

# **PRESS RELEASE ISSUED ON 21st JAN**

**“OVER 3,200 signatures have said NO to the idea to DEMOLISH Montreal Square”**

The campaign to try and save our homes at Montreal Square, Cambridge is still in progress. Back at the end of January Cambridge Housing Society told residents they wanted to look at the idea of DEMOLISHING Montreal Square to build more properties on the site.

On Thursday 17th January we had our 1st meeting with CHS since the 15th May 2018. The Residents Association decided to attend this meeting in the hope of getting some questions answered.

We was told at the start of the meeting this is not a question and answer meeting and Board members were just there to listen to our views on Redevelopment. We continued with our questions about why such little information and why no alternative options with no answers. The Chair was asked directly why a perfectly good 2 bedroomed house has been left empty for 6 weeks when that could be helping someone who needs a home. She said she could not answer that.

On the 27th October 2018 Daniel Zeichner Labour MP spoke to over 80 people who gathered to march the length of Mill Road in support of our campaign to save our homes.

He said He could not support anything not supported by the Residents and that he recommended that CHS talked to residents at not at them.

Lib Dem Councillor Rod Cantrill also joined the march and told everybody who had marched to Montreal Square that this is something the Lib Dems are against too.

Romsey ward Councillors have all given us there support with Councillor Noel Kavanagh attending the meeting with us on Thursday and told CHS this project is risking their reputation in Cambridge.



Supporters protested outside the meeting held at St Philips church on Thursday including Unite union, Argyle Street Housing Co-op, Romsey Labour, Cambridge University Students Group CDE, Trumpington Labour and many more local people.



On Friday 18th January we attended the Cambridge Labour Party meeting where a Emergency Motion was put forward by Unite for Cambridge Labour Party to support residents of Montreal Square which was passed unanimously



After the Motion was passed from left to right Andy Smith (Chair of Montreal Square Residents Association) ,Romsey Labour Cllr Anna Smith, Cllr Sandra Crawford Cherry Hinton, Cheryl Smith Resident, Steve Watson (Chair of Unite Community), May Shafi Unite Union and Neil F J Shailer Labour member.

CHS should be making their decision by the end of January but had no date for us when we asked them at the meeting.

We hope CHS do not delay this any longer as on the 29th January it will be a year since they started this living nightmare for the residents of Montreal Square.