

# Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

TO BE HELD ON

Tuesday, 20 December, 2005, at 7.00pm

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## A G E N D A

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## Council Meeting

20 December 2005

### Agenda and Timetable

Item	Subject	Time for Debate	Page Nos.
	<b><u>Part 1 - Statutory formalities/ Announcements (15 minutes)</u></b>	7.00pm – 7.15pm	
1.	Prayer		
2.	Apologies for absence		
3.	Minutes of last meeting held on 8 November, 2005		1 - 67
4.	Official announcements		
5.	Declarations of interest		
6.	Any business remaining from last meeting		
	<b><u>Part 5 - Accountability: Agenda Item 10.1 – Comments on the work of Cabinet</u></b>		
10.1	<b>From Councillor Anita Campbell</b>  To comment on the work of the Cabinet with regard to the re-provision of Barnet Register Office.		
10.2	<b>From Councillor Steve Blomer</b>  How does the Councils policy of removing Children's play equipment from the boroughs smaller parks, for what ever reasons including health and safety requirements, and then not replacing such equipment, measure up to the Council often quoted commitment to Barnet's Youth. "		

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10.3	<p><b>From Councillor Linda McFadyen</b></p> <p>To comment on the work of the Cabinet with regard to the lack of festive lights in Burnt Oak.</p>		
10.4	<p><b>From Councillor Wayne Casey</b></p> <p>Comment on the work of the cabinet in relation to access to aids and adaptations for those residents suffering from arthritis.”</p>		
	<p><b><u>Part 2 – Question Time (30 minutes or until 7.45pm, whichever is the longer)</u></b></p>	7.15pm – 7.45pm	
7.	Questions to the Leader and Cabinet		To be circulated separately
	<p><b>Part 3 – Members’ Motions (60 minutes)</b></p>	7.45pm – 8.45pm	
8.	Motions in the order in which notice has been given		
8.1	<p><b>From Councillor Fiona Bulmer</b></p> <p><b>Keep Operations at Barnet!</b></p> <p>Council notes plans to alter services at Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals.</p> <p>Council further notes these could mean Barnet General stops performing routine operations.</p> <p>Council understands that many ill and infirm people will find it very difficult to travel over to Chase Farm to receive the treatment they desperately need.</p>		

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	<p>Council believes that, instead of this rationalisation, the Department of Health should be investing in Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals to ensure they continue to provide and improve the services they do at present.</p> <p>Council welcomes the campaign spearheaded by local MP Theresa Villiers to ensure the government listens to our concerns.</p> <p>Council calls on Cabinet to support the campaign to keep routine operations at Barnet Hospital, and asks Cabinet to write to the Secretary of State for Health informing her of our opposition to the current proposals.</p>		
8.2	<p><b>From Councillor Kath McGuirk</b></p> <p>Council regrets that graffiti continues to be a problem blighting Barnet's neighbourhoods, and that repeat attacks of graffiti are expensive for residents to repeatedly remove. Council believes that the failure to remove graffiti simply encourages other anti-social behaviour and vandalism, and leads to neighbourhoods feeling run-down and neglected.</p> <p>Council notes that the Conservative administration has broken its 2002 manifesto commitments for "removing all reported graffiti within 48 hours", and to start "a programme to treat all street furniture with anti-graffiti paint". Council regrets that the administration fails to remove graffiti from the vast majority of the borough's roads.</p>		

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	<p>Council rejects the view of a Conservative Councillor that graffiti has “artistic merit” and shows “talent”. Council condemns all graffiti, and Council urges the Cabinet to take urgent steps to combat graffiti across the borough.</p> <p>Councillor Kath McGuirk has requested, under Part 4 of the Council’s Constitution, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.3	<p><b>From Councillor Claire Farrier</b></p> <p>Council supports the existing alcohol free zones of Hendon Central, North Finchley and Finchley Central. Council urges the Cabinet to undertake a review of the effectiveness of the zones, including consideration of any displacement of street drinkers outside of the alcohol free zones into residential areas - such as homeless drinkers and underage drinkers - and any impact on encouraging evening activity in town centres.</p> <p>Council notes that it is not an offence to drink or carry alcohol in alcohol free zones, but that an offence is only committed if the drinker is asked by a police officer to stop or if the person does not surrender alcohol to a police officer when asked to do so. Council supports this discretion given to police officers to target drinkers causing problems.</p>		

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	<p>Council notes that Burnt Oak has some of the highest levels of disorder in the borough according to the 2004 Barnet Crime Audit. Council notes that the major complaint of residents to Burnt Oak's Safer Neighbourhood Police Team concern fear of anti-social behaviour, crime and intimidation related to street drinking. Council therefore urges the Cabinet to consider introducing as a priority an alcohol free zone in Burnt Oak.</p> <p>Councillor Claire Farrier has requested, under Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.4	<p><b>From Councillor Ansuya Sodha</b></p> <p>Council believes there should be a firm commitment to equality for all, including elderly and disabled residents, and that the Council should be doing all it can to enable elderly and disabled people to live with dignity in their own homes when they wish to do so.</p> <p>Council regrets that the Administration is now informing elderly and disabled residents needing adaptations to continue living in their own homes that the Council will not fund their adaptations for the remainder of the 2005/6 financial year. Council notes that this means elderly and disabled people may have to wait for 6 to 8 months before they may get adaptations, for example to more easily have a shower or use</p>		

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	<p>the toilet, and that this is causing a great deal of hardship and distress to the most vulnerable people in our borough who are trying to live independently.</p> <p>Council urges the Cabinet to urgently review the failure to provide adaptations to elderly and disabled people and to bring forward an urgent report on this matter to the Cabinet meeting on 23 January.</p> <p>Councillor Ansuya Sodha has requested, under Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
8.5	<p><b>From Councillor Brian Salinger</b></p> <p>Council supports the work undertaken by the Leader of Barnet Council to find a new home for Barnet FC within the Borough.</p> <p>Council notes this has led to his offer for the Club to use part of Montrose Park.</p> <p>Council recognises that planning permission will still be required, and that should an application be made it will be decided on planning merits.</p> <p>Council further recognises that there will need to be ongoing discussions with the Club on the terms on which they would be able to lease the land.</p> <p>Council believes that Barnet Football Club has a valuable role to play in the Borough and will do their best to work with the club to fulfil their potential.</p>		

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	<p>Council further calls on the Directors of Barnet FC Ltd and its associated companies to recognise the constraints imposed on the Council by various acts of Parliament, not least in relation to the disposal of property or land.</p>		
<p><b>8.6</b></p>	<p><b>From Councillor Matthew Offord</b></p> <p>Council notes that Transport for London have deposited a Private Bill in Parliament which aims to confer further powers upon TfL in a range of transport related matters.</p> <p>Council is aware that Transport for London inherited several road schemes from the Secretary of State when trunk roads in London were transferred to the Greater London Authority and arrangements were made for the continuity of scheme orders made by the Secretary of State.</p> <p>Council notes that such orders were made for improvements to the North Circular Road at Henlys Corner and Golders Green Road, following lengthy public consultation and examination of the proposals at public inquiries. The Council and other stakeholders invested significant effort in the consultation process and public inquiries to ensure that Barnet residents and road users were protected and gained maximum benefit from the schemes.</p>		



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	<p>Council is aware Transport for London have been unable to secure funding for the inherited schemes on the North Circular Road, but have confirmed the need for major improvements to reduce congestion, pollution, delays to road users and to improve safety. TfL have been unable to produce alternative proposals to resolve the current problems and to ensure that additional traffic resulting from the growth in North London, as predicted in the London Plan, will be accommodated on the North Circular Road rather than diverting onto borough roads.</p> <p>Council notes that the draft Bill contains a clause which allows Transport for London to revoke orders made by the Secretary of State, but does not specify the process required to do so. Council also notes that orders made by the Secretary of State normally can only be revoked following consultation and if unresolved objections to the revocation are received, a public inquiry must be held.</p> <p>Council believes the Bill may allow Transport for London to revoke the orders without consultation or public inquiry and this could deny the Council, residents, road users and other interested parties, the opportunity to have their views heard and considered.</p>		

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	<p>Council also believes that when funding for the major schemes becomes available, the need to remake scheme orders would add to the delay and cost of finally resolving the problems with the unimproved sections of the North Circular Road.</p>		
	<p>Council notes that other clauses in the Bill may have an adverse effect on the Council or the Borough's residents.</p> <p>Council resolves that-</p> <p>1) The Chief Executive be instructed to take all necessary steps to oppose those clauses in the Transport for London Bill which, if enacted, would have an adverse effect on the borough or be against the interests of the Council or the Borough's residents.</p> <p>2) The Chief Executive be asked to write to the Members of Parliament for the borough explaining the Council's position and seeking their support.</p> <p>Councillor Matthew Offord has requested, under Part 4 of the Council's Constitution, Section 1, 31.5, that if the item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting, it be voted upon at the council meeting.</p>		
	<b>Break</b>	8.45pm – 9.00pm	
9	<b>Part 4 – Policy Development (60 minutes)</b>	9.00pm – 10.00pm	
9.1	Administration Item: Budget 2006/07		68
9.2	Opposition Item: Libraries		69

	<b>Part 5 – Accountability (20minutes)</b>	10.00 pm- 10.20pm	
10	Comments on the work of the Cabinet (10 minutes) –		
10.1	<b>From Councillor Wayne Casey</b> To comment upon the work of the Cabinet in relation to the roles and responsibilities of parking control officers.		
10.2	<b>From Councillor Steven Blomer</b> To comment on the work of the Cabinet with regard to anti-social behaviour at Moat Mount and Scratchwood.		
10.3	<b>From Councillor Ansuya Sodha</b> To comment on the dog waste bins which are always so full in West Hendon's parks.		
11.	Questions to council representatives on outside bodies (10 minutes)		
	<b>Part 6 – Statutory Council Business (40 minutes)</b>	10.20pm – 11.00pm	
12.	Reports from Cabinet		
13.	Reports from Overview and Scrutiny committees		
14.	Reports from Other Committees		
15.	Reports of Officers		
15.1	Chief Executive		
1.	Resoulgts of Bye – election : High Barnet ward		To Follow
15.2	Democratic Services Manager		70 - 80
1.	Vacancies on School Governing Bodies		

2.	Vacancies arising from reconstitution of School Governing Bodies		
3.	Representation of the Council on Outside Bodies		
4.	Report exempted from the call – in process		
15.3	Monitoring Officer		

John Marr, Democratic Services Manager  
Town Hall,  
The Burroughs,  
Hendon, NW4 4BG