

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE
3 December, 2002

Councillors *Meehan (Chair), *Irwin (Deputy Chair), *Adje Basu, *Bax, *Bull, *Canver,* Dillon, *Dodds, and *Sulaiman.

* Members present.

Also present: Councillor Laird

TEX150. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: An apology for absence was submitted on behalf of Councillor Basu

TEX151. MINUTES:

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 19 November 2002 be approved and signed.

TEX152.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY,IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Councillor Sulaiman declared an interest in respect of the report Finsbury Park Events and Revenue Regeneration Policy and withdrew from the meeting for the consideration of this item.

TEX153.DEPUTATIONS:

We received deputations as follows expressing concern over the use of Finsbury Park for commercial events and the consequential deterioration of the Park's infrastructure:-

Finsbury Park Partnership
Finsbury Park Community Forum
Mr J Callon
Friends of Finsbury Park

We thanked the deputations for their presentations.

TEX154. FINSBURY PARK EVENTS AND REVENUE GENERATION POLICY (Report of the Director of Environmental Services - Agenda item 7)

We were advised that in recent years the number of commercial concerts and their attendance levels had steadily grown, raising concerns in some quarters that events were responsible for further deterioration of the Park's infrastructure. The current concert promoter had to meet the costs of reinstating areas damaged during events, with works totalling around £44k in 2002. Other factors such as the associated noise, litter and traffic disturbance also contributed to the negative perception. The physical impact of events on the Park was evaluated as part of the wider HLF project, and whilst this concluded that permanent damage was not being incurred, improvements to carriageway construction and field drainage would significantly improve resistance to wear.

For five days of concert hire, the Park currently generated £210k (net) of revenue from commercial events. A week was generally allowed for before and after the concert day for setting up and site clearance. Aside of the financial benefits, the events programme offered recreational opportunities to both borough residents and a wider regional audience (as recognised within the Council's draft Cultural Strategy).

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We noted that the Recreation Division had also undertaken preliminary investigations into other forms of revenue generation, to support the enhanced maintenance needs of the park. In particular there was commercial interest in establishing a weekly market using the carriageways, initially between the Finsbury Park and Manor House gates, with a minimum of 100 stalls/vendors. Funfair operators had also expressed an interest in establishing a static family orientated funfair operation in the park. Obviously these ideas would require further consultation and exploration, both with users, promoters and local businesses and agencies, but may provide a substantial additional income stream for the park.

A consultation document had been circulated to local residents seeking feedback on a wide range of management and development issues. With regard to concerts, there appeared to be an even split between residents who believed the number of commercial events was just right, and those that believed there should be less, (the survey data probably reflected experiences of last year's programme of six concerts).

In seeking to enhance the delivery of events, it was proposed that any future hire agreement(s) include the following:

- An up front damage deposit arrangement be sought, to more effectively approach reinstatement;
- Litter management on site and in the surrounding streets be directly supervised and better enforced. A performance based specification would represent a more controlled approach
- The Council seek to secure the maximum up front payment, recognising the level of overall income target;
- Build up and set down work, including movement of vehicles within the park, be closely monitored and controlled;
- Explore the potential for capital investment into the park

The Council had agreed to increase the annual maintenance budget by £54k to meet increased revenue costs associated with the Heritage Lottery Fund improvement programme, which was recognised as match funding for the project.

The proposed introduction of car parking charges should raise approximately £20k additional revenue and had already been approved by Members. An additional sum of £20k had been identified largely from lease/ rental agreements e.g. Manor House Lodge, Manor House Toilets, Pavilions.

RESOLVED:

1. That the continued limited use of Finsbury Park for commercial concerts/ events be approved.
2. The number of such concerts/events be limited to 5.
3. That the Community led 'Finfest' free festival be approved in addition to the commercial concerts/ events.
4. That £6k of concert/event income be ringfenced to support community events in the park, subject to achievement of the proposed overall income target.
5. That any additional income generated above the proposed income target be ringfenced specifically for use within the park.

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6. That the attendance capacity for commercial concerts/ events be limited to a maximum of 40,000 and the arena area not exceed the 'Bandstand Field' footprint set out in Appendix A.
7. That the services of a specialist events management team be sought for 2003, to support improved operational performance.
8. That further consultation and feasibility studies be undertaken, in considering alternative sources of income generation.
9. That the number of commercial concert/event days be reviewed again in light of the findings from '8' above.
10. That the continued use of the park for funfairs for a maximum of 3 bookings per year be approved .
11. That the future procurement report, to specify that the contract for the holding of concerts in the Park be awarded to a specific contractor for up to 5 years, (subject to negotiations).

TEX 155. YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN (Presented by the Executive members for Crime and Community safety and for Social Services and Health -Agenda item 8)

We received a presentation form the Executive Member for Social Services and Health regarding the production of a Youth Justice Plan 2002-05.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Children's Services Working Group receive a report on the possibility of other agencies using ASSET assessment forms for their work with young people.
2. That the Leader request that the ALG write to Ministers on behalf of London Boroughs regarding the insufficient contribution from the National Probation Service to the Youth Offending Service.

TEX 156. COUNCIL HOUSING RENTS AND SERVICE CHARGES (Presented by the Executive Member for Housing -Agenda Item 9)

We received a presentation from the Executive Member for Housing outlining the Government's proposals for restructuring Local Authority rents and the implications for the 2003/04 rent setting process as a result of the unpooling of rent and service charges.

We noted that Government guidance on service charge modelling was awaited. We welcomed proposals that would achieve greater transparency.

RESOLVED:

1. That in principle unpooling of rent and service charges be maximised and a report on the detailed consequences on individual tenants as well as the HRA be prepared as part of the budget process.

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2. That the charges for concierge be examined in the context of overall costs and various cluster charge models be produced.

TEX 157. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF E-GOVERNMENT, CUSTOMER CARE, COMPLAINTS MANAGEMENT AND THE COMMUNICATIONS FUNCTIONS (Report of the Director of Environment -Agenda item 10)

RESOLVED:

1. That the Executive Summary Report of the Best Value Review of E-government, Customer Care, Complaints Management & the Communications functions be noted.
2. That the Improvement Plan be approved.

TEX 158. PENSIONS BEST VALUE REVIEW (Report of the Director of Finance - Agenda item 11)

RESOLVED:

1. That the final Best Value report and Improvement Plan be agreed as follows:
 - That a strategy be formulated to ensure that all facets of the Pensions Service are properly co-ordinated. As part of this process, the Terms of Reference of the Pensions Panel be widened as required to make the trustees/quasi trustees independent in the interests of effective decision making.
 - That relationships with our Fund Management external contractors and advisors be built.
 - That communications systems be reviewed to ensure that stakeholders are actively engaged and informed on pensions issues and that an AGM of the Pensions Fund be introduced annually. Also market benefits of LGPS to encourage scheme membership, ensure that the Council's recruitment and retention policies take account of the scheme benefits and routinely monitor associated pi's.
 - That Fund Management performance be improved.
 - That Fund Management monitoring and management be improved.
 - That SRI and governance policies be further developed and embedded.
 - That Fund Management costs against Fund performance be monitored to ascertain if VFM is being obtained.
 - That Fund Management key processes and procedures be mapped.
 - That Best Value requirements into external contracts be incorporated.
 - That a business case for document image processing be developed with a view to increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of the administrative process and implement new system.
 - That the Council become 'fully compliant' on Myners.
 - That the pensions administration function remain in-house.
2. That the Council structure remains unchanged but the review of the Constitution consider the reporting mechanisms for the Pensions Panel.
3. That a further report be presented on the review of administrative costs.

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**TEX159. RESTRUCTURE OF CORPORATE FINANCE (I
-Agenda item 12)**

RESOLVED:

1. That the staff side comments be noted.
2. That the revised structure for corporate finance be agreed.
3. That the funding be agreed.

**TEX160. HARINGEY CCTV: ISSUES PAPER (Report of the
-Agenda item 13)**

We received a presentation from the Executive Member for Crime and
and effectiveness of CCTV.

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**TEX165.IMPLEMENTATION OF A NEW FUNDING FRAMEWORK FOR
VOULUNTARY SECTOR ADVICE PROVIDERS IN HARINGEY**(Report of the Assistant Chief
Executive (Strategy) - Agenda item 20)

RESOLVED:

That Advice providers continue to be grant -aid funded under the approach outlined in the report.

GEORGE MEEHAN
Chair

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE
17 December, 2002

Councillors *Meehan (Chair), Irwin (Deputy Chair), *Adje, Basu, *Bax, *Bull, *Canver,* Dillon, *Dodds, and *Sulaiman.

* Members present.

Also present: Councillors Hoban and Aitken

TEXI 66. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Basu and Irwin and for lateness on behalf of Councillors Bull and Sulaiman.

TEXI 67. MINUTES:

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 December 2002 be approved and signed.

TEXI 68. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST, IF ANY, IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Councillor Sulaiman declared an interest in respect of the report Finsbury Park Concerts and withdrew from the meeting for the consideration of this item.

TEX I 69. COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Organisational Development) – Agenda Item 7)

We received a tabled chart highlighting the Council's overall performance. We noted that on 20 December the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council would meet with representatives from District Audit, the Best value Inspectorate, the Department for Education and Skills and the Social Services Inspectorate in a round table discussion, where an improvement plan in response to issues arising from the CPA would be discussed.

RESOLVED:

1. That the draft consultation response as set out at appendix 2 to the interleaved report be approved.
2. That our thanks and appreciation to the senior management team and other staff be recorded in achieving the improvements and it be noted that these improvements needed to be built on for the forthcoming year.

TEXI 70. BEST VALUE REVIEWS - PROGRESS REPORT AS AT 30 NOVEMBER 2002
(Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Organisational Development – Agenda Item 8)

RESOLVED:

1. That the following be noted:
 - The status of the Best Value reviews as shown in Appendix 1 to the interleaved report.
 - The progress in implementing improvement plans of the selected Best Value reviews as shown in Appendix 2 to the interleaved report.

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- The outcomes of the recently completed Best Value reviews.
- The inspection schedule as shown in Appendix 3 to the interleaved report.

2. That future Best value reports incorporate findings from the CPA .

TEX171. BEST VALUE REVIEW OF THE HOUSING MANAGEMENT SERVICE (Report of the Director of Housing - Agenda item 9)

We were advised that good progress had been made against the Improvement Plan and that we could look forward to improvements in the forthcoming year.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report of the Best Value inspection of the Housing Management Service be noted.
2. That the observations and recommendations made by the Housing Inspectorate which have now been incorporated into the Improvement Plan be endorsed.

TEX172. FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING (Joint Report of the Chief Executive and the Director of Finance – Agenda item 10)

RESOLVED:

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the Executive Members for Social Services & Health, Environment, Resources, and Equality & Performance continue to focus on the control of overspending budgets and the identification of compensating underspends.
3. That the potential adverse impact of the current position on the Council's medium term financial strategy and the ability to invest in priority areas be noted.
4. That no further commitment be made against capital receipts in the current financial year.
5. That the virements as set out in section 7 of the interleaved report be approved.
6. That a report be presented to Members identifying the number of employees that have been taken through the sickness monitoring procedures.

TEX173. FINANCIAL PLANNING 2003/04 TO 2006/07 (Report of the Director of Finance – Agenda Item 11)

The Chair agreed to accept this report as urgent business. The report was late because it was dependent on the receipt of advice and guidance which was received late from the Government and settlement determination which was only received recently. The report was urgent because budget adjustments needed to be made and a timetable leading to budget decisions being taken by the Council needed to be agreed.

RESOLVED:

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1. That the impact of the grant settlement be noted and that, in particular, the increase government support to the Council is 3.5% for 2003/04.
2. That the overall resource shortfall of £28.5 million over the four year planning period with council tax increase of 2.5% per annum be noted and that this included a shortfall of 1 million in education budgets.
3. That the budget adjustments as set out in the interleaved report be approved.
4. That the timetable leading to budget decisions being made by Council on 3 February be approved.

TEX174. EDUCATION MANAGEMENT BOARD (Report of the Chair of the Education Management Board - Agenda item 12)

Although the Chair agreed to accept the following reports as urgent business concern was expressed over the lateness of receipt of the reports:-

Admissions to Schools - Approval to Consult

The report was late because the detailed arrangements on the consultation process were published in new Code of Practice in November and this, together with a very late decision by Government on the timetable for the co-ordination of admissions, delayed the production of the report. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because the Council was required to consult on admission arrangements and, in order to give schools and parents the chance to respond, this needs to begin immediately after the Christmas break.

Review of the Haringey Fair Funding Scheme 2003/4

The report was late because consultation on the scheme only ended on 6 December and it was important that the report provided Members with a full picture of the response. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because the Council was required to submit its changes to Fair Funding before the end of December.

RESOLVED:

1. That the consultation process for admission arrangements for all community primary and secondary schools as set out in the appendix to the Admissions report be approved.
2. That the amendments to the Fair Funding scheme as outlined in the report be approved.
3. That the AEN/SEN funding group be thanked formally for their work on the proposals contained in the Fair Funding consultation document.
4. That the Fair Funding Scheme be kept under review to ensure that the funding was allocated in an equitable manner that was transparent and supported school improvement and the inclusion in Haringey.
5. That the Director of Finance advise Members of the individual school balances.

TEX175. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET 2003/04 – RENT RESTRUCTURING (Report of the Director of Housing – Agenda item 13)

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The Chair agreed to accept this report as urgent business. The report was late because the work required to inform the decision on rent restructuring and, in particular, the unpooling of service charges had been influenced by the receipt of advice and guidance which was received late from Government and by the subsidy determination which was only received recently. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because the consultation with tenants on the rents for 2003/04 needs to be issued before Christmas so that the results of the consultation can inform budget setting decisions in late January and February.

RESOLVED:

1. That the following be approved as a basis for consultation with tenants –
 - Rents will be restructured on an individual property basis
 - Service charges will be unpooled on a flat rate basis tenants who receive the service and the indicative the following charges are fully unpooled
 - concierge
 - estate services (including caretaking, cleaning and refuse collection)
 - grounds maintenance
 - communal heating and lighting
 - door entry systems
 - district heating systems
2. That the following be noted –
 - The average rent increase in implementing 1 above was likely to be 2.6%
 - The total increase for an individual tenant will not exceed 2.75% + £2
 - A further report would be prepared which would
 - set out the results of the consultation with tenants
 - propose rent increases for hostels and temporary accommodation
 - make proposals on district heating charges
 - set out the implication of the service charge proposals for leaseholders.
3. That a further report be presented in due course identifying exemplifications of the effects of the various charging levels.

TEX176. CHILDREN'S SERVICES IMPROVEMENT PLAN (Report of the Director of Social Services - Agenda item 14)

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

TEX177. OCTOBER 2002 PERFORMANCE DATA FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES (Report of the Director of Social Services – Agenda item 15)

RESOLVED:

1. That the following be noted –
 - The contents of the report
 - The trends of performance indicators in regards to Children's Services
 - The significant areas of strength and weakness within the Service.

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2. That the Leader be provided with more information on the payments to Agencies for staff subsequently employed by the Council.

TEX178. REFERENCES FROM AREA ASSEMBLIES (Report of the Director of Environmental Services - Agenda item 16)

1. Primary School Admissions

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that approval had been granted to consultation on admission arrangements for all community primary and secondary schools to be carried out as outlined in the Appendix to the report of the Director of Education (see Minute TEX174 above).

2. Green Lanes Strategy

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that action was being taken in response to the St. Ann's and Haringay Assembly's concerns relating to the street environment in Green Lanes and the commitment shown by traders and residents to work collaboratively to address local issues be welcomed.

3. Traffic Calming in Alexandra Ward

RESOLVED:

That it be noted that

- The Council was still waiting for Transport for London (TfL) to recognise the traffic problems Alexandra Ward residents were experiencing as a result of motorists seeking to avoid congestion on the North Circular Road (A406).
- TfL had been requested to making available a level of funding for measures which would ameliorate the situation
- TfL had indicated that they would assist in the bid preparation for funds of up to £100,000.
- Residents had not lobbied for a roundabout at the junction of Alexandra Park Road, Grosvenor Road and The Avenue.

4. Waste Management

RESOLVED:

1. That Haringey Accord be asked:
 - To carry out direct monitoring and training with each crew as part of each wheeled bin roll out
 - To instigate a job ticket scheme for residents to request the removal of any unwanted dust bins.
2. That further work be undertaken by both Council officers and Haringey Accord to provide actions and improvements as a holistic approach to the current issue involving flats above shops and how best to containerise refuse.

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5. Congestion Charging and Potential Controlled Parking Zones – Bounds Green

RESOLVED:

That the action taken by the Executive Member for Environment in agreeing to the incorporation of Bounds Green Tube Station into the Council's Controlled Parking Zone programme subject to funding being made available from the Mayor for London be noted.

TEX179. MINUTES OF SUB-BODIES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the following meetings be noted:

- Executive Member Resources – 27 November 2002
- Executive Member Housing – 28 November 2002
- E-Government Advisory Committee - 28 November 2002

TEX 180. HARINGEY HEARTLANDS (EASTERN UTILITIES) SITE: JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT TERMS BETWEEN THE COUNCIL AND THE LONDON DEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND OTHER ASSOCIATED INITIATIVES (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive (Strategy) – Agenda Item 21)

This item was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods and services.

Whilst we were advised that any comprehensive redevelopment scheme had financial implications, the approach adopted by the Council would ultimately depend upon the relative risk and return of the options proposed. An allocation of £3-5m was likely to be necessary. Such a requirement would be considered alongside competing priorities when the capital programme was finalised early in the new year.

RESOLVED:

1. That the draft heads of terms of the joint venture agreement between the LDA and the Council be approved.
2. That it be noted that the Planning Service would produce a planning brief for the comprehensive redevelopment of the area which would become part of the new UDP and enable applications for the area to be judged against a relevant planning policy.
3. That approval be granted to the extension of Ove Arups contract for the purpose of preparing further evidence, traffic impact statements and supporting drawings together with Stock Woolstencroft architects.
4. That the principle of prior selection, when appropriate of an RSL Consortium (jointly with the LDA & Housing Corporation) ahead of main developers be endorsed.

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5. That the continuing efforts to free-up the land in our ownership (from any encumbrances that inhibit inclusion and development of our freehold interest), through the relocation of current operators (excluding the "Cultural Quarter") be endorsed.

TEX181. FINSBURY PARK CONCERTS (Report of the Director of Environmental Services – Agenda item 22)

This item was the subject of a motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting as it contained exempt information relating to terms proposed or to be proposed by or to the authority in the course of negotiations for a contract for the acquisition or disposal of property or the supply of goods and services.

The Chair agreed to accept this report as urgent business. The report was late because further Member consideration and approval of the related policy review on 3rd December 2002 officers had to consider a range of contractual and forward planning issues, which took a little longer than anticipated. The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because the Council needed to progress negotiation with the promoter to secure events and associated income for 2003.

RESOLVED:

1. That approval be granted to the waiver of Contract Standing Order (CSO) 6.4 (the requirement to tender), as allowed under CSO 7, in accordance with the waiver requirements noted under CSO 7.3.
2. That approval be granted to the delegation of responsibility to the Director of Environmental Services in consultation with the Executive Member to award the contract for this project, in compliance with CSO 11, if acceptable terms were agreed, for staging commercial concerts in Finsbury Park to Mean Fiddler Events Limited, for a period of up to 5 years in line with the proposals at Para 5.3 of the report.
3. That in the event of Resolution 2 above not being achieved, then a one year contract on current terms and conditions incorporating improvements outlined in Para 5.3 where possible be granted.

GEORGE MEEHAN
Chair