



LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Held in the Conference Hall, Brent Civic Centre on 30 May 2022 at 9:30am

PRESENT: Councillor M Butt (Chair), Councillor M Patel (Vice-Chair) and Councillors Donnelly-Jackson, Grahl, Knight, Lorber, Krupa Sheth and Tatler.

1. Apologies for absence and clarification of alternate members

None.

2. Declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interests made by Members.

3. Deputations (if any)

There were no deputations received.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 7th March 2022 be approved as an accurate record.

5. Matters arising (if any)

There were no matters arising.

6. Stopping Up Order -Neville, Winterley & Carlton Sites

Councillor Krupa Sheth introduced a report from the Strategic Director for Regeneration & Environment seeking authorisation to make a Stopping Up Order for three parts of public highway within the South Kilburn Estate for a phased development at the Neville, Winterleys & Carlton site (NWCC) .The Stopping Up Order was required under Section 247 of the Town and County Planning Act (TCPA) 1990 (TCPA 1990) in order to complete the development at the site.

Members noted that the draft Stopping Up Order had been advertised in accordance with the requirements of Section 247 TCPA 1990 along with the outcome of the statutory consultation undertaken in relation to the Stopping Up Order, as detailed within section 3.7 – 3.8 of the report. Of the seventeen responses received two objections had been received from the National Grid and Virgin Media. These were on the basis that they may have apparatus in the proposed area. Members were advised that following further communication

between officers and National Grid their objection had been resolved with further work ongoing in order to resolve the objection from Virgin Media.

The Committee noted the importance of the proposed development which the Stopping Up order related in terms of supporting the next stage in the South Kilburn Infrastructure and re-development programme and in recognition of this extended their thanks to officers for their support.

Having noted the outcome of the consultation undertaken, Members welcomed the scheme and therefore **RESOLVED**:

- (1) Whilst noting the remaining objections in the report to approve the Stopping Up Order and agree that it should be advertised following the resolution of the objection.
- (2) To approve the making of the Stopping Up Order (SUO) and that a notice of making be advertised.

7. Workplace Resolution Policy

Councillor Mili Patel introduced a report from the Director of Legal, HR, Audit & Investigations detailing the outcome from a review of the Council's Grievance Policy along with proposed amendments which included a change in name to the Workforce Resolution Policy.

In noting the summary of main changes proposed to the policy, as detailed in section 4 of the report, the committee were advised that the revised policy took into account best practice and was supported by managers and trade unions.

Martin Williams, Head of Human Resources informed the committee that the revised policy followed ACAS best practice guidance and was aimed at supporting an approach which encouraged direct resolution between the parties concerned at as early a stage as possible.

Whilst supportive of the approach and proposed changes outlined members suggested some further minor amendments in order to reflect reasonable adjustments around disabilities. As a result it was proposed that the Committee, if minded to agree the revised policy, also delegate approval to make any further minor adjustments required to the Head of Paid Service.

As the result of an additional query regarding application of the policy to issues relating to working from home Carolyn Downs (Chief Executive) confirmed that due to the well-established and flexible approach in Brent these type of issues were rarely raised as grievances with clear requirements established under the Council's flexible working arrangements.

Having considered the report the Committee therefore **RESOLVED**:

- (1) To approve the new Workplace Resolution Policy as detailed in Appendix 1 of the report.

- (2) To note the key changes to the procedure and the introduction of external mediation, with a view to resolving issues raised by employees at an early stage.
- (3) To delegate authority to the Head of Paid Service to agree any further minor amendments to the new policy identified as required.

8. Political Balance Review

Councillor Muhammed Butt introduced a report from the Director of Legal, HR, Audit & Investigations detailing the outcome of a review on the representation of political groups on those Sub Committees appointed by the General Purposes Committee.

Members were advised this followed the review undertaken at the Annual Council meeting on 18 May 2022 relating to the representation of political groups on the Council's main committees.

As a result it was **RESOLVED** to agree that on the basis of the current membership of the Council:

- (1) To agree the size of each sub – committee to be appointed by the Committee;
- (2) To agree the allocation of seats to political groups on each of the sub – committees in accordance with political balance rules, as detailed in section 3 of the report; and
- (3) To appoint Chairs and Vice- Chairs, members and substitutes to each Sub-committee (to be confirmed under Item 9 on the agenda) giving effect to the wishes of the political group(s) allocated the seats.

9. Appointment to Sub Committees

Following on from Item 8 above, Councillor Butt introduced the item which set out the proposed appointments to the General Purposes Sub-committees for the 2022/2023 Municipal Year.

RESOLVED: That Members agree the following appointments to the General Purposes Sub-Committees for the 2022/2023 Municipal Year:

GENERAL PURPOSES SUB-COMMITTEES

SENIOR STAFF APPOINTMENTS SUB-COMMITTEE

M BUTT (C)	LABOUR
M.PATEL (VC)	LABOUR
KANSAGRA	CONSERVATIVE
KRUPA SHETH	LABOUR
TATLER	LABOUR

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

LABOUR: DONNELLY-JACKSON, FARAH, GRAHL, KNIGHT, NERVA, SOUTHWOOD

CONSERVATIVE: MAURICE.MISTRY

SENIOR STAFF APPEALS SUB-COMMITTEE

M BUTT (C)	LABOUR
M.PATEL (VC)	LABOUR
KANSAGRA	CONSERVATIVE
NERVA	LABOUR
KRUPA SHETH	LABOUR

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

LABOUR: DONNELLY-JACKSON, FARAH, GRAHL, KNIGHT, NERVA, SOUTHWOOD

CONSERVATIVE: MAURICE, MISTRY

BRENT PENSION FUND SUB-COMMITTEE

JOHNSON (C)	LABOUR
MITCHELL (VC)	LABOUR
CHOUDRY	LABOUR
DAR	LABOUR
HACK	LABOUR
KANSAGRA	CONSERVATIVE
MILLER	LABOUR

CO-OPTED NON-VOTING:

ELIZABETH BANKOLE (UNISON)

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

LABOUR: DIXON, ETHAPEMI, MAHMOOD, SHAH

CONSERVATIVE: MAURICE, J.PATEL

BRENT PENSION BOARD

FULL MEMBERS:

DAVID EWART (C)
AKRAM
KABIR

INDEPENDENT CHAIR
LABOUR
LABOUR

CHRIS BALA
BOLA GEORGE
ROBERT WHEELER
SUNIL GHANDI

PENSION SCHEME MEMBER
TRADE UNION (UNISON) MEMBER
TRADE UNION (GMB) MEMBER
EMPLOYER MEMBER (NON-BRENT
COUNCIL)

SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS:

No provision is included within the Boards Terms of Reference for substitute members.

10. Any other urgent business

None.

The meeting closed at 9:41am.

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT
Chair