



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
held on Monday 22 June 2015 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor

Councillor Lesley Jones B.Ed MA MBE

The Deputy Mayor

Councillor Parvez Ahmed

COUNCILLORS:

Aden	Agha
Allie	Bradley
Butt	Carr
Chohan	S Choudhary
A Choudry	Colacicco
Collier	Colwill
Conneely	Crane
Daly	Davidson
Denselow	Dixon
Duffy	Eniola
Ezeajughi	Farah
Filson	Harrison
Hector	Hirani
Hoda-Benn	Hossain
Hylton	Kabir
Kansagra	Kelcher
Khan	Long
Mahmood	Mashari
Maurice	McLeish
McLennan	Miller
Moher	J Mitchell Murray
W Mitchell Murray	Naheerathan
Nerva	M Patel
RS Patel	Shahzad
Ms Shaw	Ketan Sheth
Krupa Sheth	Southwood
Stopp	Thomas
Van Kalwala	Warren

Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Councillors Marquis, Oladapo, Pavey, Perrin and Tatler

1. **Procedural motion**

Councillor Warren moved a procedural motion which proposed a change to the circulated seating plan to allow his Group to sit in front row seats in place of Labour councillors and requested that the vote be recorded. Following a vote the motion was declared LOST.

Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Davidson, Shaw and Warren

AGAINST: Councillors Aden, Agha, Allie, Bradley, Butt, Chohan, Choudhary, Choudry, Colacicco, Collier, Colwill, Conneely, Crane, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, W Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Thomas and Van Kalwala

ABSTAIN: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Councillors Carr and Duffy

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the Annual meeting held on 20 May 2015 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting, subject to the following amendments to minute 13:

- Insert after 4th paragraph – A view was expressed that the way Council meetings operated needed to be reviewed to enable more backbench councillors to participate,

- The recorded vote to be reversed to read-

FOR: Councillors Aden, Agha, Ahmed, Bradley, Butt, Chohan, Choudry, Choudhary, Colacicco, Collier, Colwill, Conneely, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Duffy, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Marquis, Mashari, Maurice, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Pavey, Perrin, Shahzad, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Tatler, Thomas and Van Kalwala (53)

AGAINST: Councillors Carr, Davidson, Shaw and Warren (4)

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor, Councillor Jones (1)

(amendments incorporated)

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

Councillor Duffy declared a pecuniary interest in item 13 – West London Waste Plan having worked as an advisor on the plan.

4. **Mayor's announcements (including any petitions received)**

The Mayor referred to the tragic death of six students in California, five of whom were Irish, when an apartment balcony collapsed. At least one person was from

South Dublin with which the Council was twinned. The thoughts of the Council were with the families, students and all those affected by the tragedy.

The Mayor invited all members to her civic welcome reception on 25 June at St Andrews Parish Church.

The Mayor congratulated James De Gale who had become the first British Olympic gold medallist to achieve a world title by being crowned IBF Super Middleweight world champion the previous month. The Mayor pointed out that James De Gale had strong local connections having as a boy attended the Trojan Boxing Club in Stonebridge.

The Mayor congratulated Joseph McGeown from Neasden who had won in his age group at the 45th Annual World Irish Dancing Championships in Montreal, Canada.

The Mayor drew attention to the list of current petitions showing progress on dealing with them which had been circulated around the hall.

The Leader added his congratulations to the Mayor on being awarded the MBE in the Queens Birthday Honours list and members of the Council gave a round of applause. Councillor Kansagra also congratulated the Mayor on behalf of his group. Councillor Warren congratulated the Mayor and also a past Brent councillor, Peter Golds on being awarded the CBE.

5. Appointments to committees and outside bodies and appointment of chairs/vice chairs

RESOLVED:

that the following appointments be made:

Body	appointment
Voluntary Sector User Forum Chair	Cllr Hylton to replace Cllr Kabir
Planning Committee	Councillor Colacicco to replace Councillor Hylton Councillor Hylton to replace Councillor Perrin as a substitute
Pensioners User Forum	Councillor Nerva to replace Cllr Harrison as chair
Private Rental Sector User Forum	Councillor Allie to replace Cllr Thomas as chair
Trading Standards	Councillor Stopp to replace Councillor Khan
Brent Pension Fund Sub Committee	Councillor Miller to replace Councillor Thomas
Corporate Parenting Committee	Cllr Conneely to replace Cllr Colacicco

6. Report from the Leader or members of the Cabinet

The Leader reported that he had attended a meeting of the Mayoral Development Corporation at which presentations were received from QPR Football Club and Cargiant. Public consultation on proposals by Cargiant had begun and the Council would be ensuring it pursued the necessary benefits to the area from the development. The Leader stated that the report of the Health Commission was being finalised for submission by end of July. The Leader reported that the volunteering hub had been awarded to Groundworks and it was hoped to have 1000 volunteers working across Brent. The Leader stated that, as part of the West London Alliance, the Council was looking at the devolution agenda which would be the subject of further discussion within Brent. As part of this the Economic Prosperity Board was being established which would look at how influence could be brought to bear on employment and jobs in the area.

Councillor Mashari reported that the number of Living Wage employers in the borough had doubled since April. She congratulated Granger Herzog who had become the first Living Wage employer in Park Royal. Councillor Mashari reported on a summer business networking event on 25 June and a business start up event in September. With the Deputy Mayor, she would be visiting local businesses across the borough during the summer months to hear their concerns and to encourage the establishment of local trader associations. Referring to the Government's £12B welfare cuts she stated that this was likely to disproportionately affect boroughs like Brent. She reported that the Council was working more collaboratively than ever with the voluntary and private sectors in an attempt to mitigate the worse impacts of the Benefit Cap. Councillor Mashari reported that the Working Places Working People employment support scheme would be launched on 27 June providing a single place for support services to be co-located to help people get into work and out of poverty.

Councillor Moher updated Council on school places. The Authority had received 4,350 reception applications for September 2015 and all had been allocated a place with 80% getting their first preference. She was confident there would be places available for new applications received. The pressure for places meant that the Preston Road Library building would need to be used for a further year. Of the 11+ transfers, all applicants had been made an offer with 64% getting their first preference. The number of school places continued to expand with the expansion of Stonebridge Primary school being agreed at the last Cabinet meeting. Since March there had been five OFSTED inspections where the schools concerned had been judged either good or outstanding. Councillor Moher reported that Cabinet had agreed to consult on providing youth services in a different way. Young people would be given a central role in the consultation and the outcome was due at Cabinet on 3 October 2015. Councillor Moher referred to the recent sentencing of a paedophile from Brent. The offender had not previously been known to the Council and support services were being provided to those affected.

Councillor Hirani referred to the Government announcement that it intended to cut £200m from public health provision across the country while increasing spend on the NHS meaning money going towards prevention was being cut whilst money spent on curing was going up. He was awaiting details of how this would affect Brent but assured Council that efforts would continue to be made to improve the health of local residents.

Councillor Denselow thanked the Council's Community Safety Team, the Emergency Services and the Army for dealing with the unexploded World War II bomb uncovered close to the Civic Centre. He referred to the challenge posed by radicalisation and the coming into force of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act which gave new statutory responsibilities to the Council to prevent people being drawn into terrorism and extremism. As a Prevent designated borough and flagged as part of a wider counter terrorism concern under the Protect Prepare and Pursue remit, the Council was taking this challenge very seriously. All councillors would be kept up to date with developments.

Councillor Southwood updated Council on the introduction of the Green Waste charge. 17,000 households were now signed up to the scheme and the amount of residual waste was down by 6% and the amount of green garden waste down by 44%. There was no evidence that this waste was being transferred to other bins or fly tipped. Councillor Southwood stated that she was looking at taking a strategic approach with residents to fly tipping and had met in Wembley to consider how to target enforcement action in that area which could then be used as a blueprint for tackling other areas of the borough. She referred to the concern expressed to her about the encampments in parks and reported that efforts were being made to use the Council's existing powers and public space protection orders to tackle the problem.

Councillor McLennan reported that the property and asset strategy was published on 1 June which sought to determine how the Council could best utilise properties it held. Linked to this work was the Community Asset transfer where the Council was working with the community with a view to transferring suitable buildings and properties to the community. Councillor McLennan reported that the Council was embarking on a programme of building homes in the borough providing 1,000 Council homes and 5,000 social homes. Referring to the bids made for housing zones in Alperton and Wembley – Wembley had been successful and it was hoped to hear soon that Alperton was also successful. Along with Councillor Collier, she had been undertaking work in trying to source buildings for the social rental market.

The decisions taken by Cabinet under the Council's urgency provisions were noted.

7. Deputation

Charlie Glazebrook, a representative of the Ranelagh and Honeywood Roads Neighbourhood Watch, accompanied by Charlie de Courcy, presented a petition concerning the blight on the area caused by the activities that took place in a road called The Avenue running from Honeywood Road into Harlesden Town. He asked for the neighbourhood to be supported by installing CCTV or for members and officers to visit the area to see what could be done.

Councillor Denselow responded by saying that the local ward councillors had drawn attention to the situation but the number of police reports would not warrant the deployment of static CCTV but mobile CCTV might be an option. Other anti social behaviour powers available to the Council could also be brought into use. The first action would be to visit the area with officers to draw up a plan of action. He thanked the deputation for attending the meeting.

8. Questions from the Opposition and other Non- Cabinet Members

Councillor Kelcher referred to the Kensal Rise Library building and asked if the community could be congratulated for their work and Council could be updated on progress on when there would be Brent's first community library on the site and if there was any information about the plaque commemorating Mark Twain's visit which was previously removed by the Council. Councillor Denslow replied that it was a mark of local communities fighting for their services and that the Council would look at how it could assist community libraries to get established as well as running first class libraries itself.

Councillor Davidson noted the historic achievement of Harlesden's James DeGale in becoming the first British boxer to win an Olympic gold medal and a world championship title. He asked why his proposal to award James DeGale the freedom of the borough had so far been ignored. Councillor Butt congratulated James DeGale for his achievement and replied that only the Council could bestow such an honour to any individual and that it would have been more fitting if the matter had been proposed for discussion rather than airing it in public.

Councillor Naheerathan felt it was now more important than ever for tenants to be protected from landlords who set rents unfairly and asked what was being done to protect private tenants' rights and ensure good landlords were not undermined by bad ones. Councillor McLennan replied that there was an unprecedented demand for housing particularly in the private sector with 35% of Brent's housing stock in the private rented sector. The Council had successfully introduced landlord licensing requiring minimum standards and inspectors were now enforcing these requirements. The message that Brent had a zero tolerance of poor quality property in the private rented sector was being heard.

Councillor Choudry referred to the upcoming Government Budget and the expectation that it would produce a very hard settlement for Brent. He asked what the worst case scenario might be for the borough over the next 5 years, how this would affect Brent residents and the Council's ability to provide them with assistance and what strategies the Council would need to adopt to deliver the services needed by local people. Councillor Butt replied that he felt the Government was intent on destroying local government. The financial situation was making it very difficult for Brent but he was confident that the Council could continue to deliver the services that the most vulnerable residents needed, provide sufficient school places and services for the young and elderly. The Borough Plan would provide the strategy for delivering the services needed.

Councillor Colacicco asked if the Council would support and complement the Brent CAD (Community Action on Dementia) and Ashford Place scheme to make Mapesbury a 'dementia friendly' ward with initiatives such as slow lanes in shops, a wandering scheme and the dementia cafe. Councillor Hirani replied that he had met with people to discuss how Brent could take action to become a dementia friendly borough. Signage inside the Civic Centre had been improved to set an example to others; the Council was supporting two bids to the Department of Health to fund outreach into communities in multiple languages to spread the message about being dementia friendly, and was funding research on those people living with people with dementia to see what could be incorporated into Council policies to help. Councillor Hirani fully supported Brent CAD making Mapesbury dementia

friendly but the Council was committed to making the whole borough dementia friendly.

Councillor Hossain referred to the progress being made in making the former GEC Sports Ground a facility for all the community. She asked if a meeting with Friends of Pellat Ground could be arranged to discuss the outstanding issues to ensure the best possible outcomes for everybody. Councillor Denselow replied that he would be happy to meet with residents and that it was good that ward working had levered in funding for the scheme.

Councillor Colwill stated that Kenton Ward councillors had long reported the increasingly dangerous traffic conditions in Draycott Avenue, Woodcock Hill, Northwick Circle and Dorchester Way because of commuter parking. He asked to meet with the Lead Member to examine the introduction of one hour no parking restrictions in the morning and the evening. Councillor Southwood acknowledged that the problem had existed for some time. She understood that options had been developed for parking controls in the area and would be happy to meet with the ward councillors and residents' association to discuss the most suitable option.

Councillor M Patel referred to the Prime Minister stating that cuts to the police service had had no effect to frontline services. She said that a very different story was put forward at a recent Safer Neighbourhood meeting in Alperton and asked what was being done to protect local communities from the effect of these cuts. Councillor Denselow replied that there had been significant changes to the way the Metropolitan Police was structured in order to save money. This has led to changes to the safer neighbourhood model so that whilst there were still ring fenced PCs and PCSOs per ward the sergeant post was open to be redeployed to meet more urgent needs elsewhere. The issue had been raised with the Metropolitan Police Commissioner who had admitted the new system was not working as well as it should and Councillor Denselow said he would be happy to raise the concerns of members with the London Mayor. He stated however that it needed to be borne in mind that Brent was still significantly safer than it was in 2011 with crime levels continuing to fall. Good work was being done on dealing with domestic violence and work on dealing with gangs had been praised. Nevertheless a lot still needed to be done and this would be more difficult with less money.

9. Report from the Chair of Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Filson introduced his report. He reported that in addition to the items identified on the forward plan that had largely been set by the previous committee, additional items identified for scrutiny consisted of the Council's food standards operation, the move into the Civic Centre, CCTV, a continuation of the work of the current Access to GP services task group, South Kilburn regeneration and garden waste. He referred to the education co-opted members and appointed observers serving on the Scrutiny Committee and that he wanted to be sure they were involved as part of the scrutiny process looking into areas of education provision.

10. Appointment of Chief Executive

On behalf of their respective Groups, Councillors Butt, Kansagra and Warren welcomed the appointment of Carolyn Downs as the Council's new Chief Executive.

RESOLVED:

that the appointment of Carolyn Downs, CB as Chief Executive be approved and that she be designated as the Head of Paid Service with effect from 7 September 2015.

11. **Representation of Opposition Political Groups on Committees**

The Head of Legal introduced the report which sought to discharge the Council's duty to allocate seats to the opposition groups and make appointments. She read out a proposal for appointments to committees which had been submitted by Councillor Kansagra and was subject to the decision of Council on the allocation of places.

Councillor Warren objected to the proposed appointments put forward and stated that if these were agreed he would decline making appointments to the remaining committee places. The Head of Legal advised that this would mean that he would be formally notified of the allocation of seats and have a further three week period to submit appointments and if he failed to do so Council could make such appointments as it saw fit at its next meeting.

The Head of Legal advised that a place on the Health and Wellbeing Board was allocated to the Brent Conservative Group.

Councillor Warren requested a recorded vote.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the allocation of seats on committees to the opposition political groups be as set out below:

Ordinary Committees	Size	Labour Group	Conservative Group	Brent Conservative Group	Liberal Democrats
		56 88.88%	3 4.76%	3 4.76%	1 1.59%

General Purposes Committee	8	7	1	0	0
Planning Committee	8	7	1	0	0
Audit Committee	5	4	0	1	0
Standards Committee	5	4	0	1	0
Corporate Parenting Committee	5	4	0	1	0
Equalities Committee	5	4	1	0	0
Total seats	36	30	3	3	0

<i>Scrutiny Committee</i>	8+ co-opteds	7	1	0	0
<i>Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Committee</i>	15	13	1	1	0
<i>Health and Wellbeing Board</i>	5 councillor positions	4	0	1	0

(ii) that the following appointments be made:

General Purposes Committee	Councillor Kansagra
Planning Committee	Councillor Maurice
Equalities Committee	Councillor Kansagra
Scrutiny Committee	Councillor Colwill (Vice-Chair)
Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Committee	Councillors Davidson and Kansagra

In view of the allocation of seats by Full Council, Councillor Warren declined to submit nominations for the places reserved for his Group.

Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Aden, Agha, Allie, Bradley, Butt, Chohan, Choudhary, Choudry, Colacicco, Collier, Colwill, Conneely, Crane, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Duffy, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, W Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Thomas and Van Kalwala

AGAINST: Councillors Davidson, Shaw and Warren

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Councillor Carr

12. **Dismissal of statutory officers**

The Head of Legal introduced the report which explained the change in law relating to the dismissal of certain statutory officers and proposed measures to conform to the new requirements.

Councillor Warren queried the proposals by pointing out that the proposed exchange between the Cabinet and General Purposes Committee set out in the report only involved a difference in membership of one councillor. He proposed an additional recommendation asking Council to request General Purposes Committee to review the procedure for dealing with the issue of 'excessive pay-offs for senior local authority staff' recognising that this was the actual reason for the new regulations and to report back Council and requested a recorded vote on his proposal.

The vote for Councillor Warren's proposal was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Davidson, Shaw and Warren

AGAINST: Councillors Aden, Agha, Allie, Bradley, Butt, Carr, Chohan, Choudhary, Choudry, Colacicco, Collier, Colwill, Conneely, Crane, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Duffy, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, W Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Thomas and Van Kalwala

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a Dismissal Advisory Panel be established, comprising three independent persons appointed to deal with Member Code of Conduct complaints under the Localism Act 2011, to fulfil the role of 'the Panel' referred to in the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2015;

- (ii) that the terms of reference of the Dismissal Advisory Panel as set out at paragraph 3.15 of the report submitted be approved and the establishment of the Panel be included in the Council's Constitution;
- (iii) that the Chief Operating Officer be authorised to explore the possibility of sharing independent persons appointed by other councils, whether or not on a reciprocal basis, and report to the General Purposes Committee for its approval;
- (iv) that the proposed amendments to Standing Orders as set out at paragraph 3.17 of the report submitted be approved and the Monitoring Officer be authorised to make any further consequential changes to the Constitution to reflect the new statutory framework;
- (v) to note that the disciplinary and dismissal procedures for the roles of Chief Executive, Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer will be reviewed by the General Purposes Committee to reflect the new arrangements.

13. **Shared Internal Audit Services**

Members had before them a report setting out proposals for sharing internal audit services with the London Boroughs of Ealing and Hounslow.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the provision of the Council's internal audit service be delegated to the London Borough of Ealing with effect from 1 October 2015 or such other date as may be reasonably agreed with the London Borough of Ealing;
- (ii) that the cost of operation of such delegated internal audit service by the London Borough of Ealing be noted as initially at least £75,000 less than the current service cost;
- (iii) that an agreement be entered into confirming the terms of delegation and the Chief Finance Officer in consultation with the Chief Legal Officer be delegated the power to determine the precise terms of the legal agreements, as set out in section 6 of the report submitted;
- (iv) that the proposed staffing arrangements be agreed, including the transfer of internal audit and investigation staff to the London Borough of Ealing as set out in paragraphs 4.5 and 4.6 of the report submitted;
- (v) that it be noted that this arrangement will enable the council to reduce the number of heads of service employed by one, the saving from which will contribute towards the £1.4m to be achieved through the corporate management restructure;
- (vi) that the Chief Legal Officer be authorised to make any necessary changes to the Council's Constitution to reflect the delegation of the internal audit function to the London Borough of Ealing.

14. **West London Waste Plan**

The report before members dealt with the Inspector's report into the Examination of the West London Waste Plan.

RESOLVED:

that the West London Waste Plan, as amended by incorporating the recommended changes set out in the Inspector's report, be adopted.

[Councillor Duffy declared a pecuniary interest in the above item].

15. **Motions**

15.1 **Government cuts**

Councillor Kelcher presented the motion circulated in his name.

In response, Councillor Maurice stated that whilst Brent may have elected Labour MPs, the rest of the country voted in a Conservative Government. He suggested that if Labour could have formed a government it would have joined with the SDP and funding would have been directed to Scotland. Councillor Collier stated that whilst the Chancellor talked tough, he took the soft options by inflicting the deepest cuts in those areas that affected the most vulnerable. Whilst it was regrettable to have to introduce the green waste charge, this covered part of the costs of home care. He would rather the Council risked being unpopular than take easy political decisions. Councillor Warren felt that members needed to be honest with residents and explain the need to address the size of the welfare budget whilst protecting the most vulnerable. He requested a recorded vote on the motion.

The motion was put to the vote and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the people of Brent overwhelmingly rejected the outgoing government, and have given no mandate to the incoming Conservative one; however, they will have to face the brunt of the cuts that Prime Minister Cameron and Chancellor Osborne are committed to making;
- (ii) that these cuts have not been determined by fairness, but electoral expediency; the Chancellor talked tough with his plans to cut £12 billion from welfare overall, and billions more from other departments, but he has run scared of tough choices, hiding where cuts will fall behind empty phrases, such as 'good housekeeping';
- (iii) that unlike the Conservative government, the Council promises to be straight with the people of Brent; many – often with the loudest voices – would reverse the Green Waste charge or wish for a council tax cut, but the effect on all residents, and not just those with the sharpest elbows will be considered;

- (iv) that when politicians offer what looks like a free lunch, the Council will ask who really pays; and what services for the vulnerable will we have to be sacrificed for these easy headlines;
- (v) that unlike this government, honesty and fairness will guide this council in the year to come; that way this borough will ensure it is run for all the people of Brent.

Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Aden, Agha, Allie, Bradley, Butt, Chohan, Choudhary, Choudry, Colacicco, Collier, Conneely, Crane, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Duffy, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, W Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Thomas and Van Kalwala

AGAINST: Councillors Carr, Colwill, Davidson, Kansagra, Maurice, Shaw and Warren

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

15.2 **Garden waste service**

Councillor Kansagra moved the motion circulated in his name and that of Councillors Colwill and Maurice which sought to request the Cabinet to revoke the garden waste collection scheme. He stated that the Government had been elected in the knowledge that a further £12B cuts would be imposed and these would be implemented fairly. The Council had made substantial savings and cut a lot of wastage but he felt there was more that could be cut and therefore the income from the garden waste scheme was not needed. He submitted that it represented a tax on residents rather than a charge and the number of complaints received about it made it clear it should be revoked. Councillor Warren submitted that a motion to incur spending could only be effective if it identified where the money to fund it was coming from. He had consistently opposed the garden waste collection scheme and had included it in his budget proposals put to the March Council meeting. He therefore moved an amendment to the motion which the Head of Legal read to the meeting. This sought to identify where the funding should come from. Councillor Warren requested a recorded vote on his proposed amendment. Councillor Southwood questioned how it could be proposed that a decision now implement could be reversed without it costing the Council a large amount of money. She stated that the charge would remain and that implementation of the scheme had gone well.

The amendment moved by Councillor Warren was put to the vote and declared LOST.

Voting on the amendment was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Davidson, Shaw and Warren

AGAINST: Councillors Aden, Agha, Allie, Bradley, Butt, Carr, Chohan, Choudhary, Choudry, Colacicco, Collier, Colwill, Conneely, Crane, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kansagra, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, W Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Thomas and Van Kalwala

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor

The motion was put to the vote and declared LOST.

15.3 **Congratulations and career break**

Councillor Warren moved the motion circulated in his name and that of Councillors Davidson and Shaw which sought the Council's congratulations to the Conservative Party on winning the General Election and to call upon Councillor Butt to resign as London Councils' lead member for Equalities. Councillor Davidson referred to the number of people in the borough that voted Conservative and the outcome of the General Election. He stated that this was because people believed in the Government's economic vision. Councillor Butt stated that the people of Brent did not vote for a Conservative Government but the Council would work with the Government on behalf of its residents. He referred to Government proposals on repatriation that showed he had no lessons to learn from Conservatives on equalities. Councillor Kansagra added that London Councils was a democratic body and was fully aware of Councillor Butt's record when it made its decision. He submitted that the decision to allow the racial discrimination case to follow the legal process was a correct one and that the Council had taken appropriate steps following the case. Councillor Warren requested a recorded vote.

The motion was put to the vote and declared LOST.

Voting was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Davidson, Shaw and Warren

AGAINST: Councillors Aden, Agha, Allie, Bradley, Butt, Chohan, Choudhary, Choudry, Colacicco, Collier, Conneely, Crane, Daly, Denselow, Dixon, Duffy, Eniola, Ezeajughi, Farah, Filson, Harrison, Hector, Hirani, Hoda-Benn, Hossain, Hylton, Kabir, Kelcher, Khan, Long, Mahmood, Mashari, McLeish, McLennan, Miller, Moher, J Mitchell Murray, W Mitchell Murray, Naheerathan, Nerva, M Patel, R Patel, Shahzad, Ketan Sheth, Krupa Sheth, Southwood, Stopp, Thomas and Van Kalwala

ABSTENTIONS: The Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Councillors Carr, Colwill, Kansagra and Maurice

16. **Urgent business**

None.

The meeting closed at 8.48 pm

COUNCILLOR LESLEY JONES B.ED MA MBE
Mayor