

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 25 FEBRUARY 2009**

**COUNCILLORS**

**PRESENT**

Lee Chamberlain (Mayor), Pamela Adams, Kate Anolue, Gregory Antoniou, Alan Barker, John Boast, Chris Bond, 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, Achilleas Georgiou, 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 Oykenar, 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**

Chaudhury Anwar MBE 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.

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**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor made the following announcements:

1. Welcome

I would like to welcome Council members and members of the public to the chamber this evening.

I would like also to extend a welcome to Councillor Rohini Simbodyal as this is her first time in the chamber as the new councillor for Jubilee Ward. Welcome Councillor.

At this point as is my custom, I would like to remind Councillors, that they should be careful to address their speech to myself rather than other Council members. I hope that does not make things too difficult for some of you.

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Councillors should also remember that if they wish to make a point of order during the meeting they need to quote the constitutional reference, which gives them the grounds to do so.

It's been a little under a month since the last council, so with such a short gap between council meetings my announcements will also be brief but I hope noteworthy.

### 2. Naval Events

I've spliced the main brace a few times with the Royal and Merchant Navy Association representatives, attending their annual meal and with Naval veterans laying a wreath at the Baltic memorial in memory of those who gave their lives in the Arctic campaign and on the convoys.

My thanks to former Mayor Stan Carter who has for some years organised this event. I understand from Stan that this may well be the last year he is able to organise such a ceremony, I hope that someone can be found, perhaps the Sea Cadets, to take the baton and continue this commemoration.

### 3. Awards and Competitions

Talking of arctic conditions, while the Mayor's awards for Debating were stopped by the weather with only one school being able to field participants, I am pleased to report the following weeks activities for Enfield's young scientists and Enterprise went ahead unhindered and I was pleased to present awards to youths of all ages. Some really great kids who do our Borough proud.

The finals of the primary school age Enfield young scientists were very well run, using a high tech wireless voting system that enabled some clever voting stratagems and if any one here knew that starfish don't have brains, don't worry you are not alone. Congratulations to all the participants, especially the winners.

Congratulations must also go to the winners of the Mayor's competition for with their Cool bean coffee enterprise project, having sampled the goods I think they could give Starbucks a run for their money.

### 4. Openings

I have also been involved in opening new facilities in the Borough.

First was the reopening of the Skate Track on the A10 near Church Street, actually that's by the A10, I think on the A10 would be highly undesirable.

The opening was well attended, I was pleased to see local Councillors present, along with the kids enjoying using the all-new ramps and half pipes, which were, I am told, designed in consultation with the kids.

While none of the slightly older watchers were brave or foolhardy enough to attempt the course, we could not help but appreciate the acrobatic display arranged, and how much energy was expended.

It was a day of openings, as on the same day I also participated in the opening of the new Fore Street Library. I have to confess I was impressed with its excellent facilities, including a high tech meeting area, which a few of us in the Civic centre might envy.

The opening was well attended and I was pleased to see a number of Councillors attending including Ward Councillors and Councillor Kaye.

#### 5. Community partnership

A Community partnership project I was very happy to support was the official unveiling of mosaics for the buildings in the Ayley Croft Estate.

Each building on the estate is named after a famous artist - Constable, Reynolds etc and following a suggestion from a resident, which I am pleased to say in my capacity as a Councillor I made a special point of supporting.

Very commendably it was taken up and run with by what is now Enfield Homes and working with Kingsmead School and Bush Hill Primary School a mosaic was produced to represent a famous work of each artist and installed gratis by Barclay workers who are currently on site.

Most Council buildings / estates have have names with significant meaning, and often those names have become abstracted and the meaning forgotten.

I think this project in some small way goes towards helping to sustain a greater pride in those buildings by giving back meaning to the names. I really do commend it.

#### 6. Charity Dinner

Finally there are still places left for the charity dinner and dance and we need everyones support . I hope anyone who has not been to a dinner for a while will consider coming or if you can't make it but would like to support my charities then send in a donation.

My thanks to colleagues who have already indicated that they will attend. We are still under-represented by Councillors at this Civic event and it really needs more of you to come. I hope you will, as if we do not support such events they will not continue.

That concludes my announcements.

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MINUTES**

AGREED that subject to the following amendments, the minutes of the meeting of the Council meeting held on 28 January 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record:

- i. Minute No. 87 be amended to read:

“AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12 November 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.”

- ii. Attendance

Councillor Robinson was present at the meeting.

**105  
APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Anwar and Stafford. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Prescott.

**106  
DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

Councillors Buckland, Fallart, Lamprecht, Oykenner, E Smith and Taylor declared personal interests in Item No. 8 – Housing Revenue Account Estimates 2009/10 and Medium Term Financial Plan (Rent Setting HRA), as they are Directors of Enfield Homes.

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MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (GENERAL FUND) AND 2009/10  
BUDGET**

Councillor Rye moved and Councillor Hurer seconded the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 183A) informing the Council of:

1. the outcome of the recent budget consultation process;
2. An update on the local government financial settlement announced in February 2008;
3. a summary of the Council’s Medium Term Financial Plan over the next five years;
4. proposals regarding the level of the 2009/10 Council Tax
5. the Council’s revenue budget requirement for 2009/10;
6. the Council Tax to be levied for the year ahead for each property band, including the Greater London Authority precept for 2009/10.
7. recommendations regarding investment in the ICT and capital programmes.

NOTED

1. that Councillors Rye and Hurer thanked James Rolfe and the team of officers from across the Council who had been involved in preparing this years budget.
2. that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting held on 11 February 2009.
3. the addendum to Report No. 183A circulated to Members of the Council on 20 February 2009.

During the debate Councillor Charalambous, moved and Councillor Simbodyal seconded the following amendment to the recommendations:

“In (i) replace the figure £238.515m with £235.604m.

In (iii) replace the figure of £1,100.34 with a figure of £1,073.70 and delete the words “an increase of 2.48%”

Therefore 2.2 will now read:

“With regard to the revenue budget for 2009/10  
It is recommended that:

- i. the net budget requirement for Enfield be set at £235.604m in 2009/10.
- ii. subject to final pupil count data, approval is given to expenditure of £216.651m on the schools’ budget, funded from the Dedicated Schools’ Grant.
- iii. the Council Tax at Band D for Enfield’s services be set at £1,073.70 (paragraph 10.1).
- iv. the statutory calculations and resolutions set out in Appendix 7 are approved.
- v. it be noted that the recommended budget adequately funds the Council’s financial obligations relating to the achievement of Local Area Agreement targets.”

Following a lengthy debate, a roll call was requested and the amendment was put to the vote with the following result:

For : 25

Councillors Anolue, Bond, Brett, Brown, Buckland, Charalambous, Cole, Constantinides, During, Georgiou, Giladi, Goddard, Hasan, Lappage, Lemonides, McGowan, Murphy, Orhan, Oykenner, Robinson, Rodin, G Savva, Simodyal, Simon and Taylor.

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Against: 32

Councillors Adams, Antoniou, Barker, Boast, Crowshaw, Delman, Dey, Dreblow, Fallart, Ford, Hall, E Hayward, R Hayward, Hones, Hurer, Joannides, Jukes, Kaye, Laban, Lamprecht, Lavender, McCannah, Neville, Pearce, Pipe, Prescott, Rye, E Savva, E Smith, T Smith, Vince and Zinkin.

Abstained: 3

Councillors Chamberlain, McGregor and Wilkinson.

After further debate the recommendations set out in the report were put to the vote with the following result:

For: 33

Against: 26

Abstained: 1

### AGREED

1. With regard to the Revenue Budget for 2009/10;
  - (i) that the net budget requirement for Enfield be set at £238.515m in 2009/10;
  - (ii) that subject to final pupil count data, approval is given to expenditure of £216.651m on the schools budget, funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant;
  - (iii) that the Council Tax at Band D for Enfield's services be set at £1,100.34 (paragraph 10.1), an increase of 2.48%;
  - (iv) that the statutory calculations and resolutions as amended and set out in resolution 7 below be approved.
  - (v) that it be noted that the recommended budget adequately funds the Councils financial obligations relating to the achievement of Local Area Agreement targets.
  
2. With regard to the Prudential Code and the Capital Programme
  - (i) that Council notes the information regarding the requirements of the Prudential Code (section 11 of the report);
  - (ii) the proposals for allocating resources to capital projects as set out in paragraph 11.28 and Appendix 10 of the report;
  - (iii) that the recommendations regarding the additions to the capital programme, as set out in Appendix 10;
  - (iv) that the Prudential Indicators, the Treasury Management Strategy, the Minimum Revenue Position statement and the criteria for investments, set out in section 11 and Appendix 9.
  
3. With regard to the ICT Work programme  
the recommendations regarding additions to the ICT work programme set out in section 9 and Appendix 12 of the report.

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4. With regard to the Medium Term Financial Plan:
  - (i) It is recommended that Council notes the forecast for the medium term as set out in section 12 of the report and that efficiency and other savings of £6.5m on average per annum will need to be found over the period 2010/11 to 2013/14.
  - (ii) That the Council adopts the Fees and Charges Strategy set out in Appendix 17 when setting the level of future charges for services.
  
5. With regard to the robustness of the 2009/10 budget and the adequacy of the Councils reserves and balances:
  - (i) to notes the risks and uncertainties inherent in the 2009/10 budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan (section 13 of the report);
  - (ii) to note the comments of the Director of Finance & Corporate Resources regarding the recommended levels of contingencies, balances and reserves (section 14) and has regard to the Directors statement (section 17 of the report) when making final decisions on the 2009/10 budget;
  - (iii) the recommended levels of central contingency (paragraph 14.10 of the report) and general balances (paragraph 14.13 of the report);
  - (iv) the reallocation of the specific earmarked reserves set out in paragraph 14.14 of the report.
  
6. to note that at its meeting on 14th January 2009, the Audit Committee agreed the number of 109,240 as its Council Tax base for 2009/10, in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax base) Regulations.
  
7. the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2009/10 in accordance with Section 32 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:
  - (i) £985,451,000 being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for gross expenditure, calculated in accordance with Section 32(2) of the Act;
  - (ii) £746,936,000 being the aggregate of the amounts, which the Council estimates for income, calculated in accordance with Section 32(3) of the Act.
  - (iii) £238,515,000 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above (net expenditure), calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.
  - (iv) £118,314,043 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its General Fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and Revenue Support Grant, adjusted by the amount which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its General Fund to its Collection Fund.
  - (v) £ 120,200,957 being (the sum of c-d) the residual amount required to be collected from the Council Tax payers.

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(vi) £ 1,100.34 being the residual amount at (e) above, divided by the Council Tax base of 109,240 be the Enfield precept on the Collection Fund for 2009/10 at the level of Band D.

(vii)

Valuation Band	Proportion in relation to Band D	Enfield £
A	6/9	733.56
B	7/9	855.82
C	8/9	978.08
D	1	1100.34
E	11/9	1344.86
F	13/9	1589.38
G	15/9	1833.90
H	2	2200.68

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (f) above by the number which, in proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, calculated by the Council in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands;

8. to note that, for the year 2009/10, the Greater London Authority (GLA) has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of the dwellings shown below:

Valuation Band	Proportion in relation to Band D	Enfield £
A	6/9	206.55
B	7/9	240.97
C	8/9	275.40
D	1	309.82
E	11/9	378.67
F	13/9	447.52
G	15/9	516.37
H	2	619.64

9. that having calculated the aggregate amount in each case of the amounts at 7 (vii) and 8 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2009/10 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:



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Valuation Band	Proportion in relation to Band D	Enfield £
A	6/9	940.11
B	7/9	1096.79
C	8/9	1253.48
D	1	1410.16
E	11/9	1723.53
F	13/9	2036.90
G	15/9	2350.27
H	2	2820.32

**108**

**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT ESTIMATES 2009/10 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (RENT SETTING - HRA)**

Councillor Laban moved and Councillor E Smith seconded the joint report of the Directors of Place Shaping and Enterprise and Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 184A).

NOTED that the report presented for approval:

1. the detailed revenue estimates of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for 2009/10 following consultation with residents on the HRA budget position.
2. the level of rents and service charges to be operative with effect from 6th April 2009 for Council tenants.
3. HRA projections over the medium term to 2013/14.

**AGREED**

1. that the detailed revenue estimates of the Housing Revenue Account for 2009/10 be approved and the forecast for the medium term be noted (table 1 of the report).
2. that the formula rents be increased by 6.2% in line with Government guidance. This will result in an average increase of 5.74% for Enfield tenants.
3. the level of service charges as set out in paragraph 13.2 of the report, for those properties receiving the services be agreed for 2009/10.
4. that the proposals for increases in other income as detailed in Appendices 2 and 3 of the report be agreed for 2009/10.

Members of the Labour and Save Chase Farm Groups abstained from voting on the above resolutions.

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**COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME**

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

None received.

2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

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

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

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

"Will Councillor Vince confirm:

1. All of the sites considered for the new school;
2. Why each of these sites was rejected;
3. Which of these sites are:
  - a. commercially sensitive
  - b. green field
  - c. not in the Council's ownership.
4. Will she respond to this supplementary question in the prescribed 12 working days?
5. If she does not do so, will I have to resort to using the Freedom of Information Act to obtain this information/?"

**Reply from Councillor Vince:**

"I hope that Councillor Rodin, who has been provided with a copy of the report on this matter, will share it with you."

**Question 2 from Councillor Boast to Councillor Rye, Leader of the Council:**

"Would Councillor Rye agree with me that it beggars belief that the party sitting opposite, who have just been arguing, not that we should be more efficient, but that we should raid funds that have been set aside to meet specific liabilities such as repairing our housing stock or meeting insurance claims, in order to avoid any increase in council tax when they had 8 years in

which to practice what they now preach? Eight years in which they increased council tax by an average of 8% each year? Would he also agree that this plumbs new depths of hypocrisy and illustrates how, had they been in power now, they would have been incapable of affecting anything other than a large rise in our tax?

**Reply from Councillor Rye:**

"I agree with the points raised, we have heard from the Labour Party about what they would do on the Council's budget, but the Labour Party pursued completely different policies when they were last in power, they had no money for social services or to repair the Borough's roads and left this Conservative administration to rebuild the Council's finances. I am sure the public won't make the same mistake again."

**Question 3 from Councillor Taylor to Councillor Vince, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services:**

"In view of the ridiculously inadequate level of consultation on this issue, especially given this administrations decision to challenge in the Courts the consultation processes relating to the Chase Farm proposals, will she join me in challenging this decision on the basis of the inadequate consultation that has been undertaken?"

**Reply from Councillor Vince:**

"No."

**Question 5 from Councillor Taylor to Councillor Vince, Cabinet Member for Education and Children's Services:**

"Was Councillor Vince involved in the Jubilee by-election and was she unaware that some of the streets that received the consultation document were not in the Ponders End ward?"

**Reply from Councillor Vince:**

"I was involved in the the by-election and the streets in Jubilee were included in the consultation exercise because children in those streets would go to that school."

**Question 7 from Councillor Constantinides to Councillor Lavender, Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Sustainable Communities, Employment and Place Shaping:**

"Does Councillor Lavender think it is reasonable to increase rents on council owned commercial property by up to 70%in the current economic climate?"

**Reply from Councillor Lavender:**

“As a landlord the Council must maintain rack rent levels, however we need to have a debate about how and when we act as a landlord and also as a Council looking to support business. In doing this we should not destroy the value of the Council’s commercial portfolio by reducing rents. Officers have been asked to investigate this matter and it is a good question to ask at the current time.”

**Question 13 from Councillor G Savva to Councillor E Smith, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Services:**

“Will Councillor E Smith explain why he is leaving it so late to advertise these posts?”

**Reply from Councillor E Smith:**

“We are going to advertise these posts.”

**Question 13 from Councillor Rodin to Councillor Rye, Leader of the Council:**

“Can Councillor Rye inform the Council where the 35 apprentices will be taken on and can he ask officers if more can be taken on?”

**Reply from Councillor Rye:**

“We are employing more than 35 across the Council in a number of areas including contractors and I will provide more detail in a written answer, I hope to role out this programme across the Council.”

**110  
MOTIONS**

None received.

**111  
MEMBERSHIPS**

NOTED that there were no changes to committee memberships.

**112  
NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

AGREED the following change to nominations to outside bodies:

1. Enfield Strategic Partnership - Councillor Zinkin to replace Councillor Lavender.

**113  
CALLED IN DECISIONS**

None.

**114  
DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

NOTED that the next meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 1 April 2009 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre.