

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 26 MAY 2010**

**THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, 1ST FLOOR, TOWN HALL, MULBERRY PLACE, 5  
CLOVE CRESCENT, LONDON, E14 2BG**

**Members Present:**

Councillor Helal Abbas	Councillor Dr. Emma Jones
Councillor Khaled Uddin Ahmed	Councillor Anwar Khan
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	Councillor Rabina Khan
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	Councillor Aminur Khan
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Shiria Khatun
Councillor Rofique U Ahmed	Councillor Anna Lynch
Councillor Shelina Akhtar	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Shahed Ali	Councillor Md. Maium Miah
Councillor Tim Archer	Councillor Mohammed Abdul Mukit MBE
Councillor Abdul Asad	Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer
Councillor Craig Aston	Councillor Lesley Pavitt
Councillor Lutfu Begum	Councillor Joshua Peck
Councillor Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury	Councillor Zenith Rahman
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	Councillor Lutfur Rahman
Councillor Zara Davis	Councillor Oliur Rahman
Councillor Stephanie Eaton	Councillor Rachael Saunders
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor David Snowdon
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Gloria Thienel
Councillor Judith Gardiner	Councillor Bill Turner
Councillor Carlo Gibbs	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Kosru Uddin
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	Councillor Abdal Ullah
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman
Councillor Ann Jackson	Councillor Amy Whitelock
Councillor Denise Jones	

**1. ELECTION OF MAYOR**

**The Mayor, Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer, in the Chair**

**MAYOR'S OPENING ADDRESS**

The Mayor, Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer, welcomed all present to the annual meeting of the Council.

Councillor Omer addressed the meeting about his year of office. He said that it had been a privilege to serve as the Mayor of the Borough. Highlights of a good year had included meeting the former Mayoress of Stepney of 1938. During his term of office, the Mayor's charity account had raised over £30,000 for his two charities, Bangladesh Parents and Carers Association and St. Margaret's Settlement. Councillor Omer had been proud to attend many Citizenship Ceremonies and he

urged everyone to work together regardless of age, ability and colour towards the vision of One Tower Hamlets.

Councillor Helal Abbas paid tribute to Councillor Omer on behalf of the Council and Councillors Peter Golds, Stephanie Eaton and Harun Miah also addressed the meeting about his year in office and echoed Councillor Abbas's comments.

The Mayor then called for nominations to serve as Mayor of Tower Hamlets for the coming year.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Helal Abbas, **SECONDED** by Councillor Joshua Peck and

### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman be elected to hold office as Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets until 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 and then, following the change on that date to a directly elected mayoral system, as Chair of Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Councillors Helal Abbas and Joshua Peck then came forward to witness the Mayor signing the statutory declaration of acceptance of office.

### **The Mayor, Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman in the Chair**

The incoming Mayor then addressed the meeting. He paid tribute to Councillor Ahmed Omer and thanked Members of the Council for electing him as Mayor which would be a daunting but exciting challenge. He welcomed the distinguished guests and thanked everyone for their support. The Mayor introduced the Mayoress, his wife Mrs. Nargis Bahar, who would be accompanying him at his engagements. He said the borough was made up of many nationalities and cultures and those residents had entrusted their confidence in Members to make the correct decisions to enable high quality services and opportunities for all residents in a time of scarce resources.

The Mayor informed the Council that during his term of office he would be raising funds for two charities – HEMS, the Helicopter Emergency Medical Services, which was the first air ambulance in the UK to provide a 24/7 emergency service; and the Thesis Trust, which aimed to relieve poverty and distress among the Bangladeshi community in Tower Hamlets and help young people to get the opportunity of an education.

## **2. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR**

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Helal Abbas, **SECONDED** by Councillor Joshua Peck and

### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Anna Lynch be elected to hold office as Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets until 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 and then, following the change on that date to a directly elected mayoral system, as Deputy Chair of Council until the Annual Meeting of the Council on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

### **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Carli Harper-Penman and Rania Khan.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the apologies be noted.

### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

### **5. MINUTES**

#### **RESOLVED**

That the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Council held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2010 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and the Mayor be authorised to sign them accordingly.

### **6. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE MAYOR OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

No announcements were made.

### **7. ELECTION OF LEADER**

Councillor Joshua Peck **MOVED**, Councillor Anwar Khan **SECONDED** and it was

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Helal Abbas be elected to serve as Leader of the Council until 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010, when the new directly elected mayoral system will be introduced.

Councillor Peter Golds and Councillor Stephanie Eaton congratulated Councillor Abbas on his appointment as Leader of the Council.

Councillor Abbas then addressed the meeting. He thanked the Council for their support and also paid tribute to those former Councillors who had retired at the recent council elections for their service to the borough. Councillor Abbas went on to outline his priorities for his term of office and urged all Councillors to work together over the coming months to ensure that the Council was able effectively to represent and protect the borough's communities through what was likely to be a challenging period.

## 8. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY LEADER AND CABINET MEMBERS

### RESOLVED

That the Council notes the appointment, by the Leader of the Council, of the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Members to serve until 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010 or until otherwise notified by the Leader, whichever is the sooner, as follows:-

Councillor Helal Abbas: Leader of the Council (Chair of Cabinet)  
Councillor Joshua Peck: Deputy Leader of the Council (Vice-Chair of Cabinet)  
Councillor Shahed Ali: Lead Member, Environment  
Councillor David Edgar: Lead Member, Resources  
Councillor Marc Francis: Lead Member, Housing, Heritage and Planning  
Councillor Sirajul Islam: Lead Member, Regeneration and Employment  
Councillor Denise Jones: Lead Member, Culture and Creative Industries  
Councillor Shiria Khatun: Lead Member, Children's Services  
Councillor Rachael Saunders: Lead Member, Health & Wellbeing  
Councillor Abdal Ullah: Lead Member, Community Safety

## 9. COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP, REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES AND PANELS

### Change to order of business

Councillor Joshua Peck **MOVED** and Councillor Helal Abbas **SECONDED** – “That under Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be changed to allow items 9, 10, 11 and 13 to be considered at the same time.”

On being to the vote, the procedural motion was carried.

Councillor Peter Golds **MOVED**, and Councillor Tim Archer **SECONDED**, an **AMENDMENT** to item 11 – “That this meeting agrees to an additional council meeting to be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October, following the election of the Executive Mayor which will be in advance of the first Cabinet meeting to be held under the Mayor system.

This meeting also calls for an urgent meeting of the Constitution Working Party to make appropriate amendments to be approved on 27<sup>th</sup> October.”

Councillor Helal Abbas said that he was happy to accept this as a friendly amendment. He also amended the circulated schedule under item 13 to nominate Councillor Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury as the Deputy to the London Councils Culture, Tourism and 2012 Forum.

On being put to the vote, the recommendations as amended above were **agreed** and accordingly it was:-

### RESOLVED

1. That the Council notes the membership of the Authority following the Council Elections held on 6<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and the review of proportionality as set out at section 3 of the interleaved report of the Service Head, Democratic Services.

2. That the Committees and Panels of the Council be established for the Municipal Year 2010/11 and the allocation of places to groups be agreed as set out in the table below:-

Committees/panels covered by the requirement for proportionality:

Committee/panel	Total	Labour	Conserv -ative	Liberal Democrat	Respect
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (plus 5 co-optees)	9	6	1	1	1
Health Scrutiny Panel	7	6	1	-	-
Appeals Committee	7	6	1	-	-
Audit Committee	7	5	1	1	-
Development Committee	7	6	1	-	-
Strategic Development Committee	7	6	1	-	-
General Purposes Committee	7	6	1	-	-
Human Resources Committee	7	6	1	-	-
Licensing Committee	15	11	3	-	1
Pensions Committee	7	6	1	-	-

Committee not covered by the requirement for proportionality:

Committee	Total	Labour	Conserv -ative	Liberal Democrat	Respect
Standards Committee (plus 9 independent members)	5	3	2	-	-

3. That Part 3 of the Council's Constitution be amended as necessary to reflect the changes agreed to the membership of the committees and panels.

## 10. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS OF THE COUNCIL

### RESOLVED

- That Members and Deputy Members be appointed to the Committees and Panels of the Council for the Municipal Year 2010/11 as set out in the tabled schedule appended to these minutes at Appendix A.
- That Councillor Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury be appointed as the Olympics Ambassador.

## 11. PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2010/11

### RESOLVED

- That an additional Council meeting be held on Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010, following the election of the Executive Mayor which will be in advance of the first Cabinet meeting to be held under the Mayoral system.

2. That subject to (1) above, the revised programme of meetings for 2010/11 be agreed; and
3. That an urgent meeting of the Constitutional Working Party be held to make appropriate amendments to the Constitution to be approved on 27th October 2010.

## **12. APPOINTMENT OF POLITICAL ADVISORS**

In response to a Member's question, the Service Head, Democratic Services confirmed that, notwithstanding the change to an elected mayoral system on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010, the Council could agree the appointment of political advisors to support the Majority and Minority Groups for the duration of the administration to May 2014.

Councillor Helal Abbas **MOVED**, Councillor Joshua Peck **SECONDED** and it was:-

### **RESOLVED**

1. That the posts of Political Assistants (known as Political Advisors) to the Labour Group and the Conservative Group be re-established for the duration of the current administration in accordance with Section 9 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989.
2. That the Political Advisor posts be re-established as previously on the basis of a full-time post to support the Labour Group and a half-time post to support the Conservative Group.

## **13. APPOINTMENTS TO LONDON COUNCILS COMMITTEES AND FORUMS**

### **RESOLVED**

That the Council agree to the appointment of Members and Deputy Members to the London Councils committees and forums as listed in the tabled schedule appended to these minutes at Appendix B, subject to the amendment of the nomination as Deputy to the Culture, Tourism and 2012 Forum from Councillor Amy Whitelock to Councillor Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury.

The meeting ended at 8.23 p.m.

Chair,  
Council



APPENDIX A

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2010-2011

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING – 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010

<b>DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)		
<i>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Other</i>
Cllr Carli Harper-Penman (Chair) Cllr Judith Gardiner (Vice-Chair) Cllr Shelina Akhtar Cllr Ann Jackson Cllr Mohammed Abdul Mukit, MBE Cllr Kosru Uddin  (Deputies:- Cllr Lutfu Begum Cllr Shafiqul Haque)	Cllr Peter Golds  (Deputies:- Cllr Tim Archer Cllr Dr. Emma Jones)	-



<b>STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council, to include no more than two members of the Cabinet)		
<b>Labour Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Conservative Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Carli Harper-Penman (Chair) Cllr Bill Turner (Vice-Chair) Cllr Kabir Ahmed Cllr Shahed Ali Cllr David Edgar Cllr Anwar Khan  (Deputies:- Cllr Khales U. Ahmed ) (Deputy for Cllrs C. Cllr Judith Gardiner ) Harper-Penman, B. Turner, A. Khan, K. Ahmed)	Cllr Dr. Emma Jones  (Deputies: Cllr Tim Archer Cllr Peter Golds)	-
Cllr Denise Jones ) (Deputy for Cllrs S. Ali Cllr Rachael Saunders) and D. Edgar)		

<b>LICENSING COMMITTEE</b> <b>(Fifteen members of the Council) (No deputies permitted)</b>		
<b>Labour Group Nominations</b>	<b>Conservative Group Nominations</b>	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Kabir Ahmed (Chair) Cllr Carlo Gibbs (Vice-Chair) Cllr Khales U. Ahmed Cllr Rofique U. Ahmed Cllr Ohid Ahmed Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Lutfa Begum Cllr Shafiqul Haque Cllr Aminur Khan Cllr Oliur Rahman Cllr Amy Whitelock	Cllr Zara Davis Cllr Peter Golds Cllr David Snowdon	Cllr Harun Miah

<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b> (Nine members of the Council and five co-opted members)			
<b>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Conservative Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Group Other</b>	<b>Nominated/Co-opted Members (for information – to be appointed by Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee)</b>
<p>Cllr Ann Jackson (Chair) Cllr Ahmed Omer (Vice-Chair) Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Rabina Khan Cllr Lesley Pavitt Cllr Zenith Rahman</p> <p>(Deputies:- Cllr Alibor Choudhury Cllr Lutfur Rahman)</p>	<p>Cllr Tim Archer</p> <p>(Deputies:- Cllr Peter Golds Cllr David Snowdon)</p>	<p>Cllr Stephanie Eaton Cllr Harun Miah</p>	<p>Mr Mushfique Uddin – Muslim Community representative</p> <p>Vacancy – Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster representative</p> <p>Vacancy - Parent Governor representative</p> <p>Vacancy – Parent Government representative</p> <p>Revd Michael Ainsworth - Church of England Diocese representative</p>

<b>HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL – (Nominations for Information, Panel to be appointed by Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee) (Seven members of the Council)</b>		
<b>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Rania Khan (Vice-Chair) Cllr Shelina Akhtar Cllr Abdul Asad Cllr Alibor Choudhury Cllr Lutfur Rahman Cllr Kosru Uddin  (Deputy- Cllr Mohammed Abdul Mukit, MBE)	Cllr Tim Archer (Chair)  (Deputy:- Cllr Dr. Emma Jones)	-

<b>APPEALS COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)		
<b>Labour Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Conservative Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Bill Turner (Chair) Cllr Anna Lynch (Vice-Chair) Cllr Khales U. Ahmed Cllr Rania Khan Cllr Lesley Pavitt Cllr Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury  (Deputy:- Cllr Lutfa Begum)	Cllr Gloria Thienel  (Deputies:- Cllr Dr. Emma Jones Cllr Peter Golds)	-

<b>AUDIT COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)		
<i>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Other</i>
Cllr Carlo Gibbs (Chair) Cllr Rabina Khan (Vice-Chair) Cllr Abdul Asad Cllr Lutfu Begum Cllr Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury  (Deputy:- Cllr Khales Uddin Ahmed)	Cllr Craig Aston  (Deputy:- Cllr David Snowdon)	Cllr Stephanie Eaton

<b>GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)		
<b>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Helal Uddin (Chair) Cllr Abdul Asad (Vice-Chair) Cllr Lutfa Begum Cllr Aminur Khan Cllr Ahmed Omer Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman  (Deputy:- Cllr Mizanur R. Chaudhury)	Cllr Maium Miah  (Deputy:- Cllr Peter Golds)	-

<b>HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)		
<b>Labour Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Conservative Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Mohammed Abdul Mukit, MBE (Chair) Cllr Helal Uddin (Vice-Chair) Cllr Rofique U. Ahmed Cllr Abdul Asad Cllr Mizanur R. Chaudhury Cllr Zenith Rahman  (Deputy- Cllr Oliur Rahman)	Cllr Gloria Thienel  (Deputy- Cllr Craig Aston)	-



<b>PENSIONS COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)		
<b>Labour Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Conservative Group Nominations</b> (and deputies)	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Anwar Khan (Chair) Cllr Shafiqul Haque (Vice-Chair) Cllr Alibor Choudhury Cllr Mohammed Abdul Mukit, MBE Cllr Rabina Khan Cllr Rania Khan  (Deputy- Cllr Lutfa Begum)	Cllr Craig Aston  (Deputies:- Cllr Tim Archer Cllr David Snowdon)	-

<b>STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>			
(Not subject to proportionality rules. Five Members of the Council (which may not include the Leader or more than one other Cabinet Member), three from the majority group and two from opposition group, plus nine Independent Members)			
<i>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Conservative Group Nomination (and deputies)</i>	<i>Other</i>	<i>Independent Members</i>
<p>Councillor Carli Harper-Penman Councillor Anwar Khan Councillor Joshua Peck</p>	<p>Cllr Zara Davis Cllr Maium Miah  (Deputy:- Cllr Gloria Thienel)</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Continuing Members:  Mr. I. Ali (until 20.5.11) Mr. E. Pemberton (until 20.5.11)  Mr. B. Lowe (until May 2012) Mr. M. Rowe (until May 2012) Ms. S. Bagum (until May 2012) Mr. R. Hopkins (until May 2012)  Three vacancies in the process of being filled.</p>

<b>ADOPTION PANEL</b>		
<b>(To comprise two Social Workers, one elected Member, three Independent Persons and to include one man and one woman, up to a maximum of ten persons)</b>		
<b>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Bill Turner	Not applicable	Not applicable

<b>FOSTERING PANEL</b>		
<b>(To comprise two Social Workers, one elected Member and four Independent Persons, up to a maximum of ten persons)</b>		
<b>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</b>	<b>Other</b>
Cllr Lesley Pavitt	Not applicable	Not applicable

<b>CHILDREN/ADULTS (ACCESS TO FILES) PANEL</b> (To comprise three Members of the Council; only one of whom may also be a Cabinet member)		
<i>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Other</i>
Cllr Bill Turner One vacancy	Cllr Dr. Emma Jones	Not applicable

<b>STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)</b> (To comprise members appointed by the LEA)		
<i>Labour Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Conservative Group Nominations (and deputies)</i>	<i>Other</i>
Cllr Shiria Khatun	Cllr Peter Golds  (Deputy:- Cllr Tim Archer)	Not applicable

**OTHER POSTS WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Olympics Ambassador – Councillor Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury

**TO NOTE OPPOSITION GROUP APPOINTMENTS**

- |                    |   |   |   |                           |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| Conservative Group | - | Leader of the Conservative Group        | - | Councillor Peter Golds    |
|                    |   | Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group | - | Councillor Timothy Archer |

**APPENDIX B****NOMINATIONS TO LONDON COUNCILS COMMITTEES/FORUMS 2010/11 (as agreed at Annual Council held on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2010)**

<b>Committees</b>	<b>Nominations</b>
Leaders Committee (s101 Joint Committee) & London Councils Limited.	Councillor Helal Abbas Councillor Joshua Peck (deputy)
Transport and Environment Committee (Associated Joint Committee)	Councillor Shahed Ali Councillor Joshua Peck (deputy)
Grants Committee (Associated Joint Committee)	Councillor Helal Abbas Councillor Sirajul Islam (deputy) Councillor Denise Jones (deputy)
Greater London Provincial Council	-
<b>Forums</b>	<b>(Nominees will usually be the lead member in the relevant area. Appointment of officer positions are made by the Leaders' Committee)</b>
Health and Adult Services Forum	Councillor Rachael Saunders Councillor Shiria Khatun (deputy)
Housing Forum	Councillor Marc Francis Councillor Joshua Peck (deputy)
Culture, Tourism and 2012 Forum	Councillor Denise Jones Councillor Mizanur Rahman Chaudhury (deputy)
Crime and Public Protection Forum	Councillor Abdal Ullah Councillor Shahed Ali (deputy)
Economic Development Forum	Councillor Sirajul Islam Councillor David Edgar (deputy)
Children and Young People Forum	Councillor Shiria Khatun Councillor Rachael Saunders (deputy)
Greater London Employment Forum	Councillor David Edgar Councillor Joshua Peck (deputy)
Lead Members for Equalities, Improvement and Sustainability are appointed by the Leaders' Committee.	These are not nominated directly by boroughs but appointed from candidates put forward by the party groups at London Councils.