

BARBICAN RESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE
Monday, 17 September 2018

Minutes of an INQUORATE meeting of the Barbican Residential Committee
held at 2.30 pm at Guildhall

At 2.30 pm the Chairman proposed and Members agreed to adjourn the start of the formal Committee meeting in order to continue the informal meeting of the BRC, which had commenced at 1.45 pm. The meeting of the BRC re-commenced at 3.15 pm.

Present

Members:

Michael Hudson (Chairman)
Susan Pearson (Deputy Chairman)
Rehana Ameer
Randall Anderson
Mark Bostock
Deputy David Bradshaw
Mary Durcan
Barbara Newman
William Pimlott
Stephen Quilter
Deputy John Tomlinson

Officers:

Alan Bennetts	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Helen Davinson	- Community and Children's Services
Mark Jarvis	- Head of Finance - Citizen Services, Chamberlains
Anne Mason	- Community and Children's Services
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's Department
Paul Murtagh	- Assistant Director, Barbican and Property Services, Community and Children's Services
Mike Saunders	- Community and Children's Services

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Matthew Bell, Chris Boden, Jeremy Mayhew, Deputy Joyce Nash and Graham Packham.

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

The following Members, who are Barbican Residents, had received dispensations to speak but not vote on Agenda item 5 (Housing Governance Review):

Randall Anderson

David Bradshaw
Mary Durcan
Deputy John Tomlinson
Mark Bostock
William Pimlott

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that - the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting of the Barbican Residential Committee (BRC) on 4th June and the minutes of the Special Meeting of the BRC on 21st June 2018 be approved.

4. **MINUTES OF THE BARBICAN ESTATE RESIDENTS CONSULTATION COMMITTEE (RCC)**

RESOLVED, that – the draft minutes of the meeting of the Barbican Residents' Consultation Committee (RCC) of 10th September 2018 be received.

5. **HOUSING GOVERNANCE REVIEW**

Members considered a report of the Town Clerk in respect of a review of Housing Governance at the City of London Corporation. Members had debated this matter at length at an informal meeting directly before this inquorate and agreed that - the existing Barbican Residential Committee be retained as a standalone Grand Committee, reducing the number of resident Members to six, two from Aldersgate and two from each side of Cripplegate, retaining the number of non-residents at 11.

Note: the view to retain the BRC was unanimous; reduction of the number of resident Member numbers was a small minority view

As this meeting was inquorate, this decision would be taken by the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Barbican Residential Committee, under Urgency Provision.

6. **BARBICAN ESTATE 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS 2019**

Members considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the Barbican 50 Commemorations in 2019. Members had received the draft minutes of the previous week's RCC meeting, where residents had raised strong objection to this event being service chargeable. There was also a challenge as to whether a lease could be invoked to include a 'celebration' in service charge accounts.

The Chairman suggested a couple of options; i.e. a speaker at the Committee Dinner on the Estate's Architecture; Open Gardens in June and Open House in September, within existing Committee budgets. Members noted that that Hospitality Working Party, chaired by the Chief Commoner (in attendance at this meeting) received nominations for events and all Members could attend the public session of the meeting.

A Member had written to the Chairman of Policy in support of the City celebrating the Barbican Estate and the Chairman (of the BRC) agreed to add this to a formal request to the Chairman of the Hospitality Working Party. The

BRC Members were also encouraged to make individual representations. The Chief Commoner advised the meeting that the HWP had a budget and employed consultants to market the events.

RESOLVED, that - given the outcome of consultation with RCC and the comments at this meeting, the above options for a 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Barbican Estate be explored.

7. FIRE SAFETY UPDATE

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of progress made to date in relation to fire safety matters since the last update report in March 2018.

In response to a question about Counsel's opinion, Members noted that a number of London Councils have decided to recharge leaseholders for works such as sprinklers and fire doors and deal with any subsequent challenges through the legal channels. The City Corporation would not be taking this action but, officers continued to monitor the actions of neighbouring Boroughs would advise Members on the outcome of any challenges. Members noted that the Director had given assurance that resources for fire safety would remain a priority. In concluding, the Chairman and Members thanked the Assistant Director (Barbican and Property Services) and his team for their hard work in protecting residents' safety.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

8. RESIDENTS SURVEY

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of this year's Resident Survey.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

9. 2017/18 REVENUE OUTTURN (EXCLUDING THE RESIDENTIAL SERVICE CHARGE ACCOUNT)

Members received a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the Chamberlain in respect of the 2017/18 Revenue Outturn (excluding the Residential Service Charge)

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

10. 2017/18 REVENUE OUTTURN FOR THE DWELLINGS SERVICE CHARGE ACCOUNT

Members received a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the Chamberlain in respect of the 2017/18 Revenue Outturn for the Dwellings Service Charge. Members had been given an opportunity to discuss the report during the informal meeting directly before this inquorate meeting.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

11. **UPDATE REPORT**

Members received an update report of the Director of Community and Children's Services. Members noted a recent meeting in respect of the handover of Blake Tower in September 2019, which sought a smooth handover. The Lease Enforcement Policy had also been implemented and Members would receive an update at the next meeting of the BRC.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

12. **SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS QUARTERLY REVIEW**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services which provided information on the implementation of Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the quarter April to June 2018.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

13. **PROGRESS OF SALES AND LETTINGS**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of sales and lettings, approved by officers under delegated authority, since the last meeting of the Committee.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

14. **BARBICAN ARREARS**

Members received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of tenant and leaseholder arrears. Members noted a more detailed appendix in the non-public part of the agenda and commended officers on the collection rates.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

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

There were no questions

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

There were no items.

17. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

RESOLVED – That, under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the 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 Paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item no's
18-19

Paragraph No
1 and 2

18. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that - the non-public minutes of the meeting of the Barbican Residential Committee (BRC) on 4th June be approved.

19. **BARBICAN ARREARS - APPENDIX**

Members received the appendix in respect of agenda item 14.

20. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**

There were no questions.

21. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

There were no items

The meeting ended at 3.35 pm.

Chairman

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