

**Council: Tuesday, 25 January 2011**

**Motion 3.4:** Cllr. Ansuya Sodha

**Artsdepot, Barnet Museum & Church Farm House Museum**

“Council notes the level of support amongst local residents for the artsdepot, Barnet Museum and Church Farm House Museum, with hundreds of signatures already registered on local petitions calling for the three organisations to retain their funding from LB Barnet.

Council notes that the saving for withdrawing funding from these three much loved organisations is £334,000.

Council funding for these three organisations could continue if other savings were made within Barnet’s budget, for example by re-structuring council scrutiny and area planning and environment committees to make a saving of £55,474 from councillors allowances. (eg. Streamline scrutiny by reducing the number of committees to one main committee that commissions task and finish groups and takes call-ins, plus one Health scrutiny committee; also by merging Area Planning and Environment committees – a reduction of 3 committees). Cabinet could also reduce the circa £10m p.a. budget for external consultants to make up the remaining saving of £278,526 to continue funding the artsdepot, and the Barnet & Church Farm House Museums.

Council asks Cabinet to consider including the above savings in their draft budget instead of withdrawing the funding from the artsdepot and Barnet & Church Farm Museums.

Under Standing Order Part 4, Section 1, 31.5: if my item is not dealt with by the end of the meeting I ask that it be voted upon at the council meeting.”