

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL
Wednesday, 18 January 2017 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Obajimi Adefiranye (Chair), Paul Bell, Peter Bernards, Councillor Chris Best, Kevin Bonavia, Andre Bourne, David Britton, Bill Brown, Bullock (Mayor), Suzannah Clarke, John Coughlin, Liam Curran, Janet Daby, Brenda Dacres, Amanda De Ryk, Joe Dromey, Damien Egan, Colin Elliott, Alan Hall, Carl Handley, Sue Hordijenko, Simon Hooks, Mark Ingleby, Joyce Jacca, Stella Jeffrey, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Helen Klier, Jim Mallory, Paul Maslin, Sophie McGeevor, David Michael, Hilary Moore, Pauline Morrison, John Muldoon, Olurotimi Ogunbadewa, Rachel Onikosi, Jacq Paschoud, John Paschoud, Pat Raven, Joan Reid, Jonathan Slater, Alan Smith, Eva Stamirowski, Alan Till, Paul Upex, James-J Walsh and Susan Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Abdeslam Amrani, Councillor Chris Barnham, Councillor Maja Hilton, Councillor Roy Kennedy, Councillor Joan Millbank, Councillor Jamie Milne, Councillor Gareth Siddorn and Councillor Luke Sorba.

45. Declaration of Interests

Councillor Hall declared a personal interest in Item 11 as a member of Unite and Unison.

Councillors Bonavia, Till and Bernards declared a personal interest in Item 11 as a member of Unite.

Councillor Mallory declared a personal interest in Item 11 as a member of the NUJ.

46. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on November 23 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

47. Petitions

No petitions were presented.

48. Announcements or Communications

Charlottenburg

The Chair drew the Council's attention to the written announcement on actions taken in response to the terrorist outrage in the twin town of Charlottenburg. The Mayor added that he had been deeply shocked by the incident especially as he had made many visits to Berlin and knew the affected area well.

All present observed a one minute silence in memory of the victims of the attack.

Holocaust Memorial

The report was presented by Councillor Pauline Morrison, the Chair of the Holocaust Memorial Committee. She spoke of the pride she felt in spearheading the Memorial programme and she highlighted the Sunday January 29 event in the Rivoli Ballroom which would be attended by Lord Dubs. She reported that the Committee was firmly inclusive and in the next year the local Mosque and the LGBT community would be involved in activities.

Councillor Morrison introduced the Rabbi, the Reverend David Rome and the Cantorial Choir who performed for the Council. The Reverend Rome spoke of the significance attached to individual action and highlighted the book "The Promise of a Pencil" by Adam Braun in his remarks.

New Years Honours List

Councillors Dacres and Michael added their congratulations to Beverley Glean and Councillor Muldoon spoke further about the contribution of Andrew Christie.

New Years Day Parade

The Chair reported on the Council's efforts on the New Years Day Parade and the money raised for the Lavender Trust.

49. Public Questions

13 questions were received from the following members of the public which were answered by the Cabinet Member indicated. A copy of the questions and answers was circulated separately and can be viewed on the Council website with the meeting papers.

1.	Mr Woolford	Cllr Bonavia
2.	Bobby Dean	Cllr Egan
3.	Rosalind Huish	Cllr Smith
4.	Emily Frith	Cllr Smith
5.	John Russell	Cllr Hall
6.	Mrs Richardson	Cllr Best
7.	Mr Richardson	Cllr Best
8.	John Russell	Mayor
9.	Mrs Richardson	Cllr Best
10.	Mr Richardson	Cllr Smith
11.	John Russell	Cllr Daby
12.	John Russell	Cllr Smith
13.	John Russell	Cllr Onikosi

50. Member Questions

9 questions were received from the following 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.

1.	Cllr Hall	Mayor
2.	Cllr Jacq Paschoud	Cllr Maslin
3.	Cllr John Paschoud	Cllr Bonavia
4.	Cllr Curran	Cllr Onikosi
5.	Cllr Hall	Cllr Best
6.	Cllr Curran	Cllr Onikosi
7.	Cllr Hall	Cllr Maslin
8.	Cllr Curran	Cllr Best
9.	Cllr Curran	Cllr Egan

51. Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2017-18

The Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Kevin Bonavia, moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Brenda Dacres and it was:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the outcomes of the consultation be noted;
- (2) a local CTRS be retained from 1 April 2017 that passes on any reduction in government funding, reflecting the Council's financial position following the announcement of the Autumn Statement and the provisional Local Government Financial Settlement (LGFS) in December.
- (3) a means-test be introduced for employed, working-age UC recipients to ensure consistency of CTR awards within the scheme.
- (4) additional support continues to be delivered to the most vulnerable residents through use of the existing provision within Section 13A(1)(c) of the 1992 Local Government Finance Act.

52. Council Tax Base 2017-18

The Cabinet Member for Resources, Councillor Kevin Bonavia, moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Brenda Dacres and it was:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the Council Tax Base calculation for 2016/17, as set out in the annual Council Tax Base government return, be noted;
- (2) a Council Tax Base of 81,087.65 Band D equivalent properties for 2017/18 be approved;
- (3) a budgeted Council Tax collection rate of 96.0% be approved;
- (4) the existing policy of a 0% discount for second homes for 2016/17 be continued for 2017/18;

(5) the existing policy of a 0% discount for empty homes Class A (an empty property undergoing structural alteration or major repair to make it habitable) be continued;

(6) the existing policy of a 100% discount awarded for a period of four weeks and then a 0% discount thereafter, for empty homes – Class C (a substantially empty and unfurnished property) be continued;

(7) the existing policy of an empty homes premium of 50% in respect of long term empty properties be continued;

(8) consistent with the approach taken in 2016/17, the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) be implemented to reflect reductions in the Settlement Funding Assessment, which for 2017/18 will mean 33% is passed onto working age CTRS recipients.

(9) the proposed 2017/18 National Non Domestic Rate (NNDR) estimated net yield of £58.682m, based on current information available, be noted; and

(10) the approval of the final 2017/18 NNDR1 form be delegated to the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration for submission by the deadline of 31st January 2017.

53. Public Transport Update

Councillor Curran stated this was the first report received from the Public Transport Liaison Committee in its new form . He thanked Councillor Muldoon for chairing the prior informal body and Councillor Hall for leading efforts to establish a formal Council Committee. He also praised the efforts of Councillors Upex, Barnham and Clarke in highlighting public transport issues.

Councillor Liam Curran moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Alan Hall. After a response by Councillor Curran, it was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

54. Mayoral Response Broadway Theatre Working Group

The Mayor moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Chris Best. Following contributions from Councillors Walsh, Curran and Coughlin, there was a response by the Mayor and it was:

RESOLVED that the report be received.

55. Motion 1 Proposed Councillor Bonavia Seconded Councillor Kennedy

An amendment received before the deadline on the day before the meeting to delete all of the text of the original motion and insert the text shown below was accepted by the mover and seconder.

The motion was moved by Councillor Bonavia and seconded by Councillor Mallory. Following a contribution from Councillor Coughlin, the motion was then put to the vote and declared to be unanimously carried.

RESOLVED that the following motion be agreed:

“This Council

1. Notes and welcomes campaigning by trade unions to end the scandalous practice of ‘blacklisting’, which has been shown to cause physical and mental deterioration, including premature death.
2. Shares the serious concerns of Unite the Union of the potential for continued ‘blacklisting’ activity within the construction industry.
3. Notes the damning findings of the report of the Scottish Affairs Select Committee.
4. Notes the Welsh Assembly procurement guidelines which, within the law, bar blacklists from winning public contracts.
5. Believes that no company that uses blacklists (as legally defined) should have benefit from any public procurement.

Therefore, this Council resolves to amend the Council’s guide for contractors and standard tender documentation specifically to reflect the following:-

That the Council will only award contracts to companies who:

1. Give a commitment to no blacklisting.
2. If found guilty of blacklisting, have compensated all those they are known to have blacklisted, or taken reasonable steps to do so.
3. Have taken steps to ensure any past blacklisting does not reoccur, showing evidence of any action taken, including (if appropriate) any disciplinary action against, including dismissal of, known contracts for The Consulting Association.
4. Will give access to trade unions to workers on site for organising purposes as required by law.
5. Will recognise trade unions’ rights to negotiate on behalf of

members as required by law.

6. Will honour recognised construction industry agreements such as BATJIC, NAECI, PMES, or appropriate agreements for the relevant sector in so far as they are consistent with the Council's legal obligations

Further resolves to encourage partners to take a similar approach to contract procedures.

56. Motion 2 Proposed Councillor Bell Seconded Councillor Daby

An amendment received before the deadline on the day before the meeting to delete all of the text of the original motion and insert the text shown below was accepted by the mover and seconder.

The motion was moved by Councillor Bell and seconded by Councillor Daby. Following contributions from Councillors Egan and Coughlin, the motion was then put to the vote and declared to be unanimously carried.

RESOLVED that the following motion be agreed:

“Lewisham Council previously voted unanimously against TTIP (the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership). The Canadian/EU Trade deal called CETA (the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement), a clone of the moribund TTIP, comes before the European Parliament for a yes or no vote in early February (1st or 2nd but possibly delayed until the 14th).

CETA, like TTIP's hated ISDS (Investor State Dispute Settlement), would allow corporations to sue governments under its Investment Court System (ICS) if they feel the profits they anticipate are hindered by regulation, even if that regulation is made in the interest of public well-being (e.g. as part of an anti-smoking campaign or in regard to health and safety).

CETA is fundamentally anti-democratic. This Council asks the Mayor to write to our London MEPs expressing this council's opposition to CETA and asks them to vote against the treaty.”

The meeting closed at 9.15pm.