



City of Westminster

Council Agenda

Title: **Council Meeting**

Meeting Date: **Wednesday 15th May, 2019**

Time: **7.00 pm**

Venue: **Westminster Council House, 97-113 Marylebone Road,
London, NW1 5PT**

Members: **All Councillors are hereby summoned to attend the Meeting
for the transaction of the business set out.**

Admission to the public gallery is available from 6.30pm.



**Please telephone if you are attending the meeting in a
wheelchair or have difficulty walking up steps. There is
wheelchair access via the Sammy Ofer Centre.**



**An Induction loop operates to enhance sound for anyone
wearing a hearing aid or using a transmitter. If you require
any further information, please contact the Committee
Officer, Reuben Segal, Acting Head of Committee and
Governance Services.**

**Email: rsegal@westminster.gov.uk Tel: 020 7641 3160
Corporate Website: www.westminster.gov.uk**

1. ELECTION OF LORD MAYOR

- (a) To elect the Lord Mayor for the ensuing year.
- (b) Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the newly elected Lord Mayor.

2. MINUTES

To sign the Minutes of the Meeting of the Council meeting held on 1 May 2019.

3. LORD MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- (a) Notification by the Lord Mayor of appointment of the Lord Mayor's Chaplain.
- (b) To present the past Lord Mayor's badge and other insignia.
- (c) Other Communications (if any)

4. CONSTITUTIONAL MATTERS (TO FOLLOW)

To receive and consider the report and recommendations of the Chief Executive and the Director of Law on constitutional issues that require a decision

(Pages 3 - 6)

**64 Victoria Street
London, SW1E 6QP
7 May 2019**

Chief Executive

CITY OF WESTMINSTER

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

At the Meeting of the Council of the City of Westminster held at 7.00 pm on Wednesday 1st May, 2019 at Westminster Council House, 97-113 Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5PT.

PRESENT

The Lord Mayor, Councillor Lindsey Hall

COUNCILLORS

Heather Acton	David Harvey
Ian Adams	Elizabeth Hitchcock
Nickie Aiken	Adam Hug
Barbara Arzymanow	Louise Hyams
Timothy Barnes	Aicha Less
Geoff Barraclough	Pancho Lewis
Richard Beddoe	Andrea Mann
Rita Begum	Patricia McAllister
David Boothroyd	Guthrie McKie
Iain Bott	Tim Mitchell
Margot Bright	Eoghain Murphy
Susie Burbridge	Matt Noble
Ruth Bush	Emily Payne
Nafsika Butler-Thalassis	Papya Qureshi
Melvyn Caplan	Robert Rigby
Maggie Carman	Rachael Robathan
Danny Chalkley	Tim Roca
Antonia Cox	Ian Rowley
Lorraine Dean	Karen Scarborough
Tony Devenish	Mark Shearer
Paul Dimoldenberg	Selina Short
Richard Elcho	Andrew Smith
Peter Freeman	James Spencer
Murad Gassanly	Paul Swaddle
Jonathan Glanz	Shamim Talukder
Jim Glen	Hamza Taouzzale
Matthew Green	Aziz Toki
Lindsey Hall	Judith Warner
Angela Harvey	Jacqui Wilkinson

1 APPOINTMENT OF RELIEF CHAIRMAN

- 1.1 It was 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 MINUTES

- 2.1 **RESOLVED:** The minutes of the proceedings at the Council meeting on Wednesday 6 March 2019, with the assent of the Members present, signed by the Lord Mayor as a true record of the proceedings.

3 LORD MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

- 3.1 The Lord Mayor referred to these as set out on the agenda.

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- 4.1 Councillor Butler-Thalassis declared in respect of Item 10 that she works for a charity that provides public health services.

5 STATEMENT ON URGENT MATTERS

- 5.1 There were no urgent matters.

6 VOTE OF THANKS TO THE LORD MAYOR

- 6.1 Motion moved by Councillor Heather Acton, seconded by Councillor Matthew Green and further supported by Councillor Guthrie McKie, that the Council resolve to record a Vote of Thanks to Councillor Lindsey Hall. That the Council resolve to record a Vote of Thanks to Councillor Lindsey Hall for the distinguished service rendered by her as Lord Mayor and to her Consort, Mr Robert Hall, for the constant and invaluable help given by him as the Lord Mayor's Consort. 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.
- 6.2 Motion put, and on a show of hands, declared **CARRIED** following which the Lord Mayor replied.

RESOLVED:

1. That the Council resolve to record a Vote of Thanks to Councillor Lindsey Hall for the distinguished service rendered by her as Lord Mayor and to her Consort, Mr Robert Hall, the constant and invaluable help given by him as the Lord Mayor's Consort.
2. 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.

7 PETITIONS AND DEPUTATIONS, IF ANY

7.1 There were no petitions or deputations received.

8 QUESTIONS

8.1 The questions, supplementary questions and replies are included as an audio recording on the Council's website

9 COUNCILLOR ISSUES

(a) **Rubbish: What have we learned from the SWAT team so far?**

Councillor Margot Bright spoke and Councillor Tim Mitchell replied

(b) **Exclusions (Schools)**

Councillor Patricia McAllister spoke and Councillor David Harvey replied.

10 FUTURE POLICY PLAN

10.1 The meeting accordingly debated the item chosen from the Future Policy Plan by the Majority Party:

Public Health

10.2 The Majority Party had selected item number 90 on the Future Policy Plan: Public Health. The debate will be referred to the relevant Executive Director for consideration when reporting on the subject.

11 NOTICE OF MOTION

11.1 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 Pancho Lewis and seconded by Councillor Paul Dimoldenberg.

11.2 The Majority Party had submitted an amendment to the notice of motion as set out on the order paper.

11.3 Councillor Andrew Smith moved and it was seconded by Councillor Murad Gassanly that the notice of motion be amended, as follows:

~~"This Council believes the right to decent housing is a basic human right. Far from guaranteeing such a right, existing UK law seems designed to deny it. Section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 is a particularly vicious demonstration of the point. It allows a landlord to evict a tenant without any requirement to specify or prove a reasonable ground for repossession. This unilateral and unrestrained power creates insecurity and a real risk of homelessness for tenants who dare to complain about unacceptable living conditions or unfair rent rises. To achieve fairness and security for the thousands of tenants living in private rented accommodation, the balance of power needs to shift. This~~

Council supports the stated objective of the Government to abolish section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 and will submit a response to the consultation process in favour of ~~abolition~~ reform including the strengthening of the Housing Act's section 8. The council urges the Government to move swiftly to enact this vital change and continue to improve conditions for those in the private rented sector.”

11.4 Following debate, to which Councillor Pancho Lewis replied, the Lord Mayor put the amendment moved by Councillor Smith and seconded by Councillor Gassanly to the vote and on a show of hands declared the amendment **CARRIED**.

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

RESOLVED:

This Council supports the stated objective of the Government to abolish section 21 of the Housing Act 1988 and will submit a response to the consultation process in favour of reform including the strengthening of the Housing Act's section 8. The council urges the Government to move swiftly to enact this vital change and continue to improve conditions for those in the private rented sector.”

The Meeting ended at 9.49 pm

CHAIRMAN: _____

DATE _____