

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2009**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Lee Chamberlain (Mayor), Pamela Adams, Gregory Antoniou, Chaudhury Anwar MBE, Alan Barker, John Boast, Yasemin Brett, Kris Brown, Jayne Buckland, Bambos Charalambous, Christopher Cole, Andreas Constantinides, Adrian Croshaw, Dogan Delman, Tony Dey, Annette Dreblow, Christiana During, Peter Fallart, Norman Ford, Vivien Giladi, Del Goddard, Jonas Hall, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Denise Headley, Ruth Hones, Ertan Hurer, Chris Joannides, Eric Jukes, Jon Kaye, Matthew Laban, Henry Lamprecht, Bernadette Lappage, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Paul McCannah, Donald McGowan, Kieran McGregor, Chris Murphy, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Anne-Marie Pearce, Henry Pipe, Martin Prescott, Geoffrey Robinson, Jeff Rodin, Michael Rye, Eleftherios Savva, George Savva MBE, Rohini Simbodyal, Toby Simon, Edward Smith, Terence Smith, Doug Taylor, Glynis Vince, Kate Wilkinson and Ann Zinkin

ABSENT Kate Anolue, Chris Bond, Achilleas Georgiou and Andrew Stafford

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MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

The Mayor's Chaplain The Reverend Stephen Leader gave a blessing on the Council.

The Mayor thanked The Reverend Stephen Leader for his help and support over the past year.

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MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor made the following announcements:

"1. Welcome

First I would like to begin by welcoming Councillors and the Public, as well as my Mayoress Marcia Chamberlain, to the chamber this evening.

For those members of the public who are not familiar with the workings of the chamber, while you are very welcome to observe, only elected Councillors are able to participate in the debate.

2. Beacon Council

Before I get on to my main announcements, I have been asked if I would present a Beacon status award for Supporting Independent Living for Disabled Adults to representatives here tonight.

The award of Beacon status is of course widely recognised as the most prestigious of all Local Government Awards and I am happy here to help recognise the hard work done at all levels in Council, which has led to the award.

Very well done and thank you.”

The Mayor then gave the following report on his year in office:

“Well the time since last May has gone quickly, very quickly. This is the last Council meeting I am due to chair.

Yes that was the prompt for sympathy.

1. Representation

Over the past year the Mayoral office has received invitations for well in excess of 300 events and between us we have attended the vast majority of those. The events have ranged from youth games covering whole weekends to midnight walks in support of charity.

You will know from my reports to this chamber the breadth of activity happening in Enfield, before I even begin to address the wider representational role outside the Borough.

In terms of attendance I have personally attended three quarters of the events, which I am told is a good batting average, as often you need to be in two places at once, with events tending to crowd the weekends and evenings; while avoiding holiday periods and creating marathon back to back duties at times.

In performing those duties, my philosophy as Mayor has been simple,

If I am available I will come along; once there I will stay as long as I am welcome; and if feasible I will meet and talk to as many people as possible.

People want to meet their Mayor.

2. Events of greater note

In compiling this announcement I started to list events I thought merited special mention, that was a mistake; after I got past the first 80 or so, I realised your patience was going to run out long before my list, so I have arbitrarily picked a few themes to narrow this down.

3. Twinnings

I am honoured to recall that I had the privilege of signing the historic twinning agreements between our Borough and the Municipalities of Halandri in Athens and Sariyer in Istanbul.

I look forward to seeing the continuing friendship develop on many levels.

4. Awards

I have presented awards for literally more causes than I can recall. Awards for volunteering, long service, dealing with youth offenders, public speaking, high achievers, enterprise and innovation, not to mention awards to the finest and bravest in the Borough. Just gives a flavour of it.

I have also received awards on Enfield's behalf both from Enfield in Bloom and for our continuing good performance at the New Year's Day parade.

5. Remembrance Services

An important part of my role has been to assist in the commemoration of major events and the people involved in them

Apart from the major Remembrance Services, I have attended ones for both the Battle of Britain and the Battle of the Baltic.

I should also mention in this context the commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Dumholme Air Disaster, which struck quite a cord with the general public.

Apart from the remembering the fallen and lost, I have also been involved in recognising the achievements of those who survived.

I have met and entertained Veterans from all services and most recently earlier this month the Land Army Girls, of whom there is a surprisingly large number in the borough. They are a lively bunch, with the youngest in the mid 80s and the oldest admitting to be 95. They were also glad to meet, as was I, Mr Graham Eustance DL OBE at this event.

6. Charities

At the outset of my year I set out my objective to assist charities directly in their fund raising which I have been pleased to do when ever the opportunity presented itself, although I still have unfinished business with the Nightingale trust's giant bike ride, which hopefully will not go missing this time, and if I wear cycle shorts I will be expecting a lot of Councillors to sponsor me.

Apart from assisting charities I am pleased to note that even in these more trying economic times we have still raised over £32,000 for my charities fund

and when the figures are finalised in June I hope to be delivering sizeable cheques according to the formula I set out in my announcements last May.

7. Sad News

No summation of the last year can pass without mentioning the sad loss that this chamber has experienced with the death of two sitting Councillors. Deputy Mayor Cllr John Jackson and Cllr Chris Andrew.

Both were talented men with things to look forward to who leave behind them grieving families, whom have our deepest condolences. I am sure they will be long remembered very fondly by members.

8. Thanks

Before I conclude I have a number of thank yous'.

Firstly I would like to thank all the former Mayors who stepped into the breach and ensured normal service was continued. In particular I would like to thank former Mayors, Councillor Anne Marie Pearce and Councillor Tony Dey for their ever-present support.

I would also like to add my thanks to Theresa Egan and her colleagues for their hard work in making the Land Girls celebration a success. A special mention has to go to former Mayor and Councillor, John Egan, a real trooper, whom I saw with sleeves rolled up and arms deep at the sink, as I moved on to my next event.

I would also of course like to thank Rhoda Aldridge, Norman Bremner and Stephen Rose for their continuing hard work in keeping me on time, in the right place and well briefed and organised.

The office of Mayor could not function without them.

9. To conclude

At the outset of the year I set out the standards I would adhere to and I am confident that I have continued to keep to those, with the constitution as my guiding light.

To be Mayor is to hold a position of great trust, to represent the whole Borough and to act in this chamber as an impartial adjudicator. I thank you for that trust and for the honour holding this role has bestowed upon me.

There is still a month to go before my year-ends and I am not done yet, I intend to continue as I have before. I will I am sure really miss holding this extraordinary position, but similarly I am looking forward to resuming my normal role as a Councillor.

Thank you."

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MINUTES**

AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 25 February 2009 be confirmed as a correct record subject to the following amendment:

Minute No. 107 (bottom of page 66) – correct spelling of Simbodyal

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APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anolue, Bond, Georgiou and Stafford. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor McGregor.

**119
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillor Constantinides declared a personal interest in Item No. 9 – Empty Property Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOIII).

**120
CHANGE OF ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Councillor Rodin moved and Councillor Constantinides seconded a motion to change the order of business on the agenda under paragraph 2.2 (page 4-5) of the Council's Procedure Rules to enable the meeting to take agenda item 14.2 as the next item of business. This was put to the vote and lost.

**121
DISTRICT AUDITOR'S ANNUAL AUDIT AND INSPECTION LETTER -
AUDIT 2007/08**

Councillor Rye moved and Councillor Lavender seconded the report of the Chief Executive (No. 211) summarising the Relationship Manager and District Auditor's audit and inspection programme for 2007/8 and commenting on current issues.

NOTED

1. that the content of the letter and the report had been welcomed at the Cabinet meeting on 25 March and the Audit Committee on 31 March 2009.
2. that Councillors Rye and Rodin congratulated all of the Council's staff on their achievement in obtaining 4 star status for the authority.

AGREED to note the contents of the Annual Letter.

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2009-2012

Councillor Vince moved and Councillor Lamprecht seconded the joint report of the Interim Directors of Education, Children's Services and Leisure (No. 232). This summary report seeks Council's approval to the Plan previously circulated to all Members.

NOTED that the detailed report (No. 214) setting out the Children and Young People's Plan for 2009 – 2012 was endorsed at the Cabinet meeting held on 25 March 2009.

AGREED

1. the Children & Young People's Plan 2009 - 2012
2. to delegate the final approval of the Children & Young People's Plan 2009 – 2012 to the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services.

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EMPTY PROPERTY COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDERS (CPOIII)

Councillor Laban moved and Councillor Lavender seconded the report of the Director of Health and Adult Social Care (No. 213) seeking Council approval to make Compulsory Purchase Orders (CPOs) on five empty residential properties whose owners have proved un-responsive to attempts by Officers to bring them back into residential use.

NOTED that the report was endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 25 March 2009.

AGREED

1. the making of five separate Compulsory Purchase Orders (Orders) in respect of the following properties under Section 17 of the Housing Act 1985 and the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 (as amended by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004): 16 South Street, EN3 4JZ, 112 Woodberry Avenue, N21 3LB, 121 Empire Avenue, N18 1AP, 63 Osborne Road, N13 5PU, and 11 Harrington Terrace, N18 1JX, as shown on the plans (appendices 1-5) of the report;
2. that the Directors of Health and Adult Social Care & Finance and Corporate Resources undertake all necessary steps to prepare the Orders, and all associated documentation, and thereafter take all necessary procedural steps (including the conduct of a Public Inquiry if necessary) to obtain confirmation of the Orders by the Secretary of State;
3. that the Director of Health and Adult Social Care & the Director of Finance & Corporate Resources take all necessary action, following confirmation of the Orders, to acquire the properties subject to the Orders

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either compulsorily or by agreement, and to deal with all matters relating to the payment of compensation and statutory interest, including instituting or defending proceedings as necessary;

4. the disposal of the properties in accordance with the Property Procedure Rules;

5. that the Directors of Health and Adult Social Care & Finance and Corporate Resources continue to identify and prioritise resources in order to maintain an ongoing CPO programme that is proportionate and appropriate to address the needs of the Borough.

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RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Councillor Hurer moved and Councillor Jukes seconded the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 233) recommending the approval of an updated Risk Management Strategy reflecting current thinking and best practice.

NOTED that the recommendations set out in the attached report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 4 March and the Audit Committee on 14 January 2009.

AGREED the revised Risk Management Strategy.

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CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES – ANNUAL REVISIONS

Councillor Hall moved and Councillor Delman seconded the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 234) setting out the significant areas of revision to the Council's Contract Procedure Rules and the benefits to the Council for the proposed changes.

NOTED that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the meetings of the Constitution Review Group on 5 March 2009 and the Audit Committee on 14 January 2009.

During the debate Councillor Boast moved and Councillor Neville seconded the amendment to the recommendations set out below:

That paragraphs 8.2 and 8.3 on page 33 of the report and section F of the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire be deleted.

Councillor Simon moved and Councillor Hurer seconded that the Council proceed to the next item of business. Councillor Simon withdrew the motion before it was put to the vote.

Councillor Boast withdrew his amendment to the recommendations.

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Councillor Lavender moved and Councillor Hurer seconded a motion to refer the report back to the Constitution Review Group to consider the impact that complying with these rules has on the ability of small and local businesses to tender for Council contracts and to determine if there are any legal constraints preventing the revision of the pre qualification questionnaire.

After a short debate the motion was put to the vote with the following result:

For: 31
Against: 24
Abstained: 2

AGREED to refer the report back to the Constitution Review Group to consider the impact that complying with these rules has on the ability of small and local businesses to tender for Council contracts and to determine if there are any legal constraints preventing the revision of the pre qualification questionnaire.

126 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CONSTITUTION REVIEW GROUP

Councillor Rye moved and Councillor Barker seconded the report of the Director of Finance & Corporate Resources (No. 236) setting out a number of issues and recommendations from the Constitution Review Group meeting held on 5 March 2009, namely:

- i. Councillor Call For Action – New Procedure
- ii. Changes to the Council Meeting Procedures relating to Opposition Business.

Councillor McGregor moved and Councillor Wilkinson seconded the following amendment to the recommendations set out in the report:

- 13.1 The Council will at four meetings a year, give time on its agenda to issues raised by an Opposition Group.
- 13.2 All other Council meetings will also provide opportunities for the Opposition Group(s) to raise issues...
- 13.3 (a) An Opposition Group shall submit...
 - (d) If requested, briefings...will be available to the opposition group(s)
 - (e) No later than 10 calendar days.... the opposition group concerned must provide the Borough Secretary with an issues paper...
 - (f) (i) The debate will be open by a Member of the Opposition Group concerned.

After a short debate the motion was put to the vote with the following result:

For: 2
Against: 44
Abstained: 2

AGREED

1. the new procedure, for inclusion within the Council's Constitution, for the implementation of the councillor call for action, as required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, and as detailed in Appendix A.
2. the amendment of the Council's Constitution in respect of Council Meeting Procedures – Opposition Business (Part 4, Council Procedure Rules, Paragraph 13 of the Council's Constitution), as detailed in paragraph 3.3 of the report.

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COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME

1. Urgent Questions (Part 4 - Paragraph 9.2. (b) of Constitution – Page 4-9)

The Mayor advised the Council that having considered the requirements set out in the Constitution he was able to allow the following urgent questions:

Urgent Question 1 from Councillor E Savva to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene:

"Can Councillor Neville provide an update to the Council of the current situation concerning the funding of the A406 improvements following the recent announcements by Transport for London?"

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"The Bounds Green section of the A406 has been a thorn in the side of this authority for many years during which we have tried to secure major improvements. The Transport for London Board met to discuss the postponement of that scheme yesterday and was minded to do so as reported in the Evening Standard newspaper. The newspaper also correctly reported the concerns of residents and this authority. At the meeting the Board discussed this issue but did not agree to the proposed deferral. The Mayor Boris Johnson argued that it had been long delayed already and it needed to proceed. The scheme is important to the borough in terms of road traffic and housing. Many of the houses have been blighted for more than 20 years and we would not wish there to be further delay. The former Mayor approved a smaller scheme. I am delighted to say that work on the North Circular Road will certainly proceed as planned and this decision shows that Boris Johnson, unlike his predecessor, is a listening Mayor."

Urgent Question 2 from Councillor Pipe to Councillor Lavender, Deputy Leader of the Council / Sustainable Communities & Employment & Place Shaping

“Can Councillor Lavender provide an update on the situation regarding Broomfield House, following the announcements on Friday of awards from the Mayor for London, Boris Johnson’s targeted housing pot?”

Reply from Councillor Lavender:

My views on Broomfield House are well known. Although there have been previous proposals to restore the house, these have been premised on the need for a level of football which would disturb local residents, undermine the park and require the release of covenants. These are three things I do not support.

Before actively progressing steps to persuade English Heritage that the demolition of the House was the most cost effective and reasonable way forward I asked officers to give it one last throw of the dice and seek funding from the Mayor’s targeted housing pot to provide grant funding to assist in the conversion of the building and stables to sheltered accommodation.

Such a use would have been a viable use for the site without additional revenue costs, which would not otherwise be incurred, would comply with the covenants and not cause disruption to the park or local residents.

I regret to inform the Council that we were notified on Friday by the LDA that Enfield did not receive any funding from the Mayor’s targeted housing pot.

I am pleased to be able to inform the Council that on Tuesday we were informed that Enfield had indeed been awarded funding, in fact £6m has been awarded for the restoration of Broomfield House and Stables, by Boris for the year 2010/2011 – three cheers for Boris.

The funding is required to deliver 18 sheltered residential units.

However all 2010/11 funding allocations are identified as indicative subject to final ministerial clearance. The ability to stop this happening sits in the Labour Government’s hands.

Sue Foster’s Heritage and Conservation team will start to put together the Development Team necessary to take Broomfield House forward and identify a Heritage Project Manager to take the client lead. Reports will be forthcoming shortly as to what the £6m can deliver. This is a once in a political lifetime opportunity to resolve this issue and we shall be looking at our capital reserves to supplement this grant.

Given our commitment to already spend capital to restore the listed wall, the sensory garden, the conservatory, bandstand and front gates (which will

hopefully be commenced this year) this is a marvellous opportunity to restore the park to its former glory.

I hasten to add we would not have been able to do this without our policy of saving reserves for good causes and not frittering them away.

This follows on some of our other major capital projects elsewhere in the Borough namely the restoration of the QEII stadium in Enfield and the major refurbishment of Millfield Theatre in Edmonton.

Urgent Question 3 from Councillor Hurer to Councillor Lavender, Deputy Leader of the Council / Sustainable Communities & Employment & Place Shaping

“Can Councillor Lavender provide an update on the announcement received yesterday that one of Enfield's largest employers Visteon has gone into administration?”

Reply from Councillor Lavender:

We received notification on 31st March that Visteon UK Limited entered into administration. Visteon is based in Ponders End.

Over the past decade there had been substantial multi-million pound investment in plant and equipment for the production of the very sophisticated electronic dashboards-particularly heavy 200-ton plastic presses, and tooling equipment. The company supplies a range of car manufacturers (not just Ford), and is a main supplier for Jaguar.

The vehicle industry has been severely hit by the present down-turn and this news does not come as a surprise.

Although administration does not inevitably lead to redundancies, I have asked our regeneration team to assume that this will, in fact be the case.

The Enfield plant employs about 200 people, the numbers having steadily declined from around 600 [when they were working on a full 3-shift, 24/7 basis] – we do not know how many of these are Enfield residents – a crude estimate is 40%.

Mostly blue collar workers – mostly high skilled. No design work was done here- but there will be office workers.

Job Centre Plus will be dealing with any staff made redundant – they have a special Rapid Response team. We shall offer our job brokerage services at Enfield Jobsnet. One of our staff was involved in a similar and very successful project at Data Cables in Brimsdown some 10 years ago, which we hope to replicate.

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John Haslem has spoken to Bill Price [who works for the Meridian Business Park Association]-he will be speaking to the Managing Director of Visteon later today, Walter Thomas, after his meeting with the Administrators. Bill will keep us informed.

I have also asked whether there are any local dependencies in the supply chain. So we are better apprised of any knock on effects.

Huw Jones from the Chamber of Commerce is looking into the supply chain issue.

For some years the instrument clusters have been imported from abroad [India] ready assembled, with the plastic pellets for dashboard pressing being supplied in bulk by companies like Shell. There appear to be few local supply chains, though it is understood that nearby firm on Meridian Business Park [Bolt & Bearings] supplies screws, nuts, bolts etc.

The site occupies a particularly prominent position along the waterside in the Ponders End, Place Shaping area, and would present a major opportunity to transform this locality.

The site measures some 10 acres in total, including the car park area. Visteon did a sale and leaseback deal with Seegro a couple of years ago to address their financial difficulties. My understanding is that the lease-arrangement is on a one-year rolling basis.

I have therefore asked officers to be pro-active in making alternative business aware of the site and for the Council to look at this site for its own needs if possible.

Again this is another possible use for the Council's reserves, which would not have been possible if we had frittered them away.

2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

i. The eighteen questions, on the Council's agenda, which received a written reply by the relevant Cabinet Member.

ii. The amendment to question 3 which was addressed to Councillor Lavender, Deputy Leader of the Council / Sustainable Communities & Employment & Place Shaping.

iii. The following supplementary questions received for the questions indicated below:

Question 1 from Councillor Taylor to Councillor Vince, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services:

"Can you assure the Council that if any other appropriate sites become available prior to June, the Council will look at these opportunities? With regard to the current preferred site, can you ensure that the Council is made aware of the details of contamination on the site, and the remediation strategy that is proposed."

Reply from Councillor Vince:

"I am aware of the concerns of Councillor Taylor and will keep him informed."

Question 5 From Councillor Simon to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

"Will Councillor Neville give a commitment to spend any money allocated for cycling schemes and will he apply his energies to improve cycle lanes, if not on Southbury Road, but in other areas?"

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"Yes to both questions, though I am concerned that cycle lanes need to be safe - simply drawing a line down a road does not do this and the routes that I intend to pursue will be the ones that can be safely directed through residential streets and parks. I believe we can learn from countries like Canada who have produced high quality pedestrian and cycle tracks in their parks encouraging a healthy lifestyle. We need to form links across the borough and I will certainly seek to achieve this as soon as possible."

Question 6 from Councillor E Savva to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

"Can Councillor Neville give details of any help given to salt local hospitals and other key sites?"

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"I can confirm that North Middlesex University Hospital NHS Trust and Barnet and Chase Farm Hospital NHS Trust were both comprehensively gritted during the recent heavy snow and icy weather. Accesses to the London Ambulance Service NHS Trust sites both within the hospital grounds and stand-alone, were also treated during this period."

The recent snow and ice was a comparatively rare event and as on previous occasions, Enfield's Winter Maintenance team together with the Council's contractor Fitzpatrick have worked with bus operators to maintain services wherever this is safe to do so. There have been discussions regarding formalising procedures with respect to treating specific public service facilities when there is severe weather. However there are issues surrounding public

and private ownership and it is essential to ensure that the primary highway winter maintenance operation is not jeopardised by any additional burden on the service. For this reason a protocol is currently being formalised. Officers will continue to liaise with bus operators and take the appropriate actions to ensure essential public services are maintained during periods of bad weather.

This authority's responsibilities are limited to highways and the level of resources is set to meet those responsibilities. However it is not appropriate to stop there and we have gritted other key sites. On the 2nd of February our assistance was required to keep access open the North Middlesex and Chase Farm Hospitals and the local ambulance stations, which were all, salted. While this recent bout of bad weather had been a learning curve across London there is a need for a firm protocol to salt bus depots and entrances. The service in Enfield was extremely good and credit must go to our contractor and their workforce.

We will be looking to introduce a formal protocol in the future and I hope that other authorities will follow.”

Question 7 from Councillor Simon to Councillor Hurer, Cabinet Member for Finance and Resources

“The performance levels given in the reply are not to the Council’s approved standard, detailing average performance is not satisfactory as many others are dealt with much more slowly. I am aware that some council tax refunds are being delayed by 2 months. Will he seek to audit the data more rigorously in the future?”

Reply from Councillor Hurer:

“The figures provided are averages and this service has been judged to be delivering a 4 star service and I am satisfied with this independent assessment.”

Question 8 from Councillor Adams to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

“Can Councillor Neville advise on the split on the number of trees recently planted between the east and the west of the borough?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“There are areas of the borough in need of greening and this administration has allocated £1.5m to this as we are aware of the need to further green some parts of the borough. I can confirm that 74% of the trees planted have been in the east of the borough and I hope that this will please the members opposite and residents in those areas. “

Question 14 from Councillor Boast to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Scene

“Can Councillor Neville tell the Council if he knows if Joan Ryan MP is in favour of paying for waste disposal and will she be paying any additional disposal costs that she has to meet for her Parliamentary second home allowances?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“The Climate Change Bill included provisions for Waste Reduction. These elaborately set out what could and could not be done but were essentially for schemes dubbed in the press as "Bin Taxes". They went through Parliament last year and Joan Ryan MP was present at some of the Parliamentary stages and voted for the Bill. She was specifically involved in some amendments, but no amendments were moved on waste reduction proposals. From these actions I assume that she might be in favour of bin taxes on poorer people. Given her apparent previous concerns over waste she should have raised her concerns on this. Under the Act the Secretary of State needed 5 pilot authorities to come forward to pilot the proposals. Not one of the local authorities in England of any political persuasion has volunteered to come forward. The position now is that because of this the Secretary of State can't bring in bin taxes unless the law is amended. This policy and the reaction to it show how arrogant this government has become on this issue. It is plain from press coverage that up and down the country residents are fundamentally opposed to bin taxes and alternate weekly collections.”

Question 15 from Councillor Simon to Councillor Kaye, Cabinet Member for Leisure, Culture, Olympics & Voluntary Sector

“Will Councillor Kaye provide details of the actual and opportunity costs resulting from the delay in using this space and will he in the meantime consider making it a study space?”

Reply from Councillor Kaye:

“It is not right to take the first option suggested for this site and we need to consider how best to use this space. I would welcome any further suggestions from Councillors and the public on how to use it. So please contact me if you have any ideas.”

Question 17 from Councillor Constantinides to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

“Will he ask officers to arrange a meeting with officers at the hospital to enable pressure to be applied to bring about the required improvements?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"I share his concerns, anything we can do to help the residents and patients should be done. We will look to organise a meeting to try and sort this problem out."

Question 18 from Councillor Rodin to Councillor Lavender, Deputy Leader of the Council/ Sustainable Communities & Employment & Place Shaping

"Is Spencer Craig doing this work? Does Councillor Lavender remember the emails from Councillor Constantinides dated 11 March, was he prepared to meet him if he does not wish to meet the traders?"

Reply from Councillor Lavender:

"There are a number of sophisticated issues here, we need to consider and establish the problems in the area which has degenerated over time into secondary frontages. We now have a different situation resulting in decay into this type of retail establishment.

The Council needs to explore this change and why there is a down turn. We also need to consider where to direct support, possibly shifting support to Edmonton Green. The issue for us as a landlord is should we prioritise Edmonton Green."

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STANDING ORDER 8 - DURATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

NOTED

1. that in accordance with Council Procedure, Rule 8 (page 4-7 – part 4), the Mayor advised the Council that the time available for the meeting had elapsed and the remaining items of business would be dealt with in accordance with the expedited procedure.

2. that the remaining items of business would be put to the vote without debate.

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MOTIONS

The motions set out below lapsed due to lack of time:

i. In the name of Councillor Rye

"Enfield Council regrets that the Government chose to raise the Council Housing Guideline Rate by 6.2% and welcomes the proposed reduction in these rents and notes that this reduction is still above the overall council tax increase for Enfield residents of 1.9%."

ii. In the name of Councillor Rodin

“This Council is aware of the financial difficulties being faced by many Enfield residents in the current economic situation. It recognises that its decision to increase the Council Tax for 2009/10 was unwelcome. It is also aware that the Council has substantial financial reserves. It therefore resolves: -

1. to change its decision taken at the Council meeting on 25 February to increase the Council Tax for 2009/10 and instead to set a Council Tax for 2009/10 at the same level as that for 2008/9

2. to declare its intention to set the Enfield element of the Council Tax for 2010/11 at the same level as the Council Tax for 2008/9.”

**130
MEMBERSHIPS**

There we no changes to committee memberships.

**131
NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

There we no changes to nominations to outside bodies.

**132
CALLED IN DECISIONS**

None.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 6 May 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre.