

Council SUMMONS AND AGENDA

DATE: Thursday 14 April 2011

TIME: 7.30 pm

VENUE: Council Chamber, Harrow
Civic Centre

All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Council Meeting for the transaction of the business set out.



Hugh Peart
Director of Legal and Governance Services

Despatch Date: Wednesday 6 April 2011

PRAYERS

The Mayor's Chaplain, Imam Hafiz Muhammad Akram, will open the meeting with Prayers.

1. COUNCIL MINUTES: (Pages 1 - 34)

That the minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 10 March 2011 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests arising from business to be transacted at this meeting, from all Members of the Council.

3. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

To receive any announcements from the Mayor. Information as to recent Mayoral engagements will be tabled.

4. PROCEDURAL MOTIONS:

To receive and consider any procedural motions by Members of the Council in relation to the conduct of this Meeting.

5. PETITIONS:

To receive any petitions to be presented:

- (i) by a representative of the petitioners;
- (ii) by a Councillor, on behalf of petitioners; or
- (iii) by the Mayor, on behalf of petitioners.

6. PUBLIC QUESTIONS:

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for members of the public to ask questions of members of the Executive, Portfolio Holders and Chairmen of Committees, of which notice has been received no later than 5.00 pm two clear working days prior to the day of this Meeting. Any such questions received will be tabled.

7. LEADER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

To receive a presentation from the Leader of the Council on business since the last ordinary meeting, followed by a question and answer session. The item is allotted 20 minutes.

8. RECOGNITION OF LONG SERVICE: COUNCILLORS LURLINE CHAMPAGNIE OBE AND JOHN COWAN: (Pages 35 - 42)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services.

9. DRAFT ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS FOR HARROW AND WEALDSTONE AREA ACTION PLAN; SITE ALLOCATIONS DPD; and DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT POLICIES DPD: (To Follow)

Recommendation I: Cabinet
(7 April 2011)

10. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE:

A period of up to 15 minutes is allowed for asking written questions by Members of Council of a member of the Executive or the Chairman of any Committee:-

- (i) of which notice has been received at least two clear working days prior to the day of this Meeting; or
- (ii) which relate to urgent matters, and the consent of the Executive Member or Committee Chairman to whom the question is to be put has been obtained and the content has been advised to the Director of Legal and Governance Services by 12 noon on the day of the Council Meeting.

Any such questions received will be tabled.

11. MOTIONS:

The following Motions have been notified in accordance with the requirements of Council Procedure Rule 15, to be moved and seconded by the Members indicated:-

(1) Opposing Closure Plans of Wealdstone Police Station

To be moved by Councillor David Perry and seconded by Councillor Navin Shah:

“This Council firmly opposes The Metropolitan Police Authority’s (MPA’s) decision to dispose of Wealdstone Police Station, a listed building with a distinctive character located in Wealdstone High Street. This shocking decision is a repeat of previous such plans in 2003 and 2008 which were then firmly opposed by the Council and local MPs to ensure that the High Street and the surrounding areas were kept safe from anti-social behaviour, crime and the fear of crime.

This Council notes that the existence of this police station is vital to maintaining the current ‘Wealdstone Anti-Social Behaviour Partnership’ (WASP) in the area together with the team of volunteers

based in the existing building. Although members of the public do not have direct access to the building, this outrageous proposal to close the Police Station by the MPA is short sighted and will damage local policing initiatives being taken in an area which is of great concern to the Council and Harrow's community.

Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Mayor of London, the MPA, Harrow's three MPs and Brent and Harrow's London Assembly Member:

- conveying Council's strong objections and opposition to the closure of the police station
- seeking immediate withdrawal of the closure plan.
- asking for their support to the Council's opposition to the closure."

(2) Harrow Council Partnership with Schools

To be moved by Councillor Brian Gate and seconded by Councillor Bill Stephenson:

"This Council is proud of its record of support, over many years to all of the schools in its care. It refutes the description of Harrow Council by Bob Blackman, MP as "the dead hand of the Local Authority".

This Council calls upon Mr Blackman to apologise for this gross misrepresentation of the valued partnership that Harrow Council enjoys with all its schools, and would be more appropriately described as the "supportive hand of the Local Authority". Mr Blackman's description is an insult to all elected members, past and present, from all political parties, as well as officers and colleagues in our schools. It is dismissive of the strong cross-party support this valued partnership has enjoyed with its schools and colleges over many years.

For instance, the Local Authority has set up the Harrow Skills Centre, successfully changed the Age of Transfer to Secondary Schools from Year 8 to Year 7 as well as setting up a highly successful Sixth Form Collegiate. It is also delegates a higher percentage of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) directly to its schools than any other Local Authority in London.

This Council calls upon Mr Blackman to apologise to all of the Council's officers who have provided, and continue to provide strong high quality professional support, and to elected members past and present from all political parties who have served and continue to serve willingly on governing bodies and Local Authority Committees, for devaluing the hard work and commitment they have shown in supporting our young people.

This Council is committed to continuing to support all schools irrespective of whether they become academies or not.

This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to Bob Blackman, MP for Harrow East, with Copies to Gareth Thomas, MP for Harrow West, and Nick Hurd, MP for Ruislip, Northwood and Pinner informing them of this motion.”

(3) Saving the NHS

To be moved by Councillor Margaret Davine and seconded by Councillor Victoria Silver:

“This Council notes that:

1. the cross-party Commons Health Committee has urged a rethink of the proposals contained in the Health and Social Care Bill;
2. on 4 April, Andrew Lansley was adamant that there would be no changes to the Bill; yet within 24 hours of his statement David Cameron intervened to put the Bill on hold to allow more time for consultation.

This Council welcomes this decision and believes that the proposed implementation of GP commissioning will overload doctors, thus resulting in services being outsourced to private providers over which local people will have no control. This is in total contravention of David Cameron’s election promise that ‘we will cut the deficit not the NHS’.

This Council further notes that many health professional bodies are opposed to these proposals, which have been introduced with undue haste.

This Council therefore calls on the Government to think again and drop its current proposals and enter into discussions with all those concerned to find a way forward to preserve and enhance the NHS, bearing in mind the need for accountability.

This Council instructs the Chief Executive to write to the Secretary of State for Health, the Shadow Secretary of State for Health, all three Harrow MPs, the London Assembly Member for Brent and Harrow informing them of the above motion, and asking them to use their good offices to deliver the above outcome.”

(4) Academies

To be moved by Councillor Susan Hall and seconded by Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane:

“This Council would welcome the adoption of academy status by:

- the seven Harrow high schools currently considering the proposals.

- any other Harrow schools that may wish to become academies in the future.

This Council believes in the merits of academies, and believes their introduction into Harrow will further improve the borough's already strong educational performance and benefit both our schools and our students."

(5) Councillor 'Code of Conduct'

To be moved by Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane and seconded by Councillor Paul Osborn:

"This Council pledges that Harrow Councillors will:

- treat residents with respect.
- treat present and past councillors with respect.

This Council therefore pledges that no Harrow councillors will be involved with or affiliated with any blogs, websites or other media forms or activities which in any way contravene the above statements.

Additionally, this Council instructs the Director of Legal & Governance Services to issue reminding guidance to Councillors on their obligations towards residents under the Code of Conduct."

(6) Grants Advisory Panel

To be moved by Councillor Paul Osborn and seconded by Councillor Susan Hall:

"This Council notes that the Grants Advisory Panel was established at the Extraordinary Council meeting of 27th May 2010.

This Council, with regret, calls for the removal of the Grants Advisory Panel from Part 3 of the Constitution; given that its recommendations are continuously ignored by the Executive, and that therefore the Executive clearly believes it serves no practicable or useful purpose."

[Under the provisions of Council Procedure Rule 14.6, it is considered that the subject matter of this Motion refers to matters within the powers of the Cabinet and the Motion therefore stands referred to its next meeting.

It may be moved that such referral should not apply and any procedural motion moved and seconded to that effect shall be voted on without discussion].

(7) Pollution Funding

To be moved by Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane and seconded by Councillor Susan Hall:

“This Council welcomes the additional £5 million in funding announced last week by the Transport Secretary Phillip Hammond to help combat pollution across London.

This Council is also greatly concerned by the looming threat of £300 million of fines that could be imposed on councils across London by the European Union if certain anti-pollution targets are not met.

This Council therefore instructs the Chief Executive to refer these concerns to the Transport Secretary, Harrow’s three MPs, and other relevant bodies, as such fines being forced on Harrow Council would have a significant impact on frontline services.”

12. DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER THE URGENCY PROCEDURE BY PORTFOLIO HOLDERS, LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER AND USE OF SPECIAL URGENCY PROCEDURES: (Pages 43 - 48)

Report of the Director of Legal and Governance Services.