

COUNCIL MINUTES

1 DECEMBER 2016

Present:

- * Councillor Mrs Rekha Shah (The Worshipful the Mayor)
- * Councillor Margaret Davine (The Deputy Mayor)

Councillors:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ghazanfar Ali * Richard Almond * Mrs Chika Amadi * Jeff Anderson † Sue Anderson * Marilyn Ashton * Mrs Camilla Bath * June Baxter * Christine Bednell * James Bond † Michael Borio * Simon Brown * Kam Chana * Ramji Chauhan † Bob Currie * Niraj Dattani * Jo Dooley * Keith Ferry * Ms Pamela Fitzpatrick * Stephen Greek † Mitzi Green * Susan Hall * Glen Hearnden * Graham Henson * John Hinkley * Ameet Jogia * Manjibhai Kara * Barry Kendler * Jean Lammiman * Barry Macleod-Cullinane * Kairul Kareema Marikar 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Ajay Maru * Jerry Miles * Mrs Vina Mithani * Amir Moshenson * Chris Mote * Janet Mote * Christopher Noyce * Phillip O'Dell * Paul Osborn * Nitin Parekh * Ms Mina Parmar * Varsha Parmar * Primesh Patel * Pritesh Patel * David Perry * Kanti Rabadia * Kiran Ramchandani * Mrs Christine Robson * Lynda Seymour * Aneka Shah-Levy * Sachin Shah * Norman Stevenson * Krishna Suresh * Sasi Suresh * Adam Swersky * Bharat Thakker * Antonio Weiss * Georgia Weston * Anne Whitehead * Stephen Wright
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* Denotes Member present
† Denotes apologies received

PRAYERS

The meeting opened with Prayers offered by
Rabbi Kathleen de Magtige-Middleton of Mosaic Reform Synagogue,
Mayor's Chaplain

196. COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2016 be taken as read and signed as a correct record.

197. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Item 13 – Motions – Need for greater understanding of the implications of the administration's regeneration plans Motion

Councillor Mrs Chika Amadi declared a non pecuniary interest in that she worked in Wealdstone and her husband had a business in Wealdstone. She would remain in the Chamber for the consideration of this item.

Councillor Susan Hall declared a non pecuniary interest in that she owned a business in Wealdstone. If the interest became pecuniary she would leave the Chamber for the consideration and voting on this item.

Councillor Ameet Jogia declared an interest in that his place of work was based in the Wealdstone regeneration area. He would remain in the Chamber for the consideration of this item.

198. PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

There were no Procedural Motions.

199. PETITIONS

In accordance with Rule 10, the following petitions were presented

- (i) Petition submitted by Emma Toberman, as a representative of the residents of Broadcroft Avenue, in relation to the refurbishment of pavements on only one side of the street containing 47 signatures.

[The petition stood referred to the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Crime and Community Safety].

- (ii) Petition submitted by Councillor Susan Hall, on behalf of the residents of Royston Park Road and The Avenue, in relation to traffic calming measures containing 155 signatures.

[The petition stood referred to the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Crime and Community Safety].

- (iii) Petition submitted by Councillor Chris Noyce, on behalf of the residents and traders of Rayners Lane, in relation to landlords' responsibilities and fly tipping on the land that they own containing 34 signatures.

[The petition stood referred to the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Crime and Community Safety].

- (iv) Petition submitted by Councillor Chris Noyce, on behalf of the residents adjacent to the alleyway next to 1 Fairview Crescent, in relation to overgrown alleyway and installation of a gate containing 8 signatures.

[The petition stood referred to the Portfolio Holder for Environment, Crime and Community Safety].

200. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No questions had been received.

201. LEADER AND PORTFOLIO HOLDERS' ANNOUNCEMENTS

- (i) The Leader of the Council, Councillor Sachin Shah, introduced the item highlighting the achievements, challenges and proposals since the last ordinary meeting.
- (ii) Other Members of the Council spoke and/or asked questions of the Leader of the Council which were duly responded to.

202. APPROVAL OF REASON FOR ABSENCE FOR COUNCILLOR BOB CURRIE AND COUNCILLOR MITZI GREEN

RESOLVED: That the reasons for absence of Councillor Bob Currie and Councillor Mitzi Green under section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 be approved and they be granted a dispensation from the requirement to attend a meeting of the Council until 18 May 2017 (Annual Council).

203. LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW PENSION BOARD : ANNUAL REPORT

RESOLVED: That the London Borough of Harrow Pension Board Annual report be approved.

204. PENSION BOARD - REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE

RESOLVED: That the terms of reference of the Pension Board, as amended, be approved and incorporated into the Council's Constitution.

205. INFORMATION REPORT - REMUNERATION PACKAGES OF £100,000 OR GREATER

RESOLVED: That the report be noted.

206. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

To note that twelve questions from Councillors to the Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holders had been received and a recording of those responded to would be placed on the Council's website. A written response would be provided to those questions not reached and placed on the Council's website.

207. MOTIONS

- (i) Motion in the names of Councillor Mrs Chika Amadi and Councillor Graham Henson.

“Standing against discrimination, racism and crime Motion

Harrow Council is concerned about the increasing levels of discrimination, racism and violent crime in London. Even though the number of times Londoners have been stopped for “stop and search” fell by 28% in 2015-2016, black people are six times more likely to be stopped than white people.

Undoubtedly, Harrow has been declared the safest borough in London, but a lot more work will need to be done in order to ensure equality and safety for all residents of our very diverse Borough, making Harrow and London a better place for all our communities.

Harrow Council welcomes Mayor Khan's commitment to the restoration of real neighbourhood policing as the top priority for the Met, and that the Police and Crime Plan 2017-2020 will focus on neighbourhood and local policing; keeping children and young people safe; tackling violence against women and girls; tackling violent extremism, terrorism and hate crime; and ensuring an effective Criminal Justice System.

Harrow Council instructs the Council Leader and the Chief Executive to write to Sophie Linden, London's Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime, expressing their support towards the proposed Police and Crime Plan 2017-2020 and call for any future plans to also focus on reducing discrimination and hate crime.”

Upon a vote, the Motion was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the Motion set out at (i) above be adopted.

- (ii) Motion in the names of Councillor Kareema Marikar and Councillor Adam Swersky.

“Fair funding Motion

Harrow Council is concerned about the constant decrease in Governmental funding that the Borough is receiving. This

funding is not adequate for the growing pressures that the Council is facing; despite its efforts the Council continues to face unprecedented demands upon its budget leading to an estimated budget pressure of £8m in 2016/17. The homelessness crisis is causing a pressure of £2.5m due to the combined impact of a shortage of affordable accommodation in London, rapidly increasing rents in the private rented sector and the impact of welfare reforms placing increased pressures on household incomes. The pressure against the Adults and Children's budgets is estimated at £5m largely as a result of the pressure of social care placements, front line staffing costs and special needs transport. In the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2016/17 the revised allocation methodology for Revenue Support Grant saw the Council lose £6.4m in grant funding meaning Harrow Council fared the 6th worst in London.

Harrow Council instructs the Council Leader and the Chief Executive to write to and work with London Councils and the LGA in order to make the case for a fairer funding settlement for the Borough."

Upon a vote, the Motion was agreed unanimously.

RESOLVED: That the Motion set out at (ii) above be adopted.

- (iii) Motion in the names of Councillor Barry Macleod-Cullinane and Councillor Susan Hall in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 18.1.1.

"Need for greater understanding of the implications of the administration's regeneration plans Motion

This Council notes:

- That the administration's regeneration plans will include up to £356m of new borrowing, which would more than double the Council's debt.
- That, at an assumed 2% interest rate, the interest charges alone on this new debt will cost the Council an additional £7 million a year from the Council's already under-pressure Revenue budget.
- That, to put this additional £7 million in interest payments into perspective, the voluntary sector budget is around £1.45 million – and, after years of cuts, the administration is proposing to cut it again in the coming financial year.
- That, when the administration brought the report outlining its regeneration plans to September's Council, the guillotine fell,

preventing all Members from discussing the regeneration plans and their financing and implications for the borough and our residents.

This Council believes:

That any decision of such magnitude, with huge financial implications for the Council's budget and potential to force additional cuts to other services, should be fully discussed by all members in Full Council.

This Council resolves:

That Council's decision of September 22 2016 to agree "the additional capital budgets for 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 be approved and added to the Capital Programme" be reversed.

This Council further resolves:

That the administration should not bring its regeneration plans back to full Council until the plans have been brought to scrutiny and all Members feel that they have been fully briefed on all the implications of the administration's regeneration plans for the Council, borough and our residents and feel able to fully contribute to an informed discussion of those regeneration plans."

Upon a vote, the Motion was not agreed.

(CLOSE OF MEETING: All business having been completed, the Mayor declared the meeting closed at 9.15 pm).