



## **COUNCIL**

**Wednesday 22 May 2013 at 7.00 pm**

## **MINUTES**

**The Worshipful the Mayor Councillor Mark Bennett in the Chair**

### **COUNCILLORS PRESENT:**

Councillors ABRAMS, AMINU, ANYANWU, BARRATT, C BENNETT, M P BENNETT, BEST, BIGHAM, BRAITHWAITE, BRATHWAITE, CAMERON, CLYNE, DAVIE, DAVIES, DICKSON, EDBROOKE, GARDEN, GIESS, HASELDEN, HOPKINS, KAZANTZIS, KINGSBURY, LING, LUMSDEN, MALLEY, MARCHANT, MCGLONE, MELDRUM, MEMERY, MORRIS, NOSEGBE, O'MALLEY, OGDEN, PALMER, PARR, PECK, PICKARD, PRENTICE, ROBBINS, SABHARWAL, SMITH, TIEDEMANN, VALCARCEL, WALKER, WELLBELOVE, C.WHELAN and J.WHELAN

### **APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Carol Boucher, Councillor Peter Bowyer, Councillor Steve Bradley, Councillor Ishbel Brown, Councillor Lorna Campbell, Councillor Shirley Cosgrave, Councillor Gavin Dodsworth, Councillor Niranjan Francis, Councillor Mark Harrison, Councillor Rachel Heywood, Councillor Alexander Holland, Councillor Stephen Morgan, Councillor Dr Neeraj Patil, Councillor Leanne Targett-Parker and Councillor Peter Truesdale

### **ABSENT:**

#### **1. PROCEDURAL MOTION**

MOVED by Councillor Matthew Bennett, SECONDED by Councillor Adrian Garden, and:

RESOLVED

## Timings

- (1) That Standing Order 2 be suspended to the extent necessary to enable the following order and approximate timings for the conduct of this meeting to be agreed:

<u>Agenda:</u>	<u>Timings</u>
1. Declaration of Interests	7:00pm -
2. Announcements	
3. Minutes (27.03.13)	
13. Petitions, PNQs and deputations	-7:15pm
9. Corporate Parenting Board annual report 2012-13	7:15pm-
10. Corporate Committee annual report 2012-13	
11. Scrutiny annual report 2012-13	
12. Health and Wellbeing Board: annual report 2012-13	-7:55pm
4. Cabinet portfolios, other administration and opposition appointments 2013-14	7:55pm-
5. Review of allocation to political seats	-8:05pm
6. Cooperative Council Constitution 2013-14	8:05pm 8:25pm
7. Appointment of representatives to other bodies and outside organisations for 2013-14	8:25pm-
8. Annual schedule of meetings 2013-14	-8:35pm
14. Council questions	8:35pm- 9:05pm
15. Notices of motion (approximately half hour debate on both motions one and two, and no debate on other motions)	9:05pm- 9:45pm
16. Pay policy statement	9:45pm-

### Para. 6: Cooperative Council Constitution 2013-14

- (2) That Standing Order 15.1 be suspended to the extent necessary to enable the submitted amendments to be included on the agenda (a revised deadline of Tuesday 22 May 2013 (5pm) for the submission of amendments on this item was agreed informally between the Whips).

- (3) That the following number of speakers be permitted on this paragraph (all speakers to be nominated by the relevant Whips), in accordance with Standing Order 15.4 and overall proportionality (as far as possible; the timings allowed reflect the speaking rights requested by the three whips):

Five minutes:

Mover from the Administration (Labour group)

Three minutes:

- 0 speakers from the Administration
- 1 Majority Opposition (Liberal Democrat)
- 0 Minority Opposition (Conservative)

Five minutes:

Summing-up by a speaker from the Administration (Labour group)

#### Para. 15: Notices of motion – motions one and two – conduct of debate

- (4) That the following number of speakers be permitted on motions one and two (all speakers to be nominated by the relevant Whips), in accordance with Standing Order 15.4 and overall proportionality (as far as possible):

#### Motion one: Uncollected council tax in Lambeth hits £41.1 million in 2012

Five minutes:

Mover from the Conservative group

Three minutes:

- 3 speakers from the Administration (Labour group)
- 2 Majority Opposition (Liberal Democrat)
- 0 Minority Opposition (Conservative)

Five minutes:

Summing-up by a speaker from the Conservative group

#### Motion two: Supporting Young People

Five minutes:

Mover from the Labour group

Three minutes:

- 2 speakers from the Administration (Labour group)
- 2 Majority Opposition (Liberal Democrat)
- 0 Minority Opposition (Conservative)

Five minutes:

Summing-up by a speaker from Administration (Labour group)

#### Notes:

- The Mayor will use his discretion over the specific timings of the meeting and the speakers to be called, in the light of any necessary advice from officers.

## 2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were none.

## 3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor welcomed David Stimpson, who was seated in the council chamber. Mr Simpson was a former Councillor, Alderman and Leader of the Council. He was first elected as Leader in May 1973, which was 40 years ago.

### Apologies for lateness

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillors Jennifer Brathwaite, Ann Kingsbury, Diana Morris and Florence Nosegbe.

### Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pete Bowyer, Steve Bradley, Ishbel Brown, Lorna Campbell, Shirley Cosgrave, Gavin Dodsworth, Niranjani Francis, Mark Harrison, Rachel Heywood, Alex Holland, Steve Morgan, Neeraj Patil, Leanne Targett-Parker and Peter Truesdale.

The Mayor also passed apologies from the Chief Executive, Derrick Anderson who was currently away from the office, recovering from an operation. Jo Cleary was Acting Chief Executive that week.

### Seal Register

The Chief Executive reported that since the date of the last report (27 March 2013), the Common Seal of the Council had been affixed to 26 original documents (plus 34 copies) as detailed on pages 1-3 of the Seal Register (dated from 1 April 2013 to 31 April 2013).

### Former Councillor David Morgan

The Mayor announced with sadness the death of former councillor Dave Morgan, who was elected as a councillor for the former Angell Ward in 1986. Before this, Dave had served for several years as a co-opted member of a number of Council committees, most notably the Public Services Committee. As a councillor, he held a number of posts including Deputy Leader of the Council between 1986 and 1988 - a challenging time for the Council with the Labour Group being made up mostly of new councillors.

After stepping down from the council, Dave continued to live in the borough, actually living in the Mayor's Streatham South ward. He was diagnosed with incurable cancer two and a half years ago, and bore his illness with stoicism and good humour. He was just 56 when he died. He was mourned by his

wife, Amanda, and his two sons, Charlie and James. The funeral had taken place that morning, and Council was represented by Councillor Diana Morris.

Council stood for one minutes silence in remembrance of Dave Morgan.

Executive Director, Finance and Resources: Mike Suarez

The Mayor announced that Mike Suarez, who had served as the council's director of finance since 2005, had been appointed Chief Executive of East Cheshire Council. He would leave the council's service before the next Council meeting. Members offered their congratulations, and thanked him for the important role he had held in improving the council's services over his period of service.

**RESOLVED:** That the announcements be received.

**4. MINUTES (27.03.13)**

**RESOLVED:** That the minutes of the Extraordinary and Annual meetings held 27 March 2013 be agreed and signed by the Chair as a correct record of the proceedings.

**5. PETITIONS, PNQS AND DEPUTATIONS**

Petitions

The following petitions were presented to Council:

	Councillor	No. of sigs.	Subject and Lead Cabinet Member
1.	Julia Memery	24	Request to bring forward repairs on Park Hill Estate
2.	Marcia Cameron	60	Car parking alongside Tulse Hill main high rd from Jubilee to St Martins Library
3.	Christiana Valcarcel	194	Installation of security entrance doors on the communal stairwells, on Larkhall Estate
4.	John Whelan	30	Request for planting of new, the removal of old and planting of replacement trees in Oaks Ave
5.	Alex Davies	27	Disposal of garage site on Mountearl Gardens
6.	Daphne Marchant	62	Repaving and resurfacing of Leithcote Gardens required as a result of the construction works
7.	Jeremy Clyne	28	Sternhold Ave, request for the Council to honour the commitment to provide double glazing and/or secondary for properties facing railway sidings

8.	Julia Memery	44	Carfax Estate sheltered housing – lack of consultation
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### Public Notice Questions

No Public Notice Questions had been received.

### Deputations

No deputation requests had been received.

## **6. CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13**

(see report 52/13-14)

Councillor Christopher Wellbelove, Deputy Cabinet Member for Young People, introduced the report, welcoming the representatives from Vision for Success and highlighting the good work carried out in the past year to support children in care.

The Co-Chair and Vice-Chair of Vision of Success, the children in care council, explained their role in representing the wider population of children in care and voice their expressed views. Through their service on the council's Corporate Parenting Board, they were able to advice senior managers on the issues concerning young people in care, including what was thought to be being done well, and what could be done better. They reviewed their activity over the past year. The role of the corporate parent was highlighted, and they urged Councillors to continue to support children in care by signing the Lambeth Pledge during the meeting.

Councillor Judy Best thanked. Vision for Success for their work

### **RESOLVED:**

- (1) To note the roles and responsibilities of all councillors as corporate parents to children looked after and care leavers.
- (2) To note progress being achieved by the Corporate Parenting Board in 2012-13.
- (3) To agree the next steps and proposals as set out in section 7 of this report.
- (4) To invite all councillors to identify those areas falling within their remit, and that of other councillors, to be reviewed in order to support the work of the Corporate Parenting Board and to either write accordingly to the Executive Director of Children and Young People's Service or raise by formal amendment to this report.
- (5) To endorse the Lambeth pledge promises to looked after children and young people and invite all Lambeth councillors to sign accordingly.

**7. CORPORATE COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13**

(see report 18/13-14)

Councillor Jeremy Clyne addressed Council.

**RESOLVED:**

(1) To approve the 2012-13 Corporate Committee Annual Report.

**8. SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13**

(see report 54/13-14)

Councillor Roger Giess introduced the report, paying a special thanks to officers in the Scrutiny Team and Councillors who had been involved in the work of Scrutiny over the past year (the majority of the council). He advised he would step down from his role as committee chair after the forthcoming year.

**RESOLVED:**

(1) To approve the annual report 2012-13.

**9. HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD: ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13**

(see report 10/13-14)

Councillor Jim Dickson outlined the successful year of operation for the shadow Health and Wellbeing Board, emphasising its importance, the collaborative work being undertaken, its openness and transparency. This was echoed by other speakers:

Councillor Ashley Lumsden  
Councillor John Whelan  
Councillor Clive Bennett

**RESOLVED:**

(1) To note the annual report of the shadow health and wellbeing board 2012-13.

**10. CABINET PORTFOLIOS, OTHER ADMINISTRATION AND OPPOSITION APPOINTMENTS 2013-14**

(see report 50/13-14)

**RESOLVED:**

(1) To note the appointments by Councillor Lib Peck (Leader of the Council) of her Cabinet, Deputy Cabinet Members and Champion for the municipal year 2013-14.

- (2) To note the other group appointments made by the Labour, Liberal Democrat and Conservative Groups.

**11. REVIEW OF ALLOCATION TO POLITICAL SEATS**

(see report 51/13-14)

Council was addressed by:

Councillor Matthew Bennett  
Councillor Ashley Lumsden  
Councillor Clive Bennett

**RESOLVED:**

(1) That the report of the Chief Executive setting out the recommended allocation of seats to political groups, as set out in table 1 below, be adopted.

(2) That accordingly, the Council reappoints its Committees with the sizes and allocation of seats between political groups as set out in table 1 of the report, and invites the Whips of the three party groups to make nominations to fill the seats on these committees.

(3) That the Appointments, Licensing and Overview & Scrutiny Committees be invited to note the constitution of and confirm the sizes of sub-committees and allocation of seats between political groups on those sub-committees as set out in table 1 of the report, and that the Whips of the three party groups be invited to make nominations to fill the seats on these Sub-Committees.

**12. COOPERATIVE COUNCIL CONSTITUTION 2013-14**

(see report 53/13-14)

The following speakers addressed Council:

Councillor Paul McGlone  
Councillor Ashley Lumsden  
Councillor Matthew Bennett

**RESOLVED:**

(1) To appoint the Overview & Scrutiny Committee with the terms of reference, constitution and membership (including substitute members) as detailed in Part 1 and Part 3 Section 6 of the Constitution 2013-14 and Appendix 2.

(2) To appoint the other committees with the terms of reference, constitution and membership (including substitute members except where such members are excluded by its constitution) as detailed in Part 2, Section 1 of the Constitution 2013-14 and Appendix 2.



- (3) To approve the executive and local choice functions set out in Part 2, Sections 2 & 3 of the Constitution 2013-14.
- (4) To recommend the Appointments, Corporate, Licensing, Overview & Scrutiny and Standards Committees to appoint their respective sub-committees with the terms of reference, constitution and membership (including substitute members except where such members are excluded by its constitution) as detailed in Part 1 and Part 2, Section 1 of the Constitution 2013-14 and Appendix 2.
- (5) To invite Cabinet to appoint the bodies to undertake executive functions as set out in Part 2, Section 2 of the Constitution 2013-14.
- (6) To approve the scheme of delegation to Cabinet Members and officers, including the schedules thereto which apply to Cabinet Members, Executive Directors, Assistant Directors, Divisional Directors and Business Unit Managers, as set out in Part 2, Section 4 of the Constitution 2013-14.
- (7) To confirm the arrangements for the discharge of functions by way of the joint committees and other bodies, as detailed in Part 2, Section 5 of the Constitution 2013-14).
- (8) To invite Cabinet to confirm the renewal of all joint arrangements (whether by way of joint committee or otherwise), as detailed in Part 2, Section 5 of the Constitution 2013-14, which, following the adoption by the Council of executive arrangements, became either the sole responsibility of the Cabinet, or partly the responsibility of the Cabinet and partly the responsibility of the Council.
- (9) To otherwise approve the council's Cooperative Constitution 2013-14 which will facilitate the Council's delivery of its cooperative aims and ambitions and retain openness and transparency in decision making.

**13. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER BODIES AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS FOR 2013-14**

Correction:

West Norwood Cemetery Advisory Group: add Councillor Jeremy Clyne as Liberal Democrat representative.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the representatives of the Council to other bodies and outside organisations as set out in the attached item 9 be appointed for the municipal year 2013-14, with the period of service running until May 2013 unless otherwise indicated.
- (2) That the Cabinet be invited to endorse the appointment of the representatives of the Council on other bodies and outside organisations for the municipal year 2013-14, and to make all other

such appointments for which the Cabinet is responsible.

**14. ANNUAL SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR 2013-14**

Councillor Matthew Bennett addressed Council.

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) To approve the annual schedule of meeting for the municipal year 2013-13.

**15. COUNCIL QUESTIONS**

**1. By: Councillor Ashley Lumsden, Leader of the Majority Opposition**

**To: Councillor Lib Peck, Leader of the Council**

**Welfare Benefits**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Ashley Lumsden thanked the Leader of the Council for her answer and asked for further clarification on the reasons why she did not agree that it should pay to be in work rather than on benefits.

**Supplementary Answer**

The Leader of the Council stated that the administration was interested in delivery of services and improvements and that job creation was a top priority for the council. Good progress had been made in creating jobs in the borough and a job brokerage scheme had been agreed at Cabinet the previous week. The administration would continue to work hard to create opportunities for residents in Lambeth.

**2. By: Councillor John Whelan, Leader of the Minority Opposition**

**To: Councillor Pete Robbins, Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration**

**Right to Buy Applications in Lambeth**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor John Whelan thanked the Cabinet Member for his answer but stated that there continued to be delays in the right to buy applications and asked whether Councillor Robbins would be prepared to be copied into individual case correspondence.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Pete Robbins responded that he was unaware of any delay to right to buy applications but would appreciate being sent any available correspondence.

**3. By Councillor Imogen Walker, Cabinet Member for Environment and Sustainability**

**To: Councillor John Whelan, Leader of the Minority Opposition**

**Welfare Reform Cuts**

**Supplementary Question**

Did the councillor agree that the welfare reforms were now causing widespread concern, as was being highlighted by a number of organisations in the country.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor John Whelan stated that more money was currently being spent on welfare benefits than on national security and said that this was a sign that changes were needed.

**4. By: Councillor Peter Truesdale**

**To: Councillor Pete Robbins, Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration**

**Roupell Park**

Due to the absence of Councillor Pete Truesdale, this question fell.

**5. By: Councillor Clare Whelan**

**To: Councillor Paul McGlone, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources**

**Compromise Agreements**

Due to the absence of Councillor Clare Whelan, this question fell.

**6. By: Councillor Lorna Campbell, Cabinet Member for Equalities and Communities**

**To: Councillor Ashley Lumsden, Leader of the Majority Opposition**

**Equalities Impacts**

Due to the absence of Councillor Lorna Campbell, this question fell.

**7. By: Councillor Daphne Marchant**

**To: Councillor Jim Dickson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing**

**Employment of Agency Staff as Scheme Managers – Sheltered Housing**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Daphne Marchant thanked the Cabinet Member for his answer but

asked why agency staff had been employed for so long.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Jim Dickson stated that agency working was a very important issue for the council and that huge efforts had been made to reduce the number of agency staff over recent years. He further stated that in that particular case, the issue was slightly different in that this was to do with moving scheme wardens around to different schemes so there was a reason for the longer term employment for this agency worker.

**8. By: Councillor Julia Memery**

**To: Councillor Jim Dickson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing**

**Older People's Housing**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Julia Memery thanked the Cabinet Member for his response but urged him to exclude Carfax Place from the proposals within the Older People's Housing Strategy.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Jim Dickson stated that both he and officers would be listening to the views of all those consulted with and that comments and preferences would be taken into account as far as possible when decisions were taken in the autumn.

**9. By: Councillor Nigel Haselden**

**To: Councillor Jack Hopkins, Cabinet Member for Safer and Stronger Communities**

**Police and Fire Services in Lambeth**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Nigel Haselden thanked the Cabinet Member for his response and asked why sprinklers were not being installed in new buildings.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Jack Hopkins stated that he agreed that the safety of residents was a top priority and that councilors would need to stand together when challenging central government in these matters.

**10. By: Councillor Kita Ogden**

**To: Councillor Pete Robbins, Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration**

**Palace Road Estate**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Kita Ogden thanked the Cabinet Member for the answer and

asked that he worked with her to improve conditions on other estates.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Pete Robbins responded that he was happy to be copied into relevant emails.

**11. By: Councillor Marcia Cameron**

**To: Councillor Jackie Meldrum, Deputy Leader of the Council**

**Unemployment**

No supplementary question was asked.

**12. By: Councillor Jeremy Clyne**

**To: Councillor Sally Prentice, Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure**

**Friends Groups**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Jeremy Clyne thanked the Cabinet Member for her response and asked whether she had written to Labour Members to increase the influence over the Friends Groups.

**Supplementary Answer**

Councillor Sally Prentice noted that she was very pleased with the progress made and that many people had now been engaged in the design of libraries.

**13. By: Councillor Ann Kingsbury**

**To: Councillor Jim Dickson, Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing**

**Health and Wellbeing**

Due to the absence of Councillor Ann Kingsbury, this question fell.

**14. By: Councillor Alex Davies**

**To: Councillor Jackie Meldrum, Deputy Leader of the Council**

**Railway Bridge at Greyhound Lane**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor Alex Davies asked whether the Council was attempting to get business rate discounts for the affected businesses.

**Supplementary Answer**

The Deputy Leader of the Council stated that such attempts were being made, but the council was encountering delays at government level.

**15. By: Councillor John Kazantzis**

**To: Councillor Rachel Heywood, Cabinet Member for Children and Families**

**School Admissions Process**

**Supplementary Question**

Councillor John Kazantzis asked whether the Cabinet Member would join him in working with parents in the borough to improve the experience when applying for school places.

**Supplementary Answer**

On the behalf of Councillor Rachel Heywood, Councillor Christopher Wellbelove responded that he was happy to work to further improve the process for school applications.

**16. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**Motion 1: Uncollected Council Tax in Lambeth hits £41.1 million in 2012**

The Mayor invited speaker from all parties to address Council, in order, from a list provided by the Whips. The speakers in order were:

Councillor Julia Memery  
Councillor Paul McGlone  
Councillor Christine Barratt  
Councillor Donatus Anyanwu  
Councillor Alex Davies  
Councillor Ed Davie  
Councillor Clive Bennett  
Councillor John Whelan

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 31  
Against: 12  
Abstained: 1

CARRIED

Substantive Motion

For: 32  
Against: 13  
Abstained: 0

CARRIED

## **RESOLVED:**

Council raises in the region of £110 million in collectable council taxes each year. Council notes that the collection of council tax debt continues until such time as it is reasonably proved to be uncollectable or uneconomical to pursue further. It is a misunderstanding to call-on the administration to take urgent action to reduce the level of uncollected Council tax in Lambeth when the council's approach has resulted in collecting 95% of the money due to it in the first year of collection. Performance in this area is comparable with the 12 inner London local authorities, with an improving performance trend. There are financial benefits of continuing recovery processes for at least four years after the end of each financial year.

Collection in 2012-13 is expected to be another 'best ever' performance exceeding 95%. Council is also pleased to see this year an increased use of Direct Debit and a significant reduction in the need to use legal recovery action, as people find easier means to pay.

### **Motion 2: Supporting Young People**

The Mayor invited speaker from all parties to address Council, in order, from a list provided by the Whips. The speakers in order were:

Councillor Jackie Meldrum  
Councillor Judy Best  
Councillor Christopher Wellbelove  
Councillor Alex Bigham  
Councillor Roger Giess  
Councillor Sally Prentice

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 13  
Against: 31  
Abstained: 1

LOST

Amendment 2

For: 13  
Against: 31  
Abstained: 1

LOST

Original Motion:

For: 32

Against: 13  
Abstained: 0

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

Council agrees that there is nothing more important than securing a positive future for Lambeth. To achieve this, we will continue to prioritise the needs of its young people, enabling their academic aspirations and supporting them into training and apprenticeships.

Council regrets that, after three years of the Coalition Government, the national economic outlook remains bleak. Equality of opportunity is in short supply and youth unemployment is on the rise. According to the Office of National Statistics, nearly 200,000 sixteen to twenty-four year-olds are registered unemployed in the capital and approximately 6,000 of these young people are Lambeth residents.

This Council and Lambeth's communities all want to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to realise their full potential. In Lambeth this means we are committed to young people having access to a local, high standard education, job opportunities and training. This ambition is made increasingly difficult given that the Work Programme is failing and the government's relentless pursuit of political gimmicks such as free schools over academic and vocational needs. Most of our schools are rated as outstanding and are now rising to the challenge by linking with employers to enable Lambeth students to have access to work experience, training and job opportunities.

Lambeth has set out a clear approach to developing the ambitions and abilities of our young people and celebrates the outstanding progress made in our schools. Council also recognises our investment in a new job brokerage system to help young local people find apprenticeships, training and work, unlike the Government who took away funding for successful support and advice services such as Connexions.

As well as needing our support, young people also need their own voice and have a lot to offer the local community. Council agrees that the Young Lambeth Cooperative has been an innovative and inclusive way of delivering this and welcomes the increasing membership and support it has received across the borough from residents of all ages and backgrounds.

**Motion 3: Clapham Fire Station**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 4  
Against: 31  
Abstained: 10



LOST

Original Motion:

For: 41

Against: 3

Abstained: 1

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

Council condemns the proposal being put forward by Conservative Mayor Boris Johnson, that Conservative members of the London Fire and Emergency Protection Authority voted to progress, that would result in the closure of Clapham Fire Station and a reduction in response times for many Lambeth residents. Council is aware that according to London Fire Brigade the closure of Clapham Fire Station will add an average of 36 seconds to the time it takes for a fire engine to reach an emergency and - as every second counts – any addition to response time could cost lives.

Council notes that these average times do not take into account the increased time of arrival of the first and second engines in specific locations, instead is an estimated average arrival time across the entire borough. Council calls on the London Fire Brigade to release the likely impact in the localities in Clapham and right across the Borough so the reduction in service can be properly understood.

Council also notes that in Lambeth we have a high number of residents living in flats and high density housing and just down the road from Clapham we have the largest regeneration project in Europe taking place which will see the creation of 16,000 new homes and 25,000 new jobs. Council calls on Mayor Johnson to recognise that it is the wrong time to close a local fire station that will support this growing population, and condemns the short-termism of the Clapham Fire Station proposal.

**Motion 4: 100 more police officers in Lambeth**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 14

Against: 31

Abstained: 0

LOST

Original Motion:

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

Council calls on all elected members to sign the petition calling on the Mayor of London to provide a fair deal for Lambeth with an additional 100 police officers to make our streets safer. Council notes that Lambeth has faced the biggest reduction in police numbers and the number of police officers in the borough has fallen by 20% since 2010 yet Lambeth has some of the biggest crime and safety challenges in London. Council calls on the Mayor of London to correct this unfairness: 100 more police officers would mean Lambeth being treated like other London boroughs and bring us in line with the London average.

Council opposes the decimation of dedicated Safer Neighbourhood Teams, and has concerns that the excellent preventative work around reassurance, community building and intelligence gathering will be lost as part of the new London Policing plan being imposed on Lambeth by Mayor Johnson and Stephen Greenhalgh.

**Motion 5: Derelict phone boxes and graffiti**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 33

Against: 10

Abstained: 1

Amendment 2

For: 14

Against: 30

Abstained: 0

LOST

Original Motion

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

Council notes that the answer to Councillor Truesdale's query at Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Sub-Committee on Wednesday 13 March 2013 showed that progress is slow on tackling the curse of derelict or obsolete public phone boxes and tackling the extensive graffiti on Network Rail property. The plethora of graffiti around the public building of Waterloo station is a growing problem that needs urgent attention.

Call boxes owned by Argiva are left unusable; Network Rail is disfigured by graffiti which also is left to blight the area.

Council therefore resolves to request that the Chief Executive work with Network Rail with BT and Argiva to present a plan to members for tackling the excess of their public phone boxes and excess graffiti that will rid Lambeth of these twin blights.

### **Motion 6: Sternhold Sidings**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 31

Against: 13

Abstained: 1

CARRIED

Substantive motion

For: 30

Against: 13

Abstained: 0

CARRIED

### **RESOLVED:**

Council welcomes the demolition of one of the Streatham Hill railway depot canopies erected by Southern Rail without applying for planning permission. This marks a final stage in a long process whereby the Council was forced to expend a significant amount of time and resources, including a Public Inquiry, to bring Southern Rail to this 'compromise' solution. Council notes that it was not until a Labour administration was elected in 2006 that this problem began to be addressed with any vigour and the process of achieving this eventual outcome could commence.

Council regrets that the removal of this canopy will not benefit all affected residents but notes that this situation is the best that could be achieved given the reluctance of the Conservative Liberal Democrat Coalition's Secretaries of State for Communities and Local Government and for Transport to issue a decision on the appeal related to this matter.

### **Motion 7: Streatham BID**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 29

Against: 12

Abstained: 3

CARRIED

Substantive motion

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

Council welcomes the launch of Streatham's Business Improvement District, which provides a real opportunity for local firms to increase trade using funds which will be theirs – not the Council's – to control.

Council congratulates all those in the business community, the Streatham Town Centre Manager and other officers in the Business Growth and Enterprise team and the Deputy Leader, who worked hard for a conclusive 'yes' vote.

Council also notes that the Outer London Fund Improvement together with the new BID will really give Streatham a boost in these harsh economic times.

**Motion 8: Greyhound Lane Railway Bridge**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 14

Against: 29

Abstained: 0

LOST

Amendment 2

For: 31

Against: 13

Abstained: 0

CARRIED

Substantive Motion

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

Members were appalled at the failure by Network Rail to warn local residents and businesses of the closure of the Greyhound Lane railway bridge which will have been closed for an astonishing seven months. Council is concerned by the near disastrous effect on local businesses and their employees.

Council is therefore pleased that Network Rail has finished the works on the bridge at Streatham Common station in advance of the planned completion date thanks to pressure from businesses, residents, councillors and officers.

The works at Streatham Common Station are an exceptional circumstance as Network Rail unusually had to bring forward the start date for these works, leaving no time for a consultation period. Council agrees that it is not acceptable to have no advance consultation over works which have such a large impact on local people and businesses.

Due to the lack of consultation the Council, working with the local community, was successful in securing a substantial financial package of mitigation measures from Network Rail including hardship payments made directly to business, extra replacement bus services, funding for business support by a new Business Association, security guards at night, improved signage and support for local schools. The council responded promptly to requests from residents for road diversions.

Council notes that a Freedom of Information request reported in the South London Press reveals that the Authority were aware from April 2011 that Network Rail was considering the works on the bridge – a year and a half before traders were informed. Unfortunately Network Rail's plans were not clear enough for consultation at that stage. When they became clearer, Network Rail realised the works had to start immediately. The works are part of a 15 station upgrade programme which Network Rail had to implement from December 2012 to improve passenger capacity on a particularly busy service, and will help passengers at Streatham Common among others.

Bearing in mind Network Rail's powers in such matters, and its contractual obligations, Council notes there was little likelihood of Network Rail considering alternative approaches to the platform extension works at Streatham Common station.

Council notes that Network Rail has fulsomely apologised in public on 6<sup>th</sup> December for their failure to identify early enough the full extent of the works needed, which meant they could not alert local residents and businesses in Streatham Vale and the streets on each side of Greyhound Lane earlier.

Council meanwhile welcomes the setting up of the Lane and Vale Business Association in this area and wishes local businesses well as they seek to recover from the blow to their trade. We encourage local residents to shop locally.

Council believes much can be learnt from the bridge closure and so recommends the Environment and Community Safety Scrutiny Sub-Committee to consider this issue with a view to identifying any lessons which Network Rail and the Council can learn.

Finally, Council welcomes the interest of the Liberal Democrats in this issue - better late than never.

## **Motion 9: West Norwood Cemetery Burial Records**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 34

Against: 11

Abstained: 1

**CARRIED**

Amendment 2

For: 14

Against: 31

Abstained: 0

**LOST**

Substantive Motion

For: 37

Against: 8

Abstained: 0

**CARRIED**

### **RESOLVED:**

Council commends the professional manner in which Lambeth's Libraries and Archives service has responded to the challenging circumstances at West Norwood Library.

Council was reassured that valuable local records were not put at risk as a result of the roof theft in 2011 and the 2012 inspection by senior officers.

Council understands the complex nature of repairing, restoring and renewing West Norwood Library and looks forward to a progress report from its Libraries Team on work to access, assess and ultimately return these records to Minet Library, where a new home beckons.

## **Motion 10: Planned Cuts to Emergency Services**

Voting

Amendment 1

For: 31

Against: 11

Abstained: 2

CARRIED

Substantive Motion

For: 41

Against: 3

Abstained: 1

CARRIED

**RESOLVED:**

With heightened anxiety amongst taxpayers Council recognises that Mayor Johnson has already been presented with alternatives to the planned cuts for emergency services in our boroughs by the Labour Group on the London Assembly. These proposals have been rejected by the Mayor.

Council is also asked to recognise that officers and Councillors have been working with other boroughs in presenting a case against the emergency services cuts, most recently with the Central London Forward group of councils who held an evidence session with senior officers of the London Fire Brigade.

Council calls on all Lambeth Councillors to support the 100 More Police and Save Clapham Fire Station campaigns which are making a strong case for a fair deal for Lambeth.

**17. PAY POLICY STATEMENT**

(see report 55/13-14)

Council was addressed by:

Councillor Ashley Lumsden  
Councillor Paul McGlone

**RESOLVED:**

- (1) To note the response to the requirements of the Supplementary Guidance to the Localism Act 2011 dated February 2013.
- (2) To endorse the existing process for the appointment and setting of senior pay as set out in the Councils Constitution and summarised at Section 2 of this report.
- (3) To endorse the existing process for determining termination payments on redundancy as required by legislation and summarised at Section 3 of this report.
- (4) To approve the revised Pay Policy Statement attached at Appendix A.
- (5) To endorse the proposal that, in the interests of improving

accountability and transparency, all appointments made to posts attracting remuneration in excess of £100,000 per annum and all severance packages in excess of £100,000 per annum shall be highlighted in the annual report to full Council of the Pay Policy Statement that includes the salary of senior officers.

The meeting ended at 9.30 pm

MAYOR  
Wednesday 24 July 2013

Date of Despatch: Friday 31 May 2013  
Contact for Enquiries: Tim Stephens

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