

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

MINUTES

of the proceedings of the Meeting of the
Council of the Borough
held at 7.00 pm on 21 July 2014

Present:

**The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Julian Benington**

**The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Kate Lymer**

Councillors

Graham Arthur	Thresher	Stephen Wells
Douglas Auld	David Jefferys	Teresa Ball
Kathy Bance MBE	Charles Joel	Kim Botting
Nicholas Bennett J.P.	Russell Mellor	Kevin Brooks
Ruth Bennett	Alexa Michael	Lydia Buttinger
Eric Bosshard	Peter Morgan	Alan Collins
Katy Boughey	Tony Owen	Hannah Gray
Stephen Carr	Sarah Phillips	Terence Nathan
Peter Dean	Neil Reddin FCCA	Keith Onslow
Nicky Dykes	Catherine Rideout	Angela Page
Judi Ellis	Charles Rideout	Tom Philpott
Robert Evans	Richard Scoates	Chris Pierce
Simon Fawthrop	Colin Smith	Michael Rutherford
Ellie Harmer	Diane Smith	Melanie Stevens
Will Harmer	Tim Stevens	Angela Wilkins
Samaris Huntington- Thresher	Michael Tickner	Richard Williams
William Huntington-	Pauline Tunnicliffe	
	Michael Turner	

The meeting was opened with prayers

In the Chair
The Mayor
Councillor Julian Benington

15 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Vanessa Allen, David Cartwright, Mary Cooke, Ian Dunn, Peter Fookes, Peter Fortune and Ian Payne. Apologies were also subsequently received from Councillor David Livett.

16 To confirm the Minutes of the meetings of the Council held on 14th April and 4th June 2014

The minutes of the ordinary meeting on 14th April 2014, the special meeting on 4th June 2014 and the annual meeting on 4th June 2014 were confirmed.

17 Declarations of Interest

Declarations of interest were made as follows –

- Cllr Nicholas Bennett, in respect of questions relating to Bromley Mytime as he was a Council appointed Board Member;
- Cllr Judi Ellis, as her son was head teacher at Biggin Hill Primary School;
- Cllr Alexa Michael, in relation to the petition on library services, as she was a librarian by profession and a member of the Chartered Institute of Librarians and Information Professionals
- Councillor Tom Philpott in relation to written questions as his employer was involved in implementing the free schools policy;
- Councillors Colin and Diane Smith as their daughter was a temporary worker in the Bromley Library Service;
- Councillor Tim Stevens in respect of questions relating to Bromley Mytime as he was a Council appointed Board Member.

18 Petitions
Report CSD14100

Two petitions were received regarding (i) Library services and (ii) Orpington Foodbank.

(i) Library Services

A petition had been received from the Staff-side Secretary calling on the Council to stop cutting library services. Kathy Smith addressed the Council in support of the petition.

A motion to take no further action on the petition was moved by Councillor Peter Morgan and seconded by Councillor Alexa Michael. This motion was **CARRIED**.

(ii) Orpington Foodbank

A petition had been received from the Community Care Protection Group calling on the Council to let 111 Cotmandene Crescent to Orpington

Foodbank at a peppercorn rent rather than the commercial rent, and to investigate the number of Bromley residents referred to foodbanks and the effect of hunger and malnutrition on their health and wellbeing. Paul Summers addressed the Council in support of the petition.

A motion to take no further action on the petition was moved by Councillor Robert Evans and seconded by Councillor Graham Arthur. The motion was **CARRIED**.

(A request for a recorded vote was made by Councillor Angela Wilkins but this was not supported by one third of the Members present as required. Councillors Kathy Bance, Kevin Brooks, Angela Wilkins and Richard Williams requested that their votes against the motion be recorded.)

19 Questions from members of the public where notice has been given.

Two questions had been received for oral reply and six for written reply from members of the public. The questions and answers are set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

20 Oral questions from Members of the Council where notice has been given.

Fourteen questions had been received from Councillors; ten were dealt with at the meeting and four received written answers as the questioners were not present. The questions and answers are set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

21 Written questions from Members of the Council

Eleven questions had been received for written reply. The questions and answers were circulated at the meeting and are attached as Appendix C to these minutes.

22 To consider any statements that may be made by the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holders or Chairmen of Committees.

A statement was made by Councillor Graham Arthur, Portfolio Holder for Resources, about special merit payments to staff. He stated that Bromley was the only London Borough to come out of the national pay negotiations for its staff, and for the second year Bromley staff had received higher pay rises than under the national agreement and they had received this rise on time. Bromley was the only borough not affected by the current industrial action. He also announced that 142 staff had received one-off voucher payments for exceptional performance.

23 Treasury Management - Annual Report 2013/14
Report CSD14104

A motion to note the Treasury Management Annual Report 2013/14 and approve the actual prudential indicators within the report was moved by Councillor Graham Arthur, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

24 Provisional Final Accounts 2013/14
Report CSD14101

A motion to approve recommendations from the Executive arising from the Provisional Final Accounts 2013/14 to (i) release £2.1m NHS funding from the Central Contingency and agree that this is set aside in an earmarked reserve; (ii) transfer the balance of the Public Health funding from Central Contingency and agree that this is set aside in an earmarked reserve; and (iii) set up a Transformation Fund with a £4m contribution, was moved by Councillor Graham Arthur, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

25 Economic Development and Investment Fund
Report CSD14102

A motion to agree the recommendation from the Executive to approve the allocation of additional funding of £13,729k from underspends in 2013/14 to the Economic Development Fund (Earmarked Reserve) was moved by Councillor Peter Morgan, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr, and **CARRIED**.

26 Corporate Parenting Strategy
Report CSD14111

A motion to endorse the Corporate Parenting Strategy 2014/16 was moved by Councillor Robert Evans, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

27 Minor Amendments to the Scheme of Delegation
Report CSD14105

A motion to receive from the Leader changes to Resources Portfolio executive delegation (4) and to approve recommended changes to Resources Portfolio non-executive delegations (8), (14) and (17) was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Russell Mellor and **CARRIED**.

**28 Minor Amendments to the Constitution - The Openness of
Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014**
Report CSD14110

A motion to approve an amended standing order 6 relating to the recording of meetings and to authorise the Director of Corporate Services to make arrangements for the requirements regarding officer decisions to be implemented when they come into effect, pending further consideration by the Constitution Improvement Working Group, was moved by Councillor Nicholas Bennett and seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

29 Local Government Pension Scheme for Councillors
Report CSD14113

A motion to agree the recommendations from General Purposes and Licensing Committee to note the Government's decision to withdraw access to the Local Government Pension Scheme for Councillors and the proposed discretionary policies agreed by the Committee, and to approve that in the event that a Councillor is not satisfied with a decision of a Chief Officer's Early Retirement Panel there will be a right of appeal to an Appeal Panel consisting of three Members who are not Members of the same Committee(s) as the Councillor, was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Russell Mellor and **CARRIED**.

30 To consider Motions of which notice has been given.

No motions had been received.

31 The Mayor's announcements and communications.

The Mayor thanked all Councillors who were attending his first Charity Dinner at Tamasha Indian Restaurant on 24th July – this event was now sold out.

The Mayor announced the following charity events:

- A ten pin bowling match at the Pavilion Leisure Centre on Thursday 18th September.
- An evening reception at City Hall on Monday 17th November.
- The annual Quiz Evening in the Great Hall on Friday 13th February 2015.

Invitations and further information would be sent out from the Mayor's Office nearer the dates.

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32 Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006 and the Freedom of Information Act 2000

RESOLVED that the press and public be excluded during consideration of the item of business referred to below as it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted or the nature of the proceedings that if members of the Press and public were present there would be disclosure to them of exempt information.

**The following summary
refers to matters
involving exempt information**

**33 Purchase of a Property for an Educational Establishment
Report CSD14103**

A motion to approve a recommendation from the Executive concerning the purchase of a property for use as an educational establishment was moved by Councillor Stephen Wells, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

Mayor

The Meeting ended at 9.07 pm