

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

MINUTES

of the proceedings of the Meeting of the
Council of the Borough
held at 7.00 pm on 21 January 2013

Present:

**The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Michael Turner**

**The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Ian F. Payne**

Councillors

Reg Adams	Peter Fookes	Nick Milner
Graham Arthur	Peter Fortune	Peter Morgan
Kathy Bance MBE	John Getgood	Gordon Norrie
Nicholas Bennett J.P.	Julian Grainger	Tony Owen
Ruth Bennett	Ellie Harmer	Tom Papworth
Eric Bosshard	Will Harmer	Sarah Phillips
Katy Boughey	William Huntington-	Neil Reddin FCCA
Lydia Buttinger	Thresher	Richard Scoates
John Canvin	John Ince	Colin Smith
Stephen Carr	Russell Jackson	Diane Smith
Roger Charsley	David Jefferys	Tim Stevens
Peter Dean	Charles Joel	Harry Stranger
Nicky Dykes	Paul Lynch	Michael Tickner
Judi Ellis	Mrs Anne Manning	Pauline Tunnicliffe
Robert Evans	David McBride	Stephen Wells
Roxhannah Fawthrop	Russell Mellor	
Simon Fawthrop	Alexa Michael	

The meeting was opened with prayers

In the Chair
The Mayor
Councillor Michael Turner

40 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Auld, Beckley, Benington, Humphrys, Samaris Huntington-Thresher, Noad, Catherine Rideout, Charles Rideout and Stranger. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Papworth.

41 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The Minutes of the last meeting were confirmed subject to the following amendments in italics:

- i) Members present to include Councillor John Getgood.
- ii) Minute 32 – Localised Pay and Conditions of Service – should read:

“LOCALISED PAY AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE – REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES AND LICENSING COMMITTEE

A Motion to adopt from 1st April 2013, or the earliest possible date thereafter, localised pay and conditions of service on the following basis was duly proposed and seconded *and it was agreed that the Council:*”

- ii) Appendix A – Oral Questions from Members of the Public

Question 2 should be addressed to Councillor Colin Smith, Environment Portfolio Holder

42 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Katy Boughey declared a non-pecuniary interest in the second Motion to be considered under item 10 as she worked as a volunteer for the Bromley CAB.

Councillor Peter Morgan during Members Questions Time declared an interest in supplementary response to Question 8 and the reference to the new Fire Station at Orpington as one of his daughters worked for Kier Property who may be involved in that development.

43 QUESTION BY A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

One member of the public attended the meeting to ask an oral question details of which are set out in Appendix A to these Minutes.

44 QUESTIONS BY MEMBERS

These are attached at Appendices B and C.

45 STATEMENTS MADE BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, PORTFOLIO HOLDERS OR CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

The Portfolio Holder for Resources made a pre-budget statement regarding Pay and Conditions. Councillor Arthur advised that following the Council decision to adopt Local Pay and Conditions from April 2013 that the Budget for the coming year, due to be presented for approval in February would

include proposals for pay awards for those staff who accepted the revised contracts, which he detailed. In addition a one off payment of £200 would be paid to staff who signed a variation of contract before 11th March 2013 in acceptance of the Council's decision to move to fully localised pay and conditions.

The Portfolio Holder also confirmed that the Council would implement the Merit Award payments for exceptional performance. In addition for staff who agreed to accept the variation to their contract the Administration would guarantee that no changes would be made to their terms and conditions either in the coming year or the one that follows. Councillor Arthur responded to questions from members.

46 COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT/REDUCTION

A Motion to adopt the new Council Tax Support/Reduction Scheme based on Option 1, as set out in the report, with effect from 1st April 2013 was proposed, seconded and adopted.

47 PCT FUNDING - EARMARKED RESERVE

A Motion to approve a recommendation to set a side funding from the PCT as an earmarked reserve was moved, seconded and adopted.

48 MOTIONS

Notice of 2 Motion had been received and these were dealt with as follows:

1) Education Commitments

The following Motion was proposed by Councillor Stephen Wells and seconded by Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP:-

That this Council approves the following statement setting out the Council's Education commitments, and encourages the Government , schools in Bromley, the Council's Executive and the Council's Portfolio Holder for Education to take the appropriate steps to enable this philosophy to be implemented:

Preamble

The Bromley Education Commitments include some matters which are the responsibility of national government or of our schools, however we believe it is important that the parents, residents and employers we serve and the staff who implement our policies should have a clear statement of the philosophy which underpins those objectives and policies.

Every child matters and deserves a first class education to suit their individual needs and talents. A rounded education is the key

to a fulfilling life. The investment we make in our schools and colleges helps to ensure a successful future for our country.

General Principles

1. we believe in the right of parents (where practicable) to have as much choice of schools as possible including faith schools;
2. we will support and encourage all Bromley LA schools to convert to academy status;
3. we support the creation of 'free schools' and, where appropriate, will encourage local parents to apply for one;
4. we will continue to support the expansion of selective education, including Grammar Schools, particularly in the central and northern part of the Borough;
5. we will continue to improve the provision of SEN education in the Borough;
6. we support the concept of an education voucher system which gives additional support to children with different educational needs, including academically gifted pupils;
7. we will continue to encourage all Bromley secondary schools to ensure that all suitable pupils are prepared for the universities which best meet their aspirations;
8. we support the concept of a University Technical College (UTC) providing high quality technical education for 14-19 year olds;
9. we support the creation of 'modern apprenticeships' for a wide variety of skilled trades;
10. we support the concept of 'lifelong learning' and the important work of adult education.

Within the remaining Maintained sector

1. we will support schools in ensuring that all teachers and other staff are competent in their role;
2. we will support schools in maintaining good discipline;

3. we will work to improve school governance;
4. we will work to improve the chances for underperforming children particularly in the early years and primary years and will work to encourage the continuing development of high quality early year provision in the Borough through existing and new private and voluntary providers;
5. we will encourage schools to identify children with exceptional talents or academic ability and ensure that their needs are provided for;
6. we will support changes to improve the quality and rigour of the exam system;
7. we will support measures (including reading through Phonics) to ensure that no child leaves primary school unable to read and write English and without a good competence in basic maths.

An Amendment to the Motion was put forward by Councillor Getgood, seconded by Councillor Fookes, requesting that as this was a very complex issue and setting policy, the preamble should be deleted and a sentence added that the proposals should first be referred to the Education PDS Committee for proper discussion and scrutiny.

On being put to the vote the Amendment was LOST.

After debate the original Motion was put to the vote and CARRIED.

2) Beckenham and Penge CAB

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

“This Council resolves to urge the Executive to support the retention of the current base of Beckenham and Penge CAB and also to provide an outreach service to local residents.”

On being put to the vote the Motion was LOST.

49 THE MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor thanked those Members who had attended his Charity Dinner at Cinnamon Culture on Wednesday 16th January and also encouraged support for his Quiz Evening due to take place on Friday 8th February 2013.

Mayor

The Meeting ended at 9.21 pm