

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Monday, 19 October 2015

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Monday, 19 October 2015 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Mark Boleat (Chairman)	George Gillon
Jeremy Mayhew (Deputy Chairman)	Deputy the Revd Stephen Haines (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Deputy Chairman)	Wendy Hyde
Hugh Morris (Deputy Chairman)	Vivienne Littlechild (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Douglas Barrow	Edward Lord
Deputy John Bennett	Wendy Mead
Sheriff & Alderman Charles Bowman	Deputy Joyce Nash
Roger Chadwick (Ex-Officio Member)	Jeremy Simons
Henry Colthurst	Sir Michael Snyder
Deputy Billy Dove (Ex-Officio Member)	Deputy John Tomlinson
Simon Duckworth	Michael Welbank (Ex-Officio Member)
Stuart Fraser	Alderman Sir David Wootton
Marianne Fredericks	

In Attendance

Tom Sleigh

Officers:

John Barradell	- Town Clerk and Chief Executive
Peter Kane	- Chamberlain
Michael Cogher	- Comptroller and City Solicitor
Paul Double	- Remembrancer
Carolyn Dwyer	- Director of Built Environment
Peter Bennett	- City Surveyor
William Chapman	- Private Secretary to the Lord Mayor
Caroline Al-Beyerty	- Chamberlains
Tony Halmos	- Director of Public Relations
Henry Tanner	- Public Relations Officer
Damian Nussbaum	- Director of Economic Development
Jeremy Browne	- Special Representative for the City
Simon Murrells	- Assistant Town Clerk
Peter Lisley	- Assistant Town Clerk
Angela Roach	- Principal Committee and Members Services Manager
Simon Latham	- Town Clerk's Department
Scott Morgan	- Town Clerk's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Alex Deane, Dhruv Patel and Dr Giles Shilson.

2. **MEMBERS DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

The Chairman declared a personal interest in Item 9 as a member of the Board of London & Partners.

3. **MINUTES**

3a. The public minutes of the meeting held on 24th September 2015 were approved.

3b. The draft public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee held on 8th September 2015 were noted.

3c. The draft public minutes of the Members' Privileges Sub-Committee held on 24th September 2015 were noted.

4. **CEREMONIAL WORKING PARTY**

The Chairman referred to the four places on the Ceremonial Working Party filled recently by the Court and reminded the Committee that there were two places left to be filled. It was agreed that the two remaining places should be filled from amongst the membership of the Committee.

The Chairman advised that Simon Duckworth, Jeremy Simons, Deputy John Bennett and Roger Chadwick had expressed an interest in serving on the Working Party and therefore a ballot would be required for the two available places. A ballot was cast.

RESOLVED – That Simon Duckworth and Roger Chadwick be appointed to serve on the Ceremonial Working Party.

5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the formal appointment of the City Corporation's representative on the General Assembly of the Local Government Association (LGA).

Members expressed support for the appointment of the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee, for the time being, or his or her representative.

It was also suggested that as the City Corporation was able to cast two votes at the General Assembly a second representative should be appointed. A Member proposed that Alderman Sir David Wootton be appointed as the second

representative given his long standing involvement with the LGA. Members supported the suggestions and, in line with the practice elsewhere, agreed to the appointments being endorsed by the Court of Common Council.

RESOLVED – That it be recommended to the Court of Common Council that the Chairman of the Policy and Resources Committee (for the time being) or his or her representative and Alderman Sir David Wootton to be appointed to serve as the City Corporation’s representatives on the LGA’s General Assembly.

6. COEXIST HOUSE FUNDING

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning the progress of the ‘Coexist House’ initiative and a request for funding to support the implementation of the project.

A Member pointed out that Coexist House did not meet the criteria for funding from the Policy Initiatives Fund (PIF). Concern was also expressed about the high level of funding requested and the remaining balance of the Fund should the initiative be supported. It was suggested that the request be referred to the Chief Grants Officer to see if it met the criteria for funding from the City Bridge Trust and, if not, that consideration be given to a more modest one-off payment. Members supported the suggestion.

RESOLVED – That the request for be referred to the Chief Grants Officer to see if it met the criteria for funding from the City Bridge Trust and, if not, that consideration be given to a more modest one-off payment.

7. PROJECT FUNDING UPDATE

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain concerning the funding of three projects.

RESOLVED – That:-

1. approval be given to the allocation of £1.925m from the 2015/16 City Fund provision for new schemes to provide funding for the following projects, subject to the agreement of the relevant gateway reports and other approvals as appropriate:-
 - £0.850m to meet the shortfall in funding towards the £5.2m total cost of the Sir John Cass School extension scheme;
 - £0.486m towards the £0.650m total cost of the Frobisher Crescent Level 4 meeting and conference facilities scheme at the Barbican Centre; and
 - £0.589m to fund the provision of a new retail unit within the Barbican Centre.

2. it be noted that, in the event that future anticipated requests for funding materialises which resulted in the available provision being exceeded, a bid for an additional draw down from the City Fund reserves might be made in support of the SBR income generating proposals.

8. **BARBICAN AND GOLDEN LANE AREA STRATEGY**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Built Environment concerning the adoption of the Barbican and Golden Lane Area Strategy.

Members noted that the Strategy had been approved by the Planning and Transportation Committee. It was also noted that a number of detailed points had been raised by residents during the consultation period and that these would be looked at as part of project approvals process in the usual manner.

RESOLVED – That the Barbican and Golden Lane Area Strategy be adopted subject to the changes set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

9. **MEMBERSHIP OF LONDON AND PARTNERS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Culture, Heritage and Libraries proposing a budget uplift to fund the City Corporation's Platinum Membership of London and Partners.

RESOLVED – That a permanent budget uplift of £20,000 from 2016/17 be approved to cover the Cultural, Heritage and Libraries Department's, cultural and visitor development activities, for the specific purpose of retaining the City of London's Platinum Membership of London and Partners.

10. **'FUTURE OF LONDON' RESEARCH PROJECT BY BRIGHT BLUE AND LOCALIS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Public Relations concerning the sponsorship of a research project being undertaken by Bright Blue and Localis on the 'Future of London'.

RESOLVED – That approval be given to the City Corporation's sponsorship of the 'Future of London' essay collection by Bright Blue and Localis at a cost of £20,000, to be met from the Committee's Policy Initiatives Fund for 2015/16, categorised under the Research section of the Fund and charged to City's Cash.

11. **VISIT TO INDIA AND SINGAPORE**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the Chairman's visit to India and Singapore in August 2015.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

12. **VISIT TO THE USA**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the Chairman's visit to Washington DC in September 2015.

Resolved – That the report be noted.

13. **RENEWAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Economic Development concerning the Renewal of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Shanghai Municipal Government.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

14. **PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICE ACTIVITIES**

The Committee received a report of the Director of Public Relations setting out the activities of the Public Relations Office between July and September 2015.

The Chairman drew attention to the paragraph explaining that the work of the Public Relations Office would be reconfigured in the Town Clerk's Department following the retirement of the Director.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

15. **TOWN CLERK'S BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk on the progress of his departmental business plan.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

16. **RISK MANAGEMENT TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT**

The Committee considered a monitoring report of the Town Clerk concerning the status of Town Clerk's Departmental risks.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

17. **REMEMBRANCER'S BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE**

The Committee considered a report of the Remembrancer on the progress of his departmental business plan.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

18. **POLICY INITIATIVES FUND AND COMMITTEE CONTINGENCY**

The Committee considered a report of the Chamberlain concerning the Policy Initiatives Fund and the Committee Contingency for 2015/16.

RESOLVED – That report be noted.

19. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

20. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

The Director of Public Relations – Tony Halmos

The Chairman advised that having served as the City Corporation's Director of Public Relations for over 20 years, this was Tony Halmos's last meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee before he retired from the organisation. The Director had played a major part in ensuring that the City Corporation's public affairs were reflected positively. The Chairman thanked the Director on behalf of the Committee for his dedication and hard work over the years and wished him well in his future endeavours. This was warmly endorsed by Members.

The Director responded in similar terms highlighting that he had worked alongside five Chairmen during his tenure and the variety of issues which had been progressed during that time.

21. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION – That under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act: -

Item Nos.	Paragraph(s) in Schedule 12A
22a - e	3

22. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

22a. The non-public minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2015 were approved.

22b. The draft non-public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 8 September 2015 were noted.

22c. The draft non-public minutes of the Members' Privileges Sub-Committee meeting held on 24 September 2015 were considered in the public part of the meeting and noted.

22d. The draft non-public minutes of the Hospitality Working Party meeting held on 16 September 2015 were noted.

22e. The draft non-public minutes of the Cultural Hub Working Party meeting held on 1 October 2015 were noted.

23. QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

Service Based Reviews

A Member questioned one of the new ways of working proposed as part of the Service Based Review. The Committee was advised that the proposals had been approved by the Committee, that a number of issues had been raised and that they were being investigated. Members were reminded that the matter was still in the exploration stage and that the outcome would be reported to the Establishment Committee. It was agreed that the outcome should also be reported to the Policy and Resources Committee.

24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED.

There were no items of urgent business.

The meeting ended at 2.10 pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Angela Roach
tel. no.: 020 7332 3685
angela.roach@cityoflondon.gov.uk**