

Save our Market

As many of you may be aware, the council had a meeting with the market traders last Friday. The meeting was to basically inform us of our impending doom and demise. The council have over 70 years left on the lease of the space we are in yet are very happy to hand this back to Comer Homes for no remuneration what so ever. The council and everyone in this town simply want the building to come down no matter what and so handing back the lease is the council's way of giving Comer Homes exactly what they want as well as the people of the town.

The council have had years and years to find a good home for the market but as expected, they have left it until the last minute and now there is nowhere. We traders are not asking to stay where we are because we have suffered for too many years with poor electrics, leaking roofs and the general demise of our once prosperous market. I would like to know, if the market is taken outside next to a building site, where they will be getting their new stall holders from because 95% of the traders we have simply cannot exist outside.

The public consultation begins on 18th November 2013 and will run until January. This will give the public a chance to vote on what they want. However, the questions are very loaded and really, don't relate to the market at all.

1. Do you want to keep the market where it is and Winchester House stay?
2. Do you want to move the market so Winchester House can be re-developed?
3. Do you want to close the market so Winchester House can be re-developed?

As you can see, the way they have been worded is leading people to number 2 because there are more people in this town who want the building down than who want a market. People who want a market but don't care where it is will obviously chose option 2 which is exactly what the council want.

My question is, how can they produce 3 questions regarding what the people of Bracknell want without giving a 4th option of "Do you want an indoor market". The reason this question has not been added is because the council simply do not wish for the outcome to be number 4. The decision has already been made going by the questions they are asking.

This petition is to force the council to change these very loaded questions. If they actually want the views of the people of Bracknell on the future of the market, Winchester House should not even be mentioned. Our proposed options are:

1. Close the market completely
2. Move the market to an outside location
3. Move the market to an indoor location when available

Having these questions will then focus people's minds on the market, not Winchester house which we all want pulled down.

Please use your fingers and sign this petition. At least that way, we will all get a better understanding of what the people of Bracknell want rather than what the Council of Bracknell want.