

COUNCIL

Wednesday 10 October 2018 at 7.00 pm

MINUTES

The Worshipful the Mayor in the Chair

COUNCILLORS PRESENT:

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 Anna Birley, Councillor Linda Bray, Councillor Tim Briggs, Councillor Lucy Caldicott, Councillor Marcia Cameron, Councillor Rezina Chowdhury, Councillor Malcolm Clark, Councillor Fred Cowell, Councillor Edward Davie, Councillor Jon Davies, Councillor Jim Dickson, Councillor Jane Edbrooke, Councillor Pete Elliott, Councillor Peter Ely, Councillor Paul Gadsby, Councillor Adrian Garden, Councillor Pauline George, Councillor Nicole Griffiths, Councillor Nigel Haselden, Councillor Claire Holland, Councillor Jack Hopkins, Councillor Mohamed Jaser, Councillor Maria Kay, Councillor John Kazantzis, Councillor Ben Kind, Councillor Jessica Leigh, Councillor Joshua Lindsey, Councillor Marianna Masters, Councillor Philip Normal, Councillor Lib Peck, Councillor Jane Pickard, Councillor Joanna Reynolds, Councillor Mohammed Seedat, Councillor Joanne Simpson, Councillor Becca Thackray, Councillor Martin Tiedemann, Councillor Tina Valcarcel, Councillor Clair Wilcox, Councillor Andy Wilson, Councillor Timothy Windle and Councillor Sonia Winifred

APOLOGIES: Councillor Jennifer Brathwaite, Councillor Joe Corry-Roake, Councillor Kevin Craig, Councillor Ibrahim Dogus, Councillor Jacqui Dyer, Councillor Annie Gallop, Councillor Dr. Mahamed Hashi, Councillor Jackie Meldrum, Councillor Irfan Mohammed, Councillor Jennie Mosley, Councillor Emma Nye and Councillor Iain Simpson.

1. DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were none.

2. MINUTES

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the previous meeting dated 18 July 2018 be approved as a correct record of the proceedings, subject to the below change to Item 7, question 5:

“Councillor Bartley responded that councillors from all parties should work together on diversity and not use it to score political points.”

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor noted the apologies that had been received.

The Mayor led the tributes to former councillor and Deputy Leader John Whelan. Councillors Anna Birley, Becca Thackray, Jim Dickson, and Tim Briggs, also spoke of their fond memories of and respect for John Whelan.

The Mayor next led tributes to former councillor Matt Parr, with Councillors Donatus Anyanwu, Becca Thackray, Tim Briggs, and Jack Hopkins noting his principled integrity and dedication to Lambeth.

A one minute silence in memory was held.

Congratulations were offered to Councillor Scarlett O'Hara who had recently won the Coldharbour by-election and thanks were given to all candidates who took part.

The Mayor noted that he had attended a number of World Mental Health Day events demonstrating the Council's commitment to this important issue, and that a future Council meeting would focus on mental health. In addition, a music single had been launched to raise funds for the Mosaic Clubhouse and attendees were invited to participate and spread the message.

It was also noted that £1,200 had been raised for the Mayor's Charity Fund and a second community session would be held in the Heritage Suite with local artists on 18 October 2018 with councillors asked to provide names of attendees; there was a special Mayoral reception to mark World Aids Day on 30 November 2018; and, a Mental Health event on 09 January 2019 with a special panel discussion.

4. PETITIONS, PNQS AND DEPUTATIONS

4a. Deputations

Council **RESOVED**:

To suspend Committee Rules and Procedure, number 10.3, to allow three deputations (instead of two):

- i. From Alex Owolade on supporting the needs of the Windrush generation and their descendants, noting the following points:
 - Despite public exposure, the Windrush generation still faced deportation;
 - these citizens were treated as second class citizens in the eyes of the Home Office, but were a significant element of the UK's society;
 - they had originally come to the UK in tremendous hope and dreams, but had been betrayed by British politicians throughout their time in the UK;
 - this motion challenged the injustices faced, noting the wrongful continuation of the Government's hostile environment;
 - their experiences had been compounded by Brexit which was helping drive racism; and,
 - Lambeth had a 70 year history of fighting racism, and the Windrush generation and their descendants needed this help to provide amnesty and secure immigration statuses.

The Cabinet Member Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred:

- She thanked Alex Owolade for the deputation, she noted she was also a member of the Windrush generation and was happy to call in the Government over its treatment of the Windrush generation;
- the Windrush generation had played a significant role in helping rebuild the country

following World War II;

- their current and ongoing treatment was a scandal and national shame, which Government had not done enough to help or compensate;
- Lambeth was pleased to support the Windrush generation and had begun further actions, including to submit a fair and flexible response to the petition, to ensure the Windrush generation were eligible for the scheme; and,
- it was only right that UK citizens receive recognition of their citizenship.

The Mayor also noted his thanks as a fellow product of the Windrush generation.

ii. From Michael Boyle, against walled events on Brockwell Park, noting that:

- The threat of another walled event was critical for the park;
- there was still damage to the park four months after the Country Show with no prospect of recovery before the next event;
- the walls left behind more damage than any other feature;
- the park was largely incompatible with shows and access or maintaining citizens' health and welfare, with regular park users unable to use it;
- the walls made it difficult to assess any event and some persons spent considerable time trying to find the entrances;
- it was queried whether genuine crime was the real reason for the walls; and,
- he appealed to Council to halt such treatment of the park or at the least to resolve the security issues so that there were no more walls.

The Cabinet Member Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred, responded:

- Lambeth's preferred option was to fence, so that it could continue to deliver events and to do so safely;
- Lambeth was working with parks and Friends groups to deliver a service that worked for all, and was one of the best services in London with 13 awards and a gold rating;
- events were opportunities, but presented challenges, and the Council was listening to communities to deliver an improved service with the Events Strategy coming up for renewal and invited the Friends groups and interested parties to contribute;
- the Country Show had been successful and well-attended;
- feedback received focused on safety, and it was noted that Safety Advisors had found a large knife outside the perimeter fencing;
- walled events meant that the numbers of police officers was reduced; and,
- the Council recognised that young people and park users suffered and would work with all parties to find common solutions.

The Mayor passed on his thanks to the Friends of Brockwell Park and other community spaces for their services and for coming to Council.

iii. From Mike Cushman, raising the implications for free speech of adopting the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism with all 11 examples, noting:

- He represented a group of Jewish residents and the Palestinian Solidarity campaign, who recognised anti-Semitism as a problem;
- he had experienced anti-Semitism in Lambeth, but never in the Labour Party and contrary to correspondence with the Leader of the Council, it was not true that it continued to plague the Party and was being addressed;
- the definition proposed for adoption was unsatisfactory and lacked clarity;
- there could be a lack of consistency in application with a chilling effect on public bodies,

- especially if those were labelled as anti-Semitic;
- adopting the definition may well place the Council in legal jeopardy;
- the IHRA did not focus on Jews' problems or properly definite comments that were anti-Semitic as opposed to criticism of policies; and,
- if the Council debated or made a declaration on anti-Semitic behaviour, it would also need to adopt a clear statement on free speech.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Lib Peck, responded:

- she thanked Mr Cushman for his deputation and correspondence, but disagreed with his views, and noted her previous work with a non-governmental organisation in the Middle East and ongoing issues with the Israeli Government's human rights, of which criticism of them was not contrary to the IHRA's definition;
- she was proud of Labour's record of tackling racism and was one of her primary drivers for becoming a Labour party member; and,
- the IHRA's definition was adopted by 130 local councils and unanimously by all 32 London boroughs.

4b. Public Notice Questions

There were none.

4c. Petitions

Council received four petitions:

- i. From Councillor Jane Edbrooke, with 22 signatures for a cycle hanger on Rudloe Road.
- ii. From Councillor Joanna Reynolds, with 263 signatures for a signalised pedestrian crossing at Cavendish Road (South Circular) and Clapham Common Southside road junction.
- iii. From Councillor J Davies, with 958 signatures to help alleviate traffic issues on Tranquil Triangle project with Southwark Council.
- iv. From Councillor Jon Davies, with 733 signatures to pull out of the agreement with Southwark Council on the experimental closure of Brook Drive and Dante Road Junction and to meet with Councillor Holland.

5. CABINET STATEMENT

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Lib Peck, addressed Council and raised the following points:

- She welcomed Councillor Scarlett O'Hara to the Council, thanked the Mayor for World Mental Health Day and highlighted the programme of talks and activities for Black History Month.
- Lambeth was immensely proud of its diverse history and was where Black History Month was founded, along with the Black Cultural Archives and Black Opera Company; being at the forefront of celebrating the Windrush generation and challenging discrimination.
- The recent news coverage of racism in the Council was noted, with more than 60% of staff from BAME backgrounds. Further work to improve servicing communities and increasing the numbers of BAME managers was needed, but the Council was open and honest, and had set up an Equality Commission 18 months ago, alongside a range of programmes, to tackle the problem.
- The Prospect Union survey (09 October 2018) noted deep inequalities and racism in every workforce which was not limited to one institution.
- The pressure of austerity on local authorities made inequality worse and harder to tackle, but Lambeth would continue to draw on its reserves and resources, and ensure that ending

discrimination were at the heart of what it did.

6. OPPOSITION STATEMENT

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

- A warm welcome was extended to Councillor Scarlett O'Hara, with condolences passed to the families of former councillor Matt Parr and John Whelan.
- The Leader of the Council was thanked for responding to the request at the last council meeting to bring forward a motion on a People's Vote. It was felt that Brexit would open the floodgates to a new tide of racism and the Green Party supported the upcoming motion.
- All councillors needed to be brave enough to support the Green amendment to the IHRA's definition of racism, and that an ability to be able to criticise Israeli, without accusations of anti-Semitism, must be safeguarded.
- The Council needed to acknowledge and not dismiss allegations of racism.
- Lambeth had taken a year to agree the 2017 Equality Commission's terms of reference, whilst staff development programmes were still not yet running.
- A full review of the Council's mechanisms, including whistleblowing and an independent investigation into staff claims, were needed to restore faith that the authority was tackling racism.
- There was no justification on the cuts for vulnerable residents in the Culture 2020 and merely blaming central Government was not good enough.
- There was no justification for a wall around the Country Show and no reason not to publish the debrief minutes, which showed the police dismissing and devaluing young people. The decision to wall off the Country Show should be reversed.

7. QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS

1. **Councillor Nicole Griffiths to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland**

Supplementary question

The level of pollution was a public health emergency, and it was asked that Cabinet commit to rolling out exclusion zones around schools.

Supplementary answer

The level of pollution was a public health emergency and the Council, resident groups, central government and the Mayor needed to work together to tackle it. Lambeth had been through the courts to get a clean air action plan, and would try to extend no stop zones around schools.

3. **Councillor Scarlett O'Hara to the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Paul Gadsby**

Supplementary question

It was asked what actions the Council was taking to have good quality temporary accommodation and support homeless persons.

Supplementary answer

How the Council cared for the most vulnerable was not just a matter of housing, although

temporary accommodation rose 52% in London since 2011, and the Council was prioritising this work. In particular, the Council was preventing the need for temporary accommodation with its Early Intervention housing team; by building as much housing as possible, including high quality temporary accommodation and a £15m investment the London Property Fund; and by supporting homelessness through its Rough Sleepers team.

4. Councillor Danny Adilypour to the Leader of the Opposition, Councillor Jonathan Bartley

Supplementary question

Mental health was a cross-party issue, but noted the suicide of a young woman in December 2017 whose mother had recently been accosted, with the video put on social media, of her child's suicide being mocked by a Green Party activist, and asked for the Leader of the Opposition to condemn these actions and detail their party's response.

Supplementary answer

The Green Party had spoken to the mother and the Green Party activist had apologised in person. Such incidents should be condemned and it was noted that the Green Party had been expedient in doing so.

5. Councillor Donatus Anyanwu to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, Councillor Matthew Bennett

Supplementary question

It was requested that additional information be provided on opportunities for affordable workspace in International House.

Supplementary answer

International House had been re-launched on 09 October 2018 as the largest affordable workspace in London. These included space for affordable businesses and ensuring that companies paid staff the London living wage, and for every space rented out commercially, one would be provided for free, helping create local industry and entrepreneurs. It was expected that the building would be filled over the next 11 months, and over the five-year programme would see 850 jobs created for local people. This programme would also be extended with the next workspaces to be created at Loughborough Junction.

6. Councillor Liz Atkins to the Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care (job-share), Councillor Ed Davie

Supplementary question

Police action had not resolved complaints of ASB, drug-dealing and crime in Streatham Hill and it was asked if additional conditions on Streatham Hill licenses would be placed to ensure they fulfilled their social responsibilities or whether PSPOs could be introduced to intervene more effectively.

Supplementary answer

The High Streets Commission had looked at these shops which drained money from the community and were a source of crime and anti-social behaviour. The Council was currently reviewing its gambling policy and would put in the toughest licensing conditions possible, ensure they were abided by, and that gambling took place in a safe, positive environment.

7. Councillor Malcolm Clark to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland

Supplementary question

Thanks was offered for the progress elicited from Thames Water on planning matters, but not on compensation, with the report from Thames Water not accurately identifying all impacted customers. It was asked that the Council continue to ask Thames Water to pay £450 to all affected Streatham households.

Supplementary answer

The response from colleagues and residents was remarkable, unlike that from Thames Water and it was noted that it was unacceptable for residents not to get fair compensation. Cabinet Members supported efforts and invited councillors to read Councillor Peck's letter to Thames Water, calling on them to rectify problems in the compensation progress and to write 150 cheques to all recognised households and the Council would continue to support.

8. Councillor Lucy Caldicott to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, Councillor Matthew Bennett

Supplementary question

It was queried why the reconfiguration of Stockwell Cross Road junction improvements had seen activities hollowed out, a bank closed, and whether the Council would reconsider its consultation of markets and residents.

Supplementary answer

Funds had been set aside for the market, and a consultation was run for local people, so that they had the businesses and amenities they wanted.

9. Councillor Becca Thackray to the Cabinet Member for Equalities and Culture, Councillor Sonia Winifred

Supplementary question

It was requested that the Labour Group admit long-held plans to gut libraries.

Supplementary answer

Labour were immensely proud to still have 10 libraries and 10 community ones in the future, which would help wellbeing and the culture programme. Library services had been changed so that they were operationally sustainable, whilst allowing savings and providing a service for 1.5m visitors.

11. Councillor Scott Ainslie to the Cabinet Member for the Voluntary Sector, Partnerships and Community Safety (job-share), Councillor Mohammed Seedat

Supplementary question

It was requested that detail of the Noise Service be detailed including number of officers, costings, council-funded police officers and how this complemented the work of the VAWG, violence reduction unit and ASB teams.

Supplementary answer

There was currently no detail, but Full Council would be fully briefed once available. The

complex long-standing issues were highlighted, which would take time to resolve during ongoing cuts to the services.

12. Councillor Tim Windle to the Cabinet Member for Planning, Investment and New Homes, Councillor Matthew Bennett

Supplementary question

Further detail on the protection of moving residents and of right to buy was requested.

Supplementary answer

Work on the Fenwick and Somerleyton Estates was due to begin, with residents having waited a long time for new homes, with an additional 55 new homes for council renters as part of the Town Hall development. This was delivering on promises during an acute housing crisis, which right to buy schemes had made worse. Part of the housing programme was to protect residents moving within the programme and for new persons coming off waiting lists. It was also noted that the new properties would not have right to buy as they were not just for this generation, but for future ones too.

14. Councillor Pete Elliott to the Cabinet Member for Environment and Clean Air, Councillor Claire Holland

Supplementary question

It was requested that the monitoring of air pollution continue, whilst it was queried how successful policies had been, which pollutants were measured and whether monitoring air pollution would occur in West Norwood.

Supplementary answer

The Council had previously answered this question during discussion of Brixton Road, and was trying cheaper and smaller monitors across the borough, including West Norwood to track and better monitor air pollution.

8. REPORTS

There were none.

9. MOTIONS

The first motion was from the Green Group, on Windrush and the Government's hostile environment. Councillor Becca Thackray opened the debate. Speakers were as follows:

- Councillor Maria Kay
- Councillor Donatus Anyanwu
- Councillor Sonia Winifred
- Councillor Tim Briggs

Councillor Nicole Griffiths closed the debate.

The second motion was from the Labour Group on the People's Vote. Councillor Ed Davie opened the debate. Speakers were as follows:

- Councillor Jonathan Bartley
- Councillor Tim Briggs

- Councillor Lucy Caldicott
- Councillor Marianna Masters

During the debate Councillor Jonathan Bartley asked for a point of personal explanation (under Part 3, section 1, Para 15.5 of the Council's Constitution) on comments made by Councillor Briggs. Councillor Bartley advised the Mayor that he did not say brexit was racist, and that comment by Councillor Briggs was misleading.

Councillor Claire Holland closed the debate.

The third motion was from Councillor Tim Briggs on adopting the IHRA's definition of anti-Semitism and its examples without amendment or omission.

The fourth motion was from the Labour Group on International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Definition of anti-Semitism.

10. VOTING

cMotions

Motion 1: Green

On Windrush and the Government's hostile environment.

Amendment 1: Labour

For: 43

Against: 0

Abstention: 6

The Labour amendment was **CARRIED**.

Substantive motion as amended by Labour:

For: 48

Against: 0

Abstention: 1

The motion was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**:

Council notes that:

Lambeth residents are part of the historic struggle for equality in this country and that those of the Commonwealth diaspora - the Windrush generation, their descendants and families - have played a crucial role in shaping our borough. Our diversity makes us strong, and is to be celebrated.

Lambeth spearheaded the Windrush 70 campaign to celebrate the contributions of the Windrush generation to our borough and the UK. Local designers created the official Windrush 70 logo and commemorative pin. Community efforts supported by The Voice ran a series of events to celebrate the Windrush generation including the fantastic Harry Jacobs A Snapshot of Brixton: Exhibition, talks by the Windrush Foundation and an exhibition at Clapham South underground.

The Windrush scandal has brought to prominence the Government's 'hostile environment' policy

which is having a terrible impact on many Lambeth residents. Detaining and deporting members of the Windrush Generation and their descendants is a betrayal and a shame on this government and our country. The UK's immigration detention system is not fit for purpose and the Government must end immigration detention. Anyone whose grandparents and parents are here has the right to reunite with their family.

The Lambeth community played a key role in raising awareness of the shocking scandal and supporting residents affected. The Black Cultural Archives held surgeries to support those affected by Windrush immigration concerns. Cllr Sonia Winifred has been working with residents affected for a number of years. In 2017 she wrote to the Home Office and Jamaica High Commissioner urging the government to take action. Earlier this year, Leader of the Council Cllr Lib Peck wrote jointly with Chuka Umunna MP and Helen Hayes MP to the Prime Minister calling on the government to rectify the appalling situation. Helen Hayes MP has raised the scandal in Parliament on numerous occasions.

Despite the Government's apology for the Windrush scandal many of the Windrush generation, their descendants and families are still suffering great hardship. Children, grandchildren and family members from Commonwealth countries who joined their families in the UK after 1st January 1973 are still facing detention and deportation. They have not been included in the Government's apologies or measures to put right this wrong.

Despite the establishment of the Government's Windrush taskforce Windrush citizens are still being forced to wait months for their immigration cases to be resolved despite a government pledge to process them in two weeks. The Home Office's response is chaotic and is forcing people into distress and destitution.

Council believes that:

It is unacceptable that older members of the Windrush generation are spending their last years alone in care homes because their own children and grandchildren are not allowed back into the country, or that families continue to be separated as a consequence of racist immigration policies.

It is unacceptable that those who have lived and worked here for decades are the subject of immigration raids and harassment. Those who work in our hospitals, schools and other parts of the public sector should not be made into border guards in sweeping measures that have criminalised entire communities.

It is unacceptable that people have to go through all of the bureaucratic processes of different departments such the Department for Work and Pensions and Home Office, to get their lives back on track.

No one from the Windrush Generation, their descendants or families should be charged additional fees for naturalisation or passport applications. Additional hardship payments should be issued to those who need them.

Council will:

(i) Support the campaign calling for the government to widen the Windrush Scheme (#WidenWindrush) to include descendants and family members who came to the UK after 1st January 1973, publicise the legal challenge to the discrimination against Windrush descendants who arrived after that date, and call on MPs and other Councils to support this campaign.

(ii) Support the call for fees for naturalisation to be waived for all those who have been affected;

call on the ~~Prime Minister~~ **government** to commission a public inquiry into the Windrush scandal; actively campaign for an end to the 'hostile environment' policy and indefinite detention, and oppose the criminalisation of Windrush families.

(iii) Call on the Government to ensure that the Windrush taskforce becomes a 'one stop shop' for the Windrush Generation, their descendants and families. That would mean that in one place people would not only get their residence permit but also their British passport and their welfare benefits/pensions reinstated.

(iv) Set up a working group that will explore the impact of immigration policies on Lambeth residents who are members, descendants or close family members of the Windrush generation, champion and secure their rights, and come forward with proposals to ensure Lambeth residents do not continue to suffer from the Hostile Environment policy.

(v) Review the Council's policies and procedures to ensure the Council supports those affected to the fullest extent possible, including fully supporting advice agencies and local community organisations in Lambeth in their work to achieve justice for all Lambeth residents of the Windrush generation.

vi) Endorse the 'These Walls Must Fall' Campaign

vii) Call on the Government to implement the recommendations of the Joint Inquiry by the All Party Parliamentary Group on Refugees & the All Party Parliamentary Group on Migration into the Use of Immigration Detention in the United Kingdom.

viii) Ask Lambeth MPs to **continue to** raise these matters in the House of Commons, and support alternatives to immigration detention.

ix) Seek further support for this motion via the Local Government Association, and by encouraging other Councils in the UK to show their support.

Motion 2: Labour

People's Vote

Amendment 1: Conservative

For: 1

Against: 47

Abstention: 0

The Conservative amendment was **NOT CARRIED**.

Amendment 2: Green

For: 5

Against: 44

Abstention: 0

The Green amendment was **NOT CARRIED**.

Original motion

For: 48
Against: 1
Abstention: 0

The motion was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**:

This Council notes that:

79% of Lambeth residents voted to remain in the 2016 EU referendum, making Lambeth the second highest Remain area.

Lambeth council has lobbied the government to protect the rights of the more than 30,000 European citizens in Lambeth, and the Leader of the Council Cllr Lib Peck wrote to the Prime Minister in a joint letter with 21 other London council leaders urging her to guarantee the rights of EU citizens.

Lambeth Council Introduced a passport return service, allowing EU nationals to keep their passport while they apply for British citizenship.

Further notes:

The effect of Brexit on our economy, on the costs in the construction market which affects the building of affordable homes, and on the numbers of EU workers coming to support our public services is already having significant negative effects on our borough.

The Lambeth Labour manifesto pledged to “fight for the rights of EU citizens, and membership of the single market and customs union”.

The Conservative Government’s Brexit plans are a shambles and are unpopular across the political spectrum. As a result, it is becoming increasingly likely that the UK will crash out of the EU with a disastrous 'No Deal' that has no public support.

This Council resolves to:

Support the campaign for a People’s vote on the terms of the UK’s exit from the European Union and to build support in whatever ways are practical.

To call on the government to abandon any plans for a hard Brexit and to give the British people a vote on whatever deal is finally negotiated alongside the opportunity for a vote on keeping the many benefits Britons currently enjoy by staying in the European Union.

To write to our local MPs and the Brexit secretary informing them that Lambeth Council has passed this motion in support of a People’s Vote.

To join other London Councils in congratulating the Mayor of London in publicly backing a people’s vote.

Continue supporting and lobbying the government to protect the rights of EU Citizens in Lambeth and across the country.

Motion 3: Conservative

Adopting the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism and its examples without amendment or omission

Original motion:

For: 1

Against: 48

Abstention: 0

The motion was **NOT CARRIED**.

Motion 4: Labour

International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of anti-Semitism

Amendment 1: Conservative

For: 1

Against: 48

Abstention: 0

The Conservative amendment was **NOT CARRIED**.

Amendment 2: Green

For: 5

Against: 44

Abstention: 0

The Green amendment was **NOT CARRIED**.

Original motion:

For: 44

Against: 0

Abstention: 5

The motion was **CARRIED** and Council **RESOLVED**:

This council expresses alarm at the rise in anti-Semitism in recent years across the UK. We therefore welcome the UK Government's decision to sign up to the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on anti-Semitism which define anti-Semitism as:

"Anti-Semitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of anti-Semitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities."

The guidelines highlight manifestations of anti-Semitism as including:

- The targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity. However, criticism of Israel similar to that levelled against any other country cannot be regarded as anti-Semitic.

Anti-Semitism frequently charges Jews with conspiring to harm humanity, and it is often used to blame Jews for “why things go wrong.” It is expressed in speech, writing, visual forms and action, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic anti-Semitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.”

This Council hereby adopts the above definition of anti-Semitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and pledges to combat this pernicious form of racism.

The Mayor noted that the next Full Council meeting was on 23 January 2019, and asked all present to reach out at Christmas time which so many persons found difficult and lonely, so that people were not alone and that even the simplest contact could make a significant difference during this time of year.

The meeting ended at 9.26 pm

MAYOR
Wednesday 23 January 2019

Date of Despatch: Thursday 18 October 2018
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