

PRESENT

Members of the Council

THE MAYOR: COUNCILLOR TIM AHERN

THE DEPUTY MAYOR: COUNCILLOR ROBERT FREEMAN

ALAPINI, Marianne

ATKINSON, Catherine

BLAKEMAN, J M

BORWICK, Victoria

BUCKMASTER, Christopher

BUXTON, Fiona

BUXTON, Terence

CAMPBELL, Miss Barbara

CAMPBELL, Elizabeth

CAMPION, David, BA (Arch), Dip TP, FRIBA, MBCS

CECIL, James

COATES, Professor Sir Anthony, Bt, BSc, MD, FRC Path, FRCP

COCKELL, Merrick

COLERIDGE, Timothy

CONDON-SIMMONDS, Maighread

CORBET-SINGLETON, John, CBE

COX, John, MA, FCA

CUNNINGHAM, Keith

DALEY, Mark

DALTON, Andrew

DENT COAD, Emma

DONALDSON, Ian

EDGE, Jeremy

FAIRHEAD, Thomas

FEILDING MELLEN, Rock

FRAZER, Mrs Priscilla

GARDNER, The Hon. Joanna

HANHAM, Dr Iain, MA, MSc, DIC, FRCP, FRCR

HANHAM, The Lady, CBE

HOIER, Bridget

HOLT, Tony

HUSBAND, James

JAMES, Margot

JOHNSON, Dominic

LAMONT, Andrew

LASHARIE, Mushtaq

LEVITT, Bryan P, MA, PhD, FRSC

LIGHTFOOT, Warwick
LINDSAY, David
MASON, Pat
MILLS, Julie
MOYLAN, Daniel
O'NEILL, Dez
PAGET-BROWN, Nicholas
PALMER, Matthew
PHELPS, Barry
RITCHIE, Shireen
TAYLOR, Mrs Frances
WARRICK, Paul
WEALE, Mary
WEATHERHEAD, Miss Doreen M
WILLIAMS, Charles

1 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24 JANUARY 2007

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2007 were confirmed as a correct record and were signed by the Mayor.

2 SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

The Mayor stated that as the meeting would be largely devoted to financial matters he would open the proceedings by offering £5 to the first Councillor to find the recently-carved frog in the coat of arms behind him.

He explained that it came to be added to the coat of arms when Neville Walbridge, the stonemason who carved them in the early 1970's, visited the Town Hall recently. Mr Walbridge had carved this piece in Dorset on several blocks of Portland Stone which were then brought to the Council Chamber and assembled, like a jig saw, on the wall behind. The Stone apparently came from the quarry that supplied the masons who constructed St Paul's Cathedral.

Unfortunately, back in the 1970s, Mr. Walbridge was unwell when the piece was put up so he never saw it assembled, in its entirety, in situ. This was put right when he called upon the Mayor recently. At his suggestion it was decided to have gold leaf set within the lettering of the motto and Mr Walbridge had the chance to carve his sign – a very small frog – within the arms.

The Mayor further mentioned that there was still room for only six more names so if any Councillor was hoping to be Mayor in about seven years time they should perhaps start thinking about where the name might be carved.

The Mayor made reference to the sad news of the death of Councillor Joanna Gardner's father, Kevin Gardner.

Kevin Gardner died, at the age of 76, on 11 February after a short and unexpected illness. The Mayor further mentioned that a service, celebrating Mr Gardner's life, would take place on Thursday 17 May 2007 at 11.30am at Westminster Cathedral.

The Mayor expressed that all Members' thoughts were with Councillor Gardner and her family at this time of such great sadness.

3 TOWN CLERK AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

(i) Apologies

There were no apologies for absence.

Councillor Weale submitted apologies for late arrival.

(ii) Declarations of Interest

Councillor Blakeman declared a Personal interest. She informed the Council that she was a member of the Kensington and Chelsea Advocacy Alliance.

(iii) Declarations under Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

There were none.

4 PETITIONS

(i) Crossing - Junction of Fulham Road, Drayton Gardens and Beaufort Street

Councillor Mrs Taylor presented a petition with the following prayer:

"We, the undersigned residents of SW10 and SW3 have grave concerns regarding the dangerous nature of the crossroads between the Fulham Road, Beaufort Street and Drayton Gardens junction. For pedestrians wishing to shop at "Sainsburys Local" or "M&S Simply Food", or for those going to the cinema, there is never a safe time to cross the road. On numerous occasions I have witnessed near-misses where pedestrians, often mothers with buggies or young children, have started to cross Beaufort Street, only to retreat back to the pavement.

It is dangerous for cyclists too. On Tuesday 17 October Victoria Buchanan, was killed at this very spot, when a lorry failed to notice her as he turned into Beaufort Street.

How many more tragic accidents will it take before action is taken? A pedestrian or pelican crossing, together with a review of the phasing of the traffic lights, is essential. We implore the Royal Borough to see that this is done as a matter of urgency".

Pursuant to Standing Order 18 the petition stood referred to the Cabinet Member for Planning Policy, Housing Policy and Transportation for consideration and report back.

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 around the Chamber.

It was moved by Councillor Paget-Brown, seconded by Councillor Judith Blakeman and

RESOLVED:

- (a) That in accordance with Standing Order 48, Standing Orders 24.07 and 32 be suspended in so far as they relate to the speech of the Leader in submitting the budget, that of Councillor Cunningham in his reply, and that of Councillor Fairhead in submitting the Capital budget; and
- (b) that Standing Order 28 be suspended, with the meeting terminating after four hours (including any period of adjournment).

6 SUBMISSIONS FROM THE CABINET

(i-ii) Cabinet Business Plan 2007/08 - 2009/10 and Revenue Budget and Council Tax 2007/08

The Mayor informed the Members that one amendment had been tabled. He explained that after the period of general debate on the Business Plan, Revenue Budget and Council Tax, the amendment would be moved, seconded, debated and voted on.

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Cockell and seconded by Councillor Moylan.

Debate ensued during which Councillor Williams made his maiden speech.

Motion (Amendment) 1

It was moved by Councillor Cunningham and seconded by Councillor Hoier:

"To amend the Cabinet's Revenue Budget proposal in respect of all Business Groups to increase expenditure by a total of £1,984,000 to provide new services and enhance existing services as shown on the Labour Group alternative budget. As a result of this amendment there would be enhanced expenditure on Children's Centres, new provision in

terms of Business skills for Young People, Adult Learning programmes within Extended Schools and a dedicated programme for Pathways Out of Poverty. In addition, there would be enhancements in environmental greening, on-street waste enforcement and a feasibility study into low energy street lighting bulbs. Many new services and enhancements to existing services would also be possible as shown in the Labour Group alternative budget.

All of the additional provision would be funded by redirected contributions to reserves , withdrawals from accumulated reserves and new expenditure met from the Car Parking Reserve, LABGI Grant and the Capital Reserve, totalling 5,523,000. This would result in a five percent reduction in the RBKC element of Council Tax."

Debate ensued, during which Councillor Palmer made his maiden speech. The amendment was put to the vote, and declared by the Mayor to be lost. It was then

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received; and
- (b) That the recommendations at paragraphs 1.2 and 2.66 of the submissions from the Cabinet be adopted.

(iii) Capital Programme 2008/09 – 2009/10

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Fairhead and seconded by Councillor Moylan.

Debate ensued.

Motion (Amendment) 2

It was moved by Councillor Mason and seconded by Councillor Atkinson:

"To amend the Cabinet's Budget in respect of the Capital Programme as shown on the Labour Group alternative budget. This would allow for an enhanced Capital Budget in respect of Children's Centres and grants for waste storage on residential sites which is sorely needed in the north of the Borough."

Debate ensued.

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

It was then

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received; and

- (b) That the recommendations at pages 22 and 23 of the Capital Programme report from the Cabinet be adopted.

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

THE DEPUTY MAYOR IN THE CHAIR

(iv) Annual Treasury Strategy 2007/08

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

Debate ensued.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received; and
- (b) That the recommendation at paragraph 4.47 be adopted.

7 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL-SIDE COMMITTEES

(i) Report of the Administration Committee

The reception of the report was moved by Councillor Moylan and seconded by Councillor Mrs Frazer.

Debate ensued.

It was then

RESOLVED:

With all present voting in favour

- (a) That the recommendations at paragraph 1.10 be adopted;
- (b) That the recommendations at paragraph 2.8 be adopted; and
- (c) That the recommendations at paragraph 3.4 be adopted.

8 MATTERS REFERRED TO COUNCIL BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

There were none.

9 MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

There were no motions included in the agenda.

10 APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS

(i) Appointments to Outside Organisations

Councillor Blakeman moved the nomination standing in her name.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that Councillor Dent Coad be appointed as a representative on the Arts Council England (London) – Local Authority Forum.

OTHER URGENT MATTERS

No other matters were dealt with at the meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.00 pm

Mayor