

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE
Town Hall, Main Road, Romford
11 November 2015 (7.30 - 7.38 pm)**

Present:

COUNCILLORS

Conservative Group	Joshua Chapman (Chairman), Melvin Wallace (Vice-Chair), Roger Ramsey, Damian White, Meg Davis and Osman Dervish
Residents' Group	Ray Morgon, Barbara Matthews and Barry Mugglestone
East Havering Residents' Group	Clarence Barrett and Darren Wise

Apologies were received for the absence of Councillors Lawrence Webb and Jeffrey Tucker.

A Member of the public was also present.

The Chairman, reminded those present of the procedure to follow should a need arise to evacuate the building.

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest

Decisions were taken without division unless otherwise stated.

11 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2015 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

12 CHANGES TO DELEGATED POWERS - CULTURE & LEISURE

The Head of Regulatory Services had delegated powers to issue directions and take any necessary action under the Criminal Justice & Public Order Act relating to the Control of Unauthorised Campers. These powers were most regularly used for action against unauthorised traveller encampments. The report recommended that these powers also be delegated to the Head of Culture & Leisure and in turn to the Parks Manager to widen the ability to authorise direction notices in early stages of an unauthorised encampment.

The Committee:

Resolved to **recommend to Council** that the following changes be incorporated into Sections 3.6.4 and 3.6.6(l) of the Constitution relating to the Head of Culture & Leisure and the Head of Regulatory Services.

To authorise and issue, on behalf of the Council, statutory directions requiring unauthorised campers to leave land and remove their property and vehicles

13 APPOINTMENT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN & LEARNING TO THE CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

The report before Members sought agreement to amend the appendix to Article 12 of the Council's Constitution to include the additional special membership requirements of the Corporate Parenting Panel of whom the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning would be a full member.

The Committee:

Agreed that the Monitoring Officer should be authorised to insert the following in the appendix to Article 12 of the Council's Constitution:

Committee	Number of Members and any special requirements
Corporate Parenting Panel	All Councillor Members of the Children and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Sub-Committee and the Cabinet Member for Children and Learning.

14 APPOINTMENTS TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS 2015/16

The report before the Committee informed it that there were two organisations which required it to make or - confirm – appointments.

In the first – the Romford Combined Charity - the Committee was invited to reappoint Councillor Melvin Wallace as a nominative trustee. There were no other nominees.

In the second – the Lucas Children's Play Charity – there were two elements: The first was to reappoint Councillor Meg Davis until November 2011 and in the other, Members were invited to choose whether to appoint either Councillor Gillian Ford or Councillor John Mylod. This was put to the vote:

In favour of Councillor Ford: Councillors: Joshua Chapman, Roger Ramsey, Melvin Wallace, Damian White, Meg Davis, Osman Dervish, Clarence Barrett and Darren Wise

In favour of Councillor Mylod: Councillors: Ray Morgon, Barry Mugglestone and Barbara Matthews,

The Committee accordingly:

Reappointed Councillor Melvin Wallace to the Romford Combined Charity,

Reappointed Councillor Meg Davis to the Lucas Children's Play Charity until November 2011 and

Appointed Councillor Gillian Ford as a trustee to the Lucas Children's Play Charity

15 **MONITORING OFFICER REPORT NO 06 - AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

The report before the Committee related to minor changes to the staff employment procedure rules. This concerned the appointment, disciplinary action and dismissal or suspension of senior officers of Havering Council and oneSource as well as rules relating to the appointment of an Independent Person.

The changes were to align the procedure with the relevant legislation and to clarify that any disciplinary action against a Chief Officer would be taken by a panel comprising members of the Appointments Sub Committee.

A member raised a question about safeguarding staff working conditions particularly where work and was assured that these were protected under the procedure and another enquired about the status of the Independent Person and was informed that an IP was in place and that a reciprocal arrangement with Redbridge existed to ensure that both councils had an IP and provided the other with a reserve.

The Committee duly **noted** the amendments.

Chairman