

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 27 November 2019 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Damien Egan (Mayor), Obajimi Adefiranye, Tauseef Anwar, Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Peter Bernards, Chris Best, Kevin Bonavia, Andre Bourne, Bill Brown, Juliet Campbell, Suzannah Clarke, Patrick Codd, Tom Copley, Liam Curran, Brenda Dacres, Sophie Davis, Amanda De Ryk, Joe Dromey, Colin Elliott, Aisling Gallagher, Leo Gibbons, Carl Handley, Sue Hordijkeno, Coral Howard, Mark Ingleby, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Caroline Kalu, Silvana Kelleher, Louise Krupski, Jim Mallory, Paul Maslin, Sophie McGeevor, Joan Millbank, Hilary Moore, John Muldoon, Lionel Openshaw, Jacq Paschoud (Chair), John Paschoud, Stephen Penfold, Kim Powell, James Rathbone, Jonathan Slater, Eva Stamirowski, James-J Walsh and Susan Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Octavia Holland, Councillor Pauline Morrison, Councillor Olurotimi Ogunbadewa, Councillor Joani Reid, Councillor Sakina Sheikh and Councillor Luke Sorba.

39. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Liam Curran declared a personal interest in Item 7 as a member of the Baring Trust and the Grove Park Neighbourhood Forum.

Councillor Kevin Bonavia declared a personal interest in Item 7 as a member of the Steering Group of Lewisham Station Users Group.

Councillor John Paschoud declared a personal interest in Item 8 as the spouse of an affected person.

40. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on October 2 and November 1 2019 be confirmed and signed as correct records.

41. Young Mayor

The Chair welcomed to the meeting the new Young Mayor, Femi Komolafe and Deputy Young Mayor, Aaliyah Odedina.

The Mayor spoke to the item and congratulated the winning candidates on their success at the polls. He expressed his pride in the programme and noted this would be the sixteenth year of the scheme and he pointed to the enduring success of the Young Mayoralty now established as a permanent and valued feature of the Lewisham landscape and attracting consistently high calibre candidates and interest, as shown by the high 55.01% turn out this of eligible voters which was significantly higher than the comparable figure for local government elections. He noted that Lewisham

had initiated a scheme that had been widely copied both nationally and internationally.

He thanked the outgoing Young Mayor, and Deputy Young Mayor, Adam Abdullah and Nike Ajijola, for their service in what he described as a successful and very busy year. The Mayor said he had been impressed by Adam's bold and radical manifesto and his sustained commitment to tackle inequality and face the issue of youth violence while at the same time balancing his role with his very successful studies. He further praised Nike as an inspiring young woman who had achieved much in empowering girls and had proved to be an excellent ambassador for Lewisham.

The new Young Mayor and Deputy Young Mayor then signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office and an undertaking to abide by the Code of Practice for their respective roles which were witnessed by the Chief Executive.

The outgoing Deputy Young Mayor addressed the meeting thanking the Council for the opportunity given to her which she believed was a life changing and had instilled her with confidence to make efforts to make Lewisham a better place. She pledged to remain involved and to fight to give a voice to others.

The outgoing Young Mayor then addressed the meeting and reflected in detail on his achievements during his year of office. He thanked all those who had supported him at the polls and then during his term as Young Mayor. He pointed out he had been elected on a manifesto containing five specific promises and he had fulfilled all of them to greater or lesser extent

42. Petitions

Councillor Paul Maslin presented two petitions. The first petition was signed by 11 business owners and opposed any demolition in the Achilles Street area. The second was supported by about 800 directly and indirectly affected residents and also opposed any demolition in that area.

Councillor Tauseef Anwar presented a petition bearing 821 names opposing the closure of Brockley Road Medical Centre and a proposed merger with Hillyfields Medical Centre.

43. Announcements or Communications

Ward Boundary Review

The revised dates of the Review were noted by the Council.

Freedom of the Borough

The Chair reported she had received a joint communication from Sir Steve Bullock DL and Kris Hibbert sending their heartfelt thanks for the Freedom ceremony conducted on November 1.

Mayoral Events

The Mayor issued invitations to join him at his Christmas Carol Service on Sunday 8 December at 6p.m. at All Saints Church 105, New Cross Road SE14 and at a Chanukah celebration in the Civic Suite on Monday December 23 at 7pm.

The Mayor invited financial contributions for a Winter Appeal to support the 999 Club and the Lewisham Foodbank.

Ward Boundary Review Working Party

The Deputy Mayor reported that Councillors Bonavia, Davis and Penfold had been invited to join the Ward Boundary Review Working Party.

44. Public questions

43 questions were received from members of the public which were answered by the Cabinet Member indicated. Within the time available all questioners were given the opportunity to raise supplementary questions.

A copy of the questions and answers was circulated separately and can be viewed on the Council website with the meeting papers.

45. Member questions

12 questions were received from Councillors which were answered by the Cabinet Members indicated. A copy of the questions and answers was circulated separately and can be viewed on the Council's website with the meeting papers.

46. Constitutional Changes

Councillor Susan Wise moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Kevin Bonavia and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that

(1) the report of London Councils Independent Remuneration Panel and that of Sir Rodney Brooke both of which were appended to the report before the CWP on 29 October 2019 and are now before Council as part of Appendix 1 be noted, and having had regard to those documents:-

(2) the draft minutes of the CWP dated 29 October as set out in Appendix 2 be noted; and

(3) the proposed amended Constitution appearing in Appendix 1 be approved subject to the amendments proposed by CWP as set out in paragraphs 5 and 6; and

(4) officers be asked to ensure that the amended Constitution is publicly available and that the amended Scheme of Members' Allowances (which is varied only in relation to the categorisation of approved duties) is published in a local newspaper.

47. Polling District Review

Councillor Kevin Bonavia moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor John Paschoud and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that the Returning Officer's proposals on polling districts and places appearing at Appendix A be approved with effect from 2 January 2020.

48. Dockless Bikes bye-law

Councillor Brenda Dacres moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Sophie McGeevor and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that the power to make byelaws to govern the operation of dockless bikes by making a pan-London byelaw be delegated to the London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.46pm.