

Merton Council Council

7 February 2018

Supplementary agenda 4

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COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018

MOTION - STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

LABOUR AMENDMENT

This Council is ~~concerned by working with~~ the Mayor of London ~~on the Mayor's Transport Strategy and associated funding Local Implementation's plans~~ - ~~brought forward without any consultation with Merton borough~~ – ~~to and notes the following:~~

- cut funding ~~for the almost 2,000 users~~ of the Taxicard scheme (~~which has almost 2,000 users~~ in Merton) by 13% in 2018/19 ~~across London, though we are awaiting guidance on how it is applied to each borough;~~
- cut Neighbourhoods/Local Transport funding for Merton by almost 15% in 2018-19 ~~based on the adopted LIP formula (but partly offset by the reintroduction of the Local Transport Fund of £100,000);~~
- ~~continued support but with a reduction for~~ ~~reduce~~ Merton's Major Schemes grant for highway design work on Morden town centre ~~from £400,000 to £150,000;~~ and
- ~~a pause to~~ all Principal Road Maintenance funding for the next 2 years ~~except for safety critical works~~ thereby depriving Merton's roads of some £455,000 a year for resurfacing and reconstruction works, ~~although there will be continued funding for safety critical works.~~

~~The Council resolves to work closely with the Mayor of London to continue with plans to support the borough, especially in Morden through:~~

- ~~The Housing Zone revenue Fund - £40,000 grant 2017-18 and 2018-19 to help bring forward Morden~~
- ~~£191,500 LIP funding (2015-18) to help bring forward Morden redevelopment~~
- ~~£600,00+ for the refurbishment of Morden Retail Gateway~~
- ~~£9million allocated funding from TfL for the Morden Major Scheme bid~~

~~The Council therefore commits to work with the Mayor of London and TfL to bring plans forward, Cabinet Members continuing to represent Merton at London Councils meetings and pushing for the interests of the borough's residents.~~

~~This Council therefore endorses the following statement by the Cabinet Member for Community and Culture as reported by Harry Phibbs on the ConservativeHome website and agrees to write to the Mayor conveying its disappointment and asking him to reconsider these funding cuts with immediate effect:~~

~~*“Really disappointed – it's not what you're giving us it's what you're not giving us – we all budgeted in good faith and spent Officer time and now we're throwing all out of the windows – this will mean redundancy – chucking things at the last minute – we expected better from you. You should give us a fair amount of notice – in Merton we plan ahead four years we know what we're going to do, this sort of thing is just ridiculous, truly awful – it brings shame on the Mayor's office. I don't want angry rebuttals I want an apology.”*~~

Motion now to read:

This Council is working with the Mayor of London on the Mayor's Transport Strategy and associated funding Local Implementation plans - –and notes the following:

- cut funding of the Taxicard scheme (which has almost 2,000 users in Merton) by 13% in 2018/19 across London, though we are awaiting guidance on how it is applied to each borough
- cut Neighbourhoods/Local Transport funding for Merton by almost 15% in 2018-19 based on the adopted LIP formula (but partly offset by the reintroduction of the Local Transport Fund of £100,000);
- continued support but with a reduction for Merton's Major Schemes grant for highway design work on Morden town centre; and
- a pause to all Principal Road Maintenance funding for the next 2 years thereby depriving Merton's roads of some £455,000 a year for resurfacing and reconstruction works, although there will be continued funding for safety critical works.

The Council resolves to work closely with the Mayor of London to continue with plans to support the borough, especially in Morden through:

- The Housing Zone revenue Fund - £40,000 grant 2017-18 and 2018-19 to help bring forward Morden
- £191,500 LIP funding (2015-18) to help bring forward Morden redevelopment
- £600,00+ for the refurbishment of Morden Retail Gateway
- £9million allocated funding from TfL for the Morden Major Scheme bid

The Council therefore commits to work with the Mayor of London and TfL to bring plans forward, Cabinet Members continuing to represent Merton at London Councils meetings and pushing for the interests of the borough's residents.

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018 MOTION

LABOUR AMENDMENT

~~That The Council notes~~ the following recommendations on redevelopment of the High Path Estate, ~~which were~~ agreed by the Wimbledon Community Forum at its most recent meeting on 5th December 2017, ~~be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member for careful consideration and conveyed as required in writing to Clarion Housing Group, and that the relevant Cabinet Member be requested to report back in due course either in writing or by attending the next meeting of the Forum on the outcome of this consideration.:~~

1. Residents demand a longer and wider public consultation, over a period of weeks. The consultation should not just be online, but should have a physical presence too, in the form of exhibitions and a public meeting;
2. Until this extended consultation has taken place, any planning application for the High Path Estate must be delayed;
3. The site is inappropriate for a secondary school to be situated on.

And that, whilst the cabinet member will report back to the forum in writing, council notes the extensive consultation that has already taken place with residents over several years concerning the regeneration of High Path and the introduction of a new Academy. This has included direct engagement on the doorstep with affected residents, public exhibitions and numerous consultation events which have been arranged over the past four years. And therefore resolves that consideration of the outline planning application should not be delayed and it should be determined in accordance with planning policy in March. The council also agrees that the High Path site is suitable for a new secondary school and welcomes the provision of a Harris Academy in Wimbledon which will provide much needed new places from an outstanding provider.

Motion now to read:

The Council notes the following recommendations on redevelopment of the High Path Estate, agreed by the Wimbledon Community Forum at its most recent meeting on 5th December 2017.:

1. Residents demand a longer and wider public consultation, over a period of weeks. The consultation should not just be online, but should have a physical presence too, in the form of exhibitions and a public meeting;
2. Until this extended consultation has taken place, any planning application for the High Path Estate must be delayed;
3. The site is inappropriate for a secondary school to be situated on.

And that, whilst the cabinet member will report back to the forum in writing, council notes the extensive consultation that has already taken place with residents over several years concerning the regeneration of High Path and the introduction of a new

Academy. This has included direct engagement on the doorstep with affected residents, public exhibitions and numerous consultation events which have been arranged over the past four years. And therefore resolves that consideration of the outline planning application should not be delayed and it should be determined in accordance with planning policy in March. The council also agrees that the High Path site is suitable for a new secondary school and welcomes the provision of a Harris Academy in Wimbledon which will provide much needed new places from an outstanding provider.

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018 MOTION

LABOUR AMENDMENT

~~That Council notes~~ the following recommendations on Merton Council's provision of waste and recycling containers, which were agreed by the Wimbledon, Raynes Park and Mitcham Community Fora at their most recent meetings, ~~be referred to the relevant Cabinet Member for careful consideration and that the relevant Cabinet Member be requested to report back in due course either in writing or by attending the next meeting of each Forum on the outcome of this consideration:~~

1. All Merton's future bins and recycling boxes should be one colour (brown)
2. All bins should be without a Merton Council logo
3. Stickers should be provided

Council further notes that the background for the change is largely financial, as a result of cuts to council funding from the government, and that deviating from the agreed plans could impact on savings to the council as savings are generated by economy of scale with other boroughs, and therefore having bespoke bins will reduce savings and mean alternative savings will have to be found. Council values residents feedback and that of community groups, the latter of whom have helped design our assisted collection policy ahead of the changes.

Council resolves to continue to listen to residents views as they have done by giving more options over bin sizes, and to work with Veolia to explore possibilities for those who already have wheeled bins and want to discard them when changes are introduced

Council further resolves to continue to engage with residents and Veolia as the wheeled bins programme is rolled out across the borough in order to introduce a cost-effective and clean service that reduces litter caused by split bags and mitigates funding cuts from the government.

Motion now to read:

Council notes the following recommendations on Merton Council's provision of waste and recycling containers, which were agreed by the Wimbledon, Raynes Park and Mitcham Community Fora at their most recent meetings:

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Council further resolves to continue to engage with residents and Veolia as the wheeled bins programme is rolled out across the borough in order to introduce a cost-effective and clean service that reduces litter caused by split bags and mitigates funding cuts from the government.

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2018

NOTICE OF MOTION

LABOUR AMENDMENT

In light of the very considerable concern expressed by residents about the Mayor of London's decision to close Wimbledon police station and sell the land, forced on him as a result of the government's £1 billion cut in funding for the Metropolitan Police this Council notes that a letter was sent to the Home Secretary on 13th October 2017 expressing dismay at these funding cuts and calling on the government to rethink the resources required to keep us safe, but that a response has not been received. Council also notes that these government funding cuts have affected neighbourhood policing as well as ways of tackling the rise in terror threats. Council resolves to continue to campaign for the government to rethink these savage cuts in order to save this local police station from closure by seeking writing to the Home Secretary and the Member of Parliament for Wimbledon to urge the Government to buy the site itself from City Hall and then seeking to lease it back to the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), ~~in line with the proposal made by the London Borough of Hillingdon~~. By doing so, Council would not need to make further cuts to services in Merton ~~Council therefore further resolves that Cabinet should make an adjustment to its budget proposals for 2018-22~~ by making provision in the Medium Term Financial Strategy for both the capital acquisition of the police station and associated revenue implications of sharing the running costs equally with MOPAC.

Motion now to read:

In light of the very considerable concern expressed by residents about the Mayor of London's decision to close Wimbledon police station and sell the land, forced on him as a result of the government's £1 billion cut in funding for the Metropolitan Police this Council notes that a letter was sent to the Home Secretary on 13th October 2017 expressing dismay at these funding cuts and calling on the government to rethink the resources required to keep us safe, but that a response has not been received. Council also notes that these government funding cuts have affected neighbourhood policing as well as ways of tackling the rise in terror threats. Council resolves to continue to campaign for the government to rethink these savage cuts in order to save this local police station from closure by writing to the Home Secretary and the Member of Parliament for Wimbledon to urge the Government to buy the site itself from City Hall and then seeking to lease it back to the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC). By doing so, Council would not need to make further cuts to services in Merton by making provision in the Medium Term Financial Strategy for both the capital acquisition of the police station and associated revenue implications of sharing the running costs equally with MOPAC.

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