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MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL

Wednesday, 27 September 2023 at 7.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Damien Egan (Mayor), Yemisi Anifowose, Tauseef Anwar (Chair), Chris Barnham, Paul Bell, Peter Bernards, Chris Best, Andre Bourne, Juliet Campbell, Suzannah Clarke, Will Cooper, Brenda Dacres, Sophie Davis, Amanda De Ryk, Sian Eiles, Ese Erheriene, Billy Harding, Edison Huynh, Mark Ingleby, Mark Jackson, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Louise Krupski, Ayesha Lahai-Taylor, Jack Lavery, Joan Millbank, Hilary Moore, John Muldoon, Oana Olaru, Rachel Onikosi, Rosie Parry, Jacq Paschoud, John Paschoud, Stephen Penfold, Kim Powell, James Rathbone, James Royston, Rudi Schmidt, Aliya Sheikh, Sakina Sheikh, Liam Shrivastava, Luke Sorba, Hau-Yu Tam, James-J Walsh, Luke Warner, Carol Webley-Brown and Susan Wise

JOINING ONLINE: Councillors Bill Brown and Coral Howard.

ALSO PRESENT: Emma Campbell Smith - Head of Governance and Committee Services, Jeremy Chambers - Monitoring Officer, Jennifer Daothong - Acting Chief Executive and Clare Weaser – Governance Officer.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Laura Cunningham, Councillor Liam Curran, Councillor Eva Kestner and Councillor Aisha Malik-Smith

1. Minutes

The Speaker MOVED, the Deputy Speaker SECONDED and it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July be agreed as a correct record.

2. Declaration of Interests

None.

3. Announcements or Communications

The Speaker announced the death of Rosie Fooks, a highly regarded and much-loved community activist and social justice campaigner who had worked for many years in adult and community education, including as the Head of Community Education Lewisham, as well as a school governor and the treasurer of the Save Lewisham Hospital campaign.

Councillor Penfold spoke in remembrance of Rosie, and the Council observed 1 minute's silence.

The Council received four further announcements on

- 1) the anniversary of Saving Lewisham's A&E and Maternity departments
- 2) Organ donation week
- 3) Affordable workspaces grants; and
- 4) Lewisham's Dockless Bike Partnership

4. Petitions

Cllr Tam presented a petition on behalf of residents in Evelyn Ward, opposing the introduction of parking permits in the ward.

5. Public Questions

58 questions were received and written answers supplied. Some questioners that were present at the meeting asked supplementary questions, and these were answered by the relevant Cabinet Members, Chair of Overview and Scrutiny or the Mayor.

6. Member Questions

6 questions were received from Members and written answers supplied. Some Members asked supplementary questions, and these were answered at the meeting.

7. Decisions taken under Special Urgency Rule 19

Cllr De Ryk MOVED, Cllr Barnham SECONDED and the Council RESOLVED to note the decision taken under the urgency provisions in Rule 19 of the constitution.

8. Revised Terms of Reference for South-East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SEL JHOSC)

Cllr Best MOVED, Cllr Webley-Brown SECONDED and the Council RESOLVED to

- 1) note the revised terms of reference for the South East London Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee; and
- 2) instruct the Monitoring Officer to make the necessary changes to the Constitution.

9. Treasury Management Strategy Mid-Year Review

Cllr De Ryk MOVED, Cllr Rathbone SECONDED and the Council RESOLVED to agree the updated Treasury Management Strategy 2023/24.

10. Recruitment of the Head of Paid Service (Chief Executive)

The Acting Chief Executive left the Council Chamber before the commencement of this item.

The Mayor MOVED, the Deputy Mayor SECONDED and the Council RESOLVED that:

- 1) the process for recruiting a permanent Chief Executive is commenced as soon as is reasonably practicable;
- 2) The Appointments Committee assists the Council in the recruitment process with a report being brought to a future meeting of the Council to confirm the appointment of the permanent postholder;
- 3) That the composition of the Appointments Committee be confirmed as detailed in paragraph 4.2 of the report; and
- 4) The Mayor, in consultation with the Director of Law & Corporate Governance and the Director of People & Organisational Development, be authorised to finalise the matters referred to in paragraph 5.1 of the report.

11. Motions

Cllr Huynh MOVED, Cllr Tam SECONDED and the Council RESOLVED to carry the motion to support and recognise East and Southeast Asian (ESEA) communities and heritage in Lewisham and nationally.