

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 29 MARCH 2006**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Pamela Adams, Christopher Andrew, Kate Anolue, Gregory Antoniou, Alan Barker, John Boast, Yasemin Brett, Jayne Buckland, David Burrowes MP, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Christopher Cole, Don Delman, Tony Dey (Deputy Mayor & Chairman), Annette Dreblow, Christiana During, John Egan K.S.G, Graham Eustance O.B.E, Peter Fallart, Norman Ford, Achilleas Georgiou, Vivien Giladi, Del Goddard, Jonas Hall, Ahmet Hasan, Robert Hayward, Denise Headley, Penny Heathwood, Ertan Hurer, John Jackson, Eric Jukes, Matthew Laban, Michael Lavender, Alex Mattingly, Paul McCannah, Terence Neville, Andrew Nicholas, Ahmet Oykenner, Anne-Marie Pearce, Martin Prescott, Irene Richards, Jeff Rodin, Michael Rye, Chris Salako, Eleftherios Savva, George Savva, David Schofield, Edward Smith, Terence Smith, James Steven, Doug Taylor, Glynis Vince, John Yates and Ann Zinkin

ABSENT Chris Bond, Andreas Constantinides, Betty Costello, Francis Ingham, Joanne McCartney, Bill Price, Hyacinth Sandilands, Andrew Stafford and John Wyatt

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MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor made the following announcements:

1. Retiring Councillors

For those councillors not participating in the election this year and coming to the end of their term as a councillor we wish them well. On behalf of the Borough I would like to thank them all for their hard work and commitment during their years of service. There will be an opportunity for retiring councillors to say a few words later on during the meeting, if they wish to do so. I will call your names at that time.

2. LGC Awards – Legal Services Team

Our Legal Services were given the "Highly Commended" runners-up spot having just missed out, to Liverpool, as "Legal Team of the Year" at the Local Government Chronicle awards recently at the Grosvenor House. This demonstrates the strength of our entry which stressed how Legal's work supports the delivery of front-line services, and is a recognition of how far Legal have come in the past few years.

I would like to present the certificate to Andrew Stapleton, Head of Legal Services. Well done to all the team.

3. Charity Ball

Tickets are still available for the Mayor's Charity Ball to be held on Friday 7th April.

If you have still to pay for your tickets please see Rhoda.

4. Members Mail

Unfortunately the courier run to members last night was disrupted due to the Industrial Action yesterday. Undelivered mail is in the pigeon holes for collection. Any mail that is not taken tonight will be put in the courier run on Friday.

5. Death of Tony Kinsler

It is with regret that I inform you of the death of former councillor, Tony Kinsler on Monday 27th March. Tony represented Bullsmoor Ward in the 1970's and then St Alphege Ward from 1990 to 1998. He was chairman of Planning Sub-Committee between May 1994 and May 1997. After which he stood down at the local elections in 1998. He also served on the bench as a local magistrate for many years. Tony was a very active member of the Labour Party, and a prominent member of the Enfield community. Our thoughts are with Hazel and his family at this time.

Would members please stand for 1 minutes silence.

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MINUTES**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on 22 February 2006 be approved and signed as a correct record.

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APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bond, Constantinides, McCartney, Price, Sandilands, Stafford and Wyatt.

Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Burrowes, Georgiou Laban and Oykenner.

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DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

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CHANGE OF ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor Nicholas moved and Councillor Rye seconded a motion 'to change the order of business in the agenda under paragraph 2.2 (b) of the Council's Procedure Rules that the meeting take agenda item 13.2 as its next item of business. This was agreed by the meeting.

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MOTIONS

RECEIVED the following motion pursuant to Part 4 - paragraph 10 of the Council's Constitution, Rules of Procedure: -

In the name of Councillor Jackson

Councillor Jackson moved and Councillor Rye seconded the following motion:

"This council is proud of its record of financial support for a range of European Objective 2 or other economic regeneration projects, also interventions aimed at tackling worklessness and assisting those on low incomes across the Borough."

During the debate Councillor Goddard moved and Councillor Buckland seconded an amendment that the motion be replaced with the following:

"This Council notes the report of the Audit Commission on the inspection of regeneration in Enfield of November 2005.

Further this Council asks that a report be brought to its next meeting setting out what requests for matched funding it has received, how it has responded and what other action the Council is taking to obtain regeneration grants."

The amendment was debated and subsequently lost when put to the vote.

Councillor Lavender moved and Councillor Nicholas seconded the following addition to the motion:

"And this Council requests the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to investigate the relationships (direct or indirect) between organisations, which have bid for or received support from the Council, and the Edmonton Labour Party and to make any recommendations to ensure that probity is maintained and is seen to be maintained."

The amendment was debated and subsequently agreed when put to the vote.

The substantive motion was further debated by the Council and was agreed when put to the vote.

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SPECIAL PROJECTS SCRUTINY PANEL REVIEW OF THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR

Councillor Goddard moved and Councillor Hurer seconded the report of the Special Projects Scrutiny Panel (No. 321A) detailing the outcome of a review undertaken by the Panel of the Voluntary and Community Sector.

NOTED

1. that the report was made in response to a motion agreed at the Council meeting on 26 January 2005.
2. that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 22 March 2006.
3. the thanks of Councillor Goddard to the Members, officers and voluntary organisations who gave their time to give us their perceptions, in this import area of work.

RESOLVED

1. that the following be approved as a top priority:
 - i. Develop a corporate strategic vision for working with the VCS.
 - ii. Devise a programme of organisational and cultural change to deliver on this strategic vision.
 - iii. Develop an 'Investing in Enfield' policy to ensure that local organisations are involved in the commissioning and procurement of services.
2. that the following secondary recommendations be approved:
 - i. A standardised commissioning framework should be devised across Council Departments.
 - ii. Working with Council's Procurement Team, ensure that there is a strategic approach to resolve the tension between the pressure on commissioners to drive down costs whilst acknowledging the imperative to commit appropriate funding to organisational infrastructure.
 - iii. Working with the Council's Procurement Team, ensure that a robust mechanism is in place so that learning and the development of best practice in commissioning is shared.
 - iv. Develop an action plan, appropriately resourced, to extend the use of data from Enfield Observatory to support evidence-based decision-making.
 - v. Develop a programme of work that builds on current work to address the challenge of quantifying and describing the less tangible contribution of the VCS.
 - vi. Future work on the value of the VCS should be integrated with the implementation of the Community Cohesion Strategy
 - vii. Develop a strategy on small group development in conjunction with a representative group from the VCS.
 - viii. Organise a conference for small groups in 2006 to debate the small groups strategy and improve communication between the Council and smaller groups.
 - ix. Develop a more specific sub-regional strategy for the Council and partner agencies with the aim of developing specialisms in partners and attracting inward investment to the North London area.

- x. Review the current arrangements on the co-ordination of external funding bids and develop options for a cross-departmental approach.

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THE NORTH LONDON SUB-REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (SREDIP)

Councillor Jackson moved and Councillor Neville seconded the report of the Director of Environment, Street Scene and Parks (No. 323), seeking approval of the North London Sub-regional Economic Development Implementation Plan.

NOTED that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 22 March 2006.

RESOLVED to approve the North London Sub-regional Economic Development Implementation Plan (SREDIP), subject to the inclusion of the amendments set out in section 3.7 of the report.

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN

Councillor Vince moved and Councillor G Savva seconded the report of the Director of Education, Children's Services and Leisure (No. 325A) seeking approval of the Children and Young People's Plan: Promoting Positive Futures 2006-2009 prior to it being published in accordance with the statutory timescales.

NOTED that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 22 March 2006.

RESOLVED That the Children and Young People's Plan: Promoting Positive Futures 2006-2009 be approved prior to it being published in accordance with the statutory timescales.

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ENFIELD CARERS STRATEGY 2006-2010

Councillor Barker moved and Councillor Heathwood seconded the report of the Director of Community, Housing and Adult Social Services (No. 311) seeking approval of a five year strategy to support carers in the Borough.

NOTED that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 1 March 2006.

RESOLVED to endorse the Strategy and its seven key strategic aims set out below:

1. To increase access to and improve the process and experience of carers assessments.

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2. Increase the range, quantity and quality of services for carers.
3. To provide accessible information and support, including access to peer support.
4. Raise the profile of carers across the Borough; both enabling carers to identify themselves and ensuring professionals in Health and Social Care recognise carers.
5. To ensure better co-ordination between services.
6. To increase carer involvement in the strategic planning and review of services.
7. To create a robust and vibrant network of services and support for carers in Enfield.

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CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR MONITORING THIRD QUARTER 2005/06

Councillor Lavender moved and Councillor Rye seconded the report of the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources (No. 310A), informing Members of the current position regarding the Council's 2005 to 2009 capital programme, taking into account the latest monitoring information on the progress of schemes.

NOTED

1. that the recommendations set out in the report were endorsed at the Cabinet meeting on 1 March 2006.
2. the outcome of the third quarter's capital monitoring and review exercise for the current year; and
3. the position regarding the Council's prudential indicators and that no revisions to the indicators are required at this stage.

RESOLVED

1. to approve the additional schemes funded from earmarked resources and that the other spending variations (identified in paragraphs 4.4 to 4.7) be included in the capital programme.
2. that the following additional projects over £500k be included in the programme:
 - i. Enterprise Professional Buyer upgrade £768k
 - ii. Supplier Relationship Management Software & Implementation £744k

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COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME

1. Urgent Questions

None received.

2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED

1. the 14 questions, on the Council's agenda, which received a written reply by the relevant Cabinet Member.
2. the following supplementary questions received for the questions indicated below:

Question 1

Councillor Boast to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

"Do you agree with me that the impending difficulties in Eastern Enfield are avoidable, however John Prescott has refused to approve the solution to the problem?"

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"Yes, John Prescott continues to be stubborn and as a consequence the impact of the works will be worse than if there was a link road."

Question 4

Councillor Mattingly to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

"Was he aware of any of this before his colleague put it to him?"

Reply from Councillor Neville:

"Emphatically not."

Question 6

Councillor Mattingly to Councillor Rye, Leader of the Council

"Do you think the Borough Secretary may take political soundings as to what is reasonable?"

Reply from Councillor Rye:

"I expect the Borough Secretary to bring back proposals to the Council after discussion at the Members Services Working Group and after consideration of the Council's budget, it will then be appropriate to consider the level of allowances for the next 4 year period and the required level of budget. I can confirm that I am one of the lowest paid leaders in London. Ultimately it will be for the new Council to take a view and agree an appropriate level for allowances."

Question 8

Councillor Headley to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

“Would he confirm that this is a comprehensive list of cameras in the borough and do any cameras have audio capacity?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“Yes, this is a comprehensive list of those cameras controlled by the borough. Some cameras may be controlled by others. To my knowledge, the cameras do not have audio capacity.”

Question 9

Councillor E Savva to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

“Would he comment on the Labour Party’s assertion that the closure of the Carterhatch Site demonstrates that the Conservatives are not bothered about recycling?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“I assume you are referring to the document produced by Joan Ryan MP and the prospective Labour candidates in Southbury Ward. I have written to them regarding what I feel is a gross mis-representation of the facts. Their latest comments are not as bold, but are not a true representation of the facts. The Carterhatch Recycling facility was operating below capacity and waste levels were falling when it closed. Regard comments that this administration did not care about recycling, the facts and statistics show the opposite to be the case. If the Labour Party had been returned to power in 2002 and had implemented their then plans, we would not now have the current 28% level for recycling.”

Question 11

Councillor E Savva to Councillor Neville, Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Scene

“Could he tell the Council whether in his view Capital Standards offers value for money to London council taxpayers?”

Reply from Councillor Neville:

“This scheme does not offer value for money to London and Enfield taxpayers. This issue was highlighted in a recent Ken Livingstone press release attempting to name and shame those not involved in the scheme. For the record, 26 boroughs that have paid £1.094 million for an expensive talking

shop. Ken Livingstone has claimed that the 26 boroughs in his Street Litter Academy had issued 51% of the country's fixed penalty notices, which is an average of 242 per borough over a 3-year period. In Enfield, since June last year we have issued 270."

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URGENT DECISIONS REQUIRING THE WAIVING OF THE CALL-IN PROCEDURE (PART 4.2 – PARAGRAPH 17.3 – PAGE 4-34)

NOTED the urgent decisions below made in accordance with the Council's Rules of Procedure (Paragraph 17.3 – relating to the waiving of the requirement to allow a 5-day call-in period):

- i. Provision of additional facilities for Durants, Town and Albany Parks
- ii. Gas Services: Tender and Supply of Gas

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MOTIONS

RECEIVED the following motion pursuant to Part 4 - paragraph 10 of the Council's Constitution, Rules of Procedure: -

In the name of Councillor Goddard:

Councillor Goddard moved and Councillor Charalambos seconded the following motion:

"This Council notes the report of the Audit Commission on the inspection of regeneration in Enfield of November 2005.

Further this Council asks that a report be brought to its next meeting setting out what requests for matched funding it has received, how it has responded and what other action the Council is taking to obtain regeneration grants."

"And this Council requests the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to investigate the relationships (direct or indirect) between organisations, which have bid for or received support from the Council, and the Edmonton Labour Party and to make any recommendations to ensure that probity is maintained and is seen to be maintained."

The motion was put to the vote without debate and approved.

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RETIRING COUNCILLORS

NOTED that the Deputy Mayor invited those Councillors with two or more terms of office on the Council, who are not standing in the forthcoming local election, to address the meeting.

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Councillors Richards, Egan, Burrowes, Yates, Mattingly and Eustance spoke at the meeting, taking the opportunity to relay a number of their experiences as councillors, thanking friends and colleagues for their support.

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MEMBERSHIPS

RESOLVED to appoint Ms Davindar Bhalla to the School Appeal Panel (Community and Voluntary Aided).

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NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

NOTED that there were no changes to nominations to outside bodies.

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CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that the Annual meeting of the Council was to be held on Wednesday 24 May 2006 at 7.00 p.m. at the Civic Centre.