Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission (GTMC) Meeting 25 November 2024

Attendees

Memorial Commission

Thelma Stober (Chair) Lord Paul Boateng

Community representatives

(Bereaved
representatives)(Survivor
representatives)(Lancaster West
representatives)Hanan WahabiAbraham AbebeSusan Al Safadi

Hanan Cherbika Mohammed Rasoul

Hassan Hassan Sandra Ruiz

Apologies:

Nabil Choucair Andrea Newton Adel Chaoui

Secretariat

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Secretariat: 4 individuals

Other

Peter Neal, Independent Landscape Design Adviser Jane Duncan, Independent Architectural Adviser Camilla Sheldon, Director, Grenfell Site and Programme, MHCLG

Meeting purpose

The sixty second meeting of the Memorial Commission, to discuss the design team selection process and the future of the Memorial Commission.

Opening

- A one-minute silence was held at the start of the meeting.
- It was confirmed that the meeting was quorate.
- Thelma opened the meeting, welcoming all in attendance.
- No conflicts of interests were declared.
- The secretariat presented the minutes from the October meeting for approval, along with an update on the risk register and action log.

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Agenda item 1: Update from MHCLG

- Camilla Sheldon gave an update from the Department, noting that the Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) and Minister Alex Norris have initiated a phase of engagement, including two Town Hall meetings, one with bereaved and survivors and one with residents. The DPM has announced her intention to make a decision on the future of the Tower in February, and has planned focussed engagement with the bereaved families, survivors and residents to hear their views.
- The Commission thanked Camilla for the update agreed it would be key for the DPM to meet with bereaved families, survivors and residents. The Community reps asked for an update on the Memorial Commission meeting with the DPM, noting it would be helpful to meet with the DPM ahead of her making her decision about the Tower. Camilla confirmed that advice has been sent to the DPM and dates for a meeting will be arranged soon.
- Lord Paul Boateng emphasised that the decision on the future of the Tower is for the DPM, not for the Commission
- An update on ownership was given, the first steering group meeting with MHCLG and the Department of Culture Media and Sport will take place on 12 December and MHCLG will update the Commission following this meeting

Agenda Item 2: GTMC next steps

- The future of the Commission was discussed. Following the previous meeting
 in October the community reps and co-chairs noted the need for an expanded
 membership and a refreshed mandate as detailed in the November 2023
 report. The current proportions of bereaved/ survivors/ and local residents will
 need to be kept in balance, to ensure the voice of the bereaved continues to
 carry the most weight. It was confirmed that the DPM will be writing to groups
 in December.
- An MOU between the Commission and MHCLG was discussed. Camilla will bring a draft to the next GTMC meeting.

Agenda item 3: Design update

- The design advisers updated the Commission on the progress of the design team selection process and next steps for Phase 2, noting that there has been thorough discussion on every submission and the moderation process will be concluding soon.
- A community rep noted the level of thoughtfulness within the submissions from design teams feeling they promised something beautiful and fitting to those who were sadly lost.
- Thelma Stober thanked the community reps who have been involved in moderation and observing the process.
- Jane Duncan noted this has been the hardest judging panel she has been part of, with an extremely high calibre of applications, and that this has been the design competition of the decade. She also thanked the community reps for being involved in moderation and observing the process. Paul wished to put his thanks to Jane on record, and conveyed the importance of recording this process through digital memorialisation for future generations.

AOB

• The Secretariat updated the Commission on the dates for Commission meetings in 2025.

You can contact the Memorial Commission directly using the details below:

Phone: 0303 444 4831

Email: GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk

Website: Please use our www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact page or the contact buttons in the 'Community representatives' section.

Next meeting: Thursday 12 December 2024.