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MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 9 April 2014 at 6.00 pm

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Stella Jeffrey and 8 members of the public.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Crada Onuegbu.

73. Declaration of interests

None were made.

74. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on March 19 2014 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

75. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

The Mayor received confirmation that no items had slipped since the last report.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

76. Permanent Primary Places Holbeach, John Ball, Coopers Lane and Sir Francis Drake

An overview of the proposals was given by Councillor Helen Klier, the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People. She highlighted the major challenges being presented by escalating birth rates and stated the authority's intention to provide places in good popular schools and wherever possible to avoid young children having to be bussed to school.

The Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative reported that while no responses had been received in connection with the Coopers Lane and John Ball proposals, multiple representations had been received regarding Holbeach and Sir Francis Drake Primary Schools. He pointed out an addendum had been tabled at the meeting containing an up to date summary of all the representations that had been received.

The Mayor then indicated he would examine each school proposal individually.

Sir Francis Drake Primary School

The Mayor received a representation from Fraser Jupp, the Chair of Governors and Christine Barnes, the Head Teacher. Mr Jupp highlighted two concerns from their written response, firstly a query on the need for places in the locality given other provision coming on stream and secondly the possible

flexibility in the Education Funding Agreement to enhance the scheme by providing an amended design proposal which would allow better and more imaginative use of space.

The Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative Confirmed to the Mayor that there was little prospect of the Education Funding Agency financing any enhancements and that refinements could only realistically be made with an injection of local authority funding. The Mayor suggested that as it would take some years for the school to reach its optimum capacity, there might be scope to add features. Officers said they could attempt to negotiate future changes with the Education Funding Agency.

Councillor Klier pointed out that the consultation had also raised concerns about traffic management issues and about the siting of toilets which needed to be addressed.

Having listened carefully to the representations that had been made, the Mayor concluded he would approve the recommendation in relation to Sir Francis Drake School but that he expected the next stage report to have thoroughly explored all the concerns expressed by the school.

Holbeach Primary School

Councillor Klier assured the Mayor the proposals had been formulated only after very careful consideration but she acknowledged there was still a job of work to be undertaken to earn the trust of parents.

The Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative outlined the various steps which had been taken to address the concerns raised by the Friends of Holbeach prior to the start of the formal consultation. He pointed out that in terms of available space should the proposals be agreed, Holbeach would be at a comparable level with Gordonbrock, Stillness, Kelvin Grove and Torridon which were all regarded as successful schools. He further reported that while the Governors had issued an objection, they would co-operate fully in whatever outcome was decided upon.

Eileen O'Mahoney spoke on behalf of the Friends of Holbeach and objected to the proposals saying they lacked a costs and benefits analysis and seemed to ignore the fact the school had already accommodated two bulge classes. She stated there was no guarantee the school's success would continue, as she believed spatial constraints would be considerable especially if a mooted rooftop playground proved untenable. She also said nursery provision was in jeopardy, as she believed Barretts would not be able to secure permission from Network Rail for a railway bridge.

The Mayor was advised by the Deputy Mayor that the proposed community space and Railway Bridge to be provided by developer Barrett at the former Greyhound stadium were part of a Section 106 Planning Agreement and therefore legally enforceable. The Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative added that in terms of space there were a number of possible options for an imaginative reconfiguration and that additionally a roof

top solution had worked well elsewhere with aesthetic screening and adherence to strict Planning conditions requirements on noise.

The Mayor asked if the proposals represented value for money and was assured by officers that the costs were good value for money given that the school was a listed building that was being permanently expanded.

The Mayor concluded that this was a difficult decision which had received genuine and heartfelt objections from dedicated groups and individuals attempting to act in the best interests of current and future pupils. He acknowledged agreeing the recommendations would come as a huge disappointment to some but he felt he must take account of the staggering overall scale of the problem of a lack of primary places and he believed expansion was in the best interests of local children generally. Although not conditional on proceeding with the expansion, he did ask to see a further report confirming nursery provision and play space arrangements;

Coopers Lane Primary School

Councillor Klier informed the Mayor this was a straightforward expansion to 3FE which had the enthusiastic support of the Governors and Head Teacher and which had been facilitated by the Community Services Directorate which had negotiated a transfer of the Community Education Lewisham requirements to the London & Quadrant building on Baring Road.

John Ball Primary School

Councillor Klier again informed the Mayor this was a straightforward expansion to 3FE which was fully supported.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Helen Klier, the Chair and Head Teacher of Sir Francis Drake Primary School and a representative of the Friends of Holbeach Primary School, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the responses received during the representation period on proposals to enlarge Coopers Lane, Holbeach and John Ball Primary Schools be noted;
- (ii) the proposal to enlarge Coopers Lane Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry with effect from September 2014 be approved;
- (iii) the proposal to enlarge Holbeach Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry with effect from September 2015 be approved and a further report be received confirming nursery provision and play space arrangements;
- (iv) the proposal to enlarge John Ball Primary School from 2 to 3 forms of entry with effect from September 2015 be approved; and

(v) the publication of a statutory notice on a proposal to enlarge Sir Francis Drake Primary School from 1 to 2 forms of entry with effect from September 2016 be approved.

77. Referral from Healthier Communities Select Committee: Public Health Expenditure

The report was presented by the Vice-Chair of the Healthier Communities Select Committee, Councillor Stella Jeffrey, who accepted a suggestion that a joint report be prepared by the two pertinent Executive Directors.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Vice Chair of the Healthier Communities Select Committee, the Mayor

RESOLVED that the Executive Director for Community Services and the Executive Director for Children & Young People be asked to prepare a response.

78. Admissions Policy 2015-16

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) Admissions arrangements - The nursery, primary, secondary and sixth form admission arrangements for Lewisham's community schools as set out in appendices A to F be approved;

(ii) The Admissions Schemes - The Pan London Admission Schemes for reception and secondary transfer and a local scheme for in year admissions as detailed in Appendix G be approved;

(iii) Priority for children of staff - Priority be not given for children of school staff and that this issue be reviewed in a year's time, with modelling carried out to determine its possible impact;

(iv) Measuring home to school distance - Home to school distances be measured in future to a central nodal point for the property concerned; and

(v) Admission of two year olds - the admission arrangements for nursery schools and nursery classes in primary schools participating in the Early Learning Offer be amended to enable them to admit two year olds.

79. Annual Lettings Plan

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet

Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

- (i) the lettings outcomes for 2012/13 and 2013/14 and the position on the housing register be noted;
- (ii) the proposed Lettings Plan for 2014/15 be approved.

80. Fixed Penalty Notices

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

RESOLVED that:

- (i) Changes in the rates applicable for Fixed Penalty Notices imposed within the Borough for “environmental crimes”, as described in appendix A be approved; and
- (ii) the introduction of an early payment scheme in relation to FPN’s be approved.

81. Appointment of Local Authority 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:

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

Claire Witkowski	Dalmain
Ivor Mason	Dalmain
Cllr. John Paschoud	Perrymount
Lynda Miller	Marvels Lane
John Harrington	Marvels Lane
Deborah Bamidele	Sydenham
William Evans	Sedgehill
Joanne Honeybone	Torridon Infant
Russell Ewens	Our Lady & St Philip Neri RC

82. Response to Housing Select Committee Private Rented Sector and Discretionary Licenses

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

RESOLVED that the response contained in the report be presented to the Housing Select Committee.

83. Response to CYP Select Committee Early Intervention

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, Councillor Helen Klier, the Mayor

RESOLVED that the response contained in the report be presented to the Children and Young People Select Committee.

84. Campshill Road Extra Care Scheme

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

RESOLVED that:

(i) the progress on the proposals for the Campshill Extra Care Scheme be noted;

(ii) the comments made by secure tenants in response to the statutory consultation undertaken pursuant to Section 105 of the Housing Act 1985 in relation to the proposal for a new housing development for older people on the Campshill Site, and the results of that consultation as summarised be noted; and

(iii) the responses from the additional, non-statutory consultation activities with leaseholders and tenants as summarised be noted.

85. 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. Call-in 144 Evelyn Street (Parker House) Surplus Declarations and Approval to Demolish

15. Campshill Road Extra Care Scheme

16. Hostel Expansion Programme

86. Call-in 144 Evelyn Street (Parker House) Surplus Declarations and Approval to Demolish

Having received confirmation from Officers that a corporate reputation strategy was not in place concerning the proposals, the Mayor decided to uphold the call-in and defer the decisions.

87. Campshill Road Extra Care Scheme Closed

Having considered a confidential report and the comments and responses referred to in recommendations 4.3 and 4.4 of the accompanying open report on the same subject and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Customer Services, Councillor Susan Wise, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(i) the progress on the proposals for the Campshill Extra Care Scheme be noted;

(ii) the valuation advice received and the results of the soft market testing with Registered Providers be noted;

(iii) the Council submits a planning application for the Campshill Extra Care Scheme;

(iv) this site be declared surplus to the Council's requirements and that authority to finalise the terms of any disposal to a Registered Provider Partner be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration, in consultation with the Head of Law; and

(v) officers should commence the procurement of a Registered Provider Partner to develop, own and manage the scheme.

88. Hostel Expansion Programme

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

RESOLVED that:

(i) the business case that sets out the financial and operational benefits from increasing the stock of hostel accommodation by 150 units as a means to reduce the number of homeless households placed into bed and breakfast accommodation be approved;

(ii) a further 50 hostel spaces be acquired through the purchase of properties yet to be identified, at an estimated cost of £4.3m, based on an average cost per space of £86,000, and to increase the General Fund Capital Programme accordingly;

(iii) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration to acquire property to achieve this objective, in line with the requirements for viable hostel stock as set out and to decide on a case by case basis the appropriate capital funding approach for each purchase;

(iv) these purchases are intended to provide a temporary solution to the current housing supply constraints, and

(v) officers should keep under review alternative future uses for newly acquired hostel accommodation, including disposal, at an appropriate time in the future.

The meeting closed at 7.51pm