Meeting of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
THAT THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR HAS CALLED AN
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON
BOROUGH OF BARNET TO BE HELD AT HENDON TOWN HALL
THE BURROUGHS, HENDON, NW4 4AX ON
TUESDAY 3RD MARCH, 2015 AT 7.00 PM**

SUMMONS AND A G E N D A

All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Council meeting for the transaction of the business set out.

Andrew Charlwood
Head of Governance

Item	Subject	Page Nos
1.	**The Worshipful the Mayor to read the Notice of the Meeting**	
2.	**Apologies for absence**	
3.	**Declarations of Interest**	
4.	**Report of the Monitoring Officer (if any)**	
5.	**Councillor Alison Moore - Libraries**	1 - 2

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

FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES
Hendon Town Hall has access for wheelchair users including lifts and toilets. The Council Chamber has an induction loop so that those who have hearing difficulties can hear the debate. **If you wish to let us know in advance that you will be attending the meeting, please telephone Maria Lugangira on 020 8359 2761 (direct line).** **People with hearing difficulties who have a text phone, may telephone our Minicom number on 020 8203 8942.**

FIRE/EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE
If the fire alarm sounds continuously, or if you are instructed to do so, you must leave the building by the nearest available exit. You will be directed to the nearest exit by uniformed custodians. It is vital you follow their instructions. You should proceed calmly; do not run and do not use the lifts. Do not stop to collect personal belongings Once you are outside, please do not wait immediately next to the building, but move some distance away and await further instructions. Do not re-enter the building until told to do so.

Extraordinary Council Meeting: Tuesday, 3 March 2015

Motion in the name of Councillor Alison Moore

<u>Libraries</u>

Council recognises that councillors and residents across Barnet strongly value their local libraries for their contributions to culture, literacy and the wider community**.**

Council notes the proposal to cut the Library Service budget by £2.85 million over the next three years, and the consultation on three different options to achieve this which include, in various combinations:

- Closing Mill Hill Library, East Finchley Library, Childs Hill Library, Osidge Library, East Barnet Library and South Friern Library
- reducing floor space by up to 90% at many libraries
- cutting the hours libraries are staffed by up to 60%

Council recognises the strength of public concern about and opposition to these options.

Council notes that the proposed budget cuts do not begin until 2016/17 and therefore LB Barnet has time to re-consider the plans.

Council therefore calls for a halt on plans to cut the library service until LB Barnet has re-consulted residents on a full range of options in order to secure the long-term future of a full professional library service in Barnet. The consultation should include an option to enhance the service provided whilst at least maintaining the current scope and reach of the library service in terms of floor space, opening hours and staffing.

In drawing up these options Council believes LB Barnet should look at:

- maximising the use of alternative funding streams such as developer contributions and government digital investment funds;
- more ambitious and creative income generation, working with local businesses and community organisations;
- developing libraries as community hubs for skills, culture, learning and improving community cohesion and literacy;
- drawing on best practice models from London boroughs and across the country and emerging government responses to the independent Sieghart report on England's public libraries.

Council also asks that the local community, including library users groups, and staff are involved in the development of the options for consultation.

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