

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2013**

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

**Members Present:**

Mayor Lutfur Rahman	Councillor Denise Jones
Councillor Helal Abbas	Councillor Dr. Emma Jones
Councillor Khaled Uddin Ahmed	Councillor Aminur Khan
Councillor Kabir Ahmed	Councillor Anwar Khan
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	Councillor Rania Khan
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Shiria Khatun
Councillor Rofique U Ahmed	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Shahed Ali	Councillor Md. Maium Miah
Councillor Tim Archer	Councillor Fozol Miah
Councillor Abdul Asad	Councillor M. A. Mukit MBE
Councillor Craig Aston	Councillor Lesley Pavitt
Councillor Lutfu Begum	Councillor Joshua Peck
Councillor Mizan Chaudhury	Councillor John Pierce
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	Councillor Zenith Rahman
Councillor Zara Davis	Councillor Gulam Robbani
Councillor Stephanie Eaton	Councillor Rachael Saunders
Councillor David Edgar	Councillor Gloria Thienel
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Bill Turner
Councillor Carlo Gibbs	Councillor Helal Uddin
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Kosru Uddin
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	Councillor Abdal Ullah
Councillor Carli Harper-Penman	Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman
Councillor Ann Jackson	Councillor Amy Whitelock

The meeting commenced at 7.35 p.m.

**The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Rajib Ahmed, in the chair**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillors Judith Gardner, Sirajul Islam, Rabina Khan, Oliur Rahman and David Snowdon.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

There were no declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests.

### 3. ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Rajib Ahmed, addressed the meeting about his year in office. He thanked the Council for giving him the opportunity of being Speaker in a busy and rewarding year which included major events such as the Queen's Jubilee and the Olympic Games.

He stated that he had been extremely fortunate to attend over 350 wonderful events and meet the energetic and vibrant Tower Hamlets community. Amongst many other experiences the Civic Awards Ceremony had been a highlight of the year. He also enjoyed attending the citizenship ceremonies and urged all Councillors to take part to welcome new citizens to the borough.

Councillor Ahmed reported that he had worked hard to raise over £22k for his charities and he thanked everyone who had supported him in those endeavours. Finally he thanked colleagues and residents for their support and enthusiasm, thanked the civic office staff and his drivers for their hard work, and wished his successor good luck in the role.

Councillor Rachel Saunders thanked and congratulated Councillor Rajib Ahmed for his year in office. In particular she highlighted his work to raise the profile of Bangladeshi music and culture and his general work in promoting unity. Councillors Peter Golds, Fozol Miah and Ohid Ahmed also spoke to thank Councillor Rajib Ahmed for his work as Speaker, in particular praising his charitable fund raising.

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

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Rachel Saunders, **SECONDED** by Councillor Abdal Ullah and

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Lesley Pavitt be elected to serve as Speaker of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council until the Annual Council Meeting in May/June 2014.

Councillors Rachel Saunders and Abdal Ullah then came forward to witness the Speaker of the Council signing the statutory declaration of office.

#### **The Speaker of the Council, Councillor Lesley Pavitt, in the Chair**

The incoming Speaker thanked Councillor Rajib Ahmed for his hard work over the last year and in particular for supporting her as Deputy Speaker. She stated it was a real honour to be elected and she looked forward to working with Councillors from all parties.

Councillor Pavitt stated that she saw the role of Speaker as having three main elements. Firstly, chairing the Council meeting. In that role she would expect

proper behaviour from all Councillors and from public attendees and for her part she intended to ensure that all views were able to be heard and where possible to alternate speakers between the political groups. Secondly, it was important for the Speaker to highlight the good work in the borough. Councillor Pavitt was anticipating visiting many organisations across the local community to hear about, and thank them for their efforts and she would have a particular focus on older residents of the borough. Thirdly, Councillor Pavitt was looking forward to her role representing the borough to the wider world.

In addition to the above she also intended to take part in welcoming new citizens to the borough at the Citizenship Ceremonies and she encouraged all Councillors to make themselves available to help at these events.

Finally, the Speaker announced that she had chosen two charities based in the borough to support during her year in office. These were Magic Me, which aims to bring different generations together through creative activity; and Cardboard Citizens, which changes the lives of homeless and displaced people through theatre and the performing arts.

#### **4. ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER**

The Speaker sought nominations to serve as Deputy Speaker of the Council for the forthcoming municipal year. It was **moved** by Councillor Rachael Saunders, **seconded** by Councillor Joshua Peck and

#### **RESOLVED**

That Councillor M. A. Mukit MBE be elected to serve as Deputy Speaker of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council until the Annual Council Meeting in May/June 2014.

#### **5. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE SPEAKER OF THE COUNCIL OR THE HEAD OF PAID SERVICE**

There were no announcements.

#### **6. MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE SCHEME OF DELEGATION**

The Mayor's report, setting out the Executive Scheme of Delegation and the arrangements for executive decision making by the Mayor and Cabinet Members, was circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

#### **RESOLVED**

That the Mayor's Executive Scheme of Delegation be noted.

**7. PROPORTIONALITY AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES**

The Council considered the report of the Service Head, Democratic Services, setting out the review of proportionality and proposing the establishment of the Council's committees and panels for 2013/14.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the review of proportionality be noted.
2. That committees and panels be established for the Municipal Year 2013/14, and places be allocated on those committees and panels, as set out in the table below:-

	<b>Total</b>	<b>Labour</b>	<b>Conser- vative</b>	<b>Respect</b>	<b>Un- grouped</b>
Overview & Scrutiny Committee (plus 6 co-optees)	9	5	1	1	2
Health Scrutiny Panel	7	4	1		2
Appeals Committee	9	5	1		3
Audit Committee	7	4	1		2
Development Committee	7	4	1	1	1
Strategic Development Committee	9	5	2		2
General Purposes Committee	7	4	1		2
Human Resources Committee	7	4	1		2
Licensing Committee	15	8	2	1	4
Pensions Committee	7	4	1		2
Standards Advisory Committee (plus 7 co-optees)	7	4	1	1	1

**8. APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES AND PANELS OF THE COUNCIL**

A schedule was tabled setting out the nominations received from the political groups and independent Councillors to serve as (a) chairs and (b) members of the committees and panels established by the Council.

**RESOLVED**

1. That the chairs of committees for 2013/14 be appointed as listed at Appendix A attached to these minutes.
2. That the members and deputy members be appointed to the committees and panels of the Council and other bodies for the

municipal year 2013/14 as set out at Appendix B attached to these minutes.

3. That in relation to any unfilled places within the seats allocated to a particular political group, the Council note that the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) has delegated authority subsequently to agree the appointments to those places in accordance with nominations from the relevant political group.
4. That in relation to any 'ungrouped' positions remaining unfilled, the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal Services) be authorised to invite expressions of interest from the ungrouped Councillors and to make appointments to those positions following consultation with the Members concerned and the Speaker of the Council.

The meeting ended at 8.09 p.m.

Speaker of the Council

**APPENDIX A****Appointment of Committee Chairs 2013/14**

Article 8 of the Council's Constitution states that 'the Council will appoint a Member to serve as Chair of each Committee that it appoints under this Article. If the Council does not, the Committee may appoint a Chair from amongst the Members appointed to the Committee by the Council. Each Committee may appoint a Vice-Chair from amongst its Members.'

In accordance with the above, the Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2013 appointed the Chairs of the committees listed below, to serve for the remainder of the municipal year 2013/14 (or until either they resign the position, are no longer a member of the Council or the Committee concerned or a successor is appointed, whichever is the sooner).

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Chair</b>
Appeals Committee	Cllr Bill Turner
Audit Committee	Cllr Mizanur Chaudhury
Development/Strategic Development Committee	Cllr Helal Abbas
General Purposes Committee	Cllr Shiria Khatun
Human Resources Committee	Cllr Carlo Gibbs
Licensing Committee	Cllr Carli Harper-Penman
Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman
Pensions Committee	Cllr Zenith Rahman

## APPENDIX B

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS - COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS 2013-2014  
APPOINTMENTS AGREED AT THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING ON 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2013**

<b>APPEALS COMMITTEE</b> (Nine members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (5)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (3)</i></b>
Cllr Bill Turner (Chair) Cllr Khaled Uddin Ahmed Cllr Mizan Chaudhury Cllr John Pierce Cllr Helal Uddin  Deputies:- Cllr Lesley Pavitt Cllr Kosru Uddin Cllr Joshua Peck	Cllr Gloria Thienel          Deputies:- Cllr Zara Davis	n/a	Cllr Oliur Rahman (Ind) Cllr Lutfu Begum (Ind) (1 vacancy)

<b>AUDIT COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Mizanur Chaudhury (Chair) Cllr Carlo Gibbs Cllr M A Mukit MBE Cllr Kosru Uddin</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Judith Gardiner Cllr Denise Jones Cllr Zenith Rahman</p>	<p>Cllr Craig Aston</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Tim Archer Cllr David Snowdon</p>	n/a	<p>Cllr Stephanie Eaton (LD) Cllr Shafiqul Haque (Ind)</p>



<b>DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (1)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Helal Abbas (Chair) Cllr Judith Gardiner Cllr Anwar Khan Cllr Kosru Uddin</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Carli Harper-Penman Cllr Denise Jones</p>	<p>Cllr Tim Archer</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Zara Davis Cllr Peter Golds</p>	<p>(1 vacancy)</p>	<p>Cllr Gulam Robbani (Ind)</p> <p>Deputy:- Cllr Maium Miah (Ind)</p>

<b>STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE</b> (Nine members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (5)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (2)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Helal Abbas (Chair) Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Marc Francis Cllr Carli Harper-Penman Cllr Denise Jones</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Carlo Gibbs Cllr Joshua Peck Cllr Helal Uddin</p>	<p>Cllr Dr Emma Jones Cllr Zara Davis</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Tim Archer Cllr Peter Golds</p>	n/a	<p>Cllr Kabir Ahmed (Ind) Cllr Maium Miah (Ind)</p> <p>Deputy:- Cllr Shahed Ali (Ind)</p>

<b>GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Shiria Khatun (Chair) Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Marc Francis Cllr John Pierce</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Khaled Uddin Ahmed Cllr M A Mukit MBE Cllr Bill Turner</p>	<p>Cllr Craig Aston</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Peter Golds Cllr David Snowdon</p>	n/a	<p>Cllr Alibor Choudhury (Ind) Cllr Aminur Khan (Ind)</p>

<b>HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE</b> (Seven members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Carlo Gibbs (Chair) Cllr David Edgar Cllr Shiria Khatun Cllr John Pierce</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Sirajul Islam Cllr M A Mukit MBE Cllr Rachael Saunders</p>	<p>Cllr Gloria Thienel</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Craig Aston Cllr Peter Golds</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Cllr Alibor Choudhury (Ind) Cllr Oliur Rahman (Ind)</p>

<b>LICENSING COMMITTEE</b>			
<b>(Fifteen Members of the Council) (No Deputies permitted)</b>			
<b><i>Labour Group (8)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (2)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (4)</i></b>
Cllr Carli Harper-Penman (Chair) Cllr Rajib Ahmed Cllr Khales Uddin Ahmed Cllr David Edgar Cllr Marc Francis Cllr Ann Jackson Cllr Denise Jones Cllr Joshua Peck	Cllr Peter Golds Cllr David Snowdon	(1 vacancy)	Cllr Maium Miah (Ind) (3 vacancies)

<b>OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>				
<b>(Nine members of the Council plus six co-opted members)</b>				
<b><i>Labour Group (5)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>	<b><i>Co-opted Members (for information – to be appointed by Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman (Chair) Cllr Rachael Saunders Cllr Helal Uddin Cllr Abdal Ullah Cllr Amy Whitelock</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Helal Abbas Cllr Khaled Uddin Ahmed Cllr Judith Gardiner</p>	<p>Cllr David Snowdon</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Tim Archer Cllr Peter Golds</p>	<p>Cllr Fozol Miah</p> <p>Deputy:- Cllr Harun Miah</p>	<p>Cllr Stephanie Eaton (LD) (1 vacancy)</p>	<p>Mr Mushfique Uddin – Muslim Community representative</p> <p>Vacancy – Roman Catholic Diocese of Westminster representative</p> <p>Dr Phillip Rice - Church of England Diocese representative</p> <p>Parent Governor representatives:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memory Kampiyamo</li> <li>• Nozrul Mustafa</li> <li>• Revd James Olanipekun</li> </ul>

<b>HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL</b> (Nominations for information - Panel to be appointed by Overview & Scrutiny Committee) (Seven members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>
<p>Cllr David Edgar Cllr M A Mukit MBE Cllr Zenith Rahman Cllr Rachael Saunders</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Anwar Khan Cllr Bill Turner Cllr Amy Whitelock</p>	<p>Cllr Dr Emma Jones</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Peter Golds</p>	<p>n/a</p>	<p>Cllr Lutfa Begum (Ind) Cllr Gulam Robbani (Ind)</p> <p><b>Co-opted Members:-</b> To be appointed by the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</p>

<b>PENSIONS COMMITTEE</b> (Seven Members of the Council)			
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (0)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (2)</i></b>
<p>Cllr Zenith Rahman (Chair) Cllr Judith Gardiner Cllr Ann Jackson Cllr Shiria Khatun</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr David Edgar Cllr Marc Francis Cllr John Pierce</p>	<p>Cllr Craig Aston</p> <p>Deputies:- Cllr Tim Archer Cllr David Snowdon</p>	n/a	<p>Cllr Oliur Rahman (Ind) (1 vacancy)</p> <p><b>Co-opted Members:-</b></p> <p>Mr Frank West (non-voting trade union representative)</p> <p>Mr John Gray (non-voting admitted bodies representative)</p>



<b>STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE</b> (Seven Members of the Council (who may not include the Mayor or more than one other Cabinet Member) - plus up to seven co-opted members, one of whom shall chair the Committee)				
<b><i>Labour Group (4)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Others (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Co-opted Members</i></b>
Cllr David Edgar Cllr Judith Gardiner Cllr Sirajul Islam Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman  Deputies:- Cllr Mizanur Chaudhury Cllr Ann Jackson Cllr M A Mukit MBE	Cllr Zara Davis  Deputies:- Cllr Dr Emma Jones Cllr Gloria Thienel	Cllr Fozol Miah  Deputy:- Cllr Harun Miah	Cllr Abdul Asad (Ind)  Deputy:- Cllr Rofique U Ahmed (Ind)	Mr Matthew Rowe (Chair) Mr Eric Pemberton (Vice-Chair) Ms Salina Bagum Mr Denzil Johnson Mr Barry Lowe (2 vacancies)

**ADOPTION PANEL**

**(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><i>Labour Group</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group</i></b>	<b><i>Others</i></b>
Cllr Bill Turner  Deputies:- Cllr Ann Jackson Cllr Shiria Khatun	n/a	n/a	n/a

**FOSTERING PANEL**

**(To comprise two Social Workers, one elected Member and four Independent Persons, up to a maximum of ten persons)**

<b><i>Labour Group</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group</i></b>	<b><i>Others</i></b>
Cllr Lesley Pavitt  Deputies:- Cllr John Pierce Cllr Shiria Khatun	n/a	n/a	n/a

<b>CORPORATE PARENTING STEERING GROUP</b> (Cabinet Member for Children's Services, other Councillor(s), a Corporate Director and two Young People's Representatives)			
<b><i>Labour Group</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group</i></b>	<b><i>Others</i></b>
Cllr Bill Turner  Deputies:- Cllr David Edgar Cllr Zenith Rahman	n/a	n/a	Cllr Oliur Rahman

<b>STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE)</b> (To comprise members appointed by the LEA)			
<b><i>Labour Group (2)</i></b>	<b><i>Conservative Group (1)</i></b>	<b><i>Respect Group</i></b>	<b><i>Others</i></b>
Cllr Zenith Rahman (1 vacancy)  Deputies:- Cllr Motin Uz-Zaman Cllr Shiria Khatun	Cllr Peter Golds	n/a	n/a

**TO NOTE POLITICAL GROUP APPOINTMENTS**

- |                    |   |   |   |                             |
|--------------------|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| Labour Group       | - | Leader of the Labour Group              | - | Councillor Sirajul Islam    |
|                    |   | Deputy Leader of the Labour Group       | - | Councillor Rachael Saunders |
| Conservative Group | - | Leader of the Conservative Group        | - | Councillor Peter Golds      |
|                    |   | Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group | - | Councillor David Snowdon    |
| Respect Group      | - | Leader of the Respect Group             | - | Councillor Fozol Miah       |
|                    |   | Deputy Leader of the Respect Group      | - | Councillor Harun Miah       |