

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the Meeting of the Council of the City of Westminster held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 3rd May, 2017 at Porchester Hall, Porchester Road, Bayswater, London, W2 5DU.

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Steve Summers

COUNCILLORS

Heather Acton	Angela Harvey
Ian Adams	David Harvey
Nickie Aiken	Richard Holloway
Julia Alexander	Adam Hug
Barbara Arzymanow	Louise Hyams
Daniel Astaire	Aicha less
Richard Beddoe	Patricia McAllister
Rita Begum	Guthrie McKie
David Boothroyd	Tim Mitchell
Iain Bott	Adnan Mohammed
Ruth Bush	Gotz Mohindra
Melvyn Caplan	Papya Qureshi
Danny Chalkley	Suhail Rahuja
Paul Church	Robert Rigby
Antonia Cox	Rachael Robathan
Thomas Crockett	Glenys Roberts
Robert Davis, MBE, DL	Tim Roca
Tony Devenish	Ian Rowley
Paul Dimoldenberg	Karen Scarborough
Nick Evans	Andrew Smith
Christabel Flight	Shamim Talukder
Jean Paul Floru	Barrie Taylor
Peter Freeman	Cameron Thomson
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 Louise Hyams be elected as Relief Chairman.

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

2 LORD MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 4.1 The Lord Mayor referred to these as set out on the agenda.
- 4.2 In view of the recent terrorist attack in Westminster he asked the Council to stand for a minutes silence in memory of all the victims.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the proceedings at the Council meeting held on Wednesday 1 March 2017 were, with the assent of the Members present, signed by the Lord Mayor as a true record of the proceedings.

4 VOTE OF THANKS

(a) **Vote of Thanks to the retiring Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, Councillor Steve Summers and Mrs Kate McCarthy**

Motion moved by Councillor Robert Davis and seconded by Councillor David Harvey that the full Council resolve to record a Vote of Thanks to Councillor Steve Summers for the distinguished service rendered by him as Lord Mayor and to Mrs Kate McCarthy for the constant and invaluable help given by her as the Lady Mayoress.

We assure them of our gratitude for, and high appreciation of, the dignity and ability with which they have carried out their many duties in accordance with the highest traditions of the City and this Vote of Thanks be inscribed on Vellum under the Common Seal and presented to them.

Motion put and on a show of hands declared **CARRIED** following which the Lord Mayor replied.

RESOLVED: That we assure them of our gratitude for, and high appreciation of, the dignity and ability with which they have carried out their many duties in accordance with the highest traditions of the City and this Vote of Thanks be inscribed in Vellum under the Common Seal and presented to them.

5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no Declarations of Interest.

6 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS

Councillor Rita Begum presented a petition relating to the disabled toilet facilities at Paddington Recreation Ground.

Councillor Aicha Less presented a petition seeking the immediate re-opening of the public convenience at the junction of Church Street and Salisbury Street.

These petitions were referred to the relevant Chief Officer for reporting to the appropriate Cabinet Member.

7 QUESTIONS

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

8 COUNCILLOR ISSUES

(a) Social Cohesion in Westminster

Councillor Adnan Mohammed spoke and Councillor Antonia Cox replied.

(b) Public Water Fountains in Westminster

Councillor Jonathan Glanz spoke and Councillor David Harvey replied.

9 STATEMENT ON URGENT MATTERS

There were no urgent matters.

10 FUTURE POLICY PLAN

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

City for All

The Majority Party had selected Item Number 21 on the Future Policy Plan: City for All. The debate will be referred to the relevant Executive Director for consideration when reporting on the subject.

12 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 Adam Hug and seconded by Councillor Patricia McAllister.

Councillor Angela Harvey moved and it was seconded by Councillor Gotz Mohindra that the Notice of Motion be amended as follows:

Add opening paragraph:

“The Council notes that all London-based staff employed directly by the local authority receive a salary that is equal to, or greater than, the London Living Wage”.

Delete third and subsequent paragraphs then add

“The Council recognises that it awards its contracts on a competitive basis, taking into account the need to provide the best value for money and the best services for our residents, businesses and visitors. This can only be achieved with contractors who have high regard for their employees and their development, something which the Council actively engages on during the tender process. The Council

acknowledges that this approach brings positive results, with 73% of people who live in Westminster believing that the Council is well run and 65% thinking that it provides good value for money, both of which rate well above the national average.

The Council commends the outstanding work of its committed and talented employees, along with the partnerships formed with contractors who deliver many valued services throughout the city. The Council will continue to set out clear expectations around employment during procurement procedures and to take its role as a civic leader seriously.”

Councillor Adam Hug replied, following which the Lord Mayor put the amendment moved by Councillor Angela Harvey and seconded by Councillor Gotz Mohindra 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:

“The Council notes that all London-based staff employed directly by the local authority receive a salary that is equal to, or greater than, the London Living Wage.

It notes dramatically increased rates of in-work poverty and food bank use in Westminster and across the country.

The Council recognises that it awards its contracts on a competitive basis, taking into account the need to provide the best value for money and the best services for our residents, businesses and visitors. This can only be achieved with contractors who have high regard for their employees and their development, something which the Council actively engages on during the tender process. The Council acknowledges that this approach brings positive results, with 73% of people who live in Westminster believing that the Council is well run and 65% thinking that it provides good value for money, both of which rate well above the national average.

The Council commends the outstanding work of its committed and talented employees, along with the partnerships formed with contractors who deliver many valued services throughout the City. The Council will continue to set out clear expectations around employment during procurement procedures and to take its role as a civic leader seriously”.

15 REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

The Lord Mayor 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 approval be given to the changes to the Constitution and Standing Order 28(1) as set out in the report attached to the report of the General Purposes Committee (26.4.17) as Appendix A.

The Meeting ended at 10.00pm.

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE _____