

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date: Tuesday, 02 April 2019
Time: 19:00
Venue: Council Chamber, Town Hall, New Broadway, Ealing, W5 2BY

Apologies for Absence:

Councillor Gary Busuttil, Councillor Joanna Camadoo, Councillor Amarjit Jammu, Councillor Mrs Seema Kumar, Councillor Karam Mohan, Councillor Binda Rai

1 Apologies for Absence

2 Urgent Matters

There were none though the Mayor indicated that he would ask John Beastall to speak to the item at 12A after the conclusion of item 9.

3 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Dhadwall declared an interest in the second petition as one of the organisers of the event.
Councillor Millican declared an interest in Members question 6 by virtue of being a governor of Ealing Fields High School and a director on the Grand Union Multi Academy Trust

4 Matters to be Considered in Private

There were none.

5 Minutes 26 February 2016

The minutes of the meeting were agreed incorporating the minor changes circulated at the meeting.

6

Mayor's Announcements

The mayor commenced by announcing the impending retirement of Keith Fraser-Head of Democratic Services after over 20 years working for the council and thanking him for his assistance and hard work over that time.

Councillors Bell, G, Stafford and Ball rose to say a few complimentary words.

Mr Fraser responded thankfully.

The mayor then announced the recent death of George Twyman of Southall.

Councillors Dheer and Millican rose to say a few words of appreciation.

Finally, the mayor expressed sorrow at the recent terrible incident in Christchurch New Zealand and noting that the formal motion was not for debate he asked the Party Leaders to say a few words.

Councillors Bell, G. Stafford and Malcolm all expressed their sympathy for and solidarity with, citizens of New Zealand and elsewhere who had been affected by the tragedy.

Petitions from Members of the Public

a) Joy Hynes a business owner in Northfields Avenue W13 presented a petition signed by over 1,000 residents stating

“We call on Ealing Council to overturn their decision to scrap the free Stop and Shop parking bays in the borough. These bays are vital in keeping our local high streets vibrant and protect local businesses and jobs”.

Councillor Sabiers replied

“The Council’s key focus is improving air quality by reducing vehicular emissions, encouraging walking, cycling and public transport use

Stop and shop parking is to aid short trips which in many cases are ideal for walking and cycling to local businesses. In any case we’ve found that many of these spaces are used for longer term parking and not by customers visiting the shops.

We are keen that local businesses thrive, and we appreciate that each local shopping area have different circumstances. For this reason, we will be consulting with local residents and businesses on the proposals for their area and considering their opinions”.

Ms Hynes commented on the response and entered into a short dialogue with Councillor Sabiers.

b) Jasminder Rehsi and Lord Tony Young of Norwood Green presented a petition with over 2,000 signatures calling for the Vaisakhi Nagar Kirtan procession to follow its traditional route and not go too far into Norwood Green.

Councillor Sabiers replied

“The event is organised by the Sri Guru Singh Saba Southall and will celebrate a special year in the Sikh calendar, marking 550 years since Sikhism was founded by Guru Nanak.

Vaisakhi has taken place in the borough for many years and is an annual feature on the events and community calendar. This year because of the significant date in the Sikh calendar the event organiser has requested to change the route.

It will start at 10am from Park Avenue Gurdwara, process south along South Road into The Green, King Street then left into Norwood Road, then left into Norwood Green Road, then left into the grounds of Khalsa Primary School and Norwood Hall. The procession aims to arrive at Khalsa School from 2pm for the ‘Smagam’, a gathering for families to come together to pray and celebrate.

The event organiser proposes the route for the event not the council. The organiser has appointed, Docklands Traffic Management (DTA), a professional traffic management agency to prepare the route plan and to put in measures to ensure the traffic management arrangements are safe and compliant.

The organiser’s event management plan which includes public safety, risk assessment, waste management, route and traffic management arrangements are reviewed by the Safety Advisory Group (SAG).

The SAG is a forum that brings together council services, including highways management, the emergency services, including the London ambulance service and the metropolitan police, TfL bus network and other agencies to assess all

applications for events that aim to attract over 5000 people to ensure they are safe, comply with the law and disruption to residents is minimised.

All aspects of this event have been reviewed by the SAG and where improvements have been required, the event organiser has sought to comply, these have been incorporated in to the event and traffic management plans.

Events that require use of council owned or managed land, including the public highway, is governed by the London Borough of Ealing Events Policy. Through this policy, the Council commits to supporting community-led events that range in scale and content.

Our primary concern is public safety and as far as possible, given the nature of the event to minimise disruption to the public, which is why the council has a robust SAG process to ensure that the council and the event organisers benefit from the collective knowledge and experience of industry professionals and the emergency services when allowing festivals and events to take place in the borough.

This is not a council event; however, we do work with the event organiser to facilitate consultation and to ensure as far as possible that any concerns are addressed by the event organiser and remind them of their duty to properly engage and consult with residents and in the local area temporarily affected by the event.

In response to concerns about the route and traffic management, the organiser's traffic management consultants, DTM, have factored in rolling road closures over the duration of the procession. DTM successfully for a number of years and are implementing systems to minimise the impact the event will have on the local area. Their team are used to developing and delivering traffic management plans for this event and will provide traffic marshals on the day to help the organisers provide information and facilitate access and egress for residents.

A street procession will by its very nature cause some disruption to the area. This disruption is temporary. The event organiser has posted notices along the procession route notifying residents and businesses that this is happening on the 7th April 2019.

The organisers are required to attend a debrief meeting with the SAG where a full review of this event will take place and lessons learned can be factored into their future planning".

Ms Rehsi and Lord Young entered into a dialogue with Councillor Sabiers

8 Petitions from Members of the Council

Councillor J. Anand presented a petition from residents in Emerald Square concerning odours emanating from a company adjacent to the square.

9 **Questions from Members of the Public**

There were none.

10 **Annual Standards Committee review**

John Beastall, the independent chair of the Standards Committee introduced the report and stated that it was pleasing that the committee had had very few cases to deal with. He also thanked the officers who supported the committee, Councillor Gordon moved the report.
Councillor Millican seconded the report.
After a vote the report was **agreed unanimously**.

Questions from Members of the Council

Q1. Councillor Tomlinson asked the portfolio holder for Business and Community Services

Can the portfolio holder update us on recent developments regarding the future of Ealing and Charing Cross hospitals?

Councillor J. Anand replied

Last week, after more than seven years of campaigning by local communities, by the Save Our Hospitals Campaign, and by two of the parties in this chamber, along with our colleagues in Hammersmith & Fulham, the Secretary of State for Health finally announced that the government and the NHS are no longer supporting the monstrous Shaping a Healthier Future plans that would have seen both Ealing and Charing Cross Hospitals lose their A&Es and be downgraded to little more than clinics.

The time and resources spent pushing forward these attempted closures, over more than seven years, while our hospitals crumbled, and the morale of staff collapsed represents an astonishing waste which it will take time to reverse. I'm also well aware that we have been misled on this issue before, with assurances given by the previous Secretary of State about the future of A&Es turning out to be not worth the paper they were written on, so we will need to remain somewhat sceptical for now.

There will still be a lot of work to do to ensure that we shape the replacement strategy for health services in north west London into something that genuinely protects vital services while improving quality of care and outcomes and we can expect to be campaigning hard on this in months to come, especially given there are still worrying words about 'tough choices' for the health service locally emerging from the NHS. Cabinet colleagues will be meeting with senior NHS managers for the local area in the next week to discuss where this announcement leaves us and what process they will be putting in place for drawing up a new plan.

Councillors Tomlinson and Morrisey asked supplementary questions

Q2. Councillor Malcolm asked the portfolio holder for Environment and Highways

Could the portfolio holder please inform me how many people have contacted the Council about the recent parking changes to PayByPhone?

Councillor Sabiers replied

To date, from a customer base of 30,000 permit holders, we have had 28 contacts from the public on this subject. We have also had eight enquiries from councillors. As the new system continues to bed in, we are monitoring performance daily.

Councillors Malcolm and P. Anand asked supplementary questions

Q.3 Councillor Sumner asked the portfolio holder for Business and Community Services

Can the portfolio holder detail how much has been paid to the facilitators and spent on the consultation on the future of the seven libraries under the threat of closure?

Councillor J. Anand replied

The council is committed to undertaking a meaningful and worthwhile consultation on the future of Ealing's libraries, so that residents have a genuine opportunity to have their say, with as high a participation level as possible, opportunities for community participation in the future of libraries are identified and so that well-informed decisions can be made at the end of the consultation.

To enable this to take place, the council has spent £41,000 on the consultation process. This includes £17,200 for independent facilitators at seven public events in the areas where moving to a community model of library provision is proposed. £13,100 has been paid for a face-to-face survey of randomly selected residents, with a further £7,000 for analysis of both this and the online survey and reporting

of the findings. The remainder of the sum covers venue hire costs and social media advertising of the consultation.

Councillors Sumner and Tailor asked supplementary questions

Q4. Councillor Dhadwall asked the Leader of the Council

Can the portfolio holder update the council on preparations to cope with the impact of Brexit?

Councillor Bell replied

The impacts of Brexit, in any form, will be wide-ranging and negative for the borough. There is simply no clarity from government as to what form Brexit will take or even when it might be, but as a responsible local council, we need to protect our residents, communities, businesses and public services from the worst-case scenario: a no-deal crash-out at the end of next week. Indeed, we were ready to do so had that happened on the 29 March. As was reported to cabinet last month, we have drawn up plans to mitigate and deal with the impacts of Brexit, working closely with our public sector partners, especially on areas such as the availability of medicines, regulatory issues, supply chain issues, social services staffing, supporting our own staff who are EU nationals and ensuring legal certainty for EU nationals for whom the council is the corporate parent. I can also report that measures are in place should we need to administer European elections, a snap general election or a further referendum.

A key part of our work has been to ensure that the 55,000 residents of Ealing from the EU are reassured, informed and know that, regardless of what the next few weeks brings, are a welcome and vital part of our local communities. We have promoted this message throughout our communication channels and have ensured there is up-to-date information for residents available through our website and registrars service. Ealing Council is providing one of London's document scanning centres to help EU nationals apply for settled status.

Councillors Dhadwal and G. Stafford asked supplementary questions

Q5. Councillor Young asked the Leader of the Council

What additional financial terms/ compensation have been offered to Mastcraft, in the event of the Charity Commission not approving the transfer of the Victoria Hall Trust's interests?

Councillor Bell replied

The Council has agreed to indemnify Mastcraft in respect of their planning costs up to £350,000 in consideration for Mastcraft agreeing to continue to progress the planning application and redevelopment scheme for Ealing Town Hall.

The indemnity agreement sets out that Mastcraft will be entitled to recover costs associated with making the planning application from the council, up to a maximum of £350,000, in the event the council is unwilling or unable to proceed with the transaction that has been agreed with Mastcraft, in accordance with the terms due to or for any reason connected with the fact that the property is listed as an asset of community value in accordance with the Localism Act 2011; or if Charity Commission consent for the transaction (in so far as it relates to those parts of the property comprised or to be comprised in the Victoria Hall Trust) is refused or granted on terms which the Owner considers to be inconsistent with the transaction.

No additional financial terms outside of this indemnity agreement have been agreed with Mastcraft and there are no additional amounts payable.

Councillors Young and Rooney asked supplementary questions

Q6. Councillor Sharma asked The Deputy Leader of the Council

Can the portfolio holder provide an update on pushing back against the academisation of schools in the borough?

Councillor Johnson replied

In October 2018 50.1% of pupils in state schools in England were educated in Academies and Free Schools. In Ealing, the percent of children and young people in Academies and Free Schools was approximately 26%, most of these were in High Schools.

This reflects the strong and collaborative relationships the LA has developed over many years with schools. At the same time, whilst we would prefer all schools to be maintained by the LA, our strategy has been to maintain good relationships with schools that have converted to Academy status, and free schools and academies that have been created to meet the need for new schools.

This strong relationship with schools is reflected in the recent development of Ealing Learning Partnership (ELP). Both maintained schools and academies have subscribed to partnership with the LA. This could be important in the future should the Diocese of Westminster encourage its schools to join a Catholic Academy Trust.

The Ealing Learning Partnership is going from strength to strength with 88 schools investing in a strong model of collaborative working designed to bring about economies of scale and rich professional development and support. This strategy supports the best possible opportunities for children and young people in Ealing, particularly the most vulnerable groups.

Against the backdrop of a national recruitment crisis, Ealing continues to attract strong candidates for all headship vacancies. ELP is a significant incentive in attracting leaders to Ealing schools and in retaining a strong shared commitment to the communities they serve.

The development of ELP, the ability to attract strong candidates into the borough and good local services mean that there is no compelling case to choose to become an academy or join existing academy trust.

Councillors Sharma and Millican asked supplementary questions

Q7. Councillor G, Stafford asked The Leader of the Council

Councillor Bell replied

Can the Leader confirm which of these statements on Heathrow will be its official published position?

1. "This Council states that it is opposed to a third runway at Heathrow Airport" as agreed by December 2018 Full Council
B. "Expansion at Heathrow is only acceptable with adequate mitigation for the local community" as published in the Draft LIP Report approved by the February 2019 Cabinet.

Councillors G. Stafford and Raza asked supplementary questions

12

Shadow Cabinet Motion

Councillor Dabrowska moved the motion

Councillor Sumner seconded the motion

Councillor Steed moved an amendment to the motion

Councillor Ball seconded the amendment

Councillor Sabiers responded

Councillor Sumner responded

Councillor Rice responded

Councillor Ball responded

Councillor Millican responded

Councillor Blacker responded

Councillor Steed summed up

Councillor Dabrowska summed up

After a vote the amendment was **lost**

After a vote the motion was **lost**

Other Motions for Debate

Councillor Ball moved the motion

Councillor Malcolm seconded the motion and accepted the amendment

Councillor Bell responded

Councillor Sabiers responded

Councillor A. Stafford responded

Councillor Malcolm responded

Councillor Ball summed up

After a vote the motion was **agreed unanimously**

The motion read

Council notes that:

- a) The 2018 IPCC report states that we have just 12 years to act on climate change if global temperature rises are to be kept within the recommended 1.5 degrees Celsius;
- b) All governments (national, regional and local) have a duty to limit the negative impacts of climate breakdown, and local governments that recognise this should not wait for their national governments to change their policies. UK boroughs need to commit to aggressive reduction targets and carbon neutrality as quickly as possible;
- c) Urban areas are well placed to lead the world in reducing carbon emissions, as their higher density opens up a range of sustainable transport, buildings and energy opportunities;
- d) That meetings are taking place between the Ealing Council leadership and officers with Ealing Transition, to discuss Ealing's response to the climate emergency and that a commitment has been made to draw up policies that will achieve a target of zero carbon emissions by 2030, which will be presented to cabinet.
- e) That Ealing Council has already demonstrated significant ambition and achievement in tackling issues around climate change and reducing carbon emissions, including increasing the borough's recycling rate, expanding the network of segregated cycle routes and quietways, introducing emissions-based charging for parking permits, planted more than 66,000 new trees over the past four years, delivered over 1,200 'green doctor' visits to help residents on low incomes reduce their energy growth, rolled out 20mph zones to cover two-thirds of the borough, replaced eight diesel vehicles in the council's fleet with electric and delivered more than 40 chargepoints for electric vehicles.
- f) Supports the further ambitious proposals in Labour's 2018 Ealing manifesto on climate change, including a further expansion of the electric charging network, fining drivers who sit in parked vehicles with engines running, moving streetlighting to LED versions to cut energy consumption, requiring new large commercial buildings to generate at least 10% of their energy needs on site or locally using renewable sources, encouraging new housing developments to go car free, delivering the £8.5m Liveable Neighbourhoods scheme in West Ealing and along the Uxbridge Road, work towards eliminating the number of dangerous junctions in the

borough, increase the amount of secure bike parking and work with other public sector bodies to reduce our pension fund's exposure to carbon industries.

In light of the above, the Council therefore agrees to:

1. Join other Councils in declaring a Climate Emergency;
2. Call on the UK Government to provide the necessary powers and resources to make local action on climate change easier (as set out in 3 and 5 below);
3. Aim to make Ealing carbon neutral by 2030, taking into account both production and consumption emissions;
4. In light of 3. above, request Overview and Scrutiny Committee to urgently review and make recommendations on revisions to the Council's 2013-2018 Energy Strategy in light of the recent IPCC report and the latest Ealing data in order to achieve the revised target;
5. Continue to work with partners across London to deliver widespread carbon reductions.

Motions not for Debate

i.)

Councillor Bell moved the motion.

Councillor G. Stafford seconded the motion

After a vote council agreed **unanimously**

Ealing Council expresses its utter shock and sympathy following the terrorist atrocity in Christchurch, New Zealand where 50 Muslim worshippers were killed by a right-wing extremist inside two city mosques.

We mourn and stand in solidarity with our fellow commonwealth citizens. We are one, you are us, and we send our wishes of love and compassion to all New Zealanders.

On Friday 15th March, thousands of British Muslims in the London Borough of Ealing and the UK were preparing to attend the Friday prayers at their local mosques. This weekly act of worship was overshadowed by the horrific news of a terrorist attack thousands of miles away in Christchurch. Muslims were targeted as they too went to attend the call to prayer at their local mosques, with 50 never to return.

Ealing Council, alongside all our local community, stands together to condemn the deadliest mass shooting in modern New Zealand history as proof and evidence that terrorism has no colour, has no race, and has no religion. The world has witnessed many terrorist attacks on people and communities. The Borough of Ealing will always stand united and condemn in unequivocal terms anyone who attempts to demonise, dehumanise and attack people for their colour, their faith, their gender or their sexuality.

Terrorists have sought to divide our great city apart with an evil ideology, and they have failed and will continue to fail. London has stood strong, and the world can see in us an example of love and unity. We are determined to let no one divide us and show unity and solidarity with communities in Ealing who are feeling the ripples of fear and sorrow following the events of 15th March.

ii.)

Councillor Malcolm moved the motion and accepted the amendment

Councillor Steed seconded the motion

After a vote council **agreed**

Council notes:

1. That Ealing has only issued 35 Penalty Charge Notices (PCNs) in relation to engine idling offences between 2006 and 2009, and none since 2009.
2. That the statutory PCN level is lower than the cost of enforcement, making this an uneconomical way to enforce against engine idling.
3. Ealing Council's successful anti-idling and air quality campaigns since the Labour administration took over in 2010, including in Southall, Horn Lane and Churchfield Road in Acton
4. That Ealing Council ended the 'grace period' for people parking in CPZs to drop off children at schools as an additional measure to improve air quality around schools
5. That Ealing Council has aligned CPZ charges with pollution and is investing in electric car charging points across the borough to encourage residents to ditch the dirtiest vehicles.

6. In 2012 the London Borough of Ealing reduced its number of automatic monitoring stations, closing the stations at Acton Town Hall, following a reduction in central government grant

7. The Air Quality Action Plan (2017) stated that there have been concerns, and historical breaches of the air quality objectives, over a number of years regarding PM10, particularly at Acton Goods Yard, Horn Lane.

8. That road transport is the principal source of both particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide pollution in London, and that the Mayor of London's ULEZ will lead to a reduction in air pollution

9. That a 2018 report from London Councils states that nitrogen dioxide's "Impact on children is especially bad, with epidemiological studies showing that symptoms of bronchitis in asthmatic children increase in association with long-term exposure to NO₂, as well as stunting lung growth".

10. That a number of London boroughs including Hackney, Camden and Greenwich operate a number of 'School Streets' whereby only pedestrians and cyclists can use roads close to a school's entrance at start and finish times, that the council's recently published Local Implementation Plan commits to piloting similar schemes in line with the Ealing Labour manifesto, and that work is underway to roll these out, including discussions with the boroughs named above on how best to implement these.

11. That Ealing Council has a record of investment in cycling and walking, including securing £8.6m funding for the West Ealing Liveable Neighbourhood scheme.

12. That the Mayor of London and environmental organisations have demonstrated the Tory government's air quality plans are so poor as to be illegal

13. That Ealing Council is a member of UK100, which has called for the adoption of WHO air pollution limits and for these to be legally binding, local authorities to be given more powers and funding to tackle poor air quality, and other measures

Council believes:

1. That air pollution poses a serious threat to the health of young people.
2. That whilst many of the policy interventions to rectify this problem would have to come from a national government, the Mayor of London and Ealing Council should be supported in their efforts to do more.
3. That there should be School Streets and No-Idling Zones around Ealing's Schools.
4. That in the long term, Ealing should move towards them becoming universal at every suitable school in the borough.
5. That it is important to provide parents with healthier and less polluting alternatives to driving their children to school. Therefore, the Council should continue to promote walking and cycling, which have seen a drop in the proportion of residents cycling over the past three years.

Council resolves:

1. To support the air quality improvement measures outlined in the Ealing Labour manifesto 2018

2.To implement the Ealing Labour manifesto and pilot School Streets with a view to implementing School Streets or No-Idling Zones around every suitable primary school in the borough by 2022.

3. To increase spending on active travel in future budgets, subject to available funding

4. To conduct a feasibility study of using a Workplace Parking Levy as a way to fund this.

5. To encourage local businesses to sponsor green walls on school buildings and tree planting near schools.

15 Changes to the constitution

Councillor Gordon moved the report.
Councillor Bell seconded the report.
After a vote the report was **agreed**.

16 Urgent key decisions exempted from call-in

The item outlined on the agenda was noted.

17 Appointments to Committees and Other Bodies

There were none.

18 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be the Annual Meeting on 7th May 2019.
The meeting finished at 21.27.

The Meeting ended at: 22:00