

## **THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN**

At a meeting of the **CABINET** held on **WEDNESDAY, 18TH APRIL, 2012** at 7.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Judd St, WC1

### **MEMBERS OF THE CABINET PRESENT**

Councillors Nasim Ali (Chair), Sean Birch, Patricia Callaghan, Julian Fulbrook, Abdul Hai, Sarah Hayward and Lorraine Revah

### **MEMBERS OF THE CABINET ABSENT**

Councillors Theo Blackwell, Tulip Siddiq and Sue Vincent

### **OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councillors Meric Apak, Russell Eagling and Andrew Mennear

**The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the Cabinet.**

## **MINUTES**

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received Councillors Blackwell, Siddiq and Vincent.

### **2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PERSONAL AND PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

Councillors Birch and Hayward declared a personal and non-prejudicial interest in respect of Item 11 "Schedule B Information for the North London Waste Authority Inter Authority Agreement and Future Waste Collection Options (CENV/2012/11)", as they are Members of the North London Waste Authority.

### **3. DEPUTATIONS**

Deputations were received and noted as follows:

In respect of item 10 "Greenwood Place Proposals" from:

- (a) Sandy Smith, Our Group Your Group parenting group (supported by Kath Dawson, Camden Advocacy project co-ordinator), as attached at **APPENDIX A**;

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- (b) Frances and Ursula, Camden People First (supported by Claudia Macauley, Advocacy Co-ordinator), as attached at **APPENDIX B**;
- (c) Nalan Bedding, New Shoots, parents and carers of Shoot Up Hill, as attached at **APPENDIX C**; and
- (d) Denise Largin, Chief Executive, The Camden Society together with Maureen McDonald and Jide Akinbye, Greenwood Action Group, as attached at **APPENDIX D**.

A written submission was also received and noted from DISC, as attached at **APPENDIX E**.

In respect of Item 12 "Pay and Terms and Conditions Modernisation" from George Binette and Phoebe Watkins, UNISON, as attached at **APPENDIX F**.

Councillor Ali advised those present that he had rejected two requests for deputations from:

- Jane Clinton, Netherwood Campaign in respect of item 10 "Greenwood Place Proposals. This deputation request had been turned down because Netherwood was not part of the decision process regarding Greenwood Place. Also, a similar deputation had already been heard at a special scrutiny meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> March this year, so it had effectively had an extensive public hearing. Furthermore, just before the meeting, Councillor Callaghan had received and accepted a petition from this Group; and
- Petra Dando, Chair of Camden Association of Street Properties (CASP). This deputation request had been declined because it had already been discussed at a meeting of the Housing and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee.

#### **4. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Ali made the following announcements at the beginning of the meeting:

##### **Webcasting of the Meeting**

Councillor Ali reminded everyone present that the meeting was being broadcast to the Internet and that anyone who did not wish to appear on the webcast should take a seat in one of the galleries.

##### **Director of Housing and Adult Social Care**

Councillor Ali welcomed Rosemary Westbrook, the new Director of Housing and Adult Social Care to her first meeting.

#### **5. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

There was none.

**6. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED –**

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012, be approved and signed as a correct record.

**7. MATTERS REFERRED FROM A COUNCIL SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

A reference was received and noted from the Housing and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012 in respect of item 10, Greenwood Place Proposals, as attached at **APPENDIX G**.

It was noted that the reference would be taken at the item and would be introduced by Councillor Apak, the Scrutiny Committee chair.

**8. THE CAMDEN PLAN 2012-2017 (SCI/2012/03)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Chief Executive.

Councillor Ali reminded the meeting that in February, the Cabinet approved the broad ambitions and five objectives which formed the basis of the Camden Plan. He thanked all colleagues who had been working hard to develop a clearer direction so that this Plan could be successfully implemented. The publication of the Camden Plan would herald the beginning of a fresh conversation with both local residents and council partners, ensuring a plan which truly reflects the needs of the community it serves.

Members were very aware of the increasing level of uncertainty that the Council faced due to government funding cuts. In order for the Camden Plan to respond to these concerns, the impact of these cuts on communities in Camden must be properly assessed. The Plan would therefore, also promote flexibility, so the Council could easily adapt to new ways of working, during periods of change and uncertainty. It would focus on tackling the long-standing problems that exist in Camden's communities. Recognising these long-term issues allows the Council to be prepared and nip things in the bud. The bold aspirations, seen in the five strategic objectives, would give Camden the strength of focus needed to make these aims a reality. One over-arching objective was the clear commitment to tackling inequality and this was a key theme which ran right through the Camden Plan.

Councillor Ali said that he was looking forward to the Council having a new dialogue with the community, through the series of questions posed within the Camden Plan. Work with key partners would be prioritised so that the Council could work together in exploring opportunities to deliver new solutions to tackle these priority issues in the future.

**RESOLVED –**

THAT the Camden Plan 2012-17 be approved and referred to Council for approval.

**ACTION BY: Chief Executive  
Borough Solicitor (Committee Services)**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**9. CAMDEN COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME (CENV/2012/13)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Directors of Finance, Culture and Environment, Housing and Adult Social Care and Children, Schools and Families.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the updates on progress across the programme and on specific sites be noted as set out in the report; and
- (ii) THAT the project-specific decisions be approved as set out within the body of the report (at pages 8/9, 25, 33, 36, 38 and 39).

**ACTION BY: Directors of Finance, Culture and Environment, Housing and Adult Social Care and Children, Schools and Families.**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**10. GREENWOOD PLACE PROPOSAL: REPORT, AS PART OF THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAMME, ON THE CONSULTATION TO BUILD A NEW COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE (HASC/2012/04)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Acting Director of Adult Social Care.

The Acting Director drew the Cabinet's attention specifically to the equality impact assessments at appendix 3, as the Cabinet was required in coming to any decision on this matter to have given these matters due regard. The Borough Solicitor's comments contained in the report gave further details around these duties. In addition, Members were also referred to the consultation results as set out in the report.

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As mentioned at item 3 above, deputations were received and noted in respect of this item from:

- Sandy Smith, Our Group Your Group parenting group (supported by Kath Dawson, Camden Advocacy project co-ordinator), as attached at **APPENDIX A.**
- Frances and Ursula, Camden People First (supported by Claudia Macauley, Advocacy Co-ordinator) as attached at **APPENDIX B.**
- Nalan Bedding, New Shoots, parents and carers of Shoot Up Hill, as attached at **APPENDIX C.**
- Denise Largin, Chief Executive, The Camden Society together with Maureen McDonald and Jide Akinbye, Greenwood Action Group, as attached at **APPENDIX D.**

A written submission was also received and noted from DISC, as attached at **APPENDIX E.**

Councillor Callaghan thanked the deputations for attending the meeting and responded to the points raised in their statements as follows:

- The Greenwood Place proposals were not about cuts or closing services, but about investing in services for some of Camden's most disabled residents, with the focus on service users and carers, not the Council.
- Whilst other local authorities across the country were closing day centres, Greenwood would secure the future of Camden's centres and services.
- Young disabled people in transition from children's services had complex and multiple needs and needed buildings that were accessible, flexible and promoted their independence.
- During the consultation, people said that they wanted somewhere to go where they could learn new skills, learn to be independent and move around the building freely, meet friends and socialise. This message came out particularly strongly from people with sensory needs who saw the real potential of a purpose built Centre for Independent Living (CIL). The CIL would allow a new way of doing things and would be for all disabled people who want to use and even run the centre, and not just for people assessed by adult social care. Disabled people across the borough had been waiting for a CIL in Camden for over 15 years – so it was important not to miss this chance if these services were to be secured for the future.
- The Greenwood Action Group and other groups using the current Greenwood site had made clear, both tonight at many other meetings, how much their space means to them and their fear of losing their community and officers recognized the importance of retaining this. The Greenwood community must be a central part of the development of the CIL which had to be about developing and sustaining communities of disabled people in Camden.
- This must be a centre where people with learning disabilities would be welcomed, understood and be proud of.
- If the proposal was agreed, Camden would continue to work with service users and carers to ensure their expertise would shape the design and content of the new centre.

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- Officers would work with the Camden Society to find accommodation for the *Mailout* and *Choices* services and work with the Greenwood Action Group and the Camden Society to help them to find suitable alternative spaces and ensure that existing friendship groups were supported and maintained wherever possible. The CIL would also include advocacy support specifically for people with learning disabilities.
- This was a unique opportunity to secure these services in Camden for the long term, providing high quality, accessible services to meet the different needs and expectations that people would have in the future.
- Under the proposal the buildings at Raglan Street, Highgate Day Centre and New Shoots would be sold, but the services would be re-located to the new facility that would provide separate, dedicated high quality day opportunity resources for people with learning disabilities, dementia and mental health problems.

Councillor Callaghan finished by thanking everyone who has contributed to the Greenwood consultation. The recommendations in the report included significant changes to the original proposal that were a direct result of all the contributions made by people, including those present at this meeting. She also recognised that, if agreed, this proposal would mean a great deal of change for people who currently use services and how difficult this had been for people who valued their services, but she believed with the groups and the Council working together, better services would be provided for the future.

The Cabinet also considered and noted a reference from the Housing and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 11th April 2012, as attached at **APPENDIX F**, and mentioned at item 7 above. The reference was presented by Councillor Apak, Chair of the Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Callaghan responded to the points and recommendations raised in the reference. She said that as stated in the report, the building at 96-98 Shoot Up Hill would not close until appropriate alternatives were found for people currently using the New Shoots service. Carers of people using New Shoots made it very clear in the course of the consultation that their family members still needed a specialist base. Everyone in New Shoots could now, as a result of the amendment to the proposal, have a place in the new Greenwood centre if they needed and wanted it.

Councillor Callaghan said that there had been some concern that recommendations 3 and 4 in the report needed clarification, and she suggested that recommendation 3 of the report be reworded by adding that the New Shoots service would be relocated to the new building as stated for Highgate and Raglan. This would make clear the intention to re-locate the New Shoots service into the new Greenwood building and provide a service for everyone at New Shoots who wants it. There would be enough space for everyone.

**TO NOTE: Director of Housing and Adult Social Care**

Councillor Callaghan welcomed the proposal from the Carers' Group which had put forward their plan for a Peoples Centre at 96-98 Shoot Up Hill. As requested, the Group could have two years grace to find a donor to purchase the building at Shoot Up Hill, as no one would be moving from Shoot Up Hill until the new building was ready in 2015. Once Greenwood Place was near completion, they or any other interested group, would have the opportunity to buy the building when the Council was ready to sell it. In the meantime officers would continue to work with any interested group, including the New Shoots family carers, as they develop proposals.

Councillor Callaghan also proposed an amendment to recommendation 4 of the report to state that "Authority be delegated to the Director of Housing and Adult Social Care in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health to dispose of 96-98 Shoot Up Hill once the new Greenwood building is open". This was to re-assure people that the building at Shoot Up Hill would not close until the new Greenwood was open and that the Cabinet Member would be part of that decision making process.

**TO NOTE: Director of Housing and Adult Social Care**

However, she said that Cabinet could not endorse recommendation 4 of the Scrutiny Committee's recommendation asking that separate provision be provided for people with learning disabilities with low and moderate level needs who currently use Greenwood. This was contrary to the policy approved by Cabinet on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2011 regarding Adult Social Care savings which agreed to target financial resources on services for people with critical and substantial needs. As she had previously said, the CIL would be available to all disabled people including those with low and moderate needs and people with learning disabilities currently using Greenwood as will the shared facilities proposed for the new building. To support this recommendation would be inconsistent and unfair on other groups and organisations and would leave the Council open to legal challenge

Councillor Callaghan finished by saying that if the decision was agreed, as amended, she would visit all groups involved.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT it be noted and due regard be given to the Council's general equalities duties to persons with 'protected characteristics' by considering the conclusions of the equalities impact assessment attached in appendix 3, the results of the Greenwood consultation attached in Appendix 2 and the mitigation measures, opportunities to advance equalities and to foster good community relations as proposed in this report;

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- (ii) THAT the recommended option (Option 3) and the business case for the proposed comprehensive development of Greenwood Place be approved which will, within the new building, include new, dedicated and purpose built facilities for:
- people with dementia currently using the Raglan Centre;
  - people with mental health problems using the Highgate Centre
  - younger people with profound and multiple learning disabilities and autism;
  - people with learning disabilities currently using the New Shoots service who want to continue to use a building based service;
  - a new Centre for Independent Living that will be accessible for all Camden disabled people including people with low and moderate needs; and
  - eight affordable rental housing units for people with social care needs within the residential element of the scheme.
- (iii) THAT the proposed closure be agreed together with the relocation of services to the new building of:
- Highgate Day Centre for people with mental health problems
  - Raglan Day Centre for people with dementia
  - New Shoots service;
- (iv) THAT authority be delegated to the Director of Housing and Adult Social Care, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health to dispose of 96-98 Shoot Up Hill once the new Greenwood building is open; and
- (v) THAT the Director of Finance be authorised, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health, the Head of Property Services and the Borough Solicitor, to take all steps necessary, including but not limited to agreeing the contract award strategy and awarding the contract for the construction of the development, to agree terms and implement acquisitions and disposals related to the delivery of this project

**ACTION BY: Director of Housing and Adult Social Care**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report and above.

**11. SCHEDULE B INFORMATION FOR THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY INTER AUTHORITY AGREEMENT AND FUTURE WASTE COLLECTION OPTIONS (CENV/2012/11)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Culture and Environment.



**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT authority be delegated to the Director of Culture and Environment to complete and submit Camden's Schedule 2B submission in consultation with a nominated officer of the Director of Finance and a nominated officer of the Borough Solicitor and the Cabinet member for Environment;
- (ii) THAT, in order to inform the Director's decision on Schedule 2B submissions, the following be agreed:
- a) the implementation of the following waste and recycling collection regime (option 1, as set out in section 3.3):
    - Weekly residual waste collection for relevant properties;
    - Weekly fully commingled kerbside recycling collection;
    - Weekly mixed organic waste collection.
  - b) that Camden provides wheeled bins for recyclable materials, for those households where they are appropriate, from April 2013;
  - c) that officers submit an Expression of Interest to Central Government's Weekly Collections Fund to support the implementation of wheeled bin provision to households for commingled recycling collections;
  - d) Camden's Schedule 2B submission to the NLWA will reflect the collection of waste for recycling being delivered to the Authority in a commingled form;
  - e) Camden's Schedule 2B submission to the NLWA will reflect that the collection of waste for composting from households being delivered to the Authority in a mixed form;
  - f) the submission will reflect Camden's contribution to the achievement of a NLWA / borough household recycling and composting rate of around 40% by 2020 and an overall growth rate in waste collected from kerbside properties and flats of 0.5%; and
  - g) the tonnages of other waste streams will be in line with those reflected in the draft submission in Appendix 1.

**ACTION BY: Director of Culture and Environment**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**12. PAY AND TERMS AND CONDITIONS MODERNISATION (OD/2012/01)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Assistant Chief Executive.

As mentioned at item 3 above, a deputation was received and noted from George Binette, UNISON regarding this item, as attached at **APPENDIX F**.

Councillor Ali responded to the deputation on behalf of Councillor Blackwell, the Cabinet Member for Finance, who was not able to attend the meeting, due to a longstanding commitment.

Councillor Ali said that the Council had listened and worked with Trade Unions on pay and terms and conditions modernisation and that some changes had already been made because of this. Members had given careful consideration to implementation and wanted to continue with this steady approach. This contrasts with some other councils who were considering similar changes; it was proposed to move staff across to the new terms through voluntary take-up with a payment to those who sign the new contract. Furthermore, the new proposals had been with the aim of ensuring that lower paid staff were not disproportionately affected by the proposed changes. Work had been done to improve their overall package and the base of the new pay spine would begin significantly higher than the present pay spine and would be set at or above the London Living Wage. Furthermore, holiday entitlement would be increased for lowest paid staff and eligibility for overtime would be maintained. Key benefits such as sick and maternity pay schemes and flexible working arrangements would also be protected.

It was noted that, as stated in the report, this was a proposed package of reforms which would form the basis for further discussion and continuing negotiations with the unions. Councillor Blackwell would be meeting with Unison representatives to further discuss the issues raised by the deputation.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the proposed package of reformed pay and conditions of service be endorsed as the basis for continuing negotiations; and
- (ii) THAT it be noted that this package may change depending on the negotiations and that the decision on the final package will be made by Members in the early summer.

**ACTION BY: Assistant Chief Executive**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**13. HOUSING MOBILITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR COUNCIL TENANTS  
(HASC/2012/11)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Acting Director of Housing.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the continued operation of the Mutual Exchange Scheme and the Council's other housing mobility opportunities for council tenants be supported; and
- (ii) THAT Council's participation in the Pan London Mobility Scheme known as 'housingmoves' be approved.

**ACTION BY: Acting Director of Housing**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**14. LAUDERDALE HOUSE, WATERLOW PARK (FIN/2012/11)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Director of Finance and Director of Culture and Environment.

**RESOLVED –**

THAT authority be delegated to the Director of Culture and Environment in consultation with the Director of Finance and the relevant Cabinet Member to do the following:

- 1) Make a joint submission with the Lauderdale House Society to bid for Heritage Lottery Funding to support a refurbishment scheme for the House.
- 2) To contribute £350k from the existing Repairs and Maintenance budget towards the Scheme and in addition the associated costs of the above application and the costs arising from 3 below.
- 3) To formulate and make an application to the Charity Commission for the revision of the Trust's governing Deed to secure additional powers, including powers to grant leasehold interests to facilitate future funding and partnership working in the Park and in consultation with the Borough Solicitor and the Head of Property Services to exercise any such additional powers including powers to grant leasehold interests subject to appropriate safeguards and in particular to the requirements set out in paragraph 3.6 of this report.

**ACTION BY: Directors of Finance and Culture and Environment**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**15. APPROVAL OF A PERIOD OF ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS BY A CABINET MEMBER (LS/2012/11)**

Consideration was given to a report of the Borough Solicitor.

In response to questions from Members, the Borough Solicitor explained that, if after six months from the date of the member's last attendance, the Council and Cabinet had not approved the absence then the member, as a result of the operation of law, ceases to be a member of the council. Approval must be given within the six month period.

Once approval had been given, which can be for no more than 6 months (prospectively or retrospectively or a combination of both) then the statutory six months period begins to run again from the end of the period for which approval has been given. In the case of Councillor Vincent, the statutory 6 month period would run in respect of Council/Committee meetings, from 10<sup>th</sup> May 2012 and for Cabinet from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the reason, being ill-health, be approved for the failure of Councillor Sue Vincent (Holborn and Covent Garden Ward) for a period of six months beginning on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2011 to attend a Council meeting; and
- (ii) THAT the reason, being ill-health, be approved for the failure of Councillor Sue Vincent (Holborn and Covent Garden Ward) for a period of six months beginning on the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2011 to attend a Cabinet/Executive meeting.

**ACTION BY: Borough Solicitor**

**REASONS**

For the reasons set out in the report.

**16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the Cabinet would be held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2012 at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber.

**17. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

There was no other business.

The meeting ended at 9.14 pm

**CHAIR**

**Contact Officer: Lorraine Jones**

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**MINUTES END**