

MINUTES OF THE MAYOR AND CABINET

Wednesday, 11 January 2017 at 3.00 pm

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

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Alan Hall and Councillor John Muldoon.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Alan Smith and Councillor Rachel Onikosi.

543. Declaration of Interests

None were made.

544. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meetings held on December 7 2016 and December 15 2016 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

545. Outstanding Scrutiny Matters

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

546. Matters Raised by Scrutiny

Deptford Anchor

Councillor Alan Hall presented the Business Panel's referral which acknowledged the previous response of the Mayor and called for a firmer commitment to an Action Plan.

Councillor Joe Dromey informed the Mayor that along with Councillors Dacres and Smith he had met Deptford Society representatives in November and that costing proposals and sources of money were being investigated.

The Mayor said that as long as there was majority support for the restoration of the anchor within the community he was happy to call for a report and action plan for future Mayoral consideration.

RESOLVED that Officers be asked to produce a report and Action Plan for Mayoral consideration on the return of the Deptford Anchor.

547. New Homes Better Place Update

The report was presented by Councillor Damien Egan who confirmed the proposals had already been considered by Housing Select Committee. He said an addendum had been tabled withdrawing the Crofton Park proposal as more consultation was required.

Having considered an officer report and a tabled addendum, and a

presentation by the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Damien Egan, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the progress made to date to deliver 500 new council homes by 2018 be noted;
- (2) statutory Section 105 consultation had been carried out for proposed infill development at Marnock Road and Crofton Park Road;
- (3) having considered the responses to the statutory Section 105 consultation, Lewisham Homes prepare and submit a planning application for Marnock Road; and
- (4) the proposal set out for officers to consider the potential of additional sites, at Burnt Ash Hill in Lee Green and at the former Home Park Office in Bellingham, for the provision of new homes for this programme be noted, and that further information in relation to these projects be brought back to Mayor & Cabinet as soon as possible.

548. Broadway Theatre Working Party final report response

The report was presented by Councillor Chris Best who proposed that the report suggesting the next steps for the Theatre should be submitted to the Council. She praised the hard work of the reorganised Theatre staff which was still able to produce well received programmes such as the Catford-on-Avon series prior to Christmas.

The Mayor added his thanks to the Theatre staff who had done an amazing job on limited resources. Councillor Millbank added that she had found the Lewisham Youth Theatre productions to be very impressive.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Health, Well-Being and Older People, Councillor Chris Best, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the responses made by the Executive Director for Community Services to the recommendations made in the Broadway Theatre Working Party Final Report be approved; and
- (2) the report be forwarded to full Council.

549. Discretionary Rate Relief Policy Review

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for the Third Sector, Councillor Joan Millbank, the Mayor, for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the contents of the review be noted;
- (2) the revised policy as set out be approved; and
- (3) authority be delegated to the Executive Director for Community Services to award discretionary rate relief to organisations on the Cultural and Leisure sector list for the next 3 years.

550. Ashmead and Addey & Stanhope School Expansions

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

RESOLVED that:

- (1) the results of the consultation on the proposal to enlarge Ashmead Primary School from 1 to 2 forms of entry with effect from September 2017 be noted;
- (2) the results of the consultation on the proposal to enlarge Addey and Stanhope School from 4 to 6 forms of entry with effect from September 2018 be noted;
- (3) officers commence the formal statutory process to consult on the proposal to enlarge Ashmead Primary School from 1 to 2 forms of entry with effect from September 2017;
- (4) officers commence the formal statutory process to consult on the proposal to enlarge Addey and Stanhope School from 4 to 6 forms of entry with effect from September 2018; and
- (5) officers report back to Mayor and Cabinet by the end of spring 2017 with the results of both 'Representation' periods requesting Mayoral decisions as the statutory decision maker.

551. Transfer of Lewisham Music Service

The report was presented by Councillor Paul Maslin who pointed out a financial addendum had been tabled indicating possible future options for Lewisham's exemplary Music Service.

The Mayor was addressed by Frank Doran, the Chair of the Music Service Trustees who thanked those officers who had been involved in the spin out. He said the Charity had considered the options carefully and believed Option 2 was unsustainable and would not ensure the viability of the Service after the initial three years of operation.

The Mayor stated he knew having attended the 'Turning of the Year' concert in Blackheath that the quality of musical productions for which the Service was responsible was outstanding. He believed Lewisham Music had made a

good start and he was pleased to be able to support the Service by adopting Option 1 which was the Trust's strong preference.

Having considered an officer report and tabled financial addendum, and presentations by the Chair of the Music Service Trust and the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor, from the options available and the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the DfE undertaking that funding for music hubs will be maintained to 2020 be noted;

(2) Lewisham Music's status as a legal entity and a registered charity be noted;

(3) the Music Service (or Lewisham Music if the transfer goes ahead) be noted as a named resident organisation in the Fellowship Inn development under the management of Phoenix Housing Association and with approved Heritage Lottery Funding for the development and refurbishment of the site;

(4) Lewisham Music's trustees' letter be noted and the transfer of cost liabilities be dealt with in accordance with Option 1 in the financial addendum in order that the transfer can proceed, taking into account the interests of the Council and the Music Service;

(5) the commencement of formal consultation on TUPE transfer to Lewisham Music for the staff currently employed by the Council to operate the Music Service be approved;

(6) Lewisham Music's business plan and budget forecasts demonstrate that the transfer of Lewisham Music Service to Lewisham Music best safeguards music education in Lewisham whilst also providing a mechanism for future growth and development;

(7) the transfer of Lewisham Music Service's budget surplus and assets to Lewisham Music be approved; and

(8) transfer terms be finalised and signed off by the Executive Director for Children and Young People for the transfer to take place on 1 April 2017

552. Regionalising Adoption

Councillor Paul Maslin presented the report which he believed suggested a way forward for an already outstanding service. The Executive Director for Children and Young People's representative confirmed that all adoption agencies would be obliged to join a Region by 2020 and that this report requested an 'in principle' decision which would be followed by a fuller report at a later stage.

Having considered an officer report, and a presentation by the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Councillor Paul Maslin, the Mayor,

for the reasons set out in the report:

RESOLVED that:

(1), in principle approval be given to join a London Regional Adoption Agency, subject to detailed financial analysis and business case; and

(2) the Director Children's Social Care, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Children & Young People, be authorised to progress arrangements relating to the development and Implementation of the London Regional Adoption Agency model.

553. Rathfern Primary School Instrument of Government

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

RESOLVED that the Instrument of Government for Rathfern Primary School be made by Local Authority order dated 1 February 2017.

554. Local Authority Governor Nomination

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

RESOLVED that the following person be nominated as a local authority governor for the school indicated:

Joan Norris - Clyde Nursery School

555. Management Report

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

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

556. Response to SDSC - Catford Regeneration Programme

Having considered an officer report the Mayor:

RESOLVED that:

(1) the officer response to the referral by the Sustainable Development Select Committee on the Catford Regeneration Programme be approved; and

(2) the report be forwarded to the Select Committee.

557. Comments of the Public Accounts Select Committee on income generation

Councillor Kevin Bonavia presented the report and said he had attended the the meeting of Public Accounts Select Committee which had led to the production of a very helpful report. He added that in response, Officers were now working on an Action Plan which would be presented initially to the Select Committee in the Spring.

Having considered the Select Committee's report, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the views of the Select Committee as set out be received and the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration be asked to prepare an Action Plan for consideration by the Select Committee in the Spring.

558. Comments of the Sustainable Development Select Committee on Planning

Having considered the Select Committee's report, the Mayor:

RESOLVED that the views of the Select Committee as set out be received and the Executive Director for Resources and Regeneration be asked to prepare a response for Mayoral consideration.

559. Council Tax Base, Second Homes Discount and Income Review

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:

(1) the Council Tax Base calculation for 2016/17, as set out in the annual Council Tax Base government return, be noted;

(2) Council be recommended to agree a Council Tax Base of 81,087.65 Band D equivalent properties for 2017/18;

(3) Council be recommended to agree a budgeted Council Tax collection rate of 96.0%;

(4) Council be recommended to agree that the existing policy of a 0% discount for second homes for 2016/17 be continued for 2017/18;

(5) Council be recommended to agree that 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) Council be recommended to agree that 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) Council be recommended to agree that the existing policy of an empty homes premium of 50% in respect of long term empty properties be

continued, as set out in section six of this report;

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

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

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

560. Budget Update

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

RESOLVED that:

(1) the updates from the Autumn Statement and provisional Local Government Finance Settlement as presented be noted;

(2) the current financial assumptions of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) assume an annual 2% Adult Social Care precept is applied to the Council Tax Base for the next three years (option 1 in section 7) and that the Local Government Finance Settlement introduced new alternative options (2 to six) on which the budget could be modelled and that Option 4 should be recommended to the Council;

(3) the Council's budget be prepared with a reduced corporate risks and pressures budget of £6.5m (down from £7.5m in previous years) for the three years to 2019/20, thereby saving £1m in 2017/18 and £3m over the period.

The meeting closed at 3.58pm