



Brent

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Monday 25 January 2016 at 6.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillor Butt (Chair), Councillor Moher (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Denselow, Hirani, Kansagra, McLennan, Pavey and Southwood

Also present: Councillors S Choudhary

Apologies for absence were received from: Councillors

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

None declared.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 December 2015 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

3. **Matters arising**

None.

4. **Deputations**

None received.

5. **Appointments to Sub-Committees / Outside Bodies**

None.

6. **Calculation of Council Tax Base 2016/17**

The committee had before it the report which set out council tax base calculations to be used for 2016/17. The level of council tax base set is used in the calculation of the council tax for 2016/17. Regulations require that the council tax base is set by 31st January prior to the start of the financial year.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the collection rate for the council tax for 2016/17 be set at 97.50%;

- (ii) that in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992, the amount calculated by the council as its council tax base for 2016/17 be set at 89,254.

7. Review of Polling Places

The committee consider the report setting out the outcome of a review of polling places with recommendations for the elections in May 2016. Only a small number of changes were being proposed where circumstances required consideration of alternative premises. No alterations to polling district boundaries were being proposed.

Members expressed concern over the proposed siting of the temporary polling place on Kings Drive. It was suggested that another approach be made to use St Catherine's Church. The committee asked that for future elections re-consideration be given to the polling place for electors living in student nursing accommodation in Northwick Park.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that discussions continue with the Winston Churchill Lycée with a view to using it as a polling place for NBA4 polling district in Barnhill ward but if this cannot be agreed temporary portacabins be situated in the vicinity of the school with the exact arrangements being subject to consultation with the ward members;
- (ii) that in the absence of viable alternatives, the use of Ark Franklyn Academy be agreed in principle as the polling place for HQP3 and HQP5 polling districts in Queen's Park ward and further discussions be held with the Head;
- (iii) that in view of the unavailability of St Joseph's RC School, Church End and Roundwood Unity Centre be the polling place for CHA3 polling district;
- (iv) that a further approach be made for the use of St Catherine's Church as the polling place for voters in CDU2 polling district in Dudden Hill ward but if this cannot be agreed portacabins be situated in Mulgrave Road in preference to the site of Christ Temple on Clifford Way;
- (v) that the new Willesden Green Library be the polling place for electors in HBP1 polling district in Brondesbury Park ward;
- (vi) that the polling places approved at this meeting be adopted for the Greater London Mayoral and Assembly elections;
- (vii) that in the event of any venue becoming unavailable before the May 2016 elections, authority be delegated to the Democratic Services Manager to make alternative arrangements for polling places for these elections in consultation with the leaders of the political groups of the Council.

8. Any other urgent business

None.

The meeting closed at 6.20 pm

M BUTT
Chair