

# **MINUTES OF MEETING Full Council HELD ON Monday, 19th July, 2021, 19.30**

## **PRESENT:**

**Councillors: Sheila Peacock, Dana Carlin, Charles Adje, Peray Ahmet, Kaushika Amin, Dawn Barnes, Dhiren Basu, Patrick Berryman, John Bevan, Barbara Blake, Mark Blake, Zena Brabazon, Nick da Costa, Luke Cawley-Harrison, Seema Chandwani, Sakina Chenot, Pippa Connor, Eldridge Culverwell, Julie Davies, Mahir Demir, Paul Dennison, Isidoros Diakides, Erdal Dogan, Joseph Ejiofor, Ruth Gordon, Makbule Gunes, Mike Hakata, Bob Hare, Justin Hinchcliffe, Adam Jogee (Mayor), Peter Mitchell, Liz Morris, Lucia das Neves, Felicia Opoku, Tammy Palmer, Reg Rice, Viv Ross, Yvonne Say, Anne Stennett and Elin Weston**

## **16. FILMING AT MEETINGS**

The Mayor welcomed attendees to the July meeting of Full Council at Tottenham Green Leisure Centre. He continued to set out the protocol for filming at meetings and provided information on the covid safety measures in place. This was noted by attendees.

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

The Chief Executive advised that the following Councillors had given apologies

Cllr Dixon  
Cllr Williams  
Cllr Adamou  
Cllr Rossetti  
Cllr Carroll  
Cllr James  
Cllr Chiriyankandath  
Cllr Ibrahim  
Cllr Emery  
Cllr Hearn  
Cllr Tucker  
Cllr Stone  
Cllr White  
Cllr Ogiehor  
Cllr Bull

Apologies for lateness were received from: Cllr Demir, Cllr Chandwani and Cllr Ejiofor.

A note was provided of Cllr Tabois' apologies just after this item.

**18. 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 asked the Mayor to agree the admission of the following late items of business that could not be available earlier and needed to be dealt with at the meeting:

- Item 7ii - Change to Political Composition and Appointments to Committees 2021/22. The reason for lateness to allow finalisation of the report and consultation.
- Item 14 Questions and Written Answers - The reason for lateness was due to notice of questions not being requested until 8 clear days before the meeting, following which the matters raised have to be researched and replies prepared to be given at the meeting.

With regards to Item 15a and 15b – Motions - The amendments to motions were not requested until 10am on the day of the Council meeting and these had been received this morning with amendments to Motion A & B. The proposed amendments had been published and distributed today as a supplementary pack.

**19. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**20. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON THE 27TH OF MAY 2021**

**RESOLVED**

To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 27th of May 2021 as a true record.

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

**Agenda Item 6 - Communications from the Mayor**

The Mayor outlined the engagements that he had attended.

- Fifth Birthday of the Friends of Alexandra Park Station
- Markfield Park with Cllr Dogan and Cllr Barbara Blake
- Joined Cllr Hakata on Haringey Welcome walk to mark Refugee Week 2021
- Raised the Windrush Flag with the Leader of the Council to mark Windrush day 2021.

The Mayor was pleased to receive news that the Tottenham Food Hub had been awarded the Queens award for Voluntary service. Their work was especially important in these difficult times.

The Mayor attended the 'Community Green Light' event at the invitation of former Councillor Lorna Reith.

The meeting noted that the vaccination effort continued to be focused on by the Mayor. The Lordship Lane vaccination centre would be marking the fact that they had now administered 100,000 vaccines to local people. The Mayor commended the centre doctors, staff and volunteers for this amazing achievement.

The Mayor further wished the Muslim Community a Happy Eid Mubarak. Eid al-Adha which would begin the following day.

## **22. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Chief Executive was very pleased to put forward a report to full Council to appoint his Honour Judge Lucas , Resident Judge at Wood Green Crown, as the Honorary Recorder of Haringey.

She outlined that having a strong relationship between the judiciary and local partners, including the local authority, was recognised as an effective way of supporting community safety.

In addition to his daily role, Judge Lucas had made significant steps to develop closer links with the borough, including local people, businesses, and schools to help children and young people connect to the justice system in a positive way.

The Council was pleased to receive the suggestion from the Lead Presiding Judge of the South Eastern Circuit , Mr Justice Edis, to make this appointment, following the tireless efforts and continuous priority Judge Lucas had given to opening up the Crown Court to the community.

In accordance with The Lord Chief Justice's guidelines, the Chief Executive had consulted the Senior Presiding Judge for England and Wales, The Right Honourable Lady Justice Thirlwell, DBE, who advised that she happily endorsed the appointment of Judge Lucas as Honorary Recorder for Haringey, in recognition of his continuing positive connections to the local community.

Judge Lucas was invited to speak about his role.

Judge Lucas was very grateful to the Mayor , Leadership of the Council and Chief Executive for inviting him to receive this honour and he would be the first Judge in Haringey to receive this honour. He felt that this was a highly prized honour for the staff at Wood Green Crown court in recognition of their work and contribution to the community.

Judge Lucas continued to speak about: the history of Wood Green and its role in the administration of justice, how the Crown Court came to be constructed and how the

Court will deal with the most serious criminal cases passed from the magistrate's court.

Judge Lucas advised that there were 8 full time circuit judges appointed to sit at Wood Green Crown Court and these judges also mirrored the diversity of the borough.

Judge Lucas spoke about the impact of the pandemic on court operations and backlog of court cases to be heard. Judge Lucas had received a positive response from the Council for his request for support in the provision of space for hearings and although this was not taken forward, following extensive investigation, it did inspire extensive re-modelling and a 3 further courts with increased capacity. The range of court cases were outlined and how the courts dealt with the entire spectrum of criminal offending. He spoke about the outreach work of the court and increasing awareness of its responsibilities to the residents and also how efforts had been redoubled to engage with local communities via schools . The court had previously held an open day and 1600 people had attended and had expressed surprise and delight at seeing how the court worked. Judge Lucas underlined how it was essential to work with the community and he was seeking to hold another open day on 14th of April 2022, Covid measures permitting, and invited the Mayor to attend. Judge Lucas also invited the Mayor , Chief Executive and other members of the Council to visit the court on a less formal basis and meet with the presiding Judges.

Judge Lucas felt that the appointment being put forward was regarded as recognition of the work of all staff at Wood Green Crown Court to ensure justice is served within the community. All the Judges and staff had worked tirelessly during the pandemic to ensure those processes continued and criminal justice continued to be dispensed.

The Leader of the Council was pleased to support the recommendations of the report that Judge Lucas be appointed to the position of Honorary Recorder and thanked the lead presiding judge of the South Eastern Circuit, Judge Edis in putting forward this suggestion for the Council to make this appointment. The Leader of the Council continued to speak of Judge Lucas's ethnic background, academic achievements and his legal career achievements, leading to his authorisation as a Judge to try the most serious cases in the criminal justice system. The Leader of the Council concluded by speaking about the importance of community safety to the administration and how this appointment would serve to strengthen the abilities of the borough to keep the streets safe and create opportunities for young people.

Cllr Viv Ross added the Liberal Democrat group's support for the appointment, highlighting the reality of the working lives, of the judiciary and the intense commitment and hard work required which continued both prior to, during and after court cases. He echoed the thoughts of the Right Honourable Lady Justice Thirlwell who commended Judge Lucas for his tireless effort to open up Wood Green Crown Court to the local community and for continuing to discharge his duties and commitment to the court with vigour and energy.

The Chief Whip called on the recommendations in the report to be agreed.

**RESOLVED**

To agree, that pursuant to Section 54 of the Courts Act 1971, His Honour, Judge Noel Lucas, be appointed to the office of Honorary Recorder of Haringey during his tenure as Resident circuit judge.

The Mayor thanked Judge Lucas for his speech and service to the community and presented him with a gift on behalf of the Council.

The Mayor invited attendees to participate in a round of applause and appreciation for the Honorary Recorder and guests from Wood Green Crown Court.

*Political Composition and Appointments to Committees 2021/22*

The Mayor accepted this item as late business.

The Chief Whip MOVED that Members note the changes to the political groups as notified and agree a change to the Committee Memberships as set out in the report.

**RESOLVED**

1. To note the changes to the political composition set out at paragraph 4.3.
2. To agree the resultant changes to Council Committee memberships as detailed in paragraph 4.6 and attached at Appendix 1.

**23. ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE LEADER - CSO 3.1 VII**

The Mayor - in accordance with Council Standing Order 3.1 vii - referred to the Leader of the Council

Cllr Ahmet, Leader of the Council, spoke about co – production and its components of inclusion. This was about residents shaping decisions that affect them, having a stake in the community and having a genuine chance of participation . She spoke about the barriers to participation and confronting this head on, if there was to be a difference made. She felt strongly that it was important to feel an equal full citizen and feel safe in the community and there was a major role for the Council in this. The Leader spoke about the recent attack on a women in Finsbury Park in June , the second in the last four years, and the need not to victim blame and have a collective focus on bringing perpetrators to account. The Leader wanted to work together with Councillors, communities, partners and neighbouring boroughs on this. There had been discussions with local ward Councillors in the last week on CCTV camera installation, reshaping the public realm around the park so it felt safer. There would be a follow up meeting in August . In the longer term the Council would be building on the10 year strategy for tackling violence against women and girls to make sure that women’s safety remained a core priority for the Council and stayed at the top of the agenda.

The Chief Whip further move that the decisions taken under special urgency be noted and these were NOTED.

**24. TO RECEIVE THE REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER AND HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES**

The Monitoring Officer had no matters to report on.

## **25. TO MAKE APPOINTMENTS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Chief Whip moved the report and recommendations.

### **RESOLVED**

To agree that Cllr Ibrahim replace Cllr Hakata as the Council's nomination on the Selby Trust – Board of Trustees in accordance with Part 2 of the Constitution, paragraph 4.02(p).

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

Cllr Opoku moved the report and recommendations from the Standards Committee which set out some minor changes to the Constitution. This included amendments in relation to the recruitment of Statutory Officers. This had arisen from recommendations put forward from the Staffing and Remuneration Committee. The second set of recommendations related to minor amendments to the executive functions on low level traffic management schemes.

### **RESOLVED**

1. To approve the amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendices 1 to 5 of the attached report.
2. To approve the amendments to Article 3.02 of the Constitution to remove the reference to European elections set out in Appendix 1.
3. To approve the amendments to the Constitution set out in Appendix 6 of the attached report.

## **27. HARINGEY DEBATE: MAKING CO-PRODUCTION WORK IN HARINGEY: EMPOWERING CITIZENS TO SHAPE THEIR COMMUNITY AND OUR FUTURE**

Cllr das Neves, Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Well-Being introduced the debate on Making Co-Production Work in Haringey: Empowering Citizens to shape their Community and Our Future. She set her definition of co – production which was a shared and common understanding of goals and challenges and involves working together to achieve those goals and tackle challenges. This process involved trust and all participants feeling valued and genuinely heard. This also involved understanding the parameters being worked within, the aims and ambitions as well as constraints. The Cabinet Member spoke about the co -production projects of Osborne Grove which would be discussed in the debate, acknowledging the diversity of Haringey, and not underestimating the contribution of young people to shaping the future of the borough. There was a need to provide feedback and lead, change and acknowledge when things did not work. She spoke about the importance of working together as a Council and community. She concluded that working collaboratively co – produces solutions, building on diversity, strengths and common goals.

The Mayor welcomed the first guest speakers, Lanre who is a founder member of BUBIC which was set up through co-production for people recovering from substance

misuse and addiction. Lanre spoke about founding of BUBIC which had been driven from his personal experience of recovering from substance misuse and a need for there to be a continued support for people after treatment . He spoke about his encouragement from a Council Officer, to take forward a peer support project. A steering group was started with support from the Council and Police then taking forward a peer support programme. The Council had faith in recovering substance users provide this vital peer support needed. At the start, the group was self-funded but gradually got funding from the police and started to work with people and get funding in arrears for helping people. The group began to get advice on getting status as an organisation with self-autonomy and increased their clients . The organisation will now work with anyone unless they are risk to others or themselves. At the present time over 90% of funding was from the local authority. The organisation was good at matching clients to peer support officers with required communication skills and common shared experiences. This was a good example of Council supporting local people set up their own group and provide a much needed and well used service.

Joan Curtis from the Friends of Lordship Lane Recreation Park spoke about the Friends groups in the borough who organised and contributed to thousands of hours of volunteer time to look after the parks and developing maintenance and management plans and green spaces. The groups raise funds for external improvements, planting trees, creating play areas and other new facilities. The groups conducted regular walkabouts and produced maintenance updates to assist the Council. The groups had a community role in organising events and activities that encouraged residents to safely use their open spaces.

The groups would work against inappropriate developments in parks and continue to campaign for more resources at both local and national levels. They will try to hold the Council to account for in relation to hopes for parks and promote parks and their histories and heritage. The groups played a vital role in being the 'active eyes and ears' for the Council and users on the ground level.

Joan spoke about the how the Friends of Lordship Recreation started in 2001 after a period of neglect resulting in lack of the use of the park. They were a group of residents and local parents with the aim of bringing the recreation ground back to its former popular use with community events. She spoke about the community activities organised by the groups and which provided some funding to improve the facilities in the park and the park soon became a popular area .

Joan outlined the innovative approach of the group and establishment of the Lordship recreation ground forum which brought together local users with an interest in parks , chaired by the Friends of Lordship Lane Rec and attended also by Council officers from the Parks department. The forum met on a regular monthly basis to consider maintenance issues and develop plans on how to further look after the Parks.

The Friends of Lordship Lane Recreation Group had also developed many sub groups to concentrate on specific areas in the park. There were over 30 volunteers active in the park in every week . The group has a wider contact with Trees of the City groups to further provide a volunteering opportunity at the park.

The involvement in the park enabled the success of the Council Heritage Lottery bid obtained in 2012 and resulted in funding to refurbish and transform the park. The group were fully embedded in the restoration process and created the Lordship Lane Hub co-operative which is a community run centre.

Joan concluded that the Council is nationally recognised at government level for their co-production and co management work with the Friends group and now it is normal practice for local authorities to work with Friends of Parks groups who act as a powerful ally in maintaining parks in difficult economic conditions.

The Mayor welcomed Emel Temur - Chair of the Carers' Group for the Haynes Dementia Day provision. Emel Temur joined online and there were some issues with the connection, and it was agreed by the Mayor that she later provided her presentation notes for addition to the minutes which were as follows. Emel had experience of co – production as a member of the Osborne Grove Nursing Home Co-Design Group.

Emel was an ex-carer, her husband had early-onset dementia, he attended Haynes Day Care Centre from it's opening in early 2010. Soon after carers at the Haynes established a support group and Emel became its coordinator. They met regularly each month to learn from each other and share any concerns. As the coordinator , Emel started to attend various meetings to represent the group. She eventually became a member of the Adult Social Care Re-Design Group, representing the Haynes carers in matters relating to dementia services. Osborne Grove Co-Design Group was then created as sub- group of the Adult Social Care Re-Design Group.

In March 2019, Emel, was invited to attend the Stakeholder Engagement Event as part of the feasibility studies for Osborne Grove. The event was well attended, facilitated to allow contributions, and felt a very positive event. Since then, she been an active member on the Co-Design Team.

Emel described those experiences as a Haynes carers and that their main interests in Osborne Grove provided the potential to incorporate a day opportunity / day centre facility in future plans for Osborne Grove where there was a gap in south Haringey for such a facility. The group also wanted to see more dementia care facilities for respite and long-term care in Haringey. Emel was pleased that these were included in the current proposals. Later she also became quite involved in design and layout matters reflecting her professional background.

The carers group strongly argued for a co-design approach and was pleased see the Adult Social Care Re-Design Group and Osborne Grove Co-Design Group established. It was felt that the co-design group worked well. This group was well attended, with good representation, and good preparation and circulation of information before the meetings. The discussions allowed focus on detailed or specific concerns, and there was also room to come back and review matters.

Emel concluded that it was important to start the co-design process as early as possible, and in the case of Osborne Grove it is really good that the Co-Design process started when options for the future of Osborne Grove were being considered.

There was still a long way to go but the positive experience encouraged the commitment of group members.

The Mayor opened the debate and Councillors contributed as follows

Cllr Connor welcomed the spotlight on co – production and the importance of service users being closely involved with the design of a service. To support this would need to be a change in culture of commissioning services, investment in staff training to support this new approach. There was a need to ensure that service users voices were properly acted upon as this was crucial to gaining and maintaining the confidence in this process of service users. She spoke about co – production improving services and has less cost than recruiting consultants to explore issues within a service area. There was a need to have a diverse group of service users to ensure understanding of how services can improve. Cllr Connor concluded by advising that for co- production to success, a new code of practice should be drawn up for commissioning themes that embed co- production in turn embedding support for staff, residents and finance budget to support the process.

Cllr Carlin – spoke about the recent flood in her ward and the community in Hornsey coming together to support each other in his incident. She continued to speak about the community in Hornsey having a history of coming together to challenge and involve themselves in decisions affecting their area such as Hornsey Town Centre. She emphasised that residents of the borough being best placed to know how to improve services, parks and support businesses. During the pandemic there were mutual aid groups and networks created. She concluded by advocating that the Council can do so much more by working together.

Cllr Cawley – Harrison questioned the timing of the debate and how co- production should already completely underpin the operation of the Council without needing to be said. He spoke about co-production being at the heart of the liberal constitution and referred to the past decisions of the Council which had taken away opportunities for involvement by the community in local decision making. The Leader of the Opposition hoped that the focus on co – production meant that there would be a return to area forums and called on Councillors to legislate for this and residents determine how the Council works for them.

Cllr Brabazon spoke about the many good examples of co- production that had taken place in the borough over many years such as the Alley – gate scheme, West Green Common, St Ann’s Gardens, and Green Lanes Strategy Group which was nationally recognised. Cllr Brabazon spoke about working with people with lived experience. A current example was the working which local residents to redesign libraries in Highgate, Harringay and Stroud Green. As libraries were a much-loved space and residents welcomed being part of these projects and offered valuable support and local expertise. Cllr Brabazon spoke about the role of politicians in ensuring there was a culture change to support co- production.

Cllr Chenot spoke about the need for a shift in culture to support co – production and the need for an overall change in Council governance to enable this. She spoke about how the Leader Cabinet model was not conducive to listening to the wider views of Councillors and called on Councillors to demonstrate the commitment to co –

production by scrapping the Leader cabinet model and moving to a model which allowed Councillors to listen to each other.

Cllr Hakata spoke about the mechanisms of co- production and how the Council were now taking forward a systematic and universal approach to co-production. There was a dependence on dialogue with residents and professionals through consultation which was required by statute. He felt that this process was passive but under the new approach residents would be active contributors in decision making, provided increased sense of citizenship . This required a cultural change involving the organisation seeing itself as a facilitator and enabler. He concluded that citizens were vital to success to services and if co-production was embedded it will lead to success in the way services are developed and delivered.

Cllr da Costa spoke about large organisations thinking being ‘top down’ rather than ‘bottom up’ and being focused on management and control. He spoke about the role of Councillors empowering residents to help shape the community around them and work in partnership with partners. He felt that there was a need to think beyond co-production to co management and co governance, co delivery and co assessment. This meant ensuring that there were the best services available and striven for and continual improvement and should cornerstone of all services. An example of a mental health centre in Italy was highlighted which involved service users in the design, and daily running of the service and resulted in marked improvements in the number of hospitalisations and access to psychiatric medications. Cllr da Costa concluded by emphasising the need to strive for continued excellence which co-production provided.

Cllr Dogan spoke about the Alevi community, one of the largest faith groups in the borough and spoke about the coming together of Alevi residents both in the borough and outside the borough to create the Alevi Cultural Centre. He spoke about the community role of the Alevi centre in the pandemic, providing support to the vulnerable from all communities. Cllr Dogan outlined that Alevism placed humanity at the heart of its values and measures and this connected with the discussion on co – production which was about working together. Cllr Dogan concluded by calling Councillors to harness the diversity of the borough to work together, stand together and move forward together.

Cllr Palmer spoke about co- production going wrong in Haringey at the financial, and personal cost to residents with poor quality services. She spoke about how it was important that co- production was not seen as a ‘tick box’ exercise. Cllr Palmer continued to echo the traits and elements of coproduction presented . She spoke about Cabinet decision making being concerned with political interest rather than interest of the community and the need to have more action taken by the administration to be believed that co – production was meaningfully being taken forward.

Cllr Barbara Blake invited colleagues to visit Seven Sisters ward and see the co – production activities were undertaken by local Councillors with residents’ groups, friends’ groups with excellent support from the Council. She highlighted that resident involvement was not co – production and there was a need for more changes in

culture. There was a need to be honest about what services can be delivered and where the Council can deliver.

The Leader thanked Members contributions to the debate. The debate would inform the Councils approach to co- production as efforts were refocused to a more collaborative Council. The Leader felt that the way the Council speaks and engages with residents was a crucial component and there was a need to do the work and seek out unheard voices. She spoke about co – production involving residents in decision making at the earliest stage from the ‘bottom up’. This was also about empowering frontline staff within the community to help bring down the barriers of communication and understanding between Council and residents. The Leader concluded that co – production had the huge potential to transform the way the Council worked and to empower residents to be in control of their public services, neighbourhoods and futures.

The Leader thanked the speakers in the debate: Lanre, Joan Curtis and Emel Temur.

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

The Mayor had received no requests for deputations or petitions.

**29. TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, IF ANY, IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NOS. 9 & 10**

The Mayor accepted the admission of responses to written questions as late items of business, as the answers to questions had needed to be researched and prepared after the summons had been dispatched.

There were two 2 questions from a Member of the Public, Mr O’Callaghan,

**Question 1 -**

Mr O’Callaghan asked if Haringey Council had a list of dates and policy for lighting its public landmark buildings to commemorate or express solidarity with people, organisations or events, and how Members were involved in formulating them.

The Leader responded that the Council did not currently have the equipment to light up civic buildings but was looking to install this in future.

The Civic Centre was undergoing a major renovation, at the moment , and lighting equipment was being considered as part of this. Lighting was also considered at George Meehan House in Woodside Park.

**Question 2 -**

Mr O’Callaghan asked if Council could consider involving the residents of Haringey in suggesting organisations or events to commemorate, for instance by an invitation in Haringey People and the Press.

The Leader to responded, that the Council is looking at how it might be able to light its public buildings in the future, including at the renovated Civic Centre. As part of this

process, the Council would look at how best this new equipment can be used to commemorate or express solidarity with people, organisations or events, including talking to Council teams, Councillors and residents.

Oral questions one , two, three, four, five and six were then asked and responded to.

### **30a To consider the following Motions in accordance with Council Rules of Procedure No. 13**

The Mayor advised that there were two motions for consideration.

Cllr Barnes proposed Motion A - Cladding Scandal outlining that it had been 4 years since the Grenfell Tower tragedy and many people in the country were living in buildings with dangerous cladding despite seeing the devastating consequence. She spoke about the continuing arguments between the different levels of government, landlords and developers on who should be footing the costs of these safety works. Cllr Barnes hoped that both political parties could agree that this situation was not good enough and action needed to be taken. The Council did not have the powers to solve this situation alone.

Cllr Barnes highlighted that many residents in these blocks were stuck and could not sell or afford to move and were having to face living in these unsafe blocks. She spoke about the bill that leaseholders were facing from landlords for the cladding works and now one in six leaseholders in a cladded block facing bankruptcy. The government's plans to allow leaseholders to sue developers were insufficient without financial support for taking forward this process. She hoped that colleagues put their political differences aside and vote for this motion.

Cllr Palmer seconded the motion outlining that that there should not be a need to propose this motion as this situation should not have arisen . She felt that the government should have moved quickly to rectify the issue with unsafe cladding on all housing. Se outlined that there was a myriad of problems for people in these blocks, including the EWS1 form which mortgage lenders were requiring and cost £8000. In Cllr Palmer's view , it should be the ne developers that had built the blocks should pay for the cladding to be removed as they made huge profit from their business model. However, this was only one part of the scandal, and it was important for the cladding to be removed quickly . Cllr Palmer concluded that Councils needed to step up and do whatever possible within resources and show support to people living in these flats.

The Mayor had received an amendment to the motion in accordance with Council standing orders. Cllr Bevan proposed the amendment, responding that most of what had been said he was in agreement with. He advised that none of the Homes for Haringey properties in Haringey were affected by this cladding issue. The Cabinet Member advised that the cost of resolving this issue should not fall on Haringey council tax payers' shoulders as this was a national issue and needed a national solution, implemented by the government. He expressed that , over the years, deregulation of buildings and health and safety industry and parts of the building control had led to situation with Grenfell. He felt that this issue needed a national instruction and to have national task force. This did not mean that the Council were not concerned for the residents involved. It was noted that a step that the Council was

taking was to recruit apprenticeships for the Building Control service which monitored and checked the construction performance of builders. The Council was doing its best to ensure the Council's Building Control Service had the capacity to deal with all the works that were currently being undertaken in the borough and those that will be taken forward. The Council would also support Housing Associations and residents who were making representations to parliament. Cllr Bevan concluded by saying that the Council would do all in its power to support residents, but the Council was facing a very difficult situation.

Cllr Gordon seconded the amendment, speaking from experience with some of her own ward residents in Tottenham Hale who were living in flats and fearing for their safety and financial security. The campaign referred to, in the motion, highlighted some of the issues faced nationally on this question. There were currently 11 million people affected by cladding on their homes and the costs for remedial works was estimated at 15 billion and this cost could not be borne by Councils.

Cllr Gordon spoke about the negative associations with health and safety and this had been going on for many years and it was important that this function was perceived more positively as it ultimately saved lives. There was a need to change the narrative on this. The amendments to the motion reflected more strongly the responsibility of the government for resolving this issue quickly and developers taking more ownership and financial accountability.

The Chief Whip moved that the question be put and that Members move to the vote on the motion. Cllr Cawley - Harrison seconded this.

Following no dissent, this was AGREED.

Cllr Barnes, mover of the motion, responded and urged Councillors to explore everything that can be done locally because the Council could not rely on the government. It was important to make sure that there was much control as possible and that buildings being built were as safe as possible for the future and for the residents of Haringey.

Following a vote on the Amendment to MOTION A was AGREED.

Following a vote on the Motion as amended, this was UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.

Council notes that:

- The tragedy of the 2017 Grenfell Tower fire, which led to the loss of 72 lives, was caused by Aluminium Composite Material (ACM) cladding;
- The government banned the use of all combustible materials on the walls of new high rises in November 2018, extending the problem beyond ACM cladding to buildings clad with other flammable materials;
- The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and the UK Council of Mortgage Lenders agreed to the industry External Wall System (EWS) fire review and certification process resulting in what is known as an EWS1 form. There are relatively few qualified professional fire safety engineers across the country who can issue EWS1 forms creating a bottleneck across the country;
- There is no legal requirement for owners to produce EWS1 forms or take remedial action, but many lenders are now refusing to provide mortgages without such a form;

- Snagging is largely left as a responsibility of residents to take up with developers post-purchase, and even when covered by new build insurance schemes, leaseholders often suffer poor response and cycles of poor quality repair;
- Remediation costs for cladding are sometimes spiralling to over £100,000 per flat, with many owners forcing these charges back onto leaseholders;
- December 2020 saw the first case of a leaseholder being bankrupted by costs associated with the crisis;
- Government plans for leaseholders to sue developers with no financial support will not help many due to: high legal costs, the issue of dangerous cladding being legal at the time buildings were built, and the possibility of developers having since become insolvent;
- Waking watches, when a person patrols all floors and external areas of a building to give warning in the event of a fire, are being used in buildings at high risk of fire due to cladding, and are costing Londoners an average of over £20,000 per month;
- Residents and leaseholders, through no fault of their own, are being left in potentially ruinous limbo, unable to mortgage or mortgage and therefore unable to buy and sell;
- Conservative government-led deregulation in the building and fire safety industries, as well as part-privatisation of building control in local authorities that took place under Margaret Thatcher, has created a race to the bottom culture regarding building safety and stripped local authorities of much of their powers;
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 places responsibility on the 'Responsible Person' to manage fire risk. The Responsible Person in the case of a block of flats will be the person or organisation who has overall control of the premises, which is usually the owner or managing company working for the owner. The Council cannot fulfil the Responsible Person role for private, non-Council owned buildings.
- No Homes for Haringey properties have been affected by ACM cladding.
- In February 2021, the Parliamentary Labour Party won a commons vote on a motion calling for a national cladding task force to oversee remediation works, and force building owners to take financial responsibility for the safety of their buildings.
- The Council has upskilled its existing Building Control surveyors who are all now qualified as Level 6 Fire Safety Surveyors, the highest competency that Building Control surveyors can attain, to ensure the service to local residents and businesses is of a high standard for safety.
- Cabinet in December 2020 accepted the Scrutiny Review on Fire Safety in High Rise Blocks recommendation to recruit at least two apprentices in the Building Control service to start in the 2021/22 financial year to support the Building Control service in 'growing its own' staff to provide a high standard of service for residents and businesses.
- The Council attaches 'informatives' to planning permissions to inform developers about requirements for building safety e.g. regarding sprinkler installation. As building and fire safety is primarily a matter for Building Control regulations rather than Planning regulations, national planning policy and guidance is clear that requirements relating to EWS1 and snagging issues cannot be attached to planning permissions as 'conditions'. Neither can

planning permissions be delayed for such reasons. Nevertheless, the Council is proactive in attaching informatives relating to building safety.

Council believes that:

- The combination of this cladding, EWS1 and snagging scandal is having a devastating impact on many residents;
- The current industry EWS1 process and public funding of remediation works is not fit for purpose and needs rapid attention;
- The funding given by central government towards remediation works is completely insufficient, and costs are still falling on the shoulders of individual leaseholders;

An independent public inquiry should be set up to look at the government's response to concerns about fire and building safety;

Council resolves to request of the leadership that they:

- Sign up to the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign;
- Support any Housing Association residents affected by ACM cladding to contact their MP and the Housing Ombudsman;
- Lobby the government to immediately perform an audit and consultation with resident associations of all habitable buildings in Haringey (regardless of tenure) to establish the potential scope of the cladding, EWS1 and snagging issues, with a report back to Cabinet by the end of 2021;
- Lobby government to fully fund advice and support including establishing a Cladding and Snagging Hub by October 2021 to provide assistance to all Haringey residents and residents associations regardless of housing tenure which would support in lobbying developers, building owners and claiming Government funds to urgently rectify their buildings;
- Encourage government to investigate options to increase the number of surveyors or other suitable professionals as appropriate, in order to perform more EWS1 assessments and accelerate remediation and certification;
- Work with private building owners and Housing Associations in Haringey to help them act immediately in rectifying issues and achieving EWS1 certification – noting that some of these owners may not be the original developer and may therefore need the Council's assistance to engage and trace developers or find other routes to remedy, thus avoiding any cost to leaseholders;
- Lobby and work with MPs, MHCLG and the Mayor of London to:
  - Encourage government to enforce remediation of housing of all tenures and to improve the compensation funds and actively support affected residents in Haringey of all tenures; Support the sensible recommendations of the Housing, Communities and Local Government Select Committee in their report on cladding remediation from April 2021;
  - Support the 10 steps set out by the End Our Cladding Scandal campaign.

### **31. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL RULES OF PROCEDURE NO. 13**

Cllr Bevan proposed Motion B, outlining the frequent changes to Planning laws and the motion seeking to ensure that Haringey residents maintain the right to object to Planning applications and right to support them as well. It was vital to force a u turn from the government who were seeking to radically change the way the operation of the planning system. The Cabinet Member continued to describe the details of how the new proposed system and the increased rights given to developers without the opportunity for local decision making and public involvement. He spoke about Covid pandemic being a strong reminder of the need to build neighbourhoods that enhanced wellbeing. He acknowledged the need to increase the number of high quality ,genuinely affordable housing but this has to be done in collaboration with residents not through allowing developers easier routes through the planning system. The proposed developers charter did not address the real issue with House Building nor address the many sites that had received planning permission but where housing was not being built on for many years. There was a need to incentivise developers to develop land that they already owned and discourage land banking.

Cllr Weston formally seconded the motion.

Cllr Hare moved the amendment, welcoming the opportunity to debate the motion. He spoke on the impact of the pandemic and the new emphasis on 'local' with the idea of being 15 minutes away from the city gaining ground. Having a standard criteria for developers to adhere to would appeal to developer but local people and Councillors better understood the character of areas and principles involved in planning. He outlined the difference in character to an area were not a barrier to development but a prompt of appropriate development. There was no justification for any changes to planning that would make more likely cloned town development.

Cllr Hare continued to speak about the delay in these rules likely caused by the 44000 responses received to the consultation from all sides of the political spectrum. He outlined that the Highgate society welcomed the debate and there were a large number of conservation societies in the borough that worked hard to assists the Council's planning team . The new proposed Planning Bill would remove any meaningful consultation with these groups and cause continuing damage to the character and quality of the borough. He called for a meaningful consultation on the planning system and on permitted planning rights. The Liberal Democrat group supported the motion with the addition that the Leader write to the Minister for Housing and Communities and Local Government asking for the Planning White Paper to be abandoned and to review permitted development rights.

Cllr Morris seconded the amendment and asked the Labour group to support the amendments.

The Chief Whip moved that the question be put and that members move to the vote.

Cllr Cawley – Harrison seconded the motion.

This was AGREED.

In accordance with CSO 15.13(c)the Mayor called on Cllr Bevan to provide a short right of reply

Cllr Bevan called on Members to support the amendment to the Motion because it made relevant points and strengthened the Council's argument to the Government Minister.

Following a vote on the amendment, this was AGEED.

Following a vote on the Motion as amended, this was AGREED.

## **Motion B**

### **Protecting local involvement in planning decisions**

This Council notes that central government's proposed planning reforms will allow developers to receive automatic planning permission in designated "growth zones", completely bypassing public objections from local residents.

This Council notes that the Housing, Communities, and Local Government Select Committee has concluded that the government's plans will not produce a quicker, cheaper, and more democratic planning system.

This Council believes that this is a "developers' charter" that side-lines local communities, depriving the public of the power to shape our future, protect our past, and conserve our local environment.

This Council believes that placemaking, the collaborative process by which we can shape our public realm and reinvent public spaces as the heart of our communities, is essential to the future of our Borough. With community participation at its centre, placemaking cannot be successful without the active participation of our residents in decision making, including the right to object to planning applications that do not create or allow for quality public spaces that contribute to residents' health, happiness, and wellbeing.

This Council believes that there is a pressing need to build more good quality and affordable homes. The average house price has doubled since 2009, and the level of Council housing is at an all-time low. However, more than 1.1m homes that received planning permission in England over the last decade are yet to be built, therefore the barrier towards meeting this need is not posed by the current planning system.

This Council believes planning works best when developers and the local community work together to shape local areas and deliver necessary new homes. This Council calls on the government to protect the right of communities to object to any and all individual planning applications.

This Council resolves that the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition should write a joint letter to the Minister for Housing, Communities and Local Government asking him to scrap the planning white paper and to undertake a review of permitted development rights.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....