

POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE
Thursday, 20 February 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Resources Committee held at Committee Rooms, 2nd Floor, West Wing, Guildhall on Thursday, 20 February 2020 at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Deputy Catherine McGuinness (Chair)
Simon Duckworth (Deputy Chairman)
Sheriff Christopher Hayward (Vice-Chair)
Deputy Tom Sleigh (Vice-Chair)
Randall Anderson (Ex-Officio Member)
Douglas Barrow (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Keith Bottomley
Tijs Broeke
Anne Fairweather
Marianne Fredericks
Alderman Timothy Hailes
Deputy Tom Hoffman (Chief Commoner) (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark
Deputy Edward Lord
Alderman Vincent Keaveny
Alderman Ian Luder
Jeremy Mayhew
Andrew McMurtrie
Wendy Mead
Deputy Alastair Moss (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Joyce Nash
Graham Packham (Ex-Officio Member)
Deputy Dr Giles Shilson
Jeremy Simons (Ex-Officio Member)
Sir Michael Snyder
Mark Wheatley
Deputy Philip Woodhouse

In attendance:

John Chapman

Officers:

Peter Lisley	-	Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Major Projects
Angela Roach	-	Assistant Town Clerk & Director of Member Services
Emma Cunnington	-	Town Clerk's Department
Greg Moore	-	Town Clerk's Department
Kate Smith	-	Town Clerk's Department
Peter Kane	-	Chamberlain
Caroline Al-Beyerty	-	Deputy Chamberlain
Paul Double	-	City Remembrancer

Carolyn Dwyer	- Director, Built Environment
Bob Roberts	- Director of Communications
Sir Nick Kenyon	- Managing Director, Barbican Centre
Giles French	- Department of Innovation & Growth
Eugenie de Naurois	- Communications Team
Paul Chadha	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Chris Pelham	- Department of Community and Children's Services
Peter Young	- City Surveyor's Department

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Nicholas Bensted-Smith, Karina Dostalova, Shravan Joshi, The Rt Hon The Lord Mayor Alderman William Russell, and Alderman Sir David Wootton.

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

Alderman Tim Hailes and Deputy Jamie Ingham Clark declared an interest in Item 25 as Churchwardens at St Lawrence Jewry. Simon Duckworth declared a similar interest as a Member of the Guild Church Council.

Alderman Hailes also declared an interest in Item 20 as Vice Chairman of Governors, King Edwards School Witley.

3. **MINUTES**

- a) The public minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 23 January 2020 were approved.
- b) The draft public minutes of the Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 January 2020 were noted.
- c) The draft public minutes of the Joint Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and Efficiency & Performance Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 January 2020 were noted.
- d) The public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 27 January 2020 were noted.

4. **COMMON COUNCIL ELECTIONS IN MARCH 2021**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning activities to be undertaken in advance of the March 2021 elections relating to encouraging voter registration and a diverse range of candidates standing for election.

During discussion, the following points were made:

- The importance of working with businesses to help them understand voter allocation arrangements was emphasised, with it urged that consideration be given as to ways in which to share guidance and best practice more effectively.

- It was also urged that thought be given to ways in which voters could be issued a reminder immediately prior to, or on the day of, the election, so as to facilitate greater turnout.
- Activity should also be undertaken to clarify that business voters were eligible to vote both in City elections and their own local elections, as this was often a point of confusion which affected turnout levels.
- It was observed that it would be helpful to receive a report some six months after the election, assessing the success of the various initiatives being undertaken and outlining lessons learned for future campaigns.
- In relation to the current allocation of Members across Wards, there was significant debate in relation to representation and voter figures at the present time as opposed to potential voter numbers. The intentions of the most recent Ward Boundary Review were noted, together with a number of specific instances of businesses who were eligible to register large numbers of voters but had not yet done so. The Chair observed that any consideration in respect of this matter would need detailed exploration and careful thought, suggesting that this item would best be discussed with the Town Clerk and Elections Office outside of the meeting in the first instance.

RESOLVED: That Members:-

1. Agree the proposed promotional activities as set out in paragraph 8 of this report in relation to increasing registration numbers.
 2. Agree a budget of up to £72,000 be met from the Committee's contingency for 2020/21 and charged to City Fund to undertake these various activities.
 3. Agree a further budget of up to £55,000 be met from the Committee's contingency for 2020/21 and charged to City's Cash to fund an advertising campaign to encourage as diverse a range of candidates as possible to stand for elections (up to £45,000) and host an early evening reception during Inclusion Week (28th September – 4th October 2020) (up to £10,000).
 4. Note that a progress report on the activities outlined in this report be submitted to the Committee's meeting in November 2020.
5. **MARKETS CONSOLIDATION PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE: WORKING PARTY CREATION**

The Committee considered a joint report of the Town Clerk and the City Surveyor proposing the creation of a Working Party to provide more focussed strategic direction and oversight to the Markets Consolidation Programme.

The Deputy Chairman of the Markets Committee, who was in attendance at the meeting, asked if consideration might be given to altering the composition of the Working Party such that both the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Markets Committee were Members. After discussion, the Committee was minded that this would not be appropriate, but agreed that it might be appropriate for the Deputy Chairman to attend on those occasions where the Chairman was not able to.

RESOLVED: That Members:-

1. Approve the creation of a Markets Consolidation Working Party, with terms of reference and composition as set out at Appendix A.
2. Note that a report will be submitted in October 2020 recommending the submission of the private bill and budget, which will address how the governance of the programme should continue once the private bill has been submitted.

6. BARBICAN CENTRE BOARD GOVERNANCE

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning a proposed amendment to the constitution and terms of reference of the Barbican Centre Board.

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to amendment to the Barbican Centre Board's Constitution and Terms of Reference, waiving the nine-year maximum service rule on a temporary basis in respect of Deputy Shilson, to allow for the possibility of the incumbent Chairman to extend his term on the Board for one additional year.

7. MUSEUM OF LONDON GOVERNOR APPOINTMENT

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk which proposed the reappointment of the Rt Hon the Lord Paul Boateng for a further term as a City of London Corporation Governor of London.

RESOLVED: That approval be granted to the reappointment of the Rt Hon the Lord Paul Boateng to the Board of Governors of the Museum of London for a 14-month term expiring 31 March 2021.

8. SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk presenting a draft Sport & Physical Activity Strategy for 2020-25.

Several Members raised concerns in relation to oversight, with it suggested that a Working Party should be established to provide more focussed strategic direction. It was also suggested that there was insufficient clarity in relation to the structures and processes for taking the strategy forward. Following discussion, on balance, the Committee took the view that it would not be appropriate to establish a Working Party at this point in time, with it argued that it would be prudent to wait for the governance review to establish appropriate structures for sport governance moving forwards.

It was also observed that it would be beneficial for some sort of measurement mechanism to be associated the various success measures set out in the strategy, so as to allow progress and performance to be measured.

RESOLVED: That Members:-

1. Approve that the draft strategy set out in the report be used for the purposes of setting out the ambition of the City of London Corporation in relation to Sport & Physical Activity.
2. Agree to commission the Town Clerk to produce a brief and set out costs (expected to be c. £60,000) for a specialist, independent audit and assessment of the existing sport and physical activity provision at all types of open spaces and facilities under the stewardship of the City Corporation, to include an independent assessment of the quality of supply, their condition and expected future (5-10 year) demand for facilities.
3. Agree to commission the Town Clerk to oversee stakeholder research, expected to consist of surveys and focus groups, into stakeholder (including user) views in relation to the assets and activities we currently provide (except for those provided by schools for students, which are assessed and funded separately).
4. Agree to commission the Town Clerk to produce a brief and set out costs (estimated at around £50,000) for a review of the current, future and potential commercial value of our assets, including the scope for generating income that could be used to fund our ambitions.

9. DRAFT PAY POLICY STATEMENT

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Human Resources presenting the draft Pay Policy Statement for 2020/21.

RESOLVED: That the Pay Policy Statement for 2020/21 be approved for submission to the Court of Common Council.

10. HEART OF THE CITY

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth regarding funding for Heart of the City.

The Vice Chairman advised that he had recently met with representatives of Heart of the City who had articulated their future plans in respect with closer engagement with Members and at the Ward level, which was welcome. The support for and engagement with Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) was also noted as being of high value to the City, with it suggested that this could be articulated better in future.

Members discussed the appropriate level of grant in the context of the debate at January's meeting and the desire to avoid funding dependence, as well as an assessment of Heart of the City's level of reserves and use of unrestricted funds. Following discussion, it was felt that Option 1, i.e. a figure of £202,000, would be the most appropriate sum, albeit with the proviso that it was made clear that Heart of the City would need to demonstrate what they would be doing to increase funding from other sources in the coming period.

RESOLVED: That Members:-

1. Agree one-year's funding for 2020/21 as outlined in the report at option one, totalling £202,000, to be met from City's Cash.

2. Note that a review will be undertaken in 2020 to assess the value and return on investment that Heart of the City generates.

11. **CENTRAL LONDON FORWARD JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Innovation & Growth concerning the City Corporation's involvement with Central London Forward (CLF).

RESOLVED: That the proposed CLF Joint Venture Agreement, as set out at Appendix 1, be approved alongside a contribution of £40,000 per annum for the four-year period, 2020 to 2024, to be met from the Innovation and Growth budget.

12. **SUPPORT FOR FUTURE.NOW**

The Committee considered a report of the Town Clerk concerning support for the *future.now* initiative.

Members took the opportunity to note the importance of ensuring that Mayoral initiatives were aligned with corporate priorities and adopting a more strategic approach moving forwards.

RESOLVED: That an allocation of £17,000 be approved from the Committee's 2020/21 Policy Initiatives Fund, to cover the costs of four events outlined in the report associated with the *future.now* initiative.

13. **TOKYO 2020 GAMES**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Communications concerning proposed engagement in respect of the upcoming Olympic and Paralympic Games in Tokyo.

RESOLVED: That an allocation of £40,000 be agreed, to be met from the 2020/21 Policy Initiatives Fund, to cover costs of the City Corporation's engagement around the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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

The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain relative to the Policy Initiatives Fund, Committee Contingency Fund, Brexit Contingency Fund and the Committee's Projects Reserve.

RESOLVED: That the report be received and its contents noted.

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

Section 618 of the Housing Act 1985

A Member made reference to a resolution passed at the November 2019 meeting of the Committee, which had asked that the Remembrancer explore the potential repeal of section 618 of the Housing Act 1985 and report back to the Committee for a decision in relation to next steps. The Member asked that this report be brought to Committee as soon as was practicable.

Green Investment Index

The Vice Chair made reference to an approach from the FTSE Russell Group, who had invited the City Corporation to sponsor and invest in a new Green Investment Index, asking if a report could be brought to the next meeting exploring this issue.

Responding, the Chair agreed that such a report would be extremely welcome and advised that she had asked officers in Innovation & Growth and Chamberlain's to collaborate on a report setting out options and proposals.

16. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

Coronavirus – Gresham Lecture

It was advised that the Chief Medical Officer, Professor Chris Whitty, had offered to provide a lecture on coronavirus through Gresham College. Professor Whitty was one of the Gresham College Professors and an expert in epidemiology.

It had been suggested that Guildhall be offered to host the lecture on 27 April and Members expressed support for this initiative.

China events – Coronavirus

The Committee was also advised that the City Corporation had been approached by the China Chamber of Commerce to host an event in the Old Library as a gesture of solidarity with the Chinese people affected by coronavirus.

17. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED: 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.

18. NON-PUBLIC MINUTES

- a) The non-public minutes of the Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 23 January 2019 were approved.
- b) The draft non-public minutes of Resource Allocation Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 January 2020 were noted.
- c) The draft non-public minutes of the Joint Resource Allocation Sub-Committee and Efficiency & Performance Sub-Committee meeting held on 23 January 2020 were noted.
- d) The non-public minutes of the Projects Sub-Committee meeting held on 27 January 2020 were noted.

- e) The non-public minutes of the Hospitality Working Party meeting held on 28 January 2020 were noted.
19. **CENTRE FOR MUSIC AND LONDON WALL SITE MASTERPLANNING**
The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the Director of Major Projects, the City Surveyor, and the Managing Director of the Barbican Centre which provided an update on the masterplanning of the current Museum of London site at 140 – 150 London Wall.
20. **TOMLINSON REVIEW**
The Committee received the latest findings in respect of the ongoing Tomlinson Review into the City's education provision.
21. **(A) BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES: RESERVES POLICY AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR 'BRIDGING DIVIDES' ACTIVITIES**
The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain which served to introduce the two subsequent items on the agenda, relating to recommendations concerning the Bridge House Estates (BHE) arising from the current BHE Strategic Governance Review.
21. **(B) BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES: RESERVES POLICY**
The Committee received a report of the Chamberlain concerning the reserves policy for Bridge House Estates.
21. **(C) BRIDGE HOUSE ESTATES: ALLOCATION OF FUNDING FOR 'BRIDGING DIVIDES'**
The Committee considered and approved a report of the Chamberlain concerning the allocation of funding for Bridging Divides.
22. **CITY OF LONDON SCHOOL - MASTERPLAN LOAN APPLICATION**
The Committee considered and approved a report of the Headmaster of the City of London School concerning funding arrangements for phases 1 to 4 of the School's Masterplan.
23. **CITY'S WHOLESALE MARKETS - INTERIM MAINTENANCE STRATEGY, EXISTING SITES LEASING STRATEGY, FUTURE LEASING STRATEGY AND RELOCATION PRINCIPLES**
The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the Director of Markets & Consumer Protection and the City Surveyor concerning the maintenance and leasing strategies associated with the Markets Consolidation Programme.
24. **MARKETS CONSOLIDATION PROGRAMME: FOOD SCHOOL**
The Committee considered and approved a joint report of the Director of Markets & Consumer Protection and the City Surveyor concerning proposals relating to a Food School associated with the Markets Consolidation Programme.

25. **ST LAWRENCE JEWRY: MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**
The Committee considered and approved a report of the City Surveyor concerning a Memorandum of Understanding in relation to St Lawrence Jewry.
26. **20/21 ALDERMANBURY**
The Committee received a report of the City Surveyor concerning 20/21 Aldermanbury.
27. **DECISIONS TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY OR URGENCY POWERS**
The Committee received a report of the Town Clerk which set out action taken under urgency procedures since the last meeting.
28. **QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There were no questions.
29. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED.**
There were two urgent items, one concerning a Memorandum of Understanding with a third party and one concerning a financial matter.
30. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**
The confidential minutes of the meeting held on 23 January 2020 were approved.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm

Chairman

Contact Officer: Gregory Moore
tel. no.: 020 7332 1399
gregory.moore@cityoflondon.gov.uk