

BARBICAN RESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE
Monday, 15 June 2020

Minutes of the meeting streamed on You Tube at 1.45 pm

Present

Members:

Michael Hudson (Chairman) *
Mark Wheatley (Deputy Chairman) *
Randall Anderson
Adrian Bastow
Chris Boden *
Mark Bostock
Deputy David Bradshaw
Henry Colthurst *
Mary Durcan
Barbara Newman
Susan Pearson *
William Pimlott
Stephen Quilter
Deputy John Tomlinson
Dawn Wright *

**Indicates a non-resident Member*

In attendance:

Helen Fentimen – Ward Member for Aldersgate

Officers:

Paul Murtagh	- Assistant Director, Barbican and Property Services, Community and Children's Services
Michael Bennett	- Community and Children's Services
Helen Davinson	- Community and Children's Services
Jason Hayes	- Community and Children's Services
Rebecca Bello	- Community and Children's Services
Anne Mason	- Community and Children's Services
Mark Jarvis	- Chamberlains
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerk's
Chandni Tanna	- Town Clerk's (Communications Department)
Alan Bennetts	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department
Frank Marchione	- Comptroller and City Solicitor's Department

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Jeremy Mayhew, who had to leave the meeting after 15 minutes.

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

The following Members made declarations. Two resident members had either no car park space or storage and were therefore permitted to speak and vote. Of those Members who had applied for dispensations, they had been permitted to speak but not vote on the matter.

- Deputy David Bradshaw – has a car parking bay and store
- Barbara Newman – doesn't own a car or car parking bay but owns a store
- Deputy John Tomlinson –has a store but not a car parking bay
- Mary Durcan – has a car parking bay and a store
- Mark Bostock – has a store
- William Pimlott – parents have a car parking bay and store
- Randall Anderson - no car parking bay or store.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED, that – the public minutes and non-public summary of the meeting held on 16th March 2020 be approved.

4. CHARGING POLICY FOR CAR PARKING AND STORES - ANNUAL REVIEW

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of the Annual Review of the Charging Policy for Car Parking and Stores on the Barbican Estate. The report sought Members' endorsement of the work and recommendations of the Member/Officer Working Party as set out in the report.

During the debate and questions the following points were raised:

- a. During the last 12 months, only one resident had mentioned cost as a reason for giving up their parking bay; which might suggest keeping with the direction of travel of £1500 a year for Barbican car parking. The officer advised that residents were asked to give a reason when they surrendered a bay and there was currently no waiting list for baggage stores.
- b. There was some challenge as to the level of maintenance on the car parks and it was noted that some were in a very poor condition. Members asked to see a table showing figures for the income/ maintenance of car parks.
- c. A lower charge was suggested for those who had invested in electric vehicles or smaller cars. Given the pandemic and economic uncertainty, a CPI increase was suggested with a review in 6 months' time. Members were asked to be mindful of the implications on staff resources arising from this request.
- d. Given that Covid-19 was very likely to impact on the way people travel, it was important to explore new income streams. The officer advised that larger bays/electric car discount/electric bike sockets/additional cycling spaces etc. could be considered in due course as we come out of lockdown.

It was not possible to let the general public use Barbican car parking spaces due to planning restrictions.

- e. Only renewals and not new applications would receive the congestion zone discount by TFL. The officer had been advised there would be a full consultation of Barbican residents on the congestion charge on any future changes, temporary or otherwise by TFL. Members thanked the Chairman for writing to TfL, on behalf of the Committee, objecting to the extension of the congestion charging zone hours and the exclusion of new applications.
- f. There was considerable concern expressed in that the City Corporation was already budgeting on a deficit of over £300k and a CPI increase would worsen the position. Officers confirmed that the Car Park expenditure budget for 2020/21 would be distributed to members with the minutes. The Chamberlain advised that the draft budget was presented in September last year, assuming the proposed increase would be approved. It was noted that Car park charges at the Barbican were more than other City car parks and a further view was expressed that this situation must be addressed as soon as possible.

RESOLVED, that:

Car Parking (*of the 8 members entitled to vote, 6 voted in favour*)

1. The Barbican car park charge per parking space for the ensuing year be increased to £1,420 per annum (as originally agreed at BRC in 2018 as the direction of travel to £1,500 over 3 years) and charges be reviewed again in 2021.

Stores (*unanimous*)

2. Rents for Stores within Barbican buildings (that is, Stores not constructed in the car parks which are all classed as small/standard Stores) be increased in line with CPI (based on 22 April CPI for March of 1.5%) to £331 per annum and charges be reviewed again in 2021;
3. Rents for the resident occupiers of new stores in the car parks be increased in line with CPI (based on 22 April CPI for March of 1.5%) to £873 per annum for large stores, £1,238 for extra-large and £1,746 for extra extra-large stores and charged be reviewed again in 2021.
4. Rents for the non-resident occupiers of new stores in the car parks be increased in line with CPI (based on 22 April CPI for March of 1.5%) to £1,746 per annum for large stores, £2,476 for extra-large and £3,492 for extra extra-large stores and charges be reviewed again in 2021.
5. Miscellaneous Charges be increased in line with CPI (based on 22 April CPI for March of 1.5%) to £243 per annum for motorcycles, £91 per annum for bicycle lockers and £32 per annum for bicycle pods and charges be reviewed again in 2021.

5. **PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OF FRONT ENTRANCE DOOR SETS**

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services which sought Member approval to submit a supplementary Capital Bid, to be presented to the Resource Allocation Sub Committee and the Court of Common Council, for the proposed replacement of front entrance door sets to all flats on the Barbican Estate. This would ensure that they met the requirements of the current Building Regulations in relation to fire safety.

In response to a question, it was noted that the final estimate would include Frobisher Crescent. Members also noted that, as the works were classified as an improvement in the lease, residents would not have to pay.

RESOLVED, That – the recommendation from officers to submit a supplementary Capital Bid be approved, to enable the replacement of front entrance door sets to all flats on the Barbican Estate with new modern replacements that comply with ‘*Approved Document B – Fire Safety of the Building Regulations*’.

6. **'YOU SAID; WE DID' - OUTSTANDING ACTIONS LIST**

Members received the Committee’s Outstanding Actions list. The Town Clerk advised Members that the Committee’s request at the last meeting, to review its Terms of Reference, had been approved by the Policy and Resources Committee and would be presented to the Court of Common Council for endorsement at its Annual Meeting, which had moved from April 2020 to July 2020 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

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

There were no questions.

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

There were no items.

9. **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 item(s) on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item No(s)
11, 12

Paragraph No(s)
1,2& 3

10. **NON-PUBLIC MINUTES**
RESOLVED, that – the non-public minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2020 be approved.
11. **BARBICAN ESTATE COMMERCIAL TENANTS AND COVID-19: PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT**
Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services.
12. **COMMERCIAL LEASE RENEWAL**
Members considered and approved a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services.
13. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE**
There was one question whilst the public were excluded.
14. **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.
15. **CONFIDENTIAL MINUTES**
RESOLVED, that – the confidential minutes of the meeting held on 16th March 2020 be approved.

The meeting ended at 3.20 pm

Chairman

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