

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

At the **MEETING OF THE COUNCIL** of the **LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT**
held at Brent Town Hall, Forty Lane, Wembley, Middlesex on **Monday, 22nd**
May 2006 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT:

The Worshipful the Mayor
Councillor B Joseph

The Deputy Mayor
Councillor H B Patel

COUNCILLORS:

Ahmed	Jackson
Allie	John
Anwar	Jones
Arnold	Kansagra
Bacchus	Leaman
Baker	D Long
Bessong	J Long
Beswick	Lorber
Blackman	Malik
D Brown	Matthews
V Brown	Mistry
Butt	J Moher
Castle	R Moher
Chavda	Moloney
Clues	Motley
Colwill	O'Sullivan
Corcoran	Pagnamenta
Coughlin	C J Patel
Crane	H M Patel
Cummins	Powney
Detre	Shah
Dunn	Singh
Dunwell	Sneddon
Eniola	Tancred
Farrell	Thomas
Mrs Fernandes	Tullett
Fox	Van Colle
Hashmi	Wharton
Hirani	

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mendoza and Ms Shaw and Steel. The Council sent best wishes for a speedy recovery to Councillor Ms Shaw.

2. **Declarations of Interests**

Councillor Clues declared an interest in the appointment to outside bodies by virtue of the being the ex-officio chair of the Willesden Charities.

3. **Statement of Community Involvement**

The report informed Members that a binding report was issued by the Planning Inspector, following the Independent Examination on the Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and that the SCI passed its test of soundness. The SCI was adopted by the Executive in April 2006 and stood referred to Full Council for approval.

Given the complexity of the document it was proposed that more time should be allowed for Members to consider it and if minded to prepare suggested amendments.

RESOLVED:

that the item be deferred to the next meeting of Full Council.

4. **Proposed Revisions to Brent's Constitution**

The report set out proposed changes to the Constitution required to be made as a result of amendments to various pieces of legislation and other changes recommended by officers.

Councillors Beswick and Colwill jointly moved a motion addressing each of the recommendations and proposing decisions be taken on reporting on contract awards and asset disposals.

Councillor Wharton moved a motion which in some aspects overlapped with the motion moved by Councillors Beswick and Colwill, but more specifically made proposals for the size of the Executive, the membership of consultative area forums, area committees and deputations to Full Council whilst also addressing some of the recommendations in the report.

Councillor Lorber moved a motion seeking to revise the Brent Members Allowance Scheme beyond that proposed by Councillors Beswick and Colwill.

The motions moved by Councillor Wharton and Lorber were put to the vote and declared LOST. The motion moved by Councillors Beswick and Colwill was put to the vote and CARRIED.

In accordance with standing order 48 (c) the voting on Councillor Wharton's motion was recorded as follows:

- FOR: Councillors Allie, Anwar, Bessong, D Brown, V Brown, Castle, Chavda, Clues, Corcoran, Cummins, Dunn, Hashmi, Hirani, Jackson, Leaman, Lorber, Matthews, Motley, Pagnamenta, CJ Patel, Shah, Sneddon, Tullett and Wharton. (24)
- AGAINST: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Ahmed, Arnold, Mrs Bacchus, Baker, Beswick, Blackman, Butt, Colwill, Coughlin, Crane, Detre, Dunwell, Eniola, Farrell, Mrs Fernandes, Fox, John, Jones, Kansagra, D Long, J Long, Malik, Mistry, Moloney, J Moher, R Moher, O'Sullivan, HM Patel, Powney, Singh, Thomas, Van Colle. (34)
- ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

In accordance with standing order 48 (c) the voting on Councillor Lorber's motion was recorded as follows:

- FOR: Councillors Allie, Anwar, Bessong, D Brown, V Brown, Castle, Chavda, Clues, Corcoran, Cummins, Dunn, Hashmi, Hirani, Jackson, Leaman, Lorber, Matthews, Motley, Pagnamenta, CJ Patel, Shah, Sneddon, Tullett and Wharton. (24)
- AGAINST: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Ahmed, Arnold, Mrs Bacchus, Baker, Beswick, Blackman, Butt, Colwill, Coughlin, Crane, Detre, Dunwell, Eniola, Farrell, Mrs Fernandes, Fox, John, Jones, Kansagra, D Long, J Long, Malik, Mistry, Moloney, J Moher, R Moher, O'Sullivan, HM Patel, Powney, Singh, Thomas, Van Colle. (34)
- ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

In accordance with standing order 48 (c) the voting on Councillors Beswick and Colwill's motion was recorded as follows:

- FOR: The Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Councillors Ahmed, Arnold, Mrs Bacchus, Baker, Beswick, Blackman, Butt, Colwill, Coughlin, Crane, Detre, Dunwell, Eniola, Farrell, Mrs Fernandes, Fox, John, Jones, Kansagra, D Long, J Long, Malik, Mistry, Moloney, J Moher, R Moher, O'Sullivan, HM Patel, Powney, Singh, Thomas, Van Colle. (34)
- AGAINST: Councillors Allie, Anwar, Bessong, D Brown, V Brown, Castle, Chavda, Clues, Corcoran, Cummins, Dunn, Hashmi, Hirani, Jackson, Leaman, Lorber, Matthews, Motley, Pagnamenta, CJ Patel, Shah, Sneddon, Tullett and Wharton. (24)
- ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the issue of whether to change the number of Executive Members that make up the Executive be referred to the Constitutional Working Group;
- (ii) that the issue of whether to move the power to allocate the Executive portfolios from the Leader of the Executive to Full Council be referred to the Constitutional Working Group;
- (iii) that the Overview and Scrutiny Committees be merged to create a new Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to note the consequential change of names for the sub-committees;
- (iv) that the three Leaders of the political groups be entitled to put a 'Group Leader's Motion, similar to the Motions Selected by the Leader's of the Opposition Groups currently in Standing Orders, and that each motion may be debated for up to 20 minutes;
- (v) that the process for Question Time be referred to the Constitutional Working Group for consideration;
- (vi) that the Members Allowance scheme be amended by the deletion of the Special Responsibility Allowances for:
Chairs of Overview Committee and Scrutiny Committee
Leader of 1st Opposition party
Leader of 2nd Opposition party

Whip of main party
Whip of main Opposition party
Whip of 2nd Opposition party

and the addition of Special Responsibility Allowances for the following positions:

	£
Group Leaders	3 x 11,903
Deputy Group Leaders	3 x 9,522
Group Whips	3 x 5,147

and then referred to the Constitutional Working Group for further consideration;

- (vii) that the other changes shown as tracked changes in the appendix to the report be agreed with the exception of the change proposed on page 75 relating to planning matters, and the Borough Solicitor be authorised to make any consequential amendments to the Constitution as may be necessary to give effect to the changes agreed by Full Council;
- (viii) that the Constitutional Working Group be re-established comprising two Members from each political group and supported by the Director of Policy and Regeneration and the Borough Solicitor, to review the Constitution and, in particular, the role of Overview and Scrutiny and the Members Allowance scheme;
- (ix) that the Head of Procurement and Risk Management review the method of reporting to Members on contract matters;
- (x) that the Head of Property and Asset Management submit a quarterly report to the Performance and Finance Select Committee setting out details of any asset disposals.

5. Review of Representation of Political Groups on Committees and Appointments to Committees

The Council is required to review and determine the representation of the political groups on committees and allocate committee places to political groups accordingly at, or as soon as practicable after, its Annual meeting.

Councillors Beswick and Colwill jointly moved a motion to determine the political balance of the Council's committees and sub-committees. The motion was put to the vote and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the size of the committees to be established by the Council and the allocation of seats to each of the political groups be as follows:

Committee	Lib Dem	Lab	Cons
Overview and Scrutiny	6	5	4
Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing	6	5	4
Planning	4	3	3
General Purposes	5	4	2

- (ii) that the appointments to the Northwick Park Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee be made on the basis of one member from the Labour Group and one member from the Conservative Group;

- (iii) to note that the political balance on sub-committees will be reviewed at the first meetings of the General Purposes Committee, Alcohol and Licensing Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the following basis:

Sub-Committee	Lib Dem	Lab	Cons
Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny	3	3	2
Other Overview and Scrutiny sub-committees	3	3	2
Alcohol & Entertainment Licensing	1	1	1
General Purposes Licensing	1	1	1
Pension Fund	3	3	2
Senior Staff Appointments	2	2	1
Staff Appeals	2	2	1
Schools Disciplinary	2	2	1
<i>Employees Joint Consultative Committee</i>	3	3	2
<i>Teachers Joint Consultative Committee</i>	3	3	2

NOTE: the appointment of chairs and vice-chairs of the General Purposes, Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing and Planning committees and members and alternates to all committees is dealt with under minute no. 7 below.

6. **The Executive**

Councillor Lorber moved a motion that an all-party Executive be formed led by the Leader of the Liberal Democrat Group and comprising 3 other Liberal Democrat Members, 3 Labour Members and 2 Conservative Members. This was put to the vote and declared LOST.

In the absence of any other proposals a decision to appoint an Executive was deferred to a future date.

7. **Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies**

Councillor Beswick submitted the Labour Group nominations to committees and outside bodies as circulated and moved the appointment of chairs and vice chairs to the General Purposes Committee, Planning Committee and Alcohol and Licensing Committee.

Councillor Colwill submitted the Conservative Group nominations to committees and outside bodies as circulated.

Councillor Wharton submitted the Liberal Democrat Group nominations.

Councillor Lorber moved the appointment of chairs to the area consultative forums, Planning Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The motion submitted by Councillor Lorber was put to the vote and declared LOST. The motion submitted by Councillor Beswick was put to the vote and declared CARRIED.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Chairs, Vice-Chairs and membership of committees be as set out in Appendix A to these minutes;
- (ii) that John Mann and Rochelle Gelman be appointed Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the Standards Committee;
- (iii) that the following voting co-optees be appointed to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Children and Families Scrutiny Panel for the municipal year 2006/07;

Mr R Lorenzato	Roman Catholic Church
Mrs G Bondzi-Simpson	Parent Governor, Primary
Dr N Kumar	Parent Governor, Secondary
Reverend P Stone	Church of England

- (iv) that Dr J Levison, representing the Jewish faith, and Mr Y Al-Khoei, representing the Muslim faith, be appointed as non-voting co-opted members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Children and Families Scrutiny Panel for the municipal year 2006/07;
- (v) that appointments/nominations to outside bodies be as set out in Appendix B to these minutes and that the positions remaining to be filled be dealt with by the General Purposes Committee.

[Councillor D Brown wished it recorded that he had voted against the appointments made to outside bodies].

8. Municipal Calendar of Meetings 2006/07

The Council had before them a draft Calendar of Meetings for 2006/07 which reflected the structure contained in the Council's Constitution but was subject to proposed changes to the Constitution being agreed by Full Council.

RESOLVED:-

that the draft calendar of meetings for 2006/07 be noted and the Democratic Services Manager make what changes are considered necessary following further consultation and re-submit the calendar to the meeting of Full Council scheduled for 26th June 2006.

The meeting ended at 8.15 pm

B JOSEPH
Mayor

S:\Mins2006'07\Council\Full\cm22may06.doc