

Councillors: *The Mayor (Councillor Manheim), *The Deputy Mayor (Councillor Patel);
Councillors *Adamou, *Adjé, *Aitken, *Basu, *Bax, Beacham, *Bevan, Blanchard, *Bloch, *Herbie Brown, *Jean Brown, *Bull, *Canver, Davidson, *Davies, *Dawson, *Diakides, *Dillon, *Dobbie, *Dodds, *Fabian, Featherstone, *Floyd, Gilbert, *Griffith, *Haley, *Hare, *Harris, *Hillman, *Hoban, *Irwin, *Knight, *Krokou, *Laird, *Lister, *Makanji, *Meehan, *Millar, Milner, *Oatway, *Peacock, *Prendergast, *Erline Prescott, *Quincy Prescott, *GMMH Rahman Khan, Reynolds, Rice, *Robertson, *Santry, Simpson, *Stanton, *Sulaiman, *Williams, *Winskill, and *Wynne.

* Members present

39. APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Davidson, Featherstone, Gilbert, Reynolds, Rice and Simpson and from Councillors Canver, Dobbie and Wynne for lateness.

40. MINUTES:

Copies of the Minutes having been circulated, they were taken as read.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 22 July 2002 be signed as a true record.

41. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The Mayor reported that since the last Council meeting on 22 July she had enjoyed meeting community representatives in Churches, Schools, Parks and Community Centres across the Borough and attended a number of important launches including: -

The Crime Stoppers Initiative launched on 25th July with Chief Supt. Stephen James to publicise this anonymous independent service.

The Launch of the Lone Parent Family Support Group at Chestnuts Community Centre on 26th July.

The Association of Jamaicans 40th Anniversary Celebration at Alexandra Palace, on 3rd August.

The Home-Start Haringey Project, a new and very important voluntary organisation which was launched on 4th September.

2. On 5th September the Mayor attended the New Look Markfield Project, which was completely transformed in 2 days by volunteers.
3. The Mayor thanked Holmes Place Crouch End for organising an Exercise Day in support

of her Charity in July. The Mayor also extended her thanks to the Larnaca Association for the fundraising concert at the Royal Festival Hall on 1st September.

4. The Mayor invited all Councillors to come along to the Wood Green Arts and Entertainment Festival on Ducketts Common on Sunday 15th September, where she would be running a Tombola stall - with lots of wonderful prizes.
5. The Mayor invited Councillors to reserve two dates in their diaries for very special Charity Events. The first on 22nd November – New River Sports Centre A Pre-Christmas and Karaoke Party and 29th March 2003 a Dinner and Dance at Alexandra Palace.
6. The Mayor advised the Council that to mark the Anniversary of the September 11th terrorist attacks she would observe a minute long silence outside the Civic Centre at 1.46pm. The Union flag would also be at half-mast.

42. PRESENTATION FROM NORTH MIDDLESEX UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL NHS TRUST:

Rose Gibb, Chief Executive of the North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust gave a detailed presentation on the redevelopment proposals for the Hospital and the improvements this would ultimately bring to the services available to the community.

Questions were taken from Members.

Rose Gibb was thanked for briefing the Council so fully on the proposals and the benefits that would flow from the implementation of the redevelopment scheme.

43. ANNUAL LIBRARY PLAN:

Councillor Judy Bax gave a full account of the contents of the Annual Library Plan and the proposals for the further development of the library service.

Questions were taken from Members

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Library plan for 2002 be approved.

44. REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE: There were no matters to report.

45. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER: There were no matters to report.

46. APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES:

The Mayor agreed to the admission of this report as urgent business. The report dealt with matters considered at Party Group meetings within the last few days. It needed to be

considered to permit appointments to outside organisations to be made.

RESOLVED:

That the appointments to outside bodies be approved, as detailed in Appendix I.

47. DEPUTATION AND PETITIONS:

The meeting received a Deputation from the Jansons Road Residents Network expressing concern with regard to the operation of the car wash at Jansons Road/Clyde Circus and related traffic/environmental issues.

Questions were taken from members.

The Deputation were thanked for their attendance.

48. QUESTIONS:

The Mayor agreed to the admission of this report as urgent business. Under Standing Orders, notice of questions were not requested until the seventh day before the meeting, following which matters raised had to be researched and replies prepared, in order to be given at the meeting.

There were ten oral questions from Members and thirty for written answer. Oral questions 1-7 were dealt with within the time limit of 30 minutes.

The meeting agreed extra time be allowed to allow the remaining oral questions 8-10 to be answered.

49. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES:

The Mayor agreed to the admission of the minutes of the Executive meeting of 3 September 2002 as urgent business. The minutes were late as the meeting had only taken place in the last few days and were urgent, as the Council needed to consider their adoption.

In respect of the Minutes of the Alexandra Palace and Park Board the Chief Executive advised that "the item related exclusively to matters falling within the discharge of the Council's function as Trustee of the Alexandra Palace and Park.

When discharging the Trustee function the Council must have regard to its duties as the Trustees to the exclusion of all other matters. These duties included the obligation to act in the best interests of the charity above all other considerations.

Similarly, each individual Member was under the duty, to the extent that it lies within the Member's power, to secure that the Council fulfils its duties as the Trustees and conversely that the Council does not commit any breach of trust".

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Councillor Hare spoke in relation to Minute API4 of the Alexandra Palace and Park Board of 29 July 2002 and called for a named vote in relation to the adoption of minutes. The voting was as detailed below:

For (the adoption of the minutes): The Mayor, The Deputy Mayor, Councillors Adamou, Basu, Bax, Bevan, H. Brown, J.C. Brown, Bull, Dawson, Diakides, Dillon, Dobbie, Dodds, Griffith, Haley, Harris, Hillman, Irwin, Knight, Krokou, Lister, Meehan, Millar, Peacock, Prescott, Rahman Khan, Robertson, Santry, Stanton, Sulaiman and Wynne.

Against (the adoption of the minutes): Aitken, Beacham, Bloch, Davies, Fabian, Floyd, Hare, Hoban, Laird, Oatway, Williams and Winskill.

RESOLVED:

1. That the report and minutes of the Executive meetings held on 30 July and 3 September 2002 be received and adopted.
2. That the report and minutes of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee meetings held on 8 July and 20 August 2002 including the recommendations at SC15 be received and adopted.
3. That the minutes of the Alexandra Palace and Park Board meeting held on 29 July 2002 be received and adopted.

50. MOTION G (2002/03):

It was moved by Councillor Laird and seconded by Councillor Beacham, that:

The Council notes that there are around 15,000 female pensioners in Haringey. This Council further notes that the oldest pensioners and particularly older female pensioners tend to be the poorest pensioners. The Council notes that today's female pensioners tend to retire with far lower pensions than males. The Council further notes that the income gap between male and female pensioners has increased under this Government.

The Council notes that many women in their 40s and 50s are set to receive poor state pensions, in many cases as low as 7p per week because they paid National Insurance at the special married woman's rate.

This Council notes the needs of all pensioners and particularly female pensioners in Haringey, and regrets that many of the neediest are not receiving the social security benefits to which they are entitled.

In order to increase the incomes of female pensioners the Council:

1. Calls on the Government to substantially increase the basic state pension, particularly for the oldest pensioners.

2. Calls on the Government to write to all women in their 40s and 50s who have ever paid married woman's stamp to warn them that their pension rights might be in jeopardy.
3. Calls on the Government to launch an inquiry into the future prospects of today's working women, with a promise of action to guarantee that the next generation of women pensioners do not miss out.

Will launch a local take-up campaign to ensure that pensioners receive the benefits to which they are entitled.

An amendment was received from Councillor Sulaiman and seconded by Councillor Wynne, that:

Delete all and insert as follows:-

This Council notes that there are an estimated 22,400 people over 65 in Haringey. Poverty amongst older people has been a feature of the British Social landscape, particularly over the two decades up to 1997 with the gap widening between rich and poor pensioners. As part of the deliberate downgrading of our national social support mechanisms the income of the richest fifth grew by 80% but that of the poorest fifth rose by only 30%.

The Labour Government has introduced the following policies to meet the needs of pensioners as a whole and pensioners in poverty in particular:-

- All 22,400 pensioners in Haringey will benefit from April 2002's rise in the basic state pension up £3 to £75.50 a week and by £4.80 to £120.70 for a pensioner couple.
- the basic state pension will rise by a minimum of 2.5 per cent, or more if inflation is higher. That means that single pensioners will get at least £100 a year more in April 2003 and pensioner couples at least £160 a year
- 26,100 over-60s households in Haringey this year received extra help with their fuel bills through the colder months with Labour's £200 Winter Fuel Payment which will be paid each and every year for the rest of this Parliament.
- 7,700 pensioners in Haringey are benefiting from Labour's Minimum Income Guarantee (MIG). Thanks to the MIG, from April 2002 no single pensioner has to live on less than £98 a week that's up by £6 - and couples have a minimum of £149.70 a week up by £9.15. We guarantee that the MIG will be raised in line with earnings for the rest of this Parliament.
- From April 2003, the MIG will be increased further so that no single pensioner will need to live on less than £100 a week.

Labour Haringey has supported pensioners by adopting the following policies:-

- Adopting the fairer charging policy for Community Care services
- Maximising benefits for those entering the financial assessment process
- Working with local health partners to provide a wider range of support services to

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enable people to remain in their homes longer

This Council calls upon the government to continue to work with employers, trade unions and pensioners support groups to deliver an equitable and just system of provision for our older citizens.

The amendment was then put to the meeting and declared CARRIED.

The substantive motion was then put and declared CARRIED.

51. MOTION H (2002/03):

Owing to the late hour, in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure paragraph 8.1, the remaining business fell.

VIVIENNE MANHEIM
Mayor