MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET
Wednesday, 2 March 2016 at 6.00 pm

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

371. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

372. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on February 10 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

373. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

374. CRPL Business Plan

Having considered an officer report and a presentation from the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Alan Smith, the Mayor, from the options available:

RESOLVED that the contents of the 2016/17 Business Plan for the Catford Regeneration Partnership Limited (CRPL) be received and be submitted to the next available meeting of Council for approval.

375. Additional Licensing Scheme Houses in Multiple Occupation

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(i) the designation of an additional licensing scheme for Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) above commercial premises in the whole of the Council’s area be approved using the power set out in Section 56 (1) of the Housing Act 2004;

(ii) the statutory consultation undertaken on the proposed Additional Licensing scheme as required by Section 56 (3) of the Housing Act 2004 be noted;

(iii) the proposed fee for Licenses to be put to Supplementary Licensing Committee for approval and the fee level recommended for both the new additional licensing scheme and mandatory licences be £500 “per let unit” over the five year term with a proposed maximum threshold of £5000 for each property where there are 10 lettings or more per landlord, subject to
(iv) the principle of the publication of an online register of landlords who are licensed by the Council be approved;

(v) the Executive Director for Customer Services be required to prepare a detailed project plan for implementation beginning May 2016 and publish the 3 month Statutory Notice for the scheme as part of the implementation;

(vi) the Executive Director for Customer Services, after consulting the relevant portfolio holder, be authorised to review the scheme, its implementation and resourcing and make amendments as necessary so as to ensure the principles of the scheme are achieved.

376. Budget saving 2016-17 Trade Union Secondments

Councillor Bonavia reminded the Mayor the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel had asked that this decision be taken at a Mayor & Cabinet meeting. He said the background to this saving was the massive reduction in resources provided by the Government which had led to a workforce of 4500 being reduced to less than 2500 with further job losses expected. He said the Trade Unions had been consulted and had accepted the proposal to delete a vacant post.

In answer to a question from Councillor Millbank, the Head of Human Resources stated trade union secondments were based on employee numbers and that there had been no changes for eight years.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Kevin Bonavia, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that the proposed reduction in the trade union secondment budget by £40,000 for 2016/17 be approved.

377. St Winifreds Catholic Primary School Making of Instrument of Government

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

RESOLVED that:

(1) the Instrument of Government for St. Winifred’s Catholic Primary School be made by Local Authority order dated 1 April 2016;

(2) the detailed Instrument of Government the Local Authority is proposing to make by order be approved and note the Instrument of Government has also been agreed by the Education Commission, Catholic Diocese of Southwark, Trustees, and Foundation Governors as well as the Local Authority.

378. Local Authority Governor Nominations
Having considered an officer report, and a formal presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor having considered the information supplied in respect of each candidate:

RESOLVED that the persons set out below be nominated as Local Authority governors and the information concerning the recommended nominated governors be noted.

Ms. Catherine Farmer St Winifred’s Catholic Primary School
Richard Cory Forest Hill School

379. Appeal Panel Members Appointment

Having considered an officer report, and a formal presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor, having considered the information supplied in respect of each candidate:

RESOLVED that Mr John Martin, and Dr Eric Pape, be appointed as members of the independent education appeals panel.

380. Management Report

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Policy and Performance, Councillor Joe Dromey, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

381. Response to Public Accounts Select Committee Income Generation

Councillor Kevin Bonavia thanked the Public Accounts Select Committee for their excellent review of the possibilities on income generation and indicated officers were working hard to realise the recommendations.

Having considered an officer report and a presentation from the Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Kevin Bonavia, the Mayor agreed that the response prepared by the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration be approved and reported to the Public Accounts Select Committee.

382. 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

13. River Ravensbourne Flood Defence Works
383. River Ravensbourne Flood Defence Works

The Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration’s representative advised the Mayor that these necessary flood defence works could form a synergy with the recently agreed proposals for Beckenham Place Park and there was a possibility economies of scale could be achieved.

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:

(1) a contribution from the Council of a stated value over three years be approved to ensure the flood defence works planned, to protect hundreds of homes and businesses from flooding, can be carried out;

(2) the demolition by the Environment Agency of the disused changing rooms and the building currently housing a nursery within Beckenham Place Park be approved, in order to allow the flood defence works to proceed.

(3) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Law, to agree the terms of the funding agreement for the Council’s contribution with the Environment Agency.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.