

# **COUNCIL MINUTES**

(BUDGET COUNCIL MEETING)

WEDNESDAY 27 FEBRUARY 2013



## PRESENT

The Mayor Councillor Belinda Donovan  
Deputy Mayor Councillor Frances Stainton

### Councillors:

Michael Adam	Stephen Cowan	Andrew Jones
Colin Aherne	Tom Crofts	Alex Karmel
Adronie Alford	Ali De-Lisle	Jane Law
Helen Binmore	Charlie Dewhirst	Mark Loveday
Nicholas Botterill	Gavin Donovan	PJ Murphy
Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler	Rachel Ford	Caroline Needham
Andrew Brown	Marcus Ginn	Harry Phibbs
Daryl Brown	Peter Graham	Sally Powell
Joe Carlebach	Steve Hamilton	Max Schmid
Michael Cartwright	Wesley Harcourt	Greg Smith
Alex Chalk	Lisa Homan	Matt Thorley
Elaine Chumnery	Robert Iggulden	Mercy Umeh
Iain Coleman	Lucy Ivimy	Rory Vaughan
Georgie Cooney	Andrew Johnson	

### **36. MINUTES**

The minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 January 2013 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

### **37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Oliver Craig, Donald Johnson and Peter Tobias. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Jane Law.

### **38. MAYOR'S/CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor's Announcements were circulated and tabled at the meeting.

### **39. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were none.

#### 40. **PUBLIC QUESTIONS (20 MINUTES)**

There were no public questions received.

#### 41. **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### 41.1 Wormholt and White City Ward By-Election

7.03pm - The Council noted that Councillor Max Schmid, the Labour Party candidate, was elected Ward Councillor to the vacancy in Wormholt and White City Ward at the By-election held on 7 February 2013. The Mayor welcomed Councillor Max Schmid to the chamber.

##### 41.2 Party Appointment for the Remaining Part of the 2012/13 Municipal Year

7.04pm - The Council noted the appointment of Councillor PJ Murphy as the Deputy Opposition Whip, made by the Opposition Party on the Council.

##### 41.3 Committee Membership

7.05pm **RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Max Schmid be appointed to the Transport, Environment and Residents Services Select Committee effective from the day after the Council meeting.

##### 41.4 Transfer of Public Health Functions - Officer Scheme of Delegations and Other Minor Changes to the Constitution

7.06pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	unanimous
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	0

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

7.06pm **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the amendment to the Constitution to incorporate the Schedule of Delegations attached as Appendix A of the report for the Tri Borough Director of Public Health, be approved; and
- (2) That the minor changes made to the constitution by the Monitoring Officer, be noted.

#### 41.5 Revenue Budget and Council Tax Levels 2013/14

7.07pm - The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

An addendum was circulated which included some changes to the figures in the report.

In accordance with Council convention, the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill, and the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Stephen Cowan, were then given unlimited time to speak on the Budget report. Speeches on the report were made by Councillors Marcus Ginn, Helen Binmore and Andrew Johnson (for the Administration) and Councillors Max Schmid, Andrew Jones and PJ Murphy (for the Opposition).

Councillor Nicholas Botterill (for the Administration) made a speech winding up the debate. The report and recommendations were put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

#### FOR

ADAM  
ALFORD  
BINMORE  
BOTTERILL  
BROCKLEBANK-FOWLER  
BROWN (A)  
CARLEBACH  
CHALK  
COONEY  
CROFTS  
DE LISLE  
DEWHIRST  
DONOVAN (G)  
FORD  
GINN  
GRAHAM  
HAMILTON  
IGGULDEN  
IVIMY  
JOHNSON (A)  
KARMEL  
LAW  
LOVEDAY  
PHIBBS  
SMITH  
STANTON  
THORLEY

#### NOT VOTING

AHERNE  
BROWN (D)  
CARTWRIGHT  
CHUMNERY  
COWAN  
HARCOURT  
HOMAN  
JONES  
NEEDHAM  
POWELL  
SCHMID  
UMEH  
VAUGHAN

FOR	27
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	13

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

8.34pm **RESOLVED:**

- (1) To approve a Council Tax reduction of 3% for the Hammersmith & Fulham element for 2013/14.
- (2) The council tax be set for 2013/14 for each category of dwelling, as calculated in accordance with Sections 31A to 49B of the Localism Act 2011, as outlined below and in full in Appendix A of the addendum:
  - (a) The element of council tax charged for Hammersmith & Fulham Council will be £757.90 per Band D property in 2013/14.
  - (b) The element of Council Tax charged by the Greater London Authority will be confirmed on the 25 February and is expected to be £303.00 per Band D property in 2013/14. A reduction of 1%.
  - (c) The overall Council Tax to be set will be £1,060.90 per Band D property in 2013/14.

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	505.27	589.48	673.69	757.90	926.32	1,094.74	1,263.17	1,515.80
b) GLA	202.00	235.67	269.33	303.00	370.33	437.67	505.00	606.00
<b>c) Total</b>	<b>707.27</b>	<b>825.15</b>	<b>943.02</b>	<b>1,060.90</b>	<b>1,296.65</b>	<b>1,532.41</b>	<b>1,768.17</b>	<b>2,121.80</b>

- (3) The Council's own total net expenditure budget for 2013/14 set at £181.944m, be approved.
- (4) That fees and charges are approved as set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report.
- (5) That the budget projections made by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Governance to 2015/16 be noted.
- (6) That the statement made by the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Governance under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 regarding the adequacy of reserves and robustness of estimates be noted (section 14 of the report).
- (7) That the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Governance 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 monthly 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 2013/14 in accordance with the recommendations within this report and the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and relevant Schemes of Delegation.

#### 41.6 Four Year Capital Programme 2013/14 to 2016/17

8.35pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillor Stephen Cowan (for the Opposition) and Councillor Nicholas Botterill (for the Administration), before being put to the vote:

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	27
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	13

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

#### 8.42pm **RESOLVED**:

- (1) To approve the draft General Fund Capital Programme budget at £65.0m for 2013/14.
- (2) To approve a Debt Reduction target of £20m for 2013/14 which will reduce underlying debt – based on current forecasts and as measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)<sup>1</sup> - to £71.4m.
- (3) To approve 25% of receipts generated for the Decent Neighbourhoods programme continue to be used to support general capital investment or debt reduction in 2013/14 to 2016/17, subject to future review and potential regulatory changes.
- (4) To approve the following proposed capital receipts funded initiatives within the General Fund capital programme 2013/14 (Table 5 of the report):
  - The continuation of the rolling programmes for repairs to Carriageways and Footways £2.03m;
  - Corporate Buildings Planned Maintenance £2.5m;
  - Private Sector Housing Grant (Disabled Facilities) £0.45m;
  - Parks Improvements £0.5m;

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to Appendix 6 for CFR definition

- Contributions to the Invest to Save Fund £0.75m; and This totals £6.23m.

To note existing capital receipts funded schemes (approved for 2012/13) but now scheduled for 2013/14 as follows:

- The Schools Capital Programme £8.906m;
  - The Corporate Buildings Planned Maintenance £1.84m
- This totals £10.746m.

The overall total use of capital receipts for General Fund capital schemes in 2013/14 is £16.976m.

- (5) To approve the level of resource forecast (Table 2 of the report) and indicative capital expenditure budget 2013/14 of £27.6m for the Decent Neighbourhoods programme, funded fully by capital receipts, as detailed in Appendix 2 of the report.
- (6) To approve the 2013/14 HRA capital programme of £37.0m as set out in Table 7 (Appendix 4 of the report) and approve the use of £15.212m of Decent Neighbourhoods' capital receipts in support of this programme for 2013/14.
- (7) To approve the annual Minimum Revenue Provision for 2013/14 (Appendix 7 of the report).
  - For debt which is supported through Formula Grant this authority will calculate the Minimum Revenue Provision in accordance with current regulations (namely 4% of the Capital Financing requirement net of adjustment A).
  - For debt which has arisen through prudential borrowing it should be written down in equal instalments over the estimated asset life. The debt write-off will commence the year after an asset comes into use.
- (8) To approve the CIPFA<sup>2</sup> prudential indicators as set out in Appendix 8 of the report.

#### 41.7 Treasury Management Strategy

8.44pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	27
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	13

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

<sup>2</sup> Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA)

8.44pm **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the future borrowing and investment strategies as outlined in the report be approved and that the Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Governance be authorised to arrange the Council's cashflow, borrowing and investments in 2013/14.
- (2) That in relation to the Council's overall borrowing for the financial year the comments and the Prudential Indicators as set out in the report be noted.
- (3) To pay the HRA investment income on unapplied HRA receipts and other HRA cash balances calculated at the average rate of interest earned on temporary investments with effect from 1 April 2013.
- (4) That the Money market Funds set out in Table 1 of Appendix B of the report are approved for use as part of the Council's investment strategy.

(Councillor Rory Vaughan did not declare an interest but he withdrew from the meeting during discussion of the matter without speaking or voting thereon, as he worked for the financial regulator.)

41.8 Councillors' Allowances Scheme: Annual Review

8.45pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillors Lisa Homan and Stephen Cowan (for the Opposition) and Councillor Mark Loveday (for the Administration), before being put to the vote:

The report and recommendations were put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

FOR	AGAINST	NOT VOTING
ADAM	AHERNE	DONOVAN (G)
ALFORD	BROWN (D)	
BINMORE	CARTWRIGHT	
BOTTERILL	CHUMNERY	
BROCKLEBANK-FOWLER	COWAN	
BROWN (A)	HARCOURT	
CARLEBACH	HOMAN	
CHALK	JONES	
COONEY	MURPHY	
CROFTS	NEEDHAM	
DE LISLE	POWELL	
DEWHIRST	SCHMID	
FORD	UMEH	
GINN	VAUGHAN	



GRAHAM  
HAMILTON  
IGGULDEN  
IVIMY  
JOHNSON (A)  
KARMEL  
LAW  
LOVEDAY  
PHIBBS  
SMITH  
STANTON  
THORLEY

FOR	26
AGAINST	14
NOT VOTING	1

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

8.55pm **RESOLVED:**

That the Councillors' Allowances Scheme 2013 – 14 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report be adopted.

#### 41.9 Pay Policy of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham

8.56pm - The report and recommendations were formally moved for adoption by the Leader of the Council, Councillor Nicholas Botterill.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillor PJ Murphy (for the Opposition) and Councillor Nicholas Botterill (for the Administration).

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	27
AGAINST	0
NOT VOTING	14

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

9pm **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That Council approve the pay policy and endorse the pay schemes attached at Appendices 1, 2 and 3 of the report.
- (2) That Council notes the Council's Pensions Policy attached as Appendix 4 of the report and the Councillors' Allowances scheme, submitted to this meeting as a separate item, which will constitute Appendix 5 of the report.

**42. INFORMATION REPORTS - TO NOTE**

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

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

Meeting started: 7.00 pm  
Meeting ended: 9.01 pm

Mayor .....