

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 30 JANUARY 2019**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Saray Karakus (Mayor), Kate Anolue (Deputy Mayor), Huseyin Akpinar, Mahmut Aksanoglu, Maria Alexandrou, Daniel Anderson, Tolga Aramaz, Guner Aydin, Dinah Barry, Ian Barnes, Mahym Bedekova, Chris Bond, Sinan Boztas, Yasemin Brett, Anne Brown, Alev Cazimoglu, Nesil Caliskan, Mustafa Cetinkaya, Katherine Chibah, Will Coleshill, Lee David-Sanders, Birsen Demirel, Clare De Silva, Chris Dey, Guney Dogan, Elif Erbil, Ergin Erbil, Susan Erbil, Ergun Eren, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Charith Gunawardena, Christine Hamilton, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Stephanos Ioannou, Rick Jewell, Joanne Laban, Bernadette Lappage, Dino Lemonides, Tim Leaver, Derek Levy, Mary Maguire, Andy Milne, Gina Needs, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Sabri Ozaydin, Vicki Pite, Lindsay Rawlings, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Edward Smith, Jim Steven, Claire Stewart, Doug Taylor, Mahtab Uddin, Glynis Vince and Hass Yusuf

ABSENT Margaret Greer and Nneka Keazor

1

THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

A group of children from the Platinum Performing Arts School gave a brief performance in place of the Mayor's blessing.

2

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL

The Mayor began by saying "Good evening councillors, and members of the public and welcome to the first Council meeting of 2019".

She took the opportunity of wishing everyone a very Happy New Year and trusted that they all had had an enjoyable and peaceful Christmas.

1. Mayoral Engagements

1.1 Winter Gala

The Mayoral Winter Gala had taken place on 23 November 2018 and had been very successful. Everyone had had an enjoyable time. Money had been raised for the mayoral charities and the Mayor had thanked everyone for their support, which was received with gratitude.

1.2 Ward Surgeries

The Mayor said that she had been overwhelmed by the wonderful people she had met since becoming Mayor. She said that it was evident that many of the residents of Enfield often needed the support of their local Council, especially the elderly, vulnerable and disabled. She urged as many as possible to visit their ward surgeries where ward councillors offered support and acted as representatives on behalf of residents. Local surgeries are advertised on the Council's website.

1.3 Citizenship Ceremonies

The Mayor said that she was always so honoured to be present at the Citizenship ceremonies, where those who attended were thrilled and proud to be present.

1.4 Christmas Parade of Lights

The Christmas Parade of Lights was extremely well attended, and she congratulated the organisers for another successful year.

1.5 New Year's Day Parade

The Mayor had been proud to represent Enfield at New Years' Day parade and to carry the Enfield flag throughout the whole parade. The theatre group St Monica's Players, from Enfield had been amazing. She hoped to be able to share her ideas and experiences with the new year parade team to help make next year even more successful.

2. Future Events

2.1 Play - Together we are Enfield

The "Together We are Enfield" play has now gone on sale and tickets could be purchased from Millfield Theatre box office, Millfield website, from the Mayors' office or from the Mayor herself. The Mayor said that it would be wonderful if as many people as possible came to see this piece of work with family members and or friends.

The main character of this starts a project which will highlight Enfield, as a vibrant town, full of wonderful people, achieving great successes.

The play introduces many aspects of Enfield that the Mayor felt sometimes got forgotten and the many people who lived there who were not always recognised for the wonderful work they provided to those who need it the most and to protect the beauties of Enfield. As well as providing positive outcomes for the community. This project hopes to encourage integration and community spirit, which she felt often got lost in daily life.

The play will be on the 26th February 2019 at 7pm at the Millfield Theatre.

Tickets are £10 each and this money will be going to the Mayor's local charities.

She hoped that it would be a wonderful evening.

3

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 NOVEMBER 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 November 2018 were agreed as a correct record with the following amendment:

Councillor Dey had not attended the Courbevoie visit referred to in the Mayor's Announcements. (Item 2 Para 3)

4

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Greer and Keazor and for lateness from Councillors Boztas and Bedekova.

5

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

NOTED the statement from Jeremy Chambers, Monitoring Officer and Director of Law and Governance as follows:

"In accordance with guidance from the Department for Communities and Local Government, there is no requirement for members to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest in relation to item 7.

The exception to this being any councillor who is two or more months in arrears on their Council Tax, in which case they will need to declare this and not take part in the vote."

Councillors Rawlings declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 11 motion 11.10 as a member of Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth. Councillor Laban also declared a non-pecuniary interest in this item.

6

OPPOSITION PRIORITY BUSINESS - WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES

Councillor Rawlings introduced the issues paper, prepared by the Opposition Group.

1. Issues highlighted by Councillor Rawlings were as follows:

- This was a topic of local importance that feeds into the Local Plan.

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

- Everyone wanted clean, litter free streets, and no one wanted an increase in the number of dumped black sacks on the streets. The proposals included in the waste services consultation jeopardise these aims.
- The decision on the waste consultation was recently called in and considered at a meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Overview and Scrutiny sent the decision back to the portfolio holder for review, but the consultation went ahead three days later unchanged. Three of the proposals put forward did not align with the Labour Mayor of London's waste policies for ensuring all boroughs had a weekly green waste collection.
- In her opinion residents had shown their support for weekly collections when they voted Conservative in the recent Bush Hill Park byelection.
- In her view any savings made through these proposals would be negated by an increase in dumped rubbish.
- Confidence that recycling rates could be increased, maintaining weekly collections, but improving communication and promotions.
- People living in flats could recycle far more if more amenities were in place.
- Concern that pedestrians were not permitted to take recycling into Barrowell Green on foot which could put people off.
- Reuse was a better option than recycling and she felt that more publicity should be given to initiatives such as the recent Give and Take Day in Winchmore Hill and the Repair Café to be held at St Paul's Centre in March.
- Concern about the lack of provision for enabling people to opt for larger black general waste bins.
- Money could be saved by reducing the numbers of agency staff.
- If collection times were to change, there would be a need to ensure that people were well informed to prevent more waste being dumped on the street particularly in the East of the Borough.
- The Overview and Scrutiny Committee would be receiving a presentation on the outcomes from the consultation on the following evening.

2. Councillor Caliskan, the Leader of the Council, responded on behalf of the Majority Group highlighting:

- Welcome for the chance to discuss the waste collection issue.
- The choices being put forward were a direct consequence of the attack by the Conservative Government on the Council's budget.
- Service cuts had a direct impact on the poor and vulnerable.
- The Labour Council was committed to do the best it could with the limited resources available. The decision to make these proposals had not been taken lightly, but because of the £18m worth of cuts to the Council budget, they were necessary.
- The administration supported the aspiration for a clean and green borough. But was also committed to translating that aspiration into

outcomes. High standards and providing quality services were important. As was improving the street scene.

- But it was necessary to be up front and honest. The consultation responses would be considered carefully in the current context. The final choice would be made on the basis of the best way to preserve services within the available budget.
- The option proposals were well thought through and properly designed to avoid salami slicing.
- Fly-tipping was an issue and steps were being taken to address it as part of this review of the waste services.
- New 2.5 litre bins were being installed on council housing estates. A new waste strategy for estates was also being put together and would be available soon.
- The consultation had three clear criteria for changing the waste collection service: financial savings achievable, conformity with the Mayor's Environment Strategy and consideration of the responses from the consultation.
- Maintaining services at the current level would involve extra costs of £1.5m because of increases in the cost of dry recycling amongst other things. The only alternative would be to increase the Council tax or cut other essential services. The leader pointed out that the opposition did not state which other Council services they would cut.
- The Government had also cut the £2.5m grant for weekly collections.
- Costs had to be reduced and new ways to encourage recycling found as rates have flattened out over the last few years.
- Four of the options involved a separate food waste weekly collection and there are options to continue with the fortnightly garden waste which is not statutory.
- There has been a ten-week consultation exercise and the administration would consider the responses received. It was likely, because of the cuts to government funding, that changes would have to be made.

3. Other issues highlighted during the debate were as follows:

a. The need highlighted by the members of the Opposition Group:

- To acknowledge that the public wanted weekly collections as suggested by the election of Councillor Hockney in the recent Bush Hill Park byelection.
- To accept that three of the options put forward in the consultation did not comply with the Mayor of London's Waste Strategy or the Guidelines from the Department for Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA).
- Money wasted on projects like the small housing sites could have been spent to keep the weekly collections.

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

- To recognise the view that any savings made could be wiped out by the increased costs incurred as a result of increased fly-tipping.
 - The use of shared services was an option which could be explored.
 - To acknowledge that £1.5m was a small part of the Council's over all budget.
 - That a more lateral approach was needed to improve recycling rates including a programme to provide decent facilities for recycling on Council estates and to address the vast problem of food waste in the commercial sector.
- b. The need highlighted by members of the Majority Group:
- To acknowledge that recycling and waste disposal costs were increasing, partly because of the need to replace the North London Waste facility.
 - To agree that it would be irresponsible not to review the way that the waste services were provided, knowing that costs are going up, savings needed to be made and government grants were being withdrawn.
 - If services were to be maintained at the current level, then savings would need to be made in other services.
 - The consultation had closed, and a large number of responses had been received, even over the Christmas period. Officers were working hard on the results and a final proposal would be put to Cabinet for agreement on 13 February 2019.
 - To recognise that all Councils across the country were having to make similar choices, because of the lack of funding.
 - Communication and education were important in trying to keep the streets clean and safe.
 - Fly-tipping was a modern day scourge which needed addressing.
 - More needed to be done by the supermarkets to reduce packaging waste.
4. At the end of the debate Councillor Laban summed up on behalf of the Opposition Group as follows:

Councillor Laban was concerned that the administration was prepared to cut essential waste services and not to invest in keeping the environment of the borough clean and tidy. She had been shocked that not all the options in the consultation had included the weekly kerbside food waste collection, in line with the Mayor of London's Environment policy. If recycling rates could be increased, she felt that this would help bring costs down. Residents wanted to keep the weekly collections, and she hoped members would read the Opposition Business Paper thoroughly and would take forward the recommendations in it.

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

5. Councillor Caliskan then summed up on behalf of the majority group responding to the recommendations in the Opposition Priority Business Paper:

What mattered in Councillor Caliskan's view was adequately funded public and environmental services. Why had the Conservative Government cut the grant for weekly collections, if they wanted to preserve services at the same level. There was no evidence of a link between fortnightly collections and increases in fly-tipping. This administration would not make commitments that it could not fund.

After the debate, the Leader's response to the Conservative Opposition Business paper, was agreed by a vote with the following result:

For: 40
Against: 17
Abstentions: 0

7

COUNCIL TAX SUPPORT AND COLLECTION FUND

Councillor Maguire moved and Councillor Caliskan seconded the report of the Director of Finance reviewing and seeking approval to changes in the local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20 and recommending the 2019/20 council tax and business rate bases. (Report No: 131)

NOTED

1. Councillor Maguire advised members that it was proposed that the scheme for 2019/20 would be kept at the same level as the preceding year, with updates to take account of legislative changes.
2. Exemptions remained the same as detailed in appendix A.
3. The empty homes premium would be increased by 50% with a view to helping bring empty properties back into use.
4. The council tax collection rate was currently at 97.6%. The target for 2019/20 was to increase this to 98%.
5. Some help was also being offered to small businesses, with discounts on discretionary business rates.
6. The opposition support for this report, but with some reservations on the increase to the empty homes' premium. Appreciative of housing shortages, it was felt that more should be done to bring homes back into use, before implementing a levy.
7. The 97% collection rate was exceptional reflecting the excellent work of officers who were be congratulated.
8. The view that more support should have been provided to those who needed it most including housing the homeless and finishing the small sites and Meridian Water projects.
9. Councillor Maguire's summing up that it was right to do something to bring empty homes back into use when people were desperate for housing and properties were lying empty.

The recommendations in the report were agreed without a vote.

AGREED

1. The Local Council Tax Support Scheme for 2019/20 as summarised in Appendix A to provide financial support for households on low incomes in paying their Council Tax taking into account the Equality Impact Assessment (Appendix B). The 2019/20 scheme is based on the 2018/19 scheme, updated for legislative amendments, income uprating and administrative changes.

For the 2019/20 scheme:

- The minimum contribution for working age households not in a protected group will be maintained at 26.5%.
 - The maximum earned income for Universal Credit claimants to receive council tax support will be £1,264.99 net per month for 2019/20
 - Administrative changes set out in paragraph 5.1 be incorporated into the scheme to improve service delivery
- B Agree the higher amount to be charged for council tax in respect of long- term empty dwellings (Appendix C)
- C Pursuant to this report (see Appendix D) and in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of the Tax Base) (England) Regulations 2012, the amount calculated by the London Borough of Enfield as its Council Tax Base for 2018/19 shall be 97,074 Band D equivalents.
- D Agree the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government NNDR1 Business Rate base return for 2019/20 (Appendix E).
- E Agree the amendment to the discretionary rate relief scheme as set out at 2.2 of Appendix E.

8

MERIDIAN WATER FINANCIAL REVIEW

Councillor Caliskan moved and Councillor Maguire seconded the report of the Executive Director Place seeking approval for a new short-term capital budget for Meridian Water. (Report No: 153)

NOTED

1. To note that this report should be considered in conjunction with report number 154 on the part 2 agenda.
2. The report sought approval for the budget allocation covering the next 6 months to July 2019: actual expenditure will be subject to further reports.

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

3. This report was the first of a series of four to be presented this year which would also include a business strategy report for Cabinet, a two-year budget report for Council in July and a master plan report to Cabinet in the Autumn.
4. This report included a breakdown of how the £34m budget would be spent as well as a two-year indicative budget which would be subject to the Council report in July.
5. Officers were preparing a new financial model, showing how the Council's investment would not only be recovered, but would create a £200m return on investment for new affordable homes.
6. Meridian Water would generate a continuing revenue stream for the Council to spend on essential services.
7. The Council had decided to own all the ground floor retail, community and business space at Meridian Water to ensure that the development would promote public health and support local business enterprises.
8. Meridian Water was about providing new homes, ensuring that 40-50% of the properties were affordable, and were offered to local people, not sold overseas, providing good jobs and meeting the diverse needs of local residents.
9. Key milestones were in place for the next 6 months including the appointment of a partner for Phase 1 and a programme of live music, culture, film and festivals. The milestones would send a clear message that the project was firmly under the stewardship of the Council.
10. Two thirds of the land had been purchased, a new station almost completed, remediation works undertaken, planning consents obtained, a new school and park built.
11. Three sites had been prioritised for early development. The two-year budget would enable the Council to provide key infrastructure projects.
12. Concern from the Opposition about the lack of progress on the Meridian Water Project over the past 10 years, the repeated delays, the absence of homes and the fact that only 67% of the land had been purchased.
13. Concern that the Council had yet to find a partner for phase 1 following the two failed master developer procurements.
14. Concern that the project could become a huge white elephant and that the Council could incur massive fines for delays.
15. Concern that properties had been purchased for more than they were worth, resulting in impairment losses.
16. Concern about a perceived lack of planning, if the bid to the GLA Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) was not successful and that the Council would be unable to obtain alternative funding for the projects.
17. That the wards were some of the most deprived in the country which desperately needed the investment in homes and jobs that the project would bring.
18. Welcome for the proposed music and cultural events planned this summer, the developments in the night time economy and for young people. In the past Enfield had been judged to have the least exciting nightlife in London

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

19. Concern about the lack of leadership and the capacity of officers to deliver the projects planned and the huge amounts of borrowing involved.
20. Concern that there was too much talk about strategy and not enough on outcomes. Homes were needed now.
21. Concern that the Council's compulsory purchase powers had not been used.
22. In a similar period of time Camden, another Labour authority, had managed the huge redevelopment around Kings Cross Station.
23. Councillor Caliskan summed up by saying that the three sites in phase 1 were not dependent on HIF funding, 700 houses were being planned and the Council had four potential development partners. All interest costs would be covered by the projects. Meridian Water was about more than homes, it was about creating a sense of place, economic growth and decent jobs to be able to transform the lives of local people.

During the debate Councillor Ergin Erbil moved and Councillor Nesil Caliskan seconded a proposal to move to the vote twice.

This was not agreed by the Mayor and the debate continued.

Following the debate, the report was put to the vote and the recommendations agreed with the following result:

For: 39
Against: 16
Abstentions: 0

Councillor Terry Neville asked for his name to be recorded as voting against.

AGREED

1. To approve the new short term capital budget (as set out in section 3.2 of the Part 2 report), noting that decisions to spend the allocated budget will be subject to existing rules and procedures as set out in the constitution.
2. To note the indicative capital budget from July 2019 to April 2021.
3. To note the forward programme of work for the project.

9

DURATION OF TIME ALLOWED FOR REPORTS

The Mayor advised that the duration of the time allowed for reports had expired.

Councillor Vince moved and Councillor Ergin Erbil seconded the proposal to allow an additional 5 minutes to discuss the reports on safeguarding. This was agreed without a vote.

10

ENFIELD SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

Councillor Achilleas Georgiou moved and Councillor Vince seconded the report of the Executive Director of People including the Enfield Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report. (Report No: 120).

NOTED

1. That this was the final report under the current arrangements which highlighted the successes of 2017/18.
2. The successes included the work done on the Missing from Home, Care, Education and/or Health protocol and on the new Violence Against Women and Girls Strategy.
3. The thanks to all the people and agencies involved including in schools, the police, the Council, Councillors Ayfer Orhan, Glynis Vince and Rick Jewell, Bernie Lappage, Irene Ridley from the community and Tony Theodolou.
4. The report was commended to Council and the work done applauded.
5. Members were encouraged to read the report as safeguarding was the responsibility of every member.
6. There was special thanks to Geraldine Gavin, the chair who had worked hard and been challenging in her approach. Members wished her well for the future.

AGREED to note the progress being made to safeguard children and young people and the Enfield Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2017/18.

11

ADULTS SAFEGUARDING STRATEGY 2018/23 AND ADULT SAFEGUARDING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18

Councillor Cazimoglu moved and Councillor Savva seconded the report of the Executive Director People on the Adult Safeguarding Strategy 2018/23 and the Adult Safeguarding Board Annual Report 2017/18. (Report No: 121A)

NOTED

1. The Strategy and the Annual Report had been recommended for approval at Cabinet at their meeting on 12 December 2018.
2. The Care Act had placed a duty on authorities to publish a strategic plan for adult safeguarding for each financial year.
3. The aims of the board are focused on using best practice to prevent abuse, to protect adults at risk, to learn from experience and service users and carers.
4. The new report has been laid out in a way that is clearer and easier to understand.

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

5. Eighty percent of those responding to the consultation on the strategy agreed with the priorities.
6. The annual report sets out the key achievements of 2017/18 including managing the increase in reports of concerns, fire safety work, work with nursing homes and the communications project.
7. The work is ambitious. The Board will not tolerate abuse and will take meaningful steps to address it, despite Government cuts and austerity.
8. Thanks to everyone involved including social workers, the police, volunteers and officers for their hard work and commitment. Special mention was made of the quality checkers who work unpaid to check on provision.
9. Councillor De Silva's support of the broad range of aspirations, the importance of creating a safe environment, the way service users were involved but concern about the lack of milestones and about the need to make vulnerable people feel more empowered. One third of those surveyed did not feel in control. She felt that there was more to be done to improve the service.
10. Councillor Cazimoglu summed up by saying that safeguarding was about learning and that she would take on board the suggestions made. Seventy five percent of Enfield provision was rated good or outstanding which well above the London average. There had been a 33% increase in referrals as a result of cuts. Enfield also had one of the highest number of people on personal budgets which was liberating. If there was more funding from Government more could be done.

The recommendations in the report were agreed after a vote with the following result:

For: 52
Against: 0
Abstentions: 2

AGREED

1. To approve the Safeguarding Adults Strategy 2018/23.
2. To note the work detailed in the Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2017-18 to keep adults at risk in Enfield safe.

12

CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor Ergin Erbil moved and Councillor Caliskan seconded a proposal under paragraph 2.2(B) of the Council procedure rules to change the order of items on the agenda to take the following motions in the following order:

- 11.5 Motion in the name of Councillor Caliskan
- 11.4 Motion in the name of Councillor Keazor
- 11.6 Motion in the name of Councillor Caliskan

The change in the order was agreed without a vote.

The minutes reflect the order of the meeting.

13 MOTIONS

Motion 11.5 in the name of Councillor Nesil Caliskan

Councillor Nesil Caliskan moved and Councillor Joanne Laban seconded the following motion:

“Enfield Council recognises the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on antisemitism which define antisemitism thus:

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

This Council welcomes the cross-party support within the Council for combating antisemitism in all its manifestations. This Council adopts the IHRA definition and pledges to combat this pernicious form of racism.”

Councillor Nesil Caliskan altered her motion to read:

“Enfield Council is proud to stand up against anti-Semitism towards our Jewish community in Enfield – and elsewhere.

Enfield Council adopts the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on antisemitism which defines antisemitism thus:

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

This Council welcomes the cross-party support within the Council for combating antisemitism in all its manifestations. This Council adopts the IHRA definition and pledges to combat this pernicious form or racism.”

Following the debate, the altered motion was agreed unanimously, without a vote.

Motion 11.4 in the name of Councillor Nneka Keazor

Councillor Uddin moved and Councillor Barnes seconded the following motion:

“Enfield Council condemns Government police funding which cuts frontline Policing. Enfield Council is particularly concerned about the Government’s cutting of Police Numbers which puts Enfield at serious risk of increased crime.

We note that since 2010 the Met Police’s Budget has been cut by £850M (a further £263M) resulting in loss of 3,000 police officers (21,000 police officers nationally) and 3,000 police community support officers (PCSOs) across London including 97 Officers and 144 PCSOs from Enfield.

Council notes that crime in Enfield has increased especially since end of last year. We are challenging Government to give local police the funding they need to safeguard Enfield streets.

We call on the Government to prioritise the safety of Londoners and residents of Enfield and increase police funding and police numbers in our borough.”

During the debate Councillor Ergin Erbil moved and Councillor Caliskan seconded a motion to extend the time set aside for motions by 10 minutes. This was agreed without a vote.

Following the debate, the motion was agreed after a vote with the following result:

For: 39
Against: 16
Abstentions: 0

14 COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

1. Urgent Questions

The Mayor agreed to accept the following urgent questions:

Urgent Question 1 from Councillor Ian Barnes to Council Nesil Caliskan, Leader of the Council

The Intimate Theatre in Winchmore Hill has been a huge asset to the people of Enfield for many generations. Indeed, the theatre has recently been granted the status of ‘Asset of Community Value’. Despite this however, the doors of the theatre are now locked, and the owners are no longer taking any bookings.

Can the Leader tell us what steps the Council can take to support the efforts of the ‘Save The Intimate Theatre’ group who are asking the owners of building to permit English Heritage to undertake an assessment for a national listing?

Reply from Councillor Nesil Caliskan:

The Intimate Theatre is an Asset of Community Value and Locally Listed building. I am aware that a nomination for statutory listing is currently under consideration by Historic England and the building has also been included on the Theatres Trust, Theatres at Risk Register. I understand that the Heritage and Urban Design Team have been in contact with Historic England in regard to providing further information on the theatre building and the Theatres Trust have also been given the opportunity to comment.

I can confirm that pre-application advice has been submitted to planning by the site owners, regarding potential proposals for the site, however at this stage nothing has been concluded regarding any potential use of the site. Officers are arranging a site visit to undertake an inspection of the interior of the building.

Whilst local listing gives no additional planning protection, the fact that a building or site is on the Local List means that the Council considers that its conservation as a heritage asset is an objective of the National Planning Policy Framework and therefore a material consideration when determining the outcome of a planning application. In addition, an asset's status as an Asset of Community Value should be treated as a material consideration in the determination of any planning application for any development that would involve its loss.

If the building were to be statutory listed that would provide greater planning protection. The Council has no property interest in the building so has no control of its use from that perspective.

From a personal perspective I know how cherished the theatre is to the people of Winchmore Hill and Enfield as a Borough. The theatre has been a training ground and inspired many professionals in the entertainment industry – David Bowie and Steven Berkoff to name two, and still does today!

Reason for Urgency

The reason for urgency was because the situation was time dependent. English Heritage was trying to gain access to the theatre, but the owner, the Church was refusing entry. It would be a terrible shame to lose this historic theatre and have it replaced by another bland structure and flats.

Urgent Question 2 from Councillor Terry Neville to Councillor Dino Lemonides, Cabinet Member for Housing

On Monday 28 January 2019 ITV London News reported on two broken lifts at Bliss House, which is coincidentally in your ward. Viewers saw at least two tenants interviewed, (one of whom was disabled and living on top floor), who told of one of the lifts having been out of service since November, while the second has been breaking down intermittently since early December, resulting

in dreadful inconvenience for most tenants and in the worse cases, residents being marooned on the upper floors.

It was also said that residents had been complaining about a leaking roof for two years and nothing had been done, while scaffolding had surrounded the block “ for months with no work taking place”.

The Mayor of London was interviewed, and for once I wholly endorse what he said:

“No one should have to live in accommodation where the lifts aren't working, maintenance is poor and they're suffering. So, it's really important - councils, housing associations, landlords, developers look after those in their housing.”
– SADIQ KHAN, MAYOR OF LONDON”

ITV showed the following statement from the Council: “Lift breakdowns are always treated as an emergency. In most cases, we are able to repair malfunctioning lifts expediently, but in this particular case, some work has had to be undertaken off-site. We are sorry for the inconvenience this has caused some residents.

ENFIELD COUNCIL”

Accordingly would the Cabinet Member for Housing answer the following questions:

- When did he become aware of this situation?
- Given the importance of lifts, particularly in high rise, when were these lifts last serviced, and how often does servicing take place?
- When will these lifts be working again?
- Does he agree that the Council's statement to ITV was in the circumstances pretty pathetic and did nothing to reassure Enfield Council's tenants that their landlord, was, after nine years of Labour control, in Sadiq Khan's words, “looking after them”?

Reply from Councillor Dino Lemonides:

When did he become aware of this situation?

The Councils housing service processes in excess of 50,000 repairs jobs each year. I receive a weekly update on problem repair cases and their progress. I have asked that progress on these repairs be added to this list. As ward Councillors we were aware of the issues and have been in dialogue with the residents.

Given the importance of lifts, particularly in high rise, when were these lifts last serviced, and how often does servicing take place?

The lifts at Bliss House are on a monthly servicing schedule (last serviced 15th January) and an annual inspection regime by our insurer, last inspection 26th November 2018.

The lift which has not been working since the 27/11/18 was damaged by vandals who glued the entire control panel and was damaged beyond repair. Due to the age of the lift this has had to be completely manufactured new and this has taken some time. We are expecting this back in the next couple of weeks.

Our staff regularly visit the property. The second lift has had some intermittent faults, our contractor is on a two-hour response time and has been dealing with issues as they arise and this lift has not been out of service for any significant period.

When will these lifts be working again?

As above one lift is in service and the other we expect to be fixed within the next two weeks.

Both lifts are scheduled to be replaced as part of our Better Council Homes programme in 2019/20. Bliss House is included as part of the holistic works programme, which will include significant fire improvement works, replacement cladding, upgrade of service pipes, and decent homes work. We will also work with residents to address anti-social behaviour issues and identify and support residents with special needs. The first resident engagement event is scheduled for early February.

Does he agree that the Council's statement to ITV was in the circumstances pretty pathetic and did nothing to reassure Enfield Council's tenants that their landlord, was, after nine years of Labour control, in Sadiq Khan's words, "looking after them"?

The statement was an extract of our full statement below:

"As part of Enfield Council's £40 million Major Works Programme, Bliss House is scheduled to have its lifts replaced in the next financial year (2019/20) as well as have other significant works carried out to renovate the block and improve the quality of life for residents living there.

"Other works scheduled include the installation of external insulation, rendering and the replacement of pipework.

"We will continue to make sure the block is safe, secure and emergency repairs are undertaken in a timely manner. Lift break downs are always treated as an emergency and we aim to fix them as quickly as possible. In most cases, we are able to repair malfunctioning lifts expediently, but in this particular case, some work has had to be undertaken off-site.

"We are sorry for the inconvenience this has caused some residents and we would like to reassure them that we are here to help, particularly those who are in need of extra assistance.

“In the meantime, in order to prepare the building for the works in the near-future, cladding is already being removed. Residents have been offered additional payments to help with fuel bills over the winter period whilst the cladding is taken down. We communicate regularly on ongoing and future works and will continue to talk to residents so they are aware of the improvements that are being made to their block.

“Enfield Council is committed to providing good-quality homes in thriving, well-connected neighbourhoods and we look forward to working closely with our residents to achieving those goals.”

Reason for Urgency

The matters disclosed were causing considerable distress to the occupants of Bliss House. We needed some proper reassurance from those responsible for Council Housing in the borough that the problems will be resolved as a matter of urgency.

The reason this question could not have been submitted with the normal timeframe was that it only became public knowledge on a TV news broadcast on the evening of Monday 28 January 2019.

Supplementary Question

Councillor Neville asked Councillor Lemonides the following supplementary question:

Could Councillor Lemonides let the Council know when he became aware of the matter?

Councillor Lemonides agreed to provide a written response.

2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

1. the forty questions on the Council agenda and the written responses provided by the relevant Cabinet Members.

2. A supplementary question to Question 7

Councillor Laban asked Councillor Anderson, Deputy Leader:

“To provide a date for the sign off of the departmental action plans.”

Councillor Anderson agreed to provide a written response.

3. A supplementary question to Question 9.

COUNCIL - 30.1.2019

Councillor David Sanders asked Councillor Maguire, Cabinet Member for Finance

“To provide the amount in figures of the money spent on consultants since 2010”.

Councillor Maguire agreed to provide a written response.

15

DURATION OF TIME ALLOWED FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

The Mayor advised, at this stage of the meeting, that the time available to complete the agenda had now elapsed so Council Procedure Rule 9 would apply. No further contributions or replies were permitted.

NOTED that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 (page 4-8 – Part 4), the remaining items of business on the Council agenda were considered without debate.

16

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Council agreed to confirm the following changes to Committee memberships:

- Member Governor Forum - Councillor Ioannou to replace Councillor Rye
- Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) - Councillor Hockney to replace Councillor Laban
- London Borough of Enfield/Enfield Racial Equality Council – Councillor Hockney to replace Councillor Laban

17

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Council agreed to confirm the following change to the nominations to outside bodies:

- Enfield Racial Equality Council (EREC) – Councillor Hockney to replace Councillor Laban.

18

DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council would take place on Wednesday 27 February 2019 at 7pm.

19

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

AGREED in accordance with Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting for consideration of Items 20 and 21 listed on Part 2 of the agenda on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 (information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A to the Act (as amended by the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006).

20

PART 2 AGENDA

21

MERIDIAN WATER FINANCIAL REVIEW

AGREED

1. To authorise an addition to the capital program of the proposed short term capital budget from February 2019 to July 2019 as detailed in section 3.2 of the report.
2. To note the indicative capital budget for August 2019 - May 2021.

Councillor Laban advised that the opposition would not have voted in support of these recommendations as they did not feel that enough information had been provided.