

## **CABINET – 14 JANUARY 2010**

### **EXTRACT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE SOUTHPORT AREA COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 JANUARY 2010**

#### **113. OPEN FORUM**

During the Open Forum the following questions/comments/petitions were submitted:

(g) Mrs. P. McNeish submitted a petition signed by 30 Southport residents seeking the provision of a temporary Town Centre library in the Southport Market Hall. The terms of the petition were as follows:-

- “We, the undersigned, believe that Southport cannot do without a Town Centre Library.
- We call on Sefton Council to locate a temporary Library in the vacant space at the rear of the Southport Market Hall.
- This would benefit library users and also market traders, due to the extra 150,000 to 300,000 visits a year to Southport’s “Library within a Market”.”

Motion by Councillor Hands, seconded by Councillor McGuire and resolved:

That this Southport Area Committee supports the terms of the 7000+ strong petition, and:

1. agrees that Southport cannot do without a Town Centre Library;
2. supports the call for the Council to locate a temporary Library in the vacant space at the rear of the Southport Market Hall;
3. agrees with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of 9 December that “the timetable and funding for the refurbishment of the Southport Cultural Centre should not be jeopardised in any way”;
4. notes that, should the use of the Market Hall not be possible, 2 alternative Town Centre locations have recently been advised to officers;
5. notes that there will be savings in premises-related costs arising from the closure of the present Town Centre Library during the period of the redevelopment of the Southport Cultural Centre which would be of the order of £150,000, and that such savings could be used to cover most or all of the costs of a temporary Library located as in 2. or 3. above;

**6. calls on the Cabinet to reverse its previous decision not to provide a temporary Town Centre Library for Southport residents.**

(In accordance with Rule 18.5 of the Council and Committee Procedure Rules:

- (i) the following Councillors requested that their vote in support of the above resolution be recorded, namely;

Councillors Booth, Brodie-Browne, Dodd, Lord, Fearn, Hands, McGuire, Preston, B. Rimmer, D. Rimmer, Sumner, Tattersall and Weavers; and

- (ii) the following Councillor requested that his vote against the above resolutions be recorded, namely:

Councillor Byrom)