

News not Profit

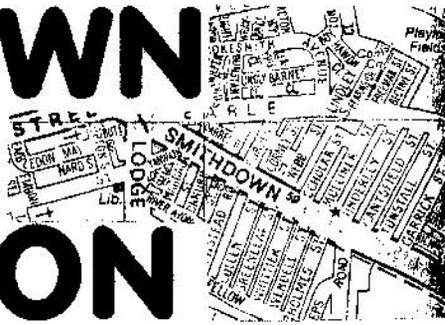


WILL PRINT YOUR STORIES. GET IN TOUCH.

July 2006

Brought to you by the Liverpool Social Forum

SMITHDOWN AGAINST DEMOLITION



greater number of homes and providing community resources to replace ones lost locally. If homes were refurbished and occupied, and the council and police take the issue of antisocial behaviour seriously, then this would be a nice place to live.

For those of you on Tunstall, Garrick, Bird and Richardson Streets and adjacent shop terraces, you are scheduled

for phase 2. We ask you to join us in this fight now. If we lose and we are evicted, who will you ask to help you? Please join the fight now to save all our homes. Residents of Bannerman St, Spofforth rd and adjacent Webster Rd streets, did you know the developers have already submitted plans for your area? They have outlined your houses for clearance and development by a third party to make profits on the back of your losses.

Have you been here before? Do you want to tell us or the inquiry anything? How bad has your housing association or council house been? What ideas do you think would improve the area and your life? Did you object to the plans and did you get a reply? We know of people who objected but aren't on the list of objectors. email: maxilian@hotmail.com

On July 11 the issue of compulsory purchase orders for homes and business in the Smithdown Rd area goes to public inquiry. From a longer message posted on Liverpool Indymedia, July 20.

'We are a new group fighting for better homes and community facilities in our area. We are NOT against new homes being built for those that want them, but they don't need to be built on the rubble of the homes of people that don't want them or can't afford them. We ARE against the theft and demolition of decent homes and profiteering by the private sector. Membership is £2 per year and is open to all residents and businesses in the area. There are many ways we can help ourselves and our neighbours. You can become a committee member, deliver leaflets, attend our meetings, display posters, give fighting funds for the public inquiry, your skills as a builder, artist, architect etc, towards community led alternatives. Whatever you can do, please let us know as soon as possible.

For those of you that have been told by the council and their partners that these houses are definitely coming down - this is a lie. This is their preferred option. It will be decided by public inquiry, and then by Ruth Kelly MP. The council is offering a fraction of what your home is worth; that is why sales to the council have dried up recently. Did you know that one house on Tunstall Street sold for £106,000? Imagine what they'd sell for in a refurbished state with a nicer environment!...The council has chosen the most expensive option - mass demolition and new build by the private sector - BELLWAY HOMES and KEEP-MOAT. We believe the money would be better spent refurbishing a

ROUND UP

Culture Threatens Luxury Flat Industry

The Jamaica Street industrial area, South of the City centre, could be the next new yuppie district if a bunch of artists don't get in the way. Quality empty buildings have already been used for exhibitions and short term projects and the Picket music venue has recently moved there. People are starting to propose an 'independent' district in which non-profit groups can operate without the threat of eviction or over priced sandwiches. Keep an ear out.

Oxton Festival Banned

Residents near the Arno park, Prenton have managed to stop other people going there to listen to music and socialise. The final decision was made by Wirral council who have a bad record for spoiling people's fun. Someone told us that folk will meet anyway on Saturday 1st July, mid afternoon for a picnic and do it yourself entertainment.

Fly Posting News

Liverpool Council is intensifying its anti-fly posting campaign and grass roots, non-profit operations are starting to suffer. An official scheme is on trial whereby each band night/event can have posters pasted at three official sights. Results so far are not promising. People are organising and talking with the council so if it effects you, get in touch: flyposter@merseymail.com.

Christian Protesters Surprised

A small group of people braved heckling and did their bit for free speech when the Gerry Springer Opera came to town. Christian Voice organised a demo against a show seen by some as sacrilegious. Some say it's just not very good, but the courageous counter-demonstrators turned up at the Empire with their own placards when the show opened.

GMB Vs. Walmart

Workers at 20 UK distribution depots are taking on America's biggest employer, demanding respect for their union and safe working practices. A GMB meeting in Manchester saw a 74% vote in favour of striking and labour will be withdrawn between June 30th and July 4th affecting the delivery of 30,000 tonnes of goods to Asda Wal-mart stores. The GMB wants a formal bargaining structure with the company which is notorious for its anti-union practices. They also want to see unpaid bonuses from 2005 and an independent panel to ensure they are safe while they work. Staff are worried about the way new technology and methods are introduced and the risks of greater work rates and unsafe depots.

Phil Davies of the GMB says 'members know full well that Asda Wal-Mart are gearing up to try to break this strike. This decision shows that GMB members are determined to win collective bargaining rights which are common across British industry.' Similar strikes in the US have had support from shoppers and people in Merseyside can help by not shopping at Asda while the dispute continues.