

## **Extraordinary Council Meeting**

### **Opposition Business Item- Councillor Alison Moore**

#### **'No confidence' in Barnet's Conservative Leader and Cabinet**

#### **Amendment in the name of Councillor Kath McGuirk**

#### **Delete the final paragraph and replace with:**

Council also notes that, in addition to the risks being taken to outsource £1 billion worth of services, 'One Barnet' has also 'transformed' other council services in the following way:

- Friern Barnet Library has been closed
- Parking charges have been hiked by up to 300% in one year
- Parking meters have been removed, and pay-by-phone parking has been imposed
- Sheltered housing wardens have been cut
- Charges for disabled Blue Badge permits have been introduced
- More vulnerable people are being charged for home care help
- 8 children's centres have been closed
- Affordable child care funding has been cut
- Funding for Day Centres for the elderly is being cut
- Church Farm House Museum has been closed and its historical artefacts sold-off
- More private events in our parks are being allowed
- The welfare rights service that helped vulnerable and elderly residents claim the benefits they are entitled to has been axed

Given the level of risk involved in the procurement of these two enormous One Barnet contracts, NSCSO and DRS, the gambling of £1 billion of council tax payers' money that this involves, and the scandal of the abovementioned service 'transformations', Council resolves that the Executive Leader be removed from office and that a vote be taken on electing a new Leader who can propose a new way forward for Barnet Council and appoint a new Cabinet.

#### **Substantive item to read:**

Council believes that this Conservative administration has completely lost its way over the One Barnet Programme.

Council believes the process to outsource 70% of council services in two large contracts under One Barnet has been dogged by a lack of transparency. Scrutiny of One Barnet by elected councillors has been severely compromised by the administration scrapping the dedicated One Barnet Scrutiny Panel, and by

preventing administration and opposition councillors outside the Cabinet from having sufficient time to scrutinise detailed financial information for the project – information which has been presented to elected members on blue exempt papers at the beginning of committee meetings, and then taken away at the end of the agenda item. Council notes that the One Barnet Programme has so far not made any net savings, and that we are now in the third year of the programme. In fact the One Barnet Programme has actually incurred a net cost for the Council of at least £663,000.

Council further notes that the Leader and Deputy Leader seem to disagree over the appropriateness of the preferred model for the Development and Regulatory Services contract – Joint Venture – and that therefore the project seems to be in complete disarray.

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