

LONDON BOROUGH OF TOWER HAMLETS

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2006

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

The Mayor, Mr Doros Ullah in the chair.

Members Present:

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

1. TO ELECT A MAYOR OF THE BOROUGH TO HOLD OFFICE UNTIL THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IN 2007

Mr Ullah addressed the meeting on his year in office during which time he had raised £55,000 for his charity – Crisis.

Councillor Denise Jones responded on behalf of the Council. Councillors Rouse and Oliur Rahman also addressed the meeting on the Mayor's year in office.

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Sirajul Islam and **RESOLVED**

That Councillor Shafiqul Haque of 18 Halliday House, Christian Street, London E1 1PA. be elected as Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to hold office from 24th May, 2006 until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2007.

The Mayor, Councillor Shafiqul Haque in the chair.

The Mayor then addressed the meeting and set out his proposed programme for the year, together with details of two charities he would be supporting during his mayoralty, Daneford Trust and Tower Hamlets Summer University.

2. TO ELECT A DEPUTY MAYOR TO HOLD OFFICE UNTIL THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL IN 2007

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Sirajul Islam

RESOLVED

That Councillor Ann Jackson of 34 Cardigan Road, London E3 5HU be elected as Deputy Mayor of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets to hold office from 24th May 2006 until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2007.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence submitted.

4. TO NOTE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

5. MINUTES

MINUTES: RESOLVED:

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on Wednesday 1st March, 2006 be confirmed as a correct record of the proceedings and the Mayor be authorised to sign them.

6. TO RECEIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE MAYOR AND THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

There were no announcements made.

7. TO ELECT THE LEADER AND DEPUTY LEADER OF THE OF THE COUNCIL

Moved by Councillor Helal Abbas, **Seconded** by Councillor Ann Jackson and

RESOLVED: That Councillor Denise Jones be elected as Leader of the Council to hold office until the Annual Meeting of the Council in 2007.

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Salim Ullah and it was

RESOLVED: That Councillor Sirajul Islam be elected Deputy Leader of the Council to hold office until the Annual Meeting of the Council in May 2007.

8. TO CONSIDER THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS TO BE APPOINTED TO THE CABINET AND TO APPOINT MEMBERS TO THE CABINET

The Chief Executive tabled a schedule which informed the Council of proposed appointment of cabinet members for the municipal year 2006/2007 together with allocated portfolios.

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Sirajul Islam

‘That the Cabinet comprise 10 Members and those members with the allocated portfolios, as set out in the tabled schedule be appointed thereto’

Councillor Simon Rouse, **Seconded** by Councillor Peter Golds **Moved** an amendment in the following terms

‘That the Cabinet be reduced to a membership of 9 by the abolition of the post of Lead Member Culture with the responsibilities arising absorbed within the portfolio of the Lead Member Children’s Services and the resulting savings allocated to front-line services’.

The Mayor put the amendment to the vote and there voted

For – 7

Against – 25

Abstentions – 12

The Mayor declared the amendment to be **Lost**.

The Mayor put the substantive motion to the vote and there voted

For – 26
 Against – 6
 Abstentions – 12

The Mayor declared the substantive motion to be **Carried** and

Resolved

That the Cabinet comprise 10 Members and those Members with the allocated portfolios, as set out in the tabled schedule be appointed thereto.

For ease of reference the Members appointed to the Cabinet and their allocated portfolios are set out below

Councillor Denise Jones	-	Leader of the Council
Councillor Sirajul Islam	-	Deputy Leader of the Council
Councillor Helal U.Abbas	-	Lead Member, Children's Services
Councillor Ohid Ahmed	-	Lead Member, Regeneration, Localisation and Community Partnerships
Councillor Anwara Ali	-	Lead Member, Equalities, Employment and Skills
Councillor Abdul Asad	-	Lead Member, Older People and Health
Councillor Abdal Ullah	-	Lead Member, Cleaner, Safer, Greener
Councillor Josh Peck	-	Lead Member, Resources and Performance
Councillor Lutfur Rahman	-	Lead Member, Culture
Councillor Rupert Bawden	-	Lead Member, Housing and Development

9. REVIEW OF PROPORTIONALITY AND APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES/PANELS OF THE COUNCIL

The Chief Executive tabled a report which reviewed proportionality as required by Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and which also informed the Council of the nominations received from the political groups on the Council for membership of committees/panels of the Authority for the Municipal Year 2006/2007 .

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Sirajul Islam and

Resolved

- 1 That the Review of proportionality be noted.
- 2 That the nominations to membership of Committees / Panels of the Authority agreed as per the tabled schedule.
- 3 That the appointment of Committee/Panel Chairs agreed as per the attached schedule.
- 4 That Part 3 of the Council's Constitution to be amended to reflect changes to the size of Committees/ Panels of the Authority.

10. APPOINTMENT OF POLITICAL ASSISTANTS

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Sirajul Islam

'1 That the Council appoint political assistants in accordance with section 9 of the Local Government & Housing Act 1989;

2 That in accordance with (1) above and having regard to the political balance on the Council, a full-time post be allocated to the Labour Group and provision from existing be used to create 2 part-time posts of 3.5 and 2.5 days a week for the Respect and Conservative Groups respectively.'

The motion was subject to an amendment by Councillor Oliur Rahman, **Seconded** by Councillor Objol Miah in the following terms -

'That full-time political assistants be appointed to assist the Labour and, Respect Groups on the Council and a part-time political assistant be appointed to assist the Conservative Group'

The Mayor put the amendment to the vote and there voted for:-

For – 12
Against - 26
Abstained – 0

The Mayor declared the amendment to be **Lost** and he then put the substantive motion to the vote and there voted:-

For - 32
Against - 12
Abstained - 0

The Mayor declared the substantive motion to be **Carried** and

Resolved

1 That the Council appoint political assistants in accordance with Section 9 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989;

2 That in accordance with (1) and having regard to the political balance on the Council, a full-time post be allocated to the Labour Group and provision from existing resources be used to create 2 part-time post of 3.5 and 2.5 days for the Respect and Conservative Groups respectively.

11. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE ASSOCIATION OF LONDON GOVERNMENT

The Chief Executive tabled a report which requested the Council to consider making nominations to a number of bodies of the Association of London Government. The ALG had requested the Council to its nominations by 1st June which precluded consideration by the General Purposes Committee.

Moved by Councillor Denise Jones, **Seconded** by Councillor Sirajul Islam

“That the nominations to the Association of London Government’s panels and committees be agreed, as per the tabled schedule”.

Moved as an amendment by Councillor Simon Rouse and **Seconded** by Councillor Peter Golds.

‘That the nominations to the Association of London Government be made in accordance with the principles of proportionality’.

The Mayor put the amendment to the vote and it was **LOST**.

The Mayor then put the substantive motion to the vote and it was

RESOLVED: That the nominations to the Association of London Government’s panels and committees be agreed, as set out in the appendix.

Close of meeting.

There being on further business the Mayor thanked everyone for their contributions and attendance and closed the meeting ended at 8.25 pm.

**Councillor Shafiqul Haque
Mayor**