

## Hannah Gosling

---

**Subject:** FW: Valley Gardens Phase 3 - joint statement Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP, Cllrs. Lee Wares and Jackie O'Quinn

**From:** Anthony Middleton  
**Sent:** 27 August 2019 07:52  
**To:** Valley Gardens Forum  
**Cc:** Johnathan Sharrack; Cali Gasson; Tim Wates; Mike La Rooy, ; Hannah Gosling; Jonathan Sharrock  
**Subject:** Re: Valley Gardens Phase 3 - joint statement Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP, Cllrs. Lee Wares and Jackie O'Quinn

Dear Daniel

Thank you for your emails over the weekend and for permission to publish your documents.

We will ensure in particular that the last two emails you have sent are referred to in the Investment Committee meeting as these very clearly summarise the Forum's position. We will also ensure that the Committee is advised of the BHCC internal audit that will be taking place following representations made. In addition we will inform the Committee of the joint statements referred to in your email sent over the weekend and also publish these.

Thank you again for drawing such comprehensive information and detail to the attention of the LEP.

Kind regards

Tony

Sent from my iPhone

On 26 Aug 2019, at 08:00, Valley Gardens Forum wrote:

Dear Tony

Apologies for contacting you during the bank holiday - but I felt it might be helpful for the Investment Committee to have sight of this weekend's 'Joint Press Statement from Lloyd Russell-Moyle, Labour and Co-operative MP for Brighton Kemptown, Conservative transport spokesperson, Cllr. Lee Wares and Labour Chair of Licensing, Cllr. Jackie O'Quinn' - for inclusion in the public file and reported here:

**Labour and Conservative politicians join forces to seek changes to Valley Gardens scheme**

<https://www.brightonandhovenews.org/2019/08/24/labour-and-conservative-politicians-join-forces-to-seek-changes-to-valley-gardens-scheme/>

Please note that our Member of Parliament as well as a Council Committee Chair and Senior member of the Governing Labour administration have joined opposition Conservative politicians in agreement that *"the present scheme risks creating more harm than good to the city. The three politicians also supported calls for the council to stop the project and rethink the proposal"*.

It is important to re-state that this call to 'pause & rethink' has previously been made by members of all political parties in the city. On January 21st, Tom Druitt, Green Councillor

and CEO of the Big Lemon Bus Company was the lead signatory in a tripartite letter to BHCC - also signed by members of the Forum calling that the *"City Council withdraws the business case submitted to the Local Enterprise Partnership with the current design and enters into meaningful engagement with residents and traders through the Valley Gardens Forum and with other stakeholders such that the concerns over the current design proposals are properly addressed with amended designs and business case being subsequently prepared for further consultation"*.

Two simple steps would unlock nearly all objections to the current scheme and therefore fully satisfy conditions set down in your letter to Senior Officer Nick Hibberd BHCC 1 February 2019. **1. Retention of a redesigned roundabout. 2. Retaining a dedicated public and shared transport corridor (bus lanes) on the west side of Brighton's Old Steine.** At this point, LGF funding could be approved and the project would move on to detailed design. It is puzzling that Council Officers refuse to consider this - while offering no plausible evidence to support BHCC's intransigent position.

As the Valley Gardens scheme is a once in a generation opportunity to improve the centre of our city, it would be as well that it was done the right way. Members of the Valley Gardens Forum appreciate the LEP's patience in considering our representations amongst many. We genuinely hope that it will be possible to resolve matters with BHCC ahead of any final deadline for the drawdown of the LGF grant. However, if that deadline is now upon us, It is with great regret that the Valley Gardens Forum call for LGF funding for VG3 to be withheld and potentially withdrawn.

We look forward to your clarification before making any public statement.

Best

Daniel

**Valley Gardens Forum**

a. 11 Old Steine - Brighton - BN1 1EJ

---

**From:** Lee Wares

**Sent:** 24 August 2019 06:27

**To:** 'Arron Hendy'; 'Bex Bastable'; 'Angi Mariani'; News

**Cc:**

Jacqueline O'Quinn

**Subject:** Valley Gardens Phase 3 - joint statement Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP, Cllrs. Lee Wares and Jackie O'Quinn

Dear all,

Please see below the joint statement/ press release from Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP, myself and Cllr. Jackie O'Quinn regarding Valley Gardens Phase. Please feel free to contact any of us if you have any questions.

Kind regards and best wishes, Lee

**Cllr. Lee Wares**

Conservative Councillor for Patcham and Hollingbury

Deputy Leader of the Conservative Group

Conservative spokesperson for Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee

Member of Licensing Committee

Brighton and Hove City Council

Hove Town Hall

Norton Road

Hove

BN3 3BQ

Tel: 01273 291996

*Lloyd Russell-Moyle, Labour and Co-operative MP for Brighton Kemptown, Conservative transport spokesperson, Cllr. Lee Wares and Labour Chair of Licensing, Cllr. Jackie O'Quinn, met on Wednesday a packed meeting of the Valley Gardens Forum. The forum represents a wide range of residents, businesses, traders, the tourism sector, the event sector, bus users and some bus operators and the local taxi trade with concerns about the adverse impacts of the currently proposed Valley Gardens Phase 3 project around the Old Steine and Aquarium Roundabout.*

*Forum members expressed concern about the continued lack of consultation, the lack of consideration regarding air quality and pollution, the risk to the city's economy and vehicle congestion and displacement. Lloyd Russell-Moyle*

*MP and Cllrs. Lee Wares and Jackie O'Quinn all agreed that the present scheme risks creating more harm than good to the city. The three politicians also supported calls for the council to stop the project and rethink the proposal.*

*Lloyd Russell-Moyle said "There are some very good aspects of this project that everybody seems to support such as cycling, walking and accessibility, but removing the access to Madeira Drive and redeveloping the Duke's Mound junction to compensate is not one of them. There are other concerns about how this will affect Kemp Town, including the lack of additional tree-planting on the Kemp Town side, lack of bus stops which will reduce footfall to Kemp Town and the restricted access to the Old Steine for event organisers."*

*Labour Councillor Anne Pissaridou, the new Chair of the Environment, Transport and Sustainability Committee, said: "Improving road safety is one of the core objectives." She has facilitated a number of meetings with council officers and local elected officials including agreeing mediation with the Valley Gardens Forum.*

*But, Lloyd Russell-Moyle stated: "I welcome Cllr Pissaridou's engagement in this issue but the community don't believe that the mediation has yet been effective and the modelling on the junctions remains only the second worst option for cyclists and safer options with lights and roundabouts were presented and should be considered. The current scheme will also have a large economic detriment to Kemp Town and one of the key "High Streets" in our city. These developments need to come with mitigation measures to prevent the loss of business in our city. I have relayed many of the concerns to officers in the council and I continue to receive reassurances that these will be taken on board in later design iterations but these need now to be in writing and legally binding."*

*Cllr. Lee Wares add "The level of anxiety and anger across a large section of our city is unabated. There are so many faults with this project that could be put right if the council were to pause, reopen discussions, get everybody round the table and listen to all the good ideas that exist. We can greatly improve sustainable and active travel, create world class event space and still keep the city moving whilst protecting our local economy."*

*Cllr. Jackie O'Quinn stated "Having listened to the taxi trade and seen first-hand the implications they will negatively impact the trade and their customers with Madeira Drive entry only and exit at Duke's Mound. Officers have shown a willingness to seek solutions to this allowing two way traffic with restricted turning at the pier entrance, these options now need to be confirmed to reassure the community"*

*After the meeting Cllr. Steve Bell, Leader of the Conservative Group said "We have expressed our concerns about Phase 3 from the very beginning and we are grateful for Lloyd's interest. The city has a golden opportunity to use Government money to considerably improve the area. Our commitment to the Labour Administration is that we will work with them, doing whatever it takes, to reach a solution that is good for all our citizens and businesses."*

ENDS.

**Notice to recipient:**

The information contained in this electronic mail message is intended only for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed and may contain information which is privileged and confidential, the disclosure of which is prohibited by law.

If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient, please note that any dissemination, distribution or copying of this communication is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error please notify the sender immediately.

Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation.

You can visit our website at <http://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk>

Please consider the environment, only print out this email if absolutely necessary.

Please Note: Both incoming and outgoing Emails may be monitored and/or recorded in line with current legislation

<Valley Gardens Phase 3 - joint statement Lloyd Russell-Moyle MP, Cllrs. Lee Wares and Jackie O'Quinn - 240819.pdf>

