

COUNCIL MINUTES

(ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING)

(HELD AT FULHAM TOWN HALL

WEDNESDAY 27 OCTOBER 2010



PRESENT

The Mayor Councillor Adronie Alford
Deputy Mayor Councillor Frances Stainton

Councillors:

Michael Adam	Charlie Dewhirst	Alex Karmel
Colin Aherne	Belinda Donovan	Jane Law
Helen Binmore	Gavin Donovan	Ali de Lisle
Nicholas Botterill	Rachel Ford	Mark Loveday
Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler	Marcus Ginn	PJ Murphy
Daryl Brown	Peter Graham	Caroline Needham
Joe Carlebach	Stephen Greenhalgh	Harry Phibbs
Michael Cartwright	Steve Hamilton	Greg Smith
Alex Chalk	Wesley Harcourt	Matt Thorley
Elaine Chumnerly	Lisa Homan	Mercy Umeh
Stephen Cowan	Robert Iggulden	Rory Vaughan
Oliver Craig	Lucy Ivimy	
Tom Crofts	Andrew Jones	

23. MINUTES

The minutes of the Extraordinary Council Meeting held on 16 September 2010 were confirmed and signed as an accurate record.

24. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Jean Campbell, Iain Coleman, Georgie Cooney, Andrew Johnson, Donald Johnson, Dame Sally Powell and Peter Tobias. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Elaine Chumnerly.

25. MAYOR'S/CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

The Mayor announced with much sadness the deaths of former Mayor and Councillor, Mr Frederick (Fred) Charles Inniss and Honorary Freeman of the borough, Mr Andrew Holmes MBE.

Councillor Wesley Harcourt paid tribute to Mr Fred Inniss.

The Council observed a minute of silence in their memory.

The Mayor's Announcements were circulated and tabled at the meeting. (Copy attached as **Appendix 1** to these minutes).

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The following declarations of interest were made:

- Item 5.1 Petitions: Sands End Community Centre - The Mayor declared a personal interest as she was an attendee at the Sands End Community Centre.
- Items 6.4 Question 4 – Mr Coll McDonnell and 7.4 Shepherds Bush Market Area Planning Brief – Market and Theatre Led Regeneration report:
 - The Mayor, Councillors Belinda Donovan, Michael Cartwright, Stephen Greenhalgh, Robert Iggulden, Lucy Ivimy and Alex Karmel declared personal interests as they were members of the Hammersmith and Fulham Historic Buildings Group.
 - The Mayor, Councillors Michael Cartwright, Stephen Greenhalgh, Robert Iggulden, Lucy Ivimy and Harry Phibbs declared personal interests as they were members of Hammersmith Society.
- Item 8.1 Special Motion 1 – Threshold Housing Advice - Councillor Wesley Harcourt declared a personal interest as Threshold Housing Advice was one of the key members of the organisation that he worked for and they were also a partner in a joint bid to the legal services commission with the Citizens Advice Bureau of which he was a trustee.

27. PETITIONS - SANDS END COMMUNITY CENTRE

7.15pm - The Council received a petition requesting it to “abandon its plans to sell the Sands End Community Centre which houses our library and community centre and reinvigorate the management of the centre to generate fuller use of its many facilities and thereby increase its value to the community and reduce its costs to the borough.” The petition organiser, Mr Nicholas Waldemar Brown, addressed the Council on the petition.

Councillor Greg Smith proposed that Option C to undertake research into the matter, as outlined in paragraph 2.1 of the report, be agreed by the Council.

Speeches on the petition were made by Councillors Lisa Homan, Stephen Cowan, Andrew Jones and PJ Murphy (for the Opposition) and Councillor Greg Smith responded to the comments.

Under Standing Order 15(e) (vi), Councillor Michael Cartwright moved an amendment to the report to replace the recommended Option “C” with Option “A” to take the action requested in the petition as outlined in paragraph 2.1 of the report. Councillor Lisa Homan seconded the motion and it was put to the vote:

FOR	12	(Councillors Aherne, Brown, Cartwright, Chumnery, Cowan, Harcourt, Homan, Jones, Murphy, Needham, Umeh and Vaughan)
AGAINST	24	
ABSTENTIONS	0	

(The members of the Opposition requested that their names be recorded against their vote).

The motion was declared **LOST**.

The substantive motion was put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTIONS
Adam	Aherne	Alford
Binmore	Brown	
Botterill	Cartwright	
Brocklebank-Fowler	Chumnery	
Carlebach	Cowan	
Chalk	Harcourt	
Craig	Homan	
Crofts	Jones	
Dewhirst	Murphy	
B Donovan	Needham	
G Donovan	Umeh	
Ford	Vaughan	
Ginn		
Graham		
Greenhalgh		
Hamilton		
Iggulden		
Ivimy		
Karmel		
Law		
De Lisle		
Loveday		
Phibbs		
Smith		
Stainton		
Thorley		

FOR	26
AGAINST	12
ABSTENTIONS	1

The recommendation was declared **CARRIED**.

RESOLVED:

That the Council agrees to Option C to undertake research into the matter, as outlined in paragraph 2.1 of the report.

28. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (20 MINUTES)

The Mayor called on those members of the public who had submitted questions to the Leader or Cabinet Member to ask their questions. The Leader or the relevant Cabinet Member responded.

[A copy of the public questions submitted and the replies given are attached at **Appendix 2** to these minutes.]

28.1 Question 1 - Mr Jon Rowleron

7.47 pm - The Mayor called on Mr Jon Rowleron who had submitted a question to the Cabinet Member for Residents Services (Councillor Greg Smith) to ask his question. The Cabinet Member for Residents Services responded.

28.2 Question 2 - Mr Nick Bardoni

7.50 pm - The Mayor called on Mr Nick Bardoni who had submitted a question to the Cabinet Member for Children's Services (Councillor Helen Binmore) to ask his question. The Cabinet Member for Residents Services (Councillor Greg Smith) responded.

28.3 Question 3 - Ms Ann Rosenberg

7.57 pm - The Mayor called on Ms Ann Rosenberg who had submitted a question to the Cabinet Member for Community Care (Councillor Joe Carlebach) to ask her question. The Cabinet Member for Residents Services (Councillor Greg Smith) responded.

(Due to the large number of members of the public present, the meeting was adjourned for 10 minutes for those members of the public to vacate their seats in the public gallery after the items on Sands End Community Centre had been discussed. This was to allow those members of the public attending for the Shepherds Bush Market Area Planning Brief – Market and Theatre Led Regeneration report to be able to enter the gallery and listen to the discussion.)

The meeting was adjourned at 8.00pm.

28.4 Question 4 - Mr Coll McDonnell

8.10 pm - The Mayor called on Mr Coll McDonnell who had submitted a question to the Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment and Asset Management (Councillor Nicholas Botterill) to ask his question. The Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment and Asset Management responded.

29. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

29.1 Treasury Management Outturn Report 09-10

8.17pm - The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	26
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	12

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED.**

RESOLVED:

That the Council notes the borrowing and investment activity for the period 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010.

29.2 Review of Statement of Licensing Policy 2010

8.18pm - The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED.**

RESOLVED:

That the Council approves the Council's Final Statement of Licensing Policy 2010 as set out in Appendix 1 of the report.

29.3 Sexual Establishment Venues and Sex Establishment Policy

8.19pm - The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED.**

RESOLVED:

- (1) That Council resolve that Schedule 3 (as amended) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 shall apply to its area and shall come into force on 1 April 2011;
- (2) That Council adopt the levels of the appropriate maximum number of sex establishments within specified areas of the borough as set out at section 6 of the final draft Sex Establishment Policy;
- (3) That Council make regulations prescribing the standard conditions applicable to sex establishments; and
- (4) That Council adopt the final draft Sex Establishment Policy.

29.4 Shepherds Bush Market Area Planning Brief - Market and Theatre Led Regeneration

8.20pm – Under Standing Order 15 (e) (ix) Councillor Cowan proposed a motion to adjourn the meeting so that this item was not considered. Councillor Cartwright seconded the motion. The motion was put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

FOR

Aherne
Brown
Cartwright
Chumnerly
Cowan
Harcourt
Homan
Jones
Murphy
Needham
Umeh
Vaughan

AGAINST

Adam
Binmore
Botterill
Brocklebank-Fowler
Carlebach
Chalk
Craig
Crofts
Dewhirst
B Donovan
G Donovan
Ford
Ginn
Graham
Greenhalgh
Hamilton
Iggulden
Ivimy
Karmel
Law
De Lisle
Loveday
Phibbs
Smith
Stainton
Thorley

ABSTENTIONS

Alford

FOR	12
AGAINST	26
ABSTENTIONS	1

The motion was declared **LOST**.

8.28pm - The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh. An addendum to the report including additional comments resulting from the consultation was circulated at the meeting.

Speeches on the report were made by Councillors Andrew Jones, Mercy Umeh, Michael Cartwright and PJ Murphy (for the Opposition) and Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh (for the Administration).

The report and recommendations were put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

FOR	AGAINST	ABSTENTIONS
Adam	Aherne	Alford
Binmore	Brown	
Botterill	Cartwright	
Brocklebank-Fowler	Chumnerly	
Carlebach	Cowan	
Chalk	Harcourt	
Craig	Homan	
Crofts	Jones	
Dewhirst	Murphy	
B Donovan	Needham	
G Donovan	Umeh	
Ford	Vaughan	
Ginn		
Graham		
Greenhalgh		
Hamilton		
Iggulden		
Ivimy		
Karmel		
Law		
De Lisle		
Loveday		
Phibbs		
Smith		
Stainton		
Thorley		

FOR	26
AGAINST	12
ABSTENTIONS	1

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED**.

8.56pm - **RESOLVED:**

- (1) That the Council resolve to adopt the Shepherds Bush Market Area Planning Brief – Market and Theatre led Regeneration, October 2010 as a Supplementary Planning Document to the Council’s Unitary Development Plan 2007 (as amended); and
- (2) That the Director of Environment in conjunction with the Cabinet Member for Environment is authorised to approve any technical and other minor amendments to the submission documents before adoption.

29.5 Annual Report of the Audit Committee 2009/10

8.57pm - The report and recommendations were moved for adoption by the Leader, Councillor Stephen Greenhalgh.

The report and recommendations were put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The report and recommendations were declared **CARRIED.**

RESOLVED:

That the Annual Report be approved.

30. SPECIAL MOTIONS

Under Standing Order 15(e)(iii), Councillor Loveday proposed a motion that Special Motion 5 be considered before Special Motion 1, which was agreed.

30.1 Special Motion 1 - Threshold Housing Advice

8.58pm – Councillor Stephen Cowan moved, seconded by Councillor Andrew Jones, the special motion standing in their names:

"This Council regrets the likely closure of Threshold Housing Advice following the cancellation of its funding and notes that it has been helping homeless people in this Borough since 1978.

The Council recognizes the public service Threshold accomplished when it challenged the treatment of Ms. K and caused the Ombudsman to find the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham to have been in Maladministration. The Council notes that Threshold was also challenging the Council on two further cases while the organizations funding was under review.

This Council believes that it would be detrimental to homeless people for Threshold Housing Advice to disappear from Hammersmith and Fulham and agrees to immediately reinstate Council funding."

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Stephen Cowan, Andrew Jones, PJ Murphy and Lisa Homan (for the Opposition) and Councillor Lucy Ivimy (for the Administration).

The motion was put to the vote:

FOR	12
AGAINST	26
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **LOST**.

30.2 Special Motion 5 - The Mayor, Hammersmith and Fulham

9.27pm – Due to the subject of the motion, the Mayor vacated the chair and left the meeting. The Deputy Mayor took the chair.

Councillor Colin Aherne moved, seconded by Councillor Michael Cartwright, the special motion standing in their names:

“The Council notes that at the Extraordinary Meeting of the Council on the 16th September 2010 the Mayor allowed Administration members to use their majority to stop public debates on the three Opposition Special Motions. This is the first time ever that this has happened in this borough. These motions had been legitimately placed onto the agenda for that meeting and were representing matters of concern brought to the Opposition by members of the public.

The Council notes that this unprecedented measure was proposed by the Conservative Chief Whip and agreed by all of the majority Conservative Members present. This happened despite the presence of over sixty homeless people, charity workers and other members of the public who had attended to witness these special motions being debated and voted upon.

This Council agrees that it is important that all Mayors must use the powers vested in that office to ensure that the ruling group do not abuse their powers to disregard the legitimate rights of the Opposition.

The failure of the Mayor to use these powers on the 16th September 2010 has had the consequence of Opposition Members being unable to maintain any confidence that the Mayor will act in a non-partisan manner to safeguard the democratic process at council meetings.

Finally, it is with deep regret that the Council is asked to note that the Opposition members of the authority have no confidence in the impartiality of the current Mayor as she has endangered the non-political nature of her office.”

Speeches on the motion were made by Councillors Colin Aherne and Michael Cartwright (for the Opposition) and Councillors Alex Karmel and Matt Thorley (for the Administration).

Under Standing Order 15 (e) (vi), Councillor Lucy Ivimy moved, seconded by Councillor Tom Crofts an amendment to the motion to delete all words and insert:

“This Council has full confidence in the Mayor of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.”

Speeches on the amendment were made by Councillors Lucy Ivimy, Stephen Greenhalgh, Tom Crofts and Charlie Dewhirst (for the Administration) before it was put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

FOR

Adam
Binmore
Botterill
Brocklebank-Fowler
Carlebach
Chalk
Craig
Crofts
Dewhirst
B Donovan
G Donovan
Ford
Ginn
Graham
Greenhalgh
Hamilton
Iggulden
Ivimy
Karmel
Law
Loveday
Phibbs
Smith
Stainton
Thorley

AGAINST

Aherne
Brown
Cartwright
Chumnerly
Cowan
Harcourt
Homan
Jones
Murphy
Needham
Umeh
Vaughan

FOR	25
AGAINST	12
ABSTENTIONS	0

The amendment to the motion was declared **CARRIED**.

Under Standing Order 24.3 Councillor Alex Karmel moved to extend the guillotine by 10 minutes.

Councillor Colin Aherne made a speech winding up the debate before the substantive motion was put to the vote and a roll-call was requested:

FOR

Adam
 Binmore
 Botterill
 Brocklebank-Fowler
 Carlebach
 Chalk
 Craig
 Crofts
 Dewhirst
 B Donovan
 G Donovan
 Ford
 Ginn
 Graham
 Greenhalgh
 Hamilton
 Iggulden
 Ivimy
 Karmel
 Law
 Loveday
 Phibbs
 Smith
 Stainton
 Thorley

AGAINST

Aherne
 Brown
 Cartwright
 Chumnerly
 Cowan
 Harcourt
 Homan
 Jones
 Murphy
 Needham
 Umeh
 Vaughan

FOR	25
AGAINST	12
ABSTENTIONS	0

The substantive motion (as amended) was declared **CARRIED**.

10.05pm - **RESOLVED**:

This Council has full confidence in the Mayor of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham.

10.05pm The Mayor re-entered the Council Chamber while the Deputy Mayor vacated the chair.

30.3 Special Motion 2 - Resolution Building Schools for the Future Urgent

10.06pm – Councillor Caroline Needham moved, seconded by Councillor Elaine Chumnerly, the special motion standing in their names:

“Labour Councillors note the devastating impact to Hammersmith and Fulham of the withdrawal of Building Schools for the Future Funding and calls on the Administration to use its influence with Central Government to restore money to implement a comprehensive building programme to enable schools to provide

accommodation fit for purpose to enhance the life chances of all children at school within our Borough.”

The motion was put to the vote:

FOR	12
AGAINST	25
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **LOST**.

30.4 Special Motion 3 - White City Health Centre

10.07pm – Councillor Rory Vaughan moved, seconded by Councillor Colin Aherne, the special motion standing in their names:

"This Council calls on the government to confirm funding for the White City Health Centre and agrees to do all it can to speed up the completion of this important service for the people of Shepherds Bush and White City.”

The motion was put to the vote:

FOR	12
AGAINST	25
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **LOST**.

30.5 Special Motion 4 - Change of Committee Membership

10.08pm – Councillor Mark Loveday moved, seconded by Councillor Victoria Brocklebank-Fowler, the special motion standing in their names:

"This Council agrees the following appointment under its Constitution for the rest of the Municipal Year 2010/11, effective from the day after the Council meeting:

Councillor Georgie Cooney to be replaced by Councillor Thomas Crofts on the Licensing Committee and Licensing Sub Committee.”

The motion was put to the vote:

FOR	Unanimous
AGAINST	0
ABSTENTIONS	0

The motion was declared **CARRIED**.

10.09pm – **RESOLVED:**

This Council agrees the following appointment under its Constitution for the rest of the Municipal Year 2010/11, effective from the day after the Council meeting:

Councillor Georgie Cooney to be replaced by Councillor Thomas Crofts on the Licensing Committee and Licensing Sub Committee.

31. INFORMATION REPORTS - TO NOTE (IF ANY)

There were no information reports to this meeting of the Council.

* * * * * CONCLUSION OF BUSINESS * * * * *

Meeting started: 7.00 pm
Meeting ended: 10.09 pm

Mayor

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

1. I am sure everyone shares my sadness to hear of the deaths of a former Councillor and Mayor. Mr Frederick (Fred) Inniss on 24th October 2010 in London and a former Honorary Freeman of the Borough, Mr Andrew Holmes MBE.

Mr Frederick Inniss, was elected as a Councillor representing College Park and Old Oak Ward from May 1988 until 1994. Mr Inniss was also appointed Mayor in May 1990 until May 1991.

Mr Andrew Holmes MBE, started rowing aged 12 at Latymer Upper School, Hammersmith. Mr. Holmes MBE, went on to become GB Rowing Champion in 1988 at the Seoul Olympics, where he won a Gold Medal. On 25th January 1989, Mr. Holmes MBE, was admitted as an Honorary Freeman of the Borough. Mr. Holmes MBE, was also Director of Furnivall Sculling Club Hammersmith.

I invite you all to stand for one minute silence in their memory.

2. On 17th September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the celebration of India's Independence, Bhavan Centre, W14
3. On 18th September, accompanied by my Mayoress and Consort, I attended the Japan exhibition, Fulham Palace, SW6
4. On 18th September, accompanied by my Mayoress and Consort, I attended a tour of Palace Wharf, Rainville Road W6
5. On 18th September, accompanied by my Mayoress and Consort, I attended a tour of William Morris Society, Kelmscott House, Upper Mall, W6
6. On 18th September, accompanied by my Mayoress and Consort, I attended the St Mary's Church Open Day, Church Hall, Edith Road, W14
7. On 18th September, accompanied by my Mayoress and Consort, I attended Brook Green's Family Fun Day, event, Brook Green, W14
8. On 19th September, I was delighted to attend Fulham Brass Band open air concert on Parsons Green, Parson Green Lane, SW6
9. On 19th September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended an Evensong Service, in remembrance of the Battle of Britain, All Saints Church, SW6

10. On 20th September, accompanied by my Consort, I attended the Polish Gala Dinner, Rubens Palace Hotel, Buckingham Palace Road, SW1
11. On 21st September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Festival Of Architecture Designs event, Mayor's Foyer, HTH
12. On 21st September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the 'Pordenone Montanaire' Italian Exhibition, Belgrave Square, SW1
13. On 22nd September, I attended celebrating diversity, Queensmill School, Clancarty Road, SW6
14. On 22nd September, I attended Reed Harris opening evening, Carnwath Road, SW6
15. On 23rd September, I attended 'Generations Together', Elizabeth Barnes Court,
16. On 23rd September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended Latymer Upper School Prize Giving Award ceremony, Kings Street, W6
17. On 24th September, I attended the Macmillan Cancer Support 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning', Charing Cross Hospital, W6
18. On 24th September, I attended the British Safety Council's cake sale for Macmillan Cancer Support, Chancellors Road, W6
19. On 24th September, I attended the Age Concern tea party, Greyhound Road, W6
20. On 24th September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Mayor of Camden's charity tour and concert at Kenwood House, Hampstead Lane, NW3
21. On 25th September, accompanied by both my Mayoress', I attended the start of the Great River Race in Tower Hamlets E14. I then attended a reception to mark the end of the Great River Race, Ham TW8
22. On 26th September, I attended a special Church Service, St Matthews Church, Masbro Road, W14
23. On 26th September, accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Maggies Teddy Bears Picnic Day, Grounds of Fulham Palace, SW6
24. On 27th September, I attended and officially opened the New Steps and Pathway along the Grand Union Canal, Scrubs Lane, W12
25. On 27th September, I attended the funeral service of Rev. Roger Thacker, the boroughs past Mayor's Chaplain, St Paul's Church

Hammersmith, W6

26. On 28th September, I attended Ealing, Hammersmith & West London College 'Celebration of Achievement Awards 2010', Ealing Town Hall, W5
27. On 1st October, I was delighted to attend the unveiling ceremony of the Peter Osgood statue, Chelsea football Club, Stamford Bridge, SW6
28. On 7th October, I attended Phoenix School's Harvest Day celebration, Bloemfontein Road, W12
29. On 7th October accompanied by my Mayoress, I attended the Private View of Fulham Palace Art Exhibition, Fulham Palace, SW6
30. On 8th October, I was delighted to attend and officially Open the White City Adventure Playground, White City Estate, W12
31. On 9th October, I attended Bishop Creighton House 'Autumn Fair, Lillie Road, SW6
32. On 9th October, I attended Britafrique Community Awards event, Assembly Hall, HTH
33. On 11th October, I visited and toured the New Academy School building, Cathnor Road, W12
34. On 13th October, I was delighted to welcome Ms Arwa Saeed of Phoenix High School, winner of 'Mayor for the Day' secondary schools' competition, which included attending a Citizenship Ceremony at FTH and a tour and lunch at Chelsea Football Club, SW6
35. On 14th October, I attended the Pre School Learning Alliance, AGM, Jazz Café, The Polish Centre, King Street, W6
36. On 14th October, I attended the RNLI Charity Comedy Night, George 1V, Chiswick High Road, W4
37. On 15th October, I attended Hestia Housing Time of Your Life event, Assembly Hall, HTH
38. On 15th October, I attended H&F Public Speaking Competition, Burlington Danes School, W12
39. On 16th October, accompanied by my Consort, I attended the opening of the New Science Library Building, Latymer Upper School, King Street, W6
40. On 17th October, accompanied by both my Mayoress' and Consort, I attended London Mayors' Association 'Annual Civic Service',

Westminster Abbey, Westminster, SW1

41. On 18th October, accompanied by my Consort, I was delighted to welcome Mr Jay Pullen of St. Augustine's RC School, winner of 'Mayor for the Day' Primary schools' competition, which included a visit to HTH Council Chamber, Mayor's Parlour, viewing of the Mayoral Insignia and a tour and lunch at Chelsea Football Club, SW6
42. On 19th October, I attended and presented certificates at the Achievement Awards Evening, Macbeth Learning Centre, Macbeth Street, W6
43. On 24th October, I was delighted to attend Ms Lily Davies 100th Birthday Celebration, The Grove Neighbourhood Centre, Bradmore Park Road, W6
44. On 27th October, accompanied by my Mayoress and Consort, I attended the Mayor of Hillingdon's tour and 70th Anniversary celebration of 'Battle of Britain', RAF Uxbridge & RAF Northolt, Ruislip, UB8

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 27 OCTOBER 2010

Question by: Mr Jon Rowleron

To the: Cabinet Member for Residents Services

QUESTION

“Question to Council regarding the proposed closure and sale of the Sands End Community Centre.

Mollie Macartney recently sent the Action Group a letter of support. Mollie Macartney is a widow of 84 and was a WREN in World War II.

Mollie Macartney writes:

"I always get a lovely welcome when I regularly go into the Library to borrow books. The personal contact is so important. I also read the newspapers as being on a limited income I find daily newspapers too expensive. I notice with dismay that the library is run down and there have been no new book purchases for some time.

PLEASE PLEASE reconsider the Council's decision to sell the Sands End Community Centre."

What words of comfort does the Council have for Mollie Macartney?"

RESPONSE

The proposal is still in the consultation stage. The consultation deadline had been extended to end on 10 November, and no decision has been taken on the Sands End Community Centre's future. The proposals have been put forward to the public which is wide known. The Council was looking at alternatives where services could be re-positioned to within the Sands End Ward. It was hoped that Mollie Macartney continued to receive a friendly smile and service wherever the Sands End library will be, whether within the community centre or within another venue in the Ward.

If the Cabinet did decide to close the community centre, it will reposition all of the Council services that are currently within that centre locally and there will still be a library, a public gym and adult learning classes in Sands End.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 27 OCTOBER 2010

Question by: Mr Nick Bardoni

To the: Cabinet Member for Children's Services

QUESTION

"Question to Council regarding the proposed closure and sale of the Sands End Community Centre.

In the summer, referring to the proposed closure of Sands End Centre, Cllr Greg Smith stated in the Press, "If there is a massive groundswell of opinion, then of course we'll have to look at these proposals again".

Given that such a "massive groundswell" has now occurred, as evidenced by a petition of over 6000 signatures, the hundreds of comments left on iPetitions.com, the dozens and dozens of letters it has received against the proposed closure and the protest by hundreds of residents outside the Centre on 8 October; will the Council please define precisely what further conditions it considers necessary to be met in order for it to abandon this hugely unpopular proposal which, as has been surely demonstrated, runs contrary to the wishes of the overwhelming majority of voters in Sands End?"

RESPONSE

There was an open consultation on the proposals which did not end until 10 November. When the consultation was over it will be considered by Cabinet at a meeting either by the end of this year or in early 2011.

In respect of Agewell, this was a National Health Service programme which ran a table tennis club at the centre. Agewell took the decision that they wished to move that particular service for their own reasons from the Sands End Community Centre to Charing Cross Hospital, this was not a Council decision. The Council could not change situations where people who provide services in the centre or rented space wanted to leave of their own accord.

The Council would continue to engage with campaigners of Sand End, continue to look at their questions and undertake further research not just in where other facilities and services

could be repositioned to but also at the core question of the centre itself. No decision has been taken and can be taken before it has gone before Cabinet.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 27 OCTOBER 2010

Question by: Ms Ann Rosenberg

To the: Cabinet Member for Community Care

QUESTION

“I am given to understand that in any proposed relocation of services, there must be ‘like for like’ with no diminution of services.

The pottery studio in Sands End Community Centre was custom built after being relocated from Beaufort House eight years ago. Essential equipment includes four kilns, four work benches to accommodate 16 students, two surfaces for wedging clay with storage for tools, cloths etc. 9 wheels, a pug mill, extruder, a spray booth, grinder, and large double sink for cleaning equipment with sufficient drainage to cope with waste material. There is also an area to re-claim waste clay. There is separate storage for stoneware and earthenware glazes, slips, hazardous oxides, bulk ingredients for glaze making, (some hazardous), earthenware, stoneware and other specialist clays; storage for work in progress, bisque firing and separate storage for stoneware and earthenware firing, plus storage for finished work.

The space in which all this is housed is the minimum for the range of work by the students who range from the beginner to those at professional level. There is good disabled access, and health and safety issues can be easily addressed.

This is the best equipped pottery studio in London and would certainly equal any in a university which runs a ceramics degree course.

Where do you propose to relocate the studio?”

RESPONSE

This was open to a continuing consultation. Funding for the Hammersmith and Fulham Adult Learning and Skills Service (ALSS), which organises the pottery courses at Sands End, is provided by the national funding agency, the Skills Funding Agency (SfA), this funding has been significantly reduced this year by nearly 15% and it is expected that further reductions which could be the order of 40%, will be made this coming year. If the closure of Sands End Community Centre does go ahead, the ALSS will continue to seek to provide a range of pottery courses in the borough, including those for personal interest, from

either Hurlingham and Chelsea School, another venue in Sands End or the Macbeth centre. The intention is that all the existing equipment, that can be safely be re-located, will be moved to one of those venues. However the reduction in the public subsidy for much of the present type of provision is likely to mean that the course fees will have to be significantly increased in coming years.

Officers have been working for a couple of months at looking at what could be potentially different venues for the pottery equipment and there are at least two if not three in Sands End and the potential of the Macbeth Centre.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM

COUNCIL MEETING – 27 OCTOBER 2010

Question by: Mr Coll McDonnell

To the: Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment and Asset Management

QUESTION

“Given the very strong local distress over the proposed demolition of 30-52 Goldhawk Road – expressed in the many emails to the council, our Facebook page with over 300 members, petitions and letters; the concern expressed by local groups such as the Hammersmith Society and Hammersmith and Fulham Historic Buildings Group; the fact that these shops are of historic significance being very probably the earliest shops to be built on the road; that all the shop keepers are keen to stay; and that these shops provide significant social and economic benefits from the well loved Pie and Mash shop to the important fabric shops; and finally the real danger that if we move these shops from their current context we could crush the life and community that presently thrives along the Goldhawk Road; would the council consider – in the light of all this – the possibility of the restoration rather than the demolition of this terrace as part of the regeneration of Shepherds Bush market?”

RESPONSE

Shepherds Bush Market is in urgent need of investment if it is to fulfil its undoubted potential. It is clear that the vast majority of traders and local people want to see investment in Shepherds Bush Market so it can remain the pride of Shepherds Bush. Given the constrained layout of the existing market and the opportunity to include new cultural facilities (such as a theatre use in the former library), we believe the most realistic way of achieving regeneration and securing the necessary investment is through the inclusion of the surrounding land and buildings. This will allow for the creation of a vibrant mixed use development of retail, residential and cultural activities. The regeneration area therefore includes the terrace of shops on 30 -52 Goldhawk Road as it is considered essential to deliver a number of key regeneration objectives, specifically:

- to replace the frontage buildings and market entrances with a high quality distinctive design of buildings and public realm that will enhance the town centre including a new gateway to draw visitors into the market;

- The opportunity to provide a servicing route from Goldhawk Road to service the market stalls and commercial floor space.
- The opportunity to provide an access to a new parking area to serve the market, this is a high priority for market traders. (The entrance to the site through the terrace in Pennard Road is too restricted in width to meet this objective.)

We acknowledge the strength of feeling regarding the shops on 30 – 52 Goldhawk Road and the service they provide to the local community. The draft brief already included guidance that these businesses should be re-provided within the regenerated market scheme. In response to the public consultation exercise we have strengthened the guidance advising that these businesses should be offered opportunities to relocate back to new retail premises along the Goldhawk Road frontage. The brief now states: “...*re-provision of businesses in the Goldhawk Road frontage within high quality new retail accommodation along the frontage*...(page 4, second objective)...*it is recognised that some of these businesses have an important historical place in the heart of the local community*”. (page 7, para.2.5)

While we understand the historic context of this row of shops, physically they are now generally of poor appearance and contribute little to the street scene. They have suffered from inappropriate alterations over many years and have lost most of the architectural detailing which once contributed to their character and appearance. It is unlikely that they could be refurbished and restored without significant rebuilding which would erode even further any remaining historic integrity of the terrace. Some of them are currently in a state of disrepair and it is unlikely that they will receive the kind of investment required from their private owners in the near future.