

Full Council

7th December 2021



Report of: Tim O’Gara, Director Legal and Democratic Services

Title: Petition Debate- Save Redfield Cinema

Recommendation

That Full Council debates the petition and refers it to the Mayor / relevant Cabinet member for a formal response.

Summary

Under the Council’s petitions scheme, where a petition has 3,500 or more signatures from people who live, work or study in Bristol, the petition organiser can request a Full Council debate.

The Council has received a petition in relation to Redfield Cinema.

The petition organisers have requested that Full Council debates the petition.



Details of the petition

1. The wording of the petition is as follows:

Petition title / subject: Save Redfield Cinema

Petition wording:

“Hidden within the recently sold Wetherspoons on the border of Redfield and St George is a largely intact ART DECO CINEMA.

The art deco frieze runs all the way over the ceiling. The original balcony seating remains - at least 130 seats and there's a large open space in front of the screen that used to belong to the organist and original stall seating.

Originally opening as St George's Hall Electric Palace in 1912, the cinema was extended and renamed St George's Picture House in 1927, before becoming the Granada in 1935. It closed in 1961, then served the area as a bingo hall for around 30 years. The foyer area of the site opened as a J D Wetherspoon pub, called St George's Hall in 1998.

The space has not had chance to succeed as a cinema for 60 years.

We believe this is a huge opportunity for local people to have a community cinema and for the city to preserve a real cultural treasure.

To demolish it would be a tremendous waste.

Sign the petition to tell the local council to make St George's Hall an asset of community value. We want the Council, planners and any developers to work with residents, to ensure this cultural space is not lost.”

2. The petition has been organised by the Paul Burke (Save Redfield Cinema).
[Petition · Save Redfield Cinema · Change.org](#)
3. The petition has secured 8,838 signatures to date, 4318 from Bristol residents.
4. The Full Council is asked to debate the petition.
5. Under the petition scheme, the petition organiser is permitted up to 5 minutes to present and speak to the petition. The petition scheme allows a further period of up to 15 minutes for discussion of the petition by councillors at the Full Council meeting.
6. The Full Council has agreed the following in relation to dealing with petitions with over 3500

signatures: The topic of the debate should be referred to the Mayor/Cabinet, or other relevant body with the petitioner's views and Full Council's views.

RECOMMENDATION

Following the debate, the Full Council is recommended to refer the petition to the Mayor, in order that the Mayor can consider his response, in liaison with the relevant Cabinet member.