

COUNCIL MEETING – 22 FEBRUARY 2016

Item 7

MAYOR'S COMMUNICATIONS

Holocaust Memorials

I spoke at Haringey's **Holocaust Memorial at Bruce Castle Museum** on **24th January 24**. The theme of our multi-faith event was "learning lessons from the past to create a safer, better future".

On **27th January** – the UK's national commemoration day, I **attended LB Southwark's Holocaust** memorial where wreaths were laid in the Garden of Imperial War Museum (IWM) – including one from the Russian Ambassador. Members may like to know that the IWM has a permanent Holocaust Memorial Exhibition.

Celebrating Success in Education in Haringey

I have celebrated success in Education in Haringey by:

- Welcoming the student council of Woodside High School on 7 January to my parlour as part of their visit to the civic centre and their Q&A session with the Leader of the Council Claire Kober.
- Visiting on 26 January Holy Trinity primary school celebrations marking the school being ranked first in the league tables for Haringey and also included in the top ten London schools.
- By visiting The Mulberry School on 1 February, visiting all classrooms, sharing a science based assembly which explained climate change, and congratulating pupils and staff on being one of the first schools in the borough to have solar panels installed.

Chinese New Year has been celebrated across London and I have and will attend these celebrations in Camden, Islington, Westminster and Haringey.

On the auspicious first day of Chinese New Year I briefly **met some of our borough's traders** at the **Haringey Business Alliance meeting**.

Deaths of two Former Councillors

Sadly, this evening, I must report on attending **two funeral services of Former Haringey Councillors**:

Former Mayor and Councillor Lawrence Bains died on 5th December, after a short illness. Lawrence was born and grew up in Hornsey. He was elected as Councillor for Hornsey Borough Council in 1949 at the young age of 29. He served as member and then chairman of a number of committees of the council, and was Hornsey Borough Council's last mayor in 1964 before its merger when Haringey

Council was formed. He continued to serve on Haringey Council until 1971. He also served on the GLC and the health authority. I attended the funeral service out of respect for such a lengthy career in public service. Remember this is the old Hornsey chain that I am wearing.

We are also remembering the passing of **Former Councillor Chris Hannington**. Chris died on 21 January 2016.

I first got to know Chris in the 90s when we were involved in a Justice and Peace project related to a global perspective on asylum seekers at our parish church. I will come back to such matters.

Chris was elected to Haringey Council in 1964 representing Stroud Green Ward and was a Haringey Councillor for 22 years. He became chair of the Housing Committee. Whilst in that post he initiated the policy of partnership with housing associations and this led to the building of many, many homes.

Chris later worked for housing associations and played a major role in the creation of many thousands of homes for social housing and later when working with the LB of H & F devoted time to major improvements of council estates.

Chris was a great advocate of fairness in policing and well respected across the political spectrum

Chris was awarded an OBE for political and public service in 1989.

Chris was Chair of the Haringey Police Consultative Group for some time.

Chris was a proud and steadfast supporter of multi-racial harmony through the Haringey Community Relations Council and later the Haringey Race and Equality Council and represented this body and laid a wreath on behalf of it at the Borough Remembrance Service in Wood Green on 8th November.

I last saw Chris a few weeks later in St Peter in Chains Church making a strong appeal for a CAFOD project to support farmers whose land and livelihood is threatened by climate change.

Though clearly not of the same party as myself Chris was supportive and encouraging to me when he knew I was standing for Hornsey Ward.

As Mayor, I was privileged to represent Haringey Council at his Funeral Mass in our parish church on 5th February.

(May I call on Cllr Rice and Cllr Peacock to speak?)

I now ask Councillors to stand for a minute's silence in respect of former Councillors Lawrence Bains and Chris Hannington.

Thank you