

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 JULY 2022**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Doris Jiagge (Mayor), Suna Hurman (Deputy Mayor), Sabri Ozaydin, Maria Alexandrou, Kate Anolue, Chinelo Anyanwu, Mahym Bedekova, Sinan Boztas, Nesil Caliskan, Mustafa Cetinkaya, Chris Dey, Guney Dogan, Elif Erbil, Ergin Erbil, Susan Erbil, Alessandro Georgiou, Margaret Greer, Ayten Guzel, Ahmet Hasan, James Hockney, Stephanos Ioannou, Rick Jewell, Joanne Laban, Tim Leaver, Andy Milne, Gina Needs, Ahmet Oykenner, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Edward Smith, Jim Steven, Doug Taylor, Andrew Thorp, Peter Fallart, Josh Abey, Nicki Adeleke, Nawshad Ali, Lee Chamberlain, Hivran Dalkaya, Abdul Abdullahi, Hannah Dyson, Thomas Fawns, Reece Fox, Patricia Gregory, Chris Joannides, Adrian Grumi, Esin Gunes, Mohammad Amirul Islam, Chris James, Elisa Morreale, Tom O'Halloran, Bektas Ozer, Paul Pratt, Julian Sampson, Ruby Sampson, David Skelton, Emma Supple and Nia Stevens

ABSENT Mahmut Aksanoglu, Alev Cazimoglu, Gunes Akbulut, Nelly Gyosheva and Eylem Yuruk

1

THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

Reverend Dr Valentin Dedji gave a blessing.

2

**ELECT A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR
ARE NOT PRESENT**

There was no business under this item.

3

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Chamber.

The Mayor offered her condolences to the family of the late Geoffrey Mills who sadly passed away. Birthday wishes were sent to Mr Reginal Kendall who turned 103.

The Mayor spoke of Her Majesty the Queens vast achievements and the festivities of the Jubilee.

The Mayor wished everyone and their families the very best for the summer months.

The Young Mayor Mustafa Berk Ak spoke to the Council on some of the events he had visited in his role as Young Mayor. He informed the Council that his focus for his year as Mayor will be cultural awareness.

4 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akbulut, Aksanoglu, Cazimoglu, Gyosheva and Yuruk.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared interests in the following items:

- Item 7 – Councillor Tim Leaver, Sabri Ozaydin, Ergin Erbil and Doug Taylor; and
- Item 9 – Councillor Kate Anolue.

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting on 25 May 2022 were AGREED.

7 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2021/22

Councillor Leaver moved, and Councillor Caliskan seconded, the report.

Councillor Leaver introduced the report and noted which sets out the expenditure ending the 31st March 2022. It contains an overview of the outputs of the Capital Programme in 2021/22 and how much was spent on the individual capital programmes, across the General Fund, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and lent to the Council's subsidiary companies. This will provide investments to residents as part of the Council's 10-year Capital Programme. It requests budget amendments for the 2022/23 budget where there have been delays.

The Opposition made the following points in response:

Councillor Leaver was welcomed into his new Cabinet role.

Concerns were raised about the debt borrowing of the Council, rollover debts, and the sustainability of spending tax payers money in this way.

It was requested a strategy on inflation and the issues this may cause the Council.

The Council's accounts show that the Council has lost money in the 2021/22 financial year near ten-fold in two years. It was felt that this money would be

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better spent on front line services as it has been brought by tax payers money.

The money not spent “gross slippage” will be spent later at a higher cost.

Concerns were raised around Metaswitch and the report highlighting a “budget error”. It was questioned whether tax payers are subsidising this error.

It was felt it was essential that a review and prioritisation takes place of the Capital Programme.

The Administration made the following points in response:

The report was welcomed.

Money had been spent on furniture in the Civic Centre as it is home to the Council’s staff.

The budget has considered the possibility of the increase in inflation and includes adequate head room for possible inflation.

The risks to the Council have been recognised and considered and are set out in the report.

Energetik’s performance is doing better than predicted in its business plan.

Money had been spent on floor alleviations and street scene which improve the borough.

Following the debate, the Report was put to a vote and AGREED.

AGREED:

1. Increase the 2022/23 General Fund and HRA capital budget by £26.6m (rolling forward unutilised 2021/22 budgets). This is the net position of:
 - a. a total of £41.43m 2022/23 budgets increasing due to programmes being delayed
 - b. a total of £14.79m 2022/23 budgets being reduced to recognise where budgets have been spent early (in 2021/22), as detailed in Table 5 of the report.
2. £13.74m additions to the approved programme, as a result of recognising additional grant funding, as detailed in Table 3.
3. Transfer £2.48m usable capital receipts from General Fund to HRA to rectify capital financing for the construction of Alma Youth Centre, a General Fund asset, as required by accounting standards.
4. Reprofiling £79.74m Meridian Water budgets (within the same total budget) using ‘budgets with both levels of approval’ before ‘budgets requiring secondary level of approval’.

NOTED:

5. Total expenditure on the Capital Programme for 2021/22 was £198.6m, against the revised outturn forecast of £225.3m.
6. The total reprofiling of £26.6m comprises of £15.5m General Fund (excl. companies), Companies £10.1m and £1.1m on HRA programmes;
7. Funding of the Council's capital expenditure for 2021/22, the largest elements of which were £98.8m borrowing and £51m grants, as detailed in Table 6 of the report.

8

TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2021/22

Councillor Leaver moved the report, and Councillor Caliskan seconded the report.

Councillor Leaver introduced the report highlighting that the report sets out the treasury management from 2021 to 2022 ending in March 2022. As of 31st March 202 there was £1,015 million borrowing outstanding. Details of these loans were referenced in table 3 of the report. The Treasury Management Outturn Report complies with the relevant code of practise.

The Administration made the following points:

Cuts to the Council have been imposed by Central Government which has led to the cost of living crisis.

The administration aims to protect residents by improving homes and skills in the borough.

The ten year treasury management strategy will come to Council for debate and agreement.

The Opposition made the following points in response:

The level of debt continues to climb and is already higher than other boroughs who have declared bankruptcy such as Slough and are on course to pass Croydon.

Concerns were raised about the risks to tax payers and the sustainability for the borrowing.

The Treasury Management graph showed no borrowing past 2027. However, the Capital Report the Council agreed in an earlier item agreed specific borrowing that would take the Council past its debt cap.

As the Labour manifesto was not costed the Administration will have to either reach the £2billion debt cap or stop the projects they are running.

The Council's debt will be £40million which will result in cuts to front line services. Concerns were raised about the there being a lack of a back-up plan for those circumstances.

The report was NOTED.

9

ADOPTION OF STATUTORY WASTE PLAN FOR NORTH LONDON

Councillor Caliskan moved, and Councillor Ebril seconded, the report.

Councillor Caliskan introduced the report highlighting that the planning policy document had been created in consultation with the seven neighbouring borough and the document will go to each of their Council's for agreement. The document removes sites which could be used in the future for waste sites. It is hoped that there would be cross party agreement on the proposed plan. Officers were thanked for their contribution to the Plan.

The Administration made the following comments:

It was felt it was important to protect green and industrial space within the borough.

Enfield does not need any additional waste facilities within the borough.

The Opposition for their cross-party support.

The Opposition responded to the report with the following comments:

The report was welcomed and thanked officers for their contribution.

The comments set out by the inspector were welcomed as all of North London's waste should not come to Enfield.

Concerns were raised that the Green Belt can be used as an emergency waste designation site and Enfield being regarded as the "bin of North London".

In North London 62% of waste facilities are in Enfield, after that Barnet have 14% and Haringey have 12%.

AGREED to adopt the North London Waste Plan (NLWP) shown at Appendix C of the report to become part of the statutory Development Plan for the borough.

10

GENERAL PURPOSES ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Councillor Bedekova moved, and Councillor Leaver seconded, the report.

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Councillor Bedekova introduced the report stating it contains details of the work conducted by the Committee in the 2021/22 report.

The Administration highlighted the following:

Officers and the independent person who sits on the Committee for their work were thanked.

Concerns were raised about BDO and their inability to sign off the Council's accounts.

The Opposition responded to the report with the following comments:

The General Purposes Committee is one of the Council's most important Committees as it covers so many important issues.

Officers were thanked for their attendance.

Concerns were raised about BDO not being held to account on not finalising the 2019/20 accounts

It was felt that the polling district review and member development may need to move elsewhere as the Redman Review states General Purpose Committee should focus on Audit and Risk.

AGREED to note the General Purposes Committee Annual Report.

11

COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

This item was noted under the guillotine arrangements.

12

MOTIONS

The below motions were agreed following discussion:

Urgent motion in the name of Councillor Nesil Caliskan

On Thursday 7th July, the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson announced his intention to resign, but that he would remain in post until the new Leader of the Conservative Party was elected. The 1922 Committee has since announced the new Leader of the Conservative Party will be announced on the 5th September 2022. Boris Johnson has proved time and time again that he lacks the moral integrity and honesty required to hold the office of Prime Minister. Conservative MPs and the British public have lost confidence in Boris Johnson. Enfield Council calls on Boris Johnson to immediately resign as Prime Minister.

Motion in the name of Councillor Maria Alexandrou

Cervical screening is a way for women to protect themselves from cancer. The sad reality is that fewer women are now having cervical screening. Last year 1.3m women didn't attend NHS screenings. There are 3,200 new cases of cervical cancer every year and of those 870 women die from it. According to CANCER RESEARCH UK 99.8% of cases are preventable. When Jade Goody fought her cancer battle, nearly 80% of women went for smear tests. 10 years later, only 72% of women go. If this rate falls any lower, the rise in deaths will shoot up. In the case of Jade Goody, she ignored letters about her abnormal cells. She needed to go to hospital for surgery to remove those abnormal cells, surgery which most probably would have saved her life. Many young women in their 20s and 30s are dying from cervical cancer and the tragedy is they are leaving behind their partners and young children. We need to encourage everyone to look after their health and have regular check-ups. Enfield Council therefore agrees to work together with other agencies for a local campaign on cervical cancer awareness and encourage women to attend that important screening test. It only takes 5 minutes at the doctor's surgery and this test can save your life.

The remainder of motions lapsed under the guillotine arrangements.

13

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Licensing Committee is confirmed as:

Esin Gunes (Chair)

Doug Taylor (Vice Chair)

Sabri Ozaydin

George Savva

Eylem Yuruk

Mahym Bedekova

Sinan Boztas

Guney Dogan

Chris James

Maria Alexandrou

Jim Steven

Edward Smith

Chris Dey

Mike Rye

Paul Pratt

Councillor Nelly Gyosheva to replace Councillor Doris Jigge on Equalities Board.

14

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Former Councillor Hass Yusuf to replace Councillor Gina Needs on the Old Enfield Charitable Trust.

15

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was NOTED as 21st September 2022.