

**Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Meeting
with bereaved families
(Tuesday 18 May 2021)**

Attendees

Memorial Commission

Thelma Stober
(Meeting Chair)

Community Representatives (2)

(Bereaved Representatives)

Hanan Wahabi

(Survivor

Representatives¹)

(Lancaster West

Representatives)

Susan Al-Safadi

Secretariat

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Secretariat (2)

Other

Bereaved family attendees (3)

Meeting purpose

- The purpose of these meetings is to update bereaved families on the Commission's work, provide an opportunity for families to share their thoughts or concerns and to ask questions.

Opening

- Thelma introduced the meeting, and a one-minute silence was held at the start of the meeting.

Update of Commission's work

- Thelma explained the purpose of the meeting and invited the Community Representatives to give an update on the recent work of the Commission.
 - An update was given on the Commission's work surrounding the four-year anniversary.
 - A Community Representative updated that the Commission had met with the newly appointed design advisor, Stephanie Edwards.
 - An update was given on the Commission's engagement process and to say that the Community Representatives were now trying to meet one-to-one with bereaved family members in order to gather their thoughts and ideas.

Discussion

- A Community Representative asked those present if they'd had the chance to share their ideas and thoughts with anyone yet.

¹ For the purposes of the Memorial Commission, this refers to former residents of Grenfell Tower and Grenfell Walk.

- An attendee answered that they'd talked to Kaizen and shared their views on the memorial, highlighting the importance of representing "love for one another and community" in the eventual memorial.
- Thelma expressed that they wanted to hear any thoughts on the memorial, even if it was just in the form of "I like this idea" with reference to other memorials or simple themes.
- An attendee said they wanted the memorial to include the tower standing like a floating garden.
- A Community Representative mentioned that they'd heard lots of ideas from families involving a garden theme or the involvement of water.
- An attendee suggested that a piece of the original tower needed to be on show in contrast to a beautiful memorial in order to show the reality of the tragedy and serve as a reminder that it should never happen again.
- An attendee said the memorial should show "family stories" and felt strongly that the memorial should help bring people back together.
- A Community Representative asked those present if their families also wanted to add different views, or if they spoke for them. All attendees present said that they had discussed everything with their families.
- Thelma thanked the attendees for sharing both for them and on behalf of their families and expressed she understood how difficult it could be.
- A Community Representative asked the attendees whether they had any ideas for locations that would be good to host outdoors in-person engagement events. One attendee suggested Avondale Park.
- An attendee mentioned the government's latest communication on the decision of the Tower and said they'd found it quite upsetting. An attendee expressed that some families were worried at the thought of the Tower coming down, but recognised that other families wanted it down as soon as possible. All agreed this is a difficult discussion.
- An attendee expressed that the decision on the Tower should be a community decision only. A Community representative expressed understanding and said that a lot of people felt the same.
- A Community Representative made clear that decisions around the future of the Tower did not rest with the Commission. They went on to mention that the Commission work with the families and community was vital. As part of this a working group focussed on hearing the voice of children and young people has been set up. Attendees were asked if they had any ideas on how to engage young people.
 - Those present said they couldn't think of anything presently but agreed that reaching children and young people was important.
- Thelma asked if anyone had anything else to discuss.
- Thelma thanked everyone for coming and brought the meeting to a close.

Next meetings:

Online meeting with bereaved and former residents:

24th June 18:00 – 19:00

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+44 20 3795 5763,,337507022#](#) United Kingdom, London

Phone Conference ID: 337 507 022#

Memorial Commission drop-in event:

03 July 11:00 – 15:00

Kensington Memorial Park, Saint Marks Road, London W10 6BZ

To share ideas about the memorial, you can contact the Memorial Commission:

Phone: 0303 444 4831

Email: GTMCSecretariat@communities.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/>

Contact your Community Representatives

Alternatively, you can contact our engagement organisation, Kaizen:

Phone: 020 7082 5508

Email: grenfellmemorial@kaizen.org.uk

Letter to: Kaizen, 22a Cliff Villas, London NW1 9AT