

PRESENT

Members of the Council

THE MAYOR: COUNCILLOR JULIE MILLS

THE DEPUTY MAYOR: COUNCILLOR MRS ELIZABETH RUTHERFORD

AHERN, Tim
ATKINSON, J Robert
BLAKEMAN, J M
BORWICK, Victoria
BUCKMASTER, Christopher
BUXTON, Fiona
CAMPBELL, Barbara
CAMPBELL, Mrs Elizabeth
CAMPION, David, BA (Arch), Dip TP, FRIBA, MBCS, CITP
CARUANA, Carol
COATES, Professor Sir Anthony Bt, BSc, MD, FRC Path, FRCP
COCKELL, Sir Merrick
COLERIDGE, Timothy
COLLINSON, Deborah
CONDON-SIMMONDS, Maighread
DENT COAD, Emma
DONALDSON, Ian
FAULKS, Catherine
FEILDING-MELLEN, Rock
FOREMAN, Todd
FREEMAN, Robert
GARDNER, Joanna
HARGREAVES, Gerard
HEALY, Pat
HOIER, Bridget
HOLT, Tony
HUSBAND, James
JONES, Tim
LIGHTFOOT, Warwick
LINDSAY, David
MACKOVER, Sam
MARSHALL, Quentin
MASON, Pat
MINGAY, Robert
MOSLEY, Louis
MOYLAN, Daniel
NEAL, Matthew

O'NEILL, Dez
PAGET-BROWN, Nicholas
PALMER, Matthew
PASCALL, Will
READ, Jonathon
RITCHIE, Baroness Shireen
ROSSI, Marie-Therese
TAYLOR, Mrs Frances
WADE, Linda
WARRICK, Paul
WEALE, Mary
WEATHERHEAD, Miss Doreen M
WILL, Emma
WILLIAMS, Charles

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD 22 JUNE 2011

The minutes of the annual meeting held on 25 May were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Mayor.

2. SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

Norland Ward By-Election

The Mayor reported that on Thursday last electors in the Norland Ward voted in a by-election. The results of the poll were laid round the Chamber. Catherine Faulks was duly elected and the Mayor invited the Majority Party Chief Whip to bring Councillor Lady Faulks forward.

Christmas tree

The Mayor announced that last year the cost of providing and decorating the Christmas tree in the lobby had been too high. This year, she invited Councillors to bring in their own decorations.

London in Bloom

The Mayor said that she was very pleased to have attended the London in Bloom Awards Ceremony at City Hall on Friday 16 September.

The Royal Borough had enjoyed huge success, with prizes going to six of our parks and open spaces (Cremorne, Westfield, Kensington Memorial Park, St Luke's Gardens, Holland Park and Little Wormwood Scrubs) and also to Gunnersbury cemetery. Of those seven prizes, five were golds and two were silver gilts.

St Quentin's Community Garden came third in the Capital Growth Award category.

The Royal Borough achieved second place in the Floral Displays and received a Gold Award in the City Category (Overall), being narrowly pipped to the post overall by Westminster City Council.

The Mayor was sure that all Councillors would join her in sending warmest congratulations to all those who had invested so much time and energy to bring the Royal Borough to the peak of horticultural excellence, enjoyed by residents and visitors alike.

3. TOWN CLERK AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

(i) Results of by-election held on 6 October

The Executive Director of Finance, Information Systems and Property, standing in for the Town Clerk and Chief Executive, drew attention to the paper circulated around the Chamber which set out the results of the by-election held in Norland Ward on 6 October.

(ii) Apologies

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillor Terence Buxton.

Apologies for lateness were submitted on behalf of Councillor Donaldson.

(iii) Declarations of Interest

Councillor Paget-Brown declared a personal interest in paragraph 5 of the Administration Committee report on Members' allowances.

Councillor Moylan declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the Report of the Major Planning Development Committee on the Earl's Court Planning Application given the financial interest of TfL in the site. He left the Chamber during consideration of this matter and took no part in discussions.

4. PETITIONS

(i) Councillor Borwick presented a petition of 134 signatures with the following prayer:

"We the undersigned want to retain all RBK&C tennis coaches for private independent coaching within the Borough, on a similar basis

to that formerly employed prior to 4th July and wish that a round table meeting amongst all parties be arranged as soon as possible."

Pursuant to Standing Order 18 the petition was referred to the relevant Cabinet Member for consideration.

- (ii)** Councillor Healy presented a petition of 299 signatures with the following prayer:

"We the undersigned drivers and residents of the Royal Borough and Kensington and Chelsea believe that restrictions on parking outside Norman Butler House are unreasonable and penalise poorer people in the area. Until recently the parking space was available free for all the residents who use the parade of shops and its facilities.

We therefore urge the Council to review whether these parking restrictions are necessary and if they can be removed as a matter of urgency."

Pursuant to Standing Order 18 the petition was referred to the relevant Cabinet Member for consideration.

5. ORDER OF BUSINESS

The Mayor announced that, in accordance with Standing Orders, the order of debate would be as set out in the paper laid round the chamber.

6. REPORT FROM THE CABINET

Urgent key decisions taken since 22 June

The report was received and noted.

7. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL BY COUNCIL-SIDE COMMITTEES

7(i) Report of the Administration Committee

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Sir Merrick Cockell and seconded by Councillor Paget-Brown.

Councillor Paget-Brown declared a personal interest in paragraph 5 of the Administration Committee report on Members' allowances.

RESOLVED:

that the recommendations at paragraphs 1.2, 3.2, 4.7, 5.3, 6.2, 7.2 and 8.9 be adopted and that paragraph 2 be noted.

Councillors Atkinson, Blakeman, Dent Coad, Foreman, Healy, Hoier, Mason, Mingay and O'Neill asked that their names be recorded as voting against the decision in respect of paragraph 8.9.

7(ii) Report of the Major Planning Development Committee

Councillor Moylan declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the report. He left the Chamber and took no part in discussions on this report.

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Warrick and seconded by Councillor Campion.

RESOLVED:

that approval be given to the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham discharging the Council's functions as local planning authority by determining 'Application 2' in so far as the application applies to two land parcels within the administrative boundary of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

Councillors Atkinson, Blakeman, Caruana, Dent Coad, Foreman, Jones, Healy, Hoier, Mason, Mingay, O'Neill and Wade asked that their names be recorded as voting against the decision.

7(iii) Annual Report of the Audit Committee

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Warrick and seconded by Councillor Marshall.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

7(iv) Annual Treasury Report 2010/11

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Lightfoot and seconded by Councillor Paget-Brown.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

7(v) Annual Report of the Investment Committee on the pension fund and accounts 2010/11

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Weale and seconded by Councillor Warrick.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

7(vi) Annual Report on Member Training and Development

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Buckmaster and seconded by Councillor Blakeman.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

8. MATTERS REFERRED TO THE COUNCIL BY SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

8(i) Annual Scrutiny Report 2010/11

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Gardner and seconded by Councillor Weale.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

8(ii) Report of the Health, Environmental Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee on noise and nuisance

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Warrick and seconded by Councillor Pascall.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

8(iii) Report of the Public Realm Scrutiny Committee on leisure facilities

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Gardner and seconded by Councillor Mason.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

8(iv) Report of the Housing and Property Scrutiny Committee on void Council properties

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Rossi and seconded by Councillor Dent Coad.

RESOLVED:

that the report be received and noted.

9. MATTERS RAISED UNDER STANDING ORDER 19

(i) Leighton House drawing classes

Councillor Moylan referred to the matter he had raised under SO19 at the June meeting of the Council. Councillor Paget-Brown's response had been that he would not interfere in management's decision. Councillor Moylan said that management's decision to reduce the amount of drawing-classes offered to members of the public had been reached without consultation with users. Its rationale had been in part to allow an artist in residence to work in the building in place of the drawing-classes. Since courses were currently being held, Councillor Moylan asked if Cllr Paget-Brown would now instruct officers to carry out a survey of the views of users on the change in offer to see what courses the users would prefer. He also said that it would be a good time to reveal the fruits of the labour of the artist in residence.

(ii) Tea in the Park, Saturday 15 October

Councillor Feilding-Mellen drew attention to the Tea in the Park event on Saturday in Holland Park. Flyers had been circulated. It was an opportunity to learn more about the City Living, Local Life initiative and to exchange views. He encouraged Councillors, residents and residents' groups to attend.

(iii) Learning difficulties

Councillor Blakeman spoke about requests from carers of people with learning difficulties to stop blaming them for things outside of their control. Councillor Blakeman added that they provide informal, unpaid care and without them Adult Social Care's budget would be much higher. She asked that the forthcoming sub group review of carers should consider this matter.

The Council noted the matters raised.

10. MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

(i) Public transport fare increases

It was moved by Councillor Mason and seconded by Councillor Foreman that:

"At a time when gas, electricity, food, rent, petrol and other costs are rising, whilst wages are frozen or being reduced with unemployment increasing, and household incomes are falling that is having a severe effect on many of our residents and small businesses in the Borough, the Mayor of London is failing to act in the interests of our residents by increasing bus, tube and Overground fares again by an inflation-busting 7% from January 2012.

These fare rises will be bad for business, bad for residents travelling to work or looking for jobs, and is bound to increase car use, congestion and air pollution when the Royal Borough already has some of the worst polluted roads in Europe.

The Council will lobby the Mayor of London asking him not to proceed with these harmful 2012 fare rises that Transport for London will implement, but to re-plan the transport budget and seek a proper financial settlement from the government to prevent the 7% fares increase to help Borough residents in these hard times."

Debate ensued.

The motion was subsequently put to the vote and was declared by the Mayor to be lost.

Councillors Atkinson, Blakeman, Caruana, Dent Coad, Foreman, Healy, Hoier, Jones, Mason, Mingay, O'Neill and Wade asked that their names be recorded as voting against the decision.

(ii) Capital spending

It was moved by Councillor Read and seconded by Councillor Will that:

"Despite harsh economic times this Council been able to continue with its committed capital projects and has an ambitious programme which includes the building or rebuilding of three new schools.

We welcome, in particular, the plans for the new academy in the north of the Borough and the commitment to fund a new Crossrail Station. All of these projects can be funded from our own resources

as a result of prudent financial management over the past ten years and sound budgets that have been set for the next three years."

The following amendment to the motion was moved by Councillor Blakeman and seconded by Councillor Atkinson:

To amend the Motion by adding at the end:

"This Council therefore resolves to ask the Cabinet judiciously to allocate resources from the reserves as indicated above, to include funding any local Crossrail station that may be approved and supplementing the government money already allocated for the new academy in the north of the borough in order to reduce and retain its reserves at the level recommended by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government."

Debate ensued.

The amendment was put to the vote and was declared by the Mayor to be lost.

The original motion was then put to the vote and was declared by the Mayor to be carried unanimously.

(iii) Adult social care

It was moved by Councillor Healy and seconded by Councillor Hoier that:

"This Council notes that the Equality and Human Rights inquiry into the human rights of people receiving home care has found many instances of local authorities failing to provide high quality care that respects users' independence and dignity.

This Council also notes that the National Pensioners' Convention has produced a Dignity Code as part of its campaign to persuade all public authorities and health and social care professionals to fully respect and protect the rights of users of these services.

This Council affirms that it will seriously consider the recommendations of the EHRC inquiry and the NPC's Dignity Code as part of its continuing commitment to providing practical help to older and disabled residents of the Borough so that they can live with dignity, free from degrading treatment."

Debate ensued.

The motion was subsequently put to the vote and was declared by the Mayor to be carried unanimously.

11. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

The Council noted that on 8 July, pursuant to Standing Order 37, the Mayor approved the appointment of Councillor Miss Weatherhead as a member of the Major Planning Development Committee following the resignation of Councillor Husband. It also noted the resignation of Councillor Andrew Lamont from the Council on 30 August.

The Council agreed the following appointments:

Major Planning Development Committee - Cllr Husband

Nicholas Freeman Memorial Trust - Cllr Fiona Buxton

12. OTHER URGENT MATTERS

None.

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Mayor