



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

# MINUTES

## GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE – WEDNESDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2012

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of a meeting of the **General Purposes Committee** held at 6.00pm on Wednesday 7 November 2012 at the Council House, Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5PT

**Members Present:** Councillors Melvyn Caplan (Chairman), Ian Adams, David Boothroyd, Robert Davis and Tim Mitchell and Alastair Moss

#### 1. MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 There were no changes.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

- 2.1 Councillor David Boothroyd declared that he had made representations as a Ward Member to the Boundary Commission.

#### 3. MINUTES (4.7.12)

**Resolved:** That the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2012 be signed by the Chairman as a true and correct record of the proceedings.

#### 4. REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY BOUNDARIES BY THE BOUNDARY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND (see report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)

- 4.1 Martin Pyroyiannos introduced the report. He advised that the City Council's representations which sought to maintain the historic link between the City of Westminster and the City of London had been accepted. He also explained the impact of the changes on other parts of the City.
- 4.2 Councillor David Boothroyd moved, but it was not seconded that further representations be made seeking support instead for the options previously considered by the General Purposes Urgency Sub-Committee which included a proposal for a Paddington constituency.
- 4.3 **Resolved:** That the Committee support the Commission's revised proposals.

(Councillor David Boothroyd asked that his dissent be formally recorded).

**5. CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES (see report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)**

- 5.1 Peter Large introduced the report. He advised that new regulations had come into force on 10 September 2012. He explained the new provisions and the proposal to include all forthcoming executive decisions rather than just Key Decisions, as required by the Regulations and how this would be more straightforward to implement.
- 5.2 Mr Large also explained the minor changes to Standing Orders relating to substitute Members and contracts.
- 5.3 Councillor Robert Davis expressed concern at the proposal to give advance notification of all forthcoming Member level executive decisions rather than just Key Decisions. The Chairman suggested that the position be reviewed by the Committee following 6 months operation.

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the Council be recommended to approve the changes to the Constitution set out in Appendix A and outlined in paragraph 3 of the report.
- (ii) That the Council be recommended to approve the changes to the Council's Standing Orders outlined in paragraphs 4 (iii) and 5.4 of the report.

**6. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2013/14 AND TEMPORARY LOCATION OF COUNCIL MEETINGS (see report of the Head of Legal and Democratic Services)**

**Resolved:**

- (i) That the Programme of Meetings set out in Appendix A of the report be approved.
- (ii) That the Council be recommended to agree that meetings of the Council be held for the 2013/14 Municipal Year as follows: 15 May 2013 (Annual); 10 July 2013; 13 November 2013; 22 January 2014; 5 March 2014 (Council Tax); 9 April 2014; 14 May 2014 (Annual).
- (iii) That during the period of refurbishment works the Council be recommended to agree that meetings of the Council be held at Porchester Hall, Queensway, London, W2 5HS and that Standing Order 3 (1) be amended to reflect this.

**6. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The meeting ended at 6.32pm.

**CHAIRMAN** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** \_\_\_\_\_