

Hackney *Independent*

www.hackneyindependent.org

Hackney Council Elections May 2006



WHY WE'RE SUPPORTING HACKNEY INDEPENDENT



Hackney Independent are the only group offering us anything in the area. The Independent Kids Cinema is great because it's brought all the different kids in the area together – kids from different cultures get to do something together. Even when the film is over you can see them playing together and this also brings the parents together and makes the community stronger. The other parties seem to give us empty promises. Hackney Independent always do what they say they will.

Debbie Gardner



This Labour council has treated me appallingly. I think they are incompetent. They are supposed to work for the people, but they are taking from the poor and giving to the rich. They will sell anything. If they are put there by the people they should work for the people. They should have more respect for the decent ordinary people that pay their rents and rates. Arthur Shuter has helped me out over the years – right from the beginning. You name it, letter writing, dealing with the council and solicitors – he's been a friend and a friend of the family.

Tony Platia



I am really glad that somebody has taken an interest in resolving my housing repair problem which has been going on since 2003. Hackney Independent have worked very hard to get a result for me and they have kept going with it even when I felt like giving up.

Doris Bathersfield



My Son went to Laburnum School before it was closed by the Learning Trust. We worked with Peter and Carl from Hackney Independent on the campaign to try and stop the closure. We went all over Hackney to try and save our school. Unbelievably the same thing is happening to me all over again – My son goes to Homerton School and now that's being closed! We don't want our kids moved around schools all the time. They live in Hackney and they should be educated in Hackney. The Learning Trust don't help you at all. Also, the Labour party only come out for elections but you see Hackney Independent out on the streets all the time.

Jackie Teasell



“The Labour councillors we had round here for the last 4 years got nothing done. At the same time Hackney Independent were running the Kids Cinema on my estate, holding advice surgeries and knocking on doors and talking to people. I’m asking everyone to vote Hackney Independent this time.”

Edie Murphy



The Labour Party isnt the one I grew up with – that was working class people working for the good of the place where they lived. Under Tony Blair it’s all changed – they ignore working class people. They say they want to hear what the public have to say but then they completely ignore it. And everything they seem to do they mess up. Hackney Independent are working class people and will take notice of what people are saying and make Haggerston a better place to live in.

Betty Shanks Former Mayor of Hackney.



“You have have THREE votes on May 4. Please use all THREE to vote for the Hackney Independent candidates”

Nusrat Sen

4 Mayıs'ta Haggerston Bölgesindeki encümen azaları için ÜÇ oyunuz var.
Lütfen ÜÇÜNÜDE Hackney Independent adayları için kullanınız.



I’ve lived in Fellow’s Court for 27 years. I used to go to the estate meetings but I cant be bothered with the councillors and the meetings any more as things never seem to get sorted. I feel like our block is always being left out and no one has done anything for it. I really want to get a concierge for example and now they tell us we cant have one.

I was chair person of Apples & Pears and they don’t get funded enough. They’re a good organisation and kids need somewhere to go round here but they’re always getting their funding cut.

At the moment you don’t feel like you’re being thought of. It can make you feel really fed up. Hackney Independent have always supported Apples & Pears and they took action on Broadway Market. They do what they say they will.

Jenny Lord

Haggerston Under New Labour - Backwards Not Forward

Backward With New Labour

Was closed in 2000 and the building sits empty and unused to this day. Six years ago Labour put out a leaflet saying it would only be closed for 3 months! Now the Labour election leaflet says they are "now looking to reopen Haggerston Pool" This is too little, too late.

Haggerston Pool



Apples & Pears Playground



Continually faces an uncertain future due to the unwillingness of the Council to fund it properly and for the long-term.

Acton's Lock



Yet another private waterside development in an area where there is an urgent need for more council housing for overcrowded families. This was imposed on Whiston estate residents who had already rejected the idea when consulted.

Laburnum School



Closed in 2003 against the wishes of local parents. Labour stood in the 2002 elections knowing they were going to close it, but did not mention this in their election campaign.

Haggerston West & Kingsland Estates



Residents have spent more than 10 years living in uncertainty as to the future of their rundown estates. And now Labour are asking for your votes "to make sure the redevelopment happens quickly"!

Forward With Hackney Independent

We will continue to campaign with local people to make sure it is reopened as a swimming pool that everybody can afford to use.

We recognise the value of local facilities and activities for our children and will campaign for its full and long-term funding. We will also continue to run Hackney Independent Kids, Cinema on local estates in school holidays.

We will continue to oppose the building of even more luxury flats in the area and will campaign to get overcrowded families housed in larger and more suitable council homes.

We stood side by side with parents and children to keep this popular local school open. We will continue to argue that local people should decide what is the best type of education for their children. That's why we oppose the Council's plans to make Haggerston School a mixed school.

Hackney Independent will demand an apology from the council over the way they have treated residents over the years. It would only be fair to reduce rent and service charges to reflect the conditions. We will support the outcome of any ballot on the estates, but will work with residents if elected to get immediate improvements in security and the state of repair.

Hackney Independent Local Office

Most Haggerston residents do not know who their current local councillors are or what they are doing on behalf of the area. We only see Labour at election times. We will open an office in the area so you can come in and meet your local councillors and have a chat about any concerns, issues or problems you may have. We will call regular ward meetings where you can hear what your councillors have been doing and say how you think we should represent Haggerston's views in the Town Hall.



Hackney Independent Candidates

Peter Sutton Peter has been involved with Hackney Independent since its formation in 1999. He led the campaign to save Laburnum school and, as a fully-qualified housing professional, helps out at the Hackney Independent advice surgeries.



“During the 2002 local elections when Carl and I came a strong second to Labour, the Labour council didn’t make public its decision to close Laburnum school until after the campaign was all over. We were determined that Labour shouldn’t get away with that and should not represent Haggerston anymore.

Labour are saying they are doing us a favour by replacing windows and bringing homes up to the decent homes standard. We should remember two things. Firstly, they are only doing because the government is forcing them to, and secondly, these are repairs that any decent landlord would have carried out years ago.

If tenants pay rent and service charges then it is only right that homes are modernised and repaired – it isn’t a massive achievement as the Labour party make out. We need to keep the pressure on until all our homes are fully repaired.”

Carl Taylor A resident on the Suffolk estate, Carl has been involved in community campaigns for a number of years now including the Independent Kids Cinema, the Save Haggerston Pool Campaign and the recent occupation of Tony’s café on Broadway Market



“Once the Labour councillors are voted in they disappear in between elections. The people of Haggerston have no idea what they are doing on our behalf in the town hall. I’ve never seen them put out

a newsletter other than at election time. For several years now Hackney Independent has put out its own newsletter at least three times a year. Good local councillors should be visi-

ble, approachable and accountable and they should work constructively with local working class people, not against them.”

Arthur Shuter Arthur Shuter helps local people and traders to fight problems with the Council and to deal with housing, health and benefit issues. He was the spokesman for the protestors who battled to save Tony’s café on Broadway Market.



“I have been involved with one-to-one casework for over 30 years. It started with people wanting help with DHSS forms but then it became more complicated with different issues. I’ve dealt with housing, disability benefits, social care, mobility needs – you name it, I’ve dealt with it. Two successful recent cases are was

woman who had lived in Hackney for 23 years. Because of mental health issues she really needed full care, so I managed to have her rehoused to Waltham Forest two doors away from her sister, who could provide the care and attention she needed. Another was a case of a woman who ended up becoming an agoraphobic

and a hermit. I managed to sort out a housing renovation grant and other assistance. Now she’s a carer for autistic adults and her life has been totally turned around. I view becoming a councillor as just an extension of the past 30 years of experience and hard work.”

Vote Hackney Independent on May 4th

The table below shows how close Hackney Independent’s Carl Taylor came to being elected in 2002. It compares his 610 votes to the votes of the other parties. Hackney Independent have a real chance of getting in in Haggerston!

Tiyamiyu/Labour.....	700
Taylor/Hackney Independent....	610
Boff/Conservative.....	435
Rae/Lib Dems.....	270

This is what the council election ballot paper will look like on May 4th.

You can vote for three candidates. We hope you will use all three of your votes to elect Hackney Independent:

Arthur SHUTER
Peter SUTTON
Carl TAYLOR

9	RAE Benjamin Christie Rae 110 Hoxton Street, Shoreditch, London N1 6SH The Liberal Party	
10	SHUTER Arthur Charles Shuter 94a Goldsmith Row, London E2 9JY Hackney Independent	
11	SUTTON Peter Sutton 18 Lilian Close, Hackney, East Estate, London N16 0GG Hackney Independent	
12	TAYLOR Carl Geoffrey Taylor 23 Lavender Court, Suffolk Estate, London E8 4PU Hackney Independent	
13	THACKER Rajeev Kumar Thacker Flat 201, 7 Garden Walk, Hackney, London EC2A 3EW Green Party Candidate Green Party	
14	THOMAS Lisa Maria Thomas 191 Riverside Close, London E5 9SU Conservative	



On May 4th you will also get a vote for the Mayor, who takes overall control of the Council. We think that the best candidate is Hettie Peters, who is running as an independent. We don’t agree with everything in her manifesto but we do support many of her ideas such as:

- I’ll cancel Mayor Pipe,s new town hall.
- I’ll spend the £70 million on services for Hackney citizens rather than on offices for politicians and bureaucrats.
- I’ll reopen Clissold Leisure Centre and Haggerston Pool.
- I’ll stop the council turning empty buildings into luxury homes and offices.
- I’ll save local shops and businesses by stopping the Council flogging them to property sharks at knock-down prices. I,ll root out the scandal and see if I can get the shops and money back.