Item No: 1



## PARMLEY, MAYOR

## COURT OF COMMON COUNCIL

## 12th January 2017 MEMBERS PRESENT

#### ALDERMEN

Nicholas Anstee Sir Michael David Bear John Garbutt Sir Roger Gifford Alison Gowman **David Andrew Graves** 

Timothy Russell Hailes, JP Peter Lionel Raleigh Hewitt, JP Robert Picton Seymour Howard Vincent Thomas Keaveny Alastair John Naisbitt King Ian David Luder, JP

Professor Michael Raymond Mainelli The Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor, Dr Andrew Charles Parmley Sheriff William Anthony Bowater Russell Sir David Hugh Wootton

#### **COMMONERS**

Randall Keith Anderson Alex Bain-Stewart, JP John Alfred Barker, OBE, Deputy Douglas Barrow, Deputy John Bennett, Deputy Nicholas Michael Bensted-Smith, JP Christopher Paul Boden Mark Boleat Keith David Forbes Bottomley Revd Dr William Goodacre Campbell-Taylor Nigel Kenneth Challis John Douglas Chapman, Deputy Dominic Gerard Christian Henry Nicholas Almroth Colthurst Dennis Cotgrove Karina Dostalova Simon D'Olier Duckworth, OBE, The Revd Dr Martin Raymond

Peter Gerard Dunphy Emma Edhem

Anthony Noel Eskenzi, CBE, Deputy Kevin Malcolm Everett, Deputy Anne Helen Fairweather Sophie Anne Fernandes John William Fletcher William Barrie Fraser, OBE, Deputy Stuart John Fraser, CBE Marianne Bernadette Fredericks George Marr Flemington Gillon, Stanley Ginsburg, JP, Deputy Brian Nicholas Harris, Deputy Graeme Harrower Christopher Michael Hayward Tom Hoffman Ann Holmes Michael Hudson Jamie Ingham Clark, Deputy Clare James Gregory Percy Jones QC Henry Llewellyn Michael Jones, Deputy

Vivienne Littlechild, JP Oliver Arthur Wynlayne Lodge, TD Edward Lord, OBE, JP Paul Nicholas Martinelli Jeremy Mayhew Catherine McGuinness, Deputy Andrew Stratton McMurtrie, JP Wendy Mead, OBE Robert Allan Merrett, Deputy Brian Desmond Francis Mooney, Deputy Gareth Wynford Moore Alastair Michael Moss, Deputy Sylvia Doreen Moys Joyce Carruthers Nash, OBE, Deputy Barbara Patricia Newman, CBE Graham David Packham **Dhruv Patel** Judith Pleasance James Henry George Pollard, Deputy Henrika Johanna Sofia Priest

Stephen Douglas Quilter Delis Regis Elizabeth Rogula, Deputy Virginia Rounding James de Sausmarez John George Stewart Scott, JP Ian Christopher Norman Seaton Jeremy Lewis Simons Tom Sleigh Graeme Martyn Smith Patrick Thomas Streeter **David James Thompson** James Michael Douglas Thomson, Deputy John Tomlinson, Deputy James Richard Tumbridge Michael Welbank, MBE Mark Raymond Peter Henry Delano Wheatley Philip Woodhouse

The apologies of those Members unable to attend this meeting of the Court were Apologies noted.

There were none. 2. Declarations

Resolved – That the Minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded. 3. Minutes

Resolved unanimously – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be offered to 4. Resolutions

Welbank, M., George Marr Flemington Gillon, MBE м.в.Е.; Mayhew,

J.P.

on his recent appointment by Her Majesty the Queen as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in recognition of his services to the City of London Corporation and the Scottish community in London.

Mr Gillon was heard in reply.

Welbank, M., M.B.E.; Mayhew, J. P. Resolved unanimously – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be offered to

Gordon Warwick Haines, MBE, JP

recently Alderman for the Ward of Queenhithe, on his recent appointment by Her Majesty the Queen as a Member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in recognition of his voluntary and charitable services to the Community and Environmental Conservation in London.

Welbank, M., M.B.E.; Mayhew, J.P. Resolved unanimously – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be offered to

Professor Sir Barry William Ife, CBE

Principal of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama, on his recent appointment by Her Majesty the Queen as a Knight Bachelor in recognition of his services to performing arts education.

Welbank, M., M.B.E.; Mayhew, J.P. Resolved unanimously – That the sincere congratulations of this Court be offered to

Timothy Slade, QPM

A Sergeant in the City of London Police, on his recent award of the Queen's Police Medal by Her Majesty the Queen.

Ginsburg, S., J.P., Deputy; Welbank, M., M.B.E. Resolved unanimously – that the Members of the Court of Common Council express to

William Harry Dove, OBE, JP

their sincere gratitude for his dedication to the work of the City Corporation over the past 23 years, during which time he served on more than 25 committees, many of which he also chaired.

A teacher by trade, it is no surprise that Billy's time and activities on this Court reflected his enthusiasm for improving the lives of young people, as well as his charitable nature and his passion for serving residents. Under his Chairmanship the City Bridge Trust considered over 1,300 applications and awarded over £53.2m in grants, supporting organisations large and small and the diverse communities they serve across London. His time as Chairman of the Community and Children's Services Committee was marked by his ability to understand the needs of the vulnerable or less able, which ensured that the Committee was always reminded of the people they serve. And as Chairman of the Benefices Sub-Committee, he built up a strong and lasting friendship with the incumbents and their churches, and has been a committed champion for their work.

His civic career culminated in his becoming Chief Commoner in 2015 and, during his year, he used the opportunities presented to him to further those causes close to his heart such as his work with young people and with those less fortunate.

We warmly thank him for his exceptional service to this Court. His passion, his dedication and his jovial spirit will be sorely missed. We all wish Billy a long and happy retirement and send our best wishes to him and Joe in their future adventures.

MayoralVisits

There was no report.

Sara Pink

David Robert Stanley Pearson

**Anne Rosemary Cox** 

David Benjamin Morris Keith Henry Williams

6. Policy Statement

There was no statement.

7. Hospital Seal

There were no documents to be sealed.

8. Freedoms

The Chamberlain, in pursuance of the Order of this Court, presented a list of the under-mentioned, persons who had made applications to be admitted to the Freedom of the City by Redemption:-

Freedom of the City by Redemption:-				
Clive William Romney Harley John Alexander Smail Anthony Russell Miller	an Engineer, retired Citizen and Distiller Citizen and Haberdasher	Newton Ferrers, Devon		
Margaret Eveline Pratt Suzanne Clare Jones Christopher Nigel Bilsland	an Accountant Citizen and Baker Citizen and Farrier	Wapping, London		
Janet Margaret Legg Anne Elizabeth Holden Gordon Mark Gentry	a Voluntary Worker Citizen and Basketmaker Citizen and Baker	Siddington, Cheshire		
Matthew Philip Todd The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Dame Catherine Fiona Woolf, DBE, Ald.	a Writer Citizen and Musician Citizen and Solicitor	Islington, London		
<b>Neil Thomas Woodward</b> Roger Trevor Parker Colin Robert Woodcock, MBE	a Police Officer, retired Citizen and Loriner Citizen and Security Professional	Driffield, East Yorkshire		
Susanne Ruthe Schneider Aubrey John Cox Allen Lionel Burlton	a Doctors Assistant Citizen and Upholder Citizen and Clockmaker	Oerlinghausen, Germany		
Joseph Anthony William Story Scott Marcus Longman George Henry Capon	a Project Manager  Citizen and Blacksmith  Citizen and Blacksmith	Tulse Hill, London		
Janet Phyllis Williams	a Local Government Officer	Cheshunt, Hertfordshire		

Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper

Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper

Wolverhampton

Maker

a Homemaker

Citizen and Solicitor

Citizen and Engineer

Alison Jane Gowman, Ald.

Marianne Bernadette Fredericks, CC Citizen and Baker

Anne Christine Cox David Benjamin Morris Keith Henry Williams	an Executive Assistant Citizen and Solicitor Citizen and Engineer	Camden, London
Maurice John Whelan  Wyndham Seymour-Hamilton Henry John Emms	a Communications Company Chairman, retired Citizen and Loriner Citizen and Gardener	Uxbridge, Middlesex
Rachel Diana Hughes Anthony Ben Charlwood Donald Newell	a Head of Sales Governance Citizen and Basketmaker Citizen and Pattenmaker	Twickenham, Middlesex
Anneliese Owen Alan Leslie Warman David Robert Boston	a Civil Servant, retired Citizen and Clockmaker Citizen and Gold & Silver Wyre Drawer	Oerlinghausen, Germany
Isabelle Michele Jacqueline Britten-Denniee Leslie Findley, TD	an Early Years Advisor  Citizen and Apothecary	Coulsdon, Surrey
Michael John Willett	Citizen and Air Pilot	
Alastair Richard Cockrem John Alfred Bennett, Deputy Evelyn Elizabeth Guest	a Student Citizen and International Banker Citizen and Educator	Corsham, Wiltshire
Michael David Eglin David Andrew Harry McGregor Smith, CBE	a Fish Merchant Citizen and Cook	Herongate, Essex
Carol Jane Haynom Jackson	Citizen and Fishmonger	
lain Saxton David Mackenzie Kirke-Smith Michael Peter Cawston	a Media Producer Citizen and Fanmaker Citizen and Tyler & Bricklayer	Newham, London
<b>Ajvinder Singh Sandhu</b> David Mackenzie Kirke-Smith Michael Peter Cawston	a Nursing Home Director Citizen and Fanmaker Citizen and Tyler & Bricklayer	Chigwell, Essex
Alan John Richards David Mackenzie Kirke-Smith Michael Peter Cawston	a Heating Engineer, retired Citizen and Fanmaker Citizen and Tyler & Bricklayer	Westbrook, Margate, Kent
Alison McDonald	a Surveying Company Director	Welwyn Garden City,
Nicholas Stuart Bark Neil Logan Green	Citizen and Carpenter Citizen and Solicitor	Hertfordshire
Andrew Maclean William	an Investor	Chelsea, London
Moffat Robert Constant Richard Leslie Springford	Citizen and Carman Citizen and Carman	
Gary Neil Billington Jashvant Joshi Ricky James Toomey	a Business Consultant Citizen and Blacksmith Citizen and Blacksmith	Beddington, Surrey
Alan David Rickwood	a Traffic & Highway Policy	Iver, Buckinghamshire
Alison Jane Gowman Ald	Adviser Citizen and Glover	-

Citizen and Glover

**David William Tomlinson JP** a Construction Works Manager, Rochford, Essex retired

Patricia Ann Ayres Citizen and Upholder David Albert Charles Ayres Citizen and Upholder

**Dr Anthony Paul House** a Director of Policy Strategy Islington, London

Thomas Sleigh, CC Citizen and Common Councilman
Timothy Russell Hailes, Ald., JP. Citizen and International Banker

Nicholas Stephen Leland an Insurance Broking Chairman Stanhoe, Norfolk Lyons

Philip Woodhouse, CC Citizen and Grocer
Andrew Martin Smith Citizen and Fishmonger

Chun Yin Chak a Student Swansea

Michael Richard Adkins Citizen and Water Conservator

Ivor Cook Citizen and Poulter

David Lochrie, MBE an Regular Army Warrant Westminster, London

Officer
Major-General Sir Evelyn Webb- Citizen and Farrier

Major-General Sir Evelyn Webb- Citizen and Farrie. Carter, KCVO, OBE, DL

Major-General Sir Sebastian John Citizen and Girdler Lechmere Roberts, KCVO, OBE

**Graham Warner, BEM** a Civil Servant Westminster, London

Major-General Sir Évelyn Webb- Citizen and Farrier Carter, KCVO, OBE, DL

Major-General Sir Sebastian John Citizen and Girdler Lechmere Roberts, KCVO, OBE

John Anthony Shepherd a Chartered Director Sandy, Bedfordshire

Barry John Frederick Theobald- Citizen and Scrivener
Hicks

John James Tunesi of Liongam, Citizen and Scrivener
The Younger

Ald. & Sheriff

Steven Farmer a Product Design Company Sandy, Bedfordshire

Director

Susan Mary Harrison Citizen and Educator

Basil Roy Hodgson Citizen and Stationer & Newspaper
Maker

Christos Bardasa Business AnalystNewham, LondonMichael David BreezeCitizen and Carman

Robert George Hankin Bethel

Citizen and Apothecary

Her Excellency Paivi Maria

The Ambassador of Finland

Kensington, London

**Her Excellency Paivi Maria** The Ambassador of Finland Kensington, London **Luostarinen** 

William Anthony Bowater Russell, Citizen and Haberdasher

Mark John Boleat, CC Citizen and Insurer

Christopher John Moranan EntrepreneurChelsea, LondonSir David Wootton, Kt., Ald.Citizen and Fletcher

Roger Arthur Holden Chadwick, Citizen and Bowyer
Deputy

Resolved – That this Court doth hereby assent to the admission of the said persons to the Freedom of this City by Redemption upon the terms and in the manner mentioned in the several Resolutions of this Court, and it is hereby ordered that the Chamberlain do admit them severally to their Freedom accordingly.

9. Legislations

The Court received a report on measures introduced by Parliament which might have an effect on the services provided by the City Corporation as follows:-

Statutory Instruments Date in force

# The Street Works (Qualifications of Operatives and Supervisors) (England) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1147

6 April 2017

The Regulations lay down the qualification requirements for those supervising or carrying out street works, with a view to modernising and streamlining the current system.

## The Non-automatic Weighing Instruments Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 21152

28 December 2016

The Regulations implement new European standards for non-automatic weighing instruments used in the course of business. Weights and measures authorities (including the Common Council acting in that capacity) will be responsible for enforcing the Regulations.

#### The Measuring Instruments Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1153

28 December 2016

The Regulations implement new European standards for measuring instruments (such as utilities meters and taximeters) used in the course of business. Weights and measures authorities (including the Common Council acting in that capacity) will be responsible for enforcing the Regulations.

## The Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1154

22 December 2016

The Regulations consolidate existing rules governing the issue of permits for potentially polluting activities. The Common Council is responsible for enforcement in its capacity as local authority and port health authority.

# The Code of Practice (English Language Requirements for Public Sector Workers) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1157

22 December 2016

The Regulations bring into force a code of practice, to which public bodies are to have regard in fulfilling their new statutory duty to ensure that workers in customer-facing roles speak fluent English.

# The Rent Officers (Housing Benefit and Universal Credit Functions) (Local Housing Allowance Amendments) Order 2016, S.I. No. 1179

23 January 2017

The Order gives effect to a 3 per cent increase in the Local Housing Allowance (which determines the maximum amount of housing benefit) in 'high-rent' areas, including central London.

#### The Police (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1200

4 January 2017

The Regulations extend the Secretary of State's power to determine prior service requirements for appointment as chief constable to cover the offices of Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police and the City Police. They also allow for the alcohol testing of police officers.

## The Higher Education (Basic Amount) (England) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1205

6 January 2017

## The Higher Education (Higher Amount) (England) Regulations 2016, S.I. No. 1206

The Regulations lay down the basic and higher amount of tuition fee for 2017–18 for higher education institutions in receipt of public funding. For most institutions (including the Guildhall School of Music and Drama), the amounts are £6,165 and £9,250.

(The text of the measures and the explanatory notes may be obtained from the Remembrancer's office.)

10. Ballot Results

The Town Clerk reported the results of a ballot taken at the last Court, as follows:-

One Member to the Police Committee.

	Votes
John Alfred Barker, O.B.E., Deputy	17
Keith David Forbes Bottomley	45
Robert Allan Merrett, Deputy	35

With no candidate having obtained 50% of the first preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first preference votes had their second preference votes (where indicated) transferred.

	Votes
Keith David Forbes Bottomley	48
Robert Allan Merrett, Deputy	43

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Keith Bottomley to be appointed to the Police Committee.

**11.** Appointments

The Court proceeded to consider appointments to the following committees:

(A) **Board of Governors of the City of London School** (one vacancy for the balance of a term expiring in July 2020).

#### **Nominations received:-**

Dominic Gerard Christian Michael Hudson

Read.

The Court proceeded, in accordance with Standing Order No.10, to ballot on the vacancies. The Lord Mayor appointed the Chief Commoner and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, or their representatives, to be the scrutineers of the ballot.

Resolved – That the votes be counted at the conclusion of the Court and the result printed in the Summons for the next meeting.

(B) Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama (one vacancy for the balance of a term expiring in April 2017).

### Nominations received:-

Adam Fox McCloud Richardson

### Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Adam Richardson to be appointed to the Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama. (C) **Establishment Committee** (one vacancy for the balance of a term expiring in April 2017).

## Nominations received:-

Michael Hudson

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Michael Hudson to be appointed to the Establishment Committee.

(D) **Barbican Residential Committee** (one vacancy for the balance of a 4 year term expiring in April 2020).

#### Nominations received:-

Clare James

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Clare James to be appointed to the Barbican Residential Committee.

(E) One Member on the **City Bridge Trust Committee**, for the balance of a term expiring in April 2020.

### Nominations received:-

John Alfred Barker, O.B.E., Deputy Dhruv Patel

Read.

The Court proceeded, in accordance with Standing Order No.10, to ballot on the vacancies. The Lord Mayor appointed the Chief Commoner and the Chairman of the Finance Committee, or their representatives, to be the scrutineers of the ballot.

Resolved – That the votes be counted at the conclusion of the Court and the result printed in the Summons for the next meeting.

(F) One Member on the **Standards Committee**, for the balance of a term expiring in April 2020.

#### Nominations received:-

Christopher Michael Hayward

Read.

Whereupon the Lord Mayor declared Chris Hayward to be appointed to the Standards Committee.

#### 12. Questions

#### **Road Closures**

Edward Lord asked a question of the Chairman of the Planning & Transportation Committee concerning recent road closures and their impact, particularly in relation to the Bank Junction experimental safety scheme.

In reply, the Chairman outlined the significant planning which had been involved to ensure that recent and ongoing major projects were delivered as efficiently and quickly as possible, to minimise the effect of necessary works on traffic. He noted the timely delivery of the recent Tower Bridge project and confirmed that the Bank Junction safety scheme would not be implemented until the Cannon Street works had been completed. He also reminded Members that the safety scheme could be amended at any time to alleviate road closures elsewhere, in order to ensure the free-flow of traffic.

Observing that a significant number of Members wished to speak on this matter, the Lord Mayor suggested that, in accordance with Standing Order 2, Members might wish to consider the suspension of Standing Orders 13(6) and 13(9).

Newman, B.P., c.B.E.; Simons, J.

*Motion* – That Standing Orders 13(6) and 13(9) be suspended for the duration of item 12.

Upon the Motion being put, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

In response to a number of supplementary questions, the Chairman stressed that the issue of safety was of paramount importance and highlighted the duty on the City Corporation, as the highway authority, to ensure that the Junction was as safe as possible. The mandate to pursue this was clear, particularly given the Coroner's expectations that improvements would be implemented following the tragic death of Ying Tao. Whilst noting that black cabs were amongst some of the safer drivers using the Junction, it was not viable to make exceptions for taxis as part of the scheme without impacting the overall safety of the proposals. The Chairman also agreed with an observation that it was incumbent on all road users to use the Junction safely and undertook to provide interested Members with details of relevant training and information provided to cyclists.

The Chairman also made reference to traffic modelling which showed that the closure of Bank Junction was not expected to have a negative impact on traffic and informed the Court that he had undertaken to provide the Policy & Resources Committee with an update after four weeks to assess the trial's early success. He urged taxi drivers to work with the City Corporation during the trial, to help accurately monitor the impact of the changes and inform future decisions. The importance of proper signage and enforcement, amongst other elements in ensuring the viability and success of the trial were emphasised. It was also confirmed that local businesses had been closely involved in developing the Bank Junction proposals and work was ongoing to ensure that their needs around loading, unloading and access were met.

Noting the importance of enforcement in ensuring the success of the Bank Junction proposals, particularly in relation to illegal parking and illegal loading and unloading, the Chairman confirmed that five additional civil enforcement officers were being

appointed to focus specifically on the new distributor roads associated with the scheme.

The benefits of the scheme to air quality were also touched on, with the Chairman welcoming the commitment of black cabs to ensuring that no new vehicles would be diesel; the move away from diesel and towards electric buses was also welcomed.

13. Motions There were no motions.

14. Awards and Prizes

The Court received a report of the Chairman of the Port Health & Environmental Services Committee, advising that the City of London Corporation's Pollution Team had won the 2016 John Connell Soundscape Award for its Noise and Soundscape Strategy.

#### 15. **POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

### (Mark Boleat)

15 December 2016

Amendment to Standing Order 29(3) – Local Government Pensions Board In April 2015, the Court of Common Council approved the creation of the Local Government Pensions Board, consisting of three Scheme Administrator (employer) representatives and three Scheme Member (employee) representatives. The Scheme Administrator representatives consisted of two Members of the Court of Common Council and one Senior Officer.

Given the requirement for either the Chairman or Deputy Chairman to be a Member of the Court of Common Council, alongside there only being two Members of the Court on the Board, it was considered prudent to **recommend** that Standing Order 29(3) be amended to enable the Chairman of the Board to also be Chairman of another Grand Committee at the same time.

Resolved - That Standing Order 29 (3) be amended to enable the Chairman of the Local Government Pensions Board to also be Chairman of another Grand Committee at the same time.

# 16. HOSPITALITY WORKING PARTY OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### (Michael Welbank, M.B.E., Chief Commoner)

6 December 2016

#### (A) Applications for the Use of Guildhall

In accordance with the arrangements approved by the Court on 21 June 2001 for the approval of applications for the use of Guildhall, the Court was informed of the following applications which had been agreed to:-

Name Western Union Business Solutions	<u><b>Date</b></u> Friday 3 March 2017	<u>Function</u> Dinner
Chew Events Ltd	Friday 10 March 2017	Dinner

2B UK (destination management company)	Saturday 20 May 2017	Dinner
AE3 Media (publisher)	Friday 9 June 2017	Lunch
Lord Mayor's Appeal 2017	Wednesday 21 June 2017	Dinner
	Tuesday 7 November 2017	Dinner
Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors	Wednesday 28 June 2017	Dinner
New London Architecture	Wednesday 5 July 2017	Lunch
Srebrenica Memorial Event	Tuesday 11 July 2017	Memorial Event
London School of Economics	Saturday 2 September 2017	Graduation
Creative Head	Monday 4 September 2017	Dinner
Advertising Producers Association	Thursday 7 September 2017	Reception
Town Clerk's Department	Saturday 16 September 2017	Open House
	Sunday 17 September 2017	
City of London School for Girls	Friday 6 October 2017	Prize Giving
British Property Federation	Wednesday 1 November 2017	Dinner
Emunah (welfare charity)	Monday 6 November 2017	Dinner
National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty for Children	Tuesday 5 December 2017	Dinner
The Royal British Legion	Wednesday 13 December 2017 Thursday 14 December 2017	Concerts
	Wednesday 12 December 2018 Thursday 13 December 2018	

*Resolved* – That the several applications be noted.

6 December 2016

# (B) Application for Hospitality: Lunchtime Reception to mark the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers' 50th anniversary

An approach had been made for the City Corporation to host a lunchtime reception following a march through the City in September 2018 by the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, to mark their 50th anniversary.

It was therefore **recommended** that hospitality be granted for a lunchtime reception for the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and that arrangements be made

under the auspices of the Hospitality Working Party; the costs to be met from City's Cash and within the approved parameters.

This would be a full Court event.

Resolved – That hospitality be granted for a lunchtime reception for the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers and that arrangements be made under the auspices of the Hospitality Working Party; the costs to be met from City's Cash and within the approved parameters.

### 17. FINANCE COMMITTEE

## (Jeremy Paul Mayhew)

13 December 2016

#### **Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

In 2013/14, the Government introduced a locally-determined Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS). This replaced the national Council Tax Benefit scheme and assisted people on low incomes with their council tax bills. To protect residents on low incomes, the City of London Corporation adopted the Government's default scheme for the financial years 2013/14 to 2015/16, which kept the CTRS in line with the Government's general increase in benefits.

Changes were made to national benefits in the July 2015 budget and, as a result, it was not possible to maintain the same scheme for the 2016/17 financial year. A consultation exercise was undertaken and the Court agreed to make adjustments to the scheme to protect existing claimants from possibly being worse off, keeping the administration of the CTRS in line with Housing Benefit.

There were no proposals to make any specific amendments to the CTRS for this or future years, beyond keeping the CTRS in line with Housing Benefit and it was therefore **recommended** that the Court agree that the CTRS for 2017/18 be the same as the CTRS for 2016/17, subject to the annual uprating of amounts in line with Housing Benefit applicable amounts. It was also recommended that the CTRS for future years be the same as the previous year, subject to the application of those upratings.

Resolved – That approval be granted to the continuation of the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme, with the annual uprating of application amounts in line with Housing Benefit application amounts, as set out in paragraph 10 of the report.

#### 18. PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

## (Christopher Michael Hayward)

13 December 2016

## **Tudor Street - Alternative Design & Mitigation Measures**

On 28 April 2016, Transport for London (TfL) opened their North-South cycle superhighway from Blackfriars to Stonecutter Street. However, concerns about the impact of the superhighway on the area around Tudor Street were expressed at the time by the Temples and other residents and, following debate, proposals put forward to help mitigate the position were not supported by the Court of Common Council. Officers had consequently been instructed to work with TfL, the Temples

and their transport consultants to establish if a more effective scheme could be developed.

An alternative design for the Tudor Street junction had now been agreed in principle by all parties and was presented to Members for consideration at Appendix 2 to the report.

It had also been recognised that there was a need to implement mitigation measures ahead of the revised scheme, as it had been observed that the introduction of TfL's cycle superhighway schemes had resulted in an increase in traffic on other City streets which was causing circulation implications for lorry movements within the area.

The Court was consequently recommended to:-

- agree and instruct officers to continue to work with TfL to progress the alternative layout as shown in Appendix 2;
- approve a total estimated cost of £195,000, of which £175,000 is a contribution towards TfL's costs in delivering the alternative layout; and
- approve and agree to the delivery of the mitigation measures (subject to the resolution of any objections arising from the statutory public consultation) as shown in Appendix 3.

Introducing the report, the Chairman thanked the consultants representing the Temples, relevant Ward Members, TfL staff and officers involved for their hard work and dedication in developing a sensible and pragmatic solution which was acceptable to all parties.

A number of Members spoke to express their very real gratitude to the Chairman for his exemplary work in ensuring a mutually satisfactory outcome to this issue. The Chairman thanked Honourable Members for their kind words and reiterated his own gratitude to the various parties who had worked extremely hard and collaboratively to find a solution. He also expressed particular thanks to TfL for agreeing to fund a significant proportion of the implementation costs for the new layout.

In response to a query concerning the cost of developing the alternative proposal and any compensatory savings that would be required from the Department of the Built Environment's local risk budget, the Chairman undertook to provide the information to the interested Member in due course.

Resolved – That approval be given to:-

- the alternative layout set out at Appendix 2 to the report, with officers instructed to continue to work with TfL to progress this;
- a total estimated cost of £195,000, of which £175,000 would be a contribution towards TfL's costs in delivering the alternative layout; and
- the delivery of the mitigation measures (subject to the resolution of any objections arising from the statutory public consultation) as shown in

Appendix 3 to the report.

#### POLICE COMMITTEE

## (Douglas Barrow, Deputy)

15 December 2016

## **City of London Police Medium-Term Financial Plan**

The revised City of London Police Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) showed a deteriorating financial position. This position had been arrived at within a context of increased terrorism threats post the attacks in France, Belgium and Germany and revised national planning assumptions in the United Kingdom. The associated additional pressures on frontline policing capability, protective services, growing cybercrime, online crime demand and intelligence requirements had also been considered along with work undertaken in the last quarter to better understand increasing pressures within policing directorates.

The MTFP assumptions and financial and operational risks had been reviewed and options being identified to mitigate new threats and risks across the MTFP and consider future viable efficiencies. The current position could also be offset by the use of reserves, which required agreement from the Court of Common Council. The threshold required reserves to be maintained at or above £4m and current estimates showed that the drawdown on reserves would take reserves below that amount in 2016/17 with a forecast drawdown of £2.6m. Reserves would be completely exhausted by 2017/18.

The Policy & Resources Committee had endorsed the proposed relaxation of the reserve threshold, whilst noting the planned professional analytical review which would take place, and it was **recommended** that the Court approve the relaxation of the reserve threshold of £4m and approve the use of reserves in 2016/17 totalling £2.6m and 2017/18 totalling £1.5m.

Resolved – That approval be given to the relaxation of the reserve threshold of £4m the use of reserves in 2016/17 totalling £2.6m and 2017/18 totalling £1.5m.

#### 20. **ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE**

### (The Revd. Stephen Decatur Haines, Deputy)

21 December 2016

### **Appointment of Strategic Education and Skills Director**

Since September 2015 the City Corporation had engaged a temporary Education Strategy Director, an Education Policy Officer and part-time Assistant Policy Officer in support of the work of the Education Board. This included the delivery, monitoring and review of the City Corporation's Education Strategy.

There was now a need to secure long term strategic leadership, monitoring and review of the Strategy and combine it with the responsibility for adult education and the new City Corporation commitment to apprenticeships. As a result, the creation of a permanent post of Strategic Education and Skills Director had been identified as the most effective and efficient way of ensuring that these key City Corporation functions were delivered.

The post had been evaluated at Grade I and therefore required the approval of the Court of Common Council. Members were consequently **recommended** to approve the creation of this post.

Resolved – That approval be given to the creation of the Grade I post of Strategic Education and Skills Director.

#### 21. **STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

## (Oliver Arthur Wynlayne Lodge)

16 December 2016

Independent Review of the City of London Corporation's Standards Regime On 21 July 2016, the Standards Committee advised the Court of its intention to commission an independent, broadly-based review of the arrangements currently in place for addressing matters connected with the conduct of Members (including coopted Members) under the Localism Act 2011, with particular focus on the Complaints Procedure (alleged breaches of the Members' Code of Conduct).

The choice of the individual to undertake the review was determined by the Town Clerk and Mr Charles Bourne QC of 11 King's Bench Walk was subsequently appointed to carry out the task.

The report detailing Mr Bourne's findings, together with his recommendations, was now presented to the Court of Common Council for information, at this stage. It was **recommended** that the Court note the report and also note that the Standards Committee would consider Mr Bourne's report in detail and report back to the Court during 2017 as to how the various recommendations might best be progressed and implemented, as appropriate.

A Member spoke to suggest that it might be more appropriate for the experience and input of the wider Court to be involved in the consideration of Mr Bourne's report, rather than this matter being referred to the Standards Committee. He proposed that a panel of senior Members be appointed instead, who might select a number of Members from the Court to serve on a Working Party with power to report back to the Court. The following amendment was proposed:

Scott, J.G.S., J.P.; Fredericks, M.B Amendment – That a Panel be established by resolution of this Court today comprising the Chairman of the Standards Committee, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen, and the Chief Commoner, with power to act and to appoint a Working Party to report to this Court as soon as is practicable during this year on how the various recommendations in Mr Bourne's report might be progressed and implemented, as appropriate.

In seconding the Amendment, a Member asked that the Working Party also consider the composition of the Standards committee as part of its review, particularly in relation to the role of independent Members and the continued need for Co-opted Members.

In response to a question concerning outstanding queries raised at Members'

meetings on this issue which had not been addressed in the report, the Chairman agreed to follow up on this issue and provide responses to the relevant Members where possible.

Upon the amendment being put, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

Upon the amended Motion being put, the Lord Mayor declared it to be carried.

Resolved – That a Panel be established comprising the Chairman of the Standards Committee, the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee of Aldermen, and the Chief Commoner, with power to act and to appoint a Working Party to report to the Court as soon as is practicable during this year on how the various recommendations in Mr Bourne's report might be progressed and implemented as appropriate.

#### 22. LICENSING COMMITTEE

## (Peter Gerard Dunphy)

26 October 2016

## **Review of Statement of Licensing Policy - Licensing Act 2003**

The City of London Corporation, in its capacity as Licensing Authority, published its first statutory Statement of Licensing Policy under the Licensing Act 2003 in January 2005. Subsequent reviews were published in January 2008 and again in January 2011 and January 2013. Although not statutorily due for a further review until 2018, due to changes in the City Corporation's policies and procedures, improvements to the Code of Practice and major legislative changes to the Licensing Act 2003, there was a need to revise and update the Statement of Licensing Policy sooner.

The consultation period for the revised text of the Policy finished on Thursday 29 September 2016. Four responses to the consultation were received and the concerns and comments expressed had been taken into account in the Policy attached as an appendix to the report.

The Court was **recommended** to approve the revised Statement of Licensing Policy, as set out at Appendix 1, for adoption.

In introducing the report, the Chairman advised that a section had also been included detailing how to make an application, so as to be helpful to City businesses. He also clarified that neither the Sexual Entertainment Venue Policy nor the Tables and Chairs Policy, both referred to in the report, were being reviewed at this stage.

Resolved – That the revised Statement of Licensing Policy, as set out at Appendix 1, be approved for adoption.

23. Welbank, M., M.B.E.; Mayhew, J.P. Resolved – That the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business below on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act, 1972.

## Summary of exempt items considered whilst the public were excluded:-

24. Non-public Minutes

Resolved – That the non-public Minutes of the last Court are correctly recorded.

## 25. **Policy and Resources Committee**

The Court approved a proposal concerning the Centre for Music.

### 26. Finance Committee

The Court:-

- (A) approved the award of a contract relating to temporary agency resource; and
- (B) noted action taken under urgency procedures in relation to the Action Fraud reporting centre.

#### 27. Markets Committee

The Court received a report advising of action taken under urgency procedures concerning a programme of repairs to the Poultry Market.

## 28. Board of Governors of the Guildhall School of Music & Drama

The Court approved a proposal concerning the renewal of a lease.

The meeting commenced at 1.00 pm and ended at 2.05 pm

BARRADELL.