

**LONDON BOROUGH OF SUTTON****MINUTES**

**of the meeting of the Council  
held on 21 January 2008  
starting at 7.00 pm**

**Members**

**The Worshipful the Mayor  
(Councillor Myfanwy Wallace)**

**The Deputy Mayor  
(Councillor Brendan Hudson)**

**Councillors:**

Margaret Ali	Bruce Glithero	Paul Scully
Sheila Andrews	Stuart Gordon-Bullock	Tony Shields
Richard Bailey	Colin Hall	Jenny Slark
Sean Brennan	Joan Hartfield	Colin Stears
Moira Butt	Eric Howell	Sue Stears
Richard Butt	Kirsty Jerome	David Theobald
Dave Callaghan	Paddy Kane	Roger Thistle
Cliff Carter	John Kennedy	Graham Tope
Ian Chapman	John Keys	Simon Wales
Margaret Court	John Leach	Peter Wallis
Tim Crowley	Abigail Lock	Graham Whitham
Ruth Dombey	Janet Lowne	Marion Williams
John Drage	Jayne McCoy	Tony Brett Young
Christopher Dunlop	David Pickles	Misdaq Zaidi
Terry Faulds	Pamela Picknett	
Peter Geiringer	Roger Roberts	

**ABSENT** Councillors Lyn Gleeson, Paul Newman, Hamish Pollock, Barry Russell and Helen Senior.

The Reverend Paul Goodridge, from the parish of St. Dunstan's Cheam, led the Council in prayer.

**59. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19 NOVEMBER 2007**

The Minutes of the Council meeting held on 19 November 2007 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

**60. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Lyn Gleeson, Paul Newman, Hamish Pollock, Barry Russell and Helen Senior. Councillors Richard Butt and Christopher Dunlop had also submitted apologies for their late arrival.

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**61. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**(a) New Year Honours**

The Mayor congratulated the following residents who had been honoured in the Queen's New Year Honours List

John Azah, Vice Chair of the Independent Advisory Group in the Metropolitan Police Service received the OBE for services to community relations

Paul Lincoln, Chief Executive of the National Heart Forum for Coronary Heart Disease Prevention (UK) received an OBE for services to healthcare

Professor Kasturi Arachchi Ariya Saman Warnakulasvriya, Professor of Oral Medicine and Experimental Oral Pathology at King's College, London Guys, Kings and St. Thomas's Hospitals, received an OBE for services to healthcare

Francis Egerton, lately an Opera Singer received an MBE for services to music

Bryan Treherne, although not a resident, received an MBE for services to International Trade and to the community in Croydon, Surrey. He also worked with the Sutton Chamber of Trade.

**(b) New Years Day Parade**

The Mayor reported that the Council had continued its successful record in the New Year's Day Parade through central London. Almost half a million people had seen Sutton's float, part of the Smarter Travel Sutton campaign, which highlighted the on-going work in reducing Sutton's carbon footprint. The entry received a special award. The mayor thanked everyone who had been involved in ensuring that the Council's entry was a success.

**(c) GCSE Results**

The Mayor reported that the borough was the highest performing area in the country at GCSE level. Recent league tables had revealed that Sutton was top of the 148 mainland local authorities with 65 per cent of pupils gaining the required GCSE passes. On behalf of the Council, the Mayor congratulated the students on achieving these results as well as the teaching staff, parents, carers and school governors that had supported them.

**(d) Benefits Service**

On behalf of the Council, the Mayor also congratulated the staff in the benefits service that had scored the highest four-star rating in every area of their work in the annual government assessment for how the service has performed in the past year.

**(e) Gill Bull and Stephen Lawrence Orumwense**

The Mayor welcomed Gill Bull the new Executive Head of Policy and Communications and Stephen Lawrence-Orumwense the new Head of Legal Services to their first Council meeting.

**(f) Works to the Civic Offices and Central Library**

The Chief Executive reported that essential maintenance works were required to the ventilation and fire safety systems at both the Civic Offices and Sutton Central Library. These would start in February and were due for completion in September 2008. Every effort would be made to minimise disruption and inconvenience to staff and the public including work outside of office hours and around council meetings.

**62. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS****(a) Questions from Members of the Public**

Four members of the Public asked five questions and supplementary questions and received replies as set out in Appendix A to these Minutes.

**(b) Questions from Councillors**

Four Councillors asked four questions and supplementary questions and received replies as set out in Appendix B to these Minutes.

During question time, Councillor David Theobald made a personal statement concerning a recent investigation into his conduct by the Standards Board for England.

**63. LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT PRESENTATION**

The Chief Executive gave a presentation which set out the reasons behind the Local Area Agreement, the priorities and themes contained within the agreement, who was involved and what the benefits were intended to be for the Borough.

**64. FORMER COUNCILLOR ELEANOR PINFOLD**

The Mayor reported that, following a complaint to the Standards Board for England and a hearing by a Panel from the Adjudication Panel for England, former Councillor Eleanor Pinfold had been disqualified from acting as a Councillor for a period of one year. The by election in Cheam Ward would be held on Thursday 28 February 2007.

Councillor Paul Scully made a statement on behalf of the Conservative Group.

**65. APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES****(a) Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee and St. Helier, Wrythe and Wandle Valley Local Committee**

Councillor Sue Stears moved, Councillor Roger Thistle seconded and it was

**Resolved:** (i) That Councillor Graham Whitham replace former Councillor Eleanor Pinfold on the Nonsuch Park Joint Management Committee for the remainder of the 2007/08 municipal year;

(ii) That Patrick Murphy representing the Four Square Group (substitute Robin Shephard) be appointed as a Special Adviser to swerve on the St. Helier, Wrythe and Wandle Valley Local Committee until the annual Council meeting in May 2008.

**(b) Appointment to Committees**

The Mayor had agreed to the following item being brought forward as a matter of urgency to ensure that representation on Committees could be maintained:

Councillor Sue Stears moved, Councillor Roger Thistle seconded and it was

**Resolved:** (i) That Councillor Jayne McCoy replace Councillor Joan Hartfield on the Scrutiny Overview Committee until the annual meeting of the Council in May 2008;

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(ii) That Councillor Roger Thistle replace Councillor Jayne McCoy on the Audit Committee until the annual meeting of the Council in May 2008.

**66. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**(a) Motion : Leisure in the Borough**

In accordance with Notice given, Councillor John Kennedy moved the following Motion

“This Council acknowledges:

1. The important role that accessible local leisure facilities play in the quality of life of Sutton residents.
2. The need for a good mix of sport and leisure opportunities from a variety of sources including the Council, commercial operators, schools and the voluntary sector.
3. That the pricing of leisure services should be affordable for the many and not just the few.
4. That every Sutton resident is entitled to an equitable distribution of accessible local leisure facilities.

“This Council resolves to:

1. Ensure that no part of the Borough is left without accessible local leisure provision.
2. Take steps to rectify any geographical gaps in leisure service provision across the Borough.
3. Put affordability at the heart of its leisure pricing policy so that every resident can take advantage of leisure facilities.

Councillor Graham Whitham seconded the Motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 11.22 the Motion was deferred for consideration later during the Council meeting.

**(b) Motion: Waste Packaging**

In accordance with notice given, Councillor Sean Brennan moved the following Motion

“This Council

1. recognises the damage caused to the environment by disposable carrier-bags and excessive packaging of retail goods;
2. welcomes London Councils' campaign for a London wide ban on the free distribution of throw away shopping bags through its London Local Authorities (Shopping Bag) Bill now lodged in Parliament
3. supports Early day motion 188 tabled by Jo Swinson MP calling on supermarkets and manufacturers to reduce excess packaging, recycle packaging waste and encourage the re-use of plastic carrier bags; and Government to take stronger action to curb excess packaging.
4. notes that the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2003 aim to minimise the amount of waste packaging generated at source and ensure that packaging can be reused, recovered or recycled,

5. notes that the Landfill Directive requires the UK to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill by more than half by 2013, and to around a quarter of the current level by 2020.

6. also notes that packaging adds £470 per year on average to a typical household's shopping bills and that annually an estimated total of around 13 billion bags are issued every year to shoppers - roughly 220 per person every year, with at least 200 million plastic bags ending up as waste on our streets and parks per year.

7. resolves to write a) to the major supermarkets in Sutton to ask what efforts they are making to reduce the amount of unnecessary packaging and ensure that the maximum amount of re-cyclable material is used in packaging and b) to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, informing him of this motion and urging the Government to take forward plans to introduce a ban on free throwaway bags across the UK

8. also resolves to recommend a relevant committee to investigate ways in which the council can support a reduction in the use of disposable shopping bags and minimise the excessive packaging."

Councillor Colin Hall seconded the Motion.

In accordance with Standing Order 11.22 the Motion was deferred for consideration later during the Council meeting.

## **67. PETITIONS**

Councillor David Pickles presented a petition, signed by 69 persons, seeking the preservation of all unmarked on road parking at the lower end of Station Road, Belmont. The petition was referred to the Sutton South, Cheam and Belmont Local Committee for consideration and report.

## **68. COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **(a) 10th London Local Authorities Bills**

Councillor Sean Brennan moved the reception of the recommendations in Minute 26/08.

In accordance with the statutory requirements, a poll vote was taken when there voted

In favour of the recommendations in Minute 26/08 (47)	The Mayor (Councillor Myfanwy Wallace), Councillors Margaret Ali, Sheila Andrews, Richard Bailey, Sean Brennan, Tony Brett Young, Moira Butt, Dave Callaghan, Cliff Carter, Ian Chapman, Margaret Court, Tim Crowley, Ruth Dombey, John Drage, Chris Dunlop, Terry Faulds, Peter Geiringer, Bruce Glithero, Stuart Gordon-Bullock, Colin Hall, Joan Hartfield, Eric Howell, Brendan Hudson, Kirsty Jerome, Paddy Kane, John Kennedy, John Keys, John Leach, Abigail Lock, Janet Lowne, Jayne McCoy, David Pickles, Pam Picknett, Roger Roberts, Paul Scully, Tony Shields, Jenny Slark, Colin Stears, Sue Stears, David Theobald, Roger Thistle, Graham Tope, Simon Wales, Peter Wallis, Graham Whitham, Marion Williams, Misdaq Zaidi.
Against the recommendations in Minute 26/08 (0)	Nil

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The Minute was unanimously adopted.

**(b) Motion : Waste Packaging**

In accordance with notice given, Councillor Sean Brennan moved and Councillor Colin Hall seconded the following Motion

“This Council

1. recognises the damage caused to the environment by disposable carrier-bags and excessive packaging of retail goods;
2. welcomes London Councils' campaign for a London wide ban on the free distribution of throw away shopping bags through its London Local Authorities (Shopping Bag) Bill now lodged in Parliament
3. supports Early day motion 188 tabled by Jo Swinson MP calling on supermarkets and manufacturers to reduce excess packaging, recycle packaging waste and encourage the re-use of plastic carrier bags; and Government to take stronger action to curb excess packaging.
4. notes that the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2003 aim to minimise the amount of waste packaging generated at source and ensure that packaging can be reused, recovered or recycled,
5. notes that the Landfill Directive requires the UK to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill by more than half by 2013, and to around a quarter of the current level by 2020.
6. also notes that packaging adds £470 per year on average to a typical household's shopping bills and that annually an estimated total of around 13 billion bags are issued every year to shoppers - roughly 220 per person every year, with at least 200 million plastic bags ending up as waste on our streets and parks per year.
7. resolves to write a) to the major supermarkets in Sutton to ask what efforts they are making to reduce the amount of unnecessary packaging and ensure that the maximum amount of re-cyclable material is used in packaging and b) to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, informing him of this motion and urging the Government to take forward plans to introduce a ban on free throwaway bags across the UK
8. also resolves to recommend a relevant committee to investigate ways in which the council can support a reduction in the use of disposable shopping bags and minimise the excessive packaging.”

Following debate, on being put to the vote on a show of hands, the Motion was unanimously adopted.

**(c) Motion : Leisure in the Borough**

In accordance with Notice given, Councillor John Kennedy moved and Councillor Graham Whitham seconded the following Motion

“This Council acknowledges:

1. The important role that accessible local leisure facilities play in the quality of life of Sutton residents.
2. The need for a good mix of sport and leisure opportunities from a variety of sources including the Council, commercial operators, schools and the voluntary sector.

3. That the pricing of leisure services should be affordable for the many and not just the few.

4. That every Sutton resident is entitled to an equitable distribution of accessible local leisure facilities.

“This Council resolves to:

1. Ensure that no part of the Borough is left without accessible local leisure provision.

2. Take steps to rectify any geographical gaps in leisure service provision across the Borough.

3. Put affordability at the heart of its leisure pricing policy so that every resident can take advantage of leisure facilities.”

Councillor Sean Brennan moved and Councillor Abigail Lock seconded the following amendment:

Under “This Council acknowledges:”

**ADD:** “5. The importance of maintaining and improving the quality of provision in all its leisure facilities.”

**DELETE:** All words from “This Council resolves”

**INSERT:** “This Council therefore resolves that, in developing its future Leisure Facilities Strategy, it will acknowledge the importance of:

1. Ensuring that no resident of the Borough is left without local leisure provision;

2. Taking steps to rectify any geographical gaps in leisure service provision across the Borough;

3. Putting affordability at the heart of its leisure pricing policy so that every resident can take advantage of leisure facilities.”

During the debate, Councillor Dave Callaghan declared a personal interest as he had been appointed by the Council to the Board of Greenwich Leisure Ltd.

Following debate, on being put to the vote the amendment was adopted on a show of hands.

The Motion, as amended, was adopted.

**(d) Council Tax Base 2008/09**

Councillor Drage moved the reception of Minute 1086.

On being put to the vote the recommendations were adopted by a show of hands.

The meeting ended at 9.52 pm

Mayor: .....

Date: .....

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