

## Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET  
held at Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ, on 3 March 2020

### PRESENT:-

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Caroline Stock)  
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Lachhya Bahadur Gurung)

### Councillors:

Golnar Bokaei	Brian Gordon	Sachin Rajput
Jess Brayne	Eva Greenspan	Danny Rich
Felix Byers	Jennifer Grocock	Helene Richman
Anne Clarke	Rohit Grover	Tim Roberts
Alison Cornelius	John Hart	Gabriel Rozenberg
Pauline Coakley Webb	Ross Houston	Lisa Rutter
Melvin Cohen	Anne Hutton	Shimon Ryde
Sara Conway	Laithe Jajeh	Alan Schneiderman
Jo Cooper	Kathy Levine	Mark Shooter
Geof Cooke	David Longstaff	Thomas Smith
Richard Cornelius	John Marshall	Stephen Sowerby
Saira Don	Kath McGuirk	Julian Teare
Val Duschinsky	Arjun Mittra	Daniel Thomas
Paul Edwards	Alison Moore	Reuben Thompstone
Claire Farrier	Ammar Naqvi	Roberto Weeden-Sanz
Anthony Finn	Nagus Narenthira	Laurie Williams
Nizza Fluss	Reema Patel	Peter Zinkin
Linda Freedman	Alex Prager	Zakia Zubairi

### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor Elliot Simberg, Councillor Dean Cohen, Councillor Wendy Prentice, Councillor Sarah Wardle, Councillor Gill Sargeant, Councillor Charlie O-Macauley and Councillor Barry Rawlings.

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

The Worshipful the Mayor was present.

### 3. PRAYER

Rabbi Berger was called upon by the Worshipful the Mayor to speak to Council and say prayers.

### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Geoff Cooke declared a non-pecuniary interest in relation to agenda item 12.4 (Referral from Policy and Resources Committee - Pension Fund Administration) by virtue

of the fact that his wife and one of his daughters are ex-employees of the council with deferred benefits in the pension fund.

## **5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting dated 28 January 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

## **6. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Worshipful the Mayor noted that all were aware of the fast-moving situation with Coronavirus, a new virus with limited accurate understanding of its characteristics. The Mayor noted that Barnet Public Health were working closely with Public Health England and the NHS and that any updates would be sent to Councillors, with the NHS website providing daily updates and advice. The Mayor advised that as new information arose, the Council would take appropriate action.

The Worshipful the Mayor was delighted to announce that Livability, a disability charity in Edgware that connects people with their communities, had celebrated an Outstanding grade from CQC. The Council had also welcomed a Royal Visit to the borough on Wednesday 19th February by HRH, The Princess Royal, who is the Charity's patron.

## **7. ANY BUSINESS REMAINING FROM LAST MEETING**

There were none.

## **8. RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

The Deputy Mayor moved the following resolution:

“That we the Members of the Council of the London Borough of Barnet, hereby express to The Worshipful the Mayor, Councillor Caroline Stock, our appreciation of the excellent service she has rendered to the London Borough of Barnet as its Mayor during the period May 2019 to May 2020, and for the friendly and conscientious way in which she has performed the duties of that office.

We offer her our sincere gratitude for the concern that she has shown at all times in promoting the welfare of the Borough and its residents, particularly for her willingness to support the many organisations and individuals who called on her time and services during her Mayoralty.

We congratulate her on the success of her appeals for her charities Home-start Barnet and Cherry Lodge”

This was duly agreed, with the foregoing resolution to be engrossed over the common seal of the corporation and presented to The Worshipful Mayor at the Annual Meeting.

## **9. THE MAYORALTY FOR THE MUNICIPAL YEAR 2020 - 2021**

The Worshipful the Mayor called for nominations for election of Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet for 2020/21. She noted that there were two nominations for Mayor Designate.

### **Conservative Group Nomination**

Councillor Linda Freedman, duly seconded by Councillor Daniel Thomas, moved that Councillor Brian Gordon be proposed for the appointment of Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet at the Annual meeting of the Council on 19 May 2020.

### **Labour Group Nomination**

Councillor Arjun Mittra, duly seconded by Councillor Laurie Williams, moved that Councillor Anne Clarke be proposed for the appointment of Mayor of the London Borough of Barnet at the Annual meeting of the Council on 19 May 2020

On the nominations put to the vote, votes were recorded as follows:

For Brian Gordon – 33  
For Cllr Anne Clare – 23

Councillor Brian Gordon was duly nominated as Mayor Designate.

**RESOLVED that Councillor Brian Gordon be nominated as Mayor Designate.**

Councillor Brian Gordon thanked those present for his nomination and nominated Councillor Saira Don to be his Deputy Mayor Designate.

## **10. PETITIONS FOR DEBATE**

There were none.

## **11. REPORTS FROM THE LEADER**

There were none.

## **12. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

### **12.1 REFERRAL FROM ADULTS AND SAFEGUARDING COMMITTEE - FEES AND CHARGES - CHANGES TO FAIRER CONTRIBUTION POLICY**

Councillor Sachin Rajput, Chairman of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee, moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. Debate ensued.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were agreed.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	35
Against	21
Abstain	0
Absent	7
Total	63

**RESOLVED that Council approve recommendations 1A and 1B set out in Annex 1.**

**12.2 REFERRAL FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - BUSINESS PLANNING - MEDIUM TERM, FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2020-25, BUDGET MANAGEMENT 2019/20 AND BUDGET FOR 2020/21**

Councillor Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the Report. Councillor Ross Houston moved the Labour Group amendment and Councillor Gabriel Rozenberg moved the Liberal Democrat amendment. Debate ensued.

The Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014 and Council Procedure Rule 12.4 requires that voting relating to the budget and Council Tax be recorded.

In accordance with this requirement, voting on the budget decisions was as follows:

Upon being put to the vote, the Labour Alternative Budget was declared lost. Voting on the Labour Alternative Budget was as follows:

Councillor			For	Against	Abstain	Absent
1.	MAYOR Caroline	STOCK		✓		
2.	DEPUTY MAYOR Lachhya	GURUNG		✓		
3.	Golnar	BOKAEI		✓		
4.	Jess	BRAYNE		✓		
5.	Felix	BYERS		✓		
6.	Anne	CLARKE	✓			
7.	Pauline	COAKLEY WEBB	✓			
8.	Dean	COHEN				✓
9.	Melvin	COHEN		✓		
10.	Geof	COOKE	✓			
11.	Jo	COOPER	✓			
12.	Sara	CONWAY	✓			
13.	Alison	CORNELIUS		✓		
14.	Richard	CORNELIUS		✓		
15.	Saira	DON		✓		
16.	Val	DUSCHINSKY		✓		
17.	Paul	EDWARDS	✓			
18.	Claire	FARRIER	✓			
19.	Anthony	FINN		✓		
20.	Nizza	FLUSS		✓		
21.	Linda	FREEDMAN		✓		

Councillor		For	Against	Abstain	Absent
22	Brian	GORDON		✓	
23	Eva	GREENSPAN		✓	
24	Jennifer	GROCOCK		✓	
25	Rohit	GROVER		✓	
26	John	HART		✓	
27	Ross	HOUSTON	✓		
28	Anne	HUTTON	✓		
29	Laithe	JAJEH		✓	
30	Kathy	LEVINE	✓		
31	David	LONGSTAFF		✓	
32	John	MARSHALL		✓	
33	Kath	McGUIRK	✓		
34	Arjun	MITTRA	✓		
35	Alison	MOORE	✓		
36	Ammar	NAQVI	✓		
37	Nagus	NARENTHIRA	✓		
38	Charlie	O-MACAULEY			✓
39	Reema	PATEL	✓		
40	Alex	PRAGER		✓	
41	Wendy	PRENTICE			✓
42	Sachin	RAJPUT		✓	
43	Barry	RAWLINGS			✓
44	Danny	RICH	✓		
45	Helene	RICHMAN		✓	
46	Tim	ROBERTS	✓		
47	Gabriel	ROZENBERG		✓	
48	Lisa	RUTTER		✓	
49	Shimon	RYDE		✓	
50	Gill	SARGEANT			✓
51	Alan	SCHNEIDERMAN	✓		
52	Mark	SHOOTER		✓	
53	Elliot	SIMBERG			✓
54	Thomas	SMITH		✓	
55	Stephen	SOWERBY		✓	
56	Julian	TEARE		✓	
57	Daniel	THOMAS		✓	
58	Ruben	THOMPSTONE		✓	
59	Sarah	WARDLE			✓

Councillor			For	Against	Abstain	Absent
60	Roberto	WEEDEN-SANZ		✓		
61	Laurie	WILLIAMS	✓			
62	Peter	ZINKIN		✓		
63	Zakia	ZUBAIRI	✓			

For	21
Against	35
Abstain	0
Absent	7
Total	63

Upon being put to the vote, the Liberal Democrat Alternative Budget was declared lost. Voting on the Liberal Democrat Alternative Budget was as follows:

Councillor			For	Against	Abstain	Absent
1.	MAYOR Caroline	STOCK		✓		
2.	DEPUTY MAYOR	GURUNG		✓		
3.	Golnar	BOKAEI		✓		
4.	Jess	BRAYNE	✓			
5.	Felix	BYERS		✓		
6.	Anne	CLARKE		✓		
7.	Pauline	COAKLEY WEBB		✓		
8.	Dean	COHEN				✓
9.	Melvin	COHEN		✓		
10	Geof	COOKE		✓		
11	Jo	COOPER		✓		
12	Sara	CONWAY		✓		
13	Alison	CORNELIUS		✓		
14	Richard	CORNELIUS		✓		
15	Saira	DON		✓		
16	Val	DUSCHINSKY		✓		
17	Paul	EDWARDS		✓		
18	Claire	FARRIER		✓		
19	Anthony	FINN		✓		
20	Nizza	FLUSS		✓		
21	Linda	FREEDMAN		✓		

Councillor		For	Against	Abstain	Absent
22	Brian	GORDON		✓	
23	Eva	GREENSPAN		✓	
24	Jennifer	GROCOCK		✓	
25	Rohit	GROVER		✓	
26	John	HART		✓	
27	Ross	HOUSTON		✓	
28	Anne	HUTTON		✓	
29	Laithe	JAJEH		✓	
30	Kathy	LEVINE		✓	
31	David	LONGSTAFF		✓	
32	John	MARSHALL		✓	
33	Kath	McGUIRK		✓	
34	Arjun	MITTRA		✓	
35	Alison	MOORE		✓	
36	Ammar	NAQVI		✓	
37	Nagus	NARENTHIRA		✓	
38	Charlie	O-MACAULEY			✓
39	Reema	PATEL		✓	
40	Alex	PRAGER		✓	
41	Wendy	PRENTICE			✓
42	Sachin	RAJPUT		✓	
43	Barry	RAWLINGS			✓
44	Danny	RICH		✓	
45	Helene	RICHMAN		✓	
46	Tim	ROBERTS		✓	
47	Gabriel	ROZENBERG	✓		
48	Lisa	RUTTER		✓	
49	Shimon	RYDE		✓	
50	Gill	SARGEANT			✓
51	Alan	SCHNEIDERMAN		✓	
52	Mark	SHOOTER		✓	
53	Elliot	SIMBERG			✓
54	Thomas	SMITH		✓	
55	Stephen	SOWERBY		✓	
56	Julian	TEARE		✓	
57	Daniel	THOMAS		✓	
58	Ruben	THOMPSTONE		✓	
59	Sarah	WARDLE			✓

Councillor			For	Against	Abstain	Absent
60	Roberto	WEEDEN-SANZ		✓		
61	Laurie	WILLIAMS		✓		
62	Peter	ZINKIN		✓		
63	Zakia	ZUBAIRI		✓		

For	2
Against	54
Abstain	0
Absent	7
Total	63

Upon being put to the vote the recommendations in the report were declared carried, with voting being declared as follows:

Councillor			For	Against	Abstain	Absent
1.	MAYOR Caroline	STOCK	✓			
2.	DEPUTY MAYOR	GURUNG	✓			
3.	Golnar	BOKAEI	✓			
4.	Jess	BRAYNE		✓		
5.	Felix	BYERS	✓			
6.	Anne	CLARKE		✓		
7.	Pauline	COAKLEY WEBB		✓		
8.	Dean	COHEN				✓
9.	Melvin	COHEN	✓			
10	Geof	COOKE		✓		
11	Jo	COOPER		✓		
12	Sara	CONWAY		✓		
13	Alison	CORNELIUS	✓			
14	Richard	CORNELIUS	✓			
15	Saira	DON	✓			
16	Val	DUSCHINSKY	✓			
17	Paul	EDWARDS		✓		
18	Claire	FARRIER		✓		
19	Anthony	FINN	✓			
20	Nizza	FLUSS	✓			
21	Linda	FREEDMAN	✓			
22	Brian	GORDON	✓			



Councillor		For	Against	Abstain	Absent
23	Eva	GREENSPAN	✓		
24	Jennifer	GROCOCK	✓		
25	Rohit	GROVER	✓		
26	John	HART	✓		
27	Ross	HOUSTON		✓	
28	Anne	HUTTON		✓	
29	Laithe	JAJEH	✓		
30	Kathy	LEVINE		✓	
31	David	LONGSTAFF	✓		
32	John	MARSHALL	✓		
33	Kath	McGUIRK		✓	
34	Arjun	MITTRA		✓	
35	Alison	MOORE		✓	
36	Ammar	NAQVI		✓	
37	Nagus	NARENTHIRA		✓	
38	Charlie	O-MACAULEY			✓
39	Reema	PATEL		✓	
40	Alex	PRAGER	✓		
41	Wendy	PRENTICE			✓
42	Sachin	RAJPUT	✓		
43	Barry	RAWLINGS			✓
44	Danny	RICH		✓	
45	Helene	RICHMAN	✓		
46	Tim	ROBERTS		✓	
47	Gabriel	ROZENBERG		✓	
48	Lisa	RUTTER	✓		
49	Shimon	RYDE	✓		
50	Gill	SARGEANT			✓
51	Alan	SCHNEIDERMAN		✓	
52	Mark	SHOOTER	✓		
53	Elliot	SIMBERG			✓
54	Thomas	SMITH	✓		
55	Stephen	SOWERBY	✓		
56	Julian	TEARE	✓		
57	Daniel	THOMAS	✓		
58	Ruben	THOMPSTONE	✓		
59	Sarah	WARDLE			✓
60	Roberto	WEEDEN-SANZ	✓		

Councillor		For	Against	Abstain	Absent
61	Laurie WILLIAMS		✓		
62	Peter ZINKIN	✓			
63	Zakia ZUBAIRI		✓		

For	33
Against	23
Abstain	0
Absent	7
Total	63

**RESOLVED – that Council:**

1. Have considered the issues that have emerged from the consultation when making their decisions and that Council have made the decisions below also being mindful of the equalities impact assessments including the cumulative equalities impact assessments;
2. Approve the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) attached as Appendix A and the detailed revenue budgets in Appendices C1 and C2. The MTFS sets out all the budget changes over the period 2020-25, including assumptions around inflation, changes to levies, pressures, savings and income generation proposals and grant funding. It is the model around which the council's financial strategy is based;
  1. Approve that the budget for 2020/21 is prepared on the basis of an increase of 1.99% general Council Tax in 2020/21;
  2. Approve that the budget for 2020/21 is prepared on the basis of an increase of 2.00% Social Care Precept, to help fund care for the elderly;
3. Approve the resolutions relating to Council Tax contained within Appendix B – Council Tax Resolutions;
4. Determine that the council's basic amount of Council Tax for 2020/21 as set out in Council Tax Resolution (Appendix B) 2(iv) is not excessive in accordance with the principles approved under section 52ZB and 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, set out in the Referendums relating to Council Tax increases (Principles)(England) Report 2020/21;
5. Approve that in accordance with Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 the Chief Executive be instructed to place a notice in the local press of the amounts set under recommendation 6 above within a period of 21 days following the Council's decision;
6. Approve the Capital Programme as set out in Appendix D, and that the Chief Officers be authorised to take all necessary actions for implementation;
7. Approve that the Chief Finance Officer be authorised to adjust capital project budgets and financing in 2020/21 and throughout the Capital Programme after

the 2019/20 accounts are closed and the amount of slippage and budget carry forward required are known;

8. Approve the adoption of Flexible Use of Capital Receipts provisions as set out in paragraphs 1.6.14 to 1.6.17;
9. Approve the Capital Strategy as set out in Appendix J;
10. Approve the Treasury Management Strategy for 2020/21 as set out in Appendix K1
11. Note the Treasury Management Performance reports set out in Appendices K2 and K3;
12. Approve the following in relation to the Housing Revenue Account:
  - a) The proposed rent be increased by CPI+1% for council dwellings as set out in paragraph 1.8.8 to take effect from 1 April 2020;
  - b) The proposed temporary accommodation rents are increased by in line with the LHA rate as in para 1.8.9 to take effect from 1 April 2020;
  - c) The proposed increases to service charges for council dwellings as set out in paragraph 1.8.13 to take effect from 1 April 2020; and
  - d) The proposed rent increase of 3% for council garages as set out in paragraph 1.8.13 to take effect from 1 April 2020.
13. Approve the Schools Budget of £351.626m for 2020-21 as per paragraph 1.5.46 to 1.5.55;
14. Approve Post 16 Funding of £5.209m as per para 1.5.45;
15. Approve that any changes to the Schools Budget reasonably required as a result of the final 2020/21 DSG and Post-16 settlement are delegated for decisions to the Strategic Director – Children & Young People in consultation with the Director of Finance;
16. Note the fees and charges as detailed in Appendix G;
17. Note the summary equality impact assessment (EIA) and cumulative assessment set out in section 9. Appendix I provides the cumulative impact and individual Departmental assessments;
18. Approve the reserves and balances policy as set out in Appendix L and indicative amounts as set out in paragraph 1.5.64 and the Director of Finance's assessment of adequacy of General Fund Balances in section 1.5.70. Council are asked to approve that the Director of Finance is authorised to adjust balances in 2020/21 after 2019/20 accounts are closed and the amount of balances carry forward required are known;
19. Note the summary Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) and cumulative assessment set out in section 9. Appendix I provides the cumulative impact and individual Departmental assessments;
20. Approve the Reserves and Balances Policy as set out in Appendix L and indicative amounts as set out in paragraph 1.5.64 and the Director of Finance's

assessment of adequacy of General Fund Balances in section 1.5.70. Council are asked to approve that the Director of Finance is authorised to adjust balances in 2020/21 after 2019/20 accounts are closed and the amount of balances carry forward required are known;

21. Approve the overarching financial strategy of the council as set out in paragraph 1.5.1; and

22. Notes the Corporate Risk Register as set out in Appendix N.

**12.3 REFERRAL FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT 2020/21 – REVISION TO COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME**

Councillor Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. Debate ensued.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were unanimously agreed.

**RESOLVED that Council approve the proposed Barnet Local Council Tax Support Reduction Scheme as set out in the amended Appendix A.**

**12.4 REFERRAL FROM POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE - PENSION FUND ADMINISTRATION**

Councillor Daniel Thomas, Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report. Debate ensued.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were unanimously agreed.

**RESOLVED that Council:**

**1. Note the decisions taken by the Policy & Resources Committee as set out in section 1.2 of the report.**

**2. Agree, under a Section 101 agreement, to delegate the Pensions Administration function to West Yorkshire Pension Fund (WYPF).**

**13. REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**13.1 REPORT OF THE HEAD OF GOVERNANCE - MEMBERS ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2020/21**

The Worshipful the Mayor moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the recommendations were agreed.

Votes were recorded as follows:

For	34
Against	21
Abstain	1
Absent	7
Total	63

**RESOLVED that Council:**

1. Have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors in London as attached as Appendix A.
2. Approve the Members' Allowances Scheme 2020/21 attached as Appendix B with effect from 1 April 2020.
3. Note that following approval the Scheme, a notice will be advertised pursuant to Regulation 16 of the Local Authorities (Members' Allowances) (England) Regulations 2003 (as amended).

**13.2 REPORT OF THE HEAD OF GOVERNANCE - CONSTITUTIONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

The Head of Governance introduced the report. Council was asked to note that the nominations to the Valentine Poole Charity had been withdrawn and would be brought to Annual Council on 19 May 2020.

At the meeting the Conservative Group nominated Councillor Hart to the Arts Depot Trust Ltd.

The Worshipful the Mayor moved to the vote on the three nominations received for the vacancy on the Arts Depot Trust Ltd. Votes were recorded as followed:

In favour of the Conservative Nomination	33
In favour of the Labour Nomination	21
In favour of the Liberal Democrat Nomination	2
Abstain	0
Absent	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>

**RESOLVED that Council:**

1. Appoint Councillor John Hart to the vacancy on the Arts Depot Trust Ltd for a period for 3 years.
2. Note the changes to the Calendar of Meetings 2019/20 as set out in Appendix B and B1.
3. Approve the Labour Group change of membership to the Pension Fund Committee as set out in Appendix C.

The meeting finished at 8.45 pm