

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2018**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Christine Hamilton (Mayor), Doris Jagge (Deputy Mayor), Abdul Abdullahi, Daniel Anderson, Chris Bond, Yasemin Brett, Alev Cazimoglu, Nesil Caliskan, Erin Celebi, Lee David-Sanders, Dogan Delman, Nick Dines, Guney Dogan, Sarah Doyle, Christiana During, Patricia Ekechi, Elif Erbil, Nesimi Erbil, Peter Fallart, Krystle Fonyonga, Achilleas Georgiou, Alessandro Georgiou, Ahmet Hasan, Elaine Hayward, Robert Hayward, Ertan Hurer, Jansev Jemal, Eric Jukes, Nneka Keazor, Joanne Laban, Bernadette Lappage, Michael Lavender, Dino Lemonides, Derek Levy, Mary Maguire, Andy Milne, Terence Neville OBE JP, Ayfer Orhan, Ahmet Oykener, Anne-Marie Pearce, Daniel Pearce, Vicki Pite, Michael Rye OBE, George Savva MBE, Toby Simon, Alan Sitkin, Edward Smith, Andrew Stafford, Jim Steven, Claire Stewart, Doug Taylor (Leader of the Council) and Glynis Vince

ABSENT Ali Bakir, Dinah Barry, Lee Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Jason Charalambous, Katherine Chibah, Ergun Eren (Enfield Highway), Suna Hurman, Adeline Kepez and Haydar Ulus

**1
ELECTION IF REQUIRED OF THE CHAIR/DEPUTY CHAIR OF THE
MEETING**

Not required.

**2
THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING**

The Mayor's Chaplain, Reverend Tina Kelsey from the St Peter with St Martin Church, Edmonton gave the blessing.

**3
MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE ORDINARY
BUSINESS OF THE COUNCIL**

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, saying it was "only three weeks since we last met, but that a lot of Mayoral events had taken place since then".

1. Engagements since the last meeting

The Mayor's Ball

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and supporting the Enfield Cares Charity Ball which had been an amazing success: 250 people had attended. So far over £11,000 had been raised, a superb amount. The Enfield Cares charities would benefit hugely by the end of the Mayoral year.

The World Cancer Coffee and Cakes Day

The day had been run by Hayes Reese, a fantastic Macmillan representative and over £500 had been raised for this worthy cause. The Mayor thanked everyone who had enabled this event to be a success.

All People All Places Homeless Charity

The Mayor said that she was still working with the All People All Places homeless shelter in Enfield. She had attended the shelter based at All Saints Church in Edmonton and had continued to be touched by the great work that they did. She had named them as one of her charity recipients.

Citizenship Ceremonies

The Deputy Mayor and the Mayor had on alternate weeks attended the weekly Citizenship Ceremonies. They were both proud to be present at these events and to welcome the new citizens.

Official Opening of Bridgewood House Care Home

The Mayor had also been part of the official opening of the Bridgewood House Care Home with many of the other council members. She praised the great facilities now available to the residents of the Borough.

2. Future Events

The Mayor's charity work was progressing and she said that she would be very busy this year with the many events planned.

The next event the Mayors Quiz Night would be taking place at Forty Hall on the 16th March 2018 at 7pm. She asked members to put the date in their diaries.

The Mayor said that she was very lucky to be part of the team with Hayes Reese Macmillan rep and the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Jiajge who have been and are still happy to continue to work with me for the next three months on future charity fundraising events.

And finally, she said that the members might have heard that she had visited Wigan Council that week and had met the Mayor of Wigan (a Manchester City supporter). She reminded members that Wigan was her old home town and said that she had been delighted to watch the game where Wigan won 1-0

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against Manchester City (again, the same result as when they won the FA cup).

Enfield Town Football Club, now her real home team, was holding a “Women at the Game” match on Saturday the 10th March 2018, free for women, to celebrate International Women’s Day (8th March 2018). The Mayor invited everyone to come along, to join the club, who would be playing Lowestoft Town FC, at home at the QE2 stadium.

The Mayor ended by saying that “I trust that our evening goes very smoothly tonight” and that “in order to aid the smooth running of the meeting”, she would “be taking the speeches in the order that each group had indicated beforehand”.

4

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 31 JANUARY 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on 31 January 2018 were confirmed as a correct record.

5

APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Bakir, Barry, Chamberlain, Bambos Charalambous, Jason Charalambous, Chibah, Eren, Hurman, Jemal, Kepez, Stafford and for lateness from Councillors David Sanders and Keazor.

6

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

Before inviting members to declare any interests, the Mayor asked Jeremy Chambers (Director Law and Governance) to make a short statement regarding the declaration of interests’ requirements in relation to agenda item 7 Budget Report 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Plan.

NOTED

1. Under guidance issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government members would not be required to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPA) in relation to the budget or setting of the Council Tax. This was on the basis that Council Tax liability would apply to the borough’s population as a whole, with councillors not having any unique position in that regard. The requirements within Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 would, however, still apply, which required any Member who was two or more months in arrears on their Council Tax to declare their position and not vote on any issue that could affect the calculation of the budget or Council Tax. No declarations in this respect were made at the meeting.

2. The Councillor Conduct Committee (May 2013) had also granted a dispensation for all members in terms of the declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests relating to the setting of housing rents. Subject to the requirements within Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, this would allow all members to participate in the debate and vote on decisions relating to the setting of the Council Tax and Housing Rents.
3. Having noted the advice provided, the following interests were declared at the meeting:
 - Councillors Caliskan, Ekechi, Elif Erbil and Fonyonga declared disclosable pecuniary interests in Motion 10.9 in the name of Councillor Levy on NHS pay as they worked in the NHS.
 - Councillor Alessandro Georgiou declared a non-pecuniary interest in Item 10.8 Motion in the name of Councillor Laban on the extension of the Mayor of London's Ultra Low Emission Zone as he worked for a company which had a client who was involved in the industry.
 - Councillor Laban declared a non-pecuniary interest in Motion 10.10 Motion in the name of Councillor Orhan as her mother worked in a school which had been run by Carillion.

7

BUDGET REPORT 2018/19 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2018/19 TO 2021/22

Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Lemonides seconded the report of the Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services (145A) presenting for approval the Budget for 2018/19 and the Medium Term Financial Plan.

NOTED

1. Recommendations 2.1 – 2.11 had been endorsed and recommended onto Council for formal approval by Cabinet on 14 February 2017.
2. The report would need to be considered in conjunction with Report No: 152A on the Part 2 Council agenda (Min 17 refers).
3. The addendum to the report provided to members of the Council as the report as originally published inadvertently included two recommendations (recommendations 2.12 and 2.13), that were decisions taken by Cabinet when it last met (14 February 2018) and are not decisions to be taken by Council.

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4. The tabled note setting out how the discussion of the item would be considered at the meeting
5. The following comments highlighted by the Leader of the Council:
 - a. The Leader thanked officers for all their hard work in putting together the balanced budget proposed.
 - b. He welcomed the Government's fair funding review and the pilot business rate retention pool, as steps to providing possible solutions to the large funding gap which the Council was facing from 2020 onwards, but he was concerned that the Government, when allocating funding was prioritising Conservative areas, rather than focussing on the needs of the poor, vulnerable and those at risk.
 - c. He felt that it was an extraordinary budget as the Labour administration had managed to navigate austerity and massive funding cuts, whilst preserving services and imposing minimal Council tax rises. He would have liked to do more, but the Tory Government wanted to shrink public provision.
 - d. The Council had been very efficient and had managed to do more with less, but this had been at a price of reducing salaries, less cover for checking work, removal of the best of the last Labour Government initiatives supporting vulnerable residents, cutting their life chances. He felt that the Government were to blame if this led to dirtier streets, lack of road repairs, closure of libraries and greater risk to children.
 - e. To recognise that many councils were struggling, Conservative Northamptonshire had been tipped over the edge, local government finances were close to unsustainable. Fifty percent cuts to Children's Services's funding had become the norm. Councils were having difficulty carrying out their statutory duties. All public services were in trouble - 2010-2018 would be known as the dark ages of social regression:
 - f. In his view the only way to address this crisis would be to elect a Labour Government.
 - g. The proposed budget showed efficiency in its allocation of resources, clear priorities in children's services, adult social care, the public realm and customer services, and a back office fit for purpose. It also showed innovation and would be a good foundation for the coming financial year. However he feared that there would be even greater challenges for the two years ahead.
 - h. This year the administration had been able to provide additional resources for children's services (including setting up a new Special Educational Needs school on the old Michenden site), adult social

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services, roads and pavements, to further develop regeneration, estate renewal and infrastructure projects. He was proud of their track record.

- i. His colleagues would further make the case for Labour values of diversity, fairness, equality, opportunity and community.
 - j. He was not ashamed of increasing the Council Tax and of using the social care precept whilst keeping the Council tax as low as possible to pay for these services. He would not neglect the poor and vulnerable or put citizens at risk.
5. Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Lemonides seconded an amendment to add an additional recommendation to the report, recommendation 12, which set out how any additional income received as part of the London Pilot Business Rates Pool would be allocated. Areas to benefit would include children's services, council tax benefit welfare reserve, the Town Centre Fund, investment in broadband for business, crime reduction, environmental and street scene improvements. More detail was set out in the table attached to the recommendation at the end of this item. The amounts in column B would be spent early in the 2018/19 financial year and those in column A later in the year, following confirmation of the funding. The details of the expenditure would be subject to later Cabinet reports.
 6. Councillor Laban moved and Councillor Smith seconded an amendment to divide recommendation 2.1 (ii) in two so that setting the 2% Adult Social Care Precept was a separate recommendation.
 7. Councillor Laban moved and Councillor Smith seconded an amendment proposing an alternative budget for 2018/19 with additional savings.
 8. A debate took place on the substantive report and all three amendments.
 9. The comments of the Majority Group:
 - a. The budget papers set out how the Labour administration had invested for the future and created a Council that was lean and fit for purpose, ready for the challenges ahead.
 - b. Any increase in the Council tax was not welcome, but there was no choice. Additional money raised would be spent wisely and carefully and universal services would continue to be provided. It would be hard work and tough decisions would be needed. Although, the Council's balances were not as healthy as they once were, finances were sound and financial management was strong.
 - c. To acknowledge that there were inaccuracies in the Opposition's proposed budget and a lack of detail on how they would manage, for example, the £13.5m cuts for next year.

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- d. To acknowledge that most of the borrowing was capitalised and could not be spent on revenue, that the administration could not set their own borrowing targets and the Council was working on new structures to decrease the use of consultants: it took time for new initiatives to take effect.
- e. To recognise that experts had said that there would be a £2 billion shortfall in Children's Services by 2020. This was as well as rising numbers of vulnerable residents (including asylum seekers) and an increasing number of new duties being imposed by Government, without extra funding. The Council would continue to focus on its statutory duties, was proud of its achievements in Children's Services: maintaining the highest standards in youth provision, improving the Children's Centres' offer whilst making savings, receiving good Ofsted judgements, building a new Special Educational Needs School, receiving a quality mark for the Youth Offending Service and continuing to work with the voluntary sector.
- f. The administration valued the joint working it had with the voluntary sector and had worked hard to protect it by securing joint funding from external agencies and encouraging the building of strong communities.
- g. To recognise that the previous Conservative Administration had, when in power, increased the Council Tax by 26%, the highest in London. The view that a Conservative administration would not protect the working classes, the poor, the homeless or the unemployed.
- h. To understand that Enfield had endured £161m worth of cuts since 2010 with a further £35m proposed by 2020.
- i. Disbelief that a Conservative administration would remove the cycle lanes as suggested by Councillor Smith in the Enfield Independent as this would be very expensive and could result in the Council having to repay Transport for London.
- j. To recognise that the cuts caused by Tory austerity had had a terrible impact and that it was untrue that the country could not afford to fund public services. A £2.5 billion funding gap in adult social care was a record to be ashamed of. In contrast the Labour administration had much to be proud of including the introduction of independent living allowances, direct payments, reduction in delayed discharges from hospital, support for learning disabilities, to the voluntary sector, introduction of a new commissioning process, a clear focus on evidence based outcomes and improvements in safeguarding.
- k. To acknowledge the improvements in public health, encouraging residents to move more, increasing attendances at leisure centres, support for those suffering from drug and alcohol addiction, provision of world class facilities including the new Silverpoint sexual health clinic,

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£12m to support victims of domestic violence and 16 extra community police officers.

- l. To regret the decimation of local authorities by Government cuts and reflect on the numbers of excellent officers who have left the authority and including at agencies such as Jobsnet.
 - m. To recognise the work that had been done over the last 8 years of the Labour administration. There are now no vacant industrial estates in the borough, many new jobs had been created, redevelopment of the Montague Estate begun, Energetik created, 380 independent artisans given space at Building Bloqs. The borough was in a much improved economic state. This was thanks to the work of officers under Ian Davis and James Rolfe.
10. The following issues highlighted by the Opposition Group:
- a. The alternative budget set out in amendment 3, devised by the opposition, prepared with the help of finance officers. (The officers were thanked for their work). The extra funding released from the additional savings proposed would be prioritised for roads maintenance, introducing a weekly food waste collection which the Council will have a statutory duty to provide, abolishing the charge for large recycling bins, reversing the voluntary sector savings agreed by the administration and providing Christmas cheer with a proper budget for Christmas lights.
 - b. To recognise that the overall cuts in public spending were due to the failing Labour administration which had been in charge since 2010 and the economic failures of the previous Labour Government. In the Opposition's view failings included the £29m spent on outside consultants including £9m on legal fees, the artificial intelligence which had not yet been implemented, the IT which was not comprehensive enough, the money wasted on the failed Meridian Water deal. This could all have been spent on improving services for Enfield residents.
 - c. The view that the administration should have made more savings earlier as they knew that Government funding was being withdrawn and that more should have been done to make better use of the money that was available. They had spent too much on, what the Opposition considered vanity projects, such as cycle lanes.
 - d. To acknowledge concern about the huge increase in borrowing and debt and the practice of setting their own boundaries to borrowing allowances. As at 31 December 2017, the Council had a borrowing total of £597m: debt had increased by £51m a year, equivalent to £1,820 a person; and the reserves had decreased.
 - e. To acknowledge that it was mostly a myth that the Council's income had decreased. Overall, since 2014/15, the Council's controllable expenditure had increased. Although the revenue support grant had

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been removed, this was being replaced by allowing Council's to retain more of their business rates.

- f. To recognise that the Opposition was providing cross party support for fairer funding and would support the Adult Social Care precept, but could not support overspends or increased borrowing.
 - g. The view that the more should be spent on road maintenance, street lighting, gully cleansing and pot holes, repairs to pavements, improving the street scene.
 - h. Concern about the increasing social care costs arising from the aging population.
 - i. To acknowledge concern about the failure to take up the increased capital expenditure available to build new schools, the cuts to SEN transport, and concern that the Housing Gateway and Energetik companies would not meet projections.
 - j. To acknowledge that all money spent came from the taxpayer and had to be spent wisely, that it was good to force councils to become more efficient, to get rid of bloated bureaucracies and to achieve more with less.
 - k. Concern about the cuts to the Local Implementation Plan funding which could affect projects such as Cycle Enfield, the money would have to be found from somewhere else.
11. During the debate Councillor Stewart proposed and Councillor Taylor seconded a proposal to extend the time available for the budget debate by 15 minutes. This was agreed without a vote.
12. Councillor Taylor's right to reply on the first amendment creating an additional recommendation on the allocation of 40% of the additional funding from the London Business Rates Pilot pool. He dismissed the Opposition's budget which he said showed no indication of where the additional funding would come from.
13. Councillor Laban's right to reply on the opposition amendments, expressing the hope that the administration would support the proposal to divide recommendation 2.1 (ii) into two parts and that the administration would accept the alternative budget, including the provision for a weekly food waste collection.
14. Councillor Taylor's summing up that it had been a Shakespearean night involving history, comedy and tragedy – mostly tragedy. The Council's core funding had declined, the population and social care demands had increased, but the Labour administration had produced a balanced budget and managed to improve services. In 9 years they had only increased the Council tax by 5%.

Following the debate, the recommendations in the report were put to the vote and approved with the following results.

AGREED

1. With regard to the revenue budget for 2018/19:
 - (i) To set the Council Tax Requirement for Enfield at £121.079m in 2018/19;
 - (ii) To set the Council Tax at Band D for Enfield's services for 2018/19 at £1,261.17 (paragraph 8.1), being a 2.99% general Council Tax increase and a 2.00% Adult Social Care Precept.
 - (iii) To approve the statutory calculations and resolutions set out in Appendix 10 of the report.

2. With regard to the Prudential Code and the Capital Programme:
 - (i) To note the information regarding the requirements of the Prudential Code (section 9);
 - (ii) To agree the Approved Capital Programme for 2018/19 to 2021/22 as set out in section 9 (and Appendix 9). Also to note the Indicative Capital Programme and agree that these indicative programmes be reviewed in the light of circumstances at the time;
 - (iii) To agree the Prudential Indicators, the Treasury Management Strategy, the Minimum Revenue Provision policy and the criteria for investments set out in section 9 and Appendices 4 & 5 of the report.

3. To approve the Medium Term Financial Plan, including the savings proposals set out in Appendix 2, and to adopt the key principles set out in paragraph 10.8 of the report.

4. With regard to the robustness of the 2018/19 budget and the adequacy of the Council's earmarked reserves and balances:
 - (i) To note the risks and uncertainties inherent in the 2018/19 budget and the Medium Term Financial Plan (sections 10 & 11) and agrees the actions in hand to mitigate them;
 - (ii) To note the advice of the Executive Director of Finance, Resources & Customer Services regarding the recommended levels of contingencies, balances and earmarked reserves (section 12) and have regard to the comments of the Executive Director (section 13) when making final decisions on the 2018/19 budget;
 - (iii) To agree the recommended levels of central contingency and general balances (section 12).

5. To agree the Schools Budget for 2018/19 (Section 5.10 and Appendix 14).

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6. 86m is applied as a one-off contribution to the General Fund in 2018/19.
10. To agree the planned flexible use of capital receipts in 2017/18 of £6.7m and approve the planned flexible use of capital receipts in 2018/19 being £1.7m.
11. To note the feedback and minutes from the Budget Consultation and Overview and Scrutiny Committee Budget Meeting on 18th January 2018 as set out in Appendices 1a and 1b.
12. In respect of the London Pilot Business Rates Pool the Council resolved as follows: -
 - a. To note that there may be additional business rates income in 2018/19 due to the operation of the London Pilot Business Rates Pool totalling an estimated £4.2m.
 - b. That £1.8m of the estimated £4.2m anticipated funding allocation be allocated in accordance with Column B of Table 1 (below) for use from early in the financial year 2018/19;
 - c. That subject to the confirmation of the additional business rates funding and a further detailed report to Cabinet, the balance of £2.4m is allocated to the initiatives detailed in Column A of Table 1 (below).

BUSINESS RATE ADDITIONAL INCOME

Table Initiatives	1	Column A Total £m	Column B initial allocation £m
Children's Services Initiatives to invest to manage the demand pressures on Children's Services such as families without recourse to public funds, children with special educational needs and children with mental health issues.		1.50	0.60
Council Tax Benefit Welfare Reserve This will be a fund to help residents struggling due to austerity measures such as the roll out of Universal Credit.		0.50	0.25
Town Centre Fund Besides continued investment in public realm, the Council will work alongside existing and new business in supporting the overall health of town centres.		0.30	0.15
Investment in Broadband for businesses We will work with local businesses and external partners to develop plans to further develop and improve digital connectivity in the borough, so that all Enfield's businesses have the highest possible digital infrastructure for the future.		0.50	0.25
Crime Reduction This will prioritise helping young people to get out of criminalised environments.		0.30	0.15

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Environmental and Streetscene Improvements This will enable targeted improvements in street cleansing in areas of high footfall and investment in the streetscene.	0.40	0.20
Contingency	0.70	0.20
Total	4.20	1.80

In accordance with standing order regulations 2014 the vote was recorded in relation to the decisions in 1 (ii) & (iii), 2 (i), 4 (i) & (ii), 5, 9,10,11 & 12.

For: 48

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Nesil Caliskan
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Dogan Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Elif Erbil
Councillor Nesimi Erbil
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Doris Jagge
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Bernadette Lappage
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Don McGowan
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykenen
Councillor Anne Marie Pearce

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Councillor Daniel Pearce
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor Michael Rye
Councillor George Savva
Councillor Toby Simon
Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Doug Taylor
Councillor Glynis Vince

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

The vote recorded in regard to recommendations: 2 (ii) & (iii), 3, 4 (iii), 6, and 8 was as follows:

For: 29

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Nesil Caliskan
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Elif Erbil
Councillor Nesimi Erbil
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Doris Jiagge
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Bernadette Lappage
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Ayfer Orhan
Councillor Ahmet Oykenen
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor George Savva
Councillor Toby Simon
Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor

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Against: 0

Abstentions: 19

Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Dogan Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville
Councillor Anne Marie Pearce
Councillor Daniel Pearce
Councillor Michael Rye
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Glynis Vince

The vote recorded in regard to recommendations: 1 (i) & 2.7 was as follows:

For: 29

Councillor Abdul Abdullahi
Councillor Daniel Anderson
Councillor Chris Bond
Councillor Yasemin Brett
Councillor Nesil Caliskan
Councillor Alev Cazimoglu
Councillor Guney Dogan
Councillor Sarah Doyle
Councillor Christiana During
Councillor Pat Ekechi
Councillor Elif Erbil
Councillor Nesimi Erbil
Councillor Krystle Fonyonga
Councillor Achilleas Georgiou
Councillor Ahmet Hasan
Councillor Doris Jiage
Councillor Nneka Keazor
Councillor Bernadette Lappage
Councillor Dino Lemonides
Councillor Derek Levy
Councillor Mary Maguire
Councillor Ayfer Orhan

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Councillor Ahmet Oykenner
Councillor Vicki Pite
Councillor George Savva
Councillor Toby Simon
Councillor Alan Sitkin
Councillor Claire Stewart
Councillor Doug Taylor

Against: 19

Councillor Erin Celebi
Councillor Dogan Delman
Councillor Nick Dines
Councillor Peter Fallart
Councillor Alessandro Georgiou
Councillor Elaine Hayward
Councillor Robert Hayward
Councillor Ertan Hurer
Councillor Eric Jukes
Councillor Joanne Laban
Councillor Michael Lavender
Councillor Andy Milne
Councillor Terence Neville
Councillor Anne Marie Pearce
Councillor Daniel Pearce
Councillor Michael Rye
Councillor Edward Smith
Councillor Jim Steven
Councillor Glynis Vince

Abstentions: 0

8

**HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (HRA) 30 YEAR BUSINESS PLAN,
BUDGET 2018/19, RENT SETTING AND SERVICE CHARGES**

Councillor Oykenner proposed and Councillor Lemonides seconded the report of the Chief Executive and Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan Budget 18/19, Rent Setting and Service Charges. (Report No: 146)

NOTED

1. That the recommendations in the report had been endorsed and approved for recommendation onto Council by Cabinet on 14 February 2018.
2. Issues highlighted by the majority group:

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- a. The report presents the Council's 30 year business plan, the revenue budget for 2018/9 the five year capital programme, the right to buy one to one receipts programme and the service charges for 2018/19.
 - b. Resources are tightly constrained with only £8m headroom but the accounts were balanced, despite the lack of support from Government which had made setting the budget extremely difficult.
 - c. The Housing Revenue Account had been affected by many new policy initiatives including the right to buy. The Council used to sell 8 properties a year and now sells 200. This year Enfield had managed to spend all its right to buy receipts although this had been complicated to achieve.
 - d. Additional monies had been set aside in response to the Grenfell Tower disaster: £8.4m for sprinklers, which despite promises, the Government were refusing to fund. Efficiency savings of £333,000 had been found and a capital programme of £237m for 5 years proposed: including estate renewal schemes and major works.
 - e. Rents had been reduced by 1% this year and would be again next year. From 2020 they would increase by 1%. Service charges had been recalculated and reduced in some cases. Because of the volatile energy market, electricity prices had been increased by 6% overall, gas by 3% and oil by 2%.
 - f. Since he had been made aware of the issues at Joyce Avenue, Councillor Oykenner had visited the properties, made it a top priority to identify the problems and ensured that works were currently being undertaken.
 - g. Thanks to officers for navigating the unusual complexities to ensure that a balanced budget could be produced and navigating the 13 new government interventions, full details of which still have not been published, several elements being deferred, creating high risks to the HRA.
 - h. Praise for the decisive and responsive leadership of Councillor Oykenner.
3. Issues highlighted by the Opposition Group:
- a. The need to recognise that the HRA was in a good financial position and the capital programme fully funded, thanks to the Government for listening and for their generosity in providing extra housing funds.
 - b. Concern that most of the receipts from right to buy were not being used to provide new stock, but on buying second hand homes.

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- c. That the Grenfell Tower disaster was not a result of cost cutting by the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, but was more likely to have been caused because the materials used for cladding had not been properly tested. Any sprinklers installed would need to be maintained.
 - d. Concern that setting up the Red Lion Homes Housing Association, as a special purpose vehicle, would not enable the Council to build more affordable housing any more easily than the Council could do so itself.
 - e. To recognise that the reduction in rents for the poorest residents was due to the initiatives bought in by George Osborne when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer.
 - f. To acknowledge that the excessive delays to the small housing sites programme and the delays to major works, including at Joyce Avenue were not the sign of an efficient or caring administration or an effective way to run the Housing Revenue Account.
4. The response from the Cabinet Member for Housing and Housing Regeneration that the previous Conservative administration should be ashamed that they had done nothing about the small sites in the 8 years they had been in power. Labour had created a strategy, and started building: delays had been caused by the private sector failure. This Council has raised the profile of Council housing. On Joyce Avenue, they had apologised, and acknowledged that no one deserves to be treated badly. It was now a top priority.

Following the debate the recommendations in the report were agreed without a vote.

AGREED

1. To approve the HRA 30-Year Business Plan
2. To approve the detailed HRA Revenue Budget for 2018/19
3. To approve the HRA Capital Programme and Right to Buy One for One receipts programme 2018/19 to 2022/23.
4. To note the social and affordable rent levels for 2018/19 for HRA.
5. To approve the level of service charges for 2018/19 for those properties receiving the services.

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6. To note the heating charges for 2018/19 for those properties on communal heating systems and the change in procuring the Landlord electric contract
7. To approve the proposals for increases in garages and parking bay rents
8. To delegate authority to the Cabinet member for Housing and the Chief Executive to approve tenders for Major Works in order that contracts can be let and works carried out more efficiently.

9

HOUSING GATEWAY ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

Councillor Achilleas Georgiou proposed and Councillor Oykenner seconded the Housing Gateway Annual Report 2016-17 from the Executive Director Finance, Resources and Customer Services. (Report No: 139)

NOTED

1. The report was considered in conjunction with Report No: 141 on the part 2 agenda.
2. That the report was also considered by Cabinet at their meeting on 24 January 2018.
3. The issues highlighted by the Majority Group:
 - a. The Council were concerned to do the right thing in housing and to make sure that the residents were kept safe. That was why the Council had agreed to find the money to bring in the safety measures arising as a result of the Grenfell disaster. Unlike the Government.
 - b. Housing Gateway had been a great success and had benefited Council Tax payers and residents in temporary accommodation. Through Housing Gateway, the Council had been able to provide secure cost efficient local housing, instead of placing people in expensive temporary nightly paid accommodation. They had set an exemplary standard for others to follow.
 - c. 418 units had been provided and the Council had saved £2.5m to date
 - d. The Government were failing to do enough to provide adequate housing. This administration had found a way to buy properties in Enfield to enable Enfield people to live in Enfield. The model works and many other authorities are now coming to Enfield to find out how they can set up similar schemes.

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4. The issues highlighted by the Opposition:
 - a. The view that Housing Gateway had been a disastrous and embarrassing failure. That it would not address the needs of the more than 3,000 residents in temporary housing, a huge problem.
 - b. Concern that £2.5m over 4 years had been spent and paid for by borrowing.
 - c. Concern that less than was originally anticipated would be realised. Cost pressures were increasing and the savings were paltry.
 - d. Concern about the impact on first time buyers who were struggling and unable to raise the massive deposits needed to buy a property. They could not compete with the buying power of the Council and were rapidly being squeezed out of the housing market.
 - e. Instead the Council ought to be building more homes and ensuring that private developers build their share or housing people in cheaper areas outside London.
5. The response of the Deputy Leader that the scheme was a success and he would like to hear what the Opposition would do instead. Would they sell the properties and make people homeless? Councils can't build and the Government would not lift the borrowing cap.

AGREED to note the contents of the Housing Gateway Annual Report 2016-17.

10 CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Councillor Stewart moved and Councillor Ekechi seconded a proposal under paragraph 2.2(B) of the Council procedure rules to change the order of items on the agenda to take the following motions in the following order:

- 10.3 Motion in the name of Councillor Taylor
- 10.6 Motion in the name of Councillor Taylor
- 10.10 Motion in the name of Councillor Orhan

The change in the order was agreed without a vote.

The minutes reflect the order of the meeting.

11 MOTIONS

Motion 10.3

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Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Maguire seconded the following motion:

“Council notes the decision to issue a Section 114 notice banning Northamptonshire from engaging any new expenditure. Council notes all Councils, including Enfield, are suffering from persistent cuts in funding and instructs the Leader of the Council and Leader of the Opposition to put in writing to the Prime Minister, in the strongest terms, our view that there should be no more cuts.”

Councillor Laban moved an amendment seconded by Councillor Hurer to change the final part of the last sentence of the motion to read: “that there should be fairer funding for the London Borough of Enfield” removing the words “that there should be no more cuts”.

Following a debate on the motion and the amendment the amendment was put to the vote and not agreed with the following result:

For: 16
Against: 26
Abstentions: 0

The substantive motion was then put to the vote and agreed with the following result:

For: 26
Against: 16
Abstentions: 0

Motion 10.6

Councillor Taylor moved and Councillor Levy seconded the following motion:

“Council notes the importance of the NHS to Enfield residents and its requirement for adequate funding in this the 70th year of its foundation.”

Following the debate, the motion was agreed unanimously.

Duration of the time allowed for motions.

The Mayor advised, at this stage of the meeting, that the time available for motions had now elapsed so Council Procedure Rule 9 would apply.

Motions 10.1, 10.2, 10.4, 10.5, 10.7, 10.8, 10.9 and 10.10 lapsed under the guillotine.

12

COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

1. Urgent Questions

The Mayor had agreed to accept the urgent question below:

Question from Councillor Nesimi Erbil to Councillor Taylor, Leader of the Council

“Over the last 2 days there have been reports that the Syria army will now join Kurdish forces to repel the Turkish offensive in Afrin, Syria. The Syria war continues to escalate, risking even more deaths in a country that has already been torn apart since 2011. Many residents in Enfield have Kurdish and Alevi heritage. They are deeply concerned about the situation in Syria and the plight of the Kurdish people.

Will the Leader of the Council write to the Foreign Secretary to ask what action the British Government is taking to help de-escalate the situation in Northern Syria?”

Reply from Councillor Taylor

“I will discuss with the Cabinet Member for Community, Arts & Culture and pass on to the Foreign Secretary the question you have raised tonight.”

2. Questions by Councillors

NOTED the forty questions on the Council agenda and the written responses provided by the relevant Cabinet Members.

13

DURATION OF TIME ALLOWED FOR THE 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 9 would apply.

NOTED that in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 (page 4-8 – Part 4), the remaining items of business on the Council agenda were considered without debate.

14

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

AGREED to confirm the following changes to committee memberships

- Planning Committee – Councillor Guney Dogan to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor McGowan
- Local Pension Board – Councillor Ayfer Orhan to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councillor McGowan

**15
NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no changes to the nominations on outside bodies.

**16
CALLED IN DECISIONS**

None received.

**17
DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

NOTED that the next ordinary Council meeting would take place on Wednesday 21 March 2018 at 7pm.

**18
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 17 listed on Part 2 of the agenda on the grounds that it involves 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).

**19
BUDGET REPORT 2018/19 AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
2018/19 TO 2021/22**

RECEIVED the report of the Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services seeking approval, as part of the 2018/19 Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan to fees and charges. (Report No: 145A)

NOTED

1. The report was considered in conjunction with Report No: 152A on the part 1 agenda.
2. The recommendation set out in the report was endorsed and recommended for approval to Council at the Cabinet meeting held on 14 February 2018.

AGREED the pest control, commercial waste, schedule 2 waste, clinical waste, planning pre-application service, parks events and outdoor facilities, people transport services, fleet services fees and charges for Environmental Services; as well as the schools health & safety charges and print services charges within the Chief Executive's Department and also the safe &

connected charges within Finance, Resources & Customer Services are agreed as set out in Section 3 and Appendices 1, 2 & 3 of the part 2 report.

20

HOUSING GATEWAY ANNUAL REPORT 2016/17

RECEIVED the part 2 Housing Gateway Annual Report 2016-17 of the Executive Director of Finance, Resources and Customer Services. (Report No: 141).

NOTED

1. That this report was considered in conjunction with Report No: 139 on the part 1 agenda.
2. That Cabinet had considered this report at their meeting on Wednesday 24 January and referred it on to Council for information only.

AGREED to note the report.