

LONDON BOROUGH OF LEWISHAM

MINUTES of that part of the meeting of the MAYOR AND CABINET, which was open to the press and public, held on WEDNESDAY, 25 July 2007 at LEWISHAM TOWN HALL, CATFORD, SE6 4RU at 6.00 p.m.

Present

The Mayor (Sir Steve Bullock)(Chair); Councillor Alexander (Vice-Chair); Councillors Best, Fitzsimmons, Massey, and Wise.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Onuegbu

Also Present

Councillor Hall

Minute

Action

No.

1 Declarations of Interests (page

The Mayor reminded those present the Council had agreed a new Code of Conduct at the Council meeting on July 18 which had redefined members interests. Declarations of interest now had to be made in accordance with the new Code. The Mayor stated this was particularly significant as in accordance with a temporary delegation notified to Council on July 18, decisions on all items apart from the second one listed on the agenda were to be taken collectively.

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Report Back on Matters Raised by the Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel - New School Approval Process – Update (page

The Head of Business and Committee tabled a report detailing a call-in agreed by the Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel the previous evening.

In response, the Mayor acknowledged the financial implications he had considered on July 11 were inaccurate and he considered a new set of financial implications in the closed part of the meeting. The Mayor clearly stated he believed financial matters were not substantive issues when he reached his original decision and that his prime motivation in reaching his original decision was to ensure a new school was established as soon as practicable. He acknowledged the Education Business Panel had been correct in calling-in his decision and he thanked that body for its diligence, but stated that he did not believe any change in his original decision was required. The Mayor therefore reaffirmed the decisions he had taken on July 11.

Minute
No.

Action

The Mayor was also addressed by Councillor Hall who reported the Education Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel had also discussed a number of issues related to the provision of the new school. These were outlined in paragraphs 6.2 to 6.4 of the tabled report. In response, the Mayor agreed resolutions (ii) to (iv) shown below.

RESOLVED that:

(i) the decisions taken on July 11 regarding the report entitled 'New School Approval Process Update' be reaffirmed following consideration of revised financial implications;

(ii) the Mayor would use all statutory and informal powers at his disposal to ensure the new school forms part of the Lewisham banding system for admissions;

(iii) the Executive Director for Children & Young People be asked to review previous communications made regarding the new school and report to the Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel on the principles which would apply to future communications to members; and

EDCYP

(iv) the Executive Director for Children & Young People be asked to report to the Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel on successor arrangements for the consideration of school organisation matters following the abolition of the School Organisation Committee.

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3 New School Approval Process – Update

There was no report in the open agenda on this item.

4 Leisure Provision – Loampit Vale & Ladywell (page

RESOLVED that:

(i) the outcome of the consultation process undertaken be noted; and;

(ii) having considered the outcome of the consultation process and the other matters set out in this report, the Loampit Vale site be confirmed as the preferred option for the location of new leisure facilities in Lewisham.

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5 Response to matter referred by the Sustainable Development Select Committee – Review of Lewisham's Planning Policy (page

Minute
No.

Action

RESOLVED that the response prepared by the Planning Service be submitted to the Sustainable Development Select Committee and that a letter be sent to the relevant government department asking that the law be changed to allow a presumption in favour of renewable energy in conservation areas.

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6 Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Act, as amended by the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (Amendments) (England) Regulations 2006 and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information:-

The following is a summary of the items considered in the closed part of the meeting:

Item 101 New School Approval Process – Update

The Mayor noted a revised set of financial implications relating to the above report which replaced those previously supplied in connection with the same report on July 11

The meeting ended at 6.48 pm.

Chair