowances 2006-07 be approved, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

#### **47. SPECIAL MOTIONS**

There were no Special Motions submitted for debate at this meeting of the Council.

**48. INFORMATION REPORTS**

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

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

Meeting ended: 8.10 p.m. - Wednesday, 22 February 2006

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MAYOR

cds24/02/06

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY  
THE MAYOR**

1. I am sure everyone shares my sadness to hear of the death in London of Mr Roydon George Morgan on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2005. Mr Morgan was elected to Fulham Metropolitan Borough Council in a bye-election for Munster Ward on 29 October 1953. He served on that council and subsequently on the council for the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham until April 1974. He was the last Mayor of the Metropolitan Borough of Fulham from 1964-65 and was an Alderman from 1964 to 1971.

I invite members to stand for a minute's silence in his memory.

2. On 26<sup>th</sup> January 2006, I attended a photo shoot and launch reception for 'The Shed' at Brackenbury Primary School, W6
3. On 27<sup>th</sup> January, I attended the UK Youth Parliament Elections, Mayor's Parlour, HTH
4. On 30<sup>th</sup> January, I attended the Mayor of Brent's visit to Powerday Recycling Plant, Hythe Road, NW10
5. On 1<sup>st</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I attended the half yearly general meeting of the London Mayors' Association, Royal Over-Seas League, Over Seas House, Park Place, SW1A
6. On 3<sup>rd</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Bexley Charity Dinner, 'Celebrating Bexley Communities', Marriott Hotel - Bexleyheath
7. On 7<sup>th</sup> February, I was delighted to host a reception to thank all the volunteers who worked at the pensioners Christmas Day party, Assembly Hall, HTH
8. On 8<sup>th</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I attended the Twynholm Residents Tea Dance, Twynholm Residents Hall, Brecon Road
9. On 8<sup>th</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I was delighted to host an awards ceremony and reception for Rough Puppets Theatre Group, for their participation in the 2006 New Year's Day Parade, Mayor's Parlour, HTH
10. On 9<sup>th</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I was delighted to attend the launch of the new Outdoor Pitches, Linford Christie Stadium, W12
11. On 10<sup>th</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Hackney 'I Love Hackney' charity exhibition and dinner, Hackney Town Hall



12. On 14<sup>th</sup> February, I was delighted to attend the opening of Ghauri Advanced NHS Dental complex, Wormholt Road
13. On 16<sup>th</sup> February, I attended Chelsea Football Club Centenary celebrations, The London Hilton Hotel, Park Lane
14. On 21<sup>st</sup> February, I was delighted to attend a visit to Hurlingham and Chelsea School, Peterborough Road, SW6
15. On 21<sup>st</sup> February, I was honoured to attend and present awards to the winners of the H&F Primary Schools Skittleball Championships, Assembly Hall, HTH
16. Since 1<sup>st</sup> February, accompanied by the Mayoress, I have attended 2 Citizenship Ceremonies during which, I presented each citizen with their official certificate, Fulham Town Hall, SW6

## APPENDIX 2

No. 1

### PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING – 22 FEBRUARY 2006

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Question by: Mr Thoby Young, 50 Wormholt Road, London W12 OLS

to the: Leader of the Council

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#### QUESTION

What sum of money was spent by the Council in each of the last three financial years on consultants and consultancy services; what matters did the consultancies investigate and recommend; and in what actions did they result?

I am not sure of your definition of 'consultancy services'. The definition used by the council is a body which has carried out specialist work which could not have realistically been undertaken in-house and which crucially is linked to completing a specific project. This would include therefore some forms of project management, such as related building projects or managing change in a service.

Over the last three financial years the average spend on consultancy services in Hammersmith and Fulham was £1.64m per annum. (£1.79m in 2002/3; £1.735m in 2003/4 and £1.385m in 2004/5.)

Analysis by the London Centre of Procurement Excellence indicates that the London Boroughs spend about £170 million per annum on consultancy services, which suggests an average spend per council of some £5m per annum.

The council generally uses consultancy services where it is not cost effective to have full time in-house capacity or expertise to carry out functions and projects. Over 80% of expenditure is on construction-related services, such as architects, engineers and on other types of project management.

These consultants help to ensure that key aspects of our capital programme, such as improving schools and housing, is carried out to a high standard and on time and on budget.

The remaining spend is on specialist training services, delivering improvements to the council's organisation structure, support in securing external funding and undertaking specialist research.

All of this work provides cost effective expertise in areas where it is not economical to have full time staff and which ultimately enables the council to deliver high quality services and value for money.

cds18/01/06