

## **LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT**

At an **ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT** held at Brent Town Hall Forty Lane, Wembley, Middlesex on **Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2006 at 7.00 pm**

### **PRESENT:**

**The Worshipful the Mayor**  
Councillor C Moloney

**The Deputy Mayor**  
Councillor H Gladbaum

### **COUNCILLORS:**

Arnold	D Long
Bellia	J Long
Beswick	Lorber
Mrs N Blackman	Lyon
R Blackman	McGovern
D Brown	Mendoza
V Brown	J Moher
Chavda	R Moher
N Colwill	Nerva
R Colwill	O'Sullivan
Coughlin	B M Patel
Crane	H M Patel
Dromey	H B Patel
Duffin	R S Patel
Farrell	Rands
Mrs Fernandes	Sattar-Butt
Fox	Sayers
Freeson	Shah
Halder	Shahzad
Harrod	Singh
John	Steel
Jones	Thomas
Joseph	Thompson
Kabir	Van Colle
Kagan	Wharton
Kansagra	Zakriya

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors Cribbin, Fiegel, Gillani and Lemmon.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

RESOLVED:-

that the minutes of the meeting of full Council held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2006 as submitted under separate cover of a letter from the Democratic Services Manager dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

3. **Declarations of Interests**

The following declarations of interest were made by Councillors:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Organisation/Subject</b>
Arnold	South Kilburn NDC Board member
Bellia	Park Royal Partnership director
Freeson	Brent Housing Partnership
Harrod	Brent Housing Partnership Willow Housing Shepherds Bush Housing Stonebridge Housing Action Trust
D Long	Tricycle Theatre
J Long	Brent Housing Partnership Board
Moloney	Brent Irish Advisory Service Stonebridge HAT Hillside Housing Trust
J Moher	Brent Housing Partnership Board
Nerva	Local Government Information Unit Executive Board
BM Patel	Federation of Patidar Association Board of Trustees
HB Patel	Brent Indian Association
HM Patel	Shree Sattavis Gam Patidar Samaj (Europe)

Rands	Brent Housing Partnership Board
Sattar Butt	Wife is registered childminder
O'Sullivan	Brent Housing Partnership Board Innisfree Housing Association
Van Colle	Wife is clerk to governors at Michael Sobell Sinai School Governing Body

#### 4. **Mayor's Announcements**

The Mayor announced with sadness the death of Mr John Chapman in February. Mr Chapman was Chairman of the Gladstone Park Conservative Ward Committee and spent much of his life giving his time to the community.

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Shahzad who had recently got married.

The Mayor wished many Happy Returns to two councillors who had reached milestones in their life. Councillor Freeson had just reached 80 years of age and Councillor Harrod who had recently celebrated his 50<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The Mayor referred to his charity Spring Ball being held on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> April in the Paul Daisley Hall. He promised it would be a great night and he hoped to raise a substantial amount of money for his two charities. He hoped to see as many members as possible there.

#### 5. **Procedural Motion**

Councillor Moher moved a procedural motion relating to the conduct of business which was put to the vote and CARRIED.

RESOLVED:-

- i) that paragraph (d) of Standing Order 46 be suspended;
- ii) that once the Leader has presented the report, the following arrangements be agreed for this meeting for the purpose of debating and voting upon the 2006/7 budget and Council Tax:
  - (a) any motions or amendments shall be moved by the member within the time allowed for their speech;
  - (b) the Leader of the Opposition to speak for a maximum of 30 minutes;

- (c) the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group to speak for a maximum of 20 minutes;
- (d) the Chair of Scrutiny Committee to then report from the joint meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committees as provided for in Standing Order 34(c);
- (e) a general debate to follow during which the usual rules for debate will apply as set out in Standing Orders 46 and 47 save as set out in this procedural motion;
- (f) at the end of the general debate the Deputy Leader to speak for up to 10 minutes to wind up the debate before moving to the vote;
- (g) voting on each of the Group budget proposals shall be taken *en bloc*.

## 6. **2006/2007 Budget and Council Tax**

The Council had before it a report from the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources regarding the 2005/2006 Budget. The minutes of the joint meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committees held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2006 had been circulated under separate cover to all members on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2006, together with replacement pages for part of Appendix M(ii). The Leader of the Council addressed the Council and moved her budget motion. Councillor R Blackman addressed the Council and moved a separate budget motion in his name. Councillor Lorber addressed the Council and moved a separate budget motion in his name.

Councillor Kansagra reported on the deliberations of the joint meeting of Overview and Scrutiny Committees held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2006.

A general debate then followed at the end of which the Deputy Leader addressed the Council and wound up the debate. The motions in the names of Councillors R Blackman and Lorber were put to the vote and declared LOST.

In accordance with the Procedural Motion the voting on:

Councillor R Blackman's motion was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors Mrs N Blackman, R Blackman, N Colwill, R Colwill, Duffin, Mrs Fernandes, Kansagra, Mendoza, O'Sullivan, B M Patel, H B Patel, H M Patel, Rands, Sayers, Steel and Van Colle. (16)

AGAINST: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Arnold, Bellia, Beswick, D Brown, V Brown, Chavda, Coughlin, Crane, Dromey, Farrell, Fox, Freeson, Halder, Harrod, John, Jones, Joseph, Kabir, Kagan, D Long, J Long, Lorber, Lyon, McGovern, J Moher, R Moher, Nerva, R S Patel, Sattar-Butt, Singh, Thomas, Thompson, Wharton and Zakriya. (36)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

Councillor Lorber's motion was recorded as follows:

FOR: Councillors D Brown, V Brown, Chavda, Lorber and Wharton. (5)

AGAINST: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Arnold, Bellia, Beswick, Mrs N Blackman, R Blackman, N Colwill, R Colwill, Coughlin, Crane, Dromey, Duffin, Farrell, Mrs Fernandes, Fox, Freeson, Halder, Harrod, John, Jones, Joseph, Kabir, Kagan, Kansagra, D Long, J Long, Lyon, McGovern, Mendoza, J Moher, R Moher, Nerva, O'Sullivan, BM Patel, H B Patel, H M Patel, RS Patel, Rands, Sattar-Butt, Sayers, Singh, Steel, Thomas, Thompson, Van Colle and Zakriya. (47)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

The Council then voted on the motion in the name of the Leader of the Council which was declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:-

To note that the Executive on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2006 agreed to forward this report, as amended by:

- (a) the final Greater London Authority precept; and
- (b) any other significant changes to the budget figures,

to this meeting of Full Council with the recommendation that Council agree the recommendations 2.1 to 2.39 set out in the report.

### **In respect of Section 3**

- (i) that the process, including consultation that has led to these budget proposals be noted;

#### **In respect of Section 4**

- (ii) that the final 2004/05 outturn be noted;
- (iii) that the latest forecast for the General Fund outturn (Appendix A to the report refers) for 2005/06 be noted;
- (iv) that it be agreed to fund the one-off growth items in Appendix A(i) of the report from 2005/06 resources;

#### **In respect of Section 5**

- (v) that the General Fund revenue budget for 2006/07, as summarised in Appendix B to the report be agreed;
- (vi) that the service area budgets including the growth and savings and other adjustments detailed in Appendices C and D to the report be agreed;
- (vii) that Appendix F to the report be noted and the budgets for central items and other budgets, and any amendments to those budgets be agreed;
- (viii) that it be agreed there will be a report back to the Executive on the proposed use of the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) performance reward grant and pump priming grant to enable delivery of the Local Area Agreement;
- (ix) that it be noted, and where appropriate, provision be made for the contingent liabilities and risks set out in this section of the report;
- (x) that the approach to balances set out in the report be agreed;
- (xi) that the report from the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources set out in paragraph 5.45 of the overall report in respect of his statutory duty under Section 25 of 2003 Local Government Act be received;

#### **In respect of Section 6**

- (xii) that the GLA precept approved at the meeting of the Greater London Assembly on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2006 be noted;
- (xiii) that the advice of officers on the capping limit be noted;
- (xiv) that it be agreed there is no surplus or deficit at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2006 for that part of the Collection Fund relating to community charge;

- (xv) that the advice of the Borough Solicitor as set out in Appendix O to the report be noted;
- (xvi) that the instalments dates for Council Tax and NNDR for 2006/07, and the recovery policy for Council Tax be as set out in Appendix H(ii) to the report;

**In respect of Section 7**

- (xvii) that the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the provisional service area cash limits for 2007/08 to 2009/10 set out in Appendix I to the report be agreed;
- (xviii) that the 30 Year General Fund Business Plan and the potential implications for the future finances of the Council be noted;

**In respect of Section 8**

- (xix) that the new system relating to schools funding be noted and the Dedicated Schools Budget set out in Appendix K(i) to the report be confirmed;

**In respect of Section 9**

- (xx) that the Housing Revenue Account budget set out in Appendix L of the report be agreed;

**In respect of Section 10**

- (xxi) that the latest forecast outturn position on the 2005/06 capital programme be noted, and the revised budgets be agreed;
- (xxii) that the properties included within the 2006/07 and 2007/08 disposals programme set out in Appendix M(iii) of the report be noted;
- (xiii) that the 2006/07 to 2009/10 programme as set out in Appendix M(ii) to the report be agreed, including the new capital allocations, and that:
  - The Director of Finance and Corporate Resources can bring forward schemes from later years of the programme; subject to resources being available;
  - The Director Housing and Community Care has flexibility to transfer funds between the private sector renewal programme and the social housing grant programme;
- (xxiv) that the levels of supported and unsupported borrowing forecast for 2006/07 and future years and the impact on Council Tax levels and housing rents be noted;

**In respect of Section 11**

(xxv) that the Treasury Management Strategy and the Annual Investment Strategy for 2006/07 be agreed;

**In respect of Section 12**

(xxvi) that the requirements of the Prudential Code be noted;

(xxvii) that the Prudential Indicators set out in this section for affordability, capital spending, external debt and treasury management be agreed;

(xxviii) that the arrangements for monitoring and reporting on Prudential Indicators be noted;

**In respect of Section 13**

(xxix) that the measures in place to help deliver and monitor Value for Money be noted;

**In respect of Section 14**

(xxx) that the procedures for controlling expenditure set out in this section be agreed;

(xxxi) that the updated schedule of Provisions and Earmarked Reserves set out in Schedule 1 of Appendix P to the report be agreed;

**In addition**

(xxxii) that the Council's Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be authorised to:

- (a) make payments on approved capital schemes in 2006/07;
- (b) borrow in 2006/07 up to the limits agreed within the Prudential Indicators;
- (c) enter such leasing arrangements as are necessary to finance the programme for 2006/07 and terminate or renegotiate any existing leases;
- (d) make such minor adjustments to budgets as are necessary;

(xxxiii) that in agreeing the above recommendations and the budget in Appendix B to the report, to note that the effect of all these measures is to produce overall Council expenditure in 2006/07 of £236.691m;



(xxxiv) to note the £1.178m is attributable to the net deficit on the Collection Fund;

(xxxv) to note that at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> December 2005 the General Purposes Committee calculated the amount of 94,047 as its Council Tax Base for the year 2006/07 in accordance with the Local Authorities (calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992;

(xxxvi) that in relation to the Council Tax for 2006/07, the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2006/07 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:

(a) £827,776,000 being the aggregate of the amount that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act.

(b) £592,263,000 being the aggregate of the amounts that the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(3)(a) to (c) of the Act.

(c) £235,513,000 being the amount by which the aggregate at (a) above exceeds the aggregate at (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.

(d) £146,156,000 being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its general fund in respect of redistributed non-domestic rates and revenue support grant reduced by the amount of the sums which the Council estimates will be transferred in the year from its general fund to its collection fund in accordance with Section 97(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.

(e) £950.13 being the amount at (c) above less the amount at (d) above, all divided by the amount for the taxbase specified above calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33(1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year.

(f) Valuation Bands

<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
633.42	738.99	844.56	950.13	1,161.27	1,372.41	1,583.55	1,900.26

being the amounts given by multiplying the amount at (e) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

(xxxvii) to note that for the year 2006/07 the Greater London Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, in respect of the Greater London Authority, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<b>Valuation Bands</b>							
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
192.41	224.47	256.54	288.61	352.75	416.88	481.02	577.22

(xxxviii) that, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at (xxxvi)(f) and the precepting authority referred to in (xxxvii) above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2006/07 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

<b>Valuation Bands</b>							
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>
<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
825.83	963.46	1,101.10	1,238.74	1,514.02	1,789.29	2,064.57	2,477.48

(xxxix) (a) That the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be and is hereby authorised to give due notice of the said Council Tax in the manner provided by Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

- (b) That the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be and is hereby authorised when necessary to apply for a summons against any council tax payer or non-domestic ratepayer on whom an account for the said tax or rate and any arrears has been duly served and who has failed to pay the amounts due to take all subsequent necessary action to recover them promptly.
- (c) That the Director of Finance and Corporate Resources be and is hereby authorised to collect revenues and distribute monies from the Collection Fund and is authorised to borrow or to lend money in accordance with the regulations to the maximum benefit of each fund.

In accordance with the Procedural Motion the voting on Councillor John's motion was recorded as follows:

FOR:	The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors (31) Arnold, Bellia, Beswick, Coughlin, Crane, Dromey, Farrell, Fox, Freeson, Halder, Harrod, John, Jones, Joseph, Kabir, Kagan, D Long, J Long, Lyon, McGovern, J Moher, R Moher, Nerva, RS Patel, Sattar-Butt, Singh, Thomas, Thompson and Zakriya.
AGAINST:	Councillors Mrs N Blackman, R Blackman, D Brown, V Brown, Chavda, N Colwill, R Colwill, Duffin, Mrs Fernandes, Kansagra, Lorber, Mendoza, O'Sullivan, BM Patel, H B Patel H M Patel, Rands, Sayers, Steel, Van Colle and Wharton. (21)
ABSTENTIONS:	None (0)

The meeting ended at 10.00pm

C MOLONEY  
Mayor