



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

Minutes of the EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL held on Monday 6 November 2017 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor Bhagwanji Chohan

COUNCILLORS:

Aden	Agha
Ahmed	Allie
Bradley	Butt
Carr	Chan
S Choudhary	A Choudry
Colacicco	Collier
Colwill	Conneely
Crane	Dixon
Eniola	Farah
Harrison	Hector
Hossain	Hylton
Jones	Kabir
Kansagra	Kelcher
Khan	Long
Marquis	McLeish
McLennan	Moher
J Mitchell Murray	W Mitchell Murray
M Patel	RS Patel
Pavey	Perrin
Pitruzzella	Ms Shaw
Ketan Sheth	Krupa Sheth
Southwood	Stopp
Tatler	Thomas
Van Kalwala	Warren

1. Apologies for Absence

The Mayor advised that direct apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Daly, Denselow, Ezeajughi, Hirani, Mahmood, Mashari, Maurice, Miller, Naheerathan, Nerva and Shahzad.

An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Conneely, who was present for item 4 on the agenda.

2. **Declarations of Interest**

There were no interests declared by Members.

3. **Representation of Political Groups on Committees**

Councillor Butt introduced the report from the Chief Legal Officer, which detailed a recent change in political representation on the Council and had resulted in the need for a review of the representation of political groups on committees.

Members noted that the change in political representation had involved the two members of the Conservative Group joining the Brent Conservative Group, meaning that group (comprised of six members and led by Councillor Warren) now formed the single opposition group on the Council. Given the change in membership, Council had been required to undertake a review of the representation of political groups on committees as soon as was practicable. As the next scheduled meeting of Full Council was not due to take place until 22 January 2018, the Mayor had agreed to convene an Extraordinary Council meeting in order to fulfil the necessary requirement for a review.

Councillor Butt, when introducing the report, expressed concern at the length of time it had taken opposition members to come together to form a unified group, given the role of the opposition. In addition concerns were raised about the costs associated with needing to convene an Extraordinary Council meeting for the purposes of having to undertake the review.

Whilst recognising the creation of a unified opposition group had taken time to achieve, Councillor Warren highlighted that this had not prevented his members from seeking to continue holding the Administration to account. In terms of the decision to convene an Extraordinary meeting, he advised this had not been as a result of any specific request from his Group.

In terms of the outcome of the review, following a vote by show of hands it was unanimously **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, all opposition group seats on committees should now be allocated to the Brent Conservative Group;
- (3) that as a result of (2) above appointments to committees 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.

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

(Councillor Conneely arrived in the meeting at 6.40pm)

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

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

- (1) Resignation of Councillor Dixon as a Full Member of the Audit and Audit Advisory Committee with Councillor Krupa Sheth to take her place as a Full Member on both Committees.
- (2) Resignation of Councillor Naheerathan as a Full Member of the Audit and Audit Advisory Committee with Councillor Perrin to take his place as a Full Member on both Committees
- (3) Resignation of Councillor Maurice as substitute Member of the Audit and Audit Advisory Committees with Councillor Kansagra to take his place as a substitute Member.
- (4) To confirm the appointment of Councillor Colwill as the Brent Conservative Group's Full Member on the Standards Committee, with Councillor Kansagra continuing as substitute Member.
- (5) To confirm the appointment of Councillor Kansagra as the Brent Conservative Group's Full Member on the Council's Corporate Parenting Committee.
- (6) Resignation of Councillor Colwill as substitute Member on the Council's Corporate Parenting Committee with Councillor Warren to take his place as substitute Member.
- (7) Resignation of Councillor Warren as Full Member and Vice-Chair of the Community & Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee with Councillor Colwill to take his place as full Member and Vice-Chair.
- (8) To confirm the appointment of Councillor Kansagra as a Brent Conservative Group full Member on the Council's Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Main Committee.
- (9) To confirm the appointment of Councillor Colwill as the Brent Conservative Group's full Member on the Council's Health & Wellbeing Board, with Councillor Kansagra continuing as the Group's substitute Member.

In addition the following change in appointment was approved, having been moved at the meeting by Councillor Kabir:

- (10) Resignation of Councillor Joshua Mitchell-Murray as co-chair of the Brent Youth Parliament with Councillor Chan appointed to take his place co-chair.

5. **Urgent Business**

The Mayor stated that there was no urgent business to be considered at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 6.45 pm

COUNCILLOR BHAGWANJI CHOHAN
Mayor