

COUNCIL

Wednesday 17 July 2019 at 7.00 pm

MINUTES

The Worshipful the Mayor in the Chair

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

Councillors Councillor Danial Adilypour, Councillor Scott Ainslie, Councillor David Amos, Councillor Donatus Anyanwu, Councillor Liz Atkins, Councillor Mary Atkins, Councillor Jonathan Bartley, Councillor Matthew Bennett, Councillor Jennifer Brathwaite, Councillor Lucy Caldicott, Councillor Marcia Cameron, Councillor Rezina Chowdhury, Councillor Fred Cowell, Councillor Kevin Craig, Councillor Edward Davie, Councillor Jon Davies, Councillor Jim Dickson, Mayor Ibrahim Dogus, Councillor Stephen Donnelly, Councillor Jacqui Dyer, Councillor Pete Elliott, Councillor Peter Ely, Councillor Paul Gadsby, Councillor Adrian Garden, Councillor Pauline George, Councillor Nicole Griffiths, Councillor Nigel Haselden, Councillor Dr. Mahamed Hashi, Councillor Jack Hopkins, Councillor Mohamed Jaser, Councillor Maria Kay, Councillor John Kazantzis, Councillor Ben Kind, Councillor Jessica Leigh, Councillor Joshua Lindsey, Councillor Nanda Manley-Browne, Councillor Jackie Meldrum, Councillor Irfan Mohammed, Councillor Philip Normal, Councillor Emma Nye, Councillor Jane Pickard, Councillor Joanna Reynolds, Councillor Mohammed Seedat, Councillor Becca Thackray, Councillor Martin Tiedemann, Councillor Tina Valcarcel, Councillor Clair Wilcox, Councillor Andy Wilson, Councillor Timothy Windle and Councillor Sonia Winifred

APOLOGIES: Councillor Anna Birley, Councillor Malcolm Clark, Councillor Claire Holland, Councillor Marianna Masters, Councillor Iain Simpson and Christopher Wellbelove

ABSENT: Councillor Linda Bray, Councillor Tim Briggs, Councillor Annie Gallop, Councillor Jennie Mosley and Councillor Joanne Simpson

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting held on 24 April 2019 be signed and approved as a correct record of proceedings.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Ainslie on his election as a MEP to the European Parliament.

4. YOUTH COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

Members of the Youth Council summarised the previous year's work. Council noted the following points:

- They would like to continue to work with Childrens Scrutiny Sub Committee and work closer with Lambeth Council.
- Their work with LGBT, Transgender at Cat Calling campaigns.

The Deputy Leader of the Council (Children and Young People), Councillor Jennifer Brathwaite, responded. Council noted the following points:

- She congratulated the Youth Council for their presentation and their work.
- The importance that Young People help affect positive change in the locations in which they live in, and lead on the biggest issues, from Serious Youth Violence to Climate Change.
- The importance that the Council actively engage and involve the young in the decision making process.

Councillor Nicole Griffith responded. Council noted the following point:

- She thanked the Youth Council for their work, and expressed the importance that the Council continues to fund and support them.

5. PETITIONS, PNQS AND DEPUTATIONS

- i. A deputation was made to Council about dampness in flats by the St Martins Estate Residents Association on issues of dampness on the estate. Council noted that:
 - This issue has been ongoing for years and since May 2016 Metropolitan Services promised that a health service would be undertaken, which has not taken place.
 - They have received 51 complaints to date.
 - A 90 year old resident was hospitalised due to dampness related health issues.
 - They requested to apply pressure on Metropolitan Housing Services to rectify the issue.

The Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Paul Gadsby responded. Council noted that:

- He thanked the residents for their deputation and expressed shock at the service received.
 - He has since met with Metropolitan Housing, who have provided an action plan.
 - Lambeth would be appointing an independent Environmental Officer.
 - Would meet with Resident Association in future to discuss practically how to go forward.
- ii. A deputation was made to Council about Climate and Ecological Emergency. Council noted that:
 - We are in the final few years to be able to avert climate catastrophe,

- potentially causing deaths of billions of people.
- A recent UN report stated that there is one environmental disaster each week.
- They requested that Council cut a path for others to follow.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Jack Hopkins responded. Council noted the following points:

- That Lambeth Council were the first London Borough to declare climate emergency.
 - He recognised that they have 11 years to keep 1.5°C to stop runaway climate change.
 - Assured that Extinction Rebellion have full support from the Council.
 - That a report was published that started to set out how Council operations could be carbon neutral by 2030.
 - The need to engage with the whole community.
 - Would like to work with Extinction Rebellion.
- iii. A deputation was made to Council about the definition of Islamophobia. Council noted that:
- Members experience on Islamophobia and the effects it had on them.
 - It is a real problem in today's society and the importance to combat Islamophobia, both from institutional to outright discrimination.
 - The Home Office recently published papers which stated that 52% of reported hate crimes were Muslim, and the majority of those were women.
 - Recommended to revive Lambeth Council working group on faith, provide a safe platform for Muslim communities to express their emotions, and art.

The Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred responded. Council noted stated that:

- She thanked them for their deputation.
- Lambeth Council have created Equalities Commission, to ensure an equal borough with equal opportunities.
- Last year the Council adopted the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism.
- Disappointed that opposition party opposed to this definition and failed to support the adoption of the IHRA definition last year (point of order).

Council received 10 petitions:

- i. From Councillor Jackie Meldrum on new block doors for York Hill Estate
- ii. From Councillor Mohammed Seedat requesting traffic calming methods for Conifer Gardens in Streatham Wells
- iii. From Councillor Dickson on L shaped loft conversions in Herne Hill
- iv. From Councillor Ben Kind to address speeding at St Matthews Road
- v. From Councillor Joshua Lindsey on better CCTV at Bedford House
- vi. From Councillor John Kazantzis on better road safety measures on route to Woodmansterne School
- vii. From Councillor Maria Kay on a sustainable way to reversing the cuts to Windmill Children's Centre
- viii. From Councillor Clair Wilcox on repair of carriageway and footway in Tankerville Road
- ix. From Councillor Clair Wilcox on repair of carriageway and footway in Abercairn Road

- x. From Councillor Pauline George on supporting extension of Herne Hill Medical Centre

6. CABINET STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Jack Hopkins, addressed Council. Council noted the following points:

- He congratulated the Youth Council on their work throughout the year.
- The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, had recently visited the borough and they discussed Serious Youth Violence.
- Along with Councillor Winifred and Councillor Dyer, he had launched the Elevate Program.
- Although the Country was due to have a new Prime Minister shortly, the issue of local Government funding would still remain.

7. OPPOSITION STATEMENT

The Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Jonathan Bartley, addressed Council. Council noted the following points:

- He congratulated the Youth Council, specifically on work on climate strike.
- The Green Group were committed to joining the strike to avoid climate breakdown, and urged Lambeth to support employees to do the same.
- The Council's Carbon Reduction Plan had been inadequately scrutinised. The Green group had called the decision in due to the budget in the citizen's assembly being too small.
- The Council plan to combat the climate emergency needed to be bolder and braver.

8. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

1. **Councillor Becca Thackray to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Investment, Councillor Andy Wilson:**

Supplementary question

Councillor Thackray asked if Councillor Wilson would communicate his answer to Lambeth Learning Disability Forum and SOSA.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Wilson agreed.

2. **Councillor Tim Briggs to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Investment, Councillor Andy Wilson:**

Supplementary question

Question fell as Councillor Briggs was not present.

3. **Councillor Lucy Caldicott to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Paul Gadsby:**

Supplementary question

Councillor Caldicott asked if Councillor Gadsby would sign Lambeth Council up to the Labour Homelessness campaign.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Gadsby confirmed he would. He explained that he shared Councillor Caldicott's concern at the dreadful homelessness crisis in this country. The pledge committed the Council to make sure that it did not imbed immigration officers in its services and committed to assist anybody during times of severe weather crises. He also advised that Lambeth would not

share data on rough sleepers without their consent. Councillor Gadsby confirmed that the Council would sign up to this pledge.

4. Councillor Liz Atkins to the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Cllr Ed Davie:

Supplementary question

Councillor Atkins asked Councillor Davie what assurance he could give that the integrated care system had sufficient risk, quality assurance and equalities impact assessments undertaken to ensure the system would benefit all Lambeth residents.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Davie responded that he would be working closely with the local community and NHS partners to reduce the risks of any reorganisation. Service users, patients, residents and their political representative, were represented in the structures of the integrated care system across the six boroughs in South East London. Councillor Davie committed to ensure that he would protect the integrity of the NHS and get the best deal for residents and workers.

5. Councillor Jackie Meldrum to the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Cllr Ed Davie:

Supplementary question

Councillor Meldrum requested what would the Council do to make sure that Local authorities had sufficient funds for Adult Social Care in the immediate and longer term future.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Davie responded that funding for the new financial year was unclear, as central government needed to provide certainty about long term funding. The Council was campaigning to get a funding settlement providing stability for the future.

6. Councillor Mary Atkins to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Paul Gadsby:

Supplementary question

Councillor Atkins asked if Councillor Gadsby could bring any learning from his active engagement with the campaigners, including changes to the way the Council worked in this area.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Gadsby responded that one of the frustrations was ensuring the Council was working together with the correct Housing Association to make sure they fulfilled their responsibilities as landlords better; as three different Associations had involvement in managing the estate. He had been meeting with Housing Associations to re-establish relationships and there were many good examples of Housing Associations running good projects in partnership with the Council. Councillor Gadsby said he was looking to host a Housing Association forum later in the year.

7. Councillor Tim Windle to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr Paul Gadsby:

Supplementary question

Councillor Windle asked Councillor Gadsby to attend a night time walk on the Estate to identify how Housing Officers might be able to better support the reduction of crime and antisocial behaviour.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Gadsby agreed and thanked for the invitation along with other Larkhall Councillors.

8. Councillor Phillip Normal to the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred:

Supplementary question

Councillor Normal asked how could next year's Pride month be even better and to make events such as Drag Queen Story Time, more frequent.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Winifred responded that they could build on top of what was already being done, for example our annual readers and writers festivals, the prose poetry and reading groups. She stated that the Equalities Policy was refreshed and work with Stonewall ensured correct terminology was used. Lambeth was committed to improving services for its LGBT community.

9. Councillor Jonathan Bartley to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance, Andy Wilson:

Supplementary question

Councillor Bartley requested whether Lambeth will follow the example of other councils, and commit to ending the use of bailiffs in all cases where residents fall into Council tax arrears.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Wilson responded that they had a fundamental disagreement on how to manage this issue. To ignore that one is in a process of being in debt is fundamentally wrong. Lambeth's interventions around the Council Tax Support (CTS) scheme provide debt advice and support for residents to manage their situation.

10. Councillor Maria Kay to the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, Cllr Sonia Winifred:

Supplementary question

Councillor Kay asked what was the Councils position on the Windrush Compensation Scheme.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Winifred responded that the Council was disappointed, and felt that the compensation scheme had enormous amount of flaws and was very complicated. Although she was pleased that the government had committed to the Windrush Generation. Along with MP Helen Hayes and The Leader, Councillor Winifred had written to the Home Office to request that clarity was provided around the forms and legal aid for families. She was still waiting to hear back from Home Office.

11. Councillor Pete Elliott to Councillor Andy Wilson, on behalf of the Deputy Leader (Environment and Clean Air), Claire Holland:

Supplementary question

Councillor Elliott asked whether the Cabinet Member would commit to publishing all air quality data online, in real time, especially the PM2.5 data.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Wilson responded that results were published every year as part of the annual submission to the government. When feasibly possible she would like to share as much data as possible online.

12. Councillor Pauline George to the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care, Cllr Ed Davie:**Supplementary question**

Councillor George requested whether there has been a set date given for when the London Living Wage would be fully implemented by our local NHS.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Davie responded that Lambeth had secured the agreement from all its major NHS trusts to seek accreditation for the London Living Wage. However, they had not committed to an exact date. He would now put more pressure on Chief Executives and Chairs of these trusts.

13. Councillor Joseph Corry-Roake to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance, Cllr Andy Wilson:**Supplementary question**

Councillor Corry-Roake asked whether the Cabinet member would commit to undertake due diligence, similar to a bank's credit committee, including, but not limited to investigating the competence of key personnel working for Homes for Lambeth, and challenge and investigate the assumptions in the financial modelling, and how it will ensure that Lambeth Council limits the risk of its investment in the company .

Supplementary answer

Councillor Wilson reassured that Homes for Lambeth was a wholly owned Council Company and that there was a significant ownership and engagement in recruitment of board members and senior management. He ensured that financial models were reviewed, including sensitive analysis on key variables for making loans for Homes for Lambeth. The Council had capped the funding for development activity to manage the risk profile appropriately.

14. Councillor Scott Ainslie to Councillor Andy Wilson, on behalf of the Deputy Leader (Environment and Clean Air), Claire Holland:**Supplementary question**

Councillor Ainslie requested whether the Council would remove the charges for signs and barriers and allow residents to host free street parties for Car Free Day 2019.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Wilson responded that his understanding is that the road signs and barriers weren't charged for, the team provided a full pack for people to close their roads. So there were no charges for residents to participate in Car Free Day 2019.

15. Councillor Irfan Mohammed to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Cllr

Paul Gadsby:

Supplementary question

Councillor Mohammed asked the Councillor to elaborate on borough wide actions on homelessness.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Gadsby stated what Lambeth Council were specifically doing, in order to protect our most vulnerable residents, and focus on our rough sleeper's community. Lambeth spend £4 million every year despite the cuts to budgets for these services. It gives them somewhere to sleep at night, but also long term support to assist them into independent living. This is a crisis all year round, and Lambeth provide a vast array of services.

16. Councillor Nicole Griffiths to the Cabinet Member for Finance and Performance, Andy Wilson:

Supplementary question

Councillor Griffiths asked whether Lambeth could adopt the installation of solar panels on all school roofs and not just the ten that are currently earmarked.

Supplementary answer

Councillor Wilson agreed to endorse the approach but would have a discussion with Councillor Holland on how to implement.

9. CORPORATE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Scott Ainslie and Councillor Adrian Garden commended the report to Council. Council noted the following key points:

- Requested an independent member to the committee.
- To oversee the transfer of the Housing stock back from Lambeth Living.
- That they kept an oversight of the Councils organisational structure.

RESOLVED: That the Corporate Committee Annual Report for 2018/19 is approved.

10. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Donatus Anyanwu, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair for 2018-19, and Councillor Liz Atkins, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee Chair for 2019-20, introduced the report. Council noted that:

- The key topics that were scrutinised included the Council's Corporate Structure, the Borough Plan and recommendations for the Equality Commission.
- Scrutiny was important because it allowed real life experiences from residents and service users to feed into decision making.
- Over the next year, the Committee would look at enabling local people to be involved in scrutiny process.

RESOLVED: That the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2018-19 be approved.

11. MOTIONS

Motion 1: Green

The Labour amendment to the motion was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**:

Full Council notes:

- In January 2019 Lambeth became the first London council to declare a climate emergency and brought forward its target to become carbon neutral by 2030. Six months later and the Council has published its Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan outlining how the council's operations will be carbon neutral by 2030 and has set out clear plans for addressing the emergency through a Lambeth Citizens' Assembly.
- The council is taking urgent action to put significant resources behind tackling the climate emergency.
- Lambeth is leading London in this area and is seeking innovative, creative solutions to environmental and social problems.
- The challenges we have to face are wide-ranging and require significant changes at every level that the council operates.
- The climate emergency will be at the heart of all the council's decision making moving forward.
- Urgent, radical change is required and the residents of Lambeth will be actively involved.
- Local Authorities are in a unique position to lead the way in tackling climate change locally alongside residents, businesses and organisations.

Council further notes:

- The council has already taken big strides in reducing its carbon footprint by moving from 14 energy inefficient buildings to two new energy efficient offices.
- The council is vastly improving the energy efficiency of its council homes by carrying out an almost £500 million refurbishment of them which has already seen 23,000 homes, with a further 5,000 planned this year, benefit from new windows and other internal works aimed at making them dry and warm.
- The council has recently taken the decision to replace the boilers at 10 Lambeth schools with new energy efficient ones which will save over 300 tonnes of carbon each year.
- That the process of shifting the council's vehicle fleet to ultra-low emission vehicles is well underway, and it will be fully ultra-low emission by 2030 at the very latest.
- That Lambeth Council is committed to ramping up its solar energy supplies and to work with our community energy partners Repowering London to bring cheaper and cleaner energy to Lambeth residents.
- That the council's new Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan explains how council's operations will become carbon neutral by 2030 and that decisions will include a carbon impact assessment.
- The council's baseline carbon footprint agreed through the new Corporate Carbon Reduction Plan will be more robust and go much further than the statutory Carbon Reduction Commitment.
- That the council's new Responsible Procurement Policy adopted by Cabinet in May 2019 sets out achieving carbon neutrality by 2030 as one of the council's most important priorities when considering procurement and spending decisions.

Council resolves:

- To report on the progress made against the 2030 target to Cabinet every year
- To include a commitment to working towards carbon neutrality in all contracts entered into by the Council with suppliers and contractors.
- To set up a cross organisational officer group to oversee the implementation of the action plan to address the climate emergency and meet the carbon neutral target set by the council.
- Provide the resources to fulfil the council's commitment to create a Citizens' Assembly and to work with citizens' groups such as Extinction Rebellion, Lambeth for a Cool Planet, Lambeth Friends of the Earth and Mums for Lungs in its creation. The Citizens' Assembly will be funded by the council but organised by an independent team of coordinators. Its purpose and scope will be agreed before it begins. Participants of the citizens' assembly will represent the full diversity of Lambeth's residents and evidence will be presented to participants by a diverse range of organisations and independent experts, including input from the wider community. The process will be completely transparent throughout and the recommendations that receive support from the citizens' assembly, along with commitments of the borough's businesses and partners, will be included in a borough-wide plan.

Motion 2: Labour

RESOLVED:

This council notes that LGBT+ inclusive relationships education and relationships and sex education is crucial to the development of young LGBT+ people, and in creating a more tolerant and open society. Council notes the homophobic protests against inclusive education at Anderton Park Primary in Birmingham and the serious impact these have had on pupils, staff and the community. Council also notes the recent spate of homophobic attacks and that hate crimes against LGBT people in England and Wales have trebled since 2014.

Council welcomes the introduction of statutory Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), which all primary and secondary schools in England respectively will be required to teach from September 2020. Council affirms unequivocally its support for compulsory LGBT+ inclusive Relationships Education and Relationships and Sex Education in all state funded primary and secondary schools. Council commits to ensuring that Lambeth schools are delivering RSE in line with new Government guidance, and calls on the Government to fully back all schools in delivering inclusive education.

Motion 3: Conservative

The motion was not carried.

Motion 4: Labour

The Green amendment to the motion was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**:

This Council expresses alarm at the rise of Islamophobia in recent years across the UK, and around the world. Council is committed to fighting Islamophobia in all of its forms. We welcome the All Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims' definition of Islamophobia, which has been adopted by The Green Party Executive and Leadership, City Hall, the Labour Party, the Liberal Democrats, Plaid Cymru, Scottish National Party and Scottish Conservatives, and backed by 750 Muslim organisations and institutions.

The definition is: "Islamophobia is rooted in racism and is a type of racism that targets expressions of Muslimness or perceived Muslimness."

Council hereby adopts the above definition of Islamophobia as set out by the All Party Parliamentary Group on British Muslims, and pledges to engage with local Muslim community groups and organisations, and to combat this hatred. Council believes that the government should change its current position of not adopting the APPG definition, and follow Lambeth and the above listed organisations in formally adopting the definition, sending a clear message that any and all forms of Islamophobia are unacceptable and will be addressed appropriately.

Motion 5: Labour

RESOLVED:

Council believes:

That three years on from the Conservative government's decision to hold an unnecessary referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union, parliament is stuck in a Brexit deadlock and all other pressing issues that a government would usually be working on have fallen by the way side.

That Brexit has had a severely detrimental effect on the UK – negatively affecting our economy, our standing in the world, and the EU citizens residing in the UK who contribute so much to our borough, our city and our country.

That Lambeth residents, 79% of which voted to remain, are being failed by government: the Tories are trying to push through a No Deal Brexit, which nobody voted for, and services like adult social care continue to edge close to breaking point as the government refuses to do anything.

Council notes that in this never-ending Brexit nightmare, the country finds itself between a rock and a hard place as the choice for the next Prime Minister, is between Jeremy Hunt MP, who has done his best to dismantle our beloved National Health Service, and Boris Johnson MP, who was responsible for misleading the British public to win the referendum campaign.

Council believes that neither candidate will be able to solve the Brexit

deadlock, and will not command the faith of the British people to attempt to do so having being elected by 0.2 percent of the population.

Council believes that the British people deserve a General Election to bring an end to nine years of Conservative austerity and misrule.

Councils reaffirms its support for a people's vote, in order to put the choice back in the hands of the British people.

Council further believes that remain should be an option on the ballot in order to give the country the chance to put a stop to Brexit and stay as a member of the European Union.

The meeting ended at 9.35 pm

MAYOR
Wednesday 16 October 2019

Date of Despatch: Thursday 25 July 2019
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