



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

**Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
held on Monday 18 September 2017 at 7.00 pm**

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Bhagwanji Chohan

The Deputy Mayor
Councillor Arshad Mahmood

COUNCILLORS:

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

1. Mayors Statement - Order of Business

Before the formal meeting began, the Mayor informed members of a change to the order of business set out on the original summons. The Mayor advised that notice had been received, during the day, that Councillors Davidson and Maurice had joined the Brent Conservative Group and this required a formal review of the representation of political groups on committees. Given the late notice of this change, the Mayor advised that he had agreed to include this on the agenda as an urgent item. An urgent supplementary report had been published, which would be taken prior to Item 5 on the agenda (Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice-Chairs).

In addition, as a number of questions from members of the public had been received and there had been significant public interest in the Motions listed for consideration along with accompanying requests for deputations the Mayor advised that, in accordance with Standing Order 37, he also intended to move these items up the agenda for consideration in advance of Agenda Item 9 (Motions).

As a result it was **RESOLVED** that

(1) The business to be considered at the meeting be re-arranged in the following order:

- Agenda Item 5 – Urgent Item: Representation of Political Groups on Committees;
- Agenda Item 6 - Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice-Chairs;
- Agenda Item 7 – Questions from Members of the Public
- Agenda Item 8 – Deputations
- Agenda Item 9 - Motions

(2) The rest of the business for the meeting follow in the same order as listed on the agenda.

(Please note the minutes reflect the order in which the items were considered at the meeting).

2. **Apologies for Absence**

The Mayor advised that direct apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Hector, Khan, Marquis, Pavey and Pitruzella.

In addition it was noted that Councillor Collier was also unable to attend the meeting. As notice of his absence had not been received by the Head of Executive & Member Services in advance of the meeting Carolyn Downs (Chief Executive) advised it would not be possible to record this as a formal apology for absence.

3. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 10 July 2017 be approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. **Declarations of interests**

The Mayor invited Members to declare any personal, prejudicial or disclosable pecuniary interests in relation to matters due to be considered at the meeting, in accordance with the Members Code of Conduct.

- (a) Councillor Nerva declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 17 (Motion – Adoption of International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of Antisemitism) as he was a member of the Jewish Labour movement.
- (b) Councillor Stopp declared a personal interest in respect of agenda item 17 (Motion – Adoption of International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance definition of Antisemitism) as he was a member of the Jewish Labour movement.

5. Mayor's Announcements (including any petitions received)

The Mayor made the following announcements:

(i) London Terror Attack

The Mayor referred to the recent terror attack in London and felt that once again the public had shown that those who attempted to use terror to hurt their way of life would not succeed.

The Mayor advised that the Council's thoughts were with those affected by the tragedy, their friends and families along with the emergency services who had responded so well to it.

(ii) Mary Turner - Condolences

With sadness, the Mayor announced the recent death of Mary Turner, a former school dinner lady at Salusbury Primary School in Brent, who had risen to become president of the GMB for 20 years.

Paying tribute, he advised Members that she had been born in Ireland but her parents had moved to the UK in the early 1950s and later settled in Kilburn, where Mary had attended Carlton Vale School.

Mary was survived by John and Denise, and five grandchildren and the Mayor advised she would be sorely missed.

(iii) Death of a former Councillor Jack Sayers

The Mayor also announced with sadness the recent death of former Councillor Jack Sayers. Members were advised that his cremation would take place at 10am on Thursday 28 September at Golders Green Crematorium. A reception would follow at the Railway Club, Cricklewood Broadway to which all Members were welcome to attend.

He asked everyone present to join him in observing a minutes silence in memory of former Councillor Sayers.

(A minutes silence was observed).

(iv) GCSE and A - level results

The Mayor announced he was proud to highlight the recent GCSE and A level results across Brent and congratulated all students, on behalf of the Council, on their fantastic results. He recognised that these results represented many years of hard work and wished all students well in the next steps of their lives.

(v) Mayors Charity Fundraising event – 1 September 17

The Mayor thanked everyone who had attended his first Fundraising Event on 1 September 2017. He was grateful for all the artists, musicians, comedians and singers who had filled the Grand Hall and given their time to raise money for his two chosen charities.

(vi) Former Mayor – Fundraising Total

The Mayor took the opportunity to congratulate his predecessor, former Mayor Councillor Parvez Ahmed, who had recently announced the fundraising total for his year in office. He advised that Councillor Ahmed had raised a total of £51,000, which would be shared equally between his three chosen charities.

(vii) Pakistan and India Independence Day

The Mayor advised he was delighted to have been able to join fellow councillors at the celebrations to mark Pakistan and India Independence Days in August. He also thanked Councillors Hirani and Agha for organising and hosting events at the Civic Centre, which he was pleased to observe had been enjoyed by many Members and staff.

(viii) Mayors Civic Service – 17 October 2017

Members were reminded that the Mayors Civic Service would be taking place on 17 October 2017 at 6pm. The Service would be taking place at Ealing Road Temple and all Members were welcome to attend. The Service would start with a tour of the temple and then be followed by a multi faith ceremony.

(ix) Petitions

Members noted that in accordance with Standing Order 68(f) a list of current petitions had been circulated which also detailed the progress made in dealing with them.

6. Representation of Political Groups on Committees

The Mayor advised that pursuant to s100B(4)(b) of the Local Government Act he had agreed to accept a report from the Chief Legal Officer regarding a change in political representation on the Council as an urgent item for consideration at the meeting. This was in view of the fact that there was a statutory duty on the Council to undertake a review of the arrangements for the representation of political groups

on committees as soon as was practical following any change in arrangements being notified.

Members were reminded that the report from the Chief Legal Officer had been published as a supplementary agenda item, with the change in political representation involving Councillors Davidson and Maurice moving from the Conservative Group to join the Brent Conservative Group. Members noted the change in membership would mean that the Brent Conservative Group would now form the principal opposition group on the Council.

In terms of the outcome of the review, it was **RESOLVED**:

- (1) that the size of each committee to which the political balance rules would apply should remain unchanged;
- (2) that where the rules of political balance apply, the allocation of seats to each of the Council's political groups on committees would be as detailed within section 3 of the report;
- (3) that as a result of (2) above appointments to committees would be made giving effect to the wishes of the political group allocated the seats;
- (4) to note that the political balance on sub-committees would be reviewed at the next meeting of the General Purposes Committee.

7. **Appointments to Committees and Outside Bodies and Appointment of Chairs/Vice Chairs (if any)**

Following on from the change in political representation on the Council and outcome of the subsequent review, the Mayor again referred Members to the supplementary pack circulated in advance of the meeting, which contained a list of changes to appointments on Council Committees, Sub Committees and other bodies.

It was **RESOLVED** that the following appointments be approved:

- (1) Appointment of Simon Goulden (United Synagogue) as co-opted Member of the Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee.
- (2) Resignation of Councillor Naheerathan as a full Member of the Council's Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Main Committee with Councillor Duffy nominated to take his place, as full Member.
- (3) Resignation of Councillor Warren as a full Member of the Council's Corporate Parenting Committee with Councillor Kansagra nominated to take his place, as full Member.
- (4) Resignation of Councillor Ms Shaw as substitute Member of the Council's Corporate Parenting Committee with Councillor Colwill nominated to take her place, as substitute Member.

- (5) Resignation of Councillor Warren as full Member of the Council's Standards Committee with Councillor Colwill nominated to take his place, as full Member.
- (6) Resignation of Councillor Ms Shaw as substitute Member of the Council's Standards Committee with Councillor Kansagra nominated to take her place, as substitute Member.
- (7) Resignation of Councillor Davidson as substitute Member of the Council's Health and Wellbeing Board.
- (8) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as full Member and Vice-Chair of the Council's Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Warren nominated to take his place, as full Member and Vice-Chair.
- (9) Resignation of Councillor Colwill as substitute Member of the Council's Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Ms Shaw nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (10) Resignation of Councillor Colwill as substitute Member of the Council's Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Warren nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (11) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's Resources and Public Realm Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Maurice nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (12) Resignation of Councillor Colwill as full Member and Vice-Chair of the Council's Housing Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Ms Shaw is nominated to take his place, as full Member and Vice-Chair.
- (13) Resignation of Councillor Davidson as substitute Member of the Council's Housing Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Warren is nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (14) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's Housing Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Maurice nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (15) Resignation of Councillor Colwill as substitute Member of the Council's Planning Committee with Councillor Davidson nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (16) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's Planning Committee with Councillor Ms Shaw nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (17) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's Equalities Committee with Councillor Warren nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.

- (18) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's Audit Advisory Committee with Councillor Warren nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (19) Resignation of Councillor Colwill as full Member of the Council's General Purposes Committee with Councillor Warren nominated to take his place, as full Member.
- (20) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's General Purposes Committee with Councillor Ms Shaw nominated to take his place, as substitute Member
- (21) Resignation of Councillor Davidson as substitute Member of the Council's General Purposes Committee with Councillor Maurice nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.
- (22) Resignation of Councillor Ms Shaw, as full Member of the Council's Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Committee with Councillor Maurice nominated to take her place, as full Member.
- (23) Resignation of Councillor Kansagra as substitute Member of the Council's Audit Committee with Councillor Warren nominated to take his place, as substitute Member.

8. **Questions from Members of the Public**

The Mayor advised that in accordance with Standing Order 39A four questions had been received from the following members of the public:

Question 1 from Mr Wadhwani to Councillor Tatler, Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Growth, Employment and Skills relating to the strategies in place to address demand on housing and other local services as a result of regeneration activity in Wembley Park.

Question 2 from Ms Dowell to Councillor Southwood, Cabinet Member for Environment regarding the costs and action being taken to deal with fly-tipping, with specific reference to the area in and around Selwyn Avenue, Bruce Avenue and Alric Avenue.

Question 3 from Mr Adow and Mrs Macolin to Councillor Farah, Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform regarding operation of the Housing Allocation Policy.

Question 4 from Mr Grigg to Councillor Mili Patel, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People regarding the adoption of a Council Tax exemption for care leavers up to the age of 25.

Members noted the written responses provided on each question, which had been circulated with the agenda. The Mayor advised that each questioner had been invited to attend the meeting in order to ask a supplementary question and as a result welcomed Mr Wadhwani (Question 1) and Mr Grigg (Question 4) to the meeting.

He advised that Mr Wadhwani had indicated in advance that he did not wish to ask a supplementary question. The Mayor therefore invited Mr Grigg to put his supplementary question to Councillor Mili Patel.

Supplementary to Question 5 from Mr Grigg to Councillor Mili Patel, Cabinet Member for Children and Young People

Mr Grigg thanked Councillor Patel for her positive response and also Councillor Kelcher and Hector for their support in pursuing this matter. He advised that working for the Children's Society he had been involved with a number of Councils in seeking agreement to the adoption of Council Tax exemptions for care leavers up to the age of 25. The written response provided had implied that Brent, as corporate parent to a number of care leavers, would also be looking at this. Keen to build on the positive response, Mr Grigg asked if it would be possible to confirm an anticipated date for considering the exemption and also whether it would be possible, as other Councils had done, to back date and also apply any exemption from mid-year.

In response Councillor Mili Patel advised that as part of the Children's and Social Work Act 2017 the Local Authority was required to produce a Local Offer and she was pleased to confirm that for care leavers this would include a proposed exemption for Council Tax. Whilst not able to provide a specific date, it was anticipated that Cabinet approval would be sought towards the end of the year and this would be likely to include any exemption being back dated.

9. Deputations (if any)

The Mayor advised that one deputation had been received within the timescale set out under Standing Order 39(c). The deputation had been requested by Rabbi Dabba Smith and related to the motions due to be considered on Hate Crime and Antisemitism.

In addition, two further deputation requests had been received in relation to the motion on the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHR) definition of Antisemitism, although the Mayor advised these had been submitted after the formal deadline had expired. These requests had been from Mr Peter Firmin and Mr Padraic Finn. Given that both of these requests had been received late, the Mayor advised Members that if they were minded to accept both deputations there would be a need to suspend Standing Order 39(c) in order to allow them to be heard.

Given the subject matter of both of the additional deputations, Members indicated that they would be willing to make an exception in order to allow them to be heard. It was therefore **RESOLVED** that Standing Order 39(c) be suspended to enable the two additional deputations from Mr Firmin and Mr Finn to be heard.

The Mayor then welcomed Rabbi Dabba Smith and invited him to address the meeting.

Rabbi Dabba Smith began by thanking the Mayor for allowing him to address the meeting, advising that he was speaking in support of the motions listed on the

agenda relating to Hate Crime and the IHR definition of Antisemitism. He began by highlighting the difficult times in which he felt people were now living given the enhanced forms of nationalism and exploitation of hatred now being experienced in many countries. He felt that both motions complimented each other and advised that whilst he shared concerns about the actions of the Israeli Government he was also concerned at the level of hatred being directed towards the Jewish community. Rabbi Dabba Smith felt there was nothing in the text of the motion on Antisemitism that would deter legitimate or reasoned criticism of the policies of Israel and outlined his close work with colleagues in the region on a cross border basis, as part of his relationship with the Eco Peace organisation. He also supported the concerns highlighted in the motion on Hate Crime around the increase in religious hatred and supported inclusion of the specific reference towards Islamophobia, which he felt was even more of an issue than antisemitism. He highlighted work he was involved in locally to tackle this issue, particularly in relation to Muslim women, and supported the need to continue working collaboratively in addressing these concerns.

Rabbi Dabba Smith ended his deputation by highlighting the positive atmosphere within Brent which encouraged sharing and tolerance between different cultures, ethnicity and religions and generated a stronger feeling of community. He urged members not to take this for granted and to continue working together with the local community to encourage and support this approach.

The Mayor thanked Rabbi Dabba Smith for his comments and then invited Mr David Kaye (speaking on behalf of the deputation requested by Mr Peter Firmin) to present his deputation.

Mr Kaye introduced himself and advised that he was sadly speaking against the motion due to be considered on the IHR definition of antisemitism, which he felt was both unnecessary and divisive. He felt it important to recognise the good work being undertaken in Brent to tackle racism and felt that if this needed to be strengthened for any reason in relation to antisemitism, this should be based on a much broader definition than proposed in the motion. In his view, which he pointed out was shared by a number of Jewish colleagues, the motion was not required and would not strengthen the position in tackling antisemitism given:

- the vagueness of the definition provided, which had also been subject to counsel opinion; and
- the link which the definition made to the state of Israel and criticism of its policies in relation to self-determination;

In addition Mr Kaye expressed concern at inclusion of the term “tropes” in the wording of the motion in terms of any criticism being made towards Israel. In his view there was no link between antisemitism and criticism being directed towards Israel or any other state. As a result he urged Members to vote against the motion on the basis he felt it to be both unnecessary and divisive.

The Mayor thanked Mr Kaye for his comments and then invited Mr Michael Coleman (speaking on behalf of the deputation requested by Mr Padraic Finn) to present his deputation.

Mr Coleman began by advising Members that he would be speaking against the motion on antisemitism and on behalf of a number of Brent residents (both Jewish and non-Jewish) who were concerned about the Council's potential adoption of the IHR definition of the antisemitism.

He advised that these concerns were based on the fact the definition had no legal status. There was no requirement on the Council to adopt such a definition and he highlighted there had been widespread and robust opposition to the IHR definition including from amongst leading Jewish lawyers. In addition he pointed out that the definition did not appear to be consistent with the requirements of Article 10 of the UN Declaration on Human Rights in terms of Freedom of Expression and could potentially be unlawful if applied. He also queried the basis on which the definition was being promoted, which he felt appeared to focus on antisemitism as separate from and obscuring the need to tackle other forms of racism and hate crime. Finally he was concerned at the way in which the definition appeared to link antisemitism with criticism of the state of Israel.

He also felt there was a need to consider the motion in a wider context, recognising that according to a recent Jewish Policy Research report incidents of antisemitism in the UK were amongst the lowest in the world. At the same time there was a need to recognise the general rise in hate crime with a much higher instance amongst other groups such as Muslims, people of colour, LGBT community and those with disabilities. Rather than focussing purely on antisemitism he felt there was a need to concentrate on tackling hate crime in its broadest form and not just in relation to the Jewish community.

Whilst recognising that the definition was being promoted by a number of organisations, Mr Coleman highlighted they did not speak for everyone and the Council should be seeking to defend the right to freedom of expression. In summing up Mr Coleman felt that the IHR definition the Council was being asked to consider adopting would not assist in helping to defend the Jewish community from the most common form of anti-semitic hate crime and would also obscure the need to tackle other more prevalent forms of racism and hate crime. He therefore urged Members to reject the motion either in full or at least by the removal of the definition of anti-semitism that had been included.

The Mayor thanked Mr Coleman for his comments and advised, by way of response that as all of the deputations related to motions listed on the agenda the meeting would now move on to consider these motions.

10. Motions

10.1 Motion from Labour Group – Challenging Hate, Championing Cohesion

The Mayor invited Councillor Nerva to move the motion from the Labour Group who began by highlighting what he felt was one of the main benefits about living in Brent, which was the strength of cohesion between the different and diverse communities across the borough. He recognised, however, that whilst positive this did not prevent problems such as hate crime being experienced and in these instances the Council would have a role in not only supporting victims but also in seeking to tackle and prevent these type of problems. Whilst the motion being moved was therefore a statement on hate crime, he felt it also needed to be

considered alongside the motion on antisemitism, which had already been approved by a number of other neighbouring boroughs.

Adopting both motions would not, he pointed out, prevent the Council from focussing on other groups affected by hate crime or mean the Council had any form of hierarchy for dealing with hate crime. He also referred to a letter sent to all Councillors by the Board of Deputies which had urged them to support the motions on both hate crime and antisemitism. In addition Councillor Nerva took the opportunity to highlight the outstanding co-operation and joint working already in existence between Muslim and Jewish communities within the borough. He also felt it was important to recognise, as highlighted within the motion, the increase in hate crime being reported against EU nationals since the EU Referendum. In summing up, he urged Members to support both motions and also the activities planned during the forthcoming Hate Crime Week.

Councillor Warren, speaking on behalf of the Brent Conservative Group, advised that his Group had no concern about supporting the motion as a measure designed to maintain and enhance the strong community relations across the borough. He felt it was important for all Members to condemn and for the Council to continue to challenge and tackle hate crime in whatever form it was experienced.

Finally the Mayor invited Councillor Colwill to respond to the motion on behalf of the Conservative Group. Councillor Colwill advised that he fully supported the comments already made by Councillors Nerva and Warren and felt it important to also highlight the strong community relations within the borough and need to continue to tackle all forms of hate crime.

The motion (as set out below) was then put to the vote by a show of hands and declared **CARRIED**.

“Brent Council expresses grave alarm and concern at the upswing in hate crime, discriminatory acts and violations of dignity in the last year across the United Kingdom.

We condemn racism and xenophobia as well as all other forms of discrimination (including but not limited to discrimination on the grounds of disability, sex, acts of homophobia, religious intolerance, ageism and any other violations of human rights such as modern slavery) as flagrant breaches of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The council is deeply concerned about the surge in religious hatred, such as antisemitism and islamophobia and strongly condemn all forms of discrimination against religious beliefs. This may constitute expressions of hatred, rhetorical and physical manifestations of religious hatred, including against property, community institutions and religious facilities.

Brent Council welcomes the publication of “Hate Crime: A guide to those affected”. This much needed guide results from a ground-breaking collaborative approach involving the Community Security Trust, Tell MAMA, The Crown Prosecution Service and the Department for Communities and Local Government.

The council unequivocally condemns hate crimes against EU nationals which have seen a rise in the last year. We recognise the essential contribution that EU nationals make to our workforce and communities; the council will continue to help and support this group in any way that we can.

Brent Council pledges to combat all forms of pernicious racism and reiterates that any form of hate crime and discrimination (including discriminatory and mendacious statements or publications, harassment, bullying or victimisation) will not be tolerated in our workforce and communities.

The diversity of the borough and the cohesion between its different communities are major strengths and assets of Brent. We reassure our residents and employees that we continue to provide support for victims of acts described above, to report incidents and will within our powers, take action wherever possible against perpetrators who commit such heinous acts.”

10.2 Motion from Conservative Group – Adoption of International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance Definition of Antisemitism

The Mayor advised Members that as a result of the change in political membership on the Council late notice had been received of an alteration to the mover and wording of the original motion. As this had been received after the deadline, the Mayor advised he would need to seek Members approval to waive Standing Order 45(d) in order to permit the Leader of the Conservative Group to now alter the motion as follows:

- Deletion of the following sentence and all bullet points listed after: “The guidelines highlight manifestations of antisemitism as including:”; and
- Amend the final paragraph to read “This Council welcomes the cross-party support within the Council for combatting antisemitism in all its manifestations and pledges to combat this pernicious form of racism.”

The alteration had also been detailed as part of the supplementary agenda issued in advance of the meeting.

The procedural motion to suspend Standing Order 45(d) in order to enable the motion to be altered was put to the vote by a show of hands and declared **LOST**.

As a result, the Chief Executive advised Members that the motion to be considered would be the original version submitted in the name of Councillor Davidson and the Conservative Group and published with the main agenda. Whilst Councillor Davidson, had subsequently joined the Brent Conservative Group he moved the motion with the consent of Councillor Colwill, as Leader of the Conservative Group.

Councillor Davidson began by highlighting his strong support for the motion which would involve the Council joining with 100 other local authorities in adopting the IHR Alliance definition on Antisemitism. In moving the motion, he felt it was important to recognise the rise in hate crime and its particular impact on Jewish communities across the UK, with recorded incidents of antisemitism in the UK at their highest levels since the 1980’s. He therefore also welcomed the Government’s intention to sign up to the definition.

Whilst recognising that the guidelines included as part of the definition had caused some concern, he felt there was nothing included within them that members should not want to sign up to. As a Council, he felt Brent had a duty to condemn all forms of hate crime and racism within the borough including antisemitism, which he pointed out had been a longstanding issue. He therefore urged all members to support the motion on a cross party basis.

Following the original motion having been moved, the Mayor advised Members of a further amendment submitted by Councillor Choudhury, the details of which had also been included on the supplementary papers published in advance of the meeting. Councillor Choudhury formally moved the amendment, highlighting that the intention was to help clarify and seek a cross party consensus on the definition. The Chief Executive clarified the amendment was as follows:

To delete the sentence in the original motion:

“The guidelines highlight manifestations of antisemitism as including:”

and replace with:

“The guidelines highlight possible manifestations of antisemitism as sometimes including:”

To delete bullet point 7 in the original motion:

“ Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination e.g. by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavour.”

and replace as bullet point 7 with:

“Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination provided Palestine rights of self-determination are also recognised.”

Prior to being put to the vote, Councillor Butt advised of an alteration to the above amendment which Councillor Choudhury confirmed he would be willing to accept. The alteration was as follows:

Amendment to bullet point 7 to read:

“Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination ~~provided Palestine~~ **alongside Palestinian** rights of self-determination ~~are also recognised.~~”

The amendment, as altered, was then put to the vote by a show of hands and declared **CARRIED**.

The Mayor then invited Councillor Miller, on behalf of the Labour Group to respond to the substantive motion (as amended). Councillor Miller began by highlighting the motion already agreed on hate crime, and of the commitment of the Council to tackle all forms of hate crime as set out in the Stronger Communities Strategy including antisemitism. Whilst a number of views had been expressed on the definition, including those worried about its impact on free speech, there had also

been a number implying some form of hierarchy of bigotry in terms of how hate crime was tackled, which he advised was not a concept supported or recognised by the current Administration. He highlighted a need to recognise the statement “Never Again” as a call for action which was also supported by the Community Safety Trust and felt that the amendment agreed would ensure concerns expressed in relation to the definition and criticism of Israel could be addressed whilst also preserving a clear definition of antisemitism. He therefore advised that the Labour Group would be willing to support the motion (as amended).

As Conservative Members advised that had no further comments to make, the substantive motion (as amended and set out below) was then put to the vote by show of hands and declared **CARRIED**.

“This Council notes with alarm the rise in antisemitism in recent years across the UK. This includes incidents when criticism of Israel has been expressed using antisemitic tropes. Criticism of Israel can be legitimate, but not if it employs the tropes and imagery of antisemitism.

We therefore welcome the UK Government’s announcement on December 11th 2016 that it will sign up to the internationally recognised International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) guidelines on antisemitism which define antisemitism thus:

“Antisemitism is a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities.”

The guidelines highlight possible manifestations of antisemitism as sometimes including:

- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion.
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions.
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews.
- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust).
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust.
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations.
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination alongside Palestinian rights of self-determination.
- Applying double standards by requiring of it behaviour not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation.

- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis.
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis.
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

This Council welcomes the cross-party support within the Council for combating antisemitism in all its manifestations. This Council hereby adopts the above definition of antisemitism as set out by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance and pledges to combat this pernicious form of racism.”

10.3 Motion from Brent Conservative Group - Brent Planning System

The Mayor invited Councillor Warren to move the motion from the Brent Conservative Group who highlighted what he felt to be the public loss in confidence in Brent’s Planning system. In order to restore resident’s confidence in the system, he felt there was a need for an independent review into all aspects of the planning process.

Councillor Tatler, responding on behalf of the Labour Group, highlighted that the planning process had already been subject to independent review with progress against the recommendations made being monitored through the Audit Advisory Committee. She also highlighted what she felt to be the lack of constructive engagement by the Brent Conservative Group in the review process and advised that on this basis the Labour Group would not be prepared to support what they felt to be an unnecessary and costly additional review.

In exercising his right of reply, Councillor Warren highlighted what he felt was the serious nature of the concerns raised by local residents which he felt therefore justified further review.

As Conservative Group Members advised that had no comments to make, the motion (as set out below) was then put to the vote by show of hands and declared **LOST**.

“This Council notes that our residents have lost confidence in the Brent planning system.

Residents tell us that consultations are mere public relation exercises, that decisions are often perverse and some seemingly politically motivated.

We note last year's damning report on the Brent planning service by PWC, and agree to hold an independent inquiry into every aspect of the planning process. This Council agrees that this is the only way that we can hope to restore residents' confidence in our planning service.”

11. Reports from the Leader and Cabinet

In accordance with Standing Order 38, the Council received reports from the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members, as follows:

- (i) Councillor Butt (Leader of the Council)

Councillor Butt, whilst welcoming Councillor Warren as the Leader of the new principal Opposition Group on the Council also highlighted as an issue the frequency of change between membership of both Opposition Groups. He also advised Members that a response was still awaited from the Secretary of State to the request from the Council for financial flexibility and assistance in terms of undertaking additional fire safety works in tower blocks identified as a result of the tragedy at Grenfell Tower. Concern was expressed that no response had yet been provided and he suggested that Opposition Members may also wish to call on their Government colleagues for a response, given the importance of the issue in terms of resident safety.

In accordance with Standing Order 16(b) Councillor Butt also reported use of the urgency procedure in relation to the following two decisions:

- Extension of Reed Contract; and
- Brent Domestic Abuse Advocacy and MARAC Coordination – Contract Variation

(ii) Councillor McLennan (Deputy Leader of the Council)

Councillor McLennan advised she was pleased to announce that despite a challenging position it was now possible to report that the Council had achieved a balanced budget for 2017/18 and was moving towards a balanced position for 2018/19. She thanked all involved for their ongoing efforts in relation to the budget position but felt it important to recognise that further difficult challenges would need to be faced when setting the budget for 2019/20 and beyond. The decision to move to a two year budget setting cycle had, however, helped to manage the reductions needing to be achieved and she felt represented a sensible planning approach.

In concluding her update, another significant area of work which Councillor McLennan drew Members attention to was the progress being made on introduction of pilot Business Rate pooling arrangements across London which she advised was something that would continue to be kept under review.

(iii) Councillor Tatler (Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Growth, Employment and Skills)

In response to concerns regarding the adverse impact that legislation relating to Permitted Development rights was having on the local economy and on the Council's role at the heart of the planning process, Councillor Tatler advised she was pleased to announce that Cabinet had recently approved the pursuit of an Article 4 Directive. The Directive would cover the Wembley and Alperton area and assist the Council in preventing developers seeking to by-pass the planning process.

In addition Councillor Tatler took the opportunity to remind Members of the review currently being undertaken on the Local Plan and the importance of ensuring as wide engagement as possible in the consultation process. Members had been provided with a leaflet detailing the various consultation

events and were asked for support in encouraging as many people as possible to participate.

(Councillor Allie left the meeting at 8.15pm)

(iv) Councillor Southwood (Cabinet Member for the Environment)

Councillor Southwood began by reminding Members of the zero tolerance approach being taken by the Council towards the illegal dumping of rubbish and dropping of litter. As part of this approach she extended a warm welcome to colleagues (formerly employed through Kingdom Security) who had recently joined the Council and advised that she looked forward to seeing the team continue to grow and add value in tackling these issues.

At this stage in proceedings, Councillor Duffy advised he wished to raise a point of order relating to performance on fly-tipping, recycling and the impact of the introduction of charges for collection of bulky waste. As Councillor Southwood was part way through her update the Mayor ruled that he was not prepared to allow the interruption and asked Councillor Duffy to return to his seat.

Councillor Southwood continued by highlighting that one of the reasons for bringing the team in-house had been to provide additional flexibility and a more localised approach. She also highlighted that staff were already employed on the London Living Wage. The success of the Cleaner Brent App was also highlighted as a further initiative in assisting to tackle the concerns raised.

In terms of other issues, Councillor Southwood then moved on to highlight the work being undertaken with local schools around improvements to Air Quality through the introduction of an anti-idling initiative, which all members were encouraged to support. She then concluded by advising of an initiative designed to address frustrations with the current speed and cost of pot-hole and pavement repairs involving the allocation of funding for the introduction of a new faster method of repair which would avoid the need for associated road closures.

(Councillor Duffy left the meeting at 8.24pm)

(v) Councillor Hirani (Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing)

Councillor Hirani began his update by reporting that the Council had recently submitted its return for the Better Care Fund, which aimed to build on the work already being delivered jointly with health partners across a number of areas including Adult Social Care, Housing and Hospital Discharge.

In addition, he advised Members of a recent visit to Birchwood Grange, as the boroughs largest care home, to view measures being taken to deliver a more co-ordinated care service for its residents.

Member were also advised of the celebrations underway to mark the anniversary and success achieved through the Social Isolation in Brent

initiative, which it was hoped could be further expanded over the coming year. Before finishing, Councillor Hirani advised that whilst grateful to all staff in Adult Social Care and Public Health for their efforts in supporting the Grenfell response teams he wanted to offer his personal thanks to the following two members of staff - Helen Woodland and Melanie Smith for their specific work in support of the response effort.

(vi) Councillor Miller (Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities)

Councillor Miller advised that the main focus of his report would be on the measures being introduced to tackle sales of high strength acid and street drinking across the borough. In terms of acid sales (not all of which were licensed) he outlined the work being undertaken by Trading Standards to support and advise local businesses and advised Members that information was available, should they wish to support these efforts, to pass on to local businesses involved in these type of sales within their wards.

He was also proud to announce, as a measure designed to tackle Street Drinking the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order covering the whole borough. This would provide the ability to impose fines of up to £100 for street drinking alongside the option, where it was felt appropriate, for referrals to be made the substance misuse service.

Councillor Miller concluded his report by advising Members that as part of the Safer Brent initiative work was shortly due to begin on the roll out of an upgraded CCTV system and that he was also pleased to announce the appointment of two additional Independent Domestic Violence Advocates to assist with early intervention and identification of victims in cases involving domestic violence.

(vii) Councillor Farah (Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform)

Councillor Farah reminded Members that the Council would be welcoming its Housing Management Service back in house from the 2nd October. He reassured members and the public that plans for the transfer, were progressing well.

In addition agreement had now been secured within the Council for the adoption of an Additional and Selective Licensing Scheme, which was now subject to approval by the Secretary of State and would assist in regulating the operation of landlords in the private rented sector. In addition to Council would also be seeking to apply civil penalties on landlords renting out substandard accommodation, with a potential a maximum fine of £30k.

He finished by advising he was pleased to be able to announce the launch of a ground breaking scheme designed to assist in the prevention of single homelessness through the provision of targeted support and advice.

(viii) Councillor Patel (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People)

Councillor Patel began by expressing her congratulations and thanks to the first cohort of GCSE students who had performed so well in terms of the new

and much more challenging syllabus and exams. She advised that she was also proud to announce that performance in terms of A Level students achieving grades A* - B had also increased to 57% within the borough which was 4% above the national average and represented a 3% increase on the previous year's performance. Headteachers and teaching staff were also welcomed back after their well-earned summer break.

Councillor Patel finished by also taking the opportunity to thank Gail Tolley and Nigel Chapman for their work in heading up the Grenfell Family Unit and to Brain Grady for the cover he had provided in terms of managing the Council's Children & Young People service during this period.

The Mayor thanked the Leader and Cabinet Members for the updates provided.

12. Annual Report from the Leader

The Mayor invited Councillor Butt, Leader of the Council, to present (in accordance with Standing Order 42) his first annual report on the work of the Council.

By way of introduction Councillor Butt referred to the difficult year faced by London, as a city, during 2017 and way in which the capital always managed to not only recover but thrive.

As an example of the energy and renewal locally, he outlined the continued success of GCSE and A-Level students across the borough, with students and teachers congratulated for their performance. In addition, Councillor Butt advised that he took great pride in knowing that 96% of the boroughs schools were currently rated as good or outstanding.

Having focussed on the present, he also highlighted a need to take a longer term, with particular concern expressed around what he regarded as a broken housing market given the limited opportunities for home ownership and cost/insecurity associated with renting, the current Government's attitude towards public services and lack of detailed funding plan beyond 2020. As well as the huge challenges these represented he also highlighted the opportunities available, which the Council was keen to take advantage of. Specific examples highlighted included:

- The steps being taken by the Council to address the housing issue through regulation of the private rented sector and tackling rogue landlords; setting up a company to provide good quality affordable rented homes; tackling and preventing homelessness; bringing the Council's social housing back under the control and management of the Council and also a significant programme for building new homes;
- The creation, as part of the house building programme, of new jobs; investment in the local economy and growth of the Council Tax base. He felt the massive contribution that new homes and residents could provide was often forgotten with regeneration also having significant benefits in terms of increasing funding available through the collection of Council Tax and in turn assisting the Council in addressing its funding deficit and protection of essential services;

- A willingness and track record of being able to build strong partnerships;

Another major area of concern highlighted was Adult Social Care, which Councillor Butt advised the Council were again looking to challenge. This would be through the provision of alternative provision designed to not only provide a better standard of care but also ensure personal independence and cost less money, again helping to tackle the budget deficit.

In terms of education, whilst having already highlighted and celebrated the excellent level of attainment by students he felt there was also a need to recognise that some were still leaving school having underachieved, with the risk of exclusion having a major impact on life chances particularly amongst certain communities. The challenge for the Council to address was therefore to break that cycle and ensure that the progress and success already being enjoyed by so many children and young people across the borough was available to all.

In terms of the greatest and most difficult challenge facing the Council, however, the Leader highlighted the safeguarding of children and need to ensure that the necessary level of resource, given the current financial pressure imposed from central government, was available to ensure a positive impact on those young people at risk or in care.

In concluding his annual report, Councillor Butt recognised that whilst none of the issues highlighted would be easily addressed the Council had the commitment to take them on, building on the confidence that came from a long track record of innovation and success. He was keen to ensure that the focus remained on protecting those who needed it most through long term, sustainable solutions that would make a genuine difference with the Council already having instigated real and lasting change.

Moving forward the focus would remain on continuing the transformation of Brent into a 21st century London Borough ensuring that all residents were part of the process and were able to share in the benefit of that progress and prosperity.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Butt for the report and then invited Councillor Warren to respond on behalf of the Brent Conservative Group who advised he could present an alternative annual report highlighting a need to do better given the recent increases in Council Tax and concerns relating to the challenge on the Council's accounts; progress on the South Kilburn development programme; impact of the introduction of charges for bulky waste collection and performance in relation to fly-tipping and recycling; increase in parking charges; Community Infrastructure Levy and planning system.

The Mayor then invited Councillor Colwill to respond on behalf of the Conservative Group. As he advised he had no additional comments to add and no other members had indicated they wished to speak, Councillor Butt was then invited to sum up and respond on the issues raised.

Councillor Butt, in summary, took the opportunity to highlight the investment currently being delivered across the Council in relation to the school expansion programme; roads, pavements, parks and libraries; social housing and social care

and in support of the Invest for Brent (I4B) company established by the Council. In terms of awards he also highlighted the Council's accreditation as a London Living wage employer and also the significant further investment in development of the Willesden Green Library; regeneration of South Kilburn and Wembley and voluntary sector alongside the development of a flexible childminding service, all of which had been designed to reflect the priorities of the Administration and Council.

Following on from the Leaders final remarks, the Mayor advised that concluded the debate on the Annual Report.

13. Petitions

The Mayor informed Members that there were no petitions to be debated in accordance with the Council's petition procedure and Standing Order 68.

14. Non Cabinet Members' Debate

The Mayor advised that due to the number of deputations on the agenda, no subject for debate had been submitted for consideration at this meeting.

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

The Mayor advised that seven questions had been submitted by Members for response by the relevant Cabinet Member. The written responses supplied had been circulated with the Council agenda and the Mayor then invited supplementary questions from those Members who had submitted a question.

- 15.1 Councillor Harrison thanked Councillor Hirani (Cabinet Member for Community Wellbeing) for his response on her question relating to the recruitment and retention of medical professionals in Brent. The response had made clear the impact that the high cost of housing and lack of affordable housing was having on the ability to recruit and retain medical professionals across the region and Councillor Hirani was therefore asked if there were any schemes being developed within Brent to help alleviate the problem.

Councillor Hirani responded by thanking Councillor Harrison for highlighting the extent of the problem in Brent and across London as a whole. He advised that the Council was continuing to work with their NHS partners in order to identify sites for the development of key worker housing, which he felt was one of the main ways of tackling the current problems being experienced.

- 15.2 Councillor Kelcher thanked Councillor Miller (Cabinet Member for Stronger Communities) for his comprehensive response, highlighting the considerable impact that noise nuisance could have on resident's quality of life. In terms of the steps being taken to tackle late night noise nuisance he asked, as possible additional suggestions, whether consideration could be given to extending the operation of the reactive service beyond 2am and to the extension of the service on Saturdays and Sundays beyond 8 hours given the intensification of issues reported at weekends when compared to the 15 hours a day the service was currently available Monday to Friday. Having

noted that the late night reactive service would on occasions have to be suspended in order to deal with a backlog of cases further detail was also sought on the way in which this was communicated to local residents needing to use the service.

In response Councillor Miller advised that the noise control team was currently comprised of five officers with one post having recently been lost due to budget reductions arising directly as a result of government funding restrictions. Whilst the level of service currently being provided was similar to that within other comparator boroughs, such as Waltham Forest there was also a need to recognise the significant increase in number of incidents being reported, which had almost doubled since 2010 (3061 in 2010 compared to 5670 in 2016). Against this background, Councillor Miller advised that he would be happy to discuss the suggestions made in more detail with Councillor Kelcher.

- 15.3 Having noted the response provided by Councillor Farah (Cabinet Member for Housing and Welfare Reform) in relation to Brent Housing Partnerships Infill Development scheme at Frontenac and Donnington Road, Councillor Ms Shaw once again asked whether the scheme could be scrapped in order to recognise residents' concerns about the loss of the only amenity space available to them.

In response Councillor Farah outlined the need for the Infill Development initiative as a means of providing much needed accommodation within the borough. The development of the scheme proposals had been subject to consultation with local residents whose comments and concerns were being considered within revised proposals currently being developed, for submission to planning. Given the consultation already undertaken, Councillor Farah advised that he was not minded to scrap the scheme.

There were no supplementary questions from Councillors Chan, Crane, Colacicco or A.Choudry.

16. Report from Chairs of Scrutiny Committees

16.1 Resources & Public Realm Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Kelcher (as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee) provided Council with the following update on matters considered by the Committee since the last report to Council on 10 July 2017:

- The Committee had undertaken a useful visit to Harlesden High Street as part of its work around measures being used to boost business on local high streets, with a specific focus on initiatives relating to the role of town centre managers and litter patrols. The Committee had been reassured in terms of the role being developed by the town centre managers and were keen to see the promising start made in terms of the litter patrols further developed.
- The Committee were also pleased to have been able to review and help shape and influence the direction of the two Outcome Based Reviews relating to Gangs and Domestic Violence. This had included a number of

recommendations being put forward for consideration around the importance of early prevention.

- Members had also received two call back reports monitoring progress on the implementation of reviews undertaken by Task Groups established by the Committee. One area in which the Committee would be undertaking further work (in support of the ongoing budget review) was in relation to Business Rates. This would involve a more detailed review of the way in which the London pooling arrangements in relation to Business Rates would operate and how funding would be allocated. This work was being undertaken on a cross party and cross committee basis.

16.2 Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Sheth (as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee) provided Council with the following update on matters considered by the Committee since the last report to Council on 10 July 2017:

- On the basis that Brent was well below the national and London average for children's oral health and incidents of tooth decay the Committee had received an update from NHS England on steps being taken to address the issue. Members were pleased to note the award by the NHS of a new five year Community Dental Health contract covering the borough which included funding for oral health promotion activity. In addition the Committee was advised of activity and funding being provided through the Council's Public Health Service to assist in raising awareness and tackling the issue. Whilst noting these improvements, members had agreed to continue monitoring the position.
- Having recognised safeguarding as one of the most important areas of partnership working, the Committee had also considered both of the Local Safeguarding Adult and Children Boards Annual Reports. Whilst Members had previously noted the effective safeguarding arrangements in place they had also identified the need to ensure that all partners were fully engaged in relation to their role and funding of the Boards, which was an issue the Committee would continue to monitor.
- Finally the Chair commended Councillor Shahzad for the Task Group he had led reviewing Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service provision within the borough. The review had generated a number of recommendations, which had been presented to Cabinet, including the need for increased investment by the Brent Clinical Commissioning Group in mental health support within Brent's schools which the Committee would continue to monitor progress on.

16.2 Housing Scrutiny Committee

Councillor Long (as Chair of the Scrutiny Committee) took the opportunity to welcome Councillor Ms Shaw as the newly appointed Vice-Chair and provided Council with the following update on some of the key matters currently under review by the Committee:

- The Committee had begun to develop a detailed monitoring brief in relation to Housing Management performance data.
- Work continued in relation to a review on traveller site provision;
- Finally Council was advised that the Committee continued to monitor activity being undertaken to address issues identified in response to the Grenfell Tower fire and had also established a Task Group to review Fire Safety in Housing Accommodation, which would include a focus on low rise and as well as high rise accommodation.

The Mayor thanked each of the Scrutiny Chair's for their updates and it was **RESOLVED** that the content of each of their reports be noted.

17. **Report from the Vice-Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee**

Councillor Choudry (as Vice-Chair of the Audit Advisory Committee) began by advising Members that the organisation responsible for Public Sector Audit appointments had recently concluded their procurement exercise for Brent's external audit lead for 2018/19 onwards, with Grant Thornton due to be appointed as the Council's new external auditor. This would be expected to generate a saving of up to £40k in terms of future audit fees. Given the important role undertaken by the Council's external auditor the appointment would be considered in more detail at the next meeting of the Audit Advisory Committee. In the meantime, he reported that the current auditor (KPMG) were due to report to the next Committee on their audit of the Council's 2016/17 statement of accounts, with the Vice-Chair keen to thank KPMG for their support.

In addition, Members were advised that the Audit Advisory Committee would be receiving a report from the Directors of I4B Holdings Ltd (I4B) (an investment company wholly owned by the Council) which the Committee had been given responsibility for holding to account in terms of governance matters.

Finally Councillor Choudry advised that he was keen to draw Members attention to the ongoing efforts being made to tackle fraud through the work of the Audit Investigation Team. Examples of activity and success included work to tackle social housing fraud which had recently resulted in five properties being bought back into use and blue badge fraud and he congratulated the team for their ongoing efforts.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Choudry for his update and it was **RESOLVED** that the content of the report be noted.

18. **Changes to the Constitution**

Councillor Butt introduced the report from the Chief Legal Officer which proposed a number of changes to the Constitution designed to reduce its length and complexity as part of an ongoing process of review.

As there were no other members who indicated they wanted to speak on the report, the Mayor put the recommendations to the vote by a show of hands and they were declared **CARRIED**.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that:

- (1) the changes to the Constitution, as detailed within the report be approved; and
- (2) the Chief Legal Officer be authorised to amend the Constitution accordingly, including the making of any necessary incidental or consequential changes.

19. **Treasury Management Outturn Report 2016/17**

Councillor McLennan introduced the report from the Chief Finance Officer which provided an update on Treasury Management activity and confirmed that the Council had complied with its Prudential Indicators for 2016/17. Members noted that the report had been approved and referred on to Council for consideration by Cabinet on 24 July 2017 in compliance with the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management.

As there were no other members who indicated they wanted to speak on the report, the Mayor put the recommendations to the vote by a show of hands and they were declared **CARRIED**.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** that Council note the 2016/17 Treasury Management Outturn Report.

20. **Urgent Business**

The Mayor advised that following consideration of the report on the Representation of Political Groups on Committees earlier in the meeting there was no other urgent business to be transacted.

The meeting was therefore declared closed at 8:57pm

COUNCILLOR BHAGWANJI CHOCHAN
Mayor