

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Tuesday, 24 April 2018
Time: 19:30
Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2BY

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Natasha Ahmed-Shaikh, Councillor Patrick Cogan, Councillor Mrs Seema Kumar, Councillor Joy Morrissey, Councillor Nigel Sumner, Councillor Simon Woodroffe

2 Urgent Matters

Councillor Gordon moved a procedural motion to permit item 12A to be heard before item 10.

Councillor Roz Reece seconded the motion.

It was **agreed**.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Matters to be Considered in Private

There were none.

5 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting on 20th February were **agreed**.

6 Mayor's Announcements

The Deputy Mayor passed on Council's condolences to Councillor Mahfouz for the loss of his father and Councillor Seema Kumar for the loss of her mother.

He then stated that as this was the final meeting of this 2014-2018 administration he would like to thank all those councillors who will not be returning in May for their service to the Council and the residents of Ealing. He included Councillors, Ahmed-Shaikh, Cogan, Gavan, Hynes, Jones, Kang, Khan, Kohli, McCartan, Midha, Murray, Roz

Reece, Rodgers and Walker in this and was aware that there might be more.

7 Petitions from Members of the Public

a). Mrs Grace Quansha presented a petition asking the Council to “Save Ealing Libraries from Being Outsourced & Save Library Jobs”

Councillor Dheer replied

Ealing Libraries was brought in house on 1 February 2018. Given the size of the library service (13 libraries and ancillary services e.g. home library service etc. plus 136 staff, including 23 short-term contracts), this has been a smooth transition with little disruption to staff and to the service.

All staff who were employed by Carillion to deliver library services solely in Ealing have been contracted by Ealing Council to continue working in Ealing libraries. Staff who were contracted to work across all the Carillion library contracts (Croydon, Ealing and Harrow) have not been offered contracts to work in Ealing. Some of these staff have been offered roles in Harrow and Croydon.

The focus has been on stabilising the service, ensuring that staff were not adversely affected by the liquidation of their previous employer and the continuation of subcontracts and suppliers to keep the library service operating.

Local Authorities have a statutory duty under the Public Libraries and Museum Act 1964 to provide a comprehensive and efficient service. The Library Service was never at risk as this is a service we must provide. However, we do need to provide the service within the resources available and need to be prudent in how service are provided. Reviewing the service delivery model to ensure we get the best value for our residents and users is important.

The library service will be reviewed to ensure that we can continue providing a service to the public. Now that we have passed through the transition phase officers are reviewing the operating procedures and the service to ensure that we can provide an improved offer for our residents and service users. Therefore, we are looking at all options for the future delivery of services to ensure the operating model is fit for purpose and delivers the best possible service within the resources available is essential.

Mrs Quansha made a comment on the response.

b) Suzanne Hill of Bellvue Road W5 presented a petition asking the Council to “resolve the parking issues in Bellevue Road and neighbouring streets caused by the introduction of the Kent CPZ zone TT”.

Councillor Mahfouz replied

Thank you for your petition. I should start by saying that I have lived in the borough for over 30 years and know your road and Scotch Common well. For as long as I have known it, there have always been serious parking pressures on Bellevue Road. The implementation of a CPZ in neighbouring streets has not made this a new phenomenon.

You have asked us to review the Zone TT CPZ. As per our policy, compulsory CPZ reviews no longer happen because we found in the vast majority of them, no change was necessary. We will conduct a review where there is a “substantial” level of requests. The petition you have collected would be deemed as a “substantial” number of signatories. However, they are all from people who live outside of the zone. It is not possible for residents outside a zone to ask for a review within it, it would be for those

residents to request such a review.

What we would be able to consider would be the options made available to you via officers. The original boundary of the CPZ consultation was determined by the councillors at the time, as they paid for the consultation.

Had Bellevue Road have been included in the original CPZ consultation boundary in the outer zone, and had you voted against as you suggest would have been the case, then you would be in the same position as you are now: outside of the zone.

In relation to reviewing the charging of dual use bays within the zone, this will be something that we will follow through with

Suzanne Hill commented on the response.

c) Mrs Dhanwant Rapal St Joseph's Drive Southall presented a petition stating resident's objection to the newly created parking bays at the entrance of St Josephs Drive

Councillor Mahfouz replied

A key objective of the South Road improvement scheme is to make walking and cycling safer and easier. As part of this we have introduced a new style of crossing at the side road junctions within the scheme, called "blended" or "Copenhagen" crossings.

The level surfaces between footways either side of the junctions are easier to negotiate for anyone with mobility issues as it removes the need to step down and then back up at the kerbline. The tables also force drivers to slow down when entering or exiting the side road, which helps to reinforce that turning drivers have to give way to pedestrians who have started crossing the road, as per the Highway Code.

I appreciate that this is a new approach for the local area, however this style of crossing has already been used elsewhere in London. Additionally, the design has been through an extensive evaluation process, including an independent road safety audit. Even though we are satisfied that these crossings will be safe, we will monitor the new situation closely to ensure they are performing well and this will include a further independent road safety audit.

Having reviewed the issues raised in the petition at St Josephs Road will investigate the safety of pedestrians crossing the street and review the situation, following this and if deemed necessary we will arrange for the removal of the parking bay nearest to the junction to improve visibility.

With regards to vehicles parking opposite the parking bays we will highlight this situation to the parking enforcement officers.

Mrs Rapal commented on the response.

8 Petitions from Members of the Council

Councillor Dabrowska presented two petitions from residents in her ward.

One was objecting to the introduction of a CPZ and highway alterations on Popes

Lane W5 and the other was a request for no entry to Baronsmede from Popes Lane

W5

Questions from Members of the Public

a) Mrs. Jaskirat Baraha of St Joseph's Drive asked the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport

Why have the residents of St Josephs Drive not been notified that the street lighting is being reduced on our road during night hours?

Councillor Mahfouz replied

As a council, we have been dealing with a 65% reduction in our budget because of central government cuts.

Whilst some local authorities have switched off their lights entirely, we took a very different approach to ensure we saved money whilst retaining good street lighting across Ealing.

We took the decision initially, to move from halogen lighting to LED and whilst dealing with further cuts, we then added a dimming facility onto the lighting.

The result is the new brighter lights see a decrease in power of 25% after 10pm and a further 25% after midnight. The strength of the lighting is still good and I have walked our streets after this time and know this to be the case.

Since making these changes, we have received only 18 complaints from across the borough, representing a total of 0.005% of the borough's population, showing that for the vast majority of people, these changes have made no difference whatsoever.

However, where it has made a difference is in the costs of running the lighting, which has now halved, as well as vastly improving our carbon footprint.

It is not my understanding that there are any lights in your street that do not work, but if there are then please do not hesitate to contact me or report it and we will get it fixed.

Mrs. Baraha asked a supplementary question.

b) Mona Rapal of St Joseph's Drive asked the Portfolio Holder for Environment and Transport

What is being done to get to the root cause of the increasing flytipping issues on St Josephs Drive rather than the council just clearing the flytipping when reported?

Councillor Mahfouz replied

Because of the on-going problem of fly tipping on St Joseph's Drive and within the alleyway. Most the waste in the alleyway had originated from the 23 flats above the businesses in South Road (properties 52-88). Because of this, additional waste would be added to the waste. Thus, the ward officer at the time (2012/13) introduced 4x 1100ltr bins, at the centre of the alleyway to service the residential household waste from the flats to containerise the waste in the alleyway. Although the situation had improved, the problem remained.

Due to the number of increasing reports, which included councillor report that the containers were overflowing, bulky waste surrounding the containers, repair to the damaged containers due to overweight bins/uneven ground and no access to the

containers, invariably the waste contractor return to site on subsequent days which resulted more side waste and further dumping taking place in the alleyway.

In this regard, Community protection notices (CPN's) were served on all businesses and residential landlord of the properties between 52-88 South Road in 2017 to take responsibility/control of their commercial/household waste. The street cleaning of St Joseph's Drive was increased from once every 3 weeks to once every 2 weeks. Although the alleyway is unregistered private land, the Council carried out 2x 'deep cleaned' of the alleyway on 8th April 2017 and 7th March 2018.

It was then decided to reposition the 4x containers from the centre of the alleyway to the entrance of the alleyway where they could be closely monitored.

Checking the Councils official customer service reporting system from 2013 to date, 60 various reports had been received pertinent to St Joseph's Drive/South Road area i.e. 39x fly tips, 8x emergency clearances, 4x street cleansing complaints, 4x leaf clearances, 3x fly poster removals, 2x building material on the highway, 2x flooding's, 1x obstructions on the highway, 1x illegal skips on the highway and 1x pole hole report.

CCTV successes, limitations and plan for the future

The Council has one CCTV camera permanently installed opposite the alley. From the footage captured from that camera 5x £80 FPNs had been issued based on the 'Name and Shame' posters displayed by way of anonymous callers identifying the offenders in the posters. That said, the footage is limited to the clear identity captured hence why the number of FPN's are low. However, with the support of a local business, that figure had increased. What was also highlighted with the use of CCTV was an individual who was highlighted causing repeated offences of fly tipping in the area. Due to the circumstances of this individual the matter has been passed onto the Councils Independent Living Team Adult Social Care services.

Deployment of Kingdom officers

Kingdom Officers were tasked to monitor this location daily commencing 28/02/2017. FPN's issued in the South Road/St Joseph's Drive/Hamilton Road Drive area – **63 in 2017 and 33 in 2018 to date.**

Fixed penalty notices issued this calendar year

Total fixed penalty notices issued this year is **37 FPN's**. This figure includes 3x noncompliance to section 34 notices served on businesses and 1x fly tipping offence by a business.

Waste containment provision for the flats above shops on South Road

With effect from 1st May 2018, the 4x containers for the flats above shops will be removed and replaced with sets of 360ltr wheeled bins to be shared by each flat. The collections will then be on an alternate weekly basis

Gating solution and progress

Volunteers to work jointly with the Council and to front the gating scheme on behalf of the local businesses/residents were two local business owners. However, the officer responsible to initiate the scheme had left. The matter is currently being reviewed.

Mona Rapal asked a supplementary question.

12A Annual Standards Report

John Beastall, the independent chair of the Standards Committee, introduced the report. He stated that members had behaved in an exemplary fashion over the year.

Councillor Bell moved the report

Councillor G. Stafford seconded the report.

The report was agreed **unanimously**.

10 Questions from Members of the Council

As it was 8.30 the allotted time for members questions had passed so they would be treated as written questions and the answers circulated the day following the meeting.

11.1 Shadow Cabinet Motion

Councillor G. Stafford Moved the motion

Councillor Young seconded the motion

Councillor Sabiers responded

Councillor Roz Reece responded

Councillor D. Crawford responded

Councillor Ball responded

Councillor Bell responded

Councillor Conti responded

Councillor Rai responded

Councillor Johnson responded

The Deputy Mayor reminded Council that the allotted time for this item had nearly arrived.

Councillor G. Stafford summed up.

After a vote the motion was **lost**

11.2 Other Motions for Debate

Councillor Bell moved the motion

Councillor Rai seconded the motion

Councillor Busutil moved an amendment

Councillor Steed seconded the amendment

Councillor G. Stafford moved an amendment

Councillor Young seconded the amendment

Councillor Blacker responded

Councillor G. Stafford summed up

Councillor Busuttil summed up

Councillor Bell Summed up

After a vote, Councillor G. Stafford's amendment was **lost**

After a vote, Councillor Busuttil's amendment was **lost**.

Three members rose to call for a recorded vote

Members voted

For

Councillors Ahmed, Anand, Aslam, Bagha, Ball, Bell, Blacker, Busuttil, Byrne, Camadoo, Conlan, D. Crawford, K. Crawford, Dheer, Dhindsa, Gordon, Gulaid, Hynes, Johnson, Jones, Kaur – Dheer Kelly, Mahfouz, Mahmoud, Malcolm, G. Mann, R. Mann, Manro, Martin, Mason, McCartan, Midha, Mohan, Murray, Murtagh, Padda, Rai, Raza, Rodgers, Sabiers, Sharma, Shaw, Steed Summers, Tailor, Walker L. Wall, and R. Wall

Against

Councillors Dabrowska, Theresa Mullins, Proud, Roz Reece, A. Stafford, G. Stafford and Young.,

Abstained

Councillor Conti

No Vote

Councillor Millican and Deputy Mayor

11.3 Motions not for Debate

Councillor Bell moved the motion

Councillor Johnson seconded the motion

After a vote the motion was **agreed**

12 Reports from Officers

The only report had already been dealt with.

13 Urgent key decisions exempted from call-in

There were none

14 Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

There were none

15

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting of the Council on 22nd May 2018.
The meeting finished at 21.35.