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MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 23 October 2013 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Sir Steve Bullock (Mayor), Chris Best, Janet Daby, Damien Egan, Helen Klier, Paul Maslin, Joan Millbank, Crada Onuegbu, Alan Smith and Susan Wise.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Alexander Feakes, Councillor Chris Maines, Councillor Jim Mallory and Councillor Pauline Morrison.

29. Declaration of interests

Councillor Susan Wise declared a registerable interest in Item 9 as Chair of the Friends of Horniman Museum and withdrew from the meeting during the consideration of that item.

Councillor Jim Mallory declared a personal interest in Item 4 as a grandparent and previous parent of children attending local schools.

The Mayor declared a personal interest in Item 6 as a resident in an area which potentially could have a CPZ.

30. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on October 2 2013 be confirmed as a correct record.

31. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

The Mayor noted that one item had slipped since the last report but that it was now the subject of a report later in the agenda.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

32. Matters Raised by Scrutiny

Councillor Jim Mallory presented a reference report on behalf of the Lee Green Assembly. He also lodged a petition signed by 1009 people in support of a locally produced Action Plan produced following a serious accident which local people believed arose because of inadequate provision for pedestrian safety in the area. Councillor Mallory requested a site meeting and an early report back to Mayor & Cabinet on the issues raised.

Having considered a report from the Lee Green Assembly, a community petition and Action Plan and a presentation from the Chair of the last Lee Green Assembly meeting, Councillor Jim Mallory, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that a site meeting be arranged and a response to the petition and Action Plan be considered at the next Mayor & Cabinet meeting.

33. Military Covenant

The item was presented by Councillor Damien Egan, the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Communication and by Councillor Pauline Morrison, the Mayor's representative on the Reserve Forces and Cadet Associations.

Councillor Egan spoke of the greater support being offered to the Armed Forces and outlined the measures contained in what he believed was an ambitious covenant that could deliver that greater support.

Councillor Morrison recounted the work she had done since 1998 with the Armed Forces and said she was pleased their specific needs could now be met.

The Mayor was also addressed by Neville Medford of the SSAFA who warmly welcomed the support being given by the borough which he believed would help the increasing number of younger service personnel returning to civilian life.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Communication, Councillor Damien Egan, and from Councillor Pauline Morrison and from a representative of the SSAFA, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that

- (i) the work already being done to live up to the commitments made in the Armed Forces Community Covenant be noted;
- (ii) the creation of single officer contact for all members of the armed forces community be approved;
- (iii) Cllr Damien Egan be appointed as an Armed Forces Member Champion to complement the work of the Council's representative for Reserve Forces and Cadets Associations;
- (iv) additional mental health support for veterans be commissioned through the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) service;
- (v) the council obtain an agreement to provide concessionary sport and leisure access for ex-service personnel; and
- (vi) the extra support in the previous two recommendations be made available to former service personnel who are Lewisham residents and have returned from service in the last five years.

34. Parking Annual Report

The report was introduced by Councillor Susan Wise, the Cabinet Member for Customer Services who explained this was the first annual report following the comprehensive review considered at Mayor & Cabinet earlier in the year.

The Mayor was addressed by Councillor Chris Maines who welcomed the replacement of the 0845 advisory number but pointed out there was still an 0908

number being displayed which charged £1.53 a minute. Councillor Maines was advised by officers that the 0908 number was a technical support line only and all council customers could receive advice from the listed 0208 number.

Councillor Maines also claimed some residents applying for carers permits were being advised they required business permits at a cost of £500pa. Officers responded that carers permits previously priced at £60pa were now free of charge and issues encountered centred around the criteria for access to permits.

Councillor Mallory also addressed the Mayor to thank him for all the good work on parking being undertaken by officers.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, and contributions from two members of the Council, the Mayor for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that

- (i) progress to date on implementing the Parking Policy Review be noted;
- (ii) the priority list for the 3-year CPZ programme be noted; and
- (iii) the financial statement including the parking charges set out in appendix B be noted.

35. Permanent Places Coopers Lane Primary School

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

RESOLVED that there should be consultation on a proposal to enlarge Coopers Lane Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry with effect from September 2014

36. Annual Complaints Report

Councillor Daby asked for further information about the forms in which complaints were received and details of the equalities assessment. The Executive Director for Customer Services representative said she would respond subsequent to the meeting.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, for the reasons set out in the report the Mayor

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the report be noted; and
- (ii) no changes be made to the Council's complaints policy.

37. Discretionary rate relief policy

The report was introduced by the Cabinet Member for the Third Sector, Councillor Joan Millbank, who advised the Mayor that following full consultation, a series of ad hoc practices had now been formulated into a comprehensive policy.

The Mayor was next addressed by Councillor Feakes who asked that a primary test of community benefit be considered so that community interest companies and social enterprises could also benefit from rate relief.

The Deputy Mayor said he would like to see Government lobbied so that businesses which provided disbenefits, such as betting shops and payday loan enterprises, would have to pay additional rates.

The Mayor said he was aware of a national scheme that did provide relief to small businesses and he asked to be provided with further information about that scheme and its impact on local community interest companies and social enterprises. He suggested that if the scheme was not to be renewed but had had a positive impact in Lewisham, the Council would examine options to offer support.

Having considered an officer report, and presentations by the Cabinet Member for the Third Sector, Councillor Joan Millbank, and from a member of the Council, the Mayor for the reasons set out in report and having responded to the representations made:

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the consultation response be noted;
- (ii) the recommended policy for awarding discretionary rate relief as set out within appendix 2 be approved; and
- (iii) the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to assess the local impact on Community Interest Companies and Social Enterprises of the national scheme providing relief for small businesses and make recommendations on the need for a successor scheme should it not be renewed centrally.

38. John Stainer PS Instrument of Government and nomination

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

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the Instrument of Government for John Stainer Community Primary be made by Local Authority order dated 6 November 2013; and

(ii) the nomination of Valerie Fairbrass, as the Local Authority governor be approved for appointment by the governing body.

39. Appointment of LA Governors

Having considered information supplied in respect of the nominees proposed for appointment, and advice from the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Helen Klier, the Mayor agreed that the following persons be appointed as a Local Authority governor;

Gail O'Flaherty	St. Josephs Catholic Primary
Kevin Jeffrey	Ashmead
Sharon Gayle	St James Hatcham CE

40. Management report

Having considered an Officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Strategy and Communication, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report,

RESOLVED that the Management Report be noted.

41. Matters referred by the Public Accounts Select Committee: Building Procurement Control

The report was presented by the Chair of the Public Accounts Select Committee, Councillor Alex Feakes who informed the Mayor that although his Select Committee had offered comment, the matter had only been considered as a result of incorrect advice. He asked that the Executive Director be authorised to respond without further reference to the Select Committee.

Having considered an officer report, and the presentation by the Chair of the Public Accounts Select Committee, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the views of the Public Accounts Select Committee as set out be received and the Executive Director for Customer Services be asked to respond directly without the need for a further response.

42. Response to Housing SC Emergency Services Review

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the response be reported to the Housing Select Committee.

43. Response to SDSC Review of Business Development

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the proposed response be approved for submission to the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

44. Response to SDSC Air Quality

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the response be reported to the Sustainable Development Select Committee.

45. Response to HCSC on outcomes based commissioning

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Community Services, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the response be reported to the Healthier Communities Select Committee.

46. Response to OSBP Lewisham Central Opportunity Site

Councillor Damien Egan expressed concern over a Local Assembly meeting at which local aspirations for a cinema and other community use may have been unrealistically raised. He asked that officers should use their best efforts to ensure local people were made aware of the reasons why the existing building could not be put to alternative uses and was earmarked instead for demolition.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Deputy Mayor, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the proposed response be approved for submission to the Overview & Scrutiny Business Panel.

47. Response to PAC cross borough working

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Resources, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the proposed response be approved for submission to the Public Accounts Select Committee.

48. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED that 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:

Appropriation of Land adjacent to Deptford Station.

49. Appropriation of land adjacent to Deptford Station

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

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the minor revisions to the land to be transferred to The Deptford Project Limited be approved;
- (ii) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Law and Director of Regeneration & Asset Management to negotiate and agree the final terms of the Deed of Variation to give effect to the matters set out;
- (iii) the Council's landholdings (referred to as Plots 1,2,3,5 & 7 on an attached plan) be appropriated from their current purposes to planning purposes under Section 122 of the Local Government Act 1972;
- (iv) a lease be entered into with Network Rail for planning purposes under Section 227 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 of the land referred to as Plot 6 on an attached plan;
- (v) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources & Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Law and Director of Regeneration & Asset Management, to negotiate and agree the terms of the lease of Plot 6 with Network Rail and to enter into any related legal documentation with Network Rail.

The meeting closed at 7.26pm