

# **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FULL COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 25TH FEBRUARY, 2019, Times Not Specified**

## **PRESENT:**

**Councillors: Gina Adamou (Mayor), Peray Ahmet, Amin, Dawn Barnes, Patrick Berryman, John Bevan, Barbara Blake, Mark Blake, Zena Brabazon, Gideon Bull, Vincent Carroll, Nick da Costa, Luke Cawley-Harrison, Sakina Chenot, James Chiriyankandath, Pippa Connor, Eldridge Culverwell, Julie Davies, Mahir Demir, Paul Dennison, Isidoros Diakides, Josh Dixon, Erdal Dogan, Joseph Ejiofor, Scott Emery, Ruth Gordon, Makbule Gunes, Mike Hakata, Bob Hare, Kirsten Hearn, Emine Ibrahim, Sarah James, Adam Jogee, Peter Mitchell, Liz Morris, Khaled Moyeed, Lucia das Neves, Julia Ogiehor, Felicia Opoku, Tammy Palmer, Sheila Peacock, Reg Rice, Viv Ross, Alessandra Rossetti, Yvonne Say, Anne Stennett, Daniel Stone, Preston Tabois, Elin Weston, Noah Tucker, Sarah Williams, Matt White and Chandwani**

## **10. FILMING AT MEETINGS**

The Mayor drew attendees' attention to the notice on the summons regarding filming at meetings.

## **11. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors: Adje, Basu, Carlin and Hinchcliffe.

## **12. TO ASK THE MAYOR TO CONSIDER THE ADMISSION OF ANY LATE ITEMS OF BUSINESS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 100B OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972**

The Chief Executive advised that there was three items of late business, which could not be available earlier, and which would need to be dealt with at this meeting

Item 6, minutes of the council meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November 2018. These were not included in the Council agenda pack and needed to be agreed at this meeting.

Items.7 Mayors communication - to allow the most recent events attended by the Mayor to be included in the Council agenda pack.

Item 13 - Budget amendments - Council standing order 15.8b allowed amendments to recommendations to be put forward by 10am on the day of the meeting.

### **13. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The following declaration of interests were put forward:

- Councillor Ejiofor declared a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 13, Medium Term Financial strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.
- Cllr Bull - declared a personal interest in item 13 as a leaseholder in the borough.
- Cllr Pat Berryman declared a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 13, Medium Term Financial Strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.
- Councillor Mark Blake declared a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 13, Medium Term Financial strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.
- Cllr Chandwani - declared a personal interest in item 13 as a leaseholder in the borough.
- Cllr Hakata declared a personal interest in item 13 as a council tenant.
- Councillor Stennett declared a personal, non-pecuniary and non-beneficial interest in item 13, Medium Term Financial strategy (2019/20 to 2023/24) due to a connection with Fortismere secondary school.
- Councillor Ross declared a personal interest in item 10 as an employee in the gambling industry.
- Councillor Rossetti declared a personal interest in item 12 as a voting Member of the Homes for Haringey Board.

- 14. TO ASK MEMBERS WHETHER THEY NEED TO MAKE A DECLARATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 106 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992 IN RELATION TO UNPAID COMMUNITY CHARGE OR COUNCIL TAX LIABILITY WHICH IS TWO MONTHS OR MORE OUTSTANDING.**

There were no declaration of interests put forward.

- 15. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 27 NOVEMBER 2018 & 31 JANUARY 2019**

**RESOLVED**

To approve the Full Council minutes of the meetings held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November and 31 January 2019.

- 16. TO RECEIVE SUCH COMMUNICATIONS AS THE MAYOR MAY LAY BEFORE THE COUNCIL**

The Mayor drew Members' attention to the tabled information on her engagements attended since the last ordinary meeting in November .

The Mayor had attended, to date, 163 events and functions throughout the borough and City of London since becoming Mayor on 24 May 2018, with the Deputy Mayor covering a further 68 engagements. The Mayor thanked the Deputy Mayor for her continued support and commitment to the Borough and for covering her engagements when she had been unwell .

The Mayor had been extremely busy around the Christmas period, visiting schools, attending a number of faith events, Christmas markets and had enjoyed being out in the community, meeting different organisations in our borough.

- 17. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chief Executive had no matters to report.

- 18. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Deputy Monitoring Officer had no matters to report.

- 19. STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY FOR GAMBLING ACT 2005.**

Councillor Amin, Cabinet Member for Civic Services , introduced a report that recommended adoption of the Council's Statement of Gambling Policy for the Gambling Act 2005 for the years 2019-2022.

## **RESOLVED**

1. To approve and adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy at Appendix 1.
2. To note the supplementary guidance containing the local area profile information at Appendix 2;

### **Reasons for decision**

The Council is obliged to review and adopt a Statement of Licensing Policy for Gambling every three years, the current policy expired in January 2019. Therefore a new policy has to be adopted.

### **Alternative options considered**

No alternatives were considered. It is a legislative requirement that the policy be reviewed at least every three years, and that a public consultation is carried out. Failure to review and adopt the Statement of Gambling Policy would result in the Council failing to comply with legislation.

## **20. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES**

The Chair of the Corporate Committee moved his Committee's report and the recommendations it contained, which the Mayor confirmed would be considered under the budget item.

## **21. TO CONSIDER REQUESTS TO RECEIVE DEPUTATIONS AND/OR PETITIONS AND, IF APPROVED, TO RECEIVE THEM**

The Mayor invited Paul Burnham to put forward his deputation to the full Council meeting. This was in relation to the increases in tenant services charges set out in the budget documents at page 171 where, in the deputation's view, considerable increases were being proposed, even though tenant's services were within budget. Therefore, the deputation questioned the basis for these increases, the deputation emphasised that services charges can only be increased with a firm legal basis, relating to the actual cost of the services.

The deputation questioned the reasons for the increase in the tenant service charges relating to street sweeping and contended that this was connected with supporting the Veolia contract, noting the increase of 22% for this service charge last year which had been disputed by Homes for Haringey, leading to a lower increase, this year, of 15%. This charge was still providing for potentially £633k revenue income coming from tenants. The deputation continued to highlight the increases in outsourced services relating to concierge services, grounds maintenance, and door entry maintenance. The latter of which was increased by 40% but the budget for the service had only increased by 17%. The deputation contended that these types of decisions could be questioned in a public consultation process.

The deputation spoke of continued service charge increases affecting the poorest in the borough.

The deputation recalled the Council and tenants working together, in 2009, to oppose national rent increases, defeating this policy change. Similarly, the joint working of tenants and councillors in relation to the HDV outcome was highlighted. The deputation contended that this approach again needed to be adopted, in relation to tenant service charges and proper consultation undertaken about how to address these issues.

The deputation concluded that the tenants service charges should not be agreed until the issues raised had been properly addressed.

The Mayor invited questions to the deputation party and the following was noted:

- The deputation were expecting an officer response for the service charges increase which had not yet been provided to the deputation party, since the Cabinet meeting.
- Cllr Bevan disputed the deputation's insinuation that staff were not caring and reflected that frontline staff put up with many issues. There were also tenants on the H4H board and one of issues of concerning them was the cleaning on the estates, which had been previously felt not to be to the required standard. This service had now improved, and therefore the reason for increasing street sweeping charges was not acceptable argument. In response, the deputation reiterated their concerns about the contract and welcomed a discussion through a consultation process.
- The deputation noted that there was legal advice, indicating no legal requirement to consult but, in the view of the deputation, it was good practice to do so. In the past when there had been a consultation on the service charges, resulting in a charge for litter picking on estates on public holidays not going forward.

Councillor Berryman responded to the deputation reiterating that the deputation's views on consultation would be taken into account in future budget preparations. The legal advice received by the Council indicated that there was not a requirement to consult. The charges must cover the cost of the service and no more. The Cabinet Member advised that some charges had increased and some decreased. When considering the average increases of tenant services charges over the last 10 years, across the board, these were below the rate of inflation, therefore genuinely a reflection of cost. The service charges which had increased the most were relating to the concierge service. This charge had increased by 7% rise and reflected the better terms and conditions offered to staff.

Overall, the Council needed to make sure Council housing can be afforded to be delivered and in considering the increases and costs proposed council tenants needs and requirements were being met.

The Cabinet Member welcomed the views of the deputation, and would take on board the comments on consultation, and look at this in future years.

## **22. 2019/20 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (2019/20 - 2023/24)**

The Mayor invited the Monitoring Officer to outline the requirement for votes.

It was noted that the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2014, and the Council's Standing Orders required the Council to record in the minutes how each Councillor voted, including any abstentions, when determining the Council's Budget and the level of Council Tax to be levied.

The only requirement was to record in the minutes of the meeting how each member voted, and given that there were 5 amendments and a substantive motion to be voted on, it could be recorded in the minutes of the meeting how each member voted, including any who have abstained, by a show of hands.

The Mayor then called on Councillor Berryman to introduce the budget and move the budget report – 2019/20 -2023/24 Budget – and the recommendations a-o at page 100 of the agenda pack. Councillor Ejiofor formally seconded the motion, and reserved his right to respond during the debate.

The Mayor then invited Councillor Dennison to move the Liberal Democrat group's 5 amendments, as set out in the tabled papers. Councillor Morris formally seconded the amendments and spoke in favour of their adoption.

The Mayor then opened the debate, in which Councillors :Gunes, Ogiehor, M Blake, Barnes, das Neves, Rossetti, Demir Dixon, Brabazon, Cawley– Harrison, Moyeed, Palmer, Ibrahim, da Costa, and Ejiofor contributed to the discussion. Councillor Dennison and then Councillor Berryman responded to the debate.

The Mayor then called for a vote on Budget Amendment 1. There being 14 Members in favour (Councillors Barnes, da Costa, Cawley- Harrison, Chenot, Connor, Dennison, Dixon, Emery, Hare, Morris, Ogiehor, Palmer, Ross, Rossetti ), and

39 Members opposed (Councillors Adamou, Ahmet, Amin, Berryman, Bevan, B Blake, M Blake, Brabazon, Bull, Carroll, Chiriyankandath, Culverwell, Davies, Demir, Diakides, Dogan, Ejiofor, Gordon, Gunes, Hakata, Hearn, Ibrahim, James, Jogee, Mitchell, Moyeed, das Neves, Opoku, Peacock, Rice, Say, Stennett, Stone, Tabois, Weston, Tucker, Williams, White, Chandwani)

No abstentions,

Budget Amendment 1 was declared LOST.

The Mayor then called for a vote on Budget Amendment 2. There being 14 Members in favour (Councillors Barnes, da Costa, Cawley- Harrison, Chenot, Connor, Dennison, Dixon, Emery, Hare, Morris, Ogiehor, Palmer, Ross, Rossetti ), and

39 Members opposed(Councillors Adamou, Ahmet, Amin, Berryman, Bevan, B Blake, M Blake, Brabazon, Bull, Carroll, Chiriyankandath, Culverwell, Davies, Demir, Diakides, Dogan, Ejiofor, Gordon, Gunes, Hakata, Hearn, Ibrahim, James, Jogee, Mitchell, Moyeed, das Neves, Opoku, Peacock, Rice, Say, Stennett, Stone, Tabois, Weston, Tucker, Williams, White, Chandwani)

No abstentions,

Budget Amendment 2 was declared LOST.

The Mayor then called for a vote on Budget Amendment 3. There being 14 Members in favour (Councillors Barnes, da Costa, Cawley- Harrison, Chenot, Connor, Dennison, Dixon, Emery, Hare, Morris, Ogiehor, Palmer, Ross, Rossetti ), and

39 Members opposed(Councillors Adamou, Ahmet, Amin, Berryman, Bevan, B Blake, M Blake, Brabazon, Bull, Carroll, Chiriyankandath, Culverwell, Davies, Demir, Diakides, Dogan, Ejiofor, Gordon, Gunes, Hakata, Hearn, Ibrahim, James, Jogee, Mitchell, Moyeed, das Neves, Opoku, Peacock, Rice, Say, Stennett, Stone, Tabois, Weston, Tucker, Williams, White, Chandwani)

No abstentions,

Budget Amendment 3 was declared LOST.

The Mayor then called for a vote on Budget Amendment 4. There being 14 Members in favour (Councillors Barnes, da Costa, Cawley- Harrison, Chenot, Connor, Dennison, Dixon, Emery, Hare, Morris, Ogiehor, Palmer, Ross, Rossetti ), and

39 Members opposed(Councillors Adamou, Ahmet, Amin, Berryman, Bevan, B Blake, M Blake, Brabazon, Bull, Carroll, Chiriyankandath, Culverwell, Davies, Demir, Diakides, Dogan, Ejiofor, Gordon, Gunes, Hakata, Hearn, Ibrahim, James, Jogee, Mitchell, Moyeed, das Neves, Opoku, Peacock, Rice, Say, Stennett, Stone, Tabois, Weston, Tucker, Williams, White, Chandwani)

No abstentions,

Budget Amendment 4 was declared LOST.

The Mayor then called for a vote on Budget Amendment 5. There being 14 Members in favour (Councillors Barnes, da Costa, Cawley- Harrison, Chenot, Connor, Dennison, Dixon, Emery, Hare, Morris, Ogiehor, Palmer, Ross, Rossetti ), and

39 Members opposed(Councillors Adamou, Ahmet, Amin, Berryman, Bevan, B Blake, M Blake, Brabazon, Bull, Carroll, Chiriyankandath, Culverwell, Davies, Demir,

Diakides, Dogan, Ejiofor, Gordon, Gunes, Hakata, Hearn, Ibrahim, James, Jogee, Mitchell, Moyeed, das Neves, Opoku, Peacock, Rice, Say, Stennett, Stone, Tabois, Weston, Tucker, Williams, White, Chandwani)

No abstentions,

Budget Amendment 5 was declared LOST.

The Mayor then called for a vote on recommendations a-o contained at page 100, paragraph 3.1 of the agenda pack.

There being 39 Members in favour (Councillors Adamou, Ahmet, Amin, Berryman, Bevan, B Blake, M Blake, Brabazon, Bull, Carroll, Chiriyankandath, Culverwell, Davies, Demir, Diakides, Dogan, Ejiofor, Gordon, Gunes, Hakata, Hearn, Ibrahim, James, Jogee, Mitchell, Moyeed, das Neves, Opoku, Peacock, Rice, Say, Stennett, Stone, Tabois, Weston, Tucker, Williams, White, Chandwani)

14 Members opposed (Councillors Barnes, da Costa, Cawley- Harrison, Chenot, Connor, Dennison, Dixon, Emery, Hare, Morris, Ogiehor, Palmer, Ross, Rossetti ), and

No abstentions,

The Recommendations were AGREED.

## **RESOLVED**

- (a) To approve the proposed 2019/20 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (2019/24) agreed by Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019;
- (b) To approve the increase of 2.99% in Haringey's element of the Council tax;
- (c) To approve the General Fund budget requirement for 2019/20 of £241.182m, net of Dedicated Schools Budget, as set out in table 6.1 and Appendix 6 of Annex 1 to this report;
- (d) To approve the Cash Limit for 2019/20 of £241.182m as set out in Annex 2;
- (e) To approve the 2019/24 General Fund capital programme set out in Appendix 3 of Annex 1 to this report;
- (f) To approve the policy on the flexible use of capital receipts as set out in section 15 and Appendix 11 of Annex 1 to this report;
- (g) To approve the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget 2019/20 as set out in Appendix 2 of Annex 1 to this report;
- (h) To approve the 2019/24 HRA capital programme set out in Appendix 4 of Annex 1 to this report;
- (i) To note the Greater London Authority (GLA) proposed precept (para. 7.5);
- (j) To delegate authority to the Chief Finance Officer, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, to reflect any final changes to the level of the



GLA precept in the Council's Council Tax billing information set out in Annex 5;

- (k) To approve the budgeted level of non-earmarked General Fund balance and the specific and other reserves as set out in Annex 3b;
- (l) To approve the reserves policy including the Chief Finance Officer's (CFO) assessment of risk and the assessment of the adequacy of reserves, as set out in Annex 3 (a – c);
- (m) To note the report of the Chief Finance Officer under Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of proposed reserves set out in section 9;
- (n) To approve the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2019/20 set out in Annex 4; and
- (o) To pass the budget resolution including the level of Council Tax, in the specified format, and to determine that the Council's relevant basic amount of Council Tax for the year is not excessive as set out in Annex 5.

### **Reasons for decision**

The Council approved its previous Corporate Plan and Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) covering the period 2015-18 in February 2015. A new Borough Plan (2019-2023) and MTFS (2019/24) are on the agenda for this meeting. The new Borough Plan sets out the Council's priorities and the MTFS outlines the overall financial strategy for those priorities.

The February 2018 MTFS projected a funding gap as a result of reductions to the Council's funding from central government. It was projected that recurring savings of £25m would be required to mitigate the shortfall in the MTFS and in order to deliver a balanced budget position.

This final MTFS (2019/24) projects a budget gap of between £13.1m and £20.5m if all new budget reductions included in the MTFS are delivered and no new pressures identified. The Council will need to continue to find major budget reduction measures in future years in order to balance the budget/MTFS as set out in section 9.

Following the publication, on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2018, of the Provisional Local Government Finance settlement, Cabinet reviewed the impact of the settlement on the 2019/20 budget set out in the MTFS. The final settlement, which was mostly in line with the provisional settlement, was announced on 29<sup>th</sup> January and the implications of the final settlement were included in the report considered by Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019. That report included Cabinet's response to feedback from the consultation and the views of Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The report and recommendations from the Cabinet meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019, which were agreed in full, including the approved amendment to the report, are attached as Annex 1.

Taking all relevant factors into account, including the outcomes from statutory consultation with residents, business rate payers and the recommendations from the Overview and Scrutiny committee meetings held on 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019 and 5<sup>th</sup> February 2019, this report sets out Cabinet's Budget proposals including proposals for the level of Council tax for the Council to consider and approve.

### **Alternative options considered**

In accordance with legislation and the Council's constitution, this report recommends that the Council should approve the proposed 2019/20 Budget and Medium Term Financial Strategy (2019/24) agreed by Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2019, including the outcomes from the budget consultation exercise, which is attached as Annex 1 and approve the Council tax for 2019/20. Accordingly no other options have been considered.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....