

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 21 October 2020 at 7.30 pm

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

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mark Ingleby, Councillor Paul Maslin, Councillor Joani Reid and Councillor Alan Smith

92. Declaration of Interests

Councillors John Paschoud and Brenda Dacres both declared a personal interest in Item 6 as members of the British Computer Society which was a Royal Charter body awarding IT qualifications.

Councillor Liam Curran declared a personal interest in Item 6 as a Baring Trust member; a local environmental and heritage organisation.

Councillor John Muldoon declared a personal interest in Item 9 as a volunteer for three and a half hours per week with the Wildcat Wilderness Timeshare project.

Councillor Susan Wise declared a personal interest in Item 6 as a Perry Vale Ward member who had an allotment on a Lewisham self managed site.

93. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on July 15 2020 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

94. Petitions

No petitions were presented.

95. Announcements or Communications

COVID-19 Response

The Mayor outlined the latest steps being taken by the Council in response to the continuing Covid-19 pandemic.

Black History Month

The Council received a visual presentation from Rose Sinclair, Goldsmiths Lecturer in Design, to our meeting. She was the driving force behind the 'Caribbean Living Room' exhibition which could be seen at the Broadway Theatre.

Etienne Joseph, next spoke about the Asquith Gibbes archive commission and explained what the research and archive entailed and oh his involvement with decolonising the archive.

The Young Mayor, Femi Komolafe, concluded the item by reading the following Maya Angelou poem:

“ note the obvious differences
In the human family.
Some of us are serious,
Some thrive on comedy.
Some declare their lives are lived
As true profundity,
And others claim they really live
The real reality.
The variety of our skin tones
Can confuse, bemuse, delight,
Brown and pink and beige and purple,
Tan and blue and white.
I've sailed upon the seven seas
And stopped in every land,
I've seen the wonders of the world
Not yet one common man.
I know ten thousand women
Called Jane and Mary Jane,
But I've not seen any two
Who really were the same.
Mirror twins are different
Although their features jibe,
And lovers think quite different thoughts
While lying side by side.
We love and lose in China,
We weep on England's moors,
And laugh and moan in Guinea,
And thrive on Spanish shores.
We seek success in Finland,
Are born and die in Maine.
In minor ways we differ,
In major we're the same.

I note the obvious differences
Between each sort and type,
But we are more alike, my friends,
Than we are unlike.
We are more alike, my friends,
Than we are unlike.
We are more alike, my friends,
Than we are unlike.

Lewisham Mayor's Awards 2020

Councillor Joan Millbank outlined the scope of the Awards scheme and its links with works being undertaken in combating the Covid-19 menace.

The Queen's Birthday Honours List 2020

The Council recorded its congratulations to a Lewisham recipient of the MBE, Trevor Elliott.

Award to Lewisham's Youth Offending Service

Councillor Barnham announced the gain of a national award and congratulated everyone involved with the Youth Offending Service.

2020 Planning Awards

Councillor Bell announced the winning of several Planning related awards by organisations in Lewisham.

96. Public Questions

164 questions were received from members of the public which were answered by the Cabinet Member indicated. Thirty minutes were made available at the meeting for questioners 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.

97. Member Questions

14 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.

98. Scrutiny Mid Term Review

Councillor Bill Brown moved that the recommendation to receive be approved and this was seconded by Councillor Sophie Davis and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that the Scrutiny Mid Term Review report be received.

99. 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 and draft minutes of the Constitution Working Party dated 8 October 2020 be noted;

(2) the proposed amendments to the Constitution in relation to Overview & Scrutiny task and finish groups be approved;

(3) officers be asked to ensure that the amended Constitution is publicly available.

100. Revisions to Health and Wellbeing Board

The Mayor moved that the recommendations be approved and this was seconded by the Deputy Mayor and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that

(1) Representation by Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group at the Board be replaced by representation from the South East London Clinical Commissioning Group with effect from 1st April 2020 and to agree that the Council's Constitution be updated to reflect this change;

(2) The Chief Executive of Rushey Green Time Bank be formally approved by Council as a permanent member of the Board, representing the voluntary and community sector;

(3) an additional voluntary and community sector representative will be identified by the Board at the earliest opportunity to support its work programme priorities and deliverables and to become a permanent Board member, subject to approval by Council;

(4) the Health and Wellbeing Board has been performing the function of the Local Outbreak Engagement Board since September 2020 and that this responsibility should continue.

101. Scheme of Delegation Amendment

The Mayor moved that the recommendation to note be approved and this was seconded by the Councillor Barnham and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that a variation to the Mayoral Scheme of Delegation be noted.

102. Action by the Speaker of Council

The Speaker moved that the recommendation to note be approved and this was seconded by the Deputy Speaker and it was then unanimously:

RESOLVED that the actions taken by the Speaker of Council be noted.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm