

**DECISIONS OF THE MEETING OF THE BUSINESS
MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

29th February 2012

Present:

- *Councillor Hugh Rayner (Chairman)
- *Councillor Brian Salinger (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors:

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| * Maureen Braun | * Alison Moore |
| * Jack Cohen | * Barry Rawlings |
| * Brian Gordon | * Rowan Turner |
| * John Marshall | * Kath McGuirk |
| (substituting for Dean Cohen) | |

*denotes Member present

Also in attendance:

Councillor Robert Rams – Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships
Councillor Kate Salinger (for agenda item 6)

1. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (Agenda Item 1):

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2012 be approved.

2. ABSENCE OF MEMBERS (Agenda Item 2):

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Dean Cohen who was substituted by Councillor John Marshall. An apology for late arrival was received from Councillor Rowan Turner.

3. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS (Agenda Item 3):

Member:	Subject:	Interest Declared:
Councillor Kath McGuirk	Agenda Item 9 (Pedestrian Safety, East Finchley)	Personal but non-prejudicial interest as councillor with a constituency office in Church Street, Finchley.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (Agenda Item 4):

Details of the questions asked and the answers provided are appended to these decisions. Verbal responses were given to supplementary questions at the meeting.

5. MEMBERS' ITEMS (Agenda Item 5):

There were no Members' items.

6. COUNCILLOR CALLS FOR ACTION (Agenda Item 7):

There were no Councillor Calls for Action.

7. REVERSE PARKING CHARGES PETITION (Agenda Item 8):

The Committee considered a petition received by the Council in relation to Parking Charges. The Lead Petitioner addressed the Committee and highlighted his concerns about the impact of the Council's parking policy on residents, vulnerable people and small businesses.

The Assistant Director, Transport and Highways and the Highways Manager, Traffic and Development gave an account to the Committee of the Council's parking and traffic management policies. The Committee were informed that a review of North Finchley town centre would commence on the 1st April 2012, with review findings expected to be available in six months time.

The Committee requested that officers give further consideration to parking charges and devise and implement a strategy for mitigating, in so far as is possible, the effects of increased parking charges on town centres.

RESOLVED that –

- (1) Officers from the Environment, Planning and Regeneration Directorate provide to the Committee, by the end of September 2012, a report on the mitigation of parking charges on the boroughs town centres, making reference to the North Finchley Outer London Fund Parking Review.**
- (2) Officers from the Environment, Planning and Regeneration Directorate be recommended subject to necessary funding being available to give further consideration to parking charges and be requested to devise and implement a strategy for mitigating, in so far as is possible, the effects of increased parking charges on town centres, with the findings reported back to the Committee in due course.**

8. PEDESTRAIN SAFETY, EAST FINCHLEY PETITION (Agenda Item 9)

The Committee considered a petition received by the Council in relation to Pedestrian Safety, East Finchley. The Lead Petitioner addressed the Committee regarding safety

concerns for pedestrians using the route along Church Lane, High Road and Creighton Avenue in East Finchley.

The Highways Manager, Traffic and Development informed the Committee that a holistic impact assessment of the area had commenced, which was considering crossing facilities, road junctions and other empirical evidence. Members were informed that the findings of this review would be reported to the Cabinet Member for the Environment on the 20th March 2012.

The Committee agreed that Officers should carry out, in consultation with Walk Safe N2, an assessment of the impact that the proposals identified in the petition could have upon the area, and to consider any other safety measures which could lead to a solution to provide a safer environment.

RESOLVED that-

- (1) Officers from the Environment, Planning and Regeneration Directorate provide the Committee with a report detailing the outcome of the East Finchley holistic impact assessment at the next meeting on 18th April 2012.**
- (2) Officers from the Environment, Planning and Regeneration Directorate be recommended to carry out, in consultation with representatives from the Walk Safe N2 campaign, an assessment of the impact that the road safety measures proposed in the petition could have on pedestrian safety in the area and to consider any other safety measures which could lead to a solution to the issues raised.**
- (3) the Committee recommend that the Pedestrian Safety, East Finchley petition be referred to the Finchley and Golders Green Area Environment Sub-Committee to enable the Sub-Committee to give their views on the issues raised.**

9. MATTERS REFERRED BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE RELATING TO KEY DECISIONS (Agenda Item 6):

(A) Cabinet on 20th February 2012

The Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet meeting held on 20th February 2012 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Customer Access & Partnerships.

Decision Item No:	Subject:
9	Report of the Cabinet Member for Customer Access & Partnerships – Community Library Process

Councillor Kate Salinger (Ward Councillor for Friern Barnet) addressed the Committee to articulate her concerns regarding the decision of the Cabinet to close Friern Barnet Library before the new Landmark Library at the Arts Depot had opened.

RESOLVED that –

- (1) the decision of Cabinet to reaffirm the decision to transfer services from Friern Barnet and North Finchley Libraries to a new Landmark Library based at the Arts Depot be referred back to the Cabinet for reconsideration to request that the Friern Barnet Library will not be closed before the proposed new library services are transferred to the Arts Depot.**
- (2) a representative from the Committee attend the Cabinet meeting on 4th April 2012 to articulate the reasons for the reference back.**

The Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships assured the Committee that the Friern Barnet Library would not close before the Cabinet met on 4th April 2012 to consider the reference back.

(B) Cabinet on 20th February 2012

The Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet meeting held on 20th February 2012 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Customer Access & Partnerships in respect of the following:

Decision Item No:	Subject:
7	Report of the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Customer Access & Partnerships – Governance of Strategic Partnerships

The Committee decided not to refer the above matter back to the Cabinet for reconsideration.

(C) Cabinet Resources Committee on 28th February 2012

The Committee considered the following decision of the Cabinet Resources Committee held on 28th February 2012 and asked questions of the Cabinet Member for Customer Access & Partnerships in respect of the following:

Decision Item No:	Subject:
5	Report of the Cabinet Member for Resources and Performance and Cabinet Member for Customer Access and Partnerships – New Support and Customer Services Organisation :Business Case Update and shortlist for Dialogue 2

The Committee decided not to refer the above matter back to the Cabinet Resources Committee for reconsideration.

10. REGENERATION REVIEW (Agenda Item 10)

RESOLVED that consideration of the Regeneration Review be deferred until the next meeting of the Committee on 18th April 2012.

11. EARLY INTERVENTION TASK AND FINISH GROUP (Agenda Item 11)

RESOLVED that consideration of the draft report of the Early Intervention Task and Finish Group be deferred until the Special meeting of the Committee on the 8th March 2012.

12. HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE INTERGRATION, TASK AND FINISH GROUP (Agenda Item 12)

RESOLVED that consideration of the draft report of the Health and Social Care Integration Task and Finish Group be deferred until the Special meeting of the Committee on the 8th March 2012.

13. CONTRACT MONITORING AND COMMUNITY BENEFIT, TASK AND FINISH GROUP (Agenda Item 13)

RESOLVED that consideration of the draft report of the Contract Monitoring and Community Benefit, Task and Finish Group be deferred until the Special meeting of the Committee on the 8th March 2012.

14. CARBON FOOTPRINT TASK AND FINISH GROUP (Agenda Item 14)

RESOLVED that consideration of the draft report of the Carbon Footprint Task and Finish Group be deferred until the Special meeting of the Committee on the 8th March 2012.

15. TASK AND FINISH GROUPS/ SCRUTINY PANELS – RECOMMENDATION TRACKING (Agenda Item 13)

RESOLVED that consideration of the Task and Finish Groups – Recommendation Tracking be deferred until the special meeting of the Committee on 8th March 2012

16. CABINET FORWARD PLAN (Agenda Item 15)

RESOLVED that that the report be noted

17. BUSINESS MANAGEMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2011/12 (Agenda Item 16)

RESOLVED that the report be noted

18. ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES ARE URGENT (Agenda Item 17)

None.

The meeting ended at 10.00pm