Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET held at Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ, on 20 October 2015

PRESENT:-

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Mark Shooter)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Alison Cornelius)

Councillors:

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

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Claire Farrier Councillor Kitty Lyons

Councillor Charlie O-Macauley

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Charlie O'Macaulay, Councillor Claire Farrier and Councillor Kitty Lyons.

2. ELECT A MEMBER TO PRESIDE IF THE MAYOR IS ABSENT

The Worshipful the Mayor was present.

3. PRAYER

The Mayor's chaplain, Dayan Yonason Abraham, offered prayers.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following interests were declared:

Member	Subject	Interest declared
Councillor John Marshall	Items 11.4 and 17	Non pecuniary interest as he is a council appointed Director on the Board of the Barnet Group
Councillor Helena Hart	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as she is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Hart to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Hugh Rayner	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Rayner to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Melvin Cohen	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest on political grounds as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Melvin Cohen to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Dean Cohen	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Melvin Cohen to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Brian Salinger	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Salinger to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Tom Davey	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Davey to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Adam Langleben	Item 11.5 Report of the Housing Committee – Housing	A non-pecuniary interest in item 11.5 is he is a trustee of the West Hendon Community Trust Fund and West

	Strategy and Commissioning Plan, and item 14.1 Joint motion – Syrian refugee crisis.	Hendon Partnership Board, and a non-pecuniary interest in item 14.1 as he is a member of one of the synagogues which has been lobbying.
Councillor Tim Roberts	Item 11.5 Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Roberts to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Peter Zinkin	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	A disclosable pecuniary interest as he is a private landlord in the borough. It was noted that a dispensation had been granted for Cllr Zinkin to speak and vote on this item.
Councillor Simon Ryde	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	Non pecuniary interest as is a Board Member of a Housing Association
Councillor Eva Greenspan	Item 11.5 – Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	Non pecuniary interest as is a Board Member and Trustee of a Housing Association.
Councillor Ross Houston	11.4 – Report of Policy and Resources Committee – The Barnet Group and 11.5 - Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	Non-pecuniary interest as a Council appointed representative on the Board of The Barnet Group. He noted that he would not be voting on item 11.5.
Councillor Kath McGuirk	11.5 - Report of the Housing Committee – Housing Strategy and Commissioning Plan	Non-pecuniary interest relating to social housing tenancy with Genesis. Her daughter was applying to Barnet Council, but she was not on the electoral register
Councillor Arjun Mittra	11.4 – Report of Policy and Resources Committee – The Barnet Group	Non-pecuniary interest as his family are tenants of Barnet Homes
Councillor Geof Cooke	11.2 – Referral from Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee – Land to the rear of 71 Holden Road	Non-pecuniary interest as he used to share an office with one of the objectors.

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting of 28 July 2015 were agreed as a correct record, subject to the amendment of two typographical errors noting that items 17 and 20 should state 'The Worshipful the Mayor' rather than 'the Right Worshipful the Mayor'.

6. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worshipful the Mayor announced he was pleased to advise Council of a letter he had written to Her Majesty the Queen on behalf of Council on 9 September stating:

"On behalf of the Council and Citizens of the London Borough of Barnet, it gives me great pleasure to send to Her Majesty The Queen, 'Loyal Greetings' and congratulations on the occasion of becoming Great Britain's longest reigning monarch.

We would like to express our gratitude for Her Majesty's dedicated and selfless contribution to the life of our Borough, our Nation and the Commonwealth."

The Worshipful the Mayor welcomed to the Council meeting representatives from Citizens UK, Middlesex University and a number of Barnet synagogues who were in attendance in support of the Council's motion on the Syrian Refugee crisis later on in the agenda. He noted that the representatives were welcome to stay for the meeting and the Council thanked them for their support.

The Worshipful the Mayor noted that since the last Council meeting there had been a Barnet war memorial relocation of a Hendon war memorial where a plaque was given for the lost service soldiers from Hendon of the Second World War which had not been there previously.

He further noted several successes and achievements. Since the last meeting of Council, Barnet students had won a film competition which had received 500 entries national. Barnet's entry came first with an anti-smoking campaign advert. Also, the Advocacy in Barnet group had recently won the Queens Award which was presented by the Deputy Lieutenant. The Mayor noted Barnet had also held its first ever Silver Sunday celebration for Barnet's elderly people in the Town Hall which was a great success and which he hoped would be continued going forward.

In relation to procedural matters, the Worshipful the Mayor reminded Members that supplementary Council Questions need to be questions and not speeches.

7. ANY BUSINESS REMAINING FROM LAST MEETING

There was none.

8. QUESTIONS TO THE LEADER (AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN IF HE/SHE HAS DELEGATED)

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.

9. PETITIONS FOR DEBATE

There were none.

10. REPORTS FROM THE LEADER

There was none.

11. REPORTS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES (IF ANY)

11.1 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE 2014/15

Councillor Brian Salinger moved reception and adoption of the recommendations set out in the report of the Audit Committee. Debate ensued.

Upon being put to the vote the recommendations in the report of the Audit Committee Community were declared carried.

RESOLVED that Council note the Annual Report of the Audit Committee for 2014/15.

11.2 REFERRAL FROM ASSETS REGENERATION AND GROWTH COMMITTEE - LAND TO THE REAR OF 71 HOLDEN ROAD, NORTH FINCHLEY, N12 7DR

Councillor Daniel Thomas moved reception and adoption of the recommendations set out in the report of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee, and the supplementary report to Council as tabled. Councillor Geof Cooke moved his amendment. Debate ensued.

The amendment in name of Councillor Geof Cooke was put to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows:

For: 27 Against: 32 Abstain: 1 Absent: 3 TOTAL: 63

The amendment was declared lost.

The recommendations as set out in the Supplementary report were put to the vote. Votes were declared as follows:

For: 32
Against: 28
Abstain: 0
Absent: 3
TOTAL: 63

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

	For	Against	Not Voting	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 Duschinsky	✓			
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	✓			
Alon Or-Bach		✓		
Reema Patel		✓		
Bridget Perry	✓			
Wendy Prentice	✓			
Sachin Rajput	✓			

	For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
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	✓			
Reuben Thompstone	✓			
Jim Tierney		✓		
Amy Trevethan		✓		
Laurie Williams		✓		
Peter Zinkin	✓			
Zakia Zubairi		✓		

For: 32
Against: 28
Abstain: 0
Absent: 3
TOTAL: 63

The recommendations in the report were declared carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Considered the objections received
- 2. Declared the land as surplus to the Council's requirements.
- 3. Approved the granting of a two year call option to HGS Properties (Brookdene Holden Road Ltd) to purchase the public open space land at the rear of 71 Holden Road on a 150 year lease subject to (i) planning, (ii) a tree maintenance plan (iii) compliance with the requirements so far as applicable of the Localism Act 2011 and The Assets of Community Value (England) regulations 2012 and (iv) the requirements of s 123 of the Local Government Act 1972 to obtain the best price that can be reasonably obtained. A condition of the lease will be that the public are afforded access to the amenity land.

- 4. Delegated authority to the Chief Operating Officer in consultation with the Chairman of the Assets Regeneration and Growth Committee to negotiate and finalise the terms of the Lease including the 2 year call option.
- 5. Agreed that a Local Wildlife Group be consulted in the drawing up of the Woodland Management Plan.

11.3 REFERRAL FROM CHILDREN EDUCATION LIBRARIES AND SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE - BARNET'S FUTURE LIBRARY SERVICE

Councillor Reuben Thompstone moved reception and adoption of the recommendations set out in the report of the Children Education Libraries and Safeguarding Committee. Councillor Anne Hutton moved her amendment. Debate ensued.

The amendment in name of Councillor Anne Hutton was put to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows:

For: 28 Against: 32 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3 TOTAL: 63

The amendment was declared lost.

The recommendations as set out in the report were put to the vote. Votes were declared as follows:

	For	Against	Not Voting	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 Duschinsky	✓			
Paul Edwards		✓		
Claire Farrier				✓
Anthony Finn	✓			
Brian Gordon	✓			
Eva Greenspan	✓			
Helena Hart	✓			
John Hart	✓			

	For	Against	Not Voting	Absent
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	✓			
Alon 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	✓			
Reuben Thompstone	✓			
Jim Tierney		✓		
Amy Trevethan		✓		
Laurie Williams		√		
Peter Zinkin	✓			
Zakia Zubairi		✓		

For: 32 Against: 28 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3 TOTAL: 63

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

For: 32
Against: 28
Abstain: 0
Absent: 3
TOTAL: 63

The recommendations in the report were declared carried.

RESOLVED -

- 1. That the Council consider consultation findings on Barnet's future library service that took place between the 10th November 2014 and 22nd February 2015 set out in full in Appendix E.
- 2. That the Council consider the revised options appraisal and proposal for Barnet's future library service contained in Appendix A and summarised in paragraph's 1.11 to 1.22.2 of the report.
- 3. That the Council agree that the proposal for Barnet's future library service contained in Appendix A and summarised in paragraph's 1.11 to 1.22.2 (below) are approved for further public consultation.
- 4. That Council approve the commencement of a further round of public consultation on this proposal in accordance with the consultation plan as set out in section 5.11 of the report.
- 5. That the Commissioning Director for Children and Young People, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, is delegated by the Children's, Education, Library and Safeguarding Committee to approve the final consultation design.
- 6. That the Council note that a further report will be presented to the Committee reporting the results of the consultation with a recommendation for a final decision.
- 7. That the Council note the further requirement for future funding to support the implementation of these proposals, as set out in paragraph 5.7 of the report.

11.4 REPORT OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - THE BARNET GROUP - CREATION OF NEW LEGAL ENTITY AND SUBSIDIARY

The Worshipful the Mayor called on Councillor Richard Cornelius to introduce the report. It was noted that if Members had any questions relating to information contained in the exempt report they would need to be heard at the end of the meeting in exempt session. There were no such questions.

Councillor Richard Cornelius introduced the report, noting that Policy and Resources Committee had made an amendment to recommendation 1. in the report that the finalisation, agreement and sealing of the Shareholder Agreement with The Barnet Group be authorised by the Commissioning Director Growth and Development in consultation with the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee. Debate ensued.

Separate votes were taken on each of the recommendations as set out in the report. Votes on recommendation one, as amended by Policy and Resources Committee, were declared as follows:

For: 32
Against: 0
Abstain: 28
Absent: 3
TOTAL: 63

Votes on recommendation two were declared as follows:

For: 60 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3 TOTAL: 63

Votes on recommendation three were declared as follows:

For: 32
Against: 27
Abstain: 1
Absent: 3
TOTAL: 63

The recommendations were declared carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Authorises the Commissioning Director, Growth and Development in consultation with the Chairman of Policy and Resources Committee to finalise, agree and seal the Shareholder Agreement with The Barnet Group.
- 2. Approves the creation of a Registered Provider subsidiary of Barnet Homes.
- 3. Approves the creation of a new The Barnet Group Terms and Conditions Trading Company.

11.5 REPORT OF HOUSING COMMITTEE - HOUSING STRATEGY AND COMMISSIONING PLAN

Councillor Tom Davey moved reception and adoption of the recommendations set out in the report of the Housing Committee. Councillor Ross Houston moved his amendment. Debate ensued.

The amendment in name of Councillor Ross Houston was put to the vote. Votes were recorded as follows:

For: 28 Against: 32 Abstain: 0 Absent: 3 TOTAL: 63

The amendment was declared lost.

The recommendations as set out in the report were put to the vote. Votes were declared as follows:

For: 31
Against: 28
Abstain: 1
Absent: 3
TOTAL: 63

The recommendations were declared carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Approve the final Housing Strategy at Appendix A.
- 2. Approve the final Commissioning Plan at Appendix B.

12. REPORTS OF OFFICERS

12.1 REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE - WEST LONDON ECONOMIC PROSPERITY BOARD - CALL-IN PROCEDURE

The Chief Executive moved reception and adoption of the recommendations set out in the report. It was noted there was a typographical error in paragraph 15.3 of Appendix A, with two missing words; the sentence should read 'Where a decision is made by the Board the decision shall be published.'

The recommendations as set out in the report were put to the vote, and were declared carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Agree the proposed call-in mechanism for decisions made by the West London Economic Prosperity Board, as set out in Appendix A.
- 2. Amend the Constitution as set out in Appendices A and B.
- 3. Recommend to Performance and Contract Management Committee that, in line with this call-in mechanism, it establishes a sub-committee to respond to any items referred to it from the West London Economic Prosperity Board.

12.2 REPORT OF HEAD OF GOVERNANCE

The Head of Governance moved reception and adoption of the recommendations set out in the report.

The recommendations as set out in Appendix A to the report were put to the vote, and were declared carried.

The recommendations as set out in Appendix B to the report were put to the vote, and were declared carried.

Councillor Joan Scannell moved her amendments to Appendix C, as tabled, which were duly seconded. Council noted that the party conference dates for 2016 and 2017 had not been finalised. As such, there may be a need to revise committee dates in September and October of these years to accommodate the conferences.

The recommendations in Appendix C as amended were put to the vote and declared carried.

RESOLVED that Council:

- 1. Note the changes to the Calendar of Meetings 2014/15 in Appendix A
- 2. Approve an increase the membership of the Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel to 10 members, as set out in Appendix B
- 3. Appoint Councillor Shimon Ryde to the Corporate Parenting Advisory Panel, as set out in Appendix B
- 4. Endorse the Calendar of Meetings 2016/17 and 2017/18 as attached in Appendix C
- 5. Authorise the Head of Governance to facilitate variations to the calendars in consultation with the Chairman of the General Functions Committee and the Leaders of the main Political Parties.
- 6. Agree that any changes should be reported to the next Council Meeting.

13. QUESTIONS TO COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

There were none.

14. MOTIONS (45 MINUTES)

14.1 JOINT MOTION IN THE NAMES OF CLLR RICHARD CORNELIUS, CLLR ALISON MOORE AND CLLR JACK COHEN - SYRIAN REFUGEE CRISIS

The Worshipful the Mayor moved under Council Procedure Rules 7.1 and 7.2 for the Suspension of Full Council Procedure Rule 2(14) to ask Council to agree to take a joint motion in the names of Councillor Richard Cornelius, Councillor Alison Moore and Councillor Jack Cohen. The suspension of Council Procedure Rules was duly agreed, and debate ensued.

Council voted on the joint motion, and the motion was duly carried.

RESOLVED -

Council has great sympathy for the plight of refugees, notably those driven from their homes in Syria.

Council notes that the current refugee crisis is the greatest such crisis in Europe since World War II and represents the largest mass movement of people fleeing their homes and livelihoods since that war, with 4.1m people having fled Syria, and a further 7.6m internally displaced.

The scenes of human suffering played out daily on the news make us all conscious of the need for supranational and British Government action to end the conflict and allow normal life to be restored.

Council recognises that the vast majority of refugees that have fled Syria have been absorbed by neighbouring countries and notes that the UK has delivered over £1bn in aid, including large sums to support refugees in those neighbouring countries.

Council also notes that the government has agreed to resettle 20,000 refugees over 5 years in the UK.

Council recognises that Barnet is a place with acute pressures on housing. However it is a large borough with a proud tradition of helping those seeking refuge and is home to refugees and their descendants from all over the world. Indeed it is a borough whose own success has, in no small part, been built on the success of those who have previously sought refuge.

Council feels it would be wrong to shut our eyes to the situation of those in danger. Barnet therefore thanks the large number of residents who have already volunteered, donated or offered to assist those in need, and applauds the work of community organisations, notably Citizens UK, who have identified housing, schooling, GPs and even offers of employment in the borough.

Council commits to support their endeavours and to use its position as the leading organisation in the borough to inspire such generosity and enable others. Subject to compatibility with the government scheme and suitable funding, so as not to disadvantage our existing residents, we would commit to helping the community resettle at least 50 Syrian refugees in the borough as extra accommodation is found.

Council further recognises that many more people are likely to end up in the London boroughs as a result of this conflict, arriving via other channels (such as internal migration within the UK following initial resettlement). Council calls upon the Chief Executive to begin preparing plans to deal with this.

In the meantime, Council calls on officers to continue to take practical steps to support residents in assisting with the crisis; sign-posting information to help people donate and volunteer their services, such as those of a linguistic nature, or coordinate offers of accommodation.

Council notes that national government has the leading role in identifying, transporting and supporting refugees, but that every local authority in the UK has a part it can play. Council confirms that Barnet will do its bit.

Council therefore calls upon the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State and inform him of our borough's readiness to assist those in dire need, as we have done before and will do so again in the future.

14.2 OPPOSITION MOTION IN THE NAME OF CLLR ALAN SCHNEIDERMAN - ROADS AND PAVEMENTS

Councillor Alan Schneiderman moved his motion and requested that under Council Procedure Rule 23.5 the Motion be referred to Environment Committee for consideration, which was duly agreed.

RESOLVED that under Council Procedure Rule 23.5 the Motion be referred to Environment Committee for consideration

15. MOTIONS FOR ADJOURNMENT

There were none.

16. REPORT OF POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - THE BARNET GROUP - CREATION OF NEW LEGAL ENTITY AND SUBSIDIARY (EXEMPT)

RESOLVED that Council note the exempt report.

The meeting finished at 9.53 pm