

COUNCIL MINUTES

(ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING)

WEDNESDAY 24 JUNE 2009



PRESENT:

The Mayor (Councillor Alex Karmel)
Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs Adronie Alford)

Councillors:

Mike Adam
Colin Aherne
Nicholas Botterill
Paul Bristow
Victoria Brocklebank-
Fowler
Jean Campbell
Stephen Cowan
Ali de Lisle
Belinda Donovan
Gavin Donovan
Rachel Ford

Sarah Gore
Stephen Greenhalgh
Steve Hamilton
Wesley Harcourt
Lisa Homan
Robert Iggulden
Andrew Johnson
Donald Johnson
Lucy Ivimy
Jane Law
Mark Loveday
Reg McLaughlin

Lisa Nandy
Ed Owen
Harry Phibbs
Alexandra Robson
Greg Smith
Frances Stainton
Mercy Umeh
Rory Vaughan
Eugenie White

12. MINUTES – 27 MAY 2009

7.01 pm - The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 27 May 2009 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Antony Lillis, Will Bethell, Aiden Burley, Helen Binmore, Michael Cartwright, Gill Dickenson, Caroline Ffiske, Minnie Scott-Russell and Peter Tobias.

Apologies for lateness were received on behalf of Councillors Alex Chalk and Reg McLaughlin.

14. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

15. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh declared a personal interest in respect of Item 6.2 as a co-author of the report published by Localis.

16. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

7.03 pm - The Mayor called on the member of the public who had submitted a question to the Cabinet Member for Environment to ask her question. The Deputy Leader responded.

Question No. 1 – Ms Catherine Remy to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment (Councillor Nicholas Botterill).

[A copy of the public question submitted and the reply given is attached at Appendix 2 to these minutes.]

17. SPECIAL MOTIONS

Under standing order 15 (e) iii, the Mayor allowed special motion 6.4 to have precedence and be debated as the first item.

17.1 Special Motion No. 4 – Neighbourhood Watch

7.10 m – Councillor Belinda Donovan moved, seconded by Councillor Greg Smith, the special motion standing in their names:

“This Council:

- (1) Celebrates the establishment of over 130 new Neighbourhood Watch committees in the borough since 2006;
- (2) Recognises the vital contribution of members of local Neighbourhood Watch committees to cutting crime in the borough;
- (3) Pledges to continue support by the Council to maintain and increase the number of Neighbourhood Watches in the borough”.

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Belinda Donovan and Greg Smith.

Under Council Procedure Rule 15 (e) (vi), Councillor Lisa Homan, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cowan, moved an amendment to the motion to insert after point 3 -

- (4) “Notes that whilst the establishment of Neighbourhood Watch schemes are a welcome part of the overall strategy for fighting crime, they should not be used to distract from the fact that crime in the borough has not fallen by levels of 10% as under the previous Labour administration, and now lags behind other London boroughs such as Hackney and Newham. In the past 3 years the administration have failed to deliver on their promise to the electorate in fighting crime and backed down from supporting a 24/7 Safer Neighbourhood Team in Fulham Broadway Ward. We therefore call for a cross party commission also involving the public to investigate what has gone wrong.”

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillor Homan and Stephen Cowan (for the Opposition) and Councillors Stephen Greenhalgh and de Lisle (for the Administration) before it was put to the vote:

FOR	11
AGAINST	24
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **LOST**.

Councillor Belinda Donovan (for the Administration) made a speech winding up the debate before the substantive motion was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**.

7.37 pm - **RESOLVED**:

"This Council:

- (1) Celebrates the establishment of over 130 new Neighbourhood Watch committees in the borough since 2006;
- (2) Recognises the vital contribution of members of local Neighbourhood Watch committees to cutting crime in the borough;
- (3) Pledges to continue support by the Council to maintain and increase the number of Neighbourhood Watches in the borough".

17.2 Special Motion No. 1 – Third Runway At Heathrow

7.39 pm – Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh moved, seconded by Councillor Nicholas Botterill, the special motion standing in their names:

"That this Council:

- (1) Commends and endorses the decision by the Administration to become a full party together with Wandsworth, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Richmond and others to the legal proceedings issued against the Secretary of State for Transport seeking to quash his decision to support the third runway at Heathrow;
- (2) Notes that the grounds of challenge are:
 - * There was a failure to conduct a lawful consultation process;
 - * The decision was irrational;
 - * There was a failure to provide an adequately reasoned decision;
- (3) Notes that the proceedings are intended to promote the well being of Borough Residents and those in West London generally."

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Stephen Greenhalgh and Nicholas Botterill (for the Administration) and Councillor Colin Aherne (for the Opposition) before it was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**.

7.46 pm - **RESOLVED**:

“That this Council:

- (1) Commends and endorses the decision by the Administration to become a full party together with Wandsworth, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Richmond and others to the legal proceedings issued against the Secretary of State for Transport seeking to quash his decision to support the third runway at Heathrow;
- (2) Notes that the grounds of challenge are:
 - * There was a failure to conduct a lawful consultation process;
 - * The decision was irrational;
 - * There was a failure to provide an adequately reasoned decision;
- (3) Notes that the proceedings are intended to promote the well being of Borough Residents and those in West London generally.”

17.3 Special Motion No. 2 – Localis

7.47 pm – Councillor Lisa Nandy moved, seconded by Councillor Stephen Cowan, the special motion standing in their names:

“That this Council:

Rejects the offensive, damaging and false portrayal of social housing tenants in the paper *'Principles for Social Housing Reform'* published by right wing think tank Localis.

Firmly rejects proposals which seek to deny decent, secure homes to those who need them.

Further condemns such a crude attempt to disguise deeply unpopular proposals to demolish local homes and communities by using the language of rights and empowerment.

Agrees with Shelter that people are empowered by genuine choice and security and asserts that people are disempowered by ill-thought out, stereotypical and stigmatising papers such as this.

Resolves that funding Localis £8,000 a year at a time when Hammersmith and Fulham Council is cutting vital services to local people is a shameful waste of public money that will cease with immediate effect”.

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Lisa Nandy, Jean Campbell and Stephen Cowan (for the Opposition) and Stephen Greenhalgh, Lucy Ivimy, Andrew Johnson and Harry Phibbs (for the Administration) before it was put to the vote:

FOR	11
AGAINST	24
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **LOST**.

17.4 Special Motion No. 3 – Audit Commission CPA Rating

8.25pm – Councillor Mark Loveday moved, seconded by Councillor Victoria Borcklebank-Fowler, the special motion standing in their names:

“That this Council:

- (1) Welcomes the Audit Commission’s 2008 Comprehensive Performance Assessment that Hammersmith & Fulham is a council that is “**improving strongly** and demonstrating a **4 star** overall performance;
- (2) Notes that this is the highest mark available from the Audit Commission to recognise the delivery of top class services at the best possible value for money;
- (3) Congratulates officers and staff on the significant improvements in services recognised by the Audit Commission.”

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Mark Loveday and Robert Iggulden and Councillor Stephen Cowan (for the Opposition) before it was put to the vote:

FOR	24
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	11

The motion was declared **CARRIED**.

8.40 pm - **RESOLVED**:

“That this Council:

- (1) Welcomes the Audit Commission’s 2008 Comprehensive Performance Assessment that Hammersmith & Fulham is a council that is “**improving strongly** and demonstrating a **4 star** overall performance;
- (2) Notes that this is the highest mark available from the Audit Commission to recognise the delivery of top class services at the best possible value for money;
- (3) Congratulates officers and staff on the significant improvements in services recognised by the Audit Commission.”

18. INFORMATION REPORTS TO COUNCIL (IF ANY)

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

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

Meeting ended: 8.40 pm. - Wednesday, 24 June 2009.

APPENDIX 1

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

1. On 30th May 2009, I attended the FA Cup Final between Chelsea and Everton Football Clubs, Wembley Stadium, Brent
2. On 31st May, accompanied by my Mayoress and the Deputy Mayor, I attended the Japanese Garden Party Hammersmith Park W12. Ken Okaniwa, Minister of the Japanese Embassy also attended.
3. On 3rd June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the 31st Signal Regiment reception evening, Innholders Hall, College Street, EC4R
4. On 5th June, I attended the official book launch of "Just a Little Run Around The World", written by Mrs Rose Swale-Pope from Tenby. I also welcomed Cllr Mrs Sue Lane, Mayor of Tenby, to the book launch held at Harper Collins Publishers, Fulham Palace Road SW6
5. On 5th June, I was delighted to attend and play in the Councillors vs. Staff Charity football match, Chelsea Football Club, Stamford Bridge, SW6
6. On 6th June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended 'Polo in the Park', at Hurlingham Park, SW6
7. On 6th June, I was delighted to unveil a blue plaque commemorating D Day, St Paul's Green, Hammersmith Road, W6
8. On 7th June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended H&F Polo Open Day event and presented various trophies throughout the day, Hurlingham Park, SW6
9. On 8th June, I attended the Thames Strategy "Kew to Chelsea" AGM, Fulham Palace, SW6
10. On 10th June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Aegon Tennis Championships, Queens Club, W14
11. On 13th June, I attended the Allotment Community Open Day, Bishop's Avenue, SW6
12. On 13th June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Enfield Annual Mayors' Garden Party, Capel Manor College, Enfield
13. On 14th June, accompanied by my Mayoress, Cllr Greg Smith and guest, I attended the Metropolitan Volunteer Police Cadets Parade

Day, Horse Guards Parade, Whitehall, SW1

14. On 16th June, I attended the funeral of the late Mrs Betty Hunter, former Chair of Gibbs Green TRA and NDC Board member, Mortlake Crematorium
15. On 16th June 2009, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Bromley's Charity Dinner evening, Trenchman's Restaurant, Station Square, Petts Wood, Kent
16. On 17th June, I attended a Citizenship Ceremony and presented each citizen with their official certificate, Council Chamber, Fulham Town Hall, SW6
17. On 17th June, I was delighted to attend the launch of 'Drawing on the Wind' sculptures exhibition, by Peter Logan, grounds of Fulham Palace, SW6
18. On 19th June, I attended the 'Launch of Year 9 Ignition Project', Henry Compton School, SW6
19. On 21st June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended Hurlingham Garden Party and ILTC Reception, Hurlingham Club, SW6
20. On 22nd June, accompanied by the Deputy Lieutenant for H&F, Chelsea Pensioners, senior ATC Cadets, serving military reserve officer from the Council and Cllr Mark Loveday, I was delighted to raise the flag for 'Armed Forces Day', Hammersmith Town Hall roof, W6
21. On 22nd June, I attended the Lord Mayor of London 'Annual Service' and reception for London Borough Mayors, St. Paul's Cathedral, and at the Mansion House accompanied my Mayoress, the past Mayor, Cllr Andrew Johnson and the past Mayoress, Miss Joanna Richardson.
22. On 23rd June, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended a reception for new Mayors hosted by the Lord Mayor of Westminster - President of the London Mayors' Association, Westminster City Hall, SW1
23. On 24th June, I attended a Citizenship Ceremony during which, I presented each citizen with their official certificate, Council Chamber, Fulham Town Hall, SW6
24. On 24th June, I attended the H&F Learning Disabilities Week event, Irish Centre, W6

No. 1

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 24 JUNE 2009

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

To the: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment

QUESTION

Now that TFL has changed its funding method and that individual councils now have far greater flexibility around spending their LIP funding, will you look again at the safety measures around Wendell Park Primary school as a matter of urgency? As you know a little boy was hit by a car on Cobbold Rd near the school a few months ago.

Furthermore, what integrated approach to traffic and road safety is the council taking in the Askew/Cobbold Road area other than simply looking at traffic accident statistics? For example, the council is currently putting in place a narrowed entry to Cobbold Road from Askew Road on the basis of accident statistics (which were once required by TFL) but has the council studied the impact this will have on Becklow Road for example, which now runs the danger of becoming a rat run to avoid the lights at the junction of Askew Road and Uxbridge Road? What genuine consultation has taken place with local residents who will be affected by these changes?

RESPONSE

The way in which local transport priorities are funded is changing and the guidance for London Boroughs to prepare their submissions for 2010/11 has just been published. It is envisaged that this will be a transition year and that the 2011/12 financial year will be the finally adopted methodology.

London Boroughs will still be required to submit scheme synopses that fit in with the new programmes of work which must broadly accord with the emerging mayoral transport policies.

With specific reference to road safety the current driving force behind the data led approach is to meet the 2010 casualty reduction targets. By the end of 2008 we had met three of these six targets with good progress been made on the rest. Until the Mayor's transport strategy is published we do not know what

targets will be set for London and until such time we will continue to monitor accident trends and develop schemes to address particular junctions, roads and areas.

The work currently under way is to install three raised entry treatments on Cobbold Road, Gayford Road and Hadyn Park Road and their junctions with Askew Road. We were successful in securing funding from TfL for this scheme based on the predicted casualty savings these feature can bring at these specific locations. As we are not changing the operation of any road as part of this scheme there will be no impact on local traffic flow. The road entrance is not be narrowed as part of this scheme rather the planters are to be removed to increase visibility for both pedestrians and drivers.

An extensive local consultation was carried out in February 2009 regarding this scheme alongside the parking restrictions in Askew Road.

The closure of Becklow Road at its junction with Uxbridge Road is to remain and this feature prevents a rat run to avoid the traffic lights at the junction of Askew Road and Uxbridge Road.

With regards to safety measures in the Wendell Park area I have instructed highway officers to review the casualty statistics and existing traffic calming in the area against the recent submissions for funding. In addition to compare the school travel plans of the schools in the area to ascertain the perceived safety concerns and develop a consultation strategy to gauge local opinion on traffic and road safety matters.

It is envisaged that this consultation will be carried out at the end of 2009 and the beginning of 2010 and the results will advise the route we take to proceed with addressing the actual local concerns rather than just installing a sea of speed cushions which can encourage poor driving habits.