

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 22 October 2014 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Sir Steve Bullock (Mayor), Alan Smith, Chris Best, Kevin Bonavia, Janet Daby, Joe Dromey, Paul Maslin and Rachel Onikosi.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Suzannah Clarke, Councillor Liam Curran, Councillor Colin Elliott, Councillor Alan Hall, Councillor Stella Jeffrey and Councillor John Paschoud.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Damien Egan and Councillor Joan Millbank.

64. Declaration of interests

Councillor Chris Best declared a personal interest in Item 5 as Chair of the Sydenham Local Assembly.

Councillor Liam Curran declared a personal interest in Item 5 as a member of CAMRA.

Councillor Alan Hall declared a personal interest in Item 7 as a Board member of Phoenix Community Housing Association.

Councillor Janet Daby declared a personal interest in Item 8 as Chair of the Whitefoot Local Assembly.

65. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on October 1 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

66. Matters Raised by Scrutiny and other Constitutional Bodies

Instrument of Government the Governing Body of Watergate School

Councillor Alan Hall, Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Education Business Panel, presented the call-in of the Mayoral decision made on October 1 in respect of the Instrument of Government for the Governing Body of Watergate School. He said the Panel had received legal advice that the decision should be voided as it had not been properly made. The Mayor acknowledged an error had been made; thanked the Panel for their intervention and rescinded the decision

Health & Safety Committee – Broadway Theatre

Councillor Alan Hall presented the report on behalf of the Health and Safety Committee which believed that a report on health and safety concerns at the Broadway Theatre should be drawn up as a matter of urgency. The Executive Director for Community Services responded by promising that this would be done.

RESOLVED that

(1) The call-in of the decision made on October 1 in respect of the Instrument of Government for the Governing Body of Watergate School be accepted in full and the decision rescinded.

(2) Officers be requested to produce an urgent briefing on Health & Safety issues at the Broadway Theatre.

67. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

68. Response to Sydenham Local Assembly Greyhound Public House

The report was introduced by the Deputy Mayor and the Head of Planning. They informed the Mayor that a response had been received from Purelake indicating their intention to rebuild the pub.

Councillor Chris Best, Chair of the Sydenham Local Assembly, welcomed the news and stressed that every effort should be made to ensure Purelake were able to get on site and commence rebuilding works. She asked that an update be made to the Sydenham Local Assembly on December 6 as well as to Mayor & Cabinet in January 2015.

Councillor Liam Curran, a Sydenham Ward member, also addressed the Mayor and sought assurances that the Council would continue to press Purelake to ensure they fulfilled the promises that they had made. The Head of Law informed the Mayor that legal remedies remained at his disposal and the Head of Planning stated that the Planning Permission granted in 2010 was still valid and that he was confident several outstanding issues could be the subject of successful negotiation.

Having considered an officer report and presentations by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith, the Chair of the Sydenham Local Assembly, Councillor Chris Best and a Ward Councillor, Councillor Liam Curran, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that a progress report be prepared and reported to the Sydenham Local Assembly in December and the Mayor & Cabinet in January 2015.

69. Holbeach Primary School Nursery provision and play space arrangements

The report was presented by Councillor Paul Maslin who explained it had been compiled in accordance with undertakings made by the Mayor to address issues of remaining concern when approval for the expansion had been given. The Mayor stated he found the report very reassuring but that he expected any untoward developments to be notified to him.

Having considered an officer report and a presentation by the Cabinet

Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

70. MOL London Infrastructure Plan 2050 consultation response

The report was presented by the Deputy Mayor who explained the Plan was an attempt to describe high level issues and therefore lacked detail. The Head of Planning added that the Plan was an honest attempt to investigate London's infrastructure needs. He said an issue regarding connectivity with London airports had been raised by the Sustainable Development Select Committee and that this could be added to the response.

Councillor Alan Hall tabled the written views of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee which he explained were the aspirational outcome of an examination of the issues involved by the 45 committee members. He asked that the comments of the Committee be incorporated into the Council response. He also referred to an appendix containing the views of Phoenix Community Housing Association which he felt could be included.

Following questions and contributions from Councillors Dromey, Bonavia, Best and Daby, the Deputy Mayor responded to the debate and to the tabled views of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee. He outlined the various meetings he had attended in connection with this Plan and with other relevant consultations. He concluded that the Council's interaction was work in progress but that a good start had been made with the report that had been formulated.

In response the Mayor recognised the response could still be fine-tuned and he granted authority to the Head of Planning to amend the submission to include whatever comments he felt pertinent, as long as the final document was shared with the Deputy Mayor and the Chair of Overview and Scrutiny. The Mayor observed that the Plan had great implications for London, particularly the outer boroughs which were likely to be the subject of intense development and he was convinced of the need for considered long term planning.

Having considered an officer report, the tabled written views of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and presentations by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith, and the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Councillor Alan Hall, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the contents of the report be sent to the Mayor of London as the official response to the consultation; and

(2) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to make final changes to the consultation response prior to the closing date of 31 October 2014 with that final response being notified to the Deputy Mayor and the Chair of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

71. Neighbourhood Forum and Area Grove Park

The report was introduced by the Deputy Mayor and the Head of Planning who explained the process leading to a proposed designation of a second neighbourhood area and forum in Lewisham.

The Mayor was addressed by Mr Stephen Kenny, the Chair of the Grove Park Neighbourhood Forum, who outlined the history of the process commencing with the campaign to save the Baring Hall Hotel in 2009 and explained the activities being undertaken, particularly in developing the area's heritage as evidenced by publications which had been produced.

Mr Kenny was supported by local Ward member Councillor Suzannah Clarke who said it was marvellous that the proposals had reached this stage. Councillor Daby added that the Whitefoot Councillors were also pleased to support the proposals.

Having considered an officer report, and presentations by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith, local Ward Councillor Suzannah Clarke and Mr Stephen Kenny, the Chair of the Grove Park Neighbourhood Forum, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the designation of the Grove Park Neighbourhood Area as set out at Annex 1 and Annex 2 be approved;
- (ii) the designation of the Grove Park Neighbourhood Forum as set out at Annex 3 and Annex 4 be approved; and
- (iii) the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration be authorised to give the required publicity to the designations.

72. Highways Winter Maintenance Policy and Plan 2014-15

Having considered an officer report and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report

RESOLVED that the Winter Service Operational Plan 2014-15 be approved.

73. Instrument of Government St Michael's CE Primary School

Having considered an officer report and a recommendation by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that;

- (i) the Instrument of Government for St Michael's Church of England Primary School be made by Local Authority order dated 22 October 2014; and

(ii) the nomination of Cuong To be approved for appointment by the governing body.

74. Redeployable Housing

The Mayor observed that the proposals seemed interesting and exciting and would be breaking new ground. He believed exact planning permissions would be crucial, as he expected expiry to take place on a set date laid out in advance.

Having considered an open officer report, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(i) the work that has been carried out to test the technical feasibility and the financial viability of using innovative approaches to construction to provide “meanwhile” uses of vacant land while longer term plans are developed;

(ii) proposals for the temporary use of the vacant Ladywell site and for Officers to proceed as outlined in sections 7 and 8;

(iii) officers commence the process of seeking to obtain planning permission for a development of temporary deployable housing on the Ladywell site;

(iv) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration, in consultation with the Executive Director for Customer Services, to agree the terms of the final brief for a development of temporary deployable housing on the Ladywell site and the procurement exercise;

(v) officers commence a procurement exercise to identify a contractor to construct a demountable and “re-deployable” building on that site, whereby the building will be on site for a period of no more than four years, and for the selected contractor to subsequently deconstruct, move and reconstruct that building in another location within the borough, in line with the details set out in part 2; and

(vi) the decision to appoint the selected contractor or contractors will be reported to Mayor & Cabinet (Contracts) for approval at the conclusion of the procurement process.

75. Appointment of LA Governors

Having considered information supplied in respect of the nominee proposed for appointment and advice from the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the following person be appointed as a Local Authority governor;

76. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that in accordance with Regulation 4(2)(b) of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012 and under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs [3, 4 and 5] of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

14. Redployable Housing part 2.

15. Parker House Surplus Declaration and Approval to Demolish.

77. Redeployable Housing Part 2

Having considered a confidential officer report which related to the open discussion on the same item, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(i) the financial information provided be noted;

(ii) the proposed budget requirements as set out be noted;

(iii) the budget required be approved and authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration, in consultation with Executive Director for Customer Services, to use the budget set out to deliver the proposals.

78. Parker House Surplus Declaration and Approval To Demolish

Having considered a confidential officer report and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that;

(i) the communication statement set out be noted;

(ii) 144 Evelyn Street SE8 5DD (Parker House) be declared surplus to the Council's operational requirements, and officers be authorised to obtain vacant possession of the building and its demolition be approved; and

(iii) the Director of Regeneration and Asset Management be instructed to explore options for securing a viable alternative use of the site which meets the Council's corporate priorities and strategic asset management objectives.

The meeting closed at 7.20pm