

# Merton Council Council

2 April 2014

## Supplementary agenda - Community Forums and Tabled Amendments

15. Reports from Community Forums

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19. Tabled Amendments

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## Mitcham Community Forum 25 March 2014 Chair's Report

The meeting was held at Vestry Hall, and chaired by Councillor Ian Munn. 20 residents attended, as well as five other Councillors, and officers of the council and its partners. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Police Update**

PS Gary Lambe is the deputy for the sector inspector, Stuart Buchan, looking after the seven wards in the sector. Since the change from Safer Neighbourhoods to the Local Policing Model each ward as a PC and PCSC attached to it with a larger pool of officers available to be moved around the sector to meet demand.

Local priorities at the moment include tackling drugs, burglary, robber and theft from motor vehicles. Increased patrols in hot spot areas to displace crime as well as increase the chance of catching offenders. In addition there are monthly operations to enforce warrants and target motor vehicles of known offenders. For regular updates residents can follow PS Steve Burke on Twitter - @MPSMitchamSgt

In response to questions from the audience PS Lamb said that he was not sure when a current shortage of PCSOs would be resolved. He also said that a radar gun was used periodically to target speeding on roads where this was known to be a problem like Rowan Road. When asked about successful convictions PS Lamb said the current reporting system did not collect this information. Rev Andrew Wakefield said that the new Safer Neighbourhood Board would be asking the police for this information.

### **Rediscover Mitcham / OneMitcham update**

Ross Mitchell from the Future Merton team, Merton Council, presented an update on the proposals for improving Mitcham Town Centre. The presentation can be found at:

<http://www.merton.gov.uk/community-living/communityforums/mitchamcommunityforum.htm>

Ross said the Heritage Lottery Funding had been secured to repair and restore the clock tower and this would take place whilst phase 1 works are completed in the summer.

In response to questions from the audience Ross said that there were no plans to bring in a farmers market but instead work would take place to improve the variety of market traders available permanently. Ross apologised for the quality of concrete base used for the new benches at Three Kings Pond, noting that this was an intermediate measure and would be much improved in the final scheme. Site investigations are currently taking place

and a final design will be made in the summer with works completed by the end of the year.

Ross confirmed the aspiration for toilets to form part of the redevelopment but they have not yet found the right design so would not form part of phase 1. Ross also said that the council do not have the powers to choose which shops come to the town centre but by increasing the footfall through the scheme this would act as an incentive for better quality retailers. Short term car parking introduced in phase 1 would be free to encourage more shoppers to the high street and market.

The changes in Majestic Way would aim to segregate cycling and pedestrian access, but detailed designs will follow. Ross would like to bring back to life the 'ghost' advertising sign on the flank wall of 213 London Road but will need to work with the freeholder, funder and designers to find an appropriate scheme. Ross agreed to approach the green grocer on Langdale Parade to see if they would stop driving over the grass verge.

### **Mega Recycle**

Jane Alexander, Recycling Encouragement Manager for Merton Council, introduced the Mega Recycle Challenge. Jane will work in Merton for two years, funded by central government, to help increase the level of recycling and reduce the amount going to landfill. As part of this work the Mega Recycle challenge will be offering prizes to individuals and schools for increasing recycling. The challenge will be promoted door-to-door as well as with local community groups and schools. The challenge was launched on 24 March and the first prizes will be given out in May. To find out more and to register to take part please see: <http://www.merton.gov.uk/megarecycle>

### **Scrutiny topics**

Councillor Munn informed the forum that the council's Overview and Scrutiny panels are looking for issues to examine in detail during 2014/15. The scrutiny panels are made up of councillors that gather evidence from experts and local communities to investigate key issues. To suggest topics for any of the panels you can complete an online form at <http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/decision-making/scrutiny.htm> or you can email [scrutiny@merton.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@merton.gov.uk)

Residents suggested issues for consideration including support for childminders, flowers in town centres and fly-tipping.

### **Soapbox**

Asked for an update on the Burn Bulloch Councillor Munn reported that the council has served a listed building notice to the owner and was working with the police and other agencies to tackle the illegal occupation.

Empty shops – Rev Wakefield said that Mitcham did not have as many empty shops as might be expected for similar town centres. Councillor Munn said that if residents were concerned about the number of book makers they could sign a petition to change planning rules.

There is an issue of people parking on crossovers in a way that blocks the pavement. What are the rules for this and how are they enforced?

**Date of next meeting: Tuesday 14 October 2014, 7.15pm, at Vestry Hall.**

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<b>LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON</b>	
	<b><u>NOTES OF MEETING</u></b>
	<b>Subject: Morden Community Forum</b>
	<b>Date: 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b> <b>Time: 19.15</b>
<b>Action Needed By:</b>	
	<p>1. <b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b></p> <p>1.1 Cllr. Groves (MG) welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>1.2 Approximately 13 residents attended, as well as Merton Councillors, Police Sargeant Phil Webb, Stephen Byfield from PPS Group and officers from the council and its partners.</p>
	<p>2. <b><u>Police Update</u></b></p> <p>2.1 Sargeant Phil Webb from Cannon Hill and Lower Morden ward informed the forum that on the whole crime levels have fallen in Morden compared to the same time last year and are continuing to steadily fall since the changes in the way Safer Neighbourhood teams work.</p> <p>2.2 The police will not be involved in the investigation into whistleblowing at Merton Council unless it is determined at some point that there is a need for a criminal investigation.</p>
SG	<p>3. <b><u>Merton Memories</u></b></p> <p>3.1 Sarah Gould (SG), the Library Service Manager at Merton Council, presented on the launch of the Merton Memories project.</p> <p>3.2 SG agreed to look into obtaining a copy of the Merton Charter for a local resident.</p> <p>3.3 It was explained that a raft of publicity had gone out to make people aware of the launch of Merton Memories, including notifying schools, places of worship, residents' and tenants' associations, Age Concern, Garden Centres, Radio Jackie, Time Out, Youth Centres, the local Guardian and putting something on the council's website.</p> <p>3.4 Asked if it would be possible to support local artists by putting on an exhibition, SG explained that exhibitions have been put on before and there will also be artistic themes on the website. Future work will be undertaken with local artists.</p>

	<p>4. <b><u>Leisure for Morden</u></b></p> <p>4.1 Stephen Byfield (SB) from PPS Group gave a presentation on plans to provide new leisure facilities in Morden and encouraged residents to get involved in the consultation on said plans  <a href="http://prezi.com/b3j6spynnrcx/leisure-for-morden/?utm_campaign=share&amp;utm_medium=copy">http://prezi.com/b3j6spynnrcx/leisure-for-morden/?utm_campaign=share&amp;utm_medium=copy</a></p> <p>4.2 The consultation on the plans asks for feedback on three questions: should the local authority follow the Sport England model for leisure developments?; what else should be added to the model (pick from a list of options)?; and would you like to see anything else included in the plans (that is not on the list provided)?</p> <p>4.3 SB explained that the £8.4m cost of the Sport England model was a cost worked out by Sport England and assumed that it therefore includes a contingency.</p> <p>4.4 The Community Trust's proposals for Morden Park are not included in the consultation on new leisure facilities but council officers are aware of the Trust's plans and are happy to talk to the Trust about future development.</p>
	<p>5. <b><u>Alley gates scheme</u></b></p> <p>5.1 Apologies were received on behalf of the council officer due to speak on the alley gates scheme. Leaflets on the scheme were handed out to residents to provide them with further information.</p>
JA	<p>6. <b><u>Merton's Mega Recycle Challenge</u></b></p> <p>6.1 Jane Alexander (JA) from the council explained that the council is introducing an incentive scheme, funded by the DCLG, to try to increase recycling rates in the borough by 3.5% in the next two years (the current recycling rate is 39%). A campaign was launched on 24 March which involves cash prizes for individuals, estates, flats and schools that recycle. A door-stepping campaign from 22 April will encourage people to recycle, take requests for new recycling boxes and answer questions on recycling.</p> <p>6.2 The scheme will work with secondary schools and Wimbledon College of Art further down the line and there will be cash prizes to encourage schools to recycle.</p> <p>6.3 JA agreed to look into whether litter collected from public bins is recycled.</p>
	<p>7. <b><u>Topics for Scrutiny</u></b></p> <p>7.1 Stella Akintan (SA) from the council's Scrutiny team provided an overview on the work that the team and its four scrutiny panels</p>



	<p>does. She invited residents to put forward topics for the scrutiny panels to look at in the coming year, emphasising that the topics should be issues affecting people across the board, not individual problems. Previous topics have included activities for the over-55s, climate change and whether the Government's Green Deal is suitable for Merton, and the provision of youth centres in the borough.</p> <p>7.2 The council has a rigorous process and standards that are used to mark potential scrutiny topics against and to decide whether a topic is relevant for the scrutiny panels to consider.</p> <p>7.3 Asked why the Scrutiny team and its panels had not looked into the whistleblowing incident at Merton, SA explained that the Overview an Scrutiny Panel would not be able to look into the subject until reports on it have been released.</p>
Councillor Groves	<p>8. <b><u>Soapbox</u></b></p> <p>9.1 A resident complained about rubbish that is collecting at a specific house on London Road and is therefore attracting rats. Councillor Groves agreed to pass on the details of the house to Environmental Services and advised the resident to speak to their ward councillor about visiting the house.</p> <p>9.2 A resident voiced concern about the masonry above Morden Post Office being unsafe.</p> <p>9.3 A local resident expressed concern about Clause 119 which has ben introduced by Parliament and allows MPs to make changes to laws. The resident was concerned about how this clause might affect the future of St Helier Hospital.</p> <p>9.4 Councillor Maxi Martin thanked Councillor Groves for being an excellent chair of the forum over recent years.</p>

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<b>LONDON BOROUGH OF MERTON ENVIRONMENT AND REGENERATION DEPARTMENT</b>	
	<b><u>NOTES OF MEETING</u></b>
	<b>Subject: Wimbledon Community Forum</b>
	<b>Date: 18<sup>th</sup> March 2014</b> <b>Time: 19.15</b>
<b>In attendance</b>	Councillor Henry Nelles – Chair; John Hill (Head of Public Protection & Development) – Lead officer; Rana Bhutta – Consultation and Community Engagement Officer.
<b>Action Needed By:</b>	<p>1. <b><u>Welcome and Introductions</u></b></p> <p>1.1 Cllr. Nelles (HN) welcomed all to the meeting at Drake House, St George’s Road.</p> <p>1.2 Approximately 28 residents attended, as well as Merton Councillors, Police Constable Dan Hayward, Adele Williams from Merton’s Healthwatch and officers from the council and its partners.</p>
KW/HN	<p>2. <b><u>Minutes of last meeting/Update</u></b></p> <p>2.1 Councillor Nelles briefly updated residents on the council’s ‘Mini Hollands’ bid, which was removed from the agenda after the council’s bid for £30m of funding was unsuccessful. The council will however receive a smaller grant of approx. £15million for cycling improvements in the borough. Merton expects feedback on its bid from the Mayor of London by the next Forum in June 2014 so it was agreed that officers would attend the next forum to explain the feedback received.</p>
KW/HN	<p>2.2 Councillor Nelles explained that an update on plans for the redevelopment of the YMCA was also removed from the agenda as the plans have not progressed. The YMCA has said it will attend the next forum meeting in June.</p> <p>2.3 A resident commented that the Shelton Rd consultation had been undertaken too quickly. John Hill (JH) agreed to discuss this further with the resident at the end of the meeting.</p> <p>2.4 In response to residents’ complaints that litter bins in the town centre are not being emptied properly and the town centre streets are not being swept properly, it was reported that the council empties the litter bins up to four times a day and sweeps the streets regularly; however residents can report a problem if they see one and the street cleaning team will respond within 24 hours. The same reporting procedure applies for rubbish left behind from residential bin collections.</p>

<p>JH</p> <p>JH</p>	<p>It was noted that a 'Love Clean Streets' app has just been launched by the council which residents can use to take a photo of litter and report it.</p> <p>2.5 Residents reported overflowing bins on Francis Road and rubbish outside specific houses on Palmerston Road. JH to follow up with Enforcement.</p> <p>2.6 A resident commented that cigarette butt bins were needed at bus shelters in the borough. JH to feed suggestion back to TfL.</p> <p>2.7 JH updated residents on the council's plans to develop the Wimbledon Community Association site as a car park: the planning application for this was withdrawn so there are now no proposals for temporary use of the site. The long-term use of the site will still be for community use.</p> <p>2.8 JH also provided an update on 28-30 Palmerston Rd: surveyors had visited the site and determined that it is not a dangerous site; however, the owners have been notified that the gates of the building keep blowing open and will be reminded to shut them.</p>
<p>PC Hayward</p> <p>HN</p>	<p>3. <b><u>Policing update</u></b></p> <p>3.1 PC Dan Hayward provided crime figures for Hillside, which overall are lower than the same time last year. He also explained the new structure for Safer Neighbourhoods teams, whereby each ward in Wimbledon has one PC and one PCSO, plus there is a team of shared PCs and PCSOs for all of Wimbledon. Police officers also now follow a five-week shift pattern which involves them being on duty late at night, when crimes are more likely to happen.</p> <p>3.2 A resident commented that little seems to be being done to stop cyclists from riding on pavements and going through red lights. PC Hayward explained that the police had undertaken Operation Safeway for a month, stopping all cyclists who were seen to be cycling irresponsibly. It is difficult to continue to monitor the situation because of other responsibilities and dealing with emergencies.</p> <p>3.3 PC Hayward agreed to provide information on which PCs and PCSOs represent each of Wimbledon's wards.</p> <p>3.4 A resident commented that the Borough Commander's monthly newsletters are very informative and that people can sign up to receive them by visiting Neighbourhood Link.</p> <p>3.5 HN informed residents that a new Borough Commander for</p>

	<p>Merton, Stuart Macleod, started last week. HN to ask if he can attend one of the future forum meetings.</p>
	<p>4. <b><u>Healthwatch Merton update</u></b></p> <p>4.1 Adele Williams (AW), the Information and Outreach officer for Merton's Healthwatch explained that it had been set up to listen to residents' views on health and social care services in the borough.</p> <p>4.2 Three events have been held so far; the key issues that arose from these events will be written up into a report which will determine Healthwatch's focus for the coming year.</p> <p>4.3 There will be a public meeting at the Acacia Centre on 31<sup>st</sup> March at 5.30pm where further details will be provided on the projects Healthwatch will be working on in the near future.</p> <p>4.4 Asked if there was an overlap between the work of Healthwatch and that of hospital trusts, AW explained that Healthwatch is separate to the trusts but meets with them to give them customer feedback and direct questions from the public to them.</p>
	<p>5. <b><u>Sites and Policies presentation</u></b></p> <p>5.1 Tara Butler (TB) from the council's Future Merton team explained that Merton's Site and Policies Plan is a development plan that is produced every 10 years and is used to help guide decisions on planning applications.</p> <p>5.2 The plan contains: detailed planning policy; potential development sites in the borough; and a map outlining the location of different areas in the borough (for example, town centre boundaries, protected nature reserves etc).</p> <p>5.3 The plan contains some key policy changes: an emphasis on the importance of good design in buildings; the importance of town centres; a policy on basement applications; and a list of potential development sites such as the former community centre at St George's Rd, the Greyhound Stadium (for which two proposals have been put forward and are available to view on the council's website, although no planning applications have been received to date), the YMCA, and the office block opposite the YMCA (which is likely to be changed to a mixture of offices and residential).</p> <p>5.4 Wimbledon Library is not in the plan.</p> <p>5.5 There are lots of protected areas on the map near Wimbledon Common as well as green spaces also along the Wandle Valley that have been marked for protection.</p>

<p>TB/Planning</p>	<p>5.6 Separate to the Sites and Policies Plan, TB explained the article 4 direction that Merton Council is introducing in order to prevent offices in Wimbledon being turned into flats. This is after Central Government announced that shops and offices can now be converted to new homes without developers needing to obtain change of use permission from councils. The only three considerations that would have to be taken into account are contamination, flooding and transport. Merton Council is proposing the Article 4 direction to avoid losing businesses in Wimbledon; following community consultation councillors will vote on the matter on 02 April 2014. Further to a question from a resident, it was confirmed that this rule only applied to conversions of offices to residential. Demolition of offices and their replacement with residential properties would be subject to the usual planning rules and policies.</p> <p>5.7 Asked about the P3 (Hartfield Road car park) and P4 (theatre car park) sites, TB explained that P3 has been designated in the plan as a potential site for development. It will be used as a car park for the adjoining supermarket until at least until 2019 but beyond that, there is potential for it to be used for a variety of different uses such as retail, offices, community, residential. Councillors and constituents would need to decide on the matter nearer 2019.</p> <p>5.8 There is a development brief to guide the design of the P4 site as it is next to an historic listed building: New Wimbledon Theatre: the ground floor could be retail or restaurants; the upper floors office or residential. The council undertook a parking survey which ascertained that the multi-storey car parks in Wimbledon are usually only partially full, therefore the P4 site is not planned to be used as a multi-storey car park.</p> <p>5.9 Asked about whether the plan will place restrictions on the height of buildings, TB explained that Merton's Core Planning Strategy supports buildings of a consistent height along Wimbledon Broadway. It was also explained that although there is no specific maximum height, generally the council will not accept plans for buildings that are substantially taller than existing buildings.</p> <p>5.10 A resident commented that there has been no formal consultation on the plans for the stadium and that it would be useful for homes off Haydons Park Road to be sent information. TB explained that although there are interested parties, no planning applications have been submitted for the stadium. The council will create a webpage with details of what is happening on Wimbledon Greyhound Stadium.</p> <p>5.11 The future of the site at St George's Road (former Wimbledon</p>
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TB	<p>Community Centre) will be considered by the next administration.</p> <p>5.12 Merton Priory Homes/Circle Housing consulted residents last summer about the possible redevelopment of the High Path Estate. The housing association has recently (March 2014) appointed architects to prepare a masterplan, but this would be at least a year-long process so planning applications were not expected before late 2015. At this early stage there are no answers as to whether tenants will have to move out during any type of redevelopment.</p> <p>5.13 It was agreed that TB would source an answer to the question about the official relationship between Circle Housing and the council regarding development planning. HN explained that some councillors sit on the association's board and that Merton Council has nomination rights over the people placed in Circle Housing/ Merton Priory's homes.</p> <p>5.14 Councillor Williams commented that if new flats are proposed in Hillside ward, the council needs to insist that developers include private parking spaces because on-street parking permits are not available now that the ward is entirely a CPZ. TB explained that the Mayor of London sets parking standards, which are usually based on a development's proximity to public transport. Landowners always have a choice about whether to provide parking spaces within their developments or not.</p> <p>5.15 The hotel application above Henry J Bean's has been allowed on appeal.</p>
JA	<p>6. <b><u>Merton's Mega Recycle Challenge</u></b></p> <p>6.1 Jane Alexander (JA) from the council explained that the council is introducing an incentive scheme, funded by the DCLG, to try to increase recycling rates in the borough by 3.5% in the next two years (the current recycling rate is 39%). A campaign was launched on 24 March which involves cash prizes for individuals, estates, flats and schools that recycle. A door-stepping campaign from 22 April will encourage people to recycle, take requests for new recycling boxes and answer questions on recycling.</p> <p>6.2 The council can recycle wet newspapers providing they are not too wet. Residents can prevent them from getting too wet by putting them out for recycling in plastic bags.</p> <p>6.3 JA agreed to feed back residents' requests for lids for the recycling bins and to check with council's waste department whether litter collected from the borough's parks is recycled or not.</p> <p>6.4 Councillor Williams, who sits on the London Waste and Recycling Board, suggested that every few weeks there should be</p>

	<p>a central location for residents to take waste such as electrical goods so that they don't have to drive all the way to the rubbish tip to dispose of such waste.</p> <p>6.5 Asked how the council monitors that things are being recycled correctly, JA explained that all waste is highly regulated and checked. The council is also trying to educate residents on recycling correctly.</p> <p>6.6 Participation in food recycling rates in the borough is currently at about 50%.</p> <p>6.7 A resident enquired about the Council's approach to monitoring excess packaging of goods sold by major retailers. JH confirmed that the Council's Trading Standards team had already carried out a significant amount of analysis and were working with retailers to improve situation in this regard.</p>
	<p>7. <b><u>Topics for Scrutiny</u></b></p> <p>7.1 Richard Greig (RG) from the council's Scrutiny team provided an overview on the work that the team and its four scrutiny panels does. He invited residents to put forward topics for the scrutiny panels to look at in the coming year. Previous topics have included activities for the over-55s, climate change and whether the Government's Green Deal is suitable for Merton, and the provision of youth centres in the borough.</p>
JH/Trading Standards	<p>8. <b><u>Planning Update</u></b></p> <p>8.1 John Hill (JH) told residents that he is unlikely to attend future Wimbledon Forum meetings due to a shift in his role at the council, away from planning. Residents thanked him for all of his hard work and contributions to past meetings.</p> <p>8.2 A public meeting was held to discuss Wimbledon Park Athletics Stadium. Some plans have been put forward for improving the site by the Wimbledon Club but nothing definite has been decided. The council is hoping for a running track and upgraded facilities.</p> <p>8.3 JH explained that information should already be available on the council's website as to which part of the pavement various shops and restaurants have licence to use but the council will look into putting this information into My Merton as well. He asked residents to report businesses that do not have signs up explaining which parts of pavements they have licence to use.</p>
JH	<p>9. <b><u>Soapbox</u></b></p> <p>9.1 JH to report standing water issues on Merton High Street (opposite Hampton Road) and by Carluccio's in Wimbledon Village</p>



to Mario Lecordier.

9.2 NHS care workers are not currently permitted to park in residential permit areas but this is under review.

9.3 In response to a resident commenting that the entrance and exit signposts to the theatre car park are inadequate, it was explained that the council is currently undertaking a review of all car park signage.

9.4 Buskers are not generally seen as a problem in the borough although the council has some powers to move them on if necessary. Licences are not required for handing out literature.

9.5 Councillor Williams encouraged residents to attend an exhibition on traffic along the Ridgway, taking place on 29 March from 12-5pm at the Sacred Heart.

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## UKIP AMENDMENT TO LABOUR STRATEGIC THEME MOTION –

### AGENDA Item 7c (i)

COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014

Councillor *Suzanne Evans* will move and Councillor *Richard Hilton* will second that the words underlined in the amended Motion below be inserted and the words struck through be deleted.

#### UKIP Amendment to Labour Motion on the Strategic Theme

Council is appalled that the Conservative MP for Wimbledon, Mr Stephen Hammond, voted in favour of Clause 119 of the Care Bill which allows the Secretary of State, as the person who makes the final decision on hospital closures, to bypass local opposition to a hospital closure even if the hospital is performing well. Council notes that the sign heralding the promised £219m redevelopment of the hospital has recently been taken down and is concerned that by voting in favour of Clause 119 Mr Hammond has betrayed local people and the campaign to save St Helier Hospital.

Council notes that residents have expressed concern at the continued use of St Helier hospital as a political football by both Labour and Conservative Members of Parliament. Residents are disappointed that after 13 years in Government Labour waited until months before the 2010 General Election to announce funding for the hospital and after 4 years of a Conservative led Government the redevelopment has still not gone ahead.

Council calls on the Leader of the Council to:

- a) Wwrite to Mr Hammond outlining council's deep disappointment that he voted in favour of new powers which, where another local hospital was in financial difficulty, could allow St Helier to be downgraded or closed despite the wishes of local people.
- b) Write to Eleanor Brown, Chief Officer of Merton Clinical Commissioning Group and the Rt Hon Jeremy Hunt, MP Secretary of State for Health requesting that the £219m redevelopment of St Helier Hospital is safeguarded and built into the long term financial modelling scenarios being worked up by the Epsom and St Helier Trust.

*The amended Motion would then read:*

Council is appalled that the Conservative MP for Wimbledon, Mr Stephen Hammond, voted in favour of Clause 119 of the Care Bill which allows the Secretary of State, as the person who makes the final decision on hospital closures, to bypass local opposition to a hospital closure even if the hospital is performing well. Council notes that the sign heralding the promised £219m redevelopment of the hospital has recently been taken down and is concerned that by voting in favour of Clause 119 Mr Hammond has betrayed local people and the campaign to save St Helier Hospital.

Council notes that residents have expressed concern at the continued use of St Helier hospital as a political football by both Labour and Conservative Members of Parliament. Residents are disappointed that after 13 years in Government Labour waited until months before the 2010 General Election to announce funding for the hospital and after 4 years of a Conservative led Government the redevelopment has still not gone ahead.

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LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC AMENDMENT TO CONSERVATIVE MOTION –  
AGENDA ITEM 8  
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014

*Councillor Iain Dysart* will move and *Councillor Mary-Jane Jeanes* will second that the words underlined in the amended Motion below be inserted and the words struck through be deleted.

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014

This Council notes that:

- According to the latest Annual Residents' Survey, feeling safe in your local area is by far the most important factor for the health and wellbeing of residents in Merton;
- Over half of residents (52%) feel that this could be improved;
- Satisfaction with how the area looks is also an important factor for health and wellbeing with around one third of local people feeling this could be improved;
- 44% of residents remain concerned about anti-social behaviour in the borough and 41% about people being drunk and rowdy; and
- The majority (64%) of violent crime in the UK occurs in the evening or at night and one fifth of all violent incidents take place in or around a pub or club.

This Council recognises that Merton has a vibrant night time economy with a wide range of restaurants, theatres and bars, which attract many visitors to the borough as well as encouraging residents to support local businesses in town centres and local parades. Whilst the majority of licensed premises behave in a responsible manner and with due respect to their neighbours, there are however on going issues with anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance and littering, often connected to binge drinking and exacerbated by the proliferation of ever later licences permitted under the previous government's 24-hour licensing laws.

This Council believes that Merton's residents deserve to live in peace in their own homes; that residents and visitors all deserve a safe and clean environment, in which to enjoy an evening out in the borough; and that the Council has a responsibility, in conjunction with the police, to tackle the problem of alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour where it blights the lives of local communities.

This Council therefore welcomes the new powers introduced by the government as part of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act to enable local communities to tackle this anti-social behaviour by making it easier for the police and councils to deal with pubs, clubs and bars which contribute to the problems of late night drinking.

This Council commits to delivering a better balance in future between the thriving night time economy in Merton and the need for all licensed premises to respect their

neighbours by ensuring that alcohol-related problems, including anti-social behaviour, littering and noise, are properly addressed. As such, this Council resolves to call on the administration to:

- a) Clamp down on any licensed premises which break the terms of their licences through firmer enforcement of the rules;
- b) Make use of the new powers available from the government to stop the proliferation of ever later opening times and the nuisance of late alcohol licences;
- c) Increase litter enforcement in Merton by employing more staff to catch and prosecute those who blight our communities, including late at night outside bars and clubs; and
- d) Introduce an all year (24/7) round noise pollution enforcement service to provide ~~reassurance and comfort to residents whose sleep is disturbed by inconsiderate neighbours.~~ action and reassurance to residents who are disturbed by inconsiderate neighbours at any time of the day and night

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*The amended Motion would then read:*

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014  
NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes that:

- According to the latest Annual Residents' Survey, feeling safe in your local area is by far the most important factor for the health and wellbeing of residents in Merton;
- Over half of residents (52%) feel that this could be improved;
- Satisfaction with how the area looks is also an important factor for health and wellbeing with around one third of local people feeling this could be improved;
- 44% of residents remain concerned about anti-social behaviour in the borough and 41% about people being drunk and rowdy; and
- The majority (64%) of violent crime in the UK occurs in the evening or at night and one fifth of all violent incidents take place in or around a pub or club.

This Council recognises that Merton has a vibrant night time economy with a wide range of restaurants, theatres and bars, which attract many visitors to the borough as well as encouraging residents to support local businesses in town centres and local parades. Whilst the majority of licensed premises behave in a responsible manner and with due respect to their neighbours, there are however on going issues with anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance and littering, often connected to binge drinking and exacerbated by the proliferation of ever later licences permitted under the previous government's 24-hour licensing laws.

This Council believes that Merton's residents deserve to live in peace in their own homes; that residents and visitors all deserve a safe and clean environment, in which to enjoy an evening out in the borough; and that the Council has a responsibility, in conjunction with the police, to tackle the problem of alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour where it blights the lives of local communities.

This Council therefore welcomes the new powers introduced by the government as part of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act to enable local communities to tackle this anti-social behaviour by making it easier for the police and councils to deal with pubs, clubs and bars which contribute to the problems of late night drinking.

This Council commits to delivering a better balance in future between the thriving night time economy in Merton and the need for all licensed premises to respect their neighbours by ensuring that alcohol-related problems, including anti-social behaviour, littering and noise, are properly addressed. As such, this Council resolves to call on the administration to:

- a) Clamp down on any licensed premises which break the terms of their licences through firmer enforcement of the rules;
- b) Make use of the new powers available from the government to stop the proliferation of ever later opening times and the nuisance of late alcohol licences;
- c) Increase litter enforcement in Merton by employing more staff to catch and prosecute those who blight our communities, including late at night outside bars and clubs; and
- d) Introduce an all year round (24/7) noise pollution enforcement service to provide action and reassurance to residents who are disturbed by inconsiderate neighbours at any time of the day and night.

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UKIP AMENDMENT TO CONSERVATIVE MOTION –  
AGENDA ITEM 8  
COUNCIL MEETING WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014

Councillor *Richard Hilton* will move and Councillor *Rod Scott* will second that the words underlined in the amended Motion below be inserted and the words struck through be deleted.

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014  
NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes that:

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- Over half of residents (52%) feel that this could be improved;
- Satisfaction with how the area looks is also an important factor for health and wellbeing with around one third of local people feeling this could be improved;
- 44% of residents remain concerned about anti-social behaviour in the borough and 41% about people being drunk and rowdy; and
- The majority (64%) of violent crime in the UK occurs in the evening or at night and one fifth of all violent incidents take place in or around a pub or club.

This Council recognises that Merton has a vibrant night time economy with a wide range of restaurants, theatres and bars, which attract many visitors to the borough as well as encouraging residents to support local businesses in town centres and local parades. Whilst the majority of licensed premises behave in a responsible manner and with due respect to their neighbours, there are however on going issues with anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance and littering, often connected to binge drinking and exacerbated by the proliferation of ever later licences permitted under the previous government's 24-hour licensing laws which the current government continues to support.

This Council believes that Merton's residents deserve to live in peace in their own homes; that residents and visitors all deserve a safe and clean environment, in which to enjoy an evening out in the borough; and that the Council has a responsibility, in conjunction with the police, to tackle the problem of alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour. ~~where it blights the lives of local communities.~~

~~This Council therefore welcomes the new powers introduced by the government as part of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Act to enable local communities to tackle this antisocial behaviour by making it easier for the police and councils to deal with pubs, clubs and bars which contribute to the problems of late night drinking.~~

This Council commits to delivering a better balance in future between the thriving night time economy in Merton and the need for all licensed premises to respect their

neighbours by ensuring that alcohol-related problems, including anti-social behaviour, littering and noise, are properly addressed. As such, this Council resolves to call on the administration to:

a) Continue to C-clamp down on any licensed premises which break the terms of their licences through firmer enforcement of the rules;

~~b) Make use of the new powers available from the government to stop the proliferation of ever later opening times and the nuisance of late alcohol licences;~~

~~b e) Increase litter enforcement in Merton by employing more staff to catch and prosecute those who blight our communities, including late at night outside bars and clubs; and~~

c d) Introduce an all year round 24/7 noise and anti-social behaviour ~~pollution~~ enforcement service to provide reassurance and comfort to residents whose sleep is disturbed by inconsiderate neighbours and to report fly-tipping, litter, and any other anti-social or inconsiderate behaviour as it happens

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*The amended Motion would then read:*

#### COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2 APRIL 2014 NOTICE OF MOTION

This Council notes that:

- According to the latest Annual Residents' Survey, feeling safe in your local area is by far the most important factor for the health and wellbeing of residents in Merton;
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This Council recognises that Merton has a vibrant night time economy with a wide range of restaurants, theatres and bars, which attract many visitors to the borough as well as encouraging residents to support local businesses in town centres and local parades. Whilst the majority of licensed premises behave in a responsible manner and with due respect to their neighbours, there are however on going issues with anti-social behaviour, noise nuisance and littering, often connected to binge drinking and exacerbated by the proliferation of ever later licences permitted under the previous government's 24-hour licensing laws which the current government continues to support.

This Council believes that Merton's residents deserve to live in peace in their own homes; that residents and visitors all deserve a safe and clean environment, in which

to enjoy an evening out in the borough; and that the Council has a responsibility, in conjunction with the police, to tackle the problem of alcohol fuelled crime and anti-social behaviour.

This Council commits to delivering a better balance in future between the thriving night time economy in Merton and the need for all licensed premises to respect their neighbours by ensuring that alcohol-related problems, including anti-social behaviour, littering and noise, are properly addressed. As such, this Council resolves to call on the administration to:

- a) Continue to clamp down on any licensed premises which break the terms of their licences through firm enforcement of the rules;
- b) Increase litter enforcement in Merton by employing more staff to catch and prosecute those who blight our communities, including late at night outside bars and clubs; and
- c) Introduce an all year round 24/7 noise and anti-social behaviour enforcement service to provide reassurance and comfort to residents whose sleep is disturbed by inconsiderate neighbours and to report fly-tipping, litter, and any other anti-social or inconsiderate behaviour as it happens

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