

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13 JULY 2022**

COUNCILLORS

PRESENT Doris Jiagge (Mayor), Nesil Caliskan, Alessandro Georgiou, Ergin Erbil, Sabri Ozaydin, Chris Dey, Mike Rye OBE, Maria Alexandrou, Kate Anolue, Chinelo Anyanwu, Mahym Bedekova, Sinan Boztas, Mustafa Cetinkaya, Guney Dogan, Elif Erbil, Susan Erbil, Margaret Greer, Ayten Guzel, Ahmet Hasan, James Hockney, Stephanos Ioannou, Rick Jewell, Joanne Laban, Tim Leaver, Andy Milne, Gina Needs, Ahmet Oykener, George Savva MBE, Edward Smith, Jim Steven, Doug Taylor, Andrew Thorp, Peter Fallart, Josh Abey, Nicki Adeleke, Nawshad Ali, Lee Chamberlain, Suna Hurman, Hivran Dalkaya, Abdul Abdullahi, Hannah Dyson, Thomas Fawns, Reece Fox, Patricia Gregory, Chris Joannides, Adrian Grumi, Esin Gunes, Mohammad Islam, Chris James, Elisa Morreale, Tom O'Halloran, Bektas Ozer, Paul Pratt, Julian Sampson, Ruby Sampson, David Skelton, Emma Supple and Nia Stevens

ABSENT Mahmut Aksanoglu, Alev Cazimoglu, Gunes Akbulut, Nelly Gyosheva and Eylem Yuruk

1

THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN TO GIVE A BLESSING

Reverend Dr Valentin Dedji gave a blessing.

2

**ELECT A PERSON TO PRESIDE IF THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR
ARE NOT PRESENT**

The Mayor was present and presided at the meeting.

3

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the Chamber.

The Mayor offered her condolences to the family of the late Geoffrey Mills who sadly passed away. Birthday wishes were sent to Mr Reginal Kendall who turned 103.

The Mayor spoke of Her Majesty the Queens vast achievements and the festivities of the Jubilee.

The Mayor wished everyone and their families the very best for the summer months.

The Young Mayor Mustafa Berk Ak spoke to the Council on some of the events he had visited in his role as Young Mayor. He informed the Council that his focus for his year as Mayor will be cultural awareness.

4 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Akbulut, Aksanoglu, Cazimoglu, Gyosheva and Yuruk.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following Councillors declared interests in the following items:

- Item 7 Capital Outturn – Councillor Tim Leaver, Sabri Ozaydin, Ergin Erbil and Doug Taylor; and
- Item 9 Adoption of Statutory Waste Plan for North London – Councillor Kate Anolue.

6 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting on 25 May 2022 were AGREED.

7 CAPITAL OUTTURN 2021/22

Councillor Leaver moved, and Councillor Caliskan seconded, the report.

Councillor Leaver introduced the report and provided an overview of the outturn for the year ending 31 March 2022 compared to the budget or planned position for the 2021/22 Capital Programme. Cllr Leaver stated that the programme will provide investments to residents as part of the Council's 10-year Capital Programme. Amendments for the 2022/23 budget were proposed due to delays rolling budgets forward to 2022/23 and where outcomes have been delivered early reducing 2022/23 budgets.

The Opposition made the following points:

Councillor Leaver was welcomed into his new Cabinet role.

Concerns were raised about the debt borrowing of the Council and rollover debts, and the sustainability of spending tax payers money in this way.

A strategy was requested on inflation and the issues this may cause the Council. The Council's accounts show that the Council has lost money in the 2021/22 financial year. Expenditure on furnishings of the Council's buildings has risen by ten in the last two years. It was felt that this money would be better spent on front line services as it has been brought by tax payers money. The money not spent "gross slippage" will be spent later at a higher cost. Concerns were raised around Metaswitch and the report highlighting a "budget error". It was questioned whether tax payers are subsidising this

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error. Opposition members felt it was essential that a review and prioritisation takes place of the Capital Programme.

The Administration made the following points in response:

Money has been spent on furniture in the Civic Centre as it is home to the Council's staff. Within the budget consideration was given to the possibility of the increase in inflation and has adequate head room for possible inflation. The risks to the Council have been recognised and considered which are set out in the report. Energetik's performance is doing better than predicted in its business plan. Money had been spent on flood alleviations and street scene which improve the borough.

Following the debate, the Report was put to a vote and AGREED.

AGREED:

1. Increase the 2022/23 General Fund and HRA capital budget by £26.6m (rolling forward unutilised 2021/22 budgets). This is the net position of:
 - a. a total of £41.43m 2022/23 budgets increasing due to programmes being delayed
 - b. a total of £14.79m 2022/23 budgets being reduced to recognise where budgets have been spent early (in 2021/22), as detailed in Table 5 of the report.
2. £13.74m additions to the approved programme, as a result of recognising additional grant funding, as detailed in Table 3.
3. Transfer £2.48m usable capital receipts from General Fund to HRA to rectify capital financing for the construction of Alma Youth Centre, a General Fund asset, as required by accounting standards.
4. Reprofitting £79.74m Meridian Water budgets (within the same total budget) using 'budgets with both levels of approval' before 'budgets requiring secondary level of approval'.

NOTED:

5. Total expenditure on the Capital Programme for 2021/22 was £198.6m, against the revised outturn forecast of £225.3m.
6. The total reprofitting of £26.6m comprises of £15.5m General Fund (excl. companies), Companies £10.1m and £1.1m on HRA programmes;
7. Funding of the Council's capital expenditure for 2021/22, the largest elements of which were £98.8m borrowing and £51m grants, as detailed in Table 6 of the report.

8

TREASURY MANAGEMENT OUTTURN REPORT 2021/22

Councillor Leaver moved the report, and Councillor Caliskan seconded the report.

Councillor Leaver introduced the report highlighting that the report sets out the treasury management function from 2021 to 2022 ending in March 2022. As of 31st March 2022 there was £1,015 million borrowing outstanding. Details of

these loans were referenced in table 3 of the report. The Treasury Management Outturn Report complies with the relevant code of practise.

The Opposition made the following points in response, the level of debt continues to climb and is already higher than other boroughs who have declared bankruptcy such as Croydon. They raised concerns about the risks to taxpayers and the sustainability for the borrowing. The report states that the Council will only borrow until 2071 and does not include any borrowing which will put Enfield past its current borrowing cap. As the Labour manifesto was not costed the Administration will have to either reach the £2billion debt cap or stop the projects they are running. In 40 years the Council's debt will be £40million which will result in cuts to front line services. Concerns were raised about the there being a lack of a back-up plan for those circumstances.

The Administration made the following points in response, cuts to the Council have been imposed by Central Government which has led to the cost of living crisis. The administration aims to protect residents by improving homes and skills in the borough. The ten year treasury management strategy will come to Council for debate and agreement.

The report was NOTED.

9

ADOPTION OF STATUTORY WASTE PLAN FOR NORTH LONDON

Councillor Caliskan moved, and Councillor Erbil seconded, the report.

Councillor Caliskan introduced the report highlighting that the planning policy document had be created in consultation with the seven neighbouring borough and the document will go to each of their Council's for agreement. The document removes sites which could be used in the future for waste sites. It is hoped that there would be cross party agreement on the proposed plan. Officers were thanked for their contribution to the Plan.

The Opposition responded to the report with the following comments: They Welcomed the report and thanked officers for their contribution. The comments set out by the inspector were welcomed as all of North London's waste should not come to Enfield. Concerns were raised that the Green Belt can be used as an emergency waste designation site. In North London 62% of waste facilities are in Enfield, after that Barnet have 14% and Haringey have 12%. Concerns were raised about Enfield being the "bin of North London".

The Administration responded to the report with the following comments, they felt it was important to protect green and industrial space within the borough. Enfield does not need any additional waste facilities within the borough. Thanked the Opposition for their cross-party support.

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AGREED to adopt the North London Waste Plan (NLWP) shown at Appendix C of the report to become part of the statutory Development Plan for the borough.

10

GENERAL PURPOSES ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Councillor Bedekova moved, and Councillor Leaver seconded, the report.

Councillor Bedekova introduced the report stating it contains details of the work undertaken by the Committee in the 2021/22 report. The Committee had met with the Council's External Auditors, BDO, privately and they have advised that the issues relating to the Statement of Accounts is a national issue. The Council's Risk Register goes to each meeting of the Committee for discussion and updates.

The Opposition responded to the report with the following comments:
The General Purposes Committee is one of the Council's most important Committees as it covers so many important issues. Officers were thanked for their attendance. Concerns were raised about BDO not being held to account on not finalising the 2019/20 accounts. It was felt that the polling district review and member development may need to move elsewhere as the Redman Review states General Purpose Committee should focus on Audit and Risk.

The Administration responded to the report with the following comments:
Thanked officers and the independent person who sits on the Committee for their work. Concerns were raised about BDO and their inability to sign off the Council's accounts.

AGREED to note the General Purposes Committee Annual Report.

11

CHANGE IN ORDER OF BUSINESS

A procedural motion was moved and seconded under paragraph 4.2 of the Council Procedure Rules to change the order of business on the agenda so that Motions would be taken as the next item of business which was put to the meeting and AGREED.

12

MOTIONS

The below motions were agreed following discussion:

Urgent motion in the name of Councillor Nesil Caliskan

On Thursday 7th July, the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson announced his intention to resign, but that he would remain in post until the new Leader of the Conservative Party was elected. The 1922 Committee has since announced the new Leader of the Conservative Party will be announced on the 5th September 2022. Boris Johnson has proved time and time again that

he lacks the moral integrity and honesty required to hold the office of Prime Minister. Conservative MPs and the British public have lost confidence in Boris Johnson. Enfield Council calls on Boris Johnson to immediately resign as Prime Minister.

Motion in the name of Councillor Maria Alexandrou

Cervical screening is a way for women to protect themselves from cancer. The sad reality is that fewer women are now having cervical screening. Last year 1.3m women didn't attend NHS screenings. There are 3,200 new cases of cervical cancer every year and of those 870 women die from it. According to CANCER RESEARCH UK 99.8% of cases are preventable. When Jade Goody fought her cancer battle, nearly 80% of women went for smear tests. 10 years later, only 72% of women go. If this rate falls any lower, the rise in deaths will shoot up. In the case of Jade Goody, she ignored letters about her abnormal cells. She needed to go to hospital for surgery to remove those abnormal cells, surgery which most probably would have saved her life. Many young women in their 20s and 30s are dying from cervical cancer and the tragedy is they are leaving behind their partners and young children. We need to encourage everyone to look after their health and have regular check-ups. Enfield Council therefore agrees to work together with other agencies for a local campaign on cervical cancer awareness and encourage women to attend that important screening test. It only takes 5 minutes at the doctor's surgery and this test can save your life.

13

DURATION OF COUNCIL MEETING

During the debate on motions a procedural motion was moved and seconded under paragraph 8 of the Council Procedure Rules to extend the duration of the meeting which was put to the meeting and AGREED.

The remainder of motions lapsed under the guillotine arrangements.

14

COUNCIL QUESTIONS

This item lapsed under the guillotine procedure. Answers to questions were provided in the supplementary agenda circulated at the meeting.

15

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Licensing Committee was deemed to have been agreed under the guillotine procedure:

Esin Gunes (Chair)
Doug Taylor (Vice Chair)
Sabri Ozaydin
George Savva
Eylem Yuruk
Mahym Bedekova
Sinan Boztas

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Guney Dogan
Chris James
Maria Alexandrou
Jim Steven
Edward Smith
Chris Dey
Mike Rye
Paul Pratt

Councillor Nelly Gyosheva to replace Councillor Doris Jiagge on Equalities Board.

16

NOMINATIONS TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Former Councillor Hass Yusuf to replace Councillor Gina Needs on the Old Enfield Charitable Trust was deemed to have been agreed under the guillotine procedure.

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DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting was NOTED as 21st September 2022.