

**Subject:** Petition Debate: West Pier Market – Extract from the Council Meeting held on the 25 October 2012

**Date of Meeting:** 15 November 2012

**Report of:** Interim Lead Chief Executive Services

**Contact Officer:** Name: **Mark Wall** Tel: **29-1006**  
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**Wards Affected:** All

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**4.30pm 25<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Randall (Chair), Meadows (Deputy Chair), Barnett, Bennett, Bowden, Brown, Buckley, Carden, Cobb, Cox, Davey, Deane, Duncan, Farrow, Fitch, Follett, Gilbey, Hamilton, Hawtree, Hyde, Janio, Jarrett, Kennedy, A Kitcat, J Kitcat, Lepper, Littman, Mac Cafferty, Marsh, Mears, Mitchell, Morgan, A Norman, K Norman, Peltzer Dunn, Phillips, Pidgeon, Pissaridou, Powell, Robins, Rufus, Shanks, Simson, Smith, Summers, Sykes, C Theobald, G Theobald, Wakefield, Wealls, Wells, West and Wilson.

**PART ONE**

**31. (b) PETITION DEBATE: WEST PIER MARKET**

- 31.1 The Mayor stated that under the Council's petition scheme, if a petition contained 1,250 or more signatures, it could be debated by the Full Council and such a request had been made in respect of a petition concerning the West Pier Market.
- 31.2 The Mayor invited Mr. Fijalkowski to present his petition.
- 31.3 Mr. Fijalkowski thanked the Mayor and stated that a total of 7,840 people had signed the paper petition which read as follows:

"The development of the i-360 tower on the site of the West Pier means that the West Pier Market, which has run on the site since 1996, will no longer be able to operate in its current location. We, the undersigned, call on the council to find a solution for the

traders to continue to trade on Brighton seafront whilst the construction of the i-360 is underway and to find a permanent solution to siting the market as part of the redevelopment of the area once building of the i-360 has been completed.”

- 31.4 Mr. Fijalkowski stated that officers had been discussing matters with the traders and it was hoped that a solution would be found. The traders understood that the current agreement was with the West Pier Trust and therefore the decision to give notice to the traders as a result of the i-360 development lay with the Trust. However, it was hoped that the council would be able to assist and the petition was simply trying to highlight the situation and express the anxiety of the market traders about their future prospects. He hoped that the market would be able to remain an integral part of the seafront area and noted that it had proved to be a starting point for local businesses in the city.
- 31.5 Councillor Bowden thanked Mr. Fijalkowski for attending the meeting and stated that the council was fully aware of the situation and sympathised with the traders’ position. However, it was looking to find a short-term location to help during the construction phase and would look at how the market could be accommodated in the future as part of the review of the seafront strategy. He was not yet in a position to take forward any options for a long-term solution but was willing to work with the traders to see if their needs could be met.
- 31.6 Councillor Theobald stated that the Conservative Group fully supported the petition and hoped that a viable solution could be found.
- 31.7 Councillor Mitchell stated that the Labour & Co-operative Group also fully supported the petition and hoped that an update to the position could be provided at the Economic Development & Culture Committee meeting in November.
- 31.8 The Mayor noted the comments and thanked Ms. Fijalkowski for attending the meeting and presenting the petition. He then put the recommendation to refer the petition to the Economic Development & Culture Committee for consideration to the vote which was carried.
- 31.9 **RESOLVED:** That the petition be referred to the Economic Development & Culture Committee for consideration.