

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

MINUTES

of the proceedings of the Meeting of the
Council of the Borough
held at 7.00 pm on 23 February 2015

Present:

**The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Julian Benington**

**The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Kate Lymer**

Councillors

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

The meeting was opened with prayers

In the Chair
The Mayor
Councillor Julian Benington

59 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Nicky Dykes, Samaris Huntington-Thresher and Keith Onslow. Apologies for lateness

were received from Councillors Peter Dean, Peter Fookes and Michael Rutherford.

60 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Peter Morgan declared an interest as his daughter was a Director of Kier Group plc.

61 To confirm the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th December 2014

The minutes of the meeting held on 8th December 2014 were confirmed.

62 Petitions
Report CSD15020

Two petitions had been received asking the Council to (i) keep the Bromley Museum at the Priory in Orpington with its collection intact and (ii) not sell the Priory building. Both petitions were above the threshold that allowed the lead petitioner to address the Council, but in view of the recent decision by the Executive both petitioners had decided to defer their right to speak.

A third petition that met the threshold for consideration at Council had been received opposing the closure of the public toilets in Beckenham High Street. Ruth Fabricant addressed the meeting in support of the petition.

A motion to take no further action on the petition was moved by Councillor Colin Smith and seconded by Councillor William Huntington-Thresher and **CARRIED.**

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

Seven questions for written reply had been received from members of the public. These are set out in Appendix A to these minutes.

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

Twelve questions had been received from members of the Council. These are set out in Appendix B to these minutes.

65 Written questions from Members of the Council

Twenty three questions for written reply had been received. These are set out in Appendix C to these minutes.

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

(A) Leader of the Council

A statement was made by Councillor Stephen Carr on the future of Bromley Youth Music Trust (BYMT). He started by saying that the Council acknowledged that BYMT had a musical track record perhaps second to none across the UK, but in the light of the financial challenges faced by the Council over the last few years and significantly to come in the future, it had to consider all non-statutory spending. BYMT had fully acknowledged the position the Council found itself in, and during recent discussions which culminated today a joint way forward had been found. Bromley Council had agreed to make £153,000 of funding available to BYMT in the civic year 2015/16, as well as maintaining support through the provision of premises which contained twelve classrooms and a large hall at their headquarters in Southborough Lane until at least 2017. The Leader knew that BYMT was highly valued in the borough and the Council wanted to continue to support the work of the Trust, but in the current challenging financial climate it no longer seemed appropriate to do so through the Council's revenue budget. The Council would, however, continue to work with BYMT to help identify and secure income from other sources such as the Arts Council, schools and potential commercial sponsors. The Leader was confident that this joint solution would help BYMT remain a jewel in the crown well into the future.

(B) Portfolio Holder for Environment

Councillor Colin Smith made brief statement on the recent Transport for London (TfL) consultation on the potential extension of the Bakerloo line to Hayes. He referred to an exchange of correspondence with TfL, copies of which had been circulated. He welcomed investment in public transport improvements in south-east London and north-west Kent and explained that the council was broadly supportive of the extension of the Bakerloo line to Lewisham, but not an extension to Hayes which would see the existing national rail lines subsumed by the Bakerloo Line extension and the ultimate loss of direct connectivity to London Bridge, Cannon Street and Charing Cross. However, should it be possible to bring the Bakerloo Line to Bromley town centre via New Beckenham without the loss of any of the existing rail services then the Council could be prepared to support this in principle.

Councillor Nicholas Bennett asked the Portfolio Holder whether he was aware that the West Wickham ward councillors had carried out a survey of all residents in West Wickham, with a result of four to one against the proposal, not just because of the loss of connections but also replacing full size trains with smaller tube trains. He also asked for clarification on the "New Cross option" mentioned in the correspondence with TfL. Councillor Smith agreed that he was aware that colleagues in other wards had carried out similar surveys with similar results. Residents had bought their houses

specifically for the links to central London and they did not want a less reliable and more overcrowded service. It was also important that as Londoners paying the second highest precept in the city it was unfair that TfL was trying to clear track space at London Bridge in favour of travellers from further out at the expense of Hayes Line residents. He confirmed that if the DLR could not be extended to Bromley then the Council would probably support the extension of Overground Services from New Cross to Bromley North.

Councillor Neil Reddin stated that surveys in Hayes and Coney Hall showed similar levels of opposition to the extension to Hayes, although there was some support for the extension as far as Lewisham. Opposition focused on loss of direct services but also the potential development pressure that would result. The incredulity of people in Lewisham to the reluctance of people in Bromley to be on the tube indicated different outlooks in inner and outer London that TfL should take account of. Councillor Smith agreed that Bromley residents did not want an inner London style of living forced upon them.

(C) Portfolio Holder for Public Protection and Safety

Councillor Tim Stevens made statement about a raid carried out by Bromley Trading Standards and the Police on the Skunkworks shop in Orpington on Friday 13th February 2015 using new legislation for the first time. The raid was carried out following a number of complaints about the legal highs the shop was selling and related anti-social behaviour. There had been concern about the number of young people found in possession of legal high drugs and medical emergencies relating to their use. A suspected illegal pit-bull terrier and quantities of legal high drugs had been seized. Staff had been questioned and a warning had been issued to the business under the new legislation.

Councillor Stevens thanked Councillor Owen and the Orpington ward councillors for bringing this to his attention and Jo Johnson M.P. who had promised to talk to ministers about tightening up the legislation. He also paid tribute to Rob Vale and the Trading Standards team and the Police licensing officer Jonathan Booth for this outstanding piece of work, which showed that these businesses were not welcome in the borough.

67 Budget (Revenue and Capital) and Council Tax setting - to consider the recommendations of the Executive from the meeting on 11th February 2015

(A) 2015/16 Council Tax

The Director of Finance circulated supplementary information and amended recommendations. There were no changes to the final Mayoral precept accepted by the London Assembly on 23rd February 2015.

On 18th February 2015 the Environment Portfolio Holder had considered a report entitled “Revision to Kerbside Paper Collection Service”. Minutes of the meeting were circulated. Council was requested to approve an allocation of £558k from overall underspends in the Council’s 2014/15 Central Contingency sum for the purchase of three split bodied vehicles as detailed in recommendation 2.4 below.

“The above changes required the following amendments to be made to the recommendations of the Executive:

Amended Recommendation (2.1)

- (g) sets a 1.99% increase in Bromley’s council tax for 2015/16, compared with 2014/15, and a 1.34% reduction in the GLA precept;
- (h) notes the final position on the GLA precept, as accepted by the London Assembly on 23rd February 2015;

Amended Recommendation (2.2)

Council Tax 2015/16 – Statutory Calculations and Resolutions (as amended by the Localism Act 2011).

Subject to 2.1 (a) to (j) above, if the formal Council Tax Resolution as detailed below is approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	Increase/decrease (-) %
Bromley	1,010.07	1,030.14	1.99
GLA	299.00	295.00	-1.34
Total	1,309.07	1,325.14	1.23

Amended Recommendation (2.3)

- (iv) to note that the Greater London Authority (GLA) has issued a precept to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council’s area as indicated in the table below.

Additional Recommendation (2.4)

- (i) Council approve an allocation of £558k from overall underspends in the Council’s 2014/15 Central Contingency Sum for the purchase of three split-bodied vehicles.”

In addition, the following amendments were moved by Councillor Stephen Carr, seconded by Councillor Colin Smith and **CARRIED**.

“The following changes be made to the recommended budget for 2015/16:

Recommendation 2.1:

- (b) approve the draft revenue budgets for 2015/16 with the following amendments:
 - (i) agree that a sum of £77k be set aside from 2014/15 underspends as an earmarked reserve to contribute towards the funding of Bromley Youth Music Trust in 2015/16 to enable the savings in the 2015/16 and future years budgets to be realised.

Recommendation 2.3:

- iii) that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the Act):
 - (a) £560,423k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
 - (b) £431,522k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.”

A motion to receive and adopt the recommendations as amended was moved by Councillor Steven Carr and seconded by Cllr Colin Smith.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor Angela Wilkins and seconded by Councillor Ian Dunn, and a spreadsheet summarising the proposed savings options was circulated.

“After allowing for the report from the Director of Finance the following amendments are proposed to the recommendations of the Executive set out in the Blue Book on pages 55-96.

The following changes be made to the recommended budget for 2015/16:

Recommendation 2.1:

- (b) approve the draft revenue budgets for 2015/16 with the following amendments:
 - (i) that the following revenue savings in 2015/16 do not proceed:
 1. total of £1,865k in 2015/16 as marked Recommendation 1 in the spreadsheet (lines 9,12,15, 21, 28, 29, 30, 37, 46, 48, 51, 53, 54, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 70, 72, 73 and 74);

2. total of £1,283k in 2015/16 as marked Recommendation 2 in the spreadsheet (lines 33, 47, 49, 50, 52, 55, 56, 57, 65 and 76);
3. line 66 of savings options totalling £202k in 2015/16 - cease funding for BME groups. Ethnic Comms Programme/Somali women and men, BACA, Pineapple club (£111k). Keyring service (£91k);
4. line 71 of savings options totalling £230k in 2015/16 – Bromley Youth Music Trust.

(ii) agree the utilisation of funding as follows:

- a sum of £2m is set aside from underspends in 2014/15 as an earmarked reserve to contribute towards the budget shortfall in 2015/16;
- the balance of £1,580k be utilised from general fund balances in 2015/16 to support the revenue budget.

(iii) We note that work is ongoing on proposals for use of at least £3m of the PIL funds namely the Bromley Town Centre Housing Zone Bid. We hope that this is successful and would further urge that every effort is then made to expedite this project as soon as possible.

Bromley needs housing, whether affordable, supported, for purchase or rent, or otherwise e.g. respite/care homes, to reduce the housing register, reduce spend on emergency accommodation, and also to help people who are in substandard or unsuitable housing.

On the basis of the above, Council are requested to agree that the sum of £4.4m of New Homes Bonus set aside to increase the Council's investment Fund in 2015/16 Budget instead be invested in the construction of affordable and social housing.

Recommendation 2.3:

(iii) that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the Act):

- (a) £563,776k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
- (b) £434,875k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.”

On being put to the vote, this amendment was LOST.

The following amendment was moved by Councillor David Livett and seconded by Councillor Terence Nathan.

“After allowing for the report from the Director of Finance the following amendments are proposed to the recommendations of the Executive set out in the Blue Book on pages 55-96.

The following changes be made to the recommended budget for 2015/16:

Recommendation 2.1:

- (b) approve the draft revenue budgets for 2015/16 with the following amendments:
 - i. agree a council tax freeze in 2015/16 resulting in reduced income from council tax of £2,511k offset by council tax freeze grant of £1,391k (net loss of income £1,120k);
 - ii. increased income from interest on balances of £659k (from £2,741k to £3,400k);
 - iii. closure of garden satellite sites at start of year £190k (includes additional income of £65k from extra wheelie bin sales) [line 35 of saving options];
 - iv. reduction in basic Member allowances of £57k;
 - v. increase in Mayoral allowance of £6k;
 - vi. committee structure to be re-instated providing a saving of £110k;
 - vii. the 2015/16 Central Contingency Sum be reduced by £110k.
- (e) approve a revised Central Contingency sum of £13,707k to reflect the changes in (b) and (d);
- (g) set a nil variation in Bromley’s council tax for 2015/16 compared with 2014/15 and a 1.34% reduction in the GLA precept.

Recommendation 2.2:

Council Tax 2015/16 – Statutory Calculations and Resolutions (as amended by the Localism Act 2011).

Subject to 2.1 (a) to (j) above, if the formal Council Tax Resolution as detailed below is approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	Increase/decrease (-)%
Bromley	1,010.07	1,010.07	0.00
GLA	299.00	295.00	-1.34
Total	1,309.07	1,305.07	-0.31

Recommendation 2.3:

- (ii) calculate that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2015/16 is £126,390k;
- (iii) that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the Act):
 - (a) £559,950k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act.
 - (b) £433,560k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act.
 - (c) £126,390k being the amount by which the aggregate at (iii) (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (iii) (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year.
 - (d) £1,010.07 being the amount at (iii) (c) above, divided by (i) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.
- (v) that the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2015/16 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
673.38	785.61	897.84	1,010.07	1,234.53	1,458.99	1,683.45	2,020.14

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
196.67	229.44	262.22	295.00	360.56	426.11	491.67	590.00

AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
870.05	1,015.05	1,160.06	1,305.07	1,595.09	1,885.10	2,175.12	2,610.14

- (vi) that the Council hereby determines that its relevant basic amount of council tax for the financial year 2015/16, which reflects a nil increase, is not excessive. The Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2015/16 sets out the principles which the Secretary of State has determined will apply to local authorities in England in 2015/16. The Council is required to determine whether its relevant basic amount of Council Tax is excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.”

On being put to the vote, this amendment was LOST.

Accordingly, the recommendations of the Executive (as amended) were CARRIED as follows -

(1) Council -

- (a) approves the schools budget of £99.1 million which matches the estimated level of Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG);**
- (b) approves the draft revenue budgets (as at Appendix 2 to Report FSD15009) for 2015/16 to include the following updated changes -**
- (i) a sum of £77k be set aside from 2014/15 underspends as an earmarked reserve to contribute towards the funding of Bromley Youth Music Trust in 2015/16 to enable the savings in the 2015/16 and future budgets to be realised.**
- (ii) additional core grant funding of £202k in 2015/16**
- (iii) reduction in Discretionary Housing payments funding from £683k in 2014/15 to £509k in 2015/16 (variation of £174k), with a corresponding reduction in the Discretionary Housing Payments in the 2015/16 Budget;**
- (c) agrees that Chief Officers identify alternative savings within their departmental budgets where it is not possible to realise any proposed savings reported to the previous Executive meeting;**

- (d) approves the following provisions for levies for inclusion in the budget for 2015/16 -

	£'000
London Pension Fund Authority	475
London Boroughs Grant Committee	340
Environment Agency (Flood defence etc)	236
Lee Valley Regional Park	376
Total	1,427

- (e) approves a revised Central Contingency sum of £13,817k to reflect the changes in (b) and (d);
- (f) approves the revised draft 2015/16 revenue budgets to reflect the changes detailed above;
- (g) sets a 1.99% increase in Bromley's council tax for 2015/16, compared with 2014/15, and a 1.34% reduction in the GLA precept;
- (h) notes the final position on the GLA precept, as accepted by the London Assembly on 23rd February 2015;
- (i) approves the approach to reserves outlined by the Director of Finance (see Appendix 4 to Report FSD15009);
- (j) the Director of Finance be authorised to report any further changes directly to Council on 23rd February 2015.
- (2) Council Tax 2015/16 – Statutory Calculations and Resolutions (as amended by the Localism Act 2011) -

Subject to (1) (a) to (j) above, if the formal Council Tax Resolution as detailed below is approved, the total Band D Council Tax will be as follows:

	2014/15 £	2015/16 £	Increase/decrease (-) %
Bromley	1,010.07	1,030.14	1.99
GLA	299.00	295.00	-1.34
Total	1,309.07	1,325.14	1.23

- (3) Council formally resolves as follows:

- (i) it is noted that the Council Tax Base for 2015/16 is 125,130;
- (ii) calculates that the Council Tax requirement for the Council's own purposes for 2015/16 is £128,901k;

(iii) that the following amounts be calculated for the year 2015/16 in accordance with Sections 31 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, as amended (the Act) -

(a) £560,423k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(2) of the Act;

(b) £431,522k being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A(3) of the Act;

(c) £128,901k being the amount by which the aggregate at (iii) (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (iii) (b) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31A(4) of the Act as its Council Tax requirement for the year;

(d) £1,030.14 being the amount at (iii) (c) above, divided by (i) above, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 31B of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year;

(iv) to note that the Greater London Authority (GLA) has issued a precept to the Council in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each category of dwellings in the Council's area as indicated in the table below;

(v) that the Council, in accordance with Sections 30 and 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the aggregate amounts shown in the table below as the amounts of Council Tax for 2015/16 for each part of its area and for each of the categories of dwellings.

LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
686.76	801.22	915.68	1,030.14	1,259.06	1,487.98	1,716.90	2,060.28

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
196.67	229.44	262.22	295.00	360.56	426.11	491.67	590.00

AGGREGATE OF COUNCIL TAX REQUIREMENTS

Valuation Bands							
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
883.43	1,030.66	1,177.90	1,325.14	1,619.62	1,914.09	2,208.57	2,650.28

(vi) that the Council hereby determines that its relevant basic amount of council tax for the financial year 2015/16, which reflects a 1.99% increase, is not excessive. The Referendums Relating to Council Tax Increases (Principles) (England) Report 2015/16 sets out the principles which the Secretary of State has determined will apply to local authorities in England in 2015/16. The Council is required to determine whether its relevant basic amount of Council Tax is excessive in accordance with the principles approved under Section 52ZB of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

(4) Council approves an allocation of £558k from overall underspends in the Council's 2014/15 Central Contingency Sum for the purchase of three split bodied vehicles.

The following Members voted in favour of the motion –

Councillors Graham Arthur, Douglas Auld, Teresa Ball, Nicholas Bennett, Ruth Bennett, Eric Bosshard, Kim Botting, Katy Boughey, Lydia Buttinger, Stephen Carr, David Cartwright, Alan Collins, Mary Cooke, Peter Dean, Judi Ellis, Robert Evans, Simon Fawthrop, Peter Fortune, Hannah Gray, Ellie Harmer, Will Harmer, William Huntington-Thresher, David Jefferys, Charles Joel, Kate Lymer, Russell Mellor, Alexa Michael, Peter Morgan, Tony Owen, Angela Page, Ian Payne, Sarah Phillips, Tom Philpott, Chris Pierce, Neil Reddin, Catherine Rideout, Charles Rideout, Michael Rutherford, Richard Scoates, Colin Smith, Diane Smith, Melanie Stevens, Tim Stevens, Michael Tickner, Michael Turner, Pauline Tunnicliffe and Stephen Wells.

The following Councillors voted against the motion –

Councillors Vanessa Allen, Kathy Bance, Kevin Brooks, Ian Dunn, Peter Fookes, David Livett, Terence Nathan, Angela Wilkins and Richard Williams.

The Mayor, Councillor Julian Benington, abstained.

(During consideration of this item Council agreed to suspend Council Procedure Rule 8 to allow the meeting to continue beyond three hours.)

(B) Capital Programme

A motion to include new scheme proposals supported by Chief Officers in the Capital Programme and add an additional £15m to the Council's Investment Fund in the 2016/17 Capital Programme to be funded by capital receipts was moved by Councillor Stephen Carr, seconded by Councillor Colin Smith and **CARRIED**.

68 Establishment of Health and Social Care Integrated Commissioning Fund
Report CSD15029

A motion to set aside a sum of £4.5m as an earmarked reserve known as the "Health and Social Care Integrated Commissioning Fund" as recommended by the Executive was moved by Councillor Robert Evans, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

69 Refurbishment of Beacon House
Report CSD15027

A motion to add the refurbishment of Beacon House to the Capital Programme as recommended by the Executive was moved by Councillor Stephen Wells, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

70 Treasury Management - Annual Investment Strategy
Report CSD15021

A motion to adopt the Treasury Management Statement and Annual Investment Strategy for 2015/16 including the prudential indicators and Minimum Revenue Provision policy statement was moved by Councillor Graham Arthur, seconded by Councillor Stephen Carr and **CARRIED**.

71 2015/16 Pay Award
Report CSD15025

A motion to approve a flat rate pay increase of 1.2% for all staff (excluding teachers) as recommended by General Purposes and Licensing Committee was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Russell Mellor and **CARRIED**.

72 Pay Policy Statement 2015/16
Report CSD15026

A motion to approve the 2015/16 Pay Policy Statement and establish a Chief Executive's Appraisal and Pay Committee as recommended by General Purposes and Licensing Committee was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Russell Mellor and **CARRIED**.

73 Members' Allowances Scheme 2015/16
Report CSD15022

A motion to approve the Members' Allowances Scheme and Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Allowances 2015/16 with allowances remaining at the current level, as recommended by General Purposes and Licensing Committee but deleting paragraph 8 and re-numbering the remainder of the scheme accordingly, was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Russell Mellor and **CARRIED**.

74 Local Pension Board
Report CSD15023

A motion to amend recommendation (v) (b) in the report so that Council employees should have the right to elect their representatives on the Pension Board was moved by Councillor Ian Dunn and seconded by Councillor Angela Wilkins. The amendment was **LOST**.

A motion to approve the recommendation from General Purposes and Licensing Committee to establish a Local Pension Board and agree its composition and terms of reference was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Simon Fawthrop and **CARRIED**.

75 Committee Membership

A motion to approve the following changes to committee memberships was moved by Councillor Tony Owen, seconded by Councillor Russell Mellor and **CARRIED**.

- Councillor Douglas Auld to replace Councillor Will Harmer on Executive and Resources PDS Committee.
- Councillor Kathy Bance to replace Councillor Peter Fookes on General Purposes and Licensing Committee.
- Councillor Ian Dunn to replace Councillor Peter Fookes on Executive and Resources PDS Committee.
- Councillor Kevin Brooks to replace Councillor Peter Fookes on Care Services PDS Committee

76 To consider Motions of which notice has been given.

The following motion on the Petts Wood Area of Special Character (ASRC) was moved by Councillor Simon Fawthrop and seconded by Councillor Douglas Auld. The motion had been slightly amended in the first line by Councillor Fawthrop to refer the matter to the Executive.

“This Council recommends to the Executive that the existing statement in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) in relation to the Petts Wood Area Of Special Character (ASRC) should be supplemented with the following updated statement which should also form the basis of any descriptions within the Local Development Framework (LDF) including any future reports to Development Control Committee. This supplement should take place with immediate effect, subject to any statutory or technical considerations, which should be expedited.

1.3 Petts Wood Supplement to the Descriptions in the UDP:

The original plans for Petts Wood date from the late 1920s and early 1930s. While Houses were built over a number of years, in a number of similar though varied styles, the road layout and plot sizes were established in an overall pattern. Today the layout remains largely intact. Within the overall area the Conservation Areas of the Chenies and Chislehurst Road already stand out.

The plots were originally designed on the garden suburb principle by developer Basil Scruby, with large plot sizes spaciouly placed. The characteristics of the Petts Wood ASRC include an open feel, predicated by low boundaries and visible front gardens, set back from the road; there is also spaciousness between the houses which is of a superior standard. This allows many of the trees and greenery which prevails throughout the area to be seen from the street scene giving the area its open and semi- rural feel in line with the garden suburb principle. This open and suburban aspect of the area underlines the special characteristic of the area. Development which erodes this special character will be resisted.

The separation between building and the rhythm and pattern of the houses adds to the special character. In many cases there is a much wider separation between houses than in other parts of the Borough which demands a higher degree of separation between buildings to maintain the special character, the openness and feel of the area. Where there are pairs of houses that complement the rhythm of the street scene there is also a prevailing symmetry between the houses. This symmetry can also be seen between neighbouring pairs. The plots are set out in such a way that the spacious character is one of a clear detached and semi-detached nature.

The front building and rear building lines are also of importance in defining the area. The buildings are of a 1930s design, for example some built by the distinguished designer Noel Rees, which adds to the character of the area. Whilst there have been some changes post war this design aspect of the area remains intact and future development should respect this characteristic. The front roof lines are also of a nature which enhances the characteristic of the area being largely untouched by roof extensions and conversions at the front.

The plot sizes and rear gardens are mostly of a size which is commensurate with the Garden Suburb principle and this characteristic also forms part of the amenity value which makes the area special.

When considering future development within the Petts Wood ASRC, the main focus will be on the impact of any proposed development on the ASRC, taking into account the design and spatial standards including the low density of existing development. Proposals which undermine the character, rhythm, symmetry and spatial standards of the area will be resisted. Likewise new dwellings proposed on gardens and infill will also be strongly resisted. In this context special is used in the dictionary sense to

mean distinguished from others of the same category, because it is in some way superior or held in particular esteem.”

The motion was **CARRIED**.

77 The Mayor's announcements and communications.

The Mayor thanked all those who had attended the Boxing Dinner on Friday 23rd January and the BYMT Concert at Langley Park Centre for the Performing Arts on Thursday 12th February. Both events were extremely successful and raised significant sums of money for the Mayor's charities. The Quiz evening on 20th February had also been an enormous success, and the Mayor thanked Councillor Ian Payne for hosting the event.

The Mayor advised Members of the following events -

- A charity preview of Alan Ayckbourn's "A Chorus of Disapproval" at Bromley Little Theatre on Thursday 12th March.
- The House of Commons Dinner with Tour on Friday 13th March.

The Meeting ended at 10.45 pm

Mayor