

From: **Jeffrey Doorn** <claciomember@gmail.com>
Date: 26 February 2018 at 09:41
Subject: Carnegie Library Asset Transfer
To: "Winifred,Sonia Cllr" <SWinifred@lambeth.gov.uk>
Cc: sbarnes@lambeth.gov.uk, atravers@lambeth.gov.uk

Dear Sonia

The trustees of Carnegie Library Association remain committed to our community-led plans for the library and are ready to work with Lambeth to take asset transfer of the building if other plans fall through.

We are very concerned that the library has been partially reopened without key health and safety measures in place. There is no disabled access, no fire escape, no toilet available for visitors nor useable kitchen for any clubs or groups who may wish to return. There is also the question of child protection, as apparently they may not enter unless accompanied by adults during 28 of the 40 hours the building is open (i.e. when a librarian is not present). Our new boiler having been removed, there is no central heating, only makeshift use of standing heaters. Moreover, the noise and dust from continuing construction work make it very difficult to read or study and could exacerbate health problems, e.g. for people with asthma or other respiratory conditions.

Apart from that, we understand negotiations with Carnegie Community Trust are not going well. As you know, the Trust, consisting of three unelected trustees, is not a representative or democratically accountable body, nor have they consulted with the community or divulged their business plan, despite repeated requests to do so. The sketchy outline plan they published last month would indicate they are far from ready to assume control of the asset and could not possibly make a success of it, even with massive subsidy by the Council. Their notions appear impractical and have no apparent community support.

I reconfirm that the Association is still willing to step in if the CCT pull out or your dealings with them deteriorate further. Our plans are achievable, with lower set-up and running costs, and demonstrable community support and engagement. We urge you to look again at our plans; and if it is felt they should be modified, we are quite willing to adjust them. Perhaps you would advise what you would like to see added or changed to make them more favourable.

We are holding our second Annual General Meeting next month, when we will report progress to our more than 320 members and hold trustee elections. We offer a flexible,

holistic plan to revive the library and widen its use, making it once again a successful, welcoming gathering place for all. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards.