

Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

TO BE HELD ON

TUESDAY 6TH NOVEMBER, 2012 AT 7.00 PM

VENUE

HENDON TOWN HALL, THE BURROUGHS, NW4 4BG

A G E N D A



CORPORATE GOVERNANCE DIRECTORATE

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Agenda and Timetable
Tuesday 6th November, 2012

Item	Subject	Timing	Page Nos
1.	Part 1 - Statutory Formalities / Announcements	7.00pm – 7.15pm	
1.1	Prayer - the Mayor's Chaplain	Rabbi Schochet	
1.2	Apologies for absence	To receive Members' apologies for absence	
1.3	Minutes of the meeting held on 11 September 2012	To sign as a true record	To Follow
1.4	Declarations of interest	To receive Members' declarations of interest	
1.5	Official Announcements		
1.6	Any business remaining from last meeting		
2.	Part 2 - Questions Time	7.15pm – 7.45pm	
2.1	Questions to the Leader and Cabinet		To Follow
3.	Part 3 - Business for Debate	7.45pm – 9.30pm	
	Administration Business Item	7.45pm – 8.15pm	
3.1	Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust - Councillor Helena Hart		1 - 2
	Opposition Business Item	8.15pm – 8.45pm	
3.2	Councillor Alan Schneiderman - Christmas parking boost for Barnet's town centres		3 - 4
	Break	8.45pm – 9.00pm	

	Non-Executive Business Items	9.00pm – 9.30pm	
3.3	Road safety strategy in Barnet - Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb		5 - 6
3.4	Horace White Memorial Bench - Councillor Arjun Mitra		7 - 8
3.5	Friern Barnet Library - Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb		9 - 10
3.6	Safeguards to permitted developments - Councillor Melvin Cohen		11 - 12
3.7	NSCSO - Councillor Andrew Strongolou		13 - 14
3.8	No increase in Council Tax in 2013-14 - Councillor John Marshall		15 - 16
3.9	Fuel Poverty in Barnet - Councillor Julie Johnson		17 - 18
3.10	Stirling Corner Roundabout - Councillor Anita Campbell		19 - 20
4.	Part 4 - Statutory Council Business	9.30pm – 10.00pm	
4.1	Reports from Cabinet		
4.2	Reports from Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
4.3	Report from the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee - 22 October 2012		21 - 24
4.4	Report of the Head of Governance		25 - 26
4.5	Report of the Monitoring Officer		
4.6	Questions to representatives on Outside Bodies		

Aysen Giritli, Head of Governance
Building 4, North London Business Park, Oakleigh Road South, N11 1NP

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Administration Business Item: Councillor Helena Hart

AGENDA ITEM 3.1

Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust

Council welcomes the decision of Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals NHS Trust to seek to partner with another NHS organisation in order to create a clinically excellent and financially sustainable NHS Foundation Trust

Noting that the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust was the only appropriate NHS Trust both to fulfil the necessary criteria – particularly that of the successful implementation of the BEH Clinical Strategy – and to express an interest in considering such a partnership, Council would very much like to welcome and support the principle of such a partnership and the progression to a full Business Case for consideration by the respective Trust Boards and the SHA.

This Council has a long history of support for both the Royal Free and Barnet & Chase Farm hospitals and for much greater partnership working between them – our submission of the Barnet Option for the BEH Clinical Strategy being a prime example of this. This is based not only on the essential part both institutions play in the provision of Acute hospital services for the people of Barnet but on the integral part they both play in the broader health economy of the Borough and to our dedication to the provision of high quality integrated health and social care for local residents.

In the interests of securing a safe viable and sustainable future not only for Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals but also for the very many opportunities that such a partnership would bring for the continued clinical excellence and sustainability of the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust itself, Council requests that the Cabinet Member writes to the Chairman of both the Royal Free and Barnet & Chase Farm Hospitals expressing our firm support for such a partnership.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Opposition Business Item: Councillor Alan Schneiderman

AGENDA ITEM 3.2

Christmas parking boost for Barnet's town centres

Council notes the eye-watering parking charge increases that have been introduced in Barnet, and the introduction of cashless parking which has resulted in fewer people shopping in our town centres and more and more local traders and businesses suffering as a consequence.

Council believes we need to be doing all we can to support our town centres and our local traders and businesses, especially during the Christmas and New Year sales period, and so Council asks Cabinet to introduce a "Free after 3 and all day weekends" Christmas and New Year parking sale in our town centres to run from 1 December 2012 until 7 January 2013.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb

AGENDA ITEM 3.3

Road safety strategy in Barnet

Council notes that Barnet has the second highest number of casualties from road traffic accidents in London, with 1,382 casualties last year – although there has been a reduction compared with the year before.

Council notes the recent call by local residents and councillors at Resident's Forums and Area Environment Sub Committees for road safety measures in numerous locations in Barnet, but that the administration does not appear to have any overall strategy for road safety across the Borough that is properly thought through and resourced.

In particular, Council notes that the Road Safety TFG has only met once so far, that no borough wide assessment of road safety has been done, and that no consistent system is in place for prioritising and agreeing what schemes are required and in which locations – which has led to some schemes being pursued against residents' wishes (eg Russell Lane).

Council calls on Cabinet to allocate enough resources to allow the Road Safety TFG to complete its work as soon as possible. Nevertheless, Cabinet should produce a Borough Road Safety Strategy, which also needs to be properly resourced, as a matter of urgency.

Council also notes that later this month Road Safety Week will be taking place, and asks Cabinet to advise what they will be doing for this event to publicise road safety in Barnet.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Arjun Mitra

AGENDA ITEM 3.4

Horace White Memorial Bench

Council notes with sadness the passing of Finchley legend Horace White whose funeral this month was attended by over 400 people.

Council asks Cabinet to fund and deliver a fitting tribute to Horace in the form of a Memorial Bench to be placed in an appropriate location in Finchley.

Under Part 4 Section 31.5 of the Constitution I ask that my item be referred directly to Cabinet.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Pauline Coakley Webb

Friern Barnet Library

AGENDA ITEM 3.5

Council notes the extraordinary events that have unfolded since the Conservative administration closed Friern Barnet Library in April under the One Barnet programme. These events include:

- Over 4,300 residents signing a “re-open Friern Barnet Library” petition.
- The failure of the administration to open a Landmark Library at the artsdepot that was supposed to be a replacement Library for Friern Barnet residents.
- The occupation of the Library by campaigners who have re-built the book stock from donations from the public and are opening the Library to the community.
- The Library campaigners making it known to the Council that they want a Library in Friern Barnet
- The moves by LB Barnet to evict the Library campaigners who are occupying Friern Barnet Library, and the Judge’s view that it was in the public interest for the matter to go to a full trial

Council believes that it would be better to keep the Library at Friern Barnet open than continue spending the huge sums of money on the 4th floor Library with very limited opening hours that LB Barnet has opened at the artsdepot as a temporary solution to the closure of Friern Barnet Library.

Council also believes LB Barnet should enter into mediation with the residents and Library campaigners occupying Friern Barnet Library to find a solution acceptable to all in order to save on costly legal and court fees.

Council asks Cabinet to instruct officers to enter into this recommended mediation with immediate effect

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Melvin Cohen

AGENDA ITEM 3.6

Safeguards to permitted development

Council urges the government to introduce safeguards that will protect suburbia when making changes to what is allowed by permitted development.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Andrew Strongolou

AGENDA ITEM 3.7

NSCSO

Council is pleased that the procurement process for NSCSO is going so well and looks forward to an early conclusion of said.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor John Marshall

No increase in Council Tax in 2013-14

AGENDA ITEM 3.8

Council welcomes the announcement by George Osborne that the Government will fund a freezing of Council Tax in 2013-14, which will be the fifth consecutive zero increase in Barnet. This will benefit in particular pensioners and hard working families.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the Council meeting.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Julie Johnson

Fuel Poverty in Barnet

AGENDA ITEM 3.9

Household energy bills have increased by around £200 in the last two years, and given the imminent onset of the cold weather Council asks Cabinet to urgently consider ways it can assist Barnet residents affected by fuel poverty – particularly the elderly and vulnerable.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if I ask that my item be referred direct to Cabinet.

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Council: Tuesday, 6 November 2012

Non-Executive Business Item: Councillor Anita Campbell

Stirling Corner Roundabout

AGENDA ITEM 3.10

Council acknowledges that all local Councillors, of all parties who represent the areas adjacent to Stirling Corner are in agreement that further safety measures need to be implemented.

Council asks the Cabinet Member to open discussions with Hertsmere Council and Transport for London for urgent safety improvements to take place, and to look at the following:

- extended hours of operation of traffic lights
- Safer pedestrian crossing
- Safety measures for cyclists
- Safety for cars entering Barnet Lane or Barnet Road from the roundabout

Council also asks the Leader to support and sign a cross party letter including the Cabinet Member, the local councillors concerned and the local Assembly Member asking the Mayor of London for action.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.

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Report of the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee

22 October 2012

Members:-

AGENDA ITEM 4.3

*Cllr Melvin Cohen (Chairman)
*Cllr Joan Scannell (Vice-Chairman)

* Richard Cornelius
* Anthony Finn
* Alan Schneiderman

* Alison Moore
* Barry Rawlings
* Jack Cohen

* Andrew Strongolou

* denotes Member Present

1. CONSTITUTION REVIEW: 2012/13

The Committee considered a clarification to the arrangements for the Group Leaders Panel for answers to public questions at meetings and;

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND –

1. That Council agree where a Group Leader is unable to participate in the consideration of a complaint or where it would be inappropriate for them to do so, the Group Leader shall appoint his/her Deputy or another Member from their Group to substitute for the Group Leader.
2. That Council agree written answers to public questions be circulated to the questioner in advance, or at the meeting.
3. That the Head of Governance be instructed to make the appropriate amendments to the Council's Constitution.

2. REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE – CONSTITUTION, ETHICS AND PROBITY COMMITTEE

The Committee approved the attached revised Terms of Reference (Appendix 2, attached).

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND –

1. That Council approve the revised Terms of Reference to the Constitution, Ethics and Probity Committee (Appendix 1).
2. That the Head of Governance be instructed to make the appropriate amendments to the Council's Constitution.

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Appendix 1

Responsibility for Functions

References: Chapter 5, Guidance
 The Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England)
 Regulations 2000
 Section 13, Local Government Act 2000

<p>Constitution Ethics and Probity Committee</p>	<p>Proactively to review and keep under review all aspects of the Council's Constitution so as to ensure that it remains current and fit for purpose, and to make recommendations thereon to the Council.</p> <p>To consider and make recommendations to the Council on (i) how it can satisfy the continuing duty to promote and maintain high standards of conduct for Members; (ii) on the Code of Conduct for Members and (iii) on ethical standards in general across the authority.</p> <p>Promoting and maintaining high standards of conduct by councillors, faith and parent governor representatives and other co-opted members;</p> <p>Assisting councillors and co-opted members to observe Barnet's Code of Conduct for Members;</p> <p>Advising the Council on the adoption and revision of Barnet's Code of Conduct for Members;</p> <p>Monitoring the operation of Barnet's Code of Conduct for Members;</p> <p>Advising, training or arranging to train councillors and co-opted members on matters relating to Barnet's Code of Conduct for Members;</p> <p>Monitoring the operation of the protocol for Member-Officer relations</p> <p>Considering and making recommendations to the Council, as</p>	<p>10 councillors</p>
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	<p>necessary, on ethical issues affecting the Council as a whole;</p> <p>To be consulted by and respond to the Local Government Ombudsman if s/he believes that a complaint s/he is considering relates partly to a matter which may be of concern to the Committee;</p> <p>Monitoring the operation of the Register of Members interests including the register of gifts and hospitality</p> <p>Responding (through the Monitoring Officer) to consultations on proposed legislation and other matters within the remit of the Constitutional, Ethics and Probity Committee.</p>	
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REPORT OF THE HEAD OF GOVERNANCE

1. APPOINTMENT OF INTERIM CHIEF EXECUTIVE/ INTERIM HEAD OF PAID SERVICE:

The Remuneration Committee on 24 October 2012 appointed Mr. Andrew Travers as Interim Chief Executive/Interim Head of Paid Service. The Chief Executive is designated by Article 12 of the Council's Constitution as Head of Paid Service, and Article 4 of the Constitution requires that full Council must confirm the appointment to this position.

RECOMMEND – That the appointment of Mr. Andrew Travers as Interim Head of Paid Service be confirmed, with effect from 3 December 2012.

2. APPOINTMENT OF SECTION 151 OFFICER

The Remuneration Committee also made the following arrangements in relation to the appointment of the Section 151 Officer.

RECOMMEND – That Council note;

- (1) Mr. Chris Naylor is appointed as the Chief Operating Officer (Director of Finance/Section 151 Officer) effective 7 January 2012**
- (2) Mr. John Hooton is appointed as acting Section 151 Officer for the period 3 December 2012 to 7 January 2013 (*i.e. for the period when the interim Chief Executive takes up his post on 3 December 2012 and when the newly appointed Chief Operating Officer (Director of Finance / Section 151 Officer) takes up post on 7 January 2013.*)**

**Aysen Giritli
Head of Governance**

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