

Homes for all -Axe the Housing Act 17 Feb 2018

Graham chair

Minutes taken by Imelda

Discussion on updates

- Good news that the Mayor of London has included ballots in the proposals. Welcomed the fact that ballots had been accepted but.....

Lambeth and Southwark say they are exempt from ballots.

Issue was raised that ballots are excluded for projects already in the pipe line and projects that are more complex.

Ballots had been manipulated in the past. Need to ensure that ballots are carried out fairly.

Agreed that ballots should be available to all communities.

- Southwark development of the shopping centre has been postponed.
- Proposal for Demo on 28th April in Southwark.
- Feedback from Paul Burnham on the Stop the HDV Campaign

It was a vehicle for population change. There had been no ballot of residents. The campaign against the HDV has been very successful. NEC got involved and asked the present council to pause the HDV. Leader of council Clare Kober has resigned. Council decision on 7th Feb to leave new administration to decide on the HDV. The new candidates in May will vote against the HDV so it has effectively been stopped. Failed on all 4 counts on judicial review but on technicalities. The judge agreed that residents were not adequately consulted but the judgement hung on when the JR should have been bought. Hoping to overturn on appeal.

- Consultation 3rd April
- It was mentioned that people were concentrating on properties rather than land and we ought to be looking at planning permission. There is something called The Raynsford Review which is looking into the reform

of the English planning system which it would be useful for people to look at. <https://www.tcpa.org.uk/raynsford-review>

- Aylesbury compulsory purchase order is still going ahead
- Fred Wigg/ John Walsh successfully resisted demolition. Tenants are still on decant status but the scheme has been kicked into the long grass.
- Campaign to organise private tenants are gaining in strength. Door knocking is being organised in Newham.
- Discussion about a Demo on 7th April with a link up to the demo in Ireland. It was felt that there was too little time to organise a successful demo in April. It was suggested that a demo on College Green during the week would be better. With different groups and banners and if we could get some MPs to join us. Also link with Irish housing movement by inviting someone over to speak.
- The amalgamation between Notting Hill Housing assoc. and Genesis has gone ahead. Seems unlikely that the people who voted for this were actually shareholders. Going to be a picket outside Savills in the future.
- Grenfell. A lot of coverage of the 6 mth anniversary but no press coverage of the last two marches. Manchester had done a solidarity march on 14th Feb which had received attention. Various campaigns have been united. 3 bill boards had been very successful and reinvigorated interest in the cause. The idea of events for the 12 month anniversary are being raised.
- Lord Commoners- Land Trust are doing a march on 14th March at 11am.
- Genesis and Notting Hill HAs have been selling homes at auction including a 91 flat housing Estate.
- There should be a response to the Autumn statement.
- A list of questions for tenants to ask potential candidates in the local elections would be useful.

- NUT and NUJ are both raising the issues of private renters and rent controls.

Suggested date for next meeting 10th March