

**MINUTES OF THE FULL COUNCIL  
MONDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2011**

Councillors Adamou, Alexander, Allison, Amin, Basu, Beacham, Bevan, Brabazon, Browne, Bull, Christophides, Demirci, Diakides, Dogus, Egan, Ejiofor, Engert, Erskine, Gibson, Goldberg, Gorrie, Griffith (Mayor), Hare, Jenks, Khan, Kober, Mallett, McNamara, Meehan, Newton, Peacock, Reece, Reid, Reith, Rice, Scott, Solomon, Stanton, Stennett, Strang, Strickland, Vanier, Waters, Watson, Weber, Whyte, Williams, Wilson and Winskill

Apologies Councillor Adje, Bloch, Canver, Cooke, Davies, Schmitz and Stewart

Absent Councillor Butcher

MINUTE NO.	SUBJECT/DECISION	ACTION BY
<b>CNCL30.</b>	<p><b>TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b></p> <p>Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Adje, Bloch, Canver, Cooke, Davies, Schmitz, and Stewart, and for lateness from Councillors Allison, Amin and Griffith.</p>	
<b>CNCL31.</b>	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b></p> <p>There were no declarations of interests.</p>	
<b>CNCL32.</b>	<p><b>TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION IN RESPECT OF THE SERIOUS PUBLIC DISORDER WHICH TOOK PLACE IN TOTTENHAM.</b></p> <p>Councillor Vanier – Cabinet Member for Communities commented on the shared dismay, sadness and shock at the events that took place in the borough in August. The Borough witnessed the destruction of Tottenham High Road and also large scale looting in Wood Green. The dreadful pictures of Tottenham High Road in flames were beamed around the world.</p> <p>Councillor Vanier, in stating the question how the riots happened, commented that there was no doubt that the catalyst was indeed the tragic shooting of Mark Duggan by an officer from the Met Police CO19 firearms unit, and reported that, as was customary in these events, the IPCC immediately took control of the investigation and in this case the Haringey Police were not able to make comment to the community. To add to the tension the IPCC released a statement that was later found to be misleading.</p> <p>Councillor Vanier stressed that there was huge concern in the community about the shooting. Mark Duggan’s family and friends held a peaceful vigil outside of Tottenham Police Station. They wanted answers to the circumstances of his death. After several hours wait and not getting the required response, the family decided to go home.</p>	

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Subsequent to this rioting erupted. It was important to note that the Duggan family condemned the disorder and made it very clear that it was not in their name.

What followed were hours of rioting, arson and looting that left Tottenham High Road looking like a war zone. Police officers were injured, some very seriously. Many residents lost their businesses, their homes, having to leave with just the clothes on their back. They were left feeling bewildered, traumatised, bereaved and as one resident said 'numb'.

Tottenham residents remain angry about the rioting that occurred in their community. They are adamant that what took place was not representative of their community.

Councillor Vanier referred to the destruction of the physical fabric of this community which was indeed a serious set back but this terrible event had highlighted not only the resilience of the people of Tottenham but the strong sense of community, and humanity of the people of Haringey. The offers of support and help from local people were overwhelming, and the vast array of agencies at the Community Assistance Centre, coupled with the generous donations from businesses and people nationally and internationally was quite humbling. The solidarity of the people of Haringey was further illustrated when residents from all over the borough came to Tottenham to take part in a community clear up. Many brought their own brooms.

Councillor Vanier placed on record her thanks to officers for their quick response in setting up the emergency refuge at Tottenham Green for residents who were made homeless on the night of the riots, and the fantastic work they did to get the Community Assistance Centre up and running within 48 hours. Their efforts were certainly over and above the call of duty.

Councillor Vanier highlighted the first hand experience of seeing the spirit of the people of Haringey, together with the eagerness of the community to help, and that it was truly one borough striving for one future. Haringey would now move forward, harness the strength and ideas of the people of our borough to rebuild the physical fabric of our community.

The Mayor welcomed to the meeting the Borough Commander of the Met Police – Sandra Looby who advised the Council of the on-going investigation by the IPCC and that the Police were unable to comment until the results of that investigation were known.

In particular Chief Superintendent Looby advised:

- 330 crimes had been reported as a result of the riot of which 170 were being investigated locally.
- There were 20,000 hours of CCTV footage to be examined
- There were considerable positive efforts and co-operation between the Met Police and the Local Community and working with key community leaders, together with community

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	<p>empowerment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need for accountability at a local level and prioritisation of issues affecting the local community</li> </ul> <p>The Mayor welcomed Councillor Guy Nicholson from LB Hackney – Portfolio holder for Regeneration and 2012 Olympic &amp; Paralympic Games.</p> <p>Councillor Nicholson addressed the meeting and commented on the positive work in Hackney in terms of community empowerment in regeneration in particular areas of the Borough where there had been severe deprivation, and also the embracing of the regeneration opportunities in light of the 2012 Olympic &amp; Paralympic Games, and how LB Hackney were already benefiting from the legacy of this event both in personal and community participation.</p> <p>There followed a question and answer session and the Borough Commander agreed to return to a future meeting following conclusion of the investigation.</p> <p>The Mayor thanked both Chief Superintendent Sandra Looby and Councillor Guy Nicholson for attending.</p>	
<p><b>CNCL33.</b></p>	<p><b>TO CONSIDER FEEDBACK FROM AREA COMMITTEE CHAIRS IN RELATION THE PUBLIC DISORDER.</b></p> <p>The meeting received feedback from the seven Area Committee Chairs on issues which had been raised at the recent round of Area Committee meetings in relation to the riots, and outlined the key themes from each Area as follows:</p> <p><u>Tottenham and Seven Sisters</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns were raised regarding the Police’s handling of the events around Mr Duggan’s death and on the night of 6<sup>th</sup> August, and also the level of communication provided.</li> <li>• People appreciated the authorities’ response, including the Community Assistance Centre, work to re-house those affected, response to physical damage and assistance to small traders.</li> <li>• A link was made between cuts in youth services and the riots, and this needed to be addressed.</li> <li>• There was pride in the community’s response, particularly the clean-up and donations.</li> </ul> <p><u>West Green and Bruce Grove</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a positive focus on what could have been done better, to avoid the same mistakes in future; lack of pride in the community, frustration with and poor communication from the police, a weak initial police response and an increasing sense of alienation among young people were highlighted as contributing factors to events.</li> <li>• Concerns were raised regarding education, unemployment and lack of opportunities in the area. Engagement with young people</li> </ul>	

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was needed, as well as funding for youth provision and a coordinated approach to regeneration, leading to sustainable jobs.

- Residents were proud of the area and unhappy about the damage done to the community and the area's reputation. There was a desire for Tottenham to be built back better than before.

Northumberland Park and White Hart Lane

- People supported the work of the SNTs and recognised the different roles played by local policing and external operations. Poor communication and initial inertia from the police was felt to have caused the situation to escalate. It was felt that there was a need for a review of Police tactics, greater Police presence and more protection for property and citizens.
- Concern was expressed about the reduction in youth services, the rise in unemployment and the disengagement of young people from society. Better support was needed, and teenagers should be given a stake in society and decision-making processes. Trust needed rebuilding between young people, the council and the police.
- There was concern regarding poverty, deprivation, general unemployment and the bleak economic outlook. Improvements in employment, housing and regeneration were needed.

Wood Green

- Residents responded with horror and shock to events both in Wood Green and Tottenham. Greater work with young people at a very early age was felt to be needed, via children's centres, schools and family support, to prevent people becoming disconnected from society.
- It was felt that a tolerance for low-level anti-social behaviour and 'victimless' crime had contributed, and that a zero-tolerance approach should be adopted.
- Police were felt to have been slow to respond initially and there should be better community policing.
- There was great pride in the borough, and its greatest asset was its people. The community remained strong and wanted to help with the restoration work, despite some negative media coverage.

St Ann's and Harringay

- People objected to the references to 'disturbances' - this downplayed the scale of what had happened.
- Green Lanes had been protected by local shopkeepers; this raised the question of how far people should go to protect their own property when Police were occupied elsewhere.
- There were lessons for the authorities to learn, especially the Police. Residents needed assurance that their properties would be protected if a similar situation occurred.
- The importance of providing facilities, support, job prospects and aspirations for young people was emphasised to prevent people being tempted by crime or gang culture and encourage them to take pride in their neighbourhood.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Residents wanted the regeneration of Tottenham for the benefit of the whole area, and for the release of promised funds.</li> </ul> <p><u>Muswell Hill, Fortis Green, Alexandra and Highgate</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Though there had been little damage in the local area, residents extended sympathy to all those who had been affected, and had shown generosity in volunteering at the Community Assistance Centre, the clean up and making donations.</li> <li>Fear had been one outcome, and there was gratitude to the local SNT for their work reassuring residents and businesses, and keeping people informed. Local councillors also visited businesses, particularly those who were more vulnerable, to offer assistance.</li> <li>It was felt that the issue of cuts to youth services should be revisited, and there was discussion of whether any of the funding pledged to Tottenham should be allocated specifically for youth activities.</li> <li>Residents had been advised of other meetings taking place, at which further discussion of the riots would be taking place.</li> </ul> <p><u>Crouch End, Hornsey and Stroud Green</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There had been two well-attended community meetings locally to discuss events and organise goods for donation to the Community Assistance Centre.</li> <li>All praised the bravery and work of the police and emergency services, and the community leadership shown by local councillors and especially Cllr Vanier, who had worked to keep people informed throughout the night of 6<sup>th</sup> August.</li> <li>Borough-wide issues such as parental and social responsibility were discussed, and there was a plea to reconsider the cuts in youth services.</li> <li>Communication with the family of Mr Duggan by the Police was felt to have been abysmal and was an area that needed improvement.</li> <li>There were questions regarding the deployment of the emergency services; why Carpet Right was completely destroyed, and the lack of protection for business premises at Tottenham Hale and Wood Green.</li> <li>Although a dark period in the history of the borough, there was now the opportunity to build a new future.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>CNCL34.</b></p>	<p><b>TO DEBATE THE PUBLIC DISORDER WHICH TOOK PLACE, FOLLOWING WHICH THE CABINET MEMBER FOR COMMUNITIES WILL SUM UP.</b></p> <p>A debate on the events which occurred in August then ensued, following which Councillor Strickland, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Social Inclusion, addressed the meeting on the points raised and how issues would be taken forward.</p> <p>Councillor Strickland paid tribute to those residents and business people affected by the riots, whose calm dignity and determination to move forwards in the face of unimaginable heartache had been remarkable.</p>	

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He also paid tribute to and thanked the Police, emergency services and council staff whose tireless work in very difficult circumstances was of credit to public service.

Councillor Strickland referred to the future and advised that the Council needed to focus its efforts on ensuring that the Tottenham which emerged from this difficult period was improved physically, was stronger economically, was better connected through its transport links and had residents better equipped to prosper in the labour market.

Councillor Strickland commented on the need to work closely with the Police in building on and strengthening existing links with the Community, by forging better lines of communication and clear messages.

In order to deliver the improvements which Haringey desired, Councillor Strickland set out three broad priorities namely:- Getting Tottenham back in business, improving confidence and delivering regeneration.

**Getting Tottenham Back in Business**

The first priority would be getting Tottenham back in business, which was the foundation stone for what will follow.

The council had provided significant face-to-face support to businesses

- 110 were helped through the Community Assistance Centre
- Staff had met 250 businesses going door-to-door in Tottenham and Wood Green, giving advice and gathering evidence about the impact.

With trade down, Tottenham's independent traders in particular were facing a real squeeze on their finances.

- Through the High Street Support Fund, so far the Council had given £60k to 45 businesses
- Providing business rate relief to affected businesses, initially for 3 months, and extending this to 6 for many businesses.

**Building Confidence**

The second priority was building confidence, both among the public and external investors.

In order to help boost public confidence and get shoppers back to the High Road, the Council would be launching with Tottenham Traders Partnership, an I Love Tottenham campaign on Saturday 8 October 2011.

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The campaign would see lamp post banners going up as well as bags, badges and posters, new hanging baskets and a newly deep cleaned High Road. It was envisaged to be a fun campaign, designed to get people talking about Tottenham.

The Council recognised that the Christmas trading period would be a crunch point and the GLA had been asked for funds for a Christmas festival and new Christmas lights had been ordered.

Shortly there would be the first of a series of investors breakfasts, designed to build confidence among big businesses, housing developers and others.

Councillor Strickland hoped that all members would play their part in selling the borough and Tottenham in particular.

**Delivering a regenerated Tottenham**

Councillor Strickland commented on the third priority, and that when he had met councillors from other authorities he had often mention there was a part of London which was 8 minutes from a major European rail terminus, 30 minutes from an international airport, was next to the biggest green space in London and was home to the capital's longest Georgian High Street, and that he would ask people to agree that it was an area with the potential for significant economic growth and regeneration, and that area was Tottenham.

It was now the Council's task to build on these excellent strengths to deliver an improved Tottenham. By working with TfL, the GLA and developers, the council had already put in place strong foundations for further regeneration. The new mixed housing development at Hale Village was already home to 1,000 university students, £35m was being spent to re-design the Tottenham Gyratory and redeveloping Tottenham Hale bus station, Tottenham Town Hall had been restored and £3m invested in restoring historic shop fronts on the High Road.

Councillor Strickland commented that the Council now need to look more widely, be bolder and more ambitious.

- further improvements to tube stations and the overground stations would help unlock growth
- continue in negotiations with Spurs to do all that could be done to help secure this £400m development
- opportunities to explore improvements to Haringey's housing stock which we need to be furthered

Councillor Strickland advised that to drive forward regeneration, a dedicated team had been appointed, led by Anne Lippitt as Tottenham regeneration director, supported by three full-time staff to co-ordinate and lead the Council's response. A Tottenham Taskforce was being set

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	<p>up, and planning briefs for damaged sites were being developed to ensure improved premises were built and planning applications would be fast-tracked.</p> <p>Councillor Strickland concluded that it may and could be tempting to simply put things back to normal and to forget about what happened, but he stressed that was and would not be good enough, nor was not what the people of this borough deserved. Tottenham must become a destination for those looking to live, work and study, and a place where people haven't forgotten about the riots, but have moved on.</p> <p>A place where the images that dominate aren't the scenes of early August, but the signs of new development.</p> <p>A place where, after a minority caused so much damage, the community, police, council, voluntary organisations and businesses work together to make Tottenham:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- safer</li><li>- better connected</li><li>- economically stronger</li><li>- more socially cohesive</li></ul> <p>Councillor Strickland ended his comments by stating that the Council must make sure that, rather than being seen as a sign of decline, this difficult period was instead the beginning of London's biggest and most exciting regeneration project.</p> <p>Following a round of applause from Members of the Council the Mayor thanked all Members for their contribution to the debate.</p>	
<p><b>CNCL35.</b></p>	<p><b>ITEM OF OTHER BUSINESS</b></p> <p>The Mayor advised that, though it was not well known, this would be the last meeting of the Authority that Ken Pryor- Deputy Head of Local Democracy and Member Services would be attending, as Mr Pryor would be retiring from the Council's service after serving 37 years continuous service with Haringey. On behalf of the Council the Mayor placed on record her thanks and appreciation to Mr Pryor in his tireless devotion, hard work and effort, and wished him a long, happy and enjoyable retirement.</p> <p>Councillor Meehan also spoke of the work of Mr Pryor as Clerk to the Council's Housing Committee in the days of prolific house building in local government, and the hard work and support given by him to Councillor Meehan as the then Chair. He placed on record his thanks and appreciation to Mr Pryor.</p> <p>The Council gave a round of applause in honour of Mr Pryor.</p> <p>The meeting ended at hours 21.40hrs</p>	



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COUNCILLOR GINA ADAMOU

Mayor