



## **LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT**

### **MINUTES OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

**Held in the Conference Hall, Brent Civic Centre on 18 July 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 30 May 2022 be approved as an accurate record.

**5. Matters arising (if any)**

There were no matters arising.

**6. Stopping Up Order –Aylesbury Street**

Nicolaas Potgieter introduced a report from the Strategic Director for Regeneration & Environment seeking authorisation to make a Stopping Up Order for part of a public highway consisting of highway verge near No.2 Aylesbury Street and No.7 West Way, NW10 in order to complete the development of the site which consisted of the erection of a three storey block comprising of nine self-contained flats with amenity space.

Members noted that the draft Stopping Up Order had been advertised in accordance with the necessary statutory requirements, with fourteen of the statutory consultees having responded. Other than the statutory notices it was confirmed that, as was usual practice when dealing with Stopping Up Orders, no other consultation had been undertaken with local residents. Of the statutory consultees, two (Cadent Gas and Virgin Media) had raised initial objections on the basis they had apparatus in the proposed area, although the Committee were advised that both objections had subsequently been resolved.

As a result of concerns highlighted during the meeting in relation to the environmental impact arising from the loss of open space and impact on air quality as a result of the proposed development, for which the Stopping Up Order was being sought, the Committee were assured that these matters had been considered in detail as part of the planning application process, for which consent had been granted. In addition, the Committee noted the work being undertaken across the Council to tackle air quality, promote and support active travel and sustainable transport initiatives as part of the response to the climate emergency supported by other initiatives such as the expansion of the Mayor of London's Ultra Low Emission Zone.

The Chair advised that as additional concerns raised during the meeting in relation to the affordable housing element of the proposed development did not impact on consideration of the Stopping Up Order, these would need to be addressed outside of the meeting.

Having noted the outcome of the consultation undertaken, the Committee **RESOLVED** :

- (1) To note that draft Stopping Up Order had been advertised in accordance with the requirements of Section 247 Town and Country Planning Act 1990.
- (2) To note that the two objections received in response to (1) above from Cadent Gas and Virgin Media had subsequently been resolved.
- (3) On the basis of (1) and (2) above, to approve the making of the Stopping Up Order (SUO) and that a notice of making be advertised.

Councillor Lorber voted against the above decision.

## **7. Severance Payments Approval**

Debra Norman, Director of Legal, HR, Audit and Investigations introduced the report seeking approval for two severance payments, which the General Purposes Committee were required to consider.

In considering the report, members noted that the proposed redundancies had arisen as a result of the Council's senior management restructure and a restructure currently underway within the Oracle Cloud Support Service. Whilst the Oracle Cloud Support restructure was not due to be completed until the end of July 2022 it had been deemed prudent to seek approval for the potential severance payment related to that post to avoid General Purposes Committee needing to consider a further report. Members noted that the payments required approval by General Purposes Committee, as the redundancy and severance payments, when added to the pension strain costs which the Council was required to bear under the Pension scheme rules, totalled over £100,000.

As a result of additional clarification sought at the meeting, members were advised of the basis on which the redundancy, severance and pension strain payments were calculated for those taking redundancy prior to their normal retirement age. Assurance was also provided that the proposed redundancy payments were in accordance with the relevant Council policies and had been

designed to deliver savings within the required payback period whilst also seeking to reflect the service of the individuals concerned within Brent.

In considering the recommendations the Committee noted the details provided within the exempt appendix accompanying the report and **RESOLVED**.

- (1) To agree the severance payments, as detailed within the report.
- (2) To note that the payments in (1) above did not include any element additional to sums calculated in accordance with the council's Managing Change Policy and the requirements of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Councillor Lorber voted against the above decision.

## **8. Appointment to Sub Committees**

There were no appointments to be considered in relation to any of the General Purpose Sub Committees.

## **9. Exclusion of Press and Public**

There were no items that included exclusion from the Press and Public.

## **10. Any other urgent business**

None.

The meeting closed at 9:57am.

COUNCILLOR MUHAMMED BUTT  
Chair