

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Tuesday, 20 February 2018
Time: 19:00
Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2BY

1 Apologies for Absence

Councillors Gavan, Theresa Mullins and Walker gave their apologies.

2 Urgent Matters

Councillor Gordon moved a procedural motion to increase the length of certain speeches at item 12A
Councillor Roz Reece seconded the motion.
It was **agreed**.

3 Declarations of Interest

There were none.

4 Matters to be Considered in Private

The Mayor drew members' attention to appendix 6B in item 12A.

5 Minutes

The minutes of the meetings on 19th December 2017 and 9th January 2018 were agreed.

6 Mayor's Announcements

The Mayor congratulated Councillor G. Stafford on the birth of his daughter Lucy Theresa Grace.

The Mayor announced the death of two former councillors, June Shipton and Bill Hill.

Councillor Young rose to say a few words in their memory.

Councillor Johnson rose to say a few words about Bill Hill.

The Mayor said he was looking forward to the fund raising dinner at the University of West London on Friday (23rd) for which all tickets had been sold.

7 Petitions from Members of the Public

Angela Fonso presented a petition concerning pollution from the Conway FM plant in Hayes. The petition stated

The FM Conway Ltd asphalt plant in Hayes, opened in 2014 and is located near the elevated section of the A312, close to Tesco Bulls Bridge. Since the opening, residents in Hayes and Southall have complained to both Hillingdon and Ealing councils about the strong malodour across both areas but of greater significance than the smell, are the health problems that appear to be linked to the air pollution. Residents have reported nausea, vomiting, headaches, throat and eye irritation, new cases of asthma, worsening of existing asthma and other respiratory disorders. There is research to indicate asphalt fumes may be linked to cancer.

FM Conway Ltd, have increased the height of their chimney but this has not resolved the issue, so local residents urge Hillingdon council to use their regulatory powers to force FM Conway Ltd, to improve odour control, using both new and existing safety measures. Unless this happens, residents' health and wellbeing will continue to be compromised by an unacceptable level of air pollution.

Councillor Bell responded

I want to assure you we are taking this very very seriously and its impacts on local residents. It is a complex issue since the site is within Hillingdon's Borough and the responsibility for enforcing the compliance with legislation is with Hillingdon Council. This has left us somewhat constrained by what we can do.

Residents are encouraged to raise their concerns in relation to this site directly with Hillingdon.

However, Ealing recognise their responsibilities to its residents and over the past 8 months Ealing Officers have continuously sought to liaise with Hillingdon Council about the site and in particularly in relation to a report commissioned by Hillingdon to review Conway's compliance with their Environment Permit. Ealing's attempts to communicate with Hillingdon were unfortunately met with no response.

I personally wrote to Hillingdon's Leader, Cllr Ray Puddifoot, in Dec 17 seeking their position, as did our CEO Paul Najsarek and local MP Virendra Sharma.

In early February, we received communication from Hillingdon's CEO advising that their consultant had completed their review and reported their findings. Hillingdon are analysing the contents of that report to establish if the site is or is not operating within its legislative restrictions and what actions can or should be taken by them.

Over the past few weeks Ealing Officers have made contact with Hillingdon offering technical assistance and communication to the public.

We are hopeful that we will know more about the content of the report and any intended outcomes and actions in the forthcoming weeks. I am hopeful that with this report that Hillingdon will feel able to take more forceful enforcement action.

In the meantime, I can only reiterate the need for residents to report concerns

of odour from the site directly to Hillingdon's Pollution Control Team.

Ms Fonso commented on the response

8 Petitions from Members of the Council

Councillor Joy Morrissey presented a petition signed by 37 residents in Moyne Place NW10 concerning parking issues in the street and asking for a CPZ.

9 Questions from Members of the Public

There were none.

10. Questions from Members of the Council

Question:1

Councillor Summers asked the portfolio holder for children and young people.

Can the portfolio holder update us on developments around the re-provision of services from the Heller House site?

Councillor Rai replied.

Heller House closed in July 2016. All 9 young people accessing Heller leading up to closure were found alternative services, either in Ealing or in neighbouring boroughs. By January 2018 7 of these young people have successfully transitioned in to adult services and the 2 remaining in children's services continue to receive support packages, including overnight respite, in Brent and Hounslow.

This Labour Council is taking forward two projects to significantly increase capacity of overnight short break support for children and young people with disabilities and their families. In Northolt we are spending £1.5M to build a brand new, state of the art, 6-bedded service that will provide overnight short breaks to children and young people with disabilities up to the age of 18.

Following extensive consultation with families, care and health professionals the planning application was submitted on 22nd December 2017. We plan to complete the build in June 2019.

The building has been designed to be 'future-proofed' against increasing demand as it allows for further bedrooms to be built on the first floor if additional capacity is required in the future. Plans are also well advanced for the development of an existing service to provide 3 additional beds in Perivale to young people 16+ who have a learning disability and challenging behaviour. Building works have been completed and the service is on course to begin in May 2018.

Councillors Summers and Millican asked supplementary questions.

Question:2

Councillor Conti asked the portfolio holder for Finance Performance and Customer Services

Will the portfolio holder please outline the duty of care the Council has for

its employees or those working in council owned facilities?

Councillor Johnson replied

Ealing Council has a duty of care to employees and those working in council owned facilities, which means it should take all steps that are reasonably possible to ensure their health, safety and wellbeing.

The duty of care responsibilities are outlined in the council's Corporate Health & Safety Policy of July 2017.

It includes providing safe working procedures, adequate welfare and wellbeing arrangements, health & safety, consultation with workers and trade unions, management reviews and staff training and much more.

Councillors Conti and R. Wall asked supplementary questions

Question: 3

Councillor Jon Ball asked the portfolio holder for Transport, Environment and Leisure

How many PCNs were issued in CPZ areas in the last financial year and what was the total revenue from those PCNs?

Councillor Mahfouz replied

We issued 96,105 PCNs at a total revenue of nearly £5 million (£4,996,876.05).

It is important to note that this figure supports £8 million contribution to concessionary travel for the elderly.

The average monthly cost for Civil Enforcement officers visiting all controlled parking zone is
£155,000

Councillors Ball and R. Mann asked supplementary questions

Question: 4

Councillor Bagha asked the portfolio holder for Prosperity, Skills, Employment and Transformation

Does the portfolio holder agree with me what a disaster that benefit caps and universal credit have been and can he update us on the impact this had had on homelessness and food bank usage in the Borough?

Councillor Mason replied

After delay upon delay, the Government have finally confirmed that Universal Credit will be rolled out to the two remaining Job Centre Pluses in Acton and Ealing next month. Universal Credit will replace the so called legacy benefits, which include unemployment and housing benefits, as well as tax credit, as part of the Government's austerity plan to remove £14bn from work age welfare. An official report from the Cabinet Office suggests that the lifetime costs of administering Universal Credit alone will cost just shy of 16 billion.

It is no surprise to learn then that the Work and Pensions Select Committee found that the Government produced "no evidence to back up the key, central economic assumption of the biggest reform to our welfare system in 50 years".

In reality, UC is going to leave 1 million working households as much as 2,800 pounds worse off. In London and in Ealing, the cost of living and housing

will have serious impact on families in our Borough. We already know from Councils in Manchester that as many as 80% people on UC in social housing are in rent arrears, and evictions in the private rented sector are rapidly increasing.

In our neighbouring boroughs, Hounslow has seen an increase in foodbank use by 35%, and in Hammersmith and Fulham, they have seen a staggering 96% increase. In Ealing, we already know that the two biggest reasons for people using the foodbank is because of delayed benefits and low income.

This situation will only get worse, and that's why Labour are calling for an immediate halt to the rollout, and an additional 10bn to reverse these punitive cuts to the most vulnerable people in our Borough.

Councillors Bagha and Roz Reece asked supplementary questions

Question: 5

Councillor G. Stafford asked the portfolio holder for Housing

As recently reported in the Evening Standard, can the portfolio holder explain why Ealing has only managed to build 29 new affordable social houses between October 2016 and November 2017 compared to Hammersmith's 49; Hillingdon's 121; Brent's 226 and Hounslow's 286?

Councillor Anand replied

Councillor Stafford, you shouldn't believe everything George Osborne prints. These figures are wrong and it just makes you look silly.

In the period you mention we completed 273 homes and a further 1,213 were under construction

Of these, I can tell you that we completed 179 for social rent and another 500 more are under construction.

As you can see Mr Mayor, we're doing incredibly well under difficult circumstances to provide decent genuinely affordable housing so I'd suggest Cllr Stafford come to me next time before quoting errant press reports.

Councillors' G, Stafford and Murray asked supplementary questions

Question: 6

Councillor Raza asked the portfolio holder for Community Services and Safety

Can the portfolio holder tell us how cuts to the Met budget will impact policing across Ealing?

Councillor Dheer replied

Like most of the public sector, the MET are faced with significant Tory government cuts in coming years, forcing them to make difficult choices.

We've seen the closure of front desks across the borough, with Acton Police station now being the only station with an operational front desk.

Moving forward Ealing will effectively lose its Borough Commander as our service combines to create a new, larger command unit along with Hillingdon and Hounslow Police units.

However, as part of the local Policing commitment from Sadiq Khan there will be two dedicated PC's and one dedicated PCSO per ward across the capital and this will be in place within the new command unit.

We will always fight to keep our residents safe and our teams at the council

will continue to work with the police as we provide additional funding to work on our estates and our wider work with Parkguard and other partners demonstrates this commitment.

Across the capital the Tories have slashed £700 million so far from the Met's budget – that's 2,495 police officers gone.

The Tories can't be trusted with the safety of Londoners, and Ealing is feeling the effects of that today.

Councillors Raza and A. Stafford asked supplementary questions

Question: 7

Councillor Young asked the portfolio holder for Finance Performance and Customer Services

How much have Ealing spent on consultancy from Ernst & Young and iMPOWER in this financial year?

Councillor Johnson replied

So far this year, as of the second week in February, we have invested £1.4 million with Ernst & Young and iMPOWER – spend is expected to continue until the end of the financial year. However, we expect to reduce spend by £24 million as a result of these changes. Given this reduction, I believe a 6% investment to deliver this, is not only excellent value for money but more importantly the right thing to do for our residents in the face of continued tory cuts.

Councillors Young and Aslam asked supplementary questions

12A Budget Strategy and Council Tax Resolution 2018-19

Councillor Johnson moved the report

Councillor Bell seconded the report

Councillor Young responded

Councillor Steed responded

Councillor Bell responded

Councillor G. Stafford responded

Councillor Malcolm responded

Councillor Rogers responded

Councillor Rai responded

Councillor Seema Kumar responded

Councillor Mason responded

Councillor Millican responded Councillor Tailor responded

Councillor Mahfouz responded

Councillor Proud responded

Councillor Hynes responded

Councillor Steed summed up

Councillor Young summed up

Councillor Johnson summed up

Council **agreed**, after a recorded vote

For

Councillors Ahmed, Anand, Aslam, Bagha, Bell, Blacker, Byrne, Camadoo,

Cogan, Conlan, D. Crawford, K. Crawford, Dhami, Dheer, Dhindsa, Gordon, Gulaid, Hynes, Johnson, Jones, Kang, Khan, Kaur – Dheer Kelly, Kholi, Mahfouz, Mahmoud, G. Mann, R. Mann, Manro, Martin, Mason, McCartan, Midha, Mohan, Murray, Murtagh, Padda, Rai, Raza, Rodgers, Sabiers, Sharma, Shaw, Summers, L. Wall and R. Wall.

Against

Busuttil, Conti, Dabrowska, Seema Kumar, Malcolm, Millican, Joy Morrissey, Proud, Roz Reece, A. Stafford, G. Stafford, Steed, Sumner, Young.

No Vote

The Mayor

1.1 Revenue Budget 2018/19 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2018/19 to 2021/22

1.1.1 Considered and approved the Revenue Budget for 2018/19 as summarised in Appendix 2 and updated at paragraph 3 of this report;

1.1.2 Considered the advice of the Executive Director of Corporate Resources on the levels of reserves and robustness of estimates in setting the budget as required by Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 (Appendix 0, paragraphs 5.8 and 5.9);

1.1.3 Noted the financial risks and pressures set out in the report (Appendix 0, paragraphs 4.2 and 5.6);

1.1.4 Approved the Parking Account 2018/19 (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1.36 and Appendix 4);

1.1.5 Noted the additional £37.990m of centrally-held growth items for 2018/19 to 2021/22 (including investment of £19.5m for Adult Social Care and £9.5m for Children's Social Care) (paragraph 5.1) and noted the £0.325m growth proposals previously submitted and approved by Cabinet on 16 January 2018 (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1 and Appendix 3a);

1.1.6 Approved the draft Schools budget of £323.756m and agreed that any changes to the budget reasonably required as a result of the final 2018/19 DSG settlement are delegated for decision to the Executive Director of Children, Adults & Public Health following consultation with the Executive Director of Corporate Resources (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.2);

1.1.7 Noted that the General Fund balance is scheduled to remain the same at £15.473m for 2018/19 and noted the forecast levels of earmarked reserves (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.8 and Appendix 5);

1.2 Capital Programme 2018/19 – 2021/22

1.2.1 Approved the new General Fund capital programme additions totalling £21.743m (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.4.3 and Appendices 6a and 6b);

1.2.2 Approved the revised Capital Programme of £786.709m, as set out in

(Appendix 0, paragraph 5.4.6 and Appendix 7);

1.2.3 Approved the Capital Strategy (Appendix 8);

1.3 Treasury Management and Pension Fund

1.3.1 Approved the Treasury Management Strategy including the associated Prudential Indicators and Annual Investment Strategy (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.5 and Appendix 9);

1.3.2 Approved the Treasury Management Policy Statement (Appendix 9);

1.3.3 Noted the Director of Finance will implement the Treasury Management Strategy under existing officer delegated powers (Appendix 9);

1.3.4 Approved the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) policy (Appendix 9);

1.3.5 Noted that the Pension Fund cash (where held in house) and West London Waste Authority cash is also managed in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy (Appendix 9);

1.4 Council Tax and Business Rates

1.4.1 Noted the Greater London Authority (GLA) Band D precept of £294.23 for 2018/19 (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1.14);

1.4.2 Noted that the Executive Director of Corporate Resources calculated under delegated authority on 31 January 2018 the amount of 113,076.94 as the Council Tax Base, being the number of properties in Bands A-H in the Borough, expressed as an equivalent number of Band D units for the year 2017/18; in accordance with regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Regulations 1992 (as amended) made under Section 33(5) and 34(4) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1);

1.4.3 Noted the forecast Collection Fund position for 2017/18 (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1.15);

1.4.4 Noted the council's share of the business rates income forecast for 2018/19, as approved by the Executive Director for Corporate Resources (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1.24).

1.4.5. Noted the allowed increases in the social care precept and the referendum limit of the council (Appendix 0, para 4.2).

1.4.6. Considered and approved:

- a council tax requirement for the Council's own purposes of £129,573,735;
- acceptance of the social care precept 3% on council tax;
- a basic amount of council tax at Band D for Ealing's services for 2018

/19 of £1,145.89 - a 3% increase for the social care precept and a 2.99% increase for Ealing's share; and

- an overall Band D council tax of £1,440.12 including the GLA precept.

1.4.7. Agreed the calculations as set out below for 2018/19 that have been prepared in accordance with Sections 31A and 31B of the amended Local Government Finance Act (LGFA) 1992:

Table 1: Section 31A (LGFA 1992 - amended) Calculation

(A)	Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (2) (a) to (f) of the LGFA	£1,041,005,000
(B)	Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 31A (3) (a) to (d) of the LGFA	£911,431,265
(C)	Calculation of the council tax requirement under section 31A (4), being the amount by which the sum aggregated at (A) (above) exceeds the aggregate of (B) (above).	£129,573,735

(A) Is gross expenditure and transfers to reserves.

(B) Is gross income and transfers from reserves. This includes RSG and surpluses transferred from the collection fund.

(C) Is the council tax requirement.

1.4.8. Agreed the calculation of the basic amount of council tax required is as follows, calculated by dividing the council tax requirement by the council tax base for 2018/19 (referred to as Items R and T respectively, in Section 31B of the LGFA 1992 (amended)):

Table 2: Section 31B (LGFA 1992 - amended) Calculation

(C)	LB Ealing's council tax requirement - (calculation shown in table 1)	£129,573,735
(D)	Council tax base for 2017/18	113,076.94
(E)	Tax per Band D Property	£1,145.89

1.4.9. Agreed the calculation made in accordance with Section 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the following amounts for Ealing's services in 2017/18(see Table 3). These being the amounts given by multiplying the amount shown as 'Tax per Band D Property' (Table 2 above) by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation Band D, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands:

Table 3: Ealing Council Tax by band of property

Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	763.92	891.25	1,018.57	1,145.89	1,400.53	1,655.18	1,909.81	2,291.78

1.4.10. Noted that for 2018/19 the GLA, the major Precepting Authority, has stated the following amounts of precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Table 4: GLA precept by band of property

Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	196.15	228.85	261.54	294.23	359.61	425.00	490.38	588.46

1.4.11. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts in recommendations (20) and (21) above, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, approved the following amounts to be set as the amounts of council tax for 2018/19 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Table 5: Total Council Tax by band of property (Ealing Council Tax and GLA precept)

Band	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
£	960.07	1,120.10	1,280.11	1,440.12	1,760.14	2,080.18	2,400.19	2,880.24

1.4.12. Determined that, with reference to principles approved by the Secretary of State under Section 52ZB and 52ZC of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the level of council tax for Ealing is not excessive and as such no referendum is required (Appendix 0, paragraph 5.1.17).

1.4.13. Determined that, as the billing authority, the council has not been

notified by the GLA that its relevant basic amount of council tax for 2018/19 is excessive and therefore the council is not required to hold a referendum in accordance with Section 52ZK of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

12B Scheme of Allowances 2018-19

Councillor Gordon moved the report
Councillor Bell seconded the report

After a vote Council **agreed**

1.1 To note and have regard to the report and recommendations of the London Councils' independent panel, 'The Remuneration of Councillors in London 2018'.

1.2 To approve the proposed Ealing Members' Allowances Scheme for 2018- 19, as set out in the appendix to this report, and

1.3 To note that the level of allowances proposed is unchanged from the scheme approved for 2017 -18

12C. Pay Policy Statement 2018/2019

Councillor Johnson moved the report
Councillor G. Stafford seconded the report

After a vote, Council **agreed unanimously:**

1. To approve the attached Pay Policy Statement (appendix 1) and noted the supporting appendices 2, 3, 4 and 5;
2. To approve a policy, for 2018-19, to pay the real Living Wage ({rLW} formerly known as the London Living Wage [LLW]) rate or above to direct employees (whether permanent or fixed term) and to ensure agency workers are paid the rLW. The rLW will be paid for the time periods during which employees are carrying out what might be described as (for example) the normal duties of the post. However, it will not be paid for the time periods on which employees are on a standby shift, or a sleep-in shift, and not carrying out the normal duties of the post;
3. To note that decisions on proposed remuneration packages of £100,000 and above will be determined by Chief Officer Panel, in accordance with their existing terms of reference; and
4. To commend to Governing Bodies of Schools that they consider paying the rLW rate to schools based employees (whether permanent or fixed term) and to agency workers working in Schools;

13 Urgent key decisions exempted from call-in

Council noted the item.

14 Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

There were none.

15 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on 24th April.

The meeting ended at 21.31.