

Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET
held at Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4AX, on 15 July 2014

PRESENT:-

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Hugh Rayner)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor David Longstaff)

Councillors:

Maureen Braun	Andreas Ioannidis	Tim Roberts
Rebecca Challice	Dr Devra Kay	Gabriel Rozenberg
Pauline Coakley Webb	Sury Khatri	Lisa Rutter
Dean Cohen	Adam Langleben	Shimon Ryde
Jack Cohen	Kathy Levine	Brian Salinger
Melvin Cohen	John Marshall	Gill Sargeant
Philip Cohen	Kath McGuirk	Joan Scannell
Geof Cooke	Arjun Mittra	Alan Schneiderman
Alison Cornelius	Alison Moore	Daniel Seal
Richard Cornelius	Ammar Naqvi	Mark Shooter
Tom Davey	Nagus Narenthira	Agnes Slocombe
Val Duschinsky	Graham Old	Stephen Sowerby
Paul Edwards	Charlie O-Macauley	Caroline Stock
Claire Farrier	Alon Or-Bach	Daniel Thomas
Anthony Finn	Reema Patel	Reuben Thompstone
Brian Gordon	Bridget Perry	Jim Tierney
Helena Hart	Wendy Prentice	Amy Trevethan
John Hart	Sachin Rajput	Laurie Williams
Ross Houston	Barry Rawlings	Peter Zinkin
Anne Hutton		Zakia Zubairi

1. PRAYER - THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Mayor's Chaplain offered prayer.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor Eva Greenspan and Councillor Kitty Lyons.

3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 2 JUNE 2014

RESOLVED –

That the minutes of the meeting held on 2 June 2014 be approved as a correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

It was noted that dispensations may apply to consideration of item 14.1, subject to item 11.1 on the agenda (Supplementary Report of the Monitoring Officer – Special Dispensations – Disclosure of Pecuniary Interests).

Member:	Subject:	Interest Declared:
Councillor Pauline Coakley-Webb	Question 34	Non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of Friern Barnet Library
Councillor Dean Cohen	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough
Councillor Melvin Cohen	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough
Councillor Philip Cohen	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Non-pecuniary interest as his son is an employee of Barnet Homes.
Councillor Tom Davey	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough
Councillor Helena Hart	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough
Councillor Ross Houston	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Non-pecuniary interest as is a member of Barnet Group Board, and is joint freeholder of a property in the borough.
Councillor Anne Hutton	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good	Non-pecuniary interest as owns a property, not in the borough

	standards in the private rented sector	
Councillor John Marshall	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Non-pecuniary interest as is a member of Barnet Group Board
Councillor Hugh Rayner	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough
Councillor Tim Roberts	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as joint owner of a privately let property in the borough. Cllr Roberts indicated he would leave the meeting for consideration of this item.
Councillor Brian Salinger	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough
Councillor Brian Salinger	Question 34 and Question 18	Non-pecuniary interest as his wife is a Trustee of Friern Barnet Library, and a non-pecuniary interest in road safety matters.
Councillor Gill Sergeant	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Non-pecuniary interest as owns a property in the borough
Councillor Jim Tierney	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Non-pecuniary interest as owns a property in the borough
Councillor Peter Zinkin	14.1 – Opposition Item – Councillor Ross Houston Fairness and good standards in the private rented sector	Pecuniary interest as a private landlord of property in the borough

5. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worshipful the Mayor made the following announcements:

With regret, the Mayor announced the passing of Baroness Doreen Miller. Baroness Miller MBE was created a life peer on 14 October 1993 as Baroness Miller of Hendon, of Gore in the London Borough of Barnet. Baroness Miller passed away on 21-Jun-2014. The Mayor attended the funeral on 26 June in a private capacity.

Dr Irene Hart wife of Councillor John Hart, passed away on 25 June 2014 after a long illness. The Mayor attended the funeral on 10 July in a private capacity.

The Chaplain offered a few words of condolence.

Congratulations were extended to Councillor Thompstone and his wife Dorothy on the birth of a son Thomas.

Congratulations were extended to Councillor Thomas who got married to Victoria in June.

James-Andrew Davis (Cllr Slocombe's grandson) has become the first ever Britain to win the recent European Fencing Championship 2014 title in Strasbourg, France. It was hoped a presentation could be made to the next Council meeting if he is available, as he was currently abroad representing his country.

6. ANY BUSINESS REMAINING FROM THE LAST MEETING

The Worshipful the Mayor stated that item 10 related to issues that have arisen since the Annual Council meeting. There was no other business arising from the last meeting.

VARIATION TO THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Worshipful the Mayor moved that under 6.2 of the Full Council Procedure Rules that the order of business be varied so that items 10.1, 10.2, 10.4 and 10.5 be taken as the next items of business.

The Leader, duly seconded, moved that under Rule 7.2 that Rule 22.2 of the Full Council Procedure Rules regarding the 6 month rule be suspended for Items 10.2, 10.4 and 10.5 only to allow reconsideration of issues related to the outcome of the Constitution, proportionality and committee allocations. Upon being put to the vote, the Motion was declared carried.

RESOLVED - That the 6 month rule be suspended for Items 10.2, 10.4 and 10.5 only to allow reconsideration of issues related to the outcome of the Constitution, proportionality and committee allocations. Upon being put to the vote, the Motion was declared carried.

7. PETITIONS FOR DEBATE (IF ANY)

There were none.

8. REPORT FROM THE LEADER (IF ANY)

There was none.

9. REPORTS FROM COUNCIL COMMITTEES

9.1 REPORT FROM THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Dean Cohen, Chairman of the Environment Committee, introduced the report.

RESOLVED – That Council agree the recommendations in the report as follows:

1. That Environment Committee note the Policy and Resources Committee report as set out in Appendix A;
2. That Environment Committee note the savings target of £5.9 million, and the allocation of the remaining budget gap of £2.5m;
3. That Environment Committee agree membership of working group(s) to develop savings proposals;
4. That Environment Committee agree to report back in the autumn with an agreed commissioning plan and savings proposals for inclusion in the Policy and Resources Committee meeting on 2 December 2014.
5. That Environment Committee note the service information packs included in Appendix B which provide some contextual information on budgets, past spend and performance data, contracts, customer and staffing data.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For: 31
Against: 0
Abstain: 30
Absent: 2

10. REPORT OF OFFICERS

10.1 REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND RETURNING OFFICER

RESOLVED

That Council note the results of the Colindale Ward Election held on Thursday 26 June 2014.

10.2 REVIEW AND ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Chief Executive introduced the item. Debate ensued.

Councillor Alison Moore, seconded by Councillor Barry Rawlings, moved an amendment as follows:

To change the size of the following committees:

1. Reduce Policy & Resources to 11 seats
2. Increase to 11 seats the following committees:
 - Children, Education, Libraries & Safeguarding
 - Assets Regeneration & Growth
 - Adults & Safeguarding
 - Housing
 - Health Overview & Scrutiny

Votes were recorded as follows:

In favour: 29
Against: 31
Absent: 2
Abstentions: 0

The amendment in the name of Councillor Alison Moore was declared lost.

Council considered the report, and separate votes were taken on the recommendations.

RESOLVED:

1. That Council agree that the Constitution be amended to incorporate the changes set out in this report and the track change versions attached at Appendix A to Appendix H.

Votes were recorded as follows:

In favour: 31
Against: 29
Absent: 2
Abstentions: 0

RESOLVED:

2. That, subject to these amendments, the Council adopt its Constitution.

In favour: 31
Against: 29
Absent: 2
Abstentions: 0

10.3 **AFFIRMATION OF DECISIONS MADE SINCE ANNUAL COUNCIL ON 2 JUNE 2014**

The Chief Executive introduced the report. Debate ensued.

RESOLVED -That:

In so far as Committees and Sub Committees of Council have made any decisions since the annual Council meeting held on 2 June 2014, full Council now reaffirms all those decisions.

Votes were recorded as follows:

In favour: 31
Against: 30
Abstain: 0
Absent: 2

10.4 APPENDIX 10.4 - CALCULATION OF POLITICAL BALANCE (PROPORTIONALITY)

The Chief Executive introduced the report. Debate ensued.

Councillor Alison Moore moved an amendment, which was seconded by Councillor Barry Rawlings, as follows:

1. Reduce Policy & Resources to 11 seats (Conservatives 6 / Labour 5)
2. Increase to 11 seats (Conservatives 6 / Labour 5) the following committees:
 - Children, Education, Libraries & Safeguarding
 - Assets Regeneration & Growth
 - Adults & Safeguarding
 - Housing
 - Health Overview & Scrutiny
3. Bring Health & Wellbeing Board into political balance with 3 seats (Conservatives 2 / Labour 1)

Votes were recorded as follows:

In favour: 29
Against: 31
Absent: 2
Abstentions: 0

The amendment was declared lost.

Council considered the recommendations in the report.

RESOLVED –

1. That Council note the political balance of the Council is 32 Members of the Conservative Group; 30 Members of the Labour Group; 1 Liberal Democrat.
2. That Council agree the allocation of seats as set out in the table to this report in order to comply with the political balance regulations requiring seats to be allocated proportionately to the political groups represented on Council.

Votes were recorded as follows:

In favour: 31
Against: 29
Absent: 2
Abstentions: 0

The Worshipful the Mayor noted that recommendation 3 in the report, as below, would be dealt with under item 10.5 on the agenda:

3. That Council determine whether it wishes to allocate a seat(s) to the member not part of a political group on such Committee as Council may determine.

10.5 APPENDIX 10.5 - COMMITTEE ALLOCATIONS AND CHAIRMAN/VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Worshipful the Mayor noted that there was one amendment to the schedules circulated. The Conservative Group have moved Dr Debbie Frost as Vice-Chairman of the Health and Well Being Board, not Cllr Rajput.

Councillor Joan Scannell moved the Conservative Group Membership nominations in her name.

Councillor Ammar Naqvi moved the Labour Group Membership nominations in his name.

RESOLVED – That the Memberships for the Committees and Sub-Committees be agreed.

The Worshipful the Mayor noted that there was contest for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Area Committee, the Chipping Barnet Area Planning Committee, and the Chipping Barnet Residents Forum. Separate votes were taken on the nominations for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of those committees.

At least ten members called for a formal division on the voting on the Conservative Group nominations for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Area Committee. Upon the vote being taken the results of the Division were declared as follows:

	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Maureen Braun	✓			
Rebecca Challice		✓		
Pauline Coakley-Webb		✓		
Dean Cohen	✓			
Jack Cohen			✓	
Melvin Cohen	✓			
Philip Cohen		✓		
Geof Cooke		✓		
Alison Cornelius	✓			
Richard Cornelius	✓			
Tom Davey	✓			

Val Duchinsky	✓			
Paul Edwards		✓		
Claire Farrier		✓		
Anthony Finn	✓			
Brian Gordon	✓			
Eva Greenspan				✓
Helena Hart	✓			
John Hart	✓			
Ross Houston		✓		
Anne Hutton		✓		
Andreas Ioannidis		✓		
Devra Kay		✓		
Sury Khatri	✓			
Adam Langleben		✓		
Kathy Levine		✓		
David Longstaff	✓			
Kitty Lyons				✓
John Marshall	✓			
Kath McGuirk		✓		
Arjun Mittra		✓		
Alison Moore		✓		
Ammar Naqvi		✓		
Nagas Narenthira		✓		
Charlie O'Macauley		✓		
Graham Old	✓			
Alan Or-Bach		✓		
Reema Patel		✓		
Bridget Perry	✓			
Wendy Prentice	✓			
Sachin Rajput	✓			
Barry Rawlings		✓		
Hugh Rayner	✓			
Tim Roberts		✓		
Gabriel Rozenberg	✓			
Lisa Rutter	✓			
Shimon Ryde	✓			
Brian Salinger	✓			
Gill Sargeant		✓		
Joan Scannell	✓			
Alan Schneiderman		✓		
Daniel Seal	✓			
Mark Shooter	✓			
Agnes Slocombe		✓		
Stephen Sowerby	✓			
Caroline Stock	✓			
Daniel Thomas	✓			
Ruben Thompstone	✓			
Jim Tierney		✓		
Amy Trevethan		✓		
Laurie Williams		✓		
Peter Zinkin	✓			

Zakia Zubairi		✓		
---------------	--	---	--	--

For: 31
 Against: 29
 Abstain: 1
 Absent: 2
 TOTAL: 63

RESOLVED – That the Conservative Group nominations for Chairperson and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Area Committee be agreed to.

At least ten members called for a formal division on the voting on the Conservative Group nominations for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Area Planning Committee. Upon the vote being taken the results of the Division were declared as follows:

	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Maureen Braun	✓			
Rebecca Challice		✓		
Pauline Coakley-Webb		✓		
Dean Cohen	✓			
Jack Cohen			✓	
Melvin Cohen	✓			
Philip Cohen		✓		
Geof Cooke		✓		
Alison Cornelius	✓			
Richard Cornelius	✓			
Tom Davey	✓			
Val Duchinsky	✓			
Paul Edwards		✓		
Claire Farrier		✓		
Anthony Finn	✓			
Brian Gordon	✓			
Eva Greenspan				✓
Helena Hart	✓			
John Hart	✓			
Ross Houston		✓		
Anne Hutton		✓		
Andreas Ioannidis		✓		
Devra Kay		✓		
Sury Khatri	✓			
Adam Langleben		✓		
Kathy Levine		✓		
David Longstaff	✓			
Kitty Lyons				✓
John Marshall	✓			
Kath McGuirk		✓		
Arjun Mittra		✓		
Alison Moore		✓		

Ammar Naqvi		✓		
Nagas Narenthira		✓		
Charlie O'Macauley		✓		
Graham Old	✓			
Alan Or-Bach		✓		
Reema Patel		✓		
Bridget Perry	✓			
Wendy Prentice	✓			
Sachin Rajput	✓			
Barry Rawlings		✓		
Hugh Rayner	✓			
Tim Roberts		✓		
Gabriel Rozenberg	✓			
Lisa Rutter	✓			
Shimon Ryde	✓			
Brian Salinger	✓			
Gill Sargeant		✓		
Joan Scannell	✓			
Alan Schneiderman		✓		
Daniel Seal	✓			
Mark Shooter	✓			
Agnes Slocombe		✓		
Stephen Sowerby	✓			
Caroline Stock	✓			
Daniel Thomas	✓			
Ruben Thompstone	✓			
Jim Tierney		✓		
Amy Trevethan		✓		
Laurie Williams		✓		
Peter Zinkin	✓			
Zakia Zubairi		✓		

For: 31
Against: 29
Abstain: 1
Absent: 2
TOTAL: 63

RESOLVED – That the Conservative Group nominations for Chairperson and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Area Planning Committee be agreed to.

At least ten members called for a formal division on the voting on the Conservative Group nominations for the roles of Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Residents Forum. Upon the vote being taken the results of the Division were declared as follows:

	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Maureen Braun	✓			
Rebecca Challice		✓		

Pauline Coakley-Webb		✓		
Dean Cohen	✓			
Jack Cohen			✓	
Melvin Cohen	✓			
Philip Cohen		✓		
Geof Cooke		✓		
Alison Cornelius	✓			
Richard Cornelius	✓			
Tom Davey	✓			
Val Duchinsky	✓			
Paul Edwards		✓		
Claire Farrier		✓		
Anthony Finn	✓			
Brian Gordon	✓			
Eva Greenspan				✓
Helena Hart	✓			
John Hart	✓			
Ross Houston		✓		
Anne Hutton		✓		
Andreas Ioannidis		✓		
Devra Kay		✓		
Sury Khatri	✓			
Adam Langleben		✓		
Kathy Levine		✓		
David Longstaff	✓			
Kitty Lyons				✓
John Marshall	✓			
Kath McGuirk		✓		
Arjun Mittra		✓		
Alison Moore		✓		
Ammar Naqvi		✓		
Nagas Narenthira		✓		
Charlie O'Macauley		✓		
Graham Old	✓			
Alan Or-Bach		✓		
Reema Patel		✓		
Bridget Perry	✓			
Wendy Prentice	✓			
Sachin Rajput	✓			
Barry Rawlings		✓		
Hugh Rayner	✓			
Tim Roberts		✓		
Gabriel Rozenberg	✓			
Lisa Rutter	✓			
Shimon Ryde	✓			
Brian Salinger	✓			
Gill Sargeant		✓		
Joan Scannell	✓			
Alan Schneiderman		✓		
Daniel Seal	✓			
Mark Shooter	✓			

Agnes Slocombe		✓		
Stephen Sowerby	✓			
Caroline Stock	✓			
Daniel Thomas	✓			
Ruben Thompstone	✓			
Jim Tierney		✓		
Amy Trevethan		✓		
Laurie Williams		✓		
Peter Zinkin	✓			
Zakia Zubairi		✓		

For: 31
Against: 29
Abstain: 1
Absent: 2
TOTAL: 63

RESOLVED – That the Conservative Group nominations for Chairperson and Vice-Chairman of the Chipping Barnet Residents Forum be agreed to.

RESOLVED – That the remaining Chairman and Vice-Chairman nominations that are uncontested be agreed.

10.6 APPENDIX 10.6 - CHANGES TO THE CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Chief Executive introduced the report, noting that an amendment in the name of Councillor Alison Moore had been circulated. Debate ensued.

At least ten members called for a formal division on the voting on Councillor Moore's amendment. Upon the vote being taken the results of the Division were declared as follows:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Maureen Braun		✓		
Rebecca Challice	✓			
Pauline Coakley-Webb	✓			
Dean Cohen		✓		
Jack Cohen	✓			
Melvin Cohen		✓		
Philip Cohen	✓			
Geof Cooke	✓			
Alison Cornelius		✓		
Richard Cornelius		✓		
Tom Davey		✓		
Val Duchinsky		✓		
Paul Edwards	✓			
Claire Farrier	✓			
Anthony Finn		✓		
Brian Gordon		✓		
Eva Greenspan				✓

Helena Hart		✓		
John Hart		✓		
Ross Houston	✓			
Anne Hutton	✓			
Andreas Ioannidis	✓			
Devra Kay	✓			
Sury Khatri		✓		
Adam Langleben	✓			
Kathy Levine	✓			
David Longstaff		✓		
Kitty Lyons				✓
John Marshall		✓		
Kath McGuirk	✓			
Arjun Mittra	✓			
Alison Moore	✓			
Ammar Naqvi	✓			
Nagas Narenthira	✓			
Charlie O'Macauley	✓			
Graham Old		✓		
Alan Or-Bach	✓			
Reema Patel	✓			
Bridget Perry		✓		
Wendy Prentice		✓		
Sachin Rajput		✓		
Barry Rawlings	✓			
Hugh Rayner		✓		
Tim Roberts	✓			
Gabriel Rozenberg		✓		
Lisa Rutter		✓		
Shimon Ryde		✓		
Brian Salinger		✓		
Gill Sargeant	✓			
Joan Scannell		✓		
Alan Schneiderman	✓			
Daniel Seal		✓		
Mark Shooter		✓		
Agnes Slocombe	✓			
Stephen Sowerby		✓		
Caroline Stock		✓		
Daniel Thomas		✓		
Ruben Thompstone		✓		
Jim Tierney	✓			
Amy Trevethan	✓			
Laurie Williams	✓			
Peter Zinkin		✓		
Zakia Zubairi	✓			

For: 30
Against: 31
Abstain: 0

Absent: 2
TOTAL: 63

The amendment was declared lost.

RESOLVED – That Council

1. Note the changes to the calendar of meetings contained in the table in the report.
2. Agree 28th July 2014 as the date for the rescheduled meetings of the Area Planning Committees

10.7 **APPENDIX 10.7 - APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE COUNCIL TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Chief Executive introduced the report and supplemental report.

The Conservative Group Secretary, Councillor Joan Scannell, moved the Conservative Group nominations for the London Borough of Barnet representation on the North London Waste plan and Planning Members Group in her name.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Melvin Cohen be appointed as the LBB representative on the North London Waste Planning, Planning Members Group and Councillor Braun as Deputy.

The Conservative Group Secretary, Councillor Joan Scannell, moved the Conservative Group nominations for the London Borough of Barnet representation on the North London Waste Authority in her name.

RESOLVED – That Councillor Mark Shooter be appointed as the LBB representative on the North London Waste Authority.

The Labour Group Secretary, Councillor Ammar Naqvi, moved the Labour Group nominations for the London Borough of Barnet representation on the Grahame Park Partnership Board

RESOLVED – That Councillors Gill Sargeant and Zakia Zubairi be appointed as representatives on the Grahame Park Partnership Board.

RESOLVED – That Council specifically delegates authority to the representatives and substitutes appointed to the London Councils Grants Committee on 2 June 2014 to act on its behalf in connection with the Grants Scheme.

10.8 **APPENDIX 10.8 - APPOINTMENT OF CO-OPTED MEMBER OF THE CHILDREN, EDUCATION, LIBRARIES AND SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE**

The Chief Executive introduced the report.

RESOLVED – That Council approve the appointment of Mrs Marilyn Nathan as co-opted member to the Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee, representing voluntary aided Jewish schools.

10.9 REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER

The Worshipful the Mayor introduced the Report of the Monitoring Officer: Scheme of Members Allowances 2014/15. Debate ensued. A separate vote was taken on each of the recommendations.

On recommendation 1 being put to the vote, votes were recorded as follows:

For: 31
 Against: 0
 Abstain: 30
 Absent: 2

RESOLVED –

- 1 That Council have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors in London as attached at Appendix 'A'.
- 2 That Council approve the Scheme of Members Allowances attached at Appendix 'B' covering the period 1 April 2014- 31 March 2015 and revokes the existing scheme.
- 3 The Council ratifies payments made to councillors between 31st March to the 3rd June 2014.

At 8.21pm the Worshipful the Mayor invoked Meeting Procedure Rules paragraph 8.2 to adjourn the meeting due to disruption.

The meeting re-convened at 8.40pm.

The Chief Executive introduced the Supplemental Report of the Monitoring Officer: Dispensations – Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

At least ten members called for a formal division on the voting on recommendation 1. Upon the vote being taken the results of the Division were declared as follows:

Councillor	For	Against	Abstain	Absent
Maureen Braun	✓			
Rebecca Challice		✓		
Pauline Coakley-Webb		✓		
Dean Cohen	✓			
Jack Cohen		✓		
Melvin Cohen	✓			
Philip Cohen		✓		
Geof Cooke		✓		
Alison Cornelius	✓			
Richard Cornelius	✓			
Tom Davey	✓			
Val Duchinsky	✓			
Paul Edwards		✓		
Claire Farrier		✓		

Anthony Finn	✓			
Brian Gordon	✓			
Eva Greenspan				✓
Helena Hart	✓			
John Hart	✓			
Ross Houston		✓		
Anne Hutton		✓		
Andreas Ioannidis		✓		
Devra Kay		✓		
Sury Khatri	✓			
Adam Langleben		✓		
Kathy Levine		✓		
David Longstaff	✓			
Kitty Lyons				✓
John Marshall	✓			
Kath McGuirk		✓		
Arjun Mittra		✓		
Alison Moore		✓		
Ammar Naqvi		✓		
Nagas Narenthira		✓		
Charlie O'Macauley		✓		
Graham Old	✓			
Alan Or-Bach		✓		
Reema Patel		✓		
Bridget Perry	✓			
Wendy Prentice	✓			
Sachin Rajput	✓			
Barry Rawlings		✓		
Hugh Rayner	✓			
Tim Roberts		✓		
Gabriel Rozenberg	✓			
Lisa Rutter	✓			
Shimon Ryde	✓			
Brian Salinger	✓			
Gill Sargeant		✓		
Joan Scannell	✓			
Alan Schneiderman		✓		
Daniel Seal	✓			
Mark Shooter	✓			
Agnes Slocombe		✓		
Stephen Sowerby	✓			
Caroline Stock	✓			
Daniel Thomas	✓			
Ruben Thompstone	✓			
Jim Tierney		✓		
Amy Trevethan		✓		
Laurie Williams		✓		
Peter Zinkin	✓			
Zakia Zubairi		✓		

For: 31
Against: 30
Abstain: 0
Absent: 2

Supplementary Report of the Monitoring Officer

The Chief Executive introduced the Supplementary Report of the Monitoring Officer detailing applications received from Councillors for dispensations under s33 of the Localism Act 2011.

RESOLVED – That Council having considered those applications grant the requests for dispensations to remain, speak and vote on specified matters as set out in the report in paragraphs 2.4 and 3.1, with the dispensations being effective until the next Council elections for paragraph 2.4 and for this meeting only for paragraph 3.1.

On recommendation 2 being put to the vote, votes were recorded as follows:

For: 31
Against: 0
Abstain: 27
Absent: 2

RESOLVED – That Council delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to grant dispensations in future, with any dispensation granted being reported to the relevant Committee where the dispensation is relevant.

On recommendation 3 being put to the vote, votes were recorded as follows:

For: 31
Against: 0
Abstain: 25
Absent: 2

RESOLVED – That Council delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make changes to the Code of Conduct to reflect these decisions after paragraph 12.5 to reflect these decisions.

11. QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES OF OUTSIDE BODIES (IF ANY)

There were none.

12. QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER

The questions, together with the answers provided and the text of any supplementary questions and answers, are set out in Appendix 1 to the minutes.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved that time for transaction of business be extend to 10:30pm under Meeting Procedure rule 14.2.

13. ADMINISTRATION BUSINESS ITEMS

The Conservative Group Secretary stated that of the two business items put forward by the Administration, the Administration had chosen to debate item 13.1.

13.1 COUNCILLOR RICHARD CORNELIUS - THE SAVINGS CONTEXT FOR MEMBER POLICY-MAKING

Councillor Richard Cornelius moved the Administration Business item in his name. Debate ensued. Upon being put to the vote, the Administration Business item in the name of Richard Cornelius was declared carried. The votes were recorded as follows:

For: 31
Against: 30
Abstain: 0
Absent: 2

RESOLVED – Council notes that the council has saved over £70m from our budget since 2010 and welcomes the fact that, in doing so, we have been able to meet the funding challenge that we faced as a result of the financial crisis, growing demographic pressures and a substantial reduction in funding from central government.

Council recognises, though, that despite strong growth returning to Barnet and the economy as a whole, as result of the Conservative-led Coalition’s long-term economic plan, there are still demographic-related increases in service demand and a further necessity to cut local government funding to help remove the nation’s budget deficit. Council notes that both the Conservative Party and the Labour Party have indicated that significant reductions in spending will follow the 2015 General Election.

Council believes that we will be required to save a further £72m from the budget by 2020. Council notes that this target was accepted by both parties at the inaugural Policy and Resources Committee. Council welcomes that the new committee system will enable this consensus to be democratically expressed. Council believes that the system provides the scope for all members to actively engage with the policy-making process. Council applauds the committees that have met for acknowledging the reality of the situation, unanimously agreeing their savings targets and, generally, beginning to work in a collegial manner.

Council further recognises that there remains a £20m budget gap, to be addressed in order to reach the £72m savings requirement, and calls upon committees and their working groups to give consideration to this in their work. In this spirit, Council calls upon all Members to think of, and work towards achieving, economies and cost savings in order both to meet our new financial challenge and protect the services we want to protect. Council calls on Members to keep this context in mind throughout the policy-making process and thus, similarly, not bring forward proposals to reverse policy without having identified an appropriate compensating saving.

13.2 COUNCILLOR HELENA HART - OUTDOOR GYMS AND ASSISTING HEALTHY LIVING

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 23.5 Councillor Helena Hart moved the Administration Business item in her name, which was put the vote without discussion. Upon being put to the vote the item was declared carried.

RESOLVED - Council welcomes the recent launch of Outdoor Gyms in seven parks across the Borough and believes that, in conjunction with the nine Marked and Measured Routes installed earlier this year, they will help residents of all ages and abilities to keep fit and healthy. Council notes their introduction is part of the wider Fit and Active Barnet scheme, which is encouraging residents across the Borough to take more exercise. These new Outdoor Gyms, mainly funded by the Council's new Public Health Department in co-operation with the Greenspaces team, are a prime example of how the Council can work together across departments to encourage and support residents to live more healthily. Council recognises the importance of encouraging and achieving healthy lifestyles for our residents, both in terms of preventing and managing long term health issues and reducing the demand on public services. Measures to manage and reduce demand on local health services and social care services will be crucial both if the Council is to stand any chance of finding the savings it requires and to prevent yet further calls upon its finances. Council therefore calls upon the relevant committees and the Health and Wellbeing Board in particular to work alongside our partner organisations to find further ways to assist and encourage residents to lead healthy lives.

14. OPPOSITION BUSINESS ITEMS

The Labour Group Secretary stated that of the two business items put forward by the Opposition, the Opposition had chosen to debate item 14.1.

14.1 COUNCILLOR ROSS HOUSTON - FAIRNESS AND GOOD STANDARDS IN THE PRIVATE RENTED SECTOR

Councillor Tim Roberts left the meeting for consideration of this item.

Councillor Ross Houston moved the Opposition Business item in his name. Councillor Graham Old moved his amendment. Debate ensued. Upon being put to the vote, the amendment in the name of Councillor Graham Old was declared carried. Votes were as follows:

For: 31
Against: 29
Abstentions: 0
Absent: 3

On being put to the vote, the substantive motion, as amended by Councillor Old was declared carried. Votes were as followed:

For: 31
Against: 0
Abstentions: 25

Absent: 3

RESOLVED –

That Council notes that

- **The private rented sector is not regulated, standards in the sector are variable with action taken by the council against hazards at 469 tenanted dwellings in the last three years, and poor standards can lead to anti-social behaviour.**
- **Barnet has some of the highest private sector rents in outer-London, with some landlords charging rents at a higher Local Housing Allowance rate than market rents - a practice that costs the tax payer more in housing benefit.**
- **There is a voluntary accreditation scheme (London Landlord Accreditation Scheme) for private landlords endorsed by Mayor Boris Johnson and LB Barnet which aims to ensure good standards and fairness in the sector, as well as Mayor Johnson's London Rental Standard which sets universal standards for landlord accreditation schemes.**
- **Increasing housing supply is vitally important in keeping rents down.**

Council therefore asks that the Housing Committee:

- **Considers ways of persuading more landlords to join the voluntary accreditation scheme.**
- **Works with the relevant public and private agencies to find initiatives to increase the supply of property in the private sector to rent.**

The meeting finished at 10.06 pm