

MOTIONS

9.1 MOTION FROM COUNCILLOR CURLING

That this Council recognises that well-run pubs play an invaluable role at the heart of our local communities, providing safe, regulated and sociable environments in which people can interact. In recent years Hillingdon has seen a number of long well established local pubs go out of business and then get turned into some other use, anything from a block of flats to a supermarket.

The new National Planning Policy Framework and the Localism Act 2011 establish new responsibilities and tools for local councils to promote and protect local pubs. However, the flexibility for a pub to be converted into a wide range of uses without planning permission still means local communities are often denied any say in what's happening in their neighbourhoods and are unable to protect valued local pubs.

Council also notes that similar motions to this have gained all-party support in many local Councils across the country as well as at the Greater London Authority.

Council therefore calls on the Cabinet to investigate the possibility of protecting community pubs in Hillingdon by ensuring that planning permission and community consultation are required before pubs are allowed to be converted to betting shops, supermarkets and pay-day loan stores or other uses, or are allowed to be demolished. This should include a community policy provision within the Hillingdon Local Plan and specific planning guidance and viability testing that can be used when considering planning applications involving pubs.