

**Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission (GTMC) Meeting
20 October 2022**

Attendees

Memorial Commission

Thelma Stober (Chair)

Community Representatives

(Bereaved
representatives)

Hassan Hassan

Hanan Wahabi

Sandra Ruiz

(Survivor
representatives)

Hanan Cherbika

Mohammed Rasoul

(Lancaster West
representatives)

Apologies:

Michael Lockwood

Adel Chaoui

Nabil Choucair

Abraham Abebe

Susan Al Safadi

Andrea Newton

Secretariat

Grenfell Tower Memorial Commission Secretariat: 4 individuals

Other

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC) (1 individual for item 2)

Bishop James Jones and Ken Sutton

Stephanie Edwards, Independent Design Adviser

David Davies and Geraint Davies (Aberfan Memorial Charity)

Tom Chance (CEO of the Community Land Trust)

Meeting purpose

The fortieth meeting of the Commission to discuss ownership models and to discuss writer options for the final report.

Opening

- A one-minute silence was held at the start of the meeting.
- Thelma opened the meeting welcoming all to the meeting, noting that we were joined by the Aberfan Memorial Charity and the Community Land Trust. Thelma passed on the Commission's thoughts to the Aberfan Memorial Charity who have the 56th anniversary of the tragedy on Friday 21 October.
- It was confirmed that the meeting was not quorate

Item 1: For information items

- The Commission cleared the minutes from the 29 September 2022 meeting.
- Risk register and action log: it was noted that many of the actions had been closed, however risks had not changed.
- No conflicts of interests were declared.

Item 2: Ownership

- Thelma introduced the item of what the Memorial Commission has heard about ownership so far, and the proposal to apply several assumptions the department has made about the type of organisation the Commission would like to own the future memorial. The assumptions:
 - The organisation that manages the memorial should not make a profit
 - The organisation should not be owned by the government
 - The organisation must be bereaved, and survivor owned
 - The organisation must be community owned
 - The Commission will want to decide on a model in the final report but can specify the actual owner and management approach later.
 - The Commission will want to focus on ownership primarily and investigate maintenance options later.
- The Commission stated that some of the assumptions are correct in principle, however, they would need more information on them to make further decisions.
- DLUHC introduced the Aberfan Memorial Charity to give their expertise and advice on managing charities.
- Aberfan Memorial Charity explained the ownership structure of their charity and how it has changed slightly over the years. Funded by the Aberfan Disaster Fund, Aberfan has two charities: (1) the Aberfan education charity within a community centre owned by the local authority and (2) The Aberfan Memorial charity, which is responsible for the maintenance of the cemetery and memorial garden. The charity receives money through grants from the Welsh Government and donations from the public. They spoke about the role of trustees and subcommittees and explained how subcommittees can only advise on decisions and only the trustees can make decisions.
- They highlighted the importance of embedding a strong ethos from the beginning to ensure generation after generation you have support for the memorial.

ACTION: The Memorial Commission will stay in contact with Aberfan Memorial Charity to continue to learn from their experience.

- DLUHC introduced the Community Land Trust Network to give an overview of the Community Land Trust model, to outline how it works and how it differs from other models.
- The Community Land Trust explained that their model is a non-profit organisation that own and develop land for the benefit of the community.

- Community Land Trusts are usually set up to provide affordable housing. They do not currently have an example of a Community Land Trust set up for a memorial but in principle it could be used.
- They explained how people that live or work in the area can join the Community Land Trust and be able to vote on the decisions that impact it.
- The Commission agreed that a Community Land Trust model would not work for the Grenfell Memorial however they expressed interest in how principles of the Community Land Trust could work in a hybrid model.
- A community representative said it is important to have a pros and cons document of all the ownership models the Commission is exploring, because that will form the basis of conversations with the community also to deliver focussed workshops to get a proper understanding.

Action: The Memorial Commission to stay in touch with the Community Land Trust to provide further advice, should they want further details of how this ownership model can be used as part of a hybrid model.

Action: DLUHC to attend the December Memorial Commission meeting to provide further detail on ownership models, including a pros and cons list. Secretariat to organise a focused community drop-in event on ownership.

Item 3: Communications update

The secretariat provided an update on the letter to bereaved, survivors and residents and the timeframe for when this will be landing on w/c 24 October. Hardcopy questionnaires will be distributed to local community venues and the questionnaire will also be available online.

Item 4: Design update

Stephanie Edwards (independent design advisor) gave a quick update on her recent work and useful conversations she has had with stakeholders. Stephanie also reflected on the community drop-in event and the importance of visual engagement. Stephanie reiterated the importance of ensuring the design process is inclusive and as open as possible to members of the community.

Item 5: Final report writer

The secretariat discussed the importance of onboarding a writer early to start the process of writing the final report. The secretariat provided options for writers and shared their biographies.

Action: Secretariat to contact writers and schedule introduction meetings with the community representatives.

AOB

The secretariat provided an update on community engagement in October and an update on contact with bereaved families.

GTMC drop-in event Saturday 12 November at the Henry Dickens Court Community Centre – the next drop in event was discussed and the community representatives reiterated the importance of engaging with the community.

You can contact the Memorial Commission directly using the details below:

Phone: 0303 444 4831

Email: GTMCSecretariat@levellingup.gov.uk

Website: www.grenfelltowermemorial.co.uk/contact (and contact the community representatives directly via the [‘About us’](#) section)

Next meeting

Thursday 10 November, at the V&A*.

*Note this meeting will now be held online due to planned tube strikes for 10 November.