

## SCHOOL PLACEMENT PANEL

# **MINUTES**

## **20 MARCH 2013**

Chairman: Councillor Krishna James

**Councillors:** \* Mrs Camilla Bath \* Asad Omar (Vice-Chairman

Mrinal Choudhury (2) in the Chair)

**Co-optees:** \* Ms G Caroli – Grimsdyke School

\* Mr E Lumley – Park High School

\* Denotes Member present

(2) Denotes category of Reserve Member

### 305. Attendance by Reserve Members

**RESOLVED:** To note the attendance at this meeting of the following duly appointed Reserve Member:-

Ordinary Member Reserve Member

Councillor Krishna James Councillor Mrinal Choudhury

#### 306. Declarations of Interest

**RESOLVED:** To note that the following interests were declared:

### Agenda Item 8 – Admission to County Schools

Councillor Mrs Camilla Bath declared a non-pecuniary interest in that she was a governor at Whitchurch First School, St George's Catholic Primary School and Harrow High School.

Councillor Mrinal Choudhury declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a governor of Elmgrove Primary School and Nursery, and a Member of the

Planning Committee, which was considering planning applications for expansion of some schools.

Councillor Asad Omar declared a non-pecuniary interest in that he was a governor of Nower Hill High School.

They would remain in the room for the consideration of any cases relating to that school.

Ms G Caroli, Headteacher of Grimsdyke School, declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in relation to cases P356, P358, P359, P362, P366, and P369. She would leave the room during the consideration of these cases, as they related to Grimsdyke School.

#### 307. Minutes

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 6 March 2013, be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

#### 308. Public Questions, Petitions and Deputations

**RESOLVED:** To note that no public questions were put, or petitions or deputations received at this meeting.

#### 309. Exclusion of the Press and Public

**RESOLVED:** That, in accordance with Part I of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item for the reason set out below:

| <u>Item</u> | <u>Title</u>                | Reason   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 8.          | Admission to County Schools | Information under paragraph 1 (contains information relating to any individual). |

#### 310. Admission to County Schools

In accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, cases P344 - P376 were admitted late to the agenda to allow the Panel to allocate an appropriate place to the applicants. In addition, a number of letters from various schools were circulated to the Panel for their consideration prior to making any decisions. A grid setting out the pupil numbers and the distances to schools was also circulated.

On 20 March 2013, there were 28 children for whom admissions staff could make no reasonable offer of a school place, having noted that an additional 6 children had, since the issue of the agenda and supplemental agendas, been allocated a school place. The School Placement Panel was requested to recommend to the Corporate Director of Children and Families to authorise the admission of these pupils to a school where no places existed in the relevant year group.

Following consideration of the cases, a Councillor queried a recent government announcement for the need for 88,000 additional extra school places in the country for children from September 2013. She asked how Harrow was affected and how the Council would address such an expansion, as it would be remiss for the Panel not to ask for such information, including the issue of available teaching staff. The Member agreed to draft a letter for the Chairman's approval to be sent to the Corporate Director of Children and Families and the Chief Executive.

**Resolved to RECOMMEND:** (to the Corporate Director of Children and Families)

That offers of admission to schools be made as follows:

| <u>Case</u><br><u>No</u> | Reference | Year Group | Admitting School  |
|--------------------------|-----------|------------|---|
| 1                        | P343      | 2          | Withdrawn from consideration as school place had been allocated |
| 2                        | P344      | Reception  | Withdrawn from consideration as school place had been allocated |
| 3                        | P345      | Reception  | Norbury   |
| 4                        | P346      | Reception  | Marlborough Primary   |
| 5                        | P347      | Reception  | Weald Infant  |
| 6                        | P348      | Reception  | Whitefriars Community   |
| 7                        | P349      | Reception  | Glebe Primary   |
| 8                        | P350      | Reception  | Krishna Avanti  |
| 9                        | P351      | Reception  | Grange Primary  |
| 10                       | P352      | Reception  | Elmgrove Primary and Nursery                                    |
| 11                       | P353      | 1          | Grange Primary  |
| 12                       | P354      | 1          | Heathland   |
| 13                       | P355      | 1          | Roxeth Primary  |
| 14                       | P356      | 1          | Grimsdyke   |
| 15                       | P357      | 1          | Marlborough Primary   |
| 16                       | P358      | 1          | Cannon Lane Infant  |
| 17                       | P359      | 1          | Weald Infant and Nursery  |
| 18                       | P360      | 1          | Whitchurch First  |
| 19                       | P361      | 2          | Marlborough   |
| 20                       | P362      | 2          | Weald Infant  |
| 21                       | P363      | 2          | Elmgrove Primary and Nursery                                    |

| 22 | P364 | 2 | Withdrawn from consideration as school place had been allocated |
|----|------|---|---|
| 23 | P365 | 2 | Whitefriars Community   |
| 24 | P366 | 2 | Cedars Manor  |
| 25 | P367 | 2 | Pinner Park Infant  |
| 26 | P368 | 2 | Withdrawn from consideration as school place had been allocated |
| 27 | P369 | 2 | Grimsdyke   |
| 28 | P370 | 3 | Withdrawn from consideration as school place had been allocated |
| 29 | P371 | 3 | Withdrawn from consideration as school place had been allocated |
| 30 | P372 | 3 | Camrose Primary and Nursery                                     |
| 31 | P373 | 4 | Camrose Primary and Nursery                                     |
| 32 | P374 | 5 | Whitchurch Junior   |
| 33 | P375 | 5 | Marlborough Primary   |
| 34 | P376 | 5 | Elmgrove Primary and Nursery                                    |

(Note: The meeting, having commenced at 10.35 am, closed at 11.16 am).

(Signed) COUNCILLOR ASAD OMAR Vice-Chairman in the Chair