

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

MINUTES

of the proceedings of the Meeting of the
Council of the Borough
held on Monday 29th March 2010

Present:

**The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Douglas Auld**

**The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Gordon Norrie**

Councillors

Reg Adams
Graham Arthur
Julian Benington
Nicholas Bennett J.P.
Colin Bloom
Peter Bloomfield
Eric Bosshard
Katy Boughey
John Carvin
Stephen Carr
Roger Charsley
Martin A Curry
Peter Dean
Judi Ellis
Robert Evans
Simon Fawthrop JP
Peter Fookes
John Getgood

Rebekah Gilbert
Julian Grainger
David Hastings
Peter Hobbins
Carole Hubbard
Brian Humphrys
S. Huntington-Thresher
W. Huntington-Thresher
Charles Joel
Mrs Anne Manning
Alexa Michael
Peter Morgan
Ernest Noad
Tony Owen
Tom Papworth
Chris Phillips
Sarah Phillips
Denise Reddin

Neil Reddin
Catherine Rideout
Charles Rideout CVO QPM
Karen Roberts
Colin Smith
Tim Stevens J.P.
Harry Stranger
George Taylor
Brenda Thompson
Michael Tickner
Brian Toms
Pauline Tunnickliffe
Colin Willetts

The meeting was opened with prayers

In the Chair
The Mayor
Councillor Douglas Auld

65 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ruth Bennett, Gordon Jenkins, David McBride, Michael Turner and Stephen Wells. Apologies for lateness were reported for Councillor Pauline Tunnickliffe.

66 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 15th February 2010 were confirmed.

67 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Carole Hubbard declared an interest in respect of item 12 (Annual Policy Development and Scrutiny Report 2009/10) as a Trustee of Age Concern Bromley and an employee of Bromley PCT. Councillor Simon Fawthrop declared an interest as his wife worked for the Children and Young People Service.

68 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were none.

69 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

These are attached at Appendices A and B.

70 TO CONSIDER ANY STATEMENTS MADE BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, PORTFOLIO HOLDERS OR CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

Three statements were made, summarised as follows:

- a) Leader of the Council - end of year statement
- b) The Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation – general updating statement
- c) The Portfolio Holder for Adult and Community Services – statement on the progress on development of Extra care housing and redevelopment of residential nursing care homes

71 STANDARDS COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2009/10

A Motion to approve this report was proposed, seconded and adopted.

72 STANDARDS COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS

A motion to agree the appointment of two independent members onto the Committee – Mr George Kidd and Mr Richard Allen for the four year period of the next Council, commencing in May 2010 was proposed, seconded and adopted.

73 GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE – MEETING ON 16TH FEBRUARY 2010

(a) Members Allowances Scheme 2010/11

A motion to formally approve the Members Allowances Scheme 2010/11 (Appendix C) was proposed, seconded and adopted.

(b) Financial Regulations for Schools and Colleges

A motion that the revised Financial Regulations for Schools and Colleges be approved with effect from April 2010 was proposed, seconded and adopted.

74 MINOR CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

A Motion to approve the recommendation proposing some minor changes to the Constitution was proposed, seconded and adopted.

75 ANNUAL POLICY, DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY REPORT 2009/10

A Motion to approve this report was proposed, seconded and adopted.

76 MOTIONS

Notice of four Motions had been received as follows:

1) Personal Care at Home Bill

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Graham Arthur and seconded by Councillor Judi Ellis:-

"This Council notes the Government's proposals in the Personal Care at Home Bill to offer free care at home to the people with the highest needs. While this Council welcomes the general principle of enabling people to stay in their own homes as long as possible, we are appalled that the Government is proposing to fund only a limited part of the costs and leave the rest to local authorities. For all local councils in England, including Bromley, this is an unfunded commitment of at least £250 million - assuming government has got its sums right - that will have to be made up from higher council tax, redundancies and cuts in other front line services. If the policy is imposed it will add at least £1.4 million to Bromley Borough Council's annual expenditure, and, if the Scottish experience is repeated, the actual cost will be far higher. This Council asks that its grave concern about having yet another unfunded mandate imposed on the local authority be communicated by the Leader of the Council to the relevant Minister."

On being put to the vote this motion was CARRIED.

2) Cut in the number of Police Officers across London

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Peter Fookes and seconded by Councillor John Getgood:-

"This Council condemns Boris Johnson for his Mayoral budget which will result in 455 less police officers across London."

On being put to the vote this motion was LOST.

3) Abuse of the planning system

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Peter Fookes and seconded by Councillor John Getgood:-

"This Council urges that the firmest action possible is taken against those individuals who persistently abuse the planning system."

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Michael and seconded by Councillor Peter Dean as follows:

"This Council urges that the firmest action possible is taken against those individuals who persistently abuse the planning system.

Abuse should also include actions such as retrospective planning applications and making multiple applications for the same site, as well as breaches of planning control.

This Council calls on Central Government to allow Local Planning Authorities to take tougher action against those who abuse the planning system in any form."

On being put to the vote this amended motion was CARRIED.

4) Recession

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Chris Phillips and seconded by Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP:-

"This Council notes with grave concern the effects of Gordon Brown's recession on the people of Bromley and looks forward to working constructively with a new Conservative Government to improve our economic prospects."

On being put to the vote this motion was CARRIED.

77 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

The Mayor thanked everyone for supporting the recent successful Quiz Night and reminded members of the following events:

Dinner Dance at Bromley Court Hotel on Saturday 24th April 2010;
Dinner at Trencherman's Restaurant, Petts Wood on Wednesday 12th
May 2010.

Notification was given that the Mayor Elect would be hosting a
reception on Thursday 27th May 2010 for retiring Councillors – either
those standing down or those who were not re-elected. Invitations
would be sent out prior to the Annual Meeting on 19th May 2010.

The meeting ended at 10.35 pm.

Mayor