

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the Meeting of the Council of the City of Westminster held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 12th July, 2017 at Porchester Hall, Porchester Road, Bayswater, London W2 5DU.

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Ian Adams

COUNCILLORS

Heather Acton	Angela Harvey
Nickie Aiken	David Harvey
Julia Alexander	Richard Holloway
Barbara Arzymanow	Adam Hug
Daniel Astaire	Aicha Less
Rita Begum	Patricia McAllister
David Boothroyd	Guthrie McKie
Iain Bott	Tim Mitchell
Susie Burbridge	Adnan Mohammed
Ruth Bush	Gotz Mohindra
Melvyn Caplan	Jan Prendergast
Danny Chalkley	Papya Qureshi
Paul Church	Robert Rigby
Antonia Cox	Rachael Robathan
Thomas Crockett	Tim Roca
Peter Cuthbertson	Ian Rowley
Robert Davis, MBE, DL	Karen Scarborough
Tony Devenish	Andrew Smith
Paul Dimoldenberg	Steve Summers
Nick Evans	Shamim Talukder
Christabel Flight	Barrie Taylor
Murad Gassanly	Aziz Toki
Jonathan Glanz	Judith Warner
Barbara Grahame	Jacqui Wilkinson
Lindsey Hall	Jason Williams

1 APPOINTMENT OF RELIEF CHAIRMAN

Motion, moved by the Lord Mayor and seconded by Councillor Tim Mitchell that Councillor Christabel Flight be elected as Relief Chairman.

Motion put, and on a show of hands, declared **CARRIED**.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 17 May 2017 were, with the assent of the Members present, signed by the Lord Mayor as a true record of proceedings.

3 LORD MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The Lord Mayor referred to these as set out on the agenda.
- 3.2 In view of the recent terrorist attacks in Manchester, London Bridge and Finsbury Party and the fire at Grenfell Tower he asked the Council to stand for a minutes silence in memory of all the victims.
- 3.3 With the permission of the Lord Mayor Aziz Saiq, the Youth MP, gave the annual address to the meeting.

4 STATEMENT ON AN URGENT MATTER PURSUANT TO STANDING ORDER 4 (3)

Councillor Nickie Aiken made a statement in response to the recent terrorist attacks and the fire at Grenfell Tower to which Councillor Adam Hug replied.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 5.1 Councillor Ruth Bush declared that she was a Trustee of the Westminster Tree Trust and would be speaking in the Air Quality debate.
- 5.2 Councillor Nick Evans declared that he was a long standing resident of Pimlico and would be speaking on this under Item 7.

6 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

(a) Petition

Councillor Patricia McAllister presented a petition from local residents requesting a school crossing at St Luke's Primary School, Fernhead Road, W9. The petition was referred to the Executive Director for City Management and Communities for reporting to the relevant Cabinet Member.

7 QUESTIONS

Procedural Motion

Moved by Councillor Tim Mitchell and seconded by Councillor Guthrie McKie and

Resolved:

That Standing Order 9 be suspended to the extent only to allow that rather than Members, entitled to do so, being selected by draw to ask Questions the Lord Mayor call Members entitled to ask a question who indicate when asked by the Lord Mayor by show of hands at the meeting a wish to do so. The Lord Mayor, when calling

Members, may have regard to the proportionality of the political groups on the Council. The Leader of the Opposition shall still be entitled to ask up to 3 questions during question time which shall be for a maximum of 45 minutes.

The questions, supplementary questions and replies are included on the Council's website.

8 COUNCILLOR ISSUES

(a) The Future of Housing in Westminster in Light of Recent Events

Councillor Tim Roca spoke and Councillor Rachael Robathan replied.

(b) Pimlico

Councillor Nick Evans spoke and Councillor David Harvey replied.

9 FUTURE POLICY PLAN

9.1 The meeting debated the item chosen for debate from the Future Policy Plan by the Majority Party.

Air Quality

The Majority Party had selected item number 6 on the Future Policy Plan, Air Quality. The debate will be referred to the relevant Executive Director for consideration when reporting on the subject.

10 NOTICE OF MOTION

The Minority Party had selected for debate the Notice of Motion as set out on the agenda. The Notice of Motion was moved by Councillor Tim Roca and seconded by Councillor Jason Williams.

Councillor Rachael Robathan moved and it was seconded by Councillor Susie Burbridge that the Notice of Motion be amended, as follows:

First paragraph remains, then delete subsequent paragraphs then add:

“The Council commends the bold new vision for housing in Westminster as outlined by the Leader and Cabinet Members for Housing and Planning and Public Realm.

The Council's new City Plan will set out a refreshed and rigorous approach to our planning policies. There will be a focus on aiming for 35% new affordable homes on all new developments, with 60% of these being intermediate units for people and families on middle incomes. The Council will work with developers on a new approach to viability with an emphasis on new affordable homes being delivered on-site or close by.

The Council notes renewed efforts to utilise innovative models to accelerate housing delivery in Westminster. Like other local authorities, the Council is looking to create a wholly owned company, bringing more flexibility and freedom to delivering new homes. This model will allow the Council to pursue new avenues of borrowing, deliver different tenure types and explore working more commercially to fund our core services. This model allows us to maintain our freehold interest whereas other partnership models do not.

The Council recognises the commitment given by the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Housing to spend over £285m over the next five years, repairing and improving council homes. This includes the Church Street Masterplan and a viable scheme for the regeneration of the Ebury Bridge Estate. All options are still under consideration and residents will be at the heart of these plans. Proposals will be launched in the autumn to ensure residents have the maximum opportunity to shape plans”.

Following debate, to which Councillor Tim Roca replied, the Lord Mayor put the amendment moved by Councillor Robathan and seconded by Councillor Burbridge to the vote and on a show of hands declared the amendment **CARRIED**.

The Lord Mayor then put the substantive motion to the vote and on a show of hands declared the substantive motion **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

“With the continuing demand for housing for low to middle income families the Council believes that current models of delivering homes fail to build sufficient housing for this need.

“The Council commends the bold new vision for housing in Westminster as outlined by the Leader and Cabinet Members for Housing and Planning and Public Realm.

The Council’s new City Plan will set out a refreshed and rigorous approach to our planning policies. There will be a focus on aiming for 35% new affordable homes on all new developments, with 60% of these being intermediate units for people and families on middle incomes. The Council will work with developers on a new approach to viability with an emphasis on new affordable homes being delivered on-site or close by.

The Council notes renewed efforts to utilise innovative models to accelerate housing delivery in Westminster. Like other local authorities, the Council is looking to create a wholly owned company, bringing more flexibility and freedom to delivering new homes. This model will allow the Council to pursue new avenues of borrowing, deliver different tenure types and explore working more commercially to fund our core services. This model allows us to maintain our freehold interest whereas other partnership models do not.

The Council recognises the commitment given by the Leader and the Cabinet Member for Housing to spend over £285m over the next five years, repairing and improving council homes. This includes the Church Street Masterplan and a viable scheme for the regeneration of the Ebury Bridge Estate. All options are still under consideration and residents will be at the heart of these plans. Proposals will be

launched in the autumn to ensure residents have the maximum opportunity to shape plans”.

11 REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 5 JULY 2017 AND APPENDIX A

The Lord Mayor advised that due to lack of time the amendment tabled by Councillor Hug fell. The Lord Mayor then put the recommendation in paragraph 1 of the General Purposes Committee to the vote and on a show of hands declared the recommendation **ADOPTED**.

RESOLVED: That the Petition Scheme be amended as set out in the report attached as Appendix A to the report of the General Purposes Committee.

The Meeting ended at 9.59 pm

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE _____