

Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET
held at The Town Hall, Hendon, NW4, on Tuesday, 7 March, 2006.

PRESENT:

*The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Andreas Tambourides)

*The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Victor Lyon, BA (Hons))

Councillors:

*Steve Blomer	Arun Ghosh BSc BVSc&AH	*Matthew Offord
*Maureen Braun	MPhil CBIOL MIBIOL,	*Monroe Palmer OBE, BA, FCA
*Fiona Bulmer	MSFAM, MAPHV, MRSM	*Susette Palmer MA
*Terry Burton	*Brian Gordon, LL.B	*Wendy Prentice
*Anita Campbell	*Eva Greenspan BA, LL.B	*Barry Rawlings
*Wayne Casey BA (Hons) MIIA	(Hons)	*Colin Rogers
*Danish Chopra	*Andrew Harper	*Paul Rogers
*Jack Cohen	*Christopher Harris BA BSc	*Brian Salinger
*Melvin Cohen LLB	MPhil	*Gill Sargeant
*Brian Coleman, AM, FRSA	*Helena Hart	*Joan Scannell
*Katia David BSc, MBA, JP	*Lynne Hillan	*Alan Schneiderman
*Jeremy Davies BA (Hons), CPFA	*Sean Hooker, BA (Hons)	*Gerard Silverstone
*Peter Davis Ctext, FTI, FCFI	*Daniel Hope	*Agnes Slocombe SRN RM
*Aba Dunner MCIJ FCA	*Anne Hutton	*Ansuya Sodha MBA (Middx) Cert Ed, DipM (CIM), AMBA
*Olwen Evans ACIS	Mark Langton	*Susan Steinberg
*Claire Farrier	*Malcolm Lester FCCA	*Leslie Sussman, MBE Phil Yeoman
*Anthony Finn BSc (Econ)	*Kitty Lyons	*Soon-Hoe Teh
*Mike Freer	*Duncan Macdonald	*Jim Tierney
	*John Marshall	Allan Turner
	*Linda McFadyen	*Zakia Zubairi
	*Kath McGuirk	Vacancy
	*David Mencer	
	*Alison Moore	
	*Jazmin Naghar	
	*Robert Newton	

*denotes Member present

174. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE (Agenda Item 1):

Apologies were received from Councillors Phil Yeoman, Arun Ghosh and Mark Langton for absence, and Councillors Anne Hutton, Gill Sargeant, Lynne Hillan and Jack Cohen for lateness.

175. PRAYER (Agenda Item 2):

The Mayor's Chaplain offered prayer.

- 176. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 31 JANUARY 2006 (Agenda Item 3):
RESOLVED –That the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January, 2006 be approved.**

177. SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

The Worshipful the Mayor, duly seconded, moved, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14, that Council Procedure Rule 3.2 be suspended to allow 30 minutes for Part 1 business, as this included the election of the Mayor Designate for the year 2006/07.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED – That Council Procedure Rule 3.2 be suspended to allow 30 minutes for Part 1 business.

178. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (Agenda Item 4):

The Worshipful the Mayor welcomed the Mayors of Montclair and Ramat Gan, two of Barnet's twin towns, to the meeting and reminded those present that on the following day a Twin Town Associations' Open Day was being held at the Town Hall when guests from other twin towns would also be present.

179. TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS (Agenda Item 5):

The following personal and non – prejudicial interests were declared, relating to Agenda Item 8, Report of Cabinet held on 27 February, 2006 – Council Budget and Council Tax 2006/07, with the Members concerned participating in the discussions and vote:

- Councillor Susette Palmer as she was a member of Barnet Borough Arts Council, Friends of Barnet Borough Libraries and the Finchley Arts Theatre Trust which could apply for Council grants.
- Councillor Brian Coleman as he was a Member of the Greater London Assembly which had set the Mayor's precept which would form part of the total Council Tax.
- Councillor Brian Salinger as his son was a client of the Council's Social Services department.
- Councillor Melvin Cohen as his father received domiciliary care from the Council's Social Services department.
- Councillor Joan Scannell as her mother purchased care from the Council's Social Services department.
- Councillor Aba Dunner as he was a member of a Clubhouse board which could apply for a Council grant.
- Councillor Agnes Slocombe as she was a member of the Barnet African Caribbean Association which could apply for a Council grant.
- Councillor Ansuya Sodha as she was a member of Barnet Asian Old People's Association which could apply for a Council grant.
- Councillor Gill Sargeant ???
- Councillors Katia David, Peter Davis and Daniel Hope as they were members of the board of Artsdepot which received financial assistance from the Council.

- Councillors Paul Rogers, Gerard Silverstone and Monroe Palmer as they were members of the board of Barnet Homes which was funded by the Council.
- Councillor Linda McFadyen as she was a tenant of Barnet Homes.

The following personal and prejudicial interest was declared relating to Agenda Item 8, Report of Cabinet held on 27 February, 2006 – Council Budget and Council Tax 2006/07.

- Councillor Barry Rawlings, as he worked for a charity that could apply for a Council grant. A separate vote was taken on this element of the budget, during which Councillor Rawlings left the Chamber.

The following personal and prejudicial interest was declared relating to Agenda Item 11.1.8 (ii), Supplemental Report of the Democratic Services Manager - Amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer to Report of Cabinet held on 27 February, 2006 – Council Budget and Council Tax 2006/07.

- Councillor Robert Newton, as he was a Member of Local Agenda 21 for which a grant was proposed in the amendment. A separate vote was taken on this element of the amendment, during which Councillor Newton left the Chamber.

The following personal and non – prejudicial interest was declared, relating to Agenda Item 11.1.3, Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Vacancies Arising from Reconstitution of School Governing Bodies, with the Member concerned participating in the vote:

- Councillor Helena Hart, as her husband was nominated for post reference S.02.1b.

180. BUSINESS REMAINING FROM LAST MEETING (Agenda Item 6)

None.

181. MAYOR DESIGNATE 2006/2007 (Agenda Item 7):

Upon the Mayor calling for nominations for election of Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet for 2006/2007:

Moved by Councillor Leslie Sussman, duly seconded:

That Councillor Eva Greenspan be proposed for appointment as Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 16 May 2006.

Moved by Councillor Monroe Palmer, duly seconded:

That Councillor Wayne Casey be proposed for appointment as Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 16 May 2006.

Upon the nominations being put, a majority voted in favour of Councillor Eva Greenspan and it was

RESOLVED – That Councillor Eva Greenspan be formally proposed and seconded at the Annual Meeting of the Council on 16 May 2006 for appointment as Mayor.

182. PETITION

The Borough Solicitor advised that a petition had been handed to the Leader of the Council opposing proposals to reduce staff and opening hours at East Finchley Library, and that this would be validated in the usual manner.

183. SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

The Worshipful the Mayor, duly seconded, moved, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14, that Council Procedure Rule 48 be suspended to permit the Leader of the Council and Councillors Alison Moore, Monroe Palmer and Mike Freer to speak for a time in excess of five minutes, and four minutes in the case of Councillor Freer, on the motion for the reception of the report of Cabinet held on 27 February, 2006 (Agenda Item 8, Council Budget and Council Tax 2006/07) and the amendments thereto (Agenda Item 11.1.8, Supplemental Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Amendments to Items on the Agenda). Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED – That Council Procedure Rule 48 be suspended to permit The Leader to speak for 25 minutes, Councillor Moore to speak for 20 minutes, Councillor Monroe Palmer to speak for 15 minutes and Councillor Freer to speak for 10 minutes on Agenda Items 8 and 11.1.8.

184. SUSPENSION OF COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULES

Councillor Monroe Palmer, duly seconded, moved, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14, that Council Procedure Rule 48.4 be suspended to permit the motion for the reception of the report of Cabinet held on 27 February, 2006 (Agenda Item 8, Council Budget and Council Tax 2006/07) and the amendments thereto (Agenda Item 11.1.8, Supplemental Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Amendments to Items on the Agenda) to be discussed together. Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED – That Council Procedure Rule 48.4 be suspended to permit the motion for the reception of the report of Cabinet held on 27 February, 2006 (Agenda Item 8, Council Budget and Council Tax 2006/07) and the amendments thereto (Agenda Item 11.1.8, Supplemental Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Amendments to Items on the Agenda) to be discussed together.

185. REPORT OF CABINET, 27 FEBRUARY, 2006 – COUNCIL BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX 2006/07 (Agenda items 8 and 11.1. 8):

The report of the Cabinet meeting held on 27 February 2006, with the following recommendations, was received:

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

Balances

1. That, having taken account of all matters set out in the Chief Finance Officer's report on reserves and balances as set out at Appendix A to the Cabinet Members' report:-
 - (a) the appropriate level of General Fund balances be determined at £10m;
 - (b) the strategy for achieving and maintaining this level of balances in 2006/07 or future years be as set out in appendix g to the cabinet members' report.

Revenue Budget and Council Tax

2. That the forecast revenue outturn for the year 2005/6 and the estimates of income and expenditure for 2006/6 be approved

3. That it be noted that the Chief Finance Officer under his delegated powers has calculated the amount of 135,103 (band D equivalents) as the Council Tax base for the year 2006/7 in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
4. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2006/7 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
 - (a) £715,210,640 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act;
 - (b) £499,485,045 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act;
 - (c) £215,725,595 being the amount by which the aggregate at 4(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 4(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year;
 - (d) £79,160,995 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates, revenue support grant or additional grant increased or reduced (as appropriate) by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from:-
 - (i) its collection fund to its general fund and;
 - (ii) its general fund to its collection fund in accordance with Sections 97(3) and (4) and 98 (4) and (5) respectively of the Local Government Finance Act 1988;
 - (e) £1,010.82 being the amount at 4(c) above less the amount at 4(d) above, all divided by the amount at 3 above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year 2006/2007;

<u>London Borough of Barnet Valuation Bands (£)</u>							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
673.88	786.19	898.51	1010.82	1,235.45	1,460.07	1,684.70	2,021.64

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at 4(e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which is in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

5. That it be noted that for the year 2006/7 the Greater London Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:-

<u>Greater London Authority Valuation Bands (£)</u>							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
192.41	224.47	256.54	288.61	352.75	416.88	481.02	577.22

6. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 4(e) and 5 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2006/7 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below: -

<u>Council Tax for Area</u>							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
866.29	1,010.66	1,155.05	1,299.43	1,588.20	1,876.95	2,165.72	2,598.86

7. That in accordance with Section 38(2) of the Act the Chief Executive be instructed to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 6 above pursuant to Section 30 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision.

Housing Revenue Account and Rents

8. That the Housing Revenue Account estimates for 2006/7 be approved.
9. That, with effect from Monday 3 April 2006:-
- The rent of all Council dwellings, with the exception of those included under Recommendation 10, be changed in line with the Government's proposals on rent restructuring outlined in this report, producing an average increase of 5.0%
 - That the rents of all properties relet for whatever reason be moved upwards to the formula rent. Where formula rent is below actual rent no reduction will be made.
 - That service charges for all tenants of all flats and maisonettes based on the services they receive be increased to the following charges (per week, 48 week basis):-

Caretaking	£4.74
Caretaking Plus	£6.13
Block Lighting	£0.76
Grounds Maintenance	£0.49
Quarterly caretaking.	£0.62
 - That there shall be an increase of 25% on the charge for space and water heating

10. That, with effect from Monday 3 April 2006: -
- (a) The basic rents of dwellings in the Council's equity sharing scheme at Moorlands Avenue, NW7 be increased as follows:-
 - Current basic rents of £2,097 to £2,202 per annum
 - Current basic rents of £1,932 to £2,028 per annum.
 - (b) The net rents of dwellings in the equity share scheme at Friern Hospital be increased by 5.0%.
11. That, with effect from Monday 3 April 2006, the rents of Council garages be increased by 5.0%.
12. That the Chief Executive be instructed to take the necessary action including the service of the appropriate Notices.

Key Priority Plans

13. That the Key Priority Plans be approved.
14. That the Chief Officers be authorised to implement the detailed proposals set out in the Key Priority Plans within the resource constraints identified, in consultation with Cabinet Members as appropriate.

New Prudential Code and Borrowing Limits

15. That the Prudential Indicators set out in Appendix F to the Cabinet Members' report be approved and that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to raise loans, as required, up to such borrowing limits as the Council may from time to time determine and to finance capital expenditure from financing and operating leases subject to:
- (i) the appropriate provision having been made in the estimates for 2006/07;
 - (ii) authorisation (where necessary) of the expenditure by the appropriate Government Department;
 - (iii) a decision of the committee concerned or under delegated/urgency powers to incur the capital expenditure and that the Cabinet Resources be instructed to approve new projects up to the value of surplus resources outlined in this report, having regard to the priorities identified.

Capital

16. That the capital programmes be approved, and that the Chief Officers be authorised to take all necessary action to implement them.

Amendments in the names of Councillors Alison Moore and Monroe Palmer were moved and duly seconded. Debate ensued. The amendment in the name of Councillor Alison Moore was put to the vote and declared lost.

The Mayor indicated that he would take a separate vote on the element of the amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer that related to Local Agenda 21.

Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer, with the exception of the element relating to Local Agenda 21, was declared lost.

Councillor Robert Newton left the meeting.

Upon being put to the vote, the element of the amendment in the name of Councillor Monroe Palmer relating to Local Agenda 21 was declared lost.

The Mayor indicated that he would take a separate vote on those elements of the budget that related to grants.

Upon the substantive motion being put to the vote it was

(i) **RESOLVED – That the report and recommendations of the Cabinet be approved, with the exception of the Grants element of the budget.**

Councillor Barry Rawlings left the meeting.

(ii) **RESOLVED – That the grants element of the budget be approved.**

186. REPORTS OF OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES (Agenda Item 9):

There were none.

187. REPORTS OF OTHER COMMITTEES (Agenda Item 10):

There were none.

188. MOTION TO ALLOW CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS TO BE MADE

Councillor Joan Scannell, duly seconded, moved, under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 18.1.4, that changes to Committee Memberships be added to the agenda.

Upon being put to the vote, the motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED – That under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 18.1.4, changes to Committee Memberships be added to the agenda.

189. CHANGES IN COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

RESOLVED: That the following changes be made to the Special Committee to deal with Constitution:

- **Councillor Brian Salinger to replace Councillor Mike Freer as Chairman.**
- **Councillor Mike Freer to replace Councillor Brian Salinger as Vice-Chairman.**

190. VACANCIES ON SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES (Report of the Democratic Services Manager - Agenda Item 11.1.1):

The Democratic Services Manager's report set out details of the appointments or nominations to be made.

Nominations in the names of Councillors Joan Scannell and Alison Moore were moved.

RESOLVED –

That the following persons be appointed or nominated as the case may require filling the vacancies referred to for the period indicated in the report of the Democratic Services Manager:

VACANCY REFERENCE	PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION	PERSON APPOINTED OR NOMINATED
P.34.1	Barnfield Primary School	Councillor Linda McFadyen
P.11.1	Church Hill School	Defer
P.04.3	Foulds School	Mr Nicholas Smith
P.24.4	Garden Suburb Infant & Garden Suburb Junior Schools	Mr Dan Thomas
P.06.1	Livingstone Primary School	Defer
VS7.2	St Marys CE High NW4	Mr Richard Millet
S.06.4	The Compton School	Ms Beverley Pearce
P.20b.3	The Martin Junior School	Mr Graham Bird
P.19.1a	Woodridge Primary School	Miss Caroline Margo (Deferral was unsuccessful)

191. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW TEMPORARY GOVERNING BODY FOR THE CLITTERHOUSE INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL AND CLITTERHOUSE JUNIOR SCHOOL (Report of the Democratic Services Manager - Agenda Item 11.1.2):

The Democratic Services Manager's report set out details of the appointments or nominations to be made.

Nominations in the names of Councillors Joan Scannell and Alison Moore were moved.

RESOLVED –

That the following persons be appointed or nominated as the case may require filling the vacancies referred to for the period indicated in the report of the Democratic Services Manager:

VACANCY REFERENCE	PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION	PERSON APPOINTED OR NOMINATED
P.28c.1	Temporary Governing Body for Clitterhouse Infant and Nursery School and Clitterhouse Junior School	Mr John Scott (Councillor Alan Schneiderman was unsuccessful)
P.28c.2	Temporary Governing Body for Clitterhouse Infant and Nursery School and Clitterhouse Junior School	Mr Morton Morris

192. VACANCIES ARISING FROM RECONSTITUTION OF SCHOOL GOVERNING BODIES (Report of the Democratic Services Manager - Agenda Item 11.1.3):

The Democratic Services Manager's report set out details of the appointments or nominations to be made.

Nominations in the names of Councillors Joan Scannell, Alison Moore and Jeremy Davies were moved.

RESOLVED –

That the following persons be appointed or nominated as the case may require to fill the vacancies referred to for the period indicated:

VACANCY REFERENCE	PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION	PERSON APPOINTED OR NOMINATED
S.02.1a	Christ's College School	Mrs Marina Yannakoudakis (Mr Andrew McNeil was unsuccessful)
S.02.1b	Christ's College School	Dr S Hart
P.15.1	Hollickwood Primary School	Councillor Barry Rawlings
VP13.1	St Agnes RC School	Councillor Jack Cohen
VP.19.1	St Marys CE School, East Barnet	Rev Colin Smith
P.31.1a	Sunnyfields Primary School	Mr A Maund
P.19.1a	Woodridge Primary School	Miss Caroline Margo (Deferral was unsuccessful)

193. REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNCIL ON OUTSIDE BODIES (Report of the Democratic Services Manager - Agenda Item 11.1.4):

The Democratic Services Manager's report set out details of the appointments or nominations to be made.

Nominations in the names of Councillor Joan Scannell and Councillor Alison Moore were moved.

RESOLVED – That the following persons be appointed or nominated as the case may be to fill the vacancies referred to for the period indicated in the report of the Democratic Services Manager:

VACANCY REFERENCE	PARTICULARS OF APPOINTMENT OR NOMINATION	PERSON APPOINTED OR NOMINATED
1003	Day's and Atkinson's Almshouse Charity (formerly known as Almshouse Charities of Samuel Atkinson and Others)	Mrs Jackie Page
0601	Friends of Moat Mount Campsite	Mr Hugh Rayner (Councillor Steven Blomer was unsuccessful)
1117	Queen Elizabeth Grammar Schools Endowment Fund	Mrs Pauline Coakley-Webb

194. REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNCIL ON THE GOVERNING BODY OF UNDERHILL JUNIOR SCHOOL (Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Agenda item 11.1.5)

The Democratic Services Manager's report set out details of the appointments or nominations to be made.

Nominations in the names of Councillor Joan Scannell and Councillor Alison Moore were moved.

RESOLVED –

That Mrs P Lane be appointed to fill vacancy P.1b.3a on the governing body of Underhill Junior School for the period indicated in the report of the Democratic Services Manager (Councillor Anita Campbell was unsuccessful), thereby correcting the situation caused by the erroneous appointment of both Mrs Lane and Councillor Campbell to the vacancy at the last Council meeting.

195. REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNCIL ON THE GOVERNING BODY OF WHITINGS HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL (Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Agenda item 11.1.6)

The Democratic Services Manager's report set out details of the appointments or nominations to be made.

Nominations in the names of Councillor Joan Scannell and Councillor Alison Moore were moved.

RESOLVED –

That Mr Daniel Webb be appointed to fill vacancy P.03.5 on the governing body of Underhill Junior School for the period indicated in the report of the Democratic Services Manager (Councillor Anita Campbell was unsuccessful), thereby correcting the situation caused by the erroneous appointment of both Mr Webb and Councillor Campbell to the vacancy at the last Council meeting.

196. MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2006-2007 (Report of the Democratic Services Manager – Agenda Item 11.1.7)

RESOLVED - That, having regard to the recommendations of the Independent Remuneration Panel, the Members' Allowances Scheme attached as Appendix A for the year 2006/7 be approved for the period 1 April 2006 to 31 March 2007.

197. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (Agenda Item 11.2)

There was none.

The meeting finished at 10.08pm