## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 23 MARCH 2016

#### **COUNCILLORS**

### **PRESENT**

Patricia Ekechi, Bernadette Lappage, Abdul Abdullahi, Daniel Anderson, Ali Bakir, Dinah Barry, Chris Bond, Yasemin Brett, Alev Cazimoglu, Nesil Cazimoglu, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Jason Charalambous, Katherine Chibah, Dogan Delman, Guney Dogan, Christiana During, Nesimi Erbil, Turgut Esendagli, Krystle Fonyonga, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Ertan Hurer, Jansev Jemal, Doris Jiagge, Eric Jukes, Nneka Keazor, Adeline Kepez, Andy Milne, Joanne Laban, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Mary Maguire, Donald McGowan, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykener, Anne-Marie Pearce, Daniel Pearce, Vicki Pite, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Toby Simon, Edward Smith, Andrew Stafford, Jim Steven, Claire Stewart, Doug Taylor and Glynis Vince

#### **ABSENT**

Erin Celebi, Lee David-Sanders, Nick Dines, Sarah Doyle, Christine Hamilton, Suna Hurman, Alan Sitkin, Haydar Ulus and Ozzie Uzoanya

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## ELECTION OF CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE MEETING IF REQUIRED

The election of a chair or deputy was not required.

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#### MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

Major Andrew Gaudion of the Salvation Army Enfield gave the blessing.

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## MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH ORDINARY COUNCIL BUSINESS

The Mayor thanked Major Gaudion for his blessing and made the following announcements.

#### 1. Condolences

Condolences were expressed to the families of former councillors Pat Dawson (who had served from 1982 to 1998 for Oakwood Ward) and Alex Mattingly (also freeman of the borough who had served from 1982-2006 for Craig Park and Edmonton Green Wards) and to the people of Brussels, on account of the terrible events that had taken place on the previous day.

All present joined in a minutes silence in remembrance.

Former Councillors Pat Dawson, and Alex Mattingly, also freeman of the borough, Councillor Doug Taylor and Councillor Terry Neville added their condolences to the victims in Brussels and in memory of Pat Dawson and Alex Mattingly.

Councillor Taylor paid tribute to Alex Mattingly as a hardworking and conscientious member of the Council, a character of whom members on both sides would have good memories. He would be much missed.

Councillor Neville praised Pat Dawson as very dedicated ward member with a good sense of humour who had twice acted as consort to the Mayor. She had been a community stalwart who after stepping down had also played a key role in Enfield in Bloom. He praised Alex Mattingly as a real man of courage and principle, who had suffered much from ill health, but had never let his disability get in the way: a decent man, a very nice chap. He felt that the borough had lost two good people.

Andy Love, former MP for Edmonton, also paid tribute to Alex Mattingly, for his long service to the borough as a Labour member and trade unionist.

Councillor Orhan gave the Council's condolences to the people of Ankara and Istanbul who had lost friends and relatives in recent terrorist attacks, saying that members shared their sadness and loss.

### 2. Update on Mayoral Engagements

The Mayor reported that this was her last business meeting as Chair of the Council. She had enjoyed her time as mayor and the opportunities she had had to meet so many people from so many different communities and denominations. She had attended over 400 engagements: particular highlights were meeting Her Royal Highness the Queen, the Enfield Parade of Light and the Lord Mayor of London events.

#### 3. Thanks

The Mayor thanked everyone who had helped and supported her and her charity in aid of dementia during her year as Mayor: everyone in Democratic Services, all council staff, all the directors and senior officials. She thanked John Austin, Asmat Hussain, James Kinsella, Penelope Williams and Rob Leak, wished James Kinsella luck in his new role, and welcomed Kathy Constantinou to hers.

The Mayor also thanked Alison Brookes, Mayoral Services Manager, for bearing and coping with her heavy demands, as well as Lisa McEwan, Koulla Panaretou and Clare Bryant for being so nice and supportive, for helping to arrange fundraising events, including the very successful dementia awareness seminar attended by many partners, healthcare agencies and carers.

The Mayor thanked her chauffeurs who had been on hand to drive her to engagements morning and afternoon, seven days a week including Martin Worrall who had also always been on hand to help when needed. She offered special thanks to Norman Bremner who was due to retire at the end of the month, saying his kindness would never be forgotten and that he would be much missed. She wished him the best of luck for the future.

The Mayor gave thanks to Councillor Bernadette Lappage as Deputy Mayor for her friendly and sisterly support, the staff choir for singing in support of her charity and to the members of her Mayoral Committee for their kind support and generosity.

The Mayor also thanked her own loving family, who had coped without her when they needed her, for their support and generosity throughout the year.

#### 4. Presentation to Norman Bremner

The Mayor presented Norman Bremner with a gift on behalf of the Council.

## 5. Thanks to the Mayor

Councillor Taylor thanked the Mayor and praised her achievements on behalf of all members and the residents of the borough. Highlights included the attendance at 18 Citizenship ceremonies, the Arctic Convoy Commemoration and the Magna Carta re-enactment.

Councillor Neville echoed Councillor Taylor's comments and thanked the Mayor for her efforts, saying four hundred engagements was a significant achievement. He appreciated her support for dementia, a serious problem not fully recognised, her efforts controlling the Council meetings in a courteous and charitable way and wished her well for the future.

## 156 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 FEBRUARY 2016

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 February 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

## 157 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Erin Celebi, Nick Dines, Sarah Doyle, Christine Hamilton, Suna Hurman, David Lee Sanders, Alan Sitkin, Ozzie Uzoanya and Haydar Ulus.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Joanne Laban.

## 158 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Before inviting members to declare any interests, the Mayor asked Asmat Hussain, as Monitoring Officer to make a short statement regarding the declaration of interests' requirements in relation to items 7, 12 and 15.2 on the agenda.

### Item 7 – Opposition Business

The Monitoring Officer advised that members who were school governors, in the interests of openness and transparency, to declare this under "nonpecuniary interests". Members who declared a non-pecuniary interest would be able to stay in the meeting and vote.

#### Item 12 - Members Allowances Scheme

Councillors had a standard exemption in the Constitution relating to members allowances, so no declaration of interests were required for this item. Members would be able to remain in the meeting and vote on the issue.

### Item 15.2 - Motion on the Housing and Planning Bill

The Monitoring Officer reported that she had agreed to a dispensation for 26 Labour Councillors who felt that they might have disclosable pecuniary interests as they; their family; friends and close associates were tenants or landlords impacted by this bill. The dispensation was granted for this meeting only, on the grounds that it would impede the transaction of the business and/or affect the political balance of the council. These members were:

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi

Councillor Ali Bakir

Councillor Dinah Barry

Councillor Chris Bond

Councillor Alev Cazimoglu

Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu

Councillor Bambos Charalambous

Councillor Katherine Chibah

Councillor Guney Dogan

Councillor Christiana During

Councillor Christine Hamilton

Councillor Ahmet Hassan

Councillor Achilleas Georgiou

Councillor Doris Jiagge

Councillor Nneka Keazor

Councillor Adeline Kepez

Councillor Bernadette Lappage

Councillor Dino Lemonides

Councillor Mary Maguire

Councillor Ayfer Orhan

Councillor Ahmet Oykener Councillor Vicki Pite Councillor George Savva Councillor Andrew Stafford Councillor Claire Stewart Councillor Doug Taylor

The Councillor Conduct Committee on 21 March 2016 had agreed a dispensation to Councillor Celebi, again for this meeting only, in relation to a disclosable pecuniary interest. Councillor Celebi is a landlord and represents other landlords in the borough. The dispensation will enable her to represent her constituent landlords, tenants and residents.

Having noted the advice provided the following interests were also declared at the meeting:

## Agenda Item 7 Opposition Business

- Councillor Bambos Charalambous declared a disclosable pecuniary interest due to a family member having an interest in an academy trust.
- Councillor Toby Simon declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Chair of an Edmonton Primary School Governing Body.
- Councillor Abdullahi declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Savva declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Fonyonga declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Bond declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Achilleas Georgiou declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Jason Charalambous declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Doris Jiagge declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor
- Councillor Edward Smith declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor
- Councillor Peter Fallart declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Mike Rye declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Vince declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.
- Councillor Elaine Hayward declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor
- Councillor Hurer declared a non-pecuniary interest as a school governor.

Agenda Item 15.2 Motion on Housing and Planning Bill

- Councillor Jason Charalambous declared a disclosable pecuniary interest. He left the meeting when the item was discussed and did not take part in the vote.
- Councillor McGowan declared a disclosable pecuniary interest. He left the meeting when the item was discussed and did not take part in the vote
- Councillor Alessandro Georgiou declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as a close family member was a council house tenant. He left the meeting when the item was discussed and did not take part in the vote.
- Councillor Nesimi Erbil declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as a landlord. She left the meeting when the item was discussed and did not take part in the vote.

The Monitoring Officer finally reminded members that the Council was in the purdah period for the forthcoming GLA and Mayoral elections. Members were therefore asked to exercise caution and refrain from making statements at this meeting that might show support for individual members or groups of members directly involved in the elections.

# 159 OPPOSITION PRIORITY BUSINESS - THE FUTURE OF EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN ENFIELD

Councillor Alessandro Georgiou introduced the issues paper, prepared by the Opposition Group. Issues highlighted were as follows:

- 1. He began by thanking all Enfield teachers, governors and schools for helping children to achieve their potential.
- 2. Pride in the achievements of all free schools and academies and of the establishment of the 2010 Academies Act, which had enabled the setting up of more free schools and academies giving teachers and schools more autonomy to meet local demands, tailor lessons, as well as setting their own term dates, pay and conditions.
- That all funding for these schools, including the costs of acquiring the land and construction was met by Central Government, not the local authority.
- 4. Concerns that opposing and not encouraging, the building of free schools and academies in Enfield, had resulted in increased Council debt, higher levels of capital expenditure, leading to higher interest rates and Council Tax increases, when money could have been saved using the resources for free schools and academies offered by Central Government.

- 5. With the continuing pressure on school places, which was expected to grow still more by 2020, the Council should welcome this means of providing school places.
- 6. Whilst recognising that Enfield was doing well in terms of educational attainment at the primary level, there was concern about the high level of absenteeism and long term absence in Enfield's primary schools.
- 7. At the secondary level, while acknowledging that absence rates were at the national average, there was alarm at the below the national average educational performance of Enfield children.
- 8. Concern about the gap in educational attainment between pupils who have English as a second language and those with English as a first language. In this, Enfield was the third worst performing borough in London. It was felt that this needed to be addressed urgently, not only to benefit those who have English as a second language but also because of the impact on native speakers.
- 9. Whilst blessing all teachers for doing their best, he saw the adoption of more free schools and academies as a chance to turnaround schools that were failing and to enable more children to reach their potential.

Councillor Ayfer Orhan, Cabinet Member for Education, Children's Services and Protection responded on behalf of the Majority Group highlighting:

- 1. Her view that the facts in the opposition paper were either misrepresented or inaccurate.
- 2. Whilst agreeing that there were pressing issues, the department and schools had worked diligently to secure school places and many schools were making good or outstanding progress.
- 3. The 2015 GCSE results showed that maintained schools were doing better than academy schools: 63% of maintained schools achieved a GCSE pass rate of 63% at A\*- C compared with 43.1% of academies. Academy results were below the national average and getting worse.
- 4. One of the borough's free schools had been taken over by another and one academy was under investigation. OfSTED judgements presented a mixed picture. One school which was now struggling had been opened in an area where it was not needed and was a threat to another academy nearby.
- 5. Since 2010 the Council had put in place a primary expansion programme and a secondary place strategy to provide the necessary school places.
- 6. The Council was committed to working with all schools and providers, whatever their designation, to improve education in the borough.

- 7. The exam results were improving, at the secondary level faster than the national average. The 2015 results were disappointing but this was just a dip. Primary schools were making excellent progress year on year.
- 8. The Council was narrowing the attendance gap, despite the withdrawal of Government support in 2010.
- 9. Enfield was nationally recognised for the provision of language and support for children with English as a second language.
- 10. The reductions in the youth service had come about as a consequence of Government cuts. But the Council had met the challenge to provide the service in a different way and were not proposing to close youth clubs. They were also working with a youth charity to enable them to access funding that the Council could not.
- 11. There was no link between reductions in the youth service and rising crime and youth violence. Work would continue to help those at risk of sexual exploitation, crime and antisocial behaviour.
- 12. Working with the community and volunteers would help foster the big society promoted by the Government.

Other issues highlighted during the debate were as follows:

- a. The need highlighted by the members of the Opposition Group:
  - To recognise that the money spent on new schools could have been spent elsewhere on other Council priorities.
  - To understand that reductions in the youth services would result in increasing demand for statutory services as gangs and other problems increase.
  - To lobby the Government for additional funds to meet the responsibility under the Children's Act 1989 for those with no recourse to public funds and to tackle the issue of bogus asylum seekers and address the £3 million budget pressures being faced. Young Albanian men seemed to be a particular issue in Enfield. Conservatives offered to support the Administration in lobbying for adequate funds.
  - To recognise that purchasing land for schools as at Chase Farm was incurring debt which could be avoided by supporting free school applications.
  - To recognise that immigration was putting pressure on school places and to review urgently the allegations concerning young Albanian men.

- To accept that new models of school funding were required and that heads should be free to lead and influence.
- b. The need highlighted by members of the Labour Group to:
  - Recognise that Enfield was already engaging with the Academy Programme and that the Council had no influence over bids for free schools.
  - Refute the assertion that the Council's current planning for school places imposes an unnecessary burden on the tax payer: in fact the academy programme was making local authorities hand over land and buildings to the academy sector.
  - Recognise the findings from a National Audit Office 2013 review nationally that £241m had been spent on free schools where there was found to be no need for additional school places.
  - Lobby the Government to ensure that schools were properly funded and democratically accountable.
  - Recognise that there were no plans to close youth centres and that youth services will continue to be provided. Since coming to power in 2010, the Labour Administration had opened 8 new youth centres; seven of these were offering free activity programmes, despite the cuts. That there were over 200 voluntary sector providers in the borough providing youth activities.
  - Accept that the critical reason for the Council's financial problems lay with the Government cuts to public services.
  - Acknowledge that the extra costs arising from supporting those with no recourse to public funds were a result of the Government's inability to manage immigration and failure to support local authorities in meeting their statutory obligations. Immigrants settled in Enfield as they did in boroughs like Croydon as it was located near to a major M25 service station.
  - Acknowledge that the Government had ceased all capital investment in maintained schools.

During the course of the debate, the time for Opposition Business was extended by 10 minutes.

At the end of the debate Councillor Neville summed up on behalf of the Opposition Group as follows:

- That he did not understand the issues that the administration had with accepting free schools and academies.
- That the cuts were due to the Labour Government's mismanagement of the economy.
- That in his view the Council had wasted money on fruitless projects and that now that there was no money left, the authority was having to borrow to deliver projects.
- That in his view it was the height of folly to spend money to purchase land to build a school on the former Chase Farm hospital site, just days after the Government announcement that all schools were to become free schools or academies.
- That public services needed to respond to the problems of a broken society and the growth of youth crime and that this needed a cross party approach.

Councillor Taylor then summed up on behalf of the majority group by saying that he could only concur with the last recommendation in the Opposition Business paper and to assert that the Council was already working with academies and free schools in the borough.

## **Meeting Adjournment**

The Mayor adjourned the meeting for a ten minute comfort break at this point.

Following the adjournment, as an outcome of the debate the Leader of the Opposition requested that a vote be taken on each of the recommendations within the Opposition Priority Business Paper. In accordance with section 15.4 of the council procedure rules this was on a roll call basis, with the results as follows:

**AGREED** not to approve the following recommendations within the Opposition Business Paper:

- (1) Recommendation 1 that the Council undertake and publish a full financial risk assessment of the effects of the budget reductions to youth centres.
- (2) Recommendation 2 That the administration reviews its housing allocations policy to ensure it is not disproportionately affected by having to fund those with no recourse to public funds via the Children's Act.
- (3) Recommendation 3 To lobby central Government to ensure adequate funding for London local authorities affected by having to fund those with no recourse to public funds via the Children's Act, especially where process delays prolong the financial pressure.

- (4) Recommendation 4 the Council will engage with and embrace the Government's Academy and Free School Programme to secure sufficient school places for our children.
- (5) Recommendation 5 that the Council supports future free school bids that present themselves to the local authority.
- (6) Recommendation 6 That the Administration will begin to plan for future school places in a way that does not impose further unnecessary financial burdens on the tax payer.
- (7) Recommendation 7 That the Council will take firm action to reduce high rates of school absence.
- (8) Recommendation 8 That the Administration will work with the Opposition to find ways of tackling the attainment gap between pupils with English as a first language and pupils with English as a second language.
- (9) Recommendation 9 That the Council will actively support any school currently not an academy that wishes to become one.

In support of the recommendations (1) - (9) above: 15

Councillor Lee Chamberlain

Councillor Jason Charalambous

Councillor Dogan Delman

Councillor Peter Fallart

Councillor Alessandro Georgiou

Councillor Ertan Hurer

Councillor Eric Jukes

Councillor Andy Milne

Councillor Terry Neville

Councillor Anne Marie Pearce

**Councillor Daniel Pearce** 

Councillor Michael Rye

Councillor Edward Smith

Councillor Jim Steven

Councillor Glynis Vince

Against recommendations (1) - (9) above: 30

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi

Councillor Daniel Anderson

Councillor Ali Bakir

Councillor Dinah Barry

Councillor Chris Bond

Councillor Alev Cazimoglu

Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu

Councillor Katherine Chibah

Councillor Gurney Dogan

Councillor Christiana During

Councillor Nesimi Erbil

Councillor Turgut Esendagli

Councillor Krystle Fonyonga

Councillor Achilleas Georgiou

Councillor Christine Hamilton

Councillor Ahmet Hassan

Councillor Suna Hurman

Councillor Jansev Jemal

Councillor Doris Jiagge

Councillor Nneka Keazor

Councillor Adeline Kepez

Councillor Derek Levy

Councillor Mary Maguire

Councillor Don McGowan

Councillor Ayfer Orhan

Councillor Ahmet Oykener

Councillor Vicki Pite

Councillor Toby Simon

Councillor Andrew Stafford

Councillor Claire Stewart

Councillor Doug Taylor

Abstentions: 0

(10) Recommendation 10 – That the Council reports back within one year of this meeting to show what steps have been taken in achieving the goals set out in this Opposition Priority Business Paper.

In support of recommendation (10) above: 45

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi

Councillor Daniel Anderson

Councillor Ali Bakir

Councillor Dinah Barry

Councillor Chris Bond

Councillor Alev Cazimoglu

Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu

Councillor Lee Chamberlain

Councillor Jason Charalambous

Councillor Katherine Chibah

Councillor Dogan Delman

Councillor Gurney Dogan

Councillor Christiana During

Councillor Nesimi Erbil

Councillor Turgut Esendagli

Councillor Peter Fallart

Councillor Krystle Fonyonga

Councillor Achilleas Georgiou

Councillor Alessandro Georgiou

Councillor Christine Hamilton

Councillor Ahmet Hassan

Councillor Ertan Hurer

Councillor Suna Hurman

Councillor Jansev Jemal

Councillor Doris Jiagge

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Councillor Anne Marie Pearce

Councillor Daniel Pearce

Councillor Vicki Pite

Councillor Michael Rye

Councillor Toby Simon

Councillor Edward Smith

Councillor Jim Steven

Councillor Andrew Stafford

Councillor Claire Stewart

Councillor Doug Taylor

Councillor Glynis Vince

Against – 0

Abstentions – 0

Councillor Bambos Charalambous declared a disclosable pecuniary interest as a family member was involved in a school trust. He left the meeting during the debate and did not take part in the discussion.

Councillor Toby Simon declared a non-pecuniary interest as the Chair of an Edmonton Primary School Governing Body. He remained in the meeting and participated in the debate and decision on this item.

Councillor Abdullahi, Savva, Fonyonga, Bond, Achilleas Georgiou, Jason Charalambous, Jiagge, Smith, Fallart, Rye, Vince, Elaine Hayward and Hurer declared non-pecuniary interests as school governors. They remained in the meeting and participated in the debate and decision on this item.

## 160 ADOPTION OF ENFIELD COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY CHARGING SCHEDULE

Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Chibah seconded a report (Report No: 198A) from the Director of Regeneration and Environment seeking the Council's formal approval to the adoption of the Council's Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule operational as of 1 April 2016.

#### **NOTED**

- That the recommendations in the report were agreed by Cabinet on 15
  March 2016 with the adoption of regulation 123 List and the adoption of
  the instalment policy referred to Council for final approval.
- 2. Concerns of the Opposition Group in relation to:
  - The differential CIL rates which were seen as detrimental to development.
  - The view that the levy had been set too high: that it would be seen as an additional tax which would deter development in the borough.
  - By excluding Meridian Water from the levy, other building projects would be subsidising its development.
  - The delay in implementation of the CIL, which was felt to have cost the Council revenue.
  - The reluctance of the authority to use its compulsory purchase powers for Meridian Water, and the delays to the Meridian Water project as a whole.
- 3. Support for infrastructure development, for building strong communities and economic growth and helping to address inequality.
- 4. The view that CIL will enable the pooling of money for a broad range of projects.
- 5. Exempting Meridian Water from the levy had been agreed after careful consideration and on the advice of independent experts, a device that had been successful in neighbouring boroughs.
- 6. Levels would be reviewed after two years, to test its economic viability.
- 7. The view that there was no problem attracting developers to the borough.
- 8. The length of time taken to develop the scheme was due to the amount of consultation undertaken.
- 9. The support of the Mayor of London and the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the Meridian Water scheme.

10. The level at which the levy has been set was comparable with neighbouring boroughs and had been subject to a viability assessment.

Following the debate the recommendations in the report were put to the vote with the following result:

For: 32 Against: 3 Abstentions: 12

#### **AGREED**

- 1. The adoption of the Enfield Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Charging Schedule as recommended by the Inspector (Annex 1), to take effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, in accordance with Section 213 of the Planning Act 2008 and Regulation 25 of the CIL Regulations.
- 2. The adoption of the Regulation 123 List **(Annex 2)** is to take effect on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016, in accordance with Section 216 of the Planning Act 2008, Regulation 123(4) of the CIL Regulations and the relevant sections of the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG) for CIL.
- 3. The adoption of the Instalment Policy (Annex 3), to take effect on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 in accordance with Regulation 69B of the CIL Regulations.

### 161 CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Following the item on the Community Infrastructure Levy Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Taylor seconded a separate proposal under paragraph 2.2(b) of the Council Procedure Rules to change the order of items on the agenda so that the following were dealt with as the next items of business:

- Item 15.2: In the name of Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu regarding the Government's new housing and planning bill.
- Motion 15.1: In the name of Councillor Barry on the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
- Motion 15.5: In the name of Councillor Alessandro Georgiou on homelessness.

The change in order of the agenda was put to the vote and agreed.

For: 32 Against: 15 Abstentions: 0

Please note the minutes reflect the order in which the items were dealt with at the meeting.

## 162 MOTIONS

Councillor Nesil Cazimoglu moved and Councillor Oykener seconded the following motion:

"The country, particularly London, is facing a housing crisis and residents in Enfield are feeling the effects. This Council believes that the government's Housing and Planning Bill will only make the situation worse; and that the only real solution is to build more homes.

House building is at its lowest since the 1920's; private rents have increased by 37% in the past five years and the government continue to use billions of pounds of public money to subsidise private landlords through housing benefit.

The Housing and Planning Bill would:

- Forces 'high-value' council homes to be sold on the open market;
- Extend the right-to-buy to housing association tenants and
- Undermine section 106 requirements on private developers to provide affordable homes

There is no commitment in the Bill that affordable homes will be replaced likefor-like in the local area.

This Council resolves that the Bill undermines localism by granting the Secretary of State the power to override local plans, to mandate rents for social tenants and to impose a levy on stock-holding councils, violating the terms of the Housing Revenue Account self-financing deal.

This Council calls on the government to grant local authorities the powers and financial ability to increase the supply of housing for our residents. Councils must be given the financial flexibilities they need to be able to scale up housing development, both in partnership and directly."

Following a short debate the motion was put to the vote and agreed with the following result:

For: 29 Against: 12 Abstentions: 0

Twenty six Labour councillors listed under the declaration of interests had received a dispensation in relation to their interests in this motion.

The following councillors declared their disclosable pecuniary interests: Councillors Jason Charalambous, Councillor Don McGowan, Councillor Alessandro Georgiou and Nesimi Erbil. They withdrew from the meeting and did not take part in the discussion or vote on the motion.

1.2 Councillor Barry moved and Councillor Chibah seconded the following motion:

"If the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) is agreed, the people of Enfield will lose many of the regulations that protect their environment, their food and their rights as workers.

A report commissioned by the Government concluded that TTIP offers "few or no benefits to the UK while having meaningful economic and political costs."

#### This Council resolves:

- To call on the Government to put the national interests of our people above those of big businesses and to reject this agreement.
- To write to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, local MPs, MLAs, and all London MEPs raising our serious concerns about the impact of TTIP on local authorities and the secrecy of the negotiating process.
- To write to the Local Government Association to raise our serious concerns about the impact of TTIP on local authorities and ask them to raise these with Government on our behalf.
- To call for an impact assessment on the impact of TTIP on local authorities.
- To publicise the Council's concerns about TTIP; join with other local authorities which are opposed to TTIP across Europe and work with local campaigners to raise awareness about the problems of TTIP.
- To contact the local authorities of municipalities twinned with Enfield asking them to consider passing a similar motion on TTIP."

Following a short debate the motion was put to the vote and agreed with the following result:

For: 32 Against: 15 Abstentions: 0

## 163 DURATION OF 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 8 would apply.

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

## 164 SMALL HOUSING SITES PHASE 2 DELIVERY

RECEIVED a report from the Director of Regeneration & Environment (Report No: 199A) setting out a number of recommendations to progress the small housing sites phase 2 delivery.

#### NOTED

- 1. That the report had been submitted in conjunction with Report No: 201A on the Part 2 Agenda which contained exempt information; the detailed recommendations for consideration in relation to Capital funding.
- 2. That Cabinet on 15 March 2016 agreed the recommendations in the report and recommended that Council approve the inclusion of the capital budgets for the scheme in the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme as detailed in the part 2 report.

**AGREED** to note that Cabinet had agreed the following recommendations:

- 1. The proposal to dispose of the homes to be constructed on the sites at Padstow Road, Perry Mead, and Hedge Hill as private homes.
- 2. That in the event that additional GLA Grant Funding can be secured, this funding be used to make as many of the 13 new homes at Padstow Road, Perry mead and Hedge Hill more affordable and to be sold as shared-equity or shared ownership homes.
- 3. To delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Environment to appoint a sales agent to assist with the disposal of these new homes, and note that homes will be marketed to local residents first.
- 4. To delegate authority to the Assistant Director of Legal and Governance Services to enter into agreements for the disposal of these new homes.
- 5. To agree to set the rents on the Ordnance Road development of 15 new homes at affordable rent levels, as per the explanation at paragraph 3.22-3.25 of the report.
- 6. To delegate authority to the Director of Regeneration and Environment, and the Assistant Director Legal and Governance Services to agree the terms and enter into such other agreements as are required to ensure

the completion and occupation on the new homes to be constructed on the sites at Ordnance Road, Padstow Road, Perry Mead, and Hedge Hill

7. To authorise the proposed approach to governance for the next groups of Phase 2 sites within the Small Housing Sites Rolling Programme as explained in paragraph 3.26-3.30 of the report.

To note that the Conservative Group would have abstained on the vote on this report.

## 165 AUDIT COMMITTEE CHANGE OF NAME AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

RECEIVED the report (No: 208A) from the Assistant Director Legal and Governance asking for approval to change the name of the Audit Committee to Audit and Risk management Committee detailing amendments to the committee's terms of reference.

NOTED that these changes were agreed by the Audit Committee on 3 March 2016 and have been cleared through the Member and Democratic Services Group.

#### **AGREED**

- 1. That the name of the Audit Committee be amended to the Audit and Risk Management Committee to better reflect the role played by the committee in the governance of the Council.
- 2. The changes to the Audit Committee Terms of Reference, as detailed within the attached appendix.

## 166 HOUSING BOARD - CHANGES TO TERMS OF REFERENCE

RECEIVED the report (Report No: 207) of the Director of Regeneration and Environment seeking approval to the changes to the Housing Board Terms of Reference as set out in Appendix A to the report.

NOTED that these changes have been cleared by the Member and Democratic Services Group.

**AGREED** that the proposals to increase the representation of tenants and leaseholders (from three to four), increase the representation of independent members (from one to three), delete the Chair of Enfield Homes, and to create three sub groups to sit below the main board are approved as detailed in the Terms of Reference attached as Appendix 1 to the report.

To note that the Conservative Group would have moved an amendment and abstained on this item if it had been discussed.

## 167 MEMBERS ALLOWANCE SCHEME 2016/17

#### NOTED

- 1. The Members Allowances Scheme forms Part 6 of the Constitution. Paragraph 6.3 (c) states that "Annual Increases in Allowances will be linked to average earnings, for the period ending the previous March of each year. New rates will be effective from the new municipal year."
- 2. When considering the Scheme for the 2015/16 financial year, Council resolved "That the current Members Allowances Scheme is reapproved and that the automatic increase in allowances by the average earnings as at March not be implemented for the 2015/16 municipal year."
- 3. Council were asked to consider the level of allowances payable under the scheme for 2016/17.

**AGREED** to confirm that the automatic increase in allowances by the average earnings as at March is again not implemented and to re-approve the current Members Allowances Scheme for the 2016/17 financial year, as set out in Part 6 of the Constitution on that basis.

## 168 APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER

#### NOTED

- 1. That the Head of Democratic and Registration Services (Peter Stanyon) has been Deputy Electoral Registration Officer since 2009. The Chief Executive is appointed Electoral Registration Officer.
- 2. As a result of the departure of the Head of Electoral and Registration Services from the Council service with effect from 4 April 2016, there is need to appoint a new Deputy Registration Officer in accordance with the provisions of section 52 (2) of the Representation of the People Act 1983.
- 3. It was recommended that the interim head of Elections and Governance (James Kinsella) be appointed as Deputy Registration Officer.

**AGREED** to formally approve the change in the Deputy Electoral Registration Officer arrangements with the Interim Head of Elections and Governance (James Kinsella) being appointed with effect from 4 April 2016.

## 169 COUNCILLORS QUESTION TIME (TIME ALLOWED 30 MINUTES)

1.1 Urgent Questions

The following urgent question was received and the following response provided:

### **Question from Councillor Neville to Councillor Taylor**

- 1.a Does he agree with me that the report from Lord Adonis' National Infrastructure Commission on Crossrail 2, is an extremely welcome development for Enfield and for London as a whole. It will particularly assist the eastern corridor and has the potential to transform Enfield both economically and geographically, making the borough an even better place to live and/or work.
- 1.b Does he agree with me that the Chancellor's budget statement agreeing to the next stage of funding is to be welcomed but that it is now in Enfield's best interests to seek to secure the optional spur route to New Southgate which will offer maximum benefits to both Enfield and Barnet and should be vigorously pursued?

## **Reply from Councillor Taylor**

Could I thank Councillor Neville for his question and I am pleased that he supports the principles behind Crossrail 2 (CR2).

I am clear that transport improvements are a necessary catalyst for beneficial growth and improvement. That is why I agreed to serve on the West Anglia task force chaired by Sir Alan Haselhurst. Getting an initial improvement in the line as a result of this work will dramatically assist the case for CR2 and good progress has been made in making the case.

In response to question 1.a:

The Council is supportive of the central finding of the infrastructure Commission's independent report that Crossrail 2 should be taken forward as a priority, subject to the wider recommendations within the report. The Commission recommended that sufficient development funds should be released so that a hybrid Bill for Crossrail 2 can be prepared, beginning with a revised business case to be submitted by March 2017.

Crossrail 2 has the potential to bring transformational physical and economic change across a significant part of Enfield and north London. It would help regenerate some of London's most deprived communities and support the delivery of thousands of new homes and jobs.

Enfield has the capacity to grow and improve if the essential supporting transport and other social infrastructure are in place. The Council has commenced a review of its Local Plan to respond to the predicted and unprecedented rate of population growth and the need for new homes, infrastructure and jobs.

The Council has been at the forefront of proactive engagement in contributing to the ongoing case building for Crossrail 2 and is working closely with the Mayor's Crossrail2 Growth Commission to explore further the potential for growth in the borough arising from Crossrail 2. The commission is due to visit us for a fourth time in April.

In response to question 1b:

The Council welcomes the Chancellor's announcement of an £80 million contribution to preparing the business case for Crossrail 2 but it falls short of the total funding required. This amount is required to be matched by Transport for London from various funding streams.

Given the recommendations of the National Infrastructure Commission to delay the delivery of the north western spur to New Southgate from 2030 until 2034 on viability grounds it is in best interests of residents for us to work closely with adjoining authorities to promote the New Southgate spur, which has been supported by Transport for London (TfL) for strong technical reasons.

Cross-borough meetings (Barnet/Enfield/Haringey) to discuss growth assumptions at New Southgate linked to Crossrail 2 are continuing, working in coordination with the Greater London Authority (GLA) and TfL Crossrail 2 project team. We believe that the New Southgate line is essential for improved rail access into central London and to reduce pressure on the existing tube services.

Discussions are about the range of challenges for releasing the growth potential in the area, especially in terms of coordinating the timing/phasing of growth with the delivery of infrastructure, the mechanisms available to control such growth and the challenges associated with cross-borough planning. The GLA suggested that the New Southgate area could be established as an Opportunity Area in the next iteration of the London Plan, which could help address some of these issues.

We have already set up a meeting with the Chief Executives of Barnet and Haringey and a cross borough officer working group will meet this week to build upon our previous submissions.

I trust that I can rely upon the continued support of the Opposition on CR2 and that in due course it will bring the benefits we all anticipate.

No supplementary questions were permitted.

### 1.2 Questions by Councillors

NOTED the forty eight questions and their written responses provided by the relevant Cabinet members.

Additional information provided in response to Question 23

## 170 USE OF COUNCIL'S URGENCY PROVISION

NOTED the details provided of a decision taken under the Council's urgency procedures relating to a waiver of call in. The decision has been made in accordance with the urgency procedures set out in Paragraph 17.3 of Chapter 4.2 (Scrutiny) and Paragraph 16 of Chapter 4.6 (Access to Information) of the Council's Constitution.

• Electric Quarter – Ponders End (Start on Site)

## 171 MOTIONS

The following motions listed on the agenda lapsed due to lack of time:

15.3 In the name of Councillor Alessandro Georgiou:

"This Council recognises that the Union Flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is a symbol of Freedom and represents all that is great about the United Kingdom.

The Council will therefore have the Union Flag of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland present in all full Council meetings. The flag will have a prominent place either hanging behind the Mayor of Enfield's chair or on a flagpole to the right of the Mayor."

15.4 In the name of Councillor Alessandro Georgiou:

"In view of the fact that the Council has not acquired the site at Chase Farm Hospital for which outline planning permission was given for a three form entry primary school, and the locally based Lime Trust is keen to develop a free school on the site, the Council instructs the Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services to write Department for Education to support the upcoming bid of the Lime Trust to open a primary free school with three forms of entry on the site".

15.5 In the name of Councillor Alessandro Georgiou:

"Homelessness is an issue that all councillors should fight to eradicate. Helping those less fortunate is a pillar of civic service that is of the utmost importance. The Council therefore agrees to publish on its website and through other means the details of all homeless shelters in the borough and charities that can assist those that are homeless, in particular those that offer services during the winter months. This information will include contact details of homeless shelters and charities that are within the borough and other local authorities".

## 172

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

NOTED that there were no changes to any committee memberships.

### 173

#### NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSIDE BODIES

NOTED that the change to the nomination to the North London Waste Authority included on the agenda had been withdrawn.

**AGREED** to confirm the following nominations to Outside Bodies:

## 1. Lee Valley Heat Network Ltd

Mr Michael King BSc MSc, FRSA and Dr Tim Rotheray PhD, BSc (Hons) to be appointed as non-executive/independent directors on the LVHN HoldCo Ltd Board for an initial six month period.

## 174

### **CALLED IN DECISIONS**

There were no called in decisions.

#### 175

### DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

As this was the final Council meeting of the Municipal Year 2015-16, the Mayor took the opportunity to end the meeting by thanking, on behalf of all members of the Council, the Directors and officers for their support.

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council would be the Annual Meeting and Mayor Making Ceremony, which had been scheduled for 7.00pm on Wednesday 11 May 2016 at the Civic Centre.

#### 176

#### **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 Item 1 listed on Part 2 of the agenda on the grounds that they involve 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).

## 177 SMALL HOUSING SITES

RECEIVED a report from the Director of Regeneration & Environment (numbered 201) setting out a number of recommendations to progress the small housing sites phase 2 delivery.

#### NOTED that

- 1. The report had been submitted in conjunction with Report No: 199A on the Part 1 Agenda.
- 2. Cabinet on 15 March 2016 had agreed the recommendations set out in the part 1 report and recommended that Council should approve the inclusion of the capital budgets for the scheme in the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme in the part 2 report.

#### **AGREED** to

- 1. Approve the inclusion of the capital budgets for Padstow Road, Perry Mead and Hedge Hill in the Housing Revenue Account Capital Programme.
- 2. To note that in addition to the decisions in the Part 1 report Cabinet on 15 March 2016 had also given authority to the Director of Regeneration and Environment and the Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services to approve the final scheme budgets when tenders had been evaluated, and to appoint building contractors to start construction works and complete the schemes.

To note that the Conservative Group would have abstained if there had been a vote on this report.