



General Purposes Committee

Monday 8 May 2017 at 5.00 pm

Board Room 6 - Brent Civic Centre, Engineers Way,
Wembley, HA9 0FJ

Membership:

Members

Councillors:

Butt (Chair)
McLennan (Vice-Chair)
Colwill
Farah
Hirani
M Patel
Southwood
Tatler

Substitute Members

Councillors:

Bradley, Denselow, Kabir, Mahmood, Miller, Moher and
Krupa Sheth

Councillors:

Davidson and Kansagra

For further information contact: Nikolay Manov, Governance Officer
020 8937 1348, nikolay.manov@brent.gov.uk

For electronic copies of minutes, reports and agendas, and to be alerted when the minutes of this meeting have been published visit:

www.brent.gov.uk/committees

The press and public are welcome to attend this meeting.

Agenda

Introductions, if appropriate.

Item	Page
1 Apologies of Absence (if any)	
2 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests Members are invited to declare at this stage of the meeting, any relevant personal and prejudicial interests and disclosable pecuniary interests in any matter to be considered at this meeting.	
3 Minutes of the previous meeting	1 - 4
4 Matters arising	
5 Deputations (if any)	
6 Review of Polling Places 2017 This report presents the polling station arrangements put in place for the General Election on 8 June 2017.	5 - 8
Ward Affected: Alperton; Dudden Hill; Kenton; Kilburn	Contact Officer: Carolyn Downs, Chief Executive and Acting Returning Officer Tel: 020 8937 1007 carolyn.downs@brent.gov.uk
7 Appointments to Sub-Committees / Outside Bodies (if any)	
8 Any other urgent business Notice of items to be raised under this heading must be given in writing to the Head of Executive and Member Services or his representative before the meeting in accordance with Standing Order 64.	



- Please remember to **SWITCH OFF** your mobile phone during the meeting.
- The meeting room is accessible by lift and seats will be provided for members of the public.



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Thursday 23 February 2017 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Butt (Chair), Councillor McLennan (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Colwill, Farah, Hirani and Tatler

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors M Patel and Southwood

1. **Declarations of personal and prejudicial interests**

There were no declarations of interest received from Members.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 30 January 2017, be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. **Deputations (if any)**

There were no deputations received.

5. **Stopping Up Order and Extinguishment of Vehicular Rights Order – Ealing Road Library, Coronet Parade**

Nicolaas Potgieter, Team Leader -Traffic Orders, Highways and Infrastructure, introduced the report, which sought the Committee's approval to make a Stopping Up Order and an Extinguishment of Vehicular Rights Order for areas of public highway consisting of footway and road located in front of Ealing Road Library (Coronet Parade, Ealing Road) under Sections 247 and 249 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA 1990). Mr Potgieter drew Members' attention to paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 on page 6 of the Agenda, which highlighted that planning permission had been granted in December 2016, approving the placing of a permanent structure of modular units. The Committee heard that no objections to the draft Stopping Up Order had been received. Mr Potgieter explained that the Order making costs would be initially met by the Highways and Infrastructure Service and then recharged to the Ealing Road Library capital project costs, including an extra cost of £720 to divert Virgin Media utilities.

Members of the Committee enquired whether the projected Order making costs (£6,000) would be met and if any feedback had been received from businesses

operating in the area. In response, Mr Potgieter said that expenditure was expected to meet the projection, with a potential slight underspent being possible. Mr Potgieter and Ms Christine Moore, Capital Projects Manager, Regeneration and Environment, explained that local businesses had been consulted and had expressed positive opinions about the development as it would improve the area.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The contents of the Stopping Up Order and Extinguishment of Vehicular Rights Order report, be noted;
- (ii) The Stopping Up Order be approved;
- (iii) The Extinguishment of Vehicular Rights Order be approved; and
- (iv) The notices of making of these Orders be advertised, following the resolution of the Virgin Media response.

6. Stopping Up Order – Land North Chippenham Gardens (Kilburn Park Post Office)

Nicolaas Potgieter, Team Leader - Traffic Orders, Highways and Infrastructure, introduced the report which sought the Committee's approval to make a Stopping Up Order for an area of public highway consisting of footway and road located north of Chippenham Gardens under Section 247 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (TCPA 1990). Mr Potgieter highlighted that the existing buildings at 5-9 Chippenham Gardens, Kilburn Park and 4-26 Stuart Road would be demolished to enable the redevelopment of the site into a part-four, five and six storey building comprising of 52 self-contained flats. The Committee was informed that no objections to the draft Stopping Up Order had been received. Mr Potgieter explained that financial implications (approximately £5,000) would be initially met by the Highways and Infrastructure Service and then recharged to the South Kilburn Programme budget as the development was part of it.

The Committee enquired why the application for a Stopping Up Order had come to a meeting in February 2017 when planning permission for the development had been granted in July 2016. Ms Marie Frederick, Senior Project Manager, Estate Regeneration, explained that the Stopping Up Order was related to the timing of the planning application and if it had been authorised too early, it could have expired, which would have required the Committee to approve another Order in relation to the same development. Mr Potgieter added that the developer had been in dispute about an issue which had delayed the process.

RESOLVED that:

- (i) The contents of the Stopping Up Order report, be noted;
- (ii) The Stopping Up Order be approved; and
- (iii) The notice of making of the Orders be advertised.

7. **Appointments to Sub-Committees / Outside Bodies (if any)**

There were no appointments made to Sub-Committees and Outside Bodies.


8. **Any other urgent business**

There were no other items of urgent business.

The meeting closed at 6:11 pm.

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT
Chair

This page is intentionally left blank

 Brent	General Purposes Committee Monday 8 May 2017 Report from the Chief Executive and Acting Returning Officer
For Action	Wards affected: Alperton, Dudden Hill, Kenton, Kilburn
Review of Polling Places 2017	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 All local authorities must review their UK Parliamentary polling districts and polling places at least once every five years. The last review of Polling Places took place in 2014 prior to the General Election in May 2015.
- 1.2 Normal practice prior to any election is to carry out an informal review of polling places across the borough, based on experience at the previous election and investigation into the availability of premises for the forthcoming election.
- 1.3 Brent last reviewed its Parliamentary polling districts and polling places in 2014 and was due to undertake the next statutory review of polling districts and polling places in 2018/19, in advance of the anticipated 2020 General Election.
- 1.4 On 18 April 2017, the Prime Minister, Theresa May MP, called an early general election for June 8 2017, thus not permitting such a review in Brent in time for the next General Election.

2.0 Recommendations:

- 2.1 That the polling stations listed below be adopted as temporary polling stations for the General Election on 8 June 2017:
 - NAL2: Alperton Baptist Church Hall be relocated to Alperton Community School, Ealing Road, HA0 4PW.

- CDU1: Christ Embassy be relocated to St Catherine's Church, Dudden Hill Lane, NW10 1QB.
- HKI4: The Royal British Legion be relocated to the OK Club, 45 Denmark Road, NW6 5BP.
- NKE4: The Haridham Temple be relocated to temporary polling stations in the Harrow District Masonic Centre car park, Northwick Circle, HA3 0EL.

2.2 That all other polling stations remain unchanged for this poll and until and the next statutory review of polling districts and polling places in 2018/19.

2.3 That in the event of any other polling places becoming unavailable before the June 2017 election, authority be delegated to the Acting Returning Officer to make any further changes required to polling places for these elections in consultation with the leaders of the political groups on the Council.

3.0 Detail

3.1 Any wards not listed below are unaffected by changes to the stations used for the last General Election and Referendum in 2016.

3.2 Polling districts, polling places and polling stations may be defined as follows:

A **polling district** is a geographical sub-division of an electoral area, i.e. a UK Parliamentary constituency, a European Parliamentary electoral region, a ward or an electoral division.

A **polling place** is a geographical area in which a polling station is located. However, as there is no legal definition of what a polling place is, the geographical area could be defined as tightly as a particular building or as widely as the entire polling district. Most commonly in Brent, it has been defined as the premises inside which voting takes place.

A **polling station** is the actual area where the process of voting takes place, and must be located within the polling place designated for the particular polling district.

3.3 If a building becomes unavailable before an election, the polling place can be changed by the local authority in accordance with their decision making arrangements.

3.4 Alpertown Ward NAL2

Alpertown Baptist Church has declined to be used as a polling station.

We are using Alpertown Community School, who have offered us their Ealing Road site, which has been used previously as a polling station. While the Ealing Road site is on the boundary of a neighbouring polling district, the site that falls within the district is being used for GCSE exams. Electors will not have access to the car park but we will inform them of this in advance.

3.5 Dudden Hill Ward CDU1

Christ Embassy is unavailable. We currently use St Catherine's Church Hall in a neighbouring polling district (CDU2) and will use that as a double station for this poll.

3.6 Kenton Ward NKE4

The Haridham Temple is undergoing major refurbishment and is therefore unavailable.

We have explored the following alternatives:

- St Gregory's High School – this has been used previously, but they have GCSEs taking place.
- There is a strip of land between the school and the park that we investigated placing a temporary station on but it is not suitable due to landscaping and accessibility concerns.
- No response was received from private letting agents with empty properties.
- There is a synagogue in Woodcock Park, just within the polling district boundary, but its location makes accessibility difficult.

We are therefore using Harrow District Masonic Centre. While not having a room available, the Centre has allowed us to set up two temporary stations in their car park. They are allowing polling staff to use the facilities in the building and are not charging for uses of the premises.

3.7 Kilburn Ward

The Royal British Legion has been demolished. We are using the OK Club, which has been used in the past.

4.0 Financial Implications

The costs of Parliamentary elections are met by central government.

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 The Representation of the People Act 1983 requires the council to divide every parliamentary constituency or part thereof within its area into polling districts and that these be kept under review. The council must also ensure that all electors are given such facilities for voting as may be reasonable in the circumstances.

5.2 It should be noted that for the purpose of taking the poll in England and Wales, the (Acting) Returning Officer is entitled to use free of charge schools maintained or assisted by a local authority as well as those schools that receive grants made out of moneys provided by Parliament. This includes academies and free schools. However, where possible we have avoided secondary schools as GCSEs are taking place.

6.0 Diversity Implications

6.1 Local authorities have a duty to review the accessibility of all polling places to disabled voters and ensure that every polling place, and prospective polling

place, for which it is responsible is accessible to disabled voters 'so far as is reasonable and practicable'.

Contact Officers

Thomas Cattermole
Head of Executive and Member Services

Melanie Adams
Electoral Registration and Services Manager

CAROLYN DOWNS
CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND ACTING RETURNING OFFICER