

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

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

* Members present

22. APOLOGIES: Apologies were received from Councillors Bax, Herbie Brown, Jean Brown, Dillon, Makanji, Erline Prescott, Quincy Prescott, Robertson and Williams.

23. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Members were asked by the Mayor to declare any personal interest in respect of items on the agenda. In accordance with Part 2 of the Members Code of Conduct set out in the Council Constitution, any Member disclosing a personal interest which was also prejudicial would be asked to withdraw from the Chamber during consideration of the item and neither were they to seek to improperly influence a decision on the said item.

All Councillors declared a personal interest in item 16 on indemnities.

Councillor Haley declared a personal interest in the item on deputations, as a non-voting member of the African Caribbean Leadership Council. Councillor Griffith also declared a personal interest as a former member of this body.

Councillor Adje declared a personal interest in the item on deputations, as a former representative on the Haringey Business Development Agency.

24. MINUTES:

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

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 23 May 2005 be signed as a true record.

25. MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The Mayor reported that following the terrorist atrocities in London on 7 July, "A Book of Condolence" was opened last Thursday in the Civic Centre, which he asked Members to sign.

The Mayor expressed outrage at the attacks on behalf of members and residents of the Borough.

The Leader of the Council and Deputy Leader of the Opposition spoke and the Council conveyed its pride and admiration to the emergency services for their courage and resolve.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

The Council stood in silence for one minute, as a mark of respect.

2. The Mayor unveiled the Coat of Arms for Haringey. The plaque was commissioned by property services. It is a copy of the heraldic coat of arms granted in May 1965 when Haringey was formed. You can find more information on the Coat of Arms on the Haringey Website.
3. The Mayor referred members to the tabled list of Mayoral Engagements, which detailed the Mayoral engagements from the end of May. He mentioned in particular the excellent work being done by all the staff in the Registrars office, who organise the Citizenship Ceremonies in the Civic Centre each week. We have now welcomed over 3,300 new citizens to the Borough. The Mayor thanked all Councillors who have attended the ceremonies and welcomed our new citizens.
4. Councillor Wynne presented Ben Brown and the Asylum Seekers Team with awards in recognition of services rendered to asylum seekers in Haringey since 2001.
5. The Mayor encouraged all cricketers to participate in a fundraising match he was organising at 12 noon on Sunday 4 September against the North Middlesex Cricket Team in Park Road Hornsey.

The event promised to be a lot of fun and was free. The Mayor encouraged Members to support this event and bring their friends and family. Further details of the event would be available later this week.

26. VARIATION OF ORDER OF BUSINESS:

The meeting agreed to vary the order of business to permit Motion A to be taken at this point.

(Councillor Aitken requested that his dissent be recorded)

27. MOTION A (2005/06):

It was moved by Councillor Wynne and seconded by Councillor Winskill that:

“This Council wishes to place on record its appreciation of the work undertaken by staff who work and have worked in the Asylum Service.

Since 1997 this division of the Social Services Directorate has worked with some of the most marginalised members of our community who have come to this country to escape from the kind of torture and persecution that most of us can thankfully only imagine. Our staff have faced a number of challenges in providing not only day to day support directly or on behalf of the National Asylum Support Service but also to help people rebuild their lives. They have worked not only with single adults but also with families with children and acted as parents for those children who arrived alone in the UK.

The positive links made with many local organisations mean that asylum seekers in Haringey are given a real opportunity to once again become part of a community that welcomes diversity and the tensions that developed elsewhere in the UK did not manifest themselves in Haringey.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

We are proud of the work done with individuals to help them acquire new skills to gain employment in the UK or to achieve UK recognition for their professional qualifications enabling them to take their place in society when granted the right to remain in the UK.

This work is coming to an end as the responsibility for support reverts to the Home Office so it is appropriate to celebrate now the commitment and dedication of those who did this important work on our behalf, many of whom are now using their experience and expertise in other Council services”.

The Motion was unanimously declared CARRIED.

28. REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Agenda item 6):

The Mayor agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report dealt with matters considered at Party Group meetings within the last few days. These required approval to permit appointments to Council committees to be made.

RESOLVED:

1. That Councillor Bull be appointed to the General Purposes Committee, following Councillor Khan’s resignation.
2. That Councillor Newton be appointed to the remaining vacancy on the Planning Sub-Committee.

29. REPORT OF THE MONITORING OFFICER (Agenda item 7):

The Monitoring Officer reported that on Thursday 16 June 2005, the Standards Sub-Committee Determination Hearing found that Councillor Peacock had failed to comply with Paragraph 4 of the Council’s Code of Conduct for Members by conducting herself in a manner which could reasonably be regarded as bringing her offices as Councillor and Mayor and the Council into disrepute. Councillor Peacock acknowledged that she had said something inappropriate when she felt under pressure, which had offended a member of the public. She apologised for that. It was decided that the breach was not serious enough to justify a suspension and so Councillor Peacock was censured. She may apply for permission to appeal against the findings.

30. APPOINTMENT TO OUTSIDE BODIES (Agenda item 8):

The Mayor agreed to admit the report as urgent business. The report dealt with matters considered at Party Group meetings within the last few days. These required approval to permit appointments to outside bodies to be made.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Wynne be appointed to the vacancy on Haringey Strategic Partnership.

31. DEPUTATION AND PETITIONS (Agenda item 9):

The meeting agreed to receive two deputations.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

The first deputation was from Mr Mughal concerning the development of an ethical loan fund to businesses, which was compliant with Islamic finance principles.

Questions were then put to Mr Mughal.

The Mayor thanked Mr Mughal for his attendance.

The second deputation was from Haringey Black Business Consortium.

The Council agreed that this request be referred to the special meeting of the Executive on 19 July 2005.

32. QUESTIONS (Agenda item 10):

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

There were two urgent oral questions from Members, ten oral questions and sixteen for written answer. Questions 5 –10 were not reached in the allotted time and written answers were supplied to these questions.

33. ANNUAL REPORT FROM THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE (Report of the Chair of Standards Committee – agenda item 11):

RESOLVED:

That the report on activities of the Committee over the previous year, information on the monitoring of the Members' Code of Conduct and of complaints against Members, be noted.

34. YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2005/06 (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – Strategy – agenda item 12):

RESOLVED:

That the Youth Justice Plan be approved for submission to the National Youth Justice Board for England and Wales.

35. INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (Report of the Assistant Chief Executive – Organisational Development – agenda item 13):

The Chair of the Selection Panel, called under Part K2 of the Constitution, gave an oral update to the meeting and made a recommendation as to the appointment of the Interim Chief Executive.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Council amend its Constitution so that all references to the "Chief Executive" are replaced by references to the "Interim Chief Executive", for the time being.
2. That the amendment to the Constitution in Resolution 1 above be effective

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

from the date that the current Chief Executive stands down from his duties until the date that full Council confirms the appointment of a new permanent Chief Executive.

3. That Council note the interim management arrangements detailed in the report and agree the oral recommendation of the Chair of the selection Panel called under Part K2 of the Constitution, that Max Caller CBE be appointed as Interim Chief Executive.
4. That Max Caller shall act as Interim Chief Executive and Head of Paid Service until such time as Council confirms a permanent appointment to the post of Chief Executive.

36. PROCESS IMPROVEMENT FOR ENERGY PROCUREMENT (Report of the Director of Finance – agenda item 14).

RESOLVED:

1. That Contract Standing Orders be amended so as to remove the need for The Executive or its Procurement Committee to award Energy Supply Contracts valued at over £250,000 under CSO 11.03 and so as to authorise the award of such contracts by the Director of Finance or, in his/her absence, another Director.
2. That the above amendments to Contract Standing Orders be made subject to the legal requirements of CSO 8.01 (EU procedures) and to the award of contracts being made in accordance with a robust and market tested process.
3. That Members adopt the amendments to Part G.3 of the Council's Constitution, (Contract Standing Orders) set out in Appendix B to the report.

37. COUNCIL TAX BASE (Report of the Director of Finance – agenda item 15).

RESOLVED:

That the item be withdrawn.

38. INDEMNITIES FOR MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE COUNCIL (Report of the Monitoring Officer – agenda item 16).

RESOLVED:

That Members endorse the recommendations of the General Purposes Committee and:

1. adopt the Members' and officers' indemnity resolutions attached at appendices 1 and 2 to the report;
2. agree to delegate to the Director of Finance the taking out of appropriate insurance cover for Members and officers.
3. agree to the proposed review of Member and officer representation on outside bodies;
4. agree the proposals contained in the report regarding the production of guidance and briefings for Members and officers.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

39. **DECRIMINALISATION OF MOVING TRAFFIC OFFENCES** (Report of the Director of Environmental Services – agenda item 17).

RESOLVED:

That the recommendation of The Executive meeting on 5 July 2005 be agreed and that:

1. Section 4 of the London Local Authorities and Transport for London Act 2003 be adopted, which provides for the civil enforcement of Moving Traffic Offences.
2. That 1 November 2005 be fixed as the Appointed Day for bringing those new powers into operation.

40. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The report was late because one of the decisions taken at the Executive meeting was subject to a call in which was only considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 12 July.

The report was too urgent to await the next meeting because the Youth Justice Plan 2005/06, which was included in the report, had to be submitted to the National Youth Justice Board.

RESOLVED:

That reports 1 – 4 /2005-6 of the Executive be received and the recommendations concerning the Treasury Strategy, Youth Justice Plan, appointment of subordinate bodies and consequential Constitution changes, be adopted.

41. **MOTION B (2005/06):**

The meeting agreed to accept a tabled alteration of the Motion, which differed from that circulated with the Council Summons. The altered Motion was moved by Councillor Canver and seconded by Councillor Sulaiman, as follows:

“This Council is delighted to note that overall crime in Haringey is down and the Council's overall approach continues to value community engagement and seeks a balance between prevention, early intervention, enforcement and treatment. Much of the success is due to greater information sharing, more effective partnership working and co-ordinated joint operations.

Council applauds the efforts of the local police and Council staff and notes that as a result, last year, robbery was *down* by 25%, burglary was *down* by 3%, vehicle crime was *down* by 13% and firearm offences were *down* by 19%.

This Council congratulates the Labour government in prioritising the issue of Crime and Anti Social Behaviour and notes that the increased investment and new legislation since 1997 means that Haringey now has 691 police officers and 39 police community support officers and the Council and its partners also have greater powers in dealing with Anti Social Behaviour.

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING

18 July 2005

This Council calls on all parties to support the efforts of the government and local authorities like Haringey, in tackling crime and Anti Social Behaviour. Council further asks that in the interests of local residents, the Haringey Liberals publicly back measures to tackle Anti Social Behaviour, unlike their national party who consistently voted against making streets safer for local communities”.

It was moved that the question be now put. This was put to the vote and declared CARRIED.

Following the right of reply by Councillor Canver, a named vote was requested.

For: The Mayor (Councillor Griffith), the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Adamou), Councillors Adje, Basu, Bevan, Bull, Canver, Dawson, Dobbie, Haley, Harris, Hillman, Khan, Knight, Krokou, Lister, Manheim, Meehan, Millar, Patel, Peacock, Reith, Rice, Santry, Sulaiman and Wynne.

Against: Councillors Aitken, Beacham, Davies, Edge, Engert, Floyd, Hoban, Newton, Oatway, Simpson and Winskill.

The Motion was declared CARRIED.

42. **MOTION C (2005/06):** Motion C was not reached before 10pm.

EDDIE GRIFFITH
Mayor