

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

At an **ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT** held at Brent Town Hall Forty Lane, Wembley, Middlesex on **Monday, 10th September 2007 at 7.15pm**

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor H B Patel

The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Fox

COUNCILLORS:

Ahmed	John
Anwar	Jones
Arnold	Joseph
Mrs Bacchus	Kansagra
Bessong	J Long
Beswick	Lorber
Blackman	Malik
V Brown	Mendoza
Butt	Mistry
Castle	J Moher
Chavda	R Moher
Colwill	Moloney
Corcoran	Motley
Coughlin	O'Sullivan
Crane	H M Patel
Cummins	Powney
Detre	Ms C Shaw
Dunwell	Sneddon
Eniola	Tancred
Farrell	Thomas
Gupta	Van Colle
Hashmi	Wharton
Hirani	

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Allie, Baker, Clues, Dunn, Mrs Fernandes, Jackson, Leaman, Pagnamenta, CJ Patel and Steel.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on 25th June 2007 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Declarations of Interests**

At this meeting there were none.

4. **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor reported that as everyone was aware Councillor Dorman Long had died on 20th July and everyone was saddened by this news. He stated that Councillor Long would be sadly missed. He welcomed members of Councillor Long's family to the meeting, along with Ashworth Elwyn a close friend of the family.

It was also with great sadness that the Mayor announced the death of former Councillor Noel Thompson who passed away on 18th August in St Luke's Hospice.

The Mayor explained that once the formal business of Council had been completed, there would be an opportunity for members to pay their respects to both Dorman Long and Noel Thompson.

The Mayor reported on the "Not Another Drop Peace March" taking place on Saturday 15th September at 11am, starting at Bridge Park and finishing at St Augustine's Church in South Kilburn. In light of recent events, he encouraged Members to attend.

In accordance with the new arrangements agreed for reporting on the progress of those petitions received under standing order 68, the Mayor drew Members' attention to the schedule circulated. The progress of those petitions that meet the requirements are reported to each Council meeting and can be found on the local democracy web.

At the end of the meeting the Mayor welcomed to the Council Chamber Mr Peter Owiny, the Mayor of Lira in Uganda who was paying a visit to the borough.

5. **Appointments to Committees/Appointments of Chairs/Vice Chairs**

RESOLVED:

that Mr Cally Akisanya be appointed as a parent governor co-opted member on the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

6. **Procedural motion**

The Council considered a procedural motion in the names of Councillors Beswick, Colwill and Sneddon that had been circulated and moved by Councillor Sneddon.

RESOLVED:

That standing orders be suspended so far as is necessary to vary the order of business by not taking at this meeting the following items:

Question Time

Items Selected by Non Executive Members

Motions Selected by the Group Leaders

and that the three members whose turn it was to submit an item under *Items Selected by Non Executive Members* be the three members invited to submit an item to the next meeting of Full Council.

7. **New Model Code of Conduct**

The Government recently published a new Model Code of Conduct for members of local authorities. The report before members set out the changes introduced by the new Code and the steps that had to be taken by the Council to adopt it. The new Code had been considered by the Standards Committee on 4th July 2007 and was recommended for approval.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that it be noted that the Standards Committee considered the new Code of Conduct on 4th July 2007 and recommended it to the Council for approval;
- (ii) that the new Code of Conduct attached to the report as Appendix 1 be adopted;
- (iii) that it be noted that all members have to register their personal interests as defined by the new Code within 28 days of the Council adopting the new Code and will be asked to sign an undertaking to agree to be bound by the new Code.

8. Report from the Executive

Treasury Management Annual Report 2006/07

The Council received information on the Treasury Management activity and performance during 2006/07. The Executive had considered the report at its meeting on 16th July 2007 and recommended it to Council for adoption.

RESOLVED:

that the Treasury Management annual report for 2006/07 be adopted.

9. Report from Overview and Scrutiny Committee

There was no report from Overview and Scrutiny Committee to this meeting.

10. Tributes

The Council stood for a minute's silence in memory of the late Councillor Dorman Long and in memory of the late former councillor Noel Thompson.

Tributes were paid to Councillor Dorman Long and past councillor Noel Thompson.

Councillor John, Councillor Blackman and Councillor Lorber remembered Councillor Dorman Long and extended condolences to Councillor Long's family on behalf of their Groups. Reference was made to the large number of people that had attended his funeral which was a testament to his standing in the community. Other members expressed their thoughts on the loss of Councillor Long.

His death was felt to be shocking news for the Council. He had been a councillor since 1974 and was Leader of the Council in 1987. He was remembered as a calm but determined man who during his time as a councillor had made a positive difference to the Council. He acted with integrity and honesty. He always had time for his fellow councillors and treated them with respect. He could be seen as a role model for the Afro Caribbean community. The thoughts of members of the Council were with his wife and family who were present at the meeting.

Much mention was made of Councillor Long's time as a councillor during a very difficult period for both the Council and the Labour Group. During this period he took many difficult decisions in a quiet but decisive way thereby laying the foundations for the future of the Council and the Labour Group. At all times he enjoyed the loyalty and great support of his wife and family. He was recognised as the longest

serving Afro Caribbean councillor. That Brent Council was seen to be the only Council to have an ethnic majority workforce serving an ethnic majority population was a legacy of Councillor Long's work on the Council where he championed equal opportunities in the borough, worked for community cohesion and had regard to the interests of the Council's workforce.

Members also paid tribute to former councillor Noel Thompson, remarking on how brave he had been during his time on the Council when he was very ill. As a senior ex civil servant with a distinguished career behind him he had chosen to give his time to the community by becoming a councillor in 1999. Reference was made to his work representing the Kilburn area and as the first chair of the then new Overview Committee. He was an advocate of the new ways of working introduced by the Local Government Act 2000 and set about ensuring the Overview Committee made an effective contribution to the work of the Council.

The meeting ended at 9:17pm

HB PATEL
Mayor