

**LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS**

**MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL**

**HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 27 JANUARY 2010**

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

**Members Present:**

Councillor Helal Abbas	Councillor Denise Jones
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	Councillor Dr. Emma Jones
Councillor Rajib Ahmed	Councillor Azizur Rahman Khan
Councillor Rofique U Ahmed	Councillor Rania Khan
Councillor Anwara Ali	Councillor Shiria Khatun
Councillor Shahed Ali	Councillor Abdul Matin
Councillor M. Shahid Ali	Councillor Harun Miah
Councillor Tim Archer	Councillor Abjol Miah
Councillor Abdul Asad	Councillor Fozol Miah
Councillor Philip Briscoe	Councillor Abdul Munim
Councillor Alibor Choudhury	Councillor Tim O'Flaherty
Councillor Stephanie Eaton	Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer
Councillor Rupert Eckhardt	Councillor Joshua Peck
Councillor Marc Francis	Councillor Lutfur Rahman
Councillor Peter Golds	Councillor Oliur Rahman
Councillor Fazlul Haque	Councillor M. Mamun Rashid
Councillor Shafiqul Haque	Councillor Muhammad Abdullah Salique
Councillor Carli Harper-Penman	Councillor A A Sardar
Councillor Clair Hawkins	Councillor Rachael Saunders
Councillor Alexander Heslop	Councillor David Snowdon
Councillor Shirley Houghton	Councillor Bill Turner
Councillor Ahmed Hussain	Councillor Dulal Uddin
Councillor Sirajul Islam	Councillor Abdal Ullah
Councillor Waiseul Islam	Councillor Salim Ullah
Councillor Ann Jackson	Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman

The meeting opened at 7.32 p.m.

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

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received on behalf of Councillor Lutfu Begum and for lateness from Councillor Tim O'Flaherty.

**RESOLVED**

That the apologies for absence be noted.

## 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors made declarations of interest in items included on the agenda as follows:

<b>Councillor</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Type of interest</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Helal Abbas	5.2.1	Personal	East End Homes properties in my ward
Helal Abbas	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Helal Abbas	11.4	Personal	East End Homes properties in my ward
Helal Abbas	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Helal Abbas	11.10	Personal	Member of Tower Hamlets Credit Union
Ohid Ahmed	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Ohid Ahmed	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Ohid Ahmed	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder
Rajib Ahmed	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Rajib Ahmed	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Rajib Ahmed	11.12	Personal	Ocean Estate leaseholder
Rofique Ahmed	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Rofique Ahmed	11.2	Personal	Board member of ODA PDT
Rofique Ahmed	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Rofique Ahmed	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder - THH
Rofique Ahmed	11.12	Personal	Resident and Councillor
Dr. Anwara Ali	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Dr. Anwara Ali	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Mohammed Shahid Ali	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Mohammed Shahid Ali	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Shahed Ali	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Shahed Ali	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Shahed Ali	11.7	Personal	Council tenant

Abdul Asad	5.2.2	Personal	Work LAP4 Youth Service provider
Abdul Asad	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Abdul Asad	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Abdul Asad	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party
Abdul Asad	11.11	Personal	Work LAP4 Youth Service provide
Alibor Choudhury	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party
Alibor Choudhury	11.12	Personal	Ward Councillor
Stephanie Eaton	11.10	Personal	Husband a member of the Co-operative party
Marc Francis	11.5	Personal	Live in a block subject to a car free agreement
Fazlul Haque	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Fazlul Haque	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Fazlul Haque	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder of an RSL
Shafiqul Haque	5.2.1	Personal	East End Homes is in my ward
Shafiqul Haque	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Shafiqul Haque	11.4	Personal	East End Homes is in my ward
Shafiqul Haque	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Shafiqul Haque	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder
Shafiqul Haque	11.8	Personal	East End Homes is in my ward
Shafiqul Haque	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party
Carli Harper-Penman	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Carli Harper-Penman	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Carli Harper-Penman	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party
Alex Heslop	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Alex Heslop	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Alex Heslop	11.7	Personal	Tower Hamlets Homes leaseholder and Board Member

Alex Heslop	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party, Tower Hamlets Community Credit Union and Tower Hamlets Co-operative Development Agency
Sirajul Islam	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Sirajul Islam	11.3	Personal	Board member of the Olympic Lottery Distributor (OLD)
Sirajul Islam	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Sirajul Islam	11.7	Personal	Council tenant
Waiseul Islam	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Waiseul Islam	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Denise Jones	11.4	Personal	Eligible for a Freedom Pass
Denise Jones	11.8	Personal	East End Homes houses in my ward
Abjol Miah	5.1.2	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Abjol Miah	5.2.2	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Abjol Miah	11.11	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Harun Miah	5.1.2	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Harun Miah	5.2.2	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Harun Miah	11.11	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Oliur Rahman	5.2.1	Personal	East End Homes has properties in my ward
Oliur Rahman	11.4	Personal	East End Homes has properties in my ward
Oliur Rahman	11.7	Personal	Resident of RSL
Oliur Rahman	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party
Oliur Rahman	11.12	Personal	Ward Councillor
Mamun Rashid	5.1.2	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Mamun Rashid	5.2.2	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Mamun Rashid	11.11	Personal	Shadwell Ward Councillor
Mohammad Abdullah Salique	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Mohammad Abdullah Salique	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Mohammad Abdullah Salique	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder
A. A. Sardar	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
A. A. Sardar	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
A. A. Sardar	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder

Rachael Saunders	5.2.1	Personal	Board member on East End Homes
Rachael Saunders	11.4	Personal	Board member on East End Homes
Rachael Saunders	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder
Bill Turner	11.10	Personal	Member of the Co-operative party
Bill Turner	11.12	Personal	Represent Ocean Estate
Abdal Ullah	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Abdal Ullah	11.7	Personal	Tenant
Abdal Ullah	11.12	Personal	Ocean Estate is in my ward
Salim Ullah	5.2.1	Personal	Leaseholder and East End Homes properties in my ward
Salim Ullah	11.1	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Salim Ullah	11.5	Personal	Council parking permit holder
Salim Ullah	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder
Motin Uz-Zaman	5.2.1	Personal	Council representative on East End Homes
Motin Uz-Zaman	11.4	Personal	Council representative on East End Homes
Motin Uz-Zaman	11.7	Personal	Leaseholder

### 3. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and the Mayor be authorised to sign them accordingly.

### 4. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY) FROM THE MAYOR, LEADER OF THE COUNCIL, MEMBERS OF THE CABINET OR THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

#### (1) Haiti earthquake

The Mayor referred to the catastrophic earthquake that had taken place in Haiti on 12<sup>th</sup> January. Estimates suggested that up to three million people had been affected by this terrible event and the death toll may exceed 150,000. He asked Members to join him in expressing shock and sadness at the suffering caused to so many people and on behalf of the Council he sent

his deepest sympathy to those affected and to residents of the borough who may have family or other connections with the stricken area.

## **(2) Excellent rating by the Equalities Commission**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Lutfur Rahman, was pleased to inform Members that the Council had been rated as “excellent” by the Equalities Commission. The Council had also been ranked 7<sup>th</sup> best in the country in relation to promoting equality of opportunity for LGBT staff and work was on track to meet the workforce to reflect the community targets. He congratulated all the staff and Members that had been involved in this work.

## **(3) Extreme weather conditions**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Lutfur Rahman, said that even during the coldest winter for 40 years, the Council had kept schools open and roads gritted despite pressures on the supplies. Tower Hamlets had performed better than its neighbouring boroughs. He thanked staff and the Lead Member for their hard work.

## **(4) Knife crime**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Lutfur Rahman, said that over the last few weeks the borough had seen a spate of knife crime and sadly an 18 year old youth had died. Although levels of such crime were lower in Tower Hamlets than in some other parts of London, the Council was determined to do everything possible to combat knife crime and the growing issues around it. A scrutiny session on knife crime was to commence shortly.

## **(5) Holocaust Memorial Day**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Lutfur Rahman, informed the Council that the meeting was taking place on Holocaust Memorial Day. It had been 65 years since 12 million people were slaughtered by the Nazi regime in Germany. Many Jewish people had sought refuge in the borough and it was important both to commemorate those who died and to ensure that the terrible events could never be repeated. With the permission of the Mayor the Leader asked that the Council stand in a minutes silence in memory of the millions of victims of the holocaust as well as those who had lost their lives in the Haiti earthquake.

Members, officers and the public rose from their seats and observed a minute’s silence.

## **(6) Young Mayor elections**

The Mayor introduced the new Young Mayor of Tower Hamlets, Landry Adelard, and his team of Deputy Mayors who had been elected the previous week. He invited the outgoing Young Mayor, Uma Akther, to address the Council about her year in office. Ms. Akther gave a presentation about her time as the Young Mayor and the opportunities it had given her and her

colleagues. The Mayor thanked Ms. Akther and her deputies on undertaking their roles with great success and presented certificates to each of them marking the end of their term of office.

Councillor Peter Golds then addressed the meeting. He echoed the Leader of the Council's comments regarding staff efforts during the extreme weather, and joined the Mayor in paying tribute to the outgoing Young Mayor and deputies.

Councillor Golds also informed the Council about the holocaust memorial ceremony that he had attended the previous day at City Hall. He endorsed the Leader's remarks on this subject and also referred to more recent events in other parts of the world that illustrated the importance of everyone involved in public life remaining vigilant and determined in their opposition to extreme ideologies that sought to divide communities.

## 5. TO RECEIVE ANY PETITIONS OR DEPUTATIONS

### PETITIONS

#### 5.1.1 Petition re: Broomfield Street proposed development

This petition was **withdrawn** and referred instead to the Development Committee as a planning application had been received in respect of the proposed development.

#### 5.1.2 Petition re: the withdrawal of parking permits at 38 & 40 Horseferry Road and 53 Narrow Street

At the invitation of the Mayor, Ms. Selda Bicer addressed the meeting in support of the petition. She then responded to questions from the Members of the Council.

#### Change to order of business

At this point, Councillor Ajbol Miah **MOVED** and Councillor Dulal Uddin **SECONDED** – "That under Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be changed to allow motion 11.5 to be considered after item 5.1.2."

On being to the vote, the procedural motion was **lost**.

Councillor Marc Francis, Leader Member for Housing and Development, said that following his own discussions with Ms Bicer last year, Council Officers had looked into the concerns of residents at 38-40 Horseferry Road. There was a section 106 legal agreement signed by the developer Newlon Housing which specified that the development is "car free". This was agreed and signed in 1999. The obligation is on the developer – Newlon - in these instances to inform potential occupiers that the development is car free and they will not be allowed on-street parking permits.

However, in the light of the concerns that these tenancies were not advertised by LBTH as being subject to a Car Free Zone agreement, the Lead Member had requested that officers review this matter. His personal view was that he did not think it was appropriate for the Council to enforce the CFZ on these tenants. However, the council clearly would need to ensure that any such decision was legally watertight. He hoped to have a report back on the way forward in the next month.

In the meantime, the Head of Parking Services had agreed that tenants would be entitled to re-new their Residents Street Parking Permits for another year.

### **RESOLVED**

That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Development and Renewal for a written response on any outstanding matters within 28 days.

#### **5.1.3 Petition re: Canton Street garages**

At the invitation of the Mayor, Mr. Declan Purcell addressed the meeting in support of the petition. Mr. Purcell and a colleague responded to questions from Members of the Council.

Councillor Marc Francis, Lead Member for Housing and Development, said that no planning application had yet been received in relation to the conversion of the garages in Canton Street into housing. However, Poplar HARCA had told the Council that they were proposing to convert these garages and that they were currently undertaking some more public consultation with local residents. If Poplar HARCA decided to apply for planning permission to convert these garages it would be dealt with in the normal way via the planning application determination route which would involve further consultation.

### **RESOLVED**

That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Development and Renewal for a written response on any outstanding matters within 28 days.

#### **5.1.4 Petition re: installation of CCTV in and around Parkview Estate**

At the invitation of the Mayor, Ms. Johanna Kaschke addressed the meeting in support of the petition and explained that the petition had originally been started by the mother of a child that had been molested twice on the estate. Ms. Kaschke responded to questions from the Members of the Council.

Councillor Abdal Ullah, Lead Member for Cleaner, Safer, Greener thanked Ms. Kaschke for bringing the petition to the meeting. He explained that CCTV cameras needed to be targeted effectively and Police incident reporting



systems were used to decide where they were placed. Unfortunately at this point in time, cameras for the Parkview Estate were not proposed. The Council were not in a position to install CCTV inside estates or in blocks as this would normally fall under the responsibility of the Registered Social Landlord.

## **RESOLVED**

That the petition be referred to the Corporate Director, Communities, Localities and Culture for a written response on any outstanding matters within 28 days.

## **DEPUTATIONS**

### **Change to order of business**

At this point, Councillor Tim Archer **MOVED** and Councillor Peter Golds **SECONDED** – “That under Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be changed to allow motion 11.4 to be considered after item 5.2.1.”

On being put to the vote, the procedural motion was **agreed**.

### **5.2.1 Deputation re: East End Homes Leaseholders & Freeholders Association**

At the invitation of the Mayor, Mrs. Gloria Thienel addressed the meeting in support of the deputation. Mrs. Thienel then responded to questions from Members of the Council.

Councillor Marc Francis, Lead Member for Housing and Development, thanked Mrs. Thienel for bringing the deputation to the meeting. The Council itself accepted that the fair and equitable treatment of leaseholders was an absolute necessity. This was demonstrated by its support for an Independent Audit of the 2007/08 service charges. The Council agrees to work with RSLs to recognise and support democratic and representative resident structures that meet the reasonable recognition criteria agreed by the RSL Board Members.

Councillor Francis informed the Council that the Board of East End Homes had considered a request for the formation of a new leasehold structure from the Island Gardens Leaseholders Association in December 2007 and had agreed to seek the views of local boards in respect of separate leasehold representation. The result of this consultation was fed back to the Board and discussed in April 2008. The consensus from the consultation process suggested that the current inclusive arrangements for leaseholder involvement and representation at Local Board level should be maintained. It was further noted that leaseholders are well represented on all local boards and, on several, form the majority of the Board.

As a result of this feedback, East End Homes have formally advised the Chair of IGLA that a report is being prepared on local governance and resident involvement that will be considered at their next Board meeting at the end of January 2010. Part of that discussion will include the formation of the EEHLFA, and Mrs Thienel had been invited to make representations at that meeting. It was anticipated that following this meeting work could commence on developing a 'Memorandum of Understanding' with EEHLFA.

This would take account of the priority the organisation gives to local Boards and their requirements. Councillor Francis stated that councillors on his side of the Chamber welcomed this development and had confidence in its outcome.

### **RESOLVED**

That the deputation be referred to the Corporate Director, Development and Renewal for a written response on any outstanding matters within 28 days.

#### **11.4 Motion proposed by Councillor Tim Archer regarding East End Homes Leaseholders and Freeholders Association**

Councillor Tim Archer **MOVED** and Councillor Peter Golds **SECONDED** the motion as printed in the agenda.

Councillor Marc Francis **MOVED**, and Councillor Lutfur Rahman **SECONDED**, an amendment to the motion to delete text after "This Council notes" and replace with:-

- "East End Homes is a resident-led housing association, with six tenants and two leaseholders on its Board;
- East End Homes took on some of those council estates suffering most from the historic under-investment in council housing;
- East End Homes has been assessed as being a Two-Star "Good" organisation by the independent Audit Commission;
- The dissatisfaction expressed by some leaseholders and freeholders of East End Homes;
- The formation of the borough-wide East End Homes Leaseholders and Freeholders Association (EEHLFA);
- That East End Homes is committed to working to establish a constructive relationship with EEHLFA and has invited representatives to its Board meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January.

This Council believes that:

- Genuine engagement, transparency and accountability are the key to achieving a high quality housing management service and improving Value for Money for leaseholders and tenants alike;
- Democratically-elected local Estate Management Boards are an essential component of the governance arrangements at East End Homes;

- A good working relationship with other groups set up to represent residents of East End Homes would be a positive step forward;
- Increased involvement with EEHLFA would help address the concerns of some of East End Home's freeholders and leaseholders.

This Council therefore resolves to:

Encourage the Board of East End Homes to recognise the EEHLFA through an agreed Memorandum of Understanding with that organisation and work positively to resolve leaseholder/freeholder issues.”

After debate, the amendment was put to the vote and was **agreed**.

The substantive motion as amended was then put to the vote and was **agreed**. Accordingly it was

### **RESOLVED**

This Council notes:

- East End Homes is a resident-led housing association, with six tenants and two leaseholders on its Board;
- East End Homes took on some of those council estates suffering most from the historic under-investment in council housing;
- East End Homes has been assessed as being a Two-Star “Good” organisation by the independent Audit Commission;
- The dissatisfaction expressed by some leaseholders and freeholders of East End Homes;
- The formation of the borough-wide East End Homes Leaseholders and Freeholders Association (EEHLFA);
- That East End Homes is committed to working to establish a constructive relationship with EEHLFA and has invited representatives to its Board meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> January.

This Council believes that:

- Genuine engagement, transparency and accountability are the key to achieving a high quality housing management service and improving Value for Money for leaseholders and tenants alike;
- Democratically-elected local Estate Management Boards are an essential component of the governance arrangements at East End Homes;
- A good working relationship with other groups set up to represent residents of East End Homes would be a positive step forward;
- Increased involvement with EEHLFA would help address the concerns of some of East End Home's freeholders and leaseholders.

This Council therefore resolves to:

Encourage the Board of East End Homes to recognise the EEHLFA through an agreed Memorandum of Understanding with that organisation and work positively to resolve leaseholder/freeholder issues.

### **5.2.2 Deputation re: Pitsea Estate youth facilities**

On the invitation of the Mayor, Mr. Mahbud Alam and Mr. Abdul Malik addressed the meeting in support of the deputation. Messrs Alam and Malik then responded to questions from Members of the Council.

Councillor Abdul Asad, Lead Member for Children, Schools and Families, said the Youth & Connexions Service delivered a number of youth provisions in the vicinity of Pitsea Estate, in particular the Martineau Village Club (Lukin Street) which was walking distance from the Pitsea Estate. The Rapid Response Team also offered mobile provision in Lowood Street, Shadwell again walking distance from Pitsea Estate and also mobile provision on Monday and Friday between 6.00-9.00pm. The Youth Service also had a designated venue known as the Tower Project (Whitehorse Road) which had facilities for young people with Special Educational Needs.

The idea of having a youth facility on every street corner was good however it defeated the objective of creating a community who was willing to travel and also reinforced the territorial boundaries by creating clubs based on post codes which by default would create particular affiliations which the youth service was working hard to stop.

The Youth & Connexions Service understood the concerns of the residents of Pitsea Estate and would be happy to meet with the delegating parties to meet with the local youth provider, Bishop Challoner School, which the Council was happy to host and explore possibilities of linking and sign posting these young people into nearby Village club and also link the work with Connexions to support the young people into employment and training opportunities.

### **RESOLVED**

That the deputation be referred to the Corporate Director, Children, Schools and Families for a written response on outstanding matters within 28 days.

## **6. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

### **6.1 Question from Ms. Caroline Kerswell to the Lead Member for Cleaner, Safer, Greener, Councillor Abdal Ullah**

“In light of my recent attack by a Rottweiler, I want to know what the council are doing about dangerous dogs. Apparently there are only four animal wardens in the area and you did not issue a single fine for the dog fouling last year. Is there any plans to re-examine this policy and put further budget aside? My police call was never even responded on and I had to contact the dog warden separately.”

**Response by the Lead Member, Councillor Abdal Ullah**

There are 4 Animal Wardens currently operating in Tower Hamlets dealing with the full range of animal welfare and control issues. Chief amongst those are dog-fouling enforcement, investigation of nuisance and anti-social behaviour caused by irresponsible dog-ownership, picking up and receiving of stray dog and the maintenance of the dog-pound in Mile End Park. The team successfully enforced the law relating to dog-fouling by way of prosecutions and formal cautions against over 100 dog-owners last year. The enforcement figures have run around this level now for many years.

Over the last few years the Service has come under increasing pressure due to a significant change in dog-ownership in the Borough. This mirrors a nationwide trend with bull-terrier type dogs becoming the predominant breed and young, often disaffected, men often being the owners. These dogs are referred to as 'status dogs' which reflects the sense that many of the young men have low self-esteem and a feel they have no stake in society. The ownership of these large, aggressive and intimidating dogs affords them some status.

There has been and continues to be a steady increase in the number of dogs in the Borough, with a disproportionate number of them being potentially dangerous bull-terrier type breeds including pit bulls. Many of the dogs are thought to be banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act [DDA].

The expertise to identify 'banned breeds' is maintained by the Police Dog Legislation Officers although the Council is looking at the opportunities for our Wardens to develop this capability also. The DDA includes an offence of allowing a dog to be 'dangerously out of control' which again is primarily a matter for the Police to investigate. Although, as in the incident which precipitated this question, aggrieved parties will also notify our Officers.

As a result of the prevalence of these 'dangerous dogs' and the commensurate increase in both aggressive behaviour and public perception of such, our Wardens have become increasingly aware of the growing problems associated with their ownership and more involved in investigations relating to them.

The number of stray dogs has increased dramatically over the last 12 months as has the number of dogs 'gifted' to the Dog Warden Service for re-homing. This is as a direct consequence of the growth in ownership of status dogs and the Council taking over the responsibility to receive stray dogs outside of normal office hours. In addition, Battersea Dogs Home is now struggling to maintain it's historical role of accepting strays and finding homes for them and we often have to place dogs in private kennels prior to their subsequent destruction.

The Dog Warden team is engaging with colleagues in Community Safety, from the RSLs and the Police to begin to try and establish a unity of purpose relating to the problem and to establish effective partnership-working.

In recognition of the growth of the number of dangerous breeds at large and their frequent association with anti-social behaviour and criminal activity, the Met. Police set up its Status Dogs Unit [SDU] in March of last year. It has already taken over 1000 of these dogs out of circulation.

Due to the dimension of the local problem of status dogs, Members considered a report in December last year and committed significant additional resources to enable the Council to review the situation and develop a Dangerous Dogs' Strategy. The purpose of this is to establish an effective multi-disciplinary approach to the issue gaining the commitment of key partners and broadening the capacity of the Animal Warden Service to meet current demands. £180,000 has been allocated to the task and the strategy is now being developed.

The objective of the strategy is to reduce the number of these dogs at large and to reduce the level of anti-social behaviour caused by them. It is hoped that this in turn will address the perception issues relating to the presence of dogs. This will be achieved by robust enforcement of related legislation and education.

The Police SDU have given the Animal Warden team a commitment to addressing the problem in Tower Hamlets. This will include a 'day of action' likely to be scheduled early in the year and will involve the SDU making intelligence-based visits to addresses and locations in the Borough where it is believed 'Dangerous Dogs' are being kept or used.

Council Officers and other partners will be involved in gathering the necessary 'good intelligence' to ensure that the 'day of action' is successful. These actions and any ensuing prosecutions will be given maximum publicity thereafter. The SDU has made it clear that dealing with 'Dangerous Dogs' in the community is Police business and to that end a programme of training will be rolled out to all our SNTs in the near future.

The Animal Warden Pound is currently being upgraded to enable these large, powerful and dangerous dogs to be contained safely in emergency situations when the Police are not able to respond to an incident and when no other appropriate kennelling can be found for such a dog.

The Animal Warden Team is currently recruiting to increase staffing levels to build the necessary capacity to ensure that it is able to fully meet the challenges ahead and ensure that the Dangerous Dogs Strategy is effective.

Officers have had meetings with RSLs to discuss this shared problem and to encourage their participation in reviewing their use of anti-social behaviour legislation and tenancy agreements. This includes the possibility of requiring tenants to register and 'chip' their dogs for identification purposes; the interest shown has been very encouraging.

The Council will continue to offer free microchipping, free dog training and free neutering of bull terrier breeds.

There is an imminent meeting with the SNTs when the team will establish an understanding as to how respective roles can compliment each others and conjointly increase our effectiveness.

The Council's recently established THEO's have also committed to participating in the strategy and will assist in gathering intelligence as to where these dogs are kept or exercised and passing the information back to the Animal Warden Service for further investigation. Park Wardens will exercise the same level of vigilance in relation to activities in the parks associated with these dogs and will assist by passing this information to the team.

The team will also be carrying out a hard-hitting publicity campaign and will be putting information out in the press. An article is due for publication shortly which will explain what the strategic objectives are and how they will be achieved with emphasis on the partnership approach. The article will invite members of the public to contact the Council in confidence with information about dogs that they believe are either a banned breed or dangerously out of control in a public place.

#### **Summary of supplementary question from Ms. Kerswell:**

I have read in the East London Advertiser mention of a neutering programme. This helps to reduce testosterone levels in dogs and was launched in January 2009. Why have vets' bills not been paid to enable them to carry out this important free service?

#### **Summary of Lead Member's response:**

The RSPCA are the experts in this field and they classified the Tower Hamlets Dog Team and Wardens as exemplars. Almost £180,000 has been allocated to this work and I am sure we will address this issue and meet the needs of the dogs you mention.

#### **6.2 Question from Mr. Terry McGrenera to the Lead Member for Cleaner, Safer, Greener, Councillor Adal Ullah**

"Is the claim that recycling rates "rockets" over the past year just a lot of rubbish?"

**Response by the Lead Member, Councillor Abdal Ullah**

No, the authority has seen its recycling rate almost double since March 2008, we have seen a dramatic increase in the recycling rates from 13% in 2007/08 to a projected figure this year of 27% by March 2010.

This figure reflects the work and investment that the Council, it's residents and officers have put into improving recycling. These figures compare with many outer London boroughs which have large rural areas with many affluent areas comprising, detached and semi detached properties, this makes recycling much easier than it is in Tower Hamlets, which has a very high proportion of high and low rise dwellings. We are committed to improving recycling further in the future and are in the process of developing a draft municipal waste strategy that will set out how we are going to manage our waste resources over the next 10 years.

**Summary of supplementary question from Mr. McGreenera:**

The levels of increase you quote are from a very low starting point. The recycling services are not working as intended. Rather than visiting schools with your robotic friend to promote recycling, is it not time that pupils, people and places were rewarded for recycling and is that not the way to recycle more?

**Summary of Lead Member's response:**

Thank you for your keen interest and I hope that the agenda that you take back from the meeting this evening and all Council meetings will be recycled and our figures will improve. I thank Members on this side and all colleagues for your hard work encouraging constituents to participate and recycle more.

**6.3 Question from Mr. Azir Uddin to the Lead Member for Housing and Development, Councillor Marc Francis:**

"Does this Council agree that where, as in John Smith Mews E14, the residents almost unanimously want to retain the existing parking regime involving a key and gate, the landlords One Housing Group, should not introduce unilaterally a new system involving pay permits and clamping and agree to write to One Housing Group expressing this opinion?"

*This question was not put at the meeting as the questioner was not in attendance.*

**Response by the Lead Member, Councillor Marc Francis**



There have been historical problems with parking on John Smith Mews as well as numerous other estates managed by Toynbee Housing Association over the years.

These problems have been alleviated by the introduction of a permit system and estate clamping schemes which, to date has been a service offered free of charge by the clamping.

Their fees have traditionally been made up by the number of cars they can clamp which has led to allegations from residents of unscrupulous practices.

Following these complaints, Toynbee HA consulted all residents on a proposal to instruct a new clamping firm to operate across their estates that would charge a flat fee of 58pw per resident, with the added assurance that their working practices would be more in line with best practice within the industry.

Most of the feedback received to date from other estates suggested residents are in favour of this approach. However, however, given the dissatisfaction now raised by the residents of John Smith mews, Toynbee HA has agreed to:

- Suspend implementation of the scheme on John Smith Mews until a further consultation exercise has been held with residents on this estate and their feedback analysed.
- Continue with the implementation of the new clamping system on the other Toynbee estates.
- Conduct a 6 month review of how the new clamping arrangements are working on the other Toynbee estates.

The Council asserts that decisions affecting how estates are managed, including local parking arrangements, are matters that landlords and residents should be working together on to establish what's best for residents.

Any decision made should be in line with best practice and should include full consultation to allow residents to have a meaningful input into the decision making processes.

#### **6.4 Question from Mr. Md. Rahmet Ullah to the Lead Member for Employment and Skills, Councillor Oliur Rahman:**

“This Council is investing considerable time and money in helping residents to find work in these tough times. But as the economy has changed, so have the jobs on offer. What is being done to ensure that those getting placements and training are being set up for the jobs that

are available today, and not those that were available before the recession?"

*This question was not put at the meeting as the questioner was not in attendance.*

### **Response by the Lead Member, Councillor Oliur Rahman**

I welcome the recognition of the Council's considerable efforts and investment in helping its residents to succeed in the labour market.

Mr Ullah makes an interesting and relevant point and I am happy to advise that the services delivered by the Council to support the employment of local residents are designed to be responsive to changing labour market circumstances.

The Council commissioned Oxford Economics in November 2008, to research the effects of the economic downturn in Tower Hamlets and the findings from this research has informed decisions made about training and placements over the last to years.

For example;

- the Council's *Earn As You Learn* programme involves candidates completing a Pitman accredited course for two weeks and then completing an 8 week work placement with a company prepared to trial them for future opportunities. Typically the mix of companies selected for placements would have included those in the financial sector. Given the down-turn these have been replaced by opportunities in sectors that are recruiting – hospital trusts, council departments and charitable organisations. The programme is designed to ensure that this flexibility exists and thus placements are always selected based on current or emerging opportunities to justify the investment and ensure the best chance of employment at the end.
- the Council's Graduate Placement Programme has typically offered 40 local graduates the opportunity to gain relevant work experience for up to 16 weeks with leading companies. As data has consistently confirmed that graduate unemployment is a particular issue during the recession, the scheme has been extended to allow another 20 young people to access the scheme. Employer partners have included the Independent Police Complaints Commission and the Financial Ombudsman, as well as a range of small and medium local enterprises. Many have been retained for permanent employment.
- Our construction training offer within Tower Hamlets has broadened considerably over the past 18 months for young people and job seekers of all ages. This has ranged from increased provision in schools, NVQ provision, routes into

apprenticeships connected with London 2012 and continued pre-employment and brokerage services offered by Skillsmatch. Direct job vacancies from the Olympic Park, though lower than expected because of the downturn, have progressed from demolition and remediation to enabling works and now towards fit out and landscaping occupations. We have continued to be flexible in providing pathways into these opportunities, and preparing residents for wider industry opportunities as the economy recovers.

Overall the council remains committed to the principle of working with employers that have live or emerging job opportunities (across a wide range of sectors –including the public sector), and to investing time and resource to pre-employment interventions that deliver healthy job outcomes in the short, medium and long terms.

**6.5 Question from Ms. Amy Whitelock to the Leader of the Council, Councillor Lutfur Rahman**

“To ask the Leader what action the Council has taken to support local residents’ campaign to persuade Transport for London to restore the door-to-door bus service between Bow and the Tesco supermarket at Bromley-by-Bow?”

**Response by the Lead Member, Councillor Lutfur Rahman**

Mayor Boris Johnson’s decision to scrap this service forced residents to undertake a long and dangerous walk. As a result of our campaigning this will no longer be necessary. On behalf of the Council’s Public Transport Consultative Forum, the Head of Transportation & Highways wrote to TfL’s Managing Director of Surface Transport, in August last year expressing frustration about the ongoing situation, highlighting the concerns of residents and offering a solution (not for the first time) by providing a bus stand on Hancock Road. This would allow the 488 bus to serve Bromley-by-Bow Tesco directly, rather than passengers having to change buses and/or travel to Twelvetrees Crescent on the way home.

I am pleased to confirm that TfL have now agreed (subject to formal consultation by them) to this arrangement which is expected to be introduced on 27th February 2010. This is the successful culmination of a long running campaign by local residents, assembly member John Biggs and local Councillors including myself.

**Summary of supplementary question from Ms. Whitelock:**

This news will be music to the ears of those that signed the petition. When will the new arrangements come into effect and how reliable will the service be?

**Summary of Lead Member's response:**

We expect by the end of February that the door to door service will be effectively re-instated. As a result of the improvements we expect passengers to return to use the service and we are calling for more buses to meet the increase in demand and improve the frequency.

**Change to order of business**

At this point, Councillor Lutfur Rahman **MOVED** and Councillor Joshua Peck **SECONDED** – “That under Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be changed to allow motion 11.9 to be considered as next business.”

At this juncture, more than ten Members rose to request a recorded vote (Rule 17.4).

The procedural motion was put to the vote as follows:

**For (49 Councillors)**

Councillor Lutfur Rahman  
Councillor Peter Golds  
Councillor Abjol Miah  
Councillor Stephanie Eaton  
Councillor Helal Abbas  
Councillor Ohid Ahmed  
Councillor Rajib Ahmed  
Councillor Rofique Uddin Ahmed  
Councillor Dr. Anwara Ali  
Councillor Mohammed Shahid Ali  
Councillor Timothy Archer  
Councillor Abdul Asad  
Councillor Philip Briscoe  
Councillor Alibor Choudhury  
Councillor Rupert Eckhardt  
Councillor Marc Francis  
Councillor Fazlul Haque  
Councillor Shafiqul Haque  
Councillor Carli Harper-Penman  
Councillor Clair Hawkins  
Councillor Alexander Heslop  
Councillor Shirley Houghton  
Councillor Ahmed Hussain  
Councillor Sirajul Islam  
Councillor Waiseul Islam  
Councillor Ann Jackson  
Councillor Denise Jones  
Councillor Dr. Emma Jones  
Councillor Azizur Rahman Khan  
Councillor Rania Khan

Councillor Shiria Khatun  
Councillor Abdul Matin  
Councillor Fozol Miah  
Councillor Harun Miah  
Councillor Mohammed Abdul Munim  
Councillor Timothy O'Flaherty  
Councillor Joshua Peck  
Councillor Oliur Rahman  
Councillor Mohammed Mamun Rashid  
Councillor Muhammad Abdullah Salique  
Councillor Abdul Aziz Sardar  
Councillor Rachael Saunders  
Councillor David Snowdon  
Councillor Bill Turner  
Councillor Dulal Uddin  
Councillor Abdal Ullah  
Councillor Salim Ullah  
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman  
Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer (The Mayor)

Against (0 Councillors)

The procedural motion was therefore **agreed**.

#### **11.9 Motion proposed by Councillor Harun Miah regarding Boris Johnson's fare rises**

The motion as printed in the agenda was **MOVED** by Councillor Harun Miah and **SECONDED** by Councillor Abjol Miah.

Councillor Lutfur Rahman then **MOVED** and Councillor Abdal Ullah **SECONDED** an **AMENDMENT** – That all words in the published motion be deleted and replaced with:-

“This Council notes that:

Tory Mayor Boris Johnson has subjected Londoners to a huge above-inflation rise in bus fares.

This approach follows his refusal to intervene in support of those residents in Bow whose S2 bus he scrapped, forcing pensioners and mums with young children to carry their shopping through a dirty and dangerous underpass beneath the dual carriageway.

The overall increase in bus fares introduced from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 was 12.7% however, a pay-as-you-go single bus journey increased by 20% from £1 to £1.20 (a rise of 20%).

Fare rises are substantial and particularly likely to affect infrequent, irregular users such as part-time workers. This will include the 18% of families in Tower Hamlets living on less than £15,000.

Raising bus fares impacts disproportionately on the poor as they are most likely to use buses as opposed to more expensive forms of public or private transport.

In the current economic circumstances this makes it difficult for many on low wages to get to and from work, dampening employment and growth in the capital.

That that Mayor continues to fight for lower taxes for the bankers who helped create the current economic crisis while placing a de-facto "transport tax" on those worst affected by the downturn and least able to afford it.

Despite the fare rise, the Mayor has scrapped the proposed western extension to the congestion charge and emissions based congestion charge, both of which could raise the revenue needed to offset bus fare rises.

That the current Mayor's stance stands in direct contrast to his predecessor, Labour Mayor Ken Livingstone, who cut bus fares significantly to help the young, the elderly, the unemployed and those on low wages to access public transport.

This Council believes that:

Accessible and affordable transport is vital to the economic wellbeing of the capital in general and the lowest paid workers in particular.

The Mayor's decision to raise bus fares while fighting for lower taxes and charges for the better off is contrary to the needs of most Londoners.

This Council resolves:

To instruct the Leader to write to the London Mayor and TfL to protest the increase.

To lobby London Assembly members to hold the Mayor to account for making public transport less accessible to Londoners.

To work with other Councils, the Minister for London and the Department for Transport to press the Mayor to share the burden of paying for London's transport infrastructure more fairly."

After debate, more than ten Members rose to request a recorded vote (Rule 17.4) on the amendment.

The amendment was put to the vote as follows:

For (38 Councillors)

Councillor Lutfur Rahman  
Councillor Abjol Miah

Councillor Helal Abbas  
Councillor Ohid Ahmed  
Councillor Rajib Ahmed  
Councillor Rofique Uddin Ahmed  
Councillor Dr. Anwara Ali  
Councillor Mohammed Shahid Ali  
Councillor Shahed Ali  
Councillor Abdul Asad  
Councillor Alibor Choudhury  
Councillor Marc Francis  
Councillor Fazlul Haque  
Councillor Shafiqul Haque  
Councillor Carli Harper-Penman  
Councillor Clair Hawkins  
Councillor Alexander Heslop  
Councillor Sirajul Islam  
Councillor Waiseul Islam  
Councillor Ann Jackson  
Councillor Denise Jones  
Councillor Rania Khan  
Councillor Shiria Khatun  
Councillor Fozol Miah  
Councillor Harun Miah  
Councillor Mohammed Abdul Munim  
Councillor Joshua Peck  
Councillor Oliur Rahman  
Councillor Mohammed Mamun Rashid  
Councillor Muhammad Abdullah Saliq  
Councillor Abdul Aziz Sardar  
Councillor Rachael Saunders  
Councillor Bill Turner  
Councillor Dulal Uddin  
Councillor Abdal Ullah  
Councillor Salim Ullah  
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman  
Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer (The Mayor)

Against (4 Councillors)

Councillor Stephanie Eaton  
Councillor Azizur Rahman Khan  
Councillor Abdul Matin  
Councillor Timothy O'Flaherty

Abstained (8 Councillors)

Councillor Peter Golds  
Councillor Timothy Archer  
Councillor Philip Briscoe  
Councillor Rupert Eckhardt  
Councillor Shirley Houghton

Councillor Ahmed Hussain  
Councillor Dr. Emma Jones  
Councillor David Snowdon

The amendment was therefore **agreed**.

The substantive motion as amended was then put to the meeting.

More than ten Members rose to request a recorded vote (Rule 17.4) on the motion.

The motion was put to the vote as follows:

For (42 Councillors)

Councillor Lutfur Rahman  
Councillor Abjol Miah  
Councillor Stephanie Eaton  
Councillor Helal Abbas  
Councillor Ohid Ahmed  
Councillor Rajib Ahmed  
Councillor Rofique Uddin Ahmed  
Councillor Dr. Anwara Ali  
Councillor Mohammed Shahid Ali  
Councillor Shahed Ali  
Councillor Abdul Asad  
Councillor Alibor Choudhury  
Councillor Marc Francis  
Councillor Fazlul Haque  
Councillor Shafiqul Haque  
Councillor Carli Harper-Penman  
Councillor Clair Hawkins  
Councillor Alexander Heslop  
Councillor Sirajul Islam  
Councillor Waiseul Islam  
Councillor Ann Jackson  
Councillor Denise Jones  
Councillor Azizur Rahman Khan  
Councillor Rania Khan  
Councillor Shiria Khatun  
Councillor Abdul Matin  
Councillor Fozol Miah  
Councillor Harun Miah  
Councillor Mohammed Abdul Munim  
Councillor Timothy O'Flaherty  
Councillor Joshua Peck  
Councillor Oliur Rahman  
Councillor Mohammed Mamun Rashid  
Councillor Muhammad Abdullah Salique  
Councillor Abdul Aziz Sardar  
Councillor Rachael Saunders



Councillor Bill Turner  
Councillor Dulal Uddin  
Councillor Abdal Ullah  
Councillor Salim Ullah  
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman  
Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer (The Mayor)

Against (0 Councillors)

Abstained (8 Councillors)

Councillor Peter Golds  
Councillor Timothy Archer  
Councillor Philip Briscoe  
Councillor Rupert Eckhardt  
Councillor Shirley Houghton  
Councillor Ahmed Hussain  
Councillor Dr. Emma Jones  
Councillor David Snowdon

The motion was therefore **agreed** and accordingly it was:-

## **RESOLVED**

This Council notes that:

Tory Mayor Boris Johnson has subjected Londoners to a huge above-inflation rise in bus fares.

This approach follows his refusal to intervene in support of those residents in Bow whose S2 bus he scrapped, forcing pensioners and mums with young children to carry their shopping through a dirty and dangerous underpass beneath the dual carriageway.

The overall increase in bus fares introduced from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2010 was 12.7% however, a pay-as-you-go single bus journey increased by 20% from £1 to £1.20 (a rise of 20%).

Fare rises are substantial and particularly likely to affect infrequent, irregular users such as part-time workers. This will include the 18% of families in Tower Hamlets living on less than £15,000.

Raising bus fares impacts disproportionately on the poor as they are most likely to use buses as opposed to more expensive forms of public or private transport.

In the current economic circumstances this makes it difficult for many on low wages to get to and from work, dampening employment and growth in the capital.

That that Mayor continues to fight for lower taxes for the bankers who helped create the current economic crisis while placing a de-facto “transport tax” on those worst affected by the downturn and least able to afford it.

Despite the fare rise, the Mayor has scrapped the proposed western extension to the congestion charge and emissions based congestion charge, both of which could raise the revenue needed to offset bus fare rises.

That the current Mayor’s stance stands in direct contrast to his predecessor, Labour Mayor Ken Livingstone, who cut bus fares significantly to help the young, the elderly, the unemployed and those on low wages to access public transport.

This Council believes that:

Accessible and affordable transport is vital to the economic wellbeing of the capital in general and the lowest paid workers in particular.

The Mayor’s decision to raise bus fares while fighting for lower taxes and charges for the better off is contrary to the needs of most Londoners.

This Council resolves:

To instruct the Leader to write to the London Mayor and TfL to protest the increase.

To lobby London Assembly members to hold the Mayor to account for making public transport less accessible to Londoners.

To work with other Councils, the Minister for London and the Department for Transport to press the Mayor to share the burden of paying for London’s transport infrastructure more fairly.

### **Change to order of business**

At this point, Councillor Marc Francis **MOVED** and Councillor Lutfur Rahman **SECONDED** – “That under Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be changed to allow motion 11.3 to be considered as next business.”

On being put to the vote, the procedural motion was **agreed**.

### **11.3 Motion proposed by Councillor Marc Francis regarding Olympic legacy and affordable housing**

The motion as printed in the agenda was **MOVED** by Councillor Marc Francis and **SECONDED** by Councillor Lutfur Rahman.

Councillor Abjol Miah informed Members that he would be withdrawing his tabled amendment.

After debate, more than ten Members rose to request a recorded vote (Rule 17.4) on the motion.

The motion was put to the vote as follows:

For (49 Councillors)

Councillor Lutfur Rahman  
Councillor Peter Golds  
Councillor Abjol Miah  
Councillor Stephanie Eaton  
Councillor Helal Abbas  
Councillor Ohid Ahmed  
Councillor Rajib Ahmed  
Councillor Rofique Uddin Ahmed  
Councillor Dr. Anwara Ali  
Councillor Mohammed Shahid Ali  
Councillor Shahed Ali  
Councillor Timothy Archer  
Councillor Abdul Asad  
Councillor Philip Briscoe  
Councillor Rupert Eckhardt  
Councillor Marc Francis  
Councillor Fazlul Haque  
Councillor Shafiqul Haque  
Councillor Carli Harper-Penman  
Councillor Clair Hawkins  
Councillor Alexander Heslop  
Councillor Shirley Houghton  
Councillor Ahmed Hussain  
Councillor Sirajul Islam  
Councillor Waiseul Islam  
Councillor Ann Jackson  
Councillor Denise Jones  
Councillor Dr. Emma Jones  
Councillor Azizur Rahman Khan  
Councillor Rania Khan  
Councillor Shiria Khatun  
Councillor Abdul Matin  
Councillor Fozol Miah  
Councillor Harun Miah  
Councillor Mohammed Abdul Munim  
Councillor Timothy O'Flaherty  
Councillor Joshua Peck  
Councillor Oliur Rahman  
Councillor Mohammed Mamun Rashid  
Councillor Muhammad Abdullah Salique  
Councillor Abdul Aziz Sardar  
Councillor Rachael Saunders  
Councillor David Snowdon

Councillor Bill Turner  
Councillor Dulal Uddin  
Councillor Abdal Ullah  
Councillor Salim Ullah  
Councillor Motin Uz-Zaman  
Councillor Ahmed Adam Omer (The Mayor)

Against (0 Councillors)

The motion was therefore **agreed** and it was accordingly:-

## **RESOLVED**

This Council notes:

- The commitment of the Government, Mayor of London and Olympic Delivery Organisation (ODA) to delivering a lasting legacy to the people of London resulting from the 2012 Games.
- The creation of the Olympic Legacy Company to deliver this pledge.
- The use of £1 billion of public money by the London Development Agency (LDA) to purchase land for the Olympic sites.
- That there are almost 100,000 households on council housing waiting lists in the five 'Olympic boroughs'.

Given this level of housing need, this Council believes:

- That the current policy of 35 per cent 'affordable' housing (split 50/50 between social rented and 'intermediate') is inadequate and unacceptable as only 17 per cent of the homes built are likely to be of benefit to those on housing waiting lists.

This Council therefore resolves to:

- Call on the Government and Mayor of London to instruct the ODA and Olympic Legacy Company to require that 50 per cent of all new homes built on the Olympic site should be affordable (split 70/30 social rented, including council housing, and intermediate), in order to ensure a real housing legacy for Londoners.

### **Change in order of business**

At this point, Councillor Abjol Miah **MOVED** and Councillor Dulal Uddin **SECONDED** – "That under Rule 14.1.3 the order of business be changed to allow motion 11.12 to be considered as next business."

On being put to the vote, the procedural motion was **agreed**.

**11.12 Motion proposed by Councillor Abdul Munim regarding Ocean regeneration and business uncertainty**

The motion as printed in the agenda was **MOVED** by Councillor Abdul Munim and **SECONDED** by Councillor Abjol Miah.

Councillor Abjol Miah then **MOVED** and Councillor Dulal Uddin **SECONDED** – “That the question be now put”. On being put to the vote the procedural motion was **lost**.

Councillor Oliur Rahman **MOVED**, and Councillor Alibor Choudhury **SECONDED**, an **AMENDMENT** to the motion – “To insert a new paragraph i) “that the local councillors have taken a strong lead in representing the interests of shop keepers” and to delete all words in the published motion after “This Council believes that” and replace with a) Shop keepers must be fully involved in the consultation about the future redevelopment plans for the Ocean estate; b) Council officers should continue to work closely with shop keepers on both a one-to-one and collective basis to try to ensure the continuation of those businesses; c) The Lead Member should report back to Full Council on the progress of negotiations with the shop keepers on Ben Jonson Road.”

Councillor Oliur Rahman then **MOVED** and Councillor Alibor Choudhury **SECONDED** - “That the question be now put”. On being put to the vote, the procedural motion was **agreed**.

The amendment moved by Councillor Oliur Rahman was then put to the vote and was **agreed**.

The substantive motion as amended was then put to the vote and was **agreed**. Accordingly it was

**RESOLVED**

This Council notes that:

- a) the Ocean estate is to be the subject of a major regeneration project
- b) this regeneration will involve the demolition of some existing buildings
- c) demolition will include Marmora House on Ben Jonson Road which houses many local shops which provide essential services to the local community
- d) shop owners and keepers in Ben Jonson Road recently received letters from a developer informing them of a planning application to redevelop the site where they have their shops
- e) shop owners and keepers in Ben Jonson Road have spent many years building up their businesses and serving the community

f) the letter from the developer makes no reference to providing them with alternative facilities from which to operate after they have left the existing premises or for them to have the right to return to the newly established shop premises upon completion of the redevelopment

g) this is causing severe stress and concern to the business community in Ben Jonson Road and those residents who currently depend on these shops for important and vital services

h) shop owners and keepers have made submissions to the planning department asking that alternative premises from which their businesses can operate should be guaranteed and that they should have right of return once redevelopment has been completed

i) that the local councilors have taken a strong lead in representing the interests of shop keepers

This Council welcomes any development and regeneration that will benefit the residents

This Council believes that:

- a) Shop keepers must be fully involved in the consultation about the future redevelopment plans for the Ocean estate
- b) Council officers should continue to work closely with shop keepers on both a one-to-one and collective basis to try to ensure the continuation of those businesses
- c) The Lead Member should report back to Full Council on the progress of negotiations with the shop keepers on Ben Jonson Road.

## **7. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Due to the lack of time, questions 1 – 25 were not put. Written responses would be forwarded to the questioners.

## **8. REPORTS FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES**

There was no business under this agenda item.

## **9. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND QUESTIONS ON JOINT ARRANGEMENTS AND EXTERNAL ORGANISATIONS (IF ANY)**

There was no business under this agenda item.

**10. OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no business under this agenda item.

**11. TO CONSIDER MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL**

Motions 11.3, 11.4, 11.9 and 11.12 had been considered at earlier points in the meeting.

The Mayor then closed the meeting in accordance with Rule 9 (Duration of meeting).

Motions 11.1, 11.2, 11.5, 11.6, 11.7, 11.8, 11.10 & 11.11 as listed below were not considered due to lack of time, the meeting having closed in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 9 (Duration of meeting).

**11.1 Motion submitted by Councillor Abjol Miah regarding parking policy in Tower Hamlets**

**11.2 Motion submitted by Councillor Stephanie Eaton regarding reducing carbon emissions by 10% in 2010**

**11.5 Motion submitted by Councillor Dulal Uddin regarding car free zones**

**11.6 Motion submitted by Councillor Ohid Ahmed regarding reducing carbon emissions**

**11.7 Motion submitted by Councillor Fozol Miah regarding Housing Policy**

**11.8 Motion submitted by Councillor Joshua Peck regarding increasing access to transport for older residents**

**11.10 Motion submitted by Councillor Alex Heslop regarding support for the co-operative and social enterprise sector**

**11.11 Motion submitted by Councillor Mamun Rashid regarding youth facilities**

The meeting ended at 10.32 p.m.

Chair,  
Council

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