

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9 MAY
2012**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT

Christiana During (Mayor), Kate Anolue (Deputy Mayor), Jayne Buckland, Chaudhury Anwar MBE, Alan Barker, Ali Bakir, Caitriona Bearryman, Chris Bond, Yasemin Brett, Alev Cazimoglu, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Yusuf Cicek, Christopher Cole, Andreas Constantinides, Ingrid Cranfield, Christopher Deacon, Dogan Delman, Marcus East, Patricia Ekechi, Achilleas Georgiou, Del Goddard, Jonas Hall, Christine Hamilton, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Ertan Hurer, Tahsin Ibrahim, Chris Joannides, Eric Jukes, Jon Kaye, Nneka Keazor, Joanne Laban, Henry Lamprecht, Michael Lavender, Paul McCannah, Chris Murphy, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykenner, Anne-Marie Pearce, Daniel Pearce, Martin Prescott, Geoffrey Robinson, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Rohini Simbodyal, Toby Simon, Alan Sitkin, Edward Smith, Andrew Stafford, Doug Taylor, Glynis Vince, Ozzie Uzoanya, Tom Waterhouse and Lionel Zetter

ABSENT

Denise Headley, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Simon Maynard, Donald McGowan and Ann Zinkin

1

MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

Reverend Martin Legg from Bush Hill Park United Reform Church gave the blessing.

2

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

No interests were declared by members at the meeting.

3

ELECTION OF MAYOR

Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Lavender seconded the nomination of Councillor Kate Anolue as Mayor of the London Borough of Enfield for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

AGREED that Councillor Kate Anolue be elected as Mayor of the London Borough of Enfield for the 2012/13 Municipal Year.

The motion was agreed unanimously (without a vote). Councillor Anolue then made and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested with the badge of office by the retiring Mayor, Councillor Christiana During.

4

MAYORS ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

The Mayor made the following acceptance speech:

“Good evening and thank you for joining me today in this wonderful diverse borough of Enfield.

Welcome Councillors, officers, friends and families and a very special welcome to the Igwe-In-Council of Cabinet and Honorary Chiefs of Nanka, Ajie Nanka, Odenigbo Nanka, Ezeudo Nanka, Onwa Nanka, Ikeoha Nanka and all high chiefs present representing Your Royal Highness, Igwe G.N. Ofomata, the Obu Nanka who could not be here in person. Also a special welcome to all the dignitaries from Nigeria and other countries and to my guests who are joining us via video link, seated in Committee Rooms 1 & 2.

First of all I offer my sincere thanks and appreciation to all Members of the Council, especially Members from my side. Without your support and belief in me, I would not be standing here today.

I would like to take this opportunity to provide you all with some background information about myself. Mine has been a happy, but also at times a painful journey, however with determination and discipline I have plodded on. Thanks to my church St Judes Catholic Church Nanka, St Edmunds R/C Edmonton, Nigerian Chaplaincy and all prayers from friends and well wishers. Especially staff from the maternity unit in North Middlesex Hospital.

As must be obvious, I am from Nanka, a town made up of seven villages in South Eastern Nigeria with about 50,000 people, excluding those in diaspora. Within this community we have over 92 Professor's and PhD's. Education is a major trade of the community, and there is hardly any family in Nanka without a University/polytechnic graduate. The major drawback for the town is the menace of gully erosion which is scattered all over the seven villages. Some of the erosion sites are among the hidden routes exploited by the slave dealers and their local collaborators during the notorious slave trade. The community and Government are fighting the menace of erosion through planting of cashew seedlings, control of flooding and other measures and also looking forward to international help.

I am the eldest daughter of deeply religious parents. I was one of two girls and five boys brought up in a strict, old fashioned and God fearing environment, my mother being the disciplinarian. She is also a princess, the daughter of the first son of the King. Hence I am also from the Royal lineage as are my brothers who are with me tonight.

From the age of five, I was very well versed in etiquette, good manners and behaviour. In other words, there was little scope or even desire for youthful rebellion. I attended a convent school run by the Catholic missionary sisters which was even stricter. I realised that I was a clever girl who excelled in all subjects and I always worked hard.

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After my Primary education I started Teacher training and half way into a four year course, I was to leave to join my spouse in England. With seven children and the end of civil war, it's no wonder my father married me off. He had no choice. Nevertheless I do applaud my father who believed in gender equality, he gave me the same chance in education as any other child. I promised my father that I would continue with my education and follow a nursing profession as this was his wish.

I must share some of my first experiences and surprises in England. First of all there were the chimneys. I had never seen chimneys like these and I automatically assumed that everyone in England baked and ate a lot of bread. Kissing on the doorstep was simply outrageous and not becoming of a woman. This would have given my mother a heart attack.

I knew I was in England because it was not long before the weather became something of a preoccupation. Needless to say, I found the climate a real trial and the business of putting money in the gas meter to gain warmth was something else, not to talk of paraffin heaters which baffled me.

During my first winter I marvelled at how all the clothes pegged out on washing lines seemed to have starched themselves. I had never experienced the phenomenon of frost. I soon learned. Then there was the snow. I had sung about snow many times as a child and read about it in many books, but seeing it at first hand was a revelation. I had problems walking on snow, not to mention frozen fingers and toes and the steam coming out of my mouth. The countless times I fell on snow, I am surprised that I am not riddled with arthritis.

In 1972 less than a year after my arrival into the country and armed and empowered with my background skills, I gained admission at North Middlesex University Hospital, this was the beginning of my nursing career. I was fulfilling my father's wish.

In the same year I moved into Enfield Borough after living briefly in South West London. From a class of fifteen Student Nurses, there were four from an ethnic minority, three from Malaysia and me the only black African. I also became a member of St Edmund's R/C Church Edmonton, where I have been worshipping for the last forty years and am a very active member. Reverend Father Emmanuel, the Parish Priest of St Edmund's R/C Church, Edmonton will be my Chaplain in my Mayoral year.

After qualifying as a State Registered Nurse (as it was then called) I worked as a Staff Nurse in the Intensive Care Unit for one year, before embarking on another journey to train as a Midwife. Following my qualification as a midwife in July 1977, I worked in the Labour Ward until June 1984 and as a Community Midwife up to December 2010. In the last year I worked in Maternity Triage, first port of call for all pregnant women who attend the Maternity Unit.

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My duty as a midwife involves caring for women from antenatal period to birth, giving parental education and advice on informed choices. I prepare the women and their partner/spouse by guiding them in their emotional, mental, physiological and psychological needs where possible. I also mentor Student Midwives and Medical Students.

Within these years I was also fulfilling my duty as a wife. I have been blessed with four children, two boys and two girls and tragically widowed when my youngest was only 18 months old, hence I became a single mother. Today these children are all graduates and working. Thank you children for not disappointing me. In addition to my family are my daughter-in-law and my first grand-daughter, almost two and a half years old.

During all these years there was something that my heart was nurturing and that was to study Law. In 1992 I gained admission at the University of North London and embarked on a five year part-time program to study Law, my dream ambition. The boot of my car became my library and wardrobe. I am very good at multi-tasking hence I was able to juggle my studies, children and a demanding full time job. I proved that nothing is impossible as long as you put your mind to it. The Lord was my strength and salvation.

After five years of studying so hard and gaining my Bachelor of Law degree, it did not take me a second to decide where my loyalty lay. I am highly intoxicated with the miracle of the world and that is pregnancy and babies. I found it very difficult to leave the midwifery profession; it is a very fulfilling career. My friends moved on and now run their own Law firm, but I was happy to remain with my babies. However I made sure that I utilized my knowledge in Law, by becoming the midwives union rep (RCM Steward), representing and supporting my colleagues in time of need. At this point I would like to introduce one of my babies who now works at North Middlesex Hospital.

If midwifery was my vocation, it could be argued that politics and working within the community became my mission and my inspiration. However, today we are here for Mayor Making in which politics play no part. Instead I will endeavour to serve this multi-cultural borough to the best of my ability.

Youth will be the main emphasis of my charity appeal, especially those who are in care and care leavers aged 16 – 18. These are the forgotten youths, who once they are 18 are pushed out to the world unguided, and may end up in bad company. Funding raised from my Mayoral year will go towards providing mentor support for these identified young people living in Enfield. Funding could also help to extend the E18HTEEN project to more young people in care in Enfield. This project is currently helping to mentor 160 people across Haringey, Enfield, Waltham Forest and Barnet.

The Mayor's charity will also support "Our Voice" this is a parent-led organisation seeking to improve services for children with disabilities in Enfield.

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As midwives, we deliver many children but their outcome and future we don't normally know. The plight of these young people is what I wish to highlight in my Mayoral year.

I hope that my charity can also support the Enfield Sickle Cell and Thalassaemia organisation. This is a hereditary blood disorder which affects mainly people from Afro-Caribbean and Mediterranean origins and it is one of the main screenings in pregnancy.

I would also like to provide some support for the North Middlesex Maternity Unit as without it many of us would not have come into this world.

In my Mayoral year I would like us to celebrate and recognise the achievement of all our children and young people by having a dedicated day called Enfield Youths Day, which I would like to be an annual event. This would also be an opportunity to remember and celebrate the short life of our children, and young people who have passed away.

I would also like to mention the following individuals for their special help - Steve and Norman who are wonderful chauffeurs and have helped me so much in my year as the Deputy Mayor. Rhoda who is always on the computer and phone arranging engagements, and the rest of Democratic services. I have no doubt that we are going to have an exciting year.

In conclusion, my greatest thanks to my late father Ichie Fidelis Ezeobuoha Ezeasor for believing in gender equality, thus giving me the opportunity to pursue my academic career despite having five boys to care for. I thank my late husband Mr Ifeanyichukwu Festus Anolue who honoured my father's wish to allow me to continue with my academic career on my arrival to England. May their souls rest in peace.

I miss my mum who could not be here with us today. I have no doubt she is holding her Rosary and praying for me. Mummy thank you especially for breast feeding me for nearly four years, that must be where my energy and good health came from. In my years as a Community midwife I do encourage the mums by telling them this little fact about me and breast feeding.

Also many thanks to all past and present managers, midwives and the entire staff at North Middlesex University Hospital, for their support and contributions in the early days and years of my widowhood. You were my rock and that helped me to maintain my full time job.

Special thank you to my siblings, family and friends including my childhood friend since nursery school who is here tonight from Dallas. I also wish to extend my greatest appreciation to Umudala Community Nanka, for recognising their hard working daughter in diaspora and who delivered your argument successfully to Igwe Ofomata, Obu Nanka and his Cabinet. Hence I was honoured with the Chieftaincy title in 2008 "Ada Jeru Mba Turu Ugo" meaning "Daughter that went to foreign land and brought us glory".

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As the First Citizen of Enfield, I will represent the Borough with dignity and I hope to work to your expectation. I have no doubt that you will support my Charity in any way you can. This year of the Olympics and Diamond Jubilee, it is going to be fantastic.

Thank you all for coming and God Bless.

5

APPOINTMENT OF MAYORESS

The Mayor announced the appointment of Miss Chinelo Anolue as the Mayoress for the 2012/13 Municipal Year. She then invested Miss Anolue with her badge of office.

6

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYOR

The Mayor confirmed the appointment of Councillor Chaudhury Anwar MBE as Deputy Mayor for the 2012/13 Municipal Year. The Deputy Mayor then made and signed a Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was invested by the Mayor with his badge of office. Councillor Anwar then made a speech thanking the Mayor and Council for his appointment.

7

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY MAYORESS

The Deputy Mayor announced the appointment of Mrs Quamrun Anwar as Deputy Mayoress for the 2012/13 Municipal Year. He invested Mrs Anwar with her badge of office.

8

APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER OF THE COUNCIL AND CABINET

Councillor Taylor confirmed the appointments as set out below:

Deputy Leader – Councillor Achilleas Georgiou

Cabinet member for Adult Services, Care and Health – Councillor Don McGowan

Cabinet member for Business and Regeneration – Councillor Del Goddard

Cabinet member for Children and Young People – Councillor Ayfer Orhan

Cabinet member for Community Wellbeing and Public Health – Councillor Christine Hamilton

Cabinet member for Culture, Leisure, Youth and Localism – Councillor Bambos Charalambous

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Cabinet member for Environment – Councillor Chris Bond

Cabinet member for Finance and Property – Councillor Andrew Stafford

Cabinet member for Housing – Councillor Ahmet Oykener

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PRESENTATION OF THE PAST MAYOR AND MAYORESS' BADGES

The Mayor presented past Mayor's and Mayoress badges and certificates recording the Council's appreciation to the retiring Mayor, Councillor Christiana During and Mayoress Mrs Doreen Lawrence.

The Mayor, on behalf of the Council, thanked them for the contribution they had made as Mayor and Mayoress during the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

The Leaders of both Groups were also presented with a token of appreciation for their support over the year.

10

MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY COUNCIL BUSINESS

The Mayor informed Council that her Civic Mass and Thanksgiving had been arranged for 2pm on Sunday 22 July 2012. The service would be taking place at St Edmunds R/C Church, Edmonton and all members would be welcome to attend.

11

MINUTES

AGREED that the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 28 March 2012 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

As the Leader of the Opposition had not been present at the meeting on the 28 March 2012 for the past Mayor's speech reviewing her year in office, he took the opportunity to personally thank Councillor During for the way she had represented the Borough and conducted herself in her role as Mayor over the previous year.

12

APOLOGIES (IF ANY)

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Denise Headley, Dinos Lemonides, Derek Levy, Simon Maynard, Don McGowan and Ann Zinkin.

13

COUNCILLORS' QUESTION TIME (TIME ALLOWED - 30 MINUTES)

None received.

**14
MOTIONS**

None received.

**15
MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS**

Councillor Brett moved and Councillor Waterhouse seconded the report of the Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services (No.1) asking the Council to determine the constitution and political balance of the committees, joint committees and panels that had been set up for discharge of the Council's functions.

AGREED that

- (1) the seats allocated to each political party on the committees and boards to which Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 apply, be approved as set out in Appendix A of the report.
- (2) in accordance with paragraph 3.3 of the report, Council resolves without dissent that the rules of political proportionality should not apply to those bodies marked with an * in Appendix A of the report.

**16
APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL BODIES FOR 2012/2013**

AGREED

- (1) To the establishment of the Council bodies for the 2012/13 Municipal Year and appointment of their memberships, as set out in the yellow list circulated in advance of the meeting.
- (2) To confirm the Terms of Reference of those bodies set out in Part 2 of the Constitution (pages 2-11 to 2-16 for scrutiny) (pages 2-23 to 2-24 for cabinet) and (pages 2-25 to 2-67 for other committees and panels).

Members noted that the Terms of Reference for the newly established Councillor Conduct Committee were due to be presented to Council on 4 July 2012 for consideration and formal approval.

**17
REPRESENTATIONS ON OTHER BODIES AND ORGANISATIONS**

AGREED the Council's representation on other bodies and organisations as detailed on the green list circulated in advance of the meeting.

18

COUNCIL SCHEME OF DELEGATION

AGREED the authority's Scheme of Delegation, as set out in Part 3 (pages 3-3 to 3-12) of the Constitution.

19

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

NOTED that the calendar of meetings included indicative dates for future meetings of the Council up until May 2014.

AGREED

- (1) the calendar of meetings of the Council, including the next Council meetings, which had been scheduled on Thursday 24 May 2012 (Freedom of the Borough ceremony) & Wednesday 4 July 2012 (ordinary business meeting).
- (2) that approval of any further amendments to the calendar be delegated to the Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services, in consultation with both party groups.

20

CALLED IN DECISIONS

None received.

21

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

NOTED that

1. the next meeting of the Council would be the Freedom of the Borough ceremony, which would be taking place at 7pm on Thursday 24 May 2012 in the Civic Centre.
2. the next ordinary business meeting of the Council would be held at 7pm on Wednesday 4 July 2012 at the Civic Centre.