

# **MINUTES OF MEETING Full Council HELD ON Monday, 18th July, 2022, 7.30pm**

## **PRESENT:**

**Councillors: Gina Adamou (Mayor), Peray Ahmet, Dawn Barnes, Nicola Bartlett, John Bevan, Zena Brabazon, Lester Buxton, Dana Carlin, Pippa Connor, Eldridge Culverwell, Lucia das Neves, Julie Davies, Sarah Elliott, Ruth Gordon, Mike Hakata, Adam Jogee, Ali Mahbub, Reg Rice, Elin Weston and Sarah Williams**

## **18. FILMING AT MEETINGS**

The Mayor referred to the notice of filming at meetings and attendees noted this information.

The Mayor advised that due to the extreme hot weather red level 4 warning in place and the impacts this had on public health, it had been agreed with the political groups that the meeting would be shortened to essential business.

The Council Standing Orders would be utilised to enable this.

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

The Chief Executive advised some councillors had provided apologies prior to the meeting and would be noted in the minutes as follows:

Cllr Dunstall  
Cllr Say  
Cllr Hymas  
Cllr Iyngkaran  
Cllr Opoku

The Chief Executive advised that following the level 4 extreme heat warning the political groups had agreed to hold a quorum meeting to maintain health and safety. The following councillors had provided apologies in line with this agreement and would be noted in the minutes.

Cllr Emery  
Cllr Da Costa  
Cllr Luke Cawley-Harrison  
Cllr Isilar-Gosling  
Cllr Rossetti  
Cllr Abela

Cllr Diakides  
Cllr Dogan  
Cllr Gourtsoyannis  
Cllr Jameson  
Cllr Gunes  
Cllr Harrison Mullane

Cllr Adje  
Cllr Ali  
Cllr Amin  
Cllr Arkell  
Cllr Barbara Blake,  
Cllr Mark Blake  
Cllr Brennan  
Cllr Chandwani  
Cllr Collett  
Cllr Worrell  
Cllr Mason

Cllr Ibrahim  
Cllr Johnson  
Cllr Moyeed  
Cllr Ovat  
Cllr Peacock  
Cllr Simmons - Safo  
Cllr Stennett  
Cllr Wallace  
Cllr White

**20. 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 Mayor agreed the admission of the following late items of business that could not be available earlier and needed to be dealt with at this meeting.

Item 13 Questions and Written Answers - The reason for lateness was that notice of questions was not 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.

Item 14 - The amendments to motions were not requested until 10am on the day of the council meeting and an amendment to Motion A had been received and had been published and distributed as a supplementary pack.

**21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest put forward.

**22. TO APPROVE AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 23 MAY 2022**

**RESOLVED**

To approve the minutes of the Annual Council meeting held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 as a correct record.

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

The Mayor advised that her agenda item would be utilised to:

- Give thanks to the long-standing retiring head teachers
- To pay tribute to Bruce Kent.

The Mayor offered the Council's condolences to his wife – Valerie Flessati, and shared memories of some of her experiences with Bruce Kent and how she got to know him as a ward councillor.

It was noted that the Mayor's Support Officer would circulate information on the Mayoral engagements and activities.

The Mayor invited Cllr Brabazon to pay tribute to Bruce Kent.

Cllr Brabazon spoke of Bruce Kent as a personal political hero, who was known around the world and who inspired lots of people through his magnificent speeches and debating skills. He was a General Secretary of CND and he had always showed his leadership and drive while working at CND. Cllr Brabazon spoke about how she got to know him as his ward Councillor and described him as a principled, humane, compassionate, erudite, and charming person with great sense of humour. She outlined that Bruce Kent was very modest and treated everyone equally as if they were his friends and he would be missed by all. She also expressed her personal condolences to his wife Valerie Flessati.

The Mayor invited Councillors to join her in a minute's silence for Mr Bruce Kent.

A minute of silence was observed in his honour.

Cllr Brabazon gave a speech of thanks to the following retiring headteachers:

- Tiverton Primary School – Resham Mirza
- North Haringay Primary School – Jane Alexander
- Pembury House Nursery – Sue Moss
- Gladesmore Community School – Tony Hartney
- St Aidan's VC School – Anne Etchells
- Welbourne Primary – Parveen Duggal
- Alexandra Primary – Manjit Dulay

She thanked the head teachers for their service to children and families in Haringey. In total there was near a hundred years of headship and contributions at Haringey between them. They had supported generation after generation of children with dedication and commitment. It was noted that the last two years had especially been hugely challenging for schools and for everyone working in them. As Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families, she took the opportunity to thank all teachers and staff across the borough for all the work they had done during the pandemic, keeping the borough's schools open for children and young people.

The Cabinet Member for Children, Schools and Families had compiled certificates of appreciation for each of the head teacher's and would have liked to personally hand these at the meeting. However, due to the extreme weather conditions and need to maintain health and safety, the head teachers were attending online. The certificates would be framed and delivered to the schools before the summer break.

The Cabinet Member concluded by once again thanking the head teachers on behalf of the Council for the wonderful service they had provided to Haringey.

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

The Chief Executive had no matters to report on.

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

The Monitoring Officer and Head of Legal and Governance had no matters to report on.

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

The Leader of the Council further moved that the decisions taken under special urgency be noted and these were NOTED.

**27. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE FOLLOWING BODIES**

The Cabinet Member for Housing Services, Private Renters, and Planning – was invited to present the report on the adoption of the North London Waste Plan.

She clarified that the attached waste plan policy was not connected with the Edmonton incinerator but would be used to inform the Council's planning decisions on the relevant sites.

The plan has been extensively consulted on and had undergone a number of modifications in response to community concerns, mostly recently by the inspector at the North London Waste Plan examination process. Haringey was now being asked to provide three sites that could be used for waste management over the next 15 years. There were two sites in Tottenham, in Northumberland Park, Brantwood Road and North East Tottenham, which were allocated as at the moment as strategic industrial locations and employment land. Those sites were made up of a number of industrial sites with a number of different owners. The third site is known as Pinkham Way was designated as employment land and site of importance for nature conservation. This had been previously subject to debate and discussion within Haringey. However, the Cabinet Member was pleased that members of Pinkham Way Alliance came to the Cabinet meeting to express their views and recognise that the North London Waste Plan protects the site which in their view was vulnerable to intensive development. The plan proposes that these sites be considered primarily for waste transfer and for recycling which was in line with the administration's manifesto commitment on increasing recycling. The Cabinet Member continued to recommend adoption of the North London Waste Plan.

**RESOLVED**

- 1) To note the content of the attached report and the Inspector's Report on the North London Waste Plan (set out in Appendix A);
- 2) To agree to adopt the North London Waste Plan (Appendix C) including Main Modifications (Appendix B) and associated changes to the Policies Map.

The Mayor invited the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny to introduce the Annual report from Overview and Scrutiny for 2021/22.

The Chair of Overview and Scrutiny thanked the previous Chair of the Committee as this work had been completed in his tenure. He moved the report and this was NOTED.

**28. HARINGEY DEBATE : UNDERSTANDING AND TACKLING MENTAL HEALTH WELLBEING IN HARINGEY COMMUNITIES**

The Chief Whip MOVED that due to the extreme hot weather red level 4 warning and need to maintain the health and safety of councillors, and in accordance with Council Standing Order 14j, to proceed to the next business.

This Motion was seconded by Cllr Barnes and the meeting AGREED to move to the next item of business.

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

The Mayor had received a deputation from Mr Tom Hoyland regarding the matter of plant-based Council event catering and plant-based school meals.

This deputation had been deferred to the November Council meeting due to the severe weather warning in place and maintain health and safety.

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

The Mayor had accepted the responses to written questions admitted as late business and these were RECEIVED.

In relation to the Oral questions , the Mayor called on the Chief Whip.

As set out previous item, members noted the information on the extreme weather conditions and the health and safety implications, the Chief Whip continued to move procedural motion 14j that the meeting proceed to the next business, and that responses to the oral questions be provided in accordance with Council Standing Order 10.5d. This was seconded by Cllr Barnes and AGREED.

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

The Mayor invited Cllr Barnes to introduce Motion A on the Cost of Living.

Cllr Barnes spoke about the increased cost in living and rising inflation, which had significantly increased food bills. This situation was exacerbated due to the very hot weather, which was affecting the British growing season. The motion was putting forward the most possible protection to Haringey residents who would bear the worst consequence of this economic situation.

Cllr Connor seconded the motion.

The Mayor invited Cllr Chair invited Cllr Ahmed Mahbub, to present his amendment.

Cllr Mahbub spoke of the previous historical political coalition between Conservatives and Liberal Democrats, the impact of economic crash of 2008 increasing poverty, and how the cost-of-living crisis was affecting residents in his ward. He mentioned reports from Joseph Rowntree Foundation, which described a third of children, were living in poverty and how this was likely to increase. He referred to Consumer Council for Water which reported that nearly 2 million people were in water poverty and struggling to pay their water bills. Cllr Mahbub spoke about how government must make sure household support fund is provided for the long term. He concluded by calling for Councillors to continue and maintain their support Haringey residents on the cost-of-living crisis.

Cllr Sarah Elliott seconded the motion.

The Chief Whip MOVED that the question be put.

This was seconded by Cllr Connor and AGREED.

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

Cllr Barnes challenged the assertions made to regarding the Liberal Democrat and Conservative collation of 12 years ago as a factor in the cost-of-living crisis and highlighted other factors to cost of living crisis.

Following a Vote on the amendment to the MOTION A Cost of Living Crisis, this was AGREED.

There followed a vote on the Motion as amended which was AGREED:

Proposer: Councillor Ahmed Mahbub

Seconder: Councillor Sarah Elliott

**Council notes that:**

- The UK inflation rate hit a 90 year high of 9.1 per cent in May, and is expected by the Bank of England to rise further to 11 per cent by October;
- The biggest contributor to last month's increase in inflation was food prices, which have risen by 32.8 per cent in the past year;
- On 1 April 2022, Ofgem increased the energy price cap by 54 per cent;
- In light of the increased energy price cap, the average standard tariff energy bill will increase by £693 per year, and the average pre-pay meter energy bill will increase by £708 per year (Ofgem, 2022);
- On 6 April 2022, the government increased National Insurance by 1.25 percentage points, which is projected to cost the average family in Haringey an additional £600 a year;
- In 2021/22 Haringey Foodbanks distributed food parcels at a rate of 11 per

- 100,000 people (Trussell Trust, 2022);
- A 2022 survey from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation showed that 45% of all low-income families (those in the bottom 40% of household incomes) had family members either cut down on or skip meals, or go hungry because they did not have enough money for food;
- Thousands of households in Haringey live in fuel poverty, exacerbated by the fact that 60% of homes in the borough are not energy efficient (Climate Action, 2022).
- The Council's 'Haringey, Here to Help' scheme is designed to get residents the help and support available to them during the cost-of-living crisis, and a specialised telephone helpline for residents will be launched later this week.
- The Council's Debt Partnership Board (which includes Citizen's Advice, the food network, housing associations, credit unions, and local advice services) meets every two months and takes a multi-agency approach to addressing cost of living concerns.

**Council believes that:**

- The decision taken in June 2022 to impose a 'Windfall Tax' on the super-profits of oil and gas companies and to redistribute this as a one-off payment of £400 to households later this year was a welcome first step from the government;
- That the government needs to take a long-term approach to lowering energy bills, including:
  - Reducing Britain's reliance on imported gas by accelerating home grown renewables;
  - Scrapping the Windfall tax "super-deduction" (which will see huge reductions in the amount of tax oil and gas companies pay if they invest in UK oil and gas extraction) as called for in a letter to the former Chancellor of the Exchequer sent by the Cabinet Member for Climate Action, Environment, and Transport, and signed by other London councils.
  - Undertaking a national home insulation strategy which takes into account the private rented sector and encourages landlords to insulate properties they rent.
- The government is not going far enough to support ordinary people through the cost-of-living crisis.

**Council resolves to:**

- Declare a 'Cost of Living Emergency';
- Ask the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition to write a joint letter to the Government asking them to:
  - Immediately reduce the standard rate of VAT from 20 per cent to 17.5 per cent for one year, saving the average household in Haringey a further £600 this year;
  - Immediately restore the Universal Credit supplement of £20, which was cancelled by the Government in September 2021, and lift the benefit cap.
  - Reverse the 40% cuts to Discretionary Housing Payment for the next three years.
  - To make the Household Support Fund, which helps people experiencing immediate financial hardship, a long-term grant.
  - To urgently address the five-month Personal Independence Payment backlog, which is resulting in disabled people missing out on £300m in social security payments.
  - To ensure that local authority funding is not cut any further in order to fund these much-needed support initiatives, and to improve funding to local authorities to allow them to take a prevention-based approach to the cost of living crisis.

The Mayor invited Cllr Hakata to introduce Motion B on 'Stop the Bus Cuts'.

Cllr Hakata spoke of climate change and how its impacts were accelerating. He continued to outline:

- The need to reduce emissions of motor traffic on roads specifically cars, which created a third of all of emissions
- A need to incentivise people to do cycling and walking.

Cllr Hakata expressed that TFL were the core provider of public transport in London and underpinned the required actions to achieve climate change reduction goals. There was a need to support this motion to ensure that the government fully funded and supported TFL.

Cllr Adam Jogee formally seconded the motion. He spoke of the impact that the proposed reduction on bus routes would have on high Streets, town centres and communities where people lived, worked and learned. He expressed that public transport make high streets more accessible to the communities and that the planned reductions to bus services would likely make cost of living worse; affecting the poorest hardest. He concluded by calling for the motion to be supported.

The Chief Whip MOVED that the Question be put.

This was seconded by Cllr Barnes and AGREED.

In accordance with CSO 15.13(c), Cllr Hakata provided a short right of reply.

Following a vote MOTION B 'Stop the Bus Cuts' was AGREED.

**This Council notes:**

- Public transport makes up over one third of journeys in Haringey.
- Buses are the most affordable and accessible form of public transport available to Haringey residents.
- Buses are used by many local residents across Haringey to get to school, work, and to volunteer.
- That it is estimated that switching just one journey in 25 from car to bus or coach can save 2 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>, and that a fully laden double-decker bus can take the place of as many as 75 cars on the road.
- Buses were responsible for only 3% of total greenhouse gas emissions by transport in the UK in 2019.
- Transport for London (TfL) is aiming for all buses in London to be zero emission by 2034, at the latest.
- TfL is one of the only major transport networks in the world that doesn't receive a central government grant, since the Central Government cut it.



- The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on TfL's fare income and the need for Central Government support to ensure the continuation of vital public transport links in London.
- With Central Government delaying funding deals and only agreeing to short term funding, TfL is being forced to look at cutting services to balance the books.
- TfL have proposed sweeping changes to London's bus routes which will negatively impact Haringey residents.
- The Government set a number of conditions before it would provide emergency funding to enable TfL to keep operating, including requiring them to produce a plan to set out how they would achieve significant financial savings. This plan agreed by TfL with the government is for a 4% reduction on the bus network. This could mean up to 800 jobs being lost, 250 buses cut, and 16 routes axed.
- The 349 route will be cut entirely, this bus will no longer run and key (but not all) routes will be maintained by restructuring the 279 to run between Waltham Cross and Stamford Hill.
- The 259 route will be restructured to operate between Ponders End and Holloway Nag's Head and would no longer serve stops between Kings Cross and Holloway Nag's Head.
- The 279 route will be restructured to operate between Waltham Cross station and Stamford Hill and would no longer serve stops between Seven Sisters and Manor House station.
- The 214 route will be restructured to run between Highgate Village and Pimlico, instead of between Highgate Village and Moorgate.
- According to TfL's own impact assessment those most affected by these cuts would be 'women, older people, those on low incomes, and some Black, Asian and minority ethnic people are more likely to use buses (and many people will fall into more than one of these groups). There are also people who are more likely to be impacted by the planned changes, particularly older and disabled people as well as pregnant women and those travelling with small children'.

**This Council believes:**

- Bus routes should be expanded, not cut, in order to promote public transport and provide an effective and affordable alternative to car use in order to improve air quality and tackle the climate emergency.
- Access to affordable transport is essential during this cost-of-living crisis, especially considering that those on lower income, working shifts, and who have multiple jobs often rely heavily on buses.
- Londoners did the right thing and stayed at home during the pandemic, but TfL finances have been devastated as a result.
- Many local jobs are directly or indirectly reliant on bus services.
- Local businesses and high streets are reliant on our bus services, providing affordable transport for both customers and employees.
- London's transport system is crucial to the economic success of London and the government therefore has a duty to adequately fund TfL to ensure the levelling-up agenda is delivered in London.

**This Council resolves:**

- To work with other London Councils to call on the government to agree a long-term funding deal with TfL that would protect public transport and active travel investment.
- To ask the Leader of the Council to write to the Secretaries of State for Transport, Environment Food and Rural Affairs, and Work and Pensions expressing our concerns about impact of bus cuts on workers, those on low income, and our residents as a whole, as well as the potential environmental impact of cutting bus routes, and requesting a fair funding deal for TfL.
- Work with the Mayor of London to increase the amount of local people walking, wheeling or cycling.
- To continue to support trade unions taking action to protect workers' pensions and conditions, oppose job cuts, and call for a proper pay rise.

CHAIR:

Signed by Chair .....

Date .....