

# MINUTES - Draft

**Meeting: Confirmation Hearings Committee**  
**Date: Monday 10 April 2017**  
**Time: 2.30 pm**  
**Place: Chamber, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London, SE1 2AA**

Copies of the minutes may be found at:

[www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly-confirmation-hearings-committee](http://www.london.gov.uk/mayor-assembly/london-assembly-confirmation-hearings-committee)

**Present:**

Keith Prince AM (Chairman upon appointment)  
Gareth Bacon AM  
Tom Copley AM  
Unmesh Desai AM  
Joanne McCartney AM  
Caroline Russell AM  
Dr Onkar Sahota AM  
Peter Whittle AM

## **1 Election of Chair (Item )**

- 1.1 As Andrew Boff AM, Chairman, had given his apologies for absence, in accordance with Standing Order 1.5F, the Clerk to the Committee sought nominations for the office of Chair of the Committee for this meeting.
- 1.2 It was moved by Gareth Bacon AM, and seconded by Tom Copley AM, that Keith Prince AM be appointed as the Chairman for this meeting.
- 1.3 There being no other nominations it was:
- 1.4 **Resolved:**

**That Keith Prince AM be appointed Chairman of the Confirmation Hearings Committee for this meeting.**

[Keith Prince AM in the Chair.]

## **2 Apologies for Absence and Chair's Announcements (Item 1)**

- 2.1 Apologies for absence were received from: Andrew Boff AM (Chairman) for whom Keith Prince AM attended as a substitute; Jennette Arnold OBE AM for whom Joanne McCartney AM attended as a substitute; Len Duvall AM for whom Unmesh Desai AM attended as a substitute; and Steve O'Connell AM.

## **3 Declarations of Interests (Item 2)**

- 3.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

- 3.2 A revised list of relevant offices held by Assembly Members was tabled.

- 3.2 **Resolved:**

**That the list of offices held by Assembly Members, as attached at Appendix 1, be noted as disclosable pecuniary interests.**

- 3.3 The Chairman invited Ben Evans to declare any interests relevant to the business of the meeting or in relation to his appointment to the office of Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board. Mr Evans stated that he had a potential interest as Director and Co-Founder of the London Design Festival which received funding from the Greater London Authority, although he explained that he had no involvement in the actual funding approval.
- 3.4 During the confirmation hearing for the Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board, Tom Copley AM declared a non-pecuniary interest as he was a trustee of New Diorama Theatre.
- 3.5 The Chairman invited Liz Peace CBE to declare any interests relevant to the business of the meeting or in relation to her appointment to the office of Chair of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC). Ms Peace stated that she had a potential interest by virtue of being a Non-Executive Director of Redrow plc and Chair of its Sustainability Committee, but she did not regard this as prejudicial to her role with the OPDC.

#### **4 Minutes (Item 3)**

##### **4.1 Resolved:**

**That the minutes of the Confirmation Hearings Committee held on 20 February 2017 be signed by the Chairman as correct records.**

#### **5 Confirmation Hearing in Respect of the Appointment to the Office of Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board (Item 4)**

5.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.

5.2 Before moving to the question and answer session with the Mayor's nominee for the office of Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board, the Chairman asked the Committee to formally note the background information circulated with the agenda for the meeting and the information received and circulated after publication of the agenda.

5.3 The Committee then put questions to Ben Evans in relation to his proposed appointment.

5.4 The transcript of the question and answer session is attached at **Appendix 2**.

5.5 Following the question and answer session, the Committee discussed its recommendation to the Mayor in relation to this appointment and it was agreed unanimously to recommend that the Mayor should proceed with his appointment of Ben Evans to the office of Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board.

##### **5.6 Resolved:**

**(a) That the background information set out on the agenda at Appendices 1 and 2 to the report be noted.**

**(b) That the following information received and circulated after publication of the agenda, be noted:**

**(i) A letter from the Mayor setting out further details on the role and responsibilities of the Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board, and**

**(ii) A short CV and supporting statement from Ben Evans.**

**(c) That it be agreed to recommend that the Mayor should proceed with his appointment of Ben Evans to the office of Chair of the Cultural Leadership Board.**

## Adjournment

With the consent of the Committee and, in accordance with Standing Orders, at 3.20pm the Chairman adjourned the meeting. The Committee reconvened at 3.30pm.

### **6 Confirmation Hearing in Respect of the Appointment to the Office of Chair of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) (Item 5)**

- 6.1 The Committee received the report of the Executive Director of Secretariat.
- 6.2 Before moving to the question and answer session with the Mayor's nominee for the office of Chair of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, the Chairman asked the Committee to formally note the background information circulated with the agenda for the meeting and the information received and circulated after publication of the agenda.
- 6.3 The Committee then put questions to Liz Peace CBE in relation to her proposed appointment.
- 6.4 The transcript of the question and answer session is attached at **Appendix 3**.
- 6.5 Following the question and answer session, the Committee discussed its recommendation to the Mayor in relation to this appointment and it was agreed unanimously to recommend that the Mayor should proceed with his appointment of Liz Peace CBE to the office of Chair of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation.
- 6.6 **Resolved:**
- (a) That the background information set out on the agenda at Appendices 1 and 2 to the report be noted.**
  - (b) That the following information received and circulated after publication of the agenda, be noted:**
    - (i) A letter from the Mayor setting out further details on the role and responsibilities of the Chair of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation, and**
    - (ii) A short CV and supporting statement from Liz Peace.**
  - (c) That it be agreed to recommend that the Mayor should proceed with his appointment of Liz Peace CBE to the office of Chair of the Old Oak and Park**

**Royal Development Corporation.**

**7 Date of Next Meeting (Item 6)**

7.1 The next meeting of the Committee had not been scheduled.

**8 Any Other Business the Chair Considers Urgent (Item 7)**

8.1 There was no other business the Chair considered urgent.

**9 Close of Meeting**

9.1 The meeting ended at 3.53pm.

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Chairman

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Date

**Contact Officer:** Peter Goss, Committee Services Manager;  
Telephone: 020 7983 4421; Email: [peter.goss@london.gov.uk](mailto:peter.goss@london.gov.uk); and  
Minicom: 020 7983 4458