

Full Council, 30 January 2018

Agenda item 14.6 – Amendment in the name of Cllr Hugh Rayner

Opposition Motion in the name of Cllr Kath McGuirk - North Finchley Crown Post Office

Delete all and replace with (additions in bold):

Council notes a campaign has been launched to prevent the proposed conversion of North Finchley Post Office into a franchise and to maintain it as Crown Post Office. Council notes this will result in a reduced service with longer queues and waiting times for customers.

Since the mass closure of Crown Post Offices began under the previous Labour government, some 97% are now franchises, leading in many cases to longer opening hours and greater convenience for customers. Indeed, despite Labour members' involvement in the campaign against the closure of East Finchley Crown Post Office in 2014, Council notes that the franchise is now open for longer. It is also open on Sundays, unlike North Finchley Post Office.

Council notes a Financial Times report on East Finchley Post Office, published on 15th August 2016, which described how “Customers appear satisfied with the service.” The newspaper quoted Gloria Benson, 50, who said “It’s a wonderful post office. The old post office was a nightmare you had to wait for a long time” and Marc Schaller, 38, who said “I felt for a long time the post office needed to update and modernise.”

Council wants to support and rejuvenate our Town Centres and believes this kind of innovative entrepreneurial partnership complements our aim and is in the best interests of customers.

Council therefore instructs officers to set out LB Barnet's position on the proposed closure in a response to the Post Office Ltd consultation.