

Ward Councillors

Jeff

Thanks for letting us know. I understand there were around 25 people at the meeting to pass your resolution (a number of whom don't live in Herne Hill ward).

Given that less than 2 years ago 2,200 or so people who do live in the ward elected us to serve on the council for a 4 year term I'm sure you'll understand that we will be getting on with doing just that. In 2018 residents will have the opportunity to decide who they want to represent them for the next four years - I'm sure they will at that point be more than capable of making up their minds who they wish to see do this.

Best wishes

Jim

(The following reply was sent to Cllr Jim Dickson:

"Dear Jim,

Friends of Carnegie Library is a strictly non-party organisation. The AGM resolution relates to the three current councillors solely as individuals. The election result to which you refer is irrelevant because it does not contain anything to suggest that any of you had a significant degree of support as an individual. So far as appears, you were elected only because you were the Labour Party's candidates.

Assuming that your informant was at the meeting, he or she could not possibly have thought only 25 people attended the AGM. I suspect that you have misunderstood the information and that the figure is a guess of the number of members of the Labour Party who were present. I believe the resolution was unanimous; when I asked for votes against no one voted. This is hardly surprising because, as you know, both the Herne Hill Ward Labour Party and the Party's Constituency General Committee have resolved by large majorities to retain all ten libraries and the service for the housebound.

The meeting was the Friends' AGM. The next public campaign meeting is tomorrow evening and will be held in the main room of the library. For some months you have been promising to hold a meeting for local residents. Will the existing service at Carnegie and Minet Libraries be maintained until after you have held your meeting?

Regards,

Jeff Doorn, Chair")

Mayoral Candidates

Sian Berry (Green): *I totally support your resolution – spending so much money to turn a library into a gym when other councils (including mine in Camden) are finding ways, under community pressure, to keep libraries from closing even while budgets are cut is just ridiculous. ...keep up the good work.*

Assembly Candidates

Michael Bukola (Liberal Democrat): *I am in full support in your opposition to the cuts made by Lambeth Council in respect to Library Services. It's clearly totally inappropriate to see these historic buildings renovated into Leisure Services.*

As a former Liberal Democrat Councillor, I recognise that local authorities have 'local choices' with their budgets and see no reason why Lambeth Council have decided to make such drastic cuts to Libraries in this way as they represent the foundations for learning in local communities. By way of contrast, Southwark Council are building libraries with the recent opening of the Camberwell Library in nearby Camberwell.

I hope...Labour's candidate is able to account for her support to these cuts, given her position on Lambeth Council.

I believe that WE who support Libraries should work together to protect public services.

Rashid Nix (Green): *The Greens support the libraries and are here to help.*

Obviously, we are not resource rich, but do have some genuinely committed activists in our ranks.

As the Green GLA candidate for Lambeth/Southwark how can I be of service to your campaign?

Please feel free to contact me

Florence Eshalomi (Labour): *Thank you for your email. Could you please send me a copy of the motion.*