

**Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Meeting
with former residents
(Thursday 25 March)**

Attendees

Memorial Commission

Thelma Stober
(Meeting Chair)

Community representatives (2)

(Survivor Representatives ¹)	(Lancaster West Representatives)
Abraham Abebe	Andrea Newton

Secretariat

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Secretariat (2)

Other

Former resident attendees (1)

Meeting purpose

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

Opening

- A one-minute silence was held at the start of the meeting.

Introductions

- Thelma introduced herself and explained her role as co-chair. She set out that the purpose of the meeting was to give those present the opportunity to give views and ask questions about the Commission.

Update on the Commission's work

- Community representatives explained how the Commission was structured and the aims and responsibilities of its work.
- Community representatives provided an update on their work over the past month, particularly focusing on the work done to learn from the experiences of other memorials. An update was given on the meeting with David Davies,

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

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chair of the Aberfan Memorial Charity, and what was learnt from hearing about his experiences.

Discussion

- An attendee expressed that they had shared their vision for a memorial in person at a meeting last year and were keen to hear about progress. The Community Representatives recognised that Covid has had an impact on their engagement. They set out some of their progress they'd made since that point including their continued engagement and ideas gathering from the community.
- Community representatives discussed the importance of hearing from bereaved families and also from children who were affected. An attendee expressed that they understood that viewpoint but that it was a personal decision and they had decided not to involve their children in discussions about the memorial to avoid bringing up painful memories for them.
- Thelma and community representatives were clear that they wanted to understand the best way to engage with former residents. Thelma expressed that she or any of the community representatives were happy to have private meetings with anyone who wants this. Thelma explained how to get in contact with the Commission via email and the [website](#).
- An attendee expressed that all they wanted from the memorial was a picture of their lost family to be included.
- Community representatives reiterated it was important to understand exactly how former residents wanted to engage, so that the Commission could work in a way that was best for them.
- The word cloud was shared on the screen and community representatives explained that this summarised the themes that the community have expressed about how a memorial should feel. This has been published on the Commission's [website](#) and the themes summarise over 300 words heard so far.
- A former resident expressed that they found the repetitive online meetings difficult, and would prefer a single face-to-face meeting at a later date.
- Community representatives asked those present if they wanted to attend a face-to-face meeting in the near future to express their views. An attendee expressed that they wanted to discuss with family members first and then have a single meeting to share their thoughts on the memorial. Community representatives agreed to meet when the attendee felt ready.
- Community representatives asked those present if they were comfortable sharing their views on what they wanted the memorial to look like. An attendee expressed that it was too soon for them to share that.

Close

- Thelma thanked attendees for coming.

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Action: Secretariat to facilitate future meetings between the attendees and Commission members when former residents feel ready.

You can contact the Memorial Commission using the details below:

Phone: 0303 444 4831

Email: GTMCsecretariat@communities.gov.uk

Website: www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/ via [contact buttons](#) in 'About us' section.

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