

Minutes

OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE LONDON BOROUGH OF BARNET
held at Hendon Town Hall, The Burroughs, London NW4 4BQ, on 2 May 2023

PRESENT:-

The Worshipful the Mayor (Councillor Alison Moore)
The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Nagus Narenthira)

Councillors:

Ernest Ambe	Eva Greenspan	Barry Rawlings
Richard Barnes	Jennifer Grocock	Danny Rich
Zahra Beg	Rohit Grover	Tim Roberts
Andrea Bilbow OBE	Kamal Gurung	Ella Rose
Rishikesh Chakraborty	Lachhya Gurung	Gill Sargeant
Anne Clarke	Ross Houston	Alan Schneiderman
Pauline Coakley Webb	Anne Hutton	Mark Shooter
Dean Cohen	Andreas Ioannidis	Elliot Simberg
Philip Cohen	Laithe Jajeh	Caroline Stock
Joshua Conway	Humayune Khalick	Daniel Thomas
Sara Conway	Paul Lemon	Liron Woodcock-
Geof Cooke	David Longstaff	Velleman
Alison Cornelius	Kath McGuirk	Tony Vourou
Richard Cornelius	Nick Mearing-Smith	Lucy Wakeley
Edith David	Michael Mire	Sarah Wardle
Val Duschinsky	Arjun Mittra	Emma Whysall
Paul Edwards	Giulia Monasterio	Nigel Young
Claire Farrier	Ammar Naqvi	Peter Zinkin
Shuey Gordon	Alex Prager	

Apologies for Absence

Councillor Marianne Haylett	Councillor Matthew Perlberg
Councillor Giulia Innocenti	Councillor Simon Radford
Councillor Linda Lusingu	Councillor Zakia Zubairi

1. THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR TO READ THE NOTICE OF THE MEETING

The Worshipful the Mayor thanked all Members for attending the meeting. She advised Council that she had called the Extraordinary Council meeting on 19 December 2022 in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 3.1 to allow the final Constitution sections to be approved prior to the new system going live after Annual Council on 23 May 2023.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Matthew Perlberg, Marianne Haylett, Zakia Zubairi, Giulia Innocenti, Simon Radford and Linda Lusingu.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worshipful the Mayor informed members of the sad passing of former Councillor Geoffrey Johnson who was a councillor representing the Colindale Ward from 2010 – 2014. The Worshipful the Mayor invited tributes from Councillors Gill Sargeant, Rishikesh Chakraborty, Andrea Bilbow and Richard Cornelius.

The Worshipful the Mayor informed members of the Civic Awards that were held at the Town Hall on Tuesday 25th April where many members of the public attended. Details of those who won awards can be found on the Council website.

The Worshipful the Mayor congratulated the Public Health Team who have been shortlisted for an LGC award for their suicide prevention programme work.

The Worshipful the Mayor also informed members that the BarNET zero campaign continues to thrive and has also been shortlisted for environmental charity Global Action Plan Sustainable City Awards in the public sector of the year category.

5. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (IF ANY)

None.

6. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER - CONSTITUTION REVIEW

The Monitoring Officer introduced the report, outlining the changes to various sections of the Constitution.

Councillor Rawlings moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the votes were recorded as follows:

For: 35
Against: 22
Abstain: 0
Absent: 6
Total: 63

RESOLVED that:

1. Consider and approve the third tranche of the Constitution as set out in the Appendices attached.
2. That Council agree that the Constitution in full will come into effect during Annual Council in May 2023.
3. That Council delegate authority to the Monitoring Officer to make 'housekeeping changes' to the Constitution such as terminology to ensure consistency, numbering and formatting changes.
4. That the Council requests that the Monitoring Officer to take the steps outlined in paragraph 5.3.3 of this report.
5. That Council resolves to cease to operate the committee system and starts to operate executive arrangements with effect from the start of the 2023/24 Municipal Year at Annual Council on 23 May 2023.
6. That Council agree that the constitutional review working group continues as a cross party working group to look at future constitutional changes before they go to Council for approval.
7. Council note the further changes as highlighted in the supplement published.

7. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF GOVERNANCE - MEMBERS' ALLOWANCES SCHEME 2023/24

The Head of Governance introduced the report, outlining the changes to Members Allowances to be effective after Annual Council.

Councillor Rawlings moved reception and adoption of the recommendations in the report.

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the votes were recorded as follows:

For: 35
Against: 0
Abstain: 22
Absent: 6
Total: 63

Resolved that:

1. That Council have regard to the recommendations of the Independent Panel on the Remuneration of Councillors in London as attached as Appendix A.
2. That Council revoke the existing Scheme and approve the new Members' Allowances Scheme 2023/24 attached as Appendix B with effect from 23 May 2023.

3. That Council 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).

8. REPORT OF THE HEAD OF GOVERNANCE - POLITICAL PROPORTIONALITY

The Head of Governance introduced the report, outlining the political balance of the Council to be re-calculated based on the new seats allocated to politically proportionate committees.

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

On the recommendations in the report being put to the vote, the votes were recorded as follows:

For: 35
Against: 0
Abstain: 22
Absent: 6
Total: 63

RESOLVED that:

- 1. Council note the political balance of the Council is:**
 - > 40 Members of the Labour Group**
 - > 22 Members of the Conservative Group and**
 - > 1 Independent Member**
- 2. Council agree that the Standards Sub-Committee and Licensing Sub-Committee are bodies to which the political balance rules do not apply as set out in section 1 of the report.**
- 3. Council agree the allocation of seats as set out in the tables in Appendix A in order to comply with the political balance regulations requiring seats to be allocated proportionately to the political groups on Council.**
- 4. Council agree that the seat allocations come into effect at Annual Council on 23 May 2023.**

The meeting finished at 7.44 pm