



**Evelyn Assembly
13 February 2014
2000 Community Action Centre
7pm – 9pm**

Meeting notes

Your local assembly, your say!

1. Welcome and Introduction to the meeting

Councillor Joan Millbank welcomed everyone to the meeting. She explained that due to the sad passing of Councillor Sam Owolabi-Oluyole and the illness of Councillor Crada Onuegbu she would be chairing this meeting.

2. Respects for Councillor Sam Owolabi-Oluyole

Ibrahim Kamara a local friend of Councillor Sam Owolabi-Oluyole spoke to the assembly. He spoke of the councillors' dedication to the community and the help that he offered especially on training and immigration issues and the time that he gave to many local people and that he would be greatly missed.

Councillor Joan Millbank paid respects from Councillor Obajimi Adefiranye. She spoke of his time given to disadvantaged members of community, that he gave priority to serving the community and used his representational role to the best of his ability. She also spoke of Sam's support for the participation of black people in politics, and that he would certainly be greatly missed.

3. Update on Assembly Fund Projects

Youth Activities Assembly Fund – Social Enterprise Project

It was stated that the assembly fund projects were voted for on the 12 of October and there was one project which was voted in but the detail of the project hadn't been decided which was the £2000 for youth activities.

The coordinating group suggested that one of the project ideas that came from young people when they were asked was a project to create something and sell it on. This could be supported from a local successful social enterprise to show the young people what could be achieved. There were no votes against the project going ahead.

Family Support Project – Free Half Term Sessions

Maira Kerrane from the Evelyn Parents Forum spoke to the assembly. This project was voted for at the 12 of October assembly meeting. She explained that the first round of sessions is going to take place in the February Half Term at the **Evelyn Childrens Centre, 231 Grove Street, SE8 3PZ - telephone 0208 691 1064.**

These will be on Tuesday 18 February, Wednesday 19 February and Thursday 20

February and run from 10.30am - 3.00pm. There will be crafts, activities, entertainers and a healthy snack and all the sessions are free and open to parents of under fives and siblings up to the age of 10.

Moira explained that these are funded by £3,000 of Evelyn Assembly fund but also £7,500 of match funding from Clyde Childrens Centre and the Childrens Society that run Evelyn Childrens centre.

Evelyn Training Project

*Malcolm Cadman from the Pepys Community Forum spoke to the assembly. Malcolm explained that the Evelyn Training Project has £3,000 of Evelyn Assembly Fund to pilot this local training project that will run locally in Evelyn ward. There is opportunity for translators and crèche facilities and the courses are for over 18's. Please contact Malcolm on **020 8694 3503** malcolmpepysforum@gmail.com if you would like more information or are interested in the following courses:-*

- *Nail Technician course*
- *Face Painting, for community events*
- *CV Workshops*
- *Taster Child Care Course*
- *Business Start-up – Taster*
- *Basic Budgeting and Finance*
- *Food Safety at Level 2*
- *First Aid at Level 2*
- *Basic IT course*

People signed up at the meeting for the training courses also but there are still spaces available.

4. Housing Table Discussion

It was explained that residents had asked the assembly to try and better the communication between housing providers and residents as well as with developers.

Results from the table discussions:

What are the top 3 main problems local people are having with their homes and landlords in this area?

General

- *Not enough help for re housing on the Pepys Estate*
- *Resident meetings and more community investment in tenants and leaseholders work as teams across the estate.*
- *Too long in temporary housing cant put childrens names down for schools and doctors*
- *Overcrowding and re-housing*
- *Contractors parking on Grove Street*
- *Rent increases*
- *Shared ownership – increase in service charges*
- *Bike Racks on the Waterfront in front of Pepys Resource Centre*
- *Deptford Strand boat behind Bar 8 is collecting water*
- *From a child's perspective the physical state of the some of the conditions of the flats on the Pepys Estate isn't good.*

- *Bedroom Tax when children go to University will it have to be paid at this time?*
- *Poor services and value for money*
- *Poor management and communication*
- *Lack of communal voice at committee level*

Family Mosaic

- *Family Mosaic took out the cable boxes in James Lind House*
- *Family Mosaic communal door boarded for 2 months – Leeway*

Hyde Housing

- *Repairs not completed contractors not doing a good job damaged furniture not replaced – Complaints procedure not followed up stages not followed*
- *When will Hyde Housing be doing Decent Homes improvements?*

Lewisham Homes

- *Too many sub-contractors revisiting the same jobs*
- *Draught proofing ill fitting windows*
- *Substandard repairs*
- *impersonal attitudes of staff*
- *We mostly would like to stay with Lewisham Council and Lewisham Homes as a service provider on their behalf (eventually after improving their communication with local residents community and quality of their services).*
- *Will there be a referendum on the changes to independent Lewisham Homes?*
- *Decent Homes work is not satisfactory, shoddy workmanship correspondence not answered health and safety breaches – Pepys*
- *Out of Hours Emergency Service very unreliable and call centre staff not properly trained and don't know the emergency procedures.*
- *Would like better responses to complaints about decent homes work*

Developers

Berkley Homes

Environmental pollution, Tar Odour and Naphthalene Spray at new development at Marine Wharf in the summer, the air was not breathable no communication with residents that have been effected and want to know the effects of exposure to these chemicals and why weren't they informed that chemicals were going to be sprayed? Environmental Health said that Naphthalene had to be sprayed because the soil was contaminated.

Representatives from Lewisham Homes and MITIE and Amicus Horizon were at the meeting and answered questions:

- *It was said that before works start there is a booklet given to households with telephone contact numbers.*
- *It was said that it is normal to have different subcontractors as they are different trades i.e. window fitters and plumbers etc.*

Daubeney

TRA representative expressed that it didn't matter if you knew who to contact as the contact didn't affect the situation. The responsibility seemed to be with the tenant to chase MITIE not of MITIE to fix any mistakes. Work on Daubeney has not been checked and not supervised and has been signed off by the clerk of works when there were unresolved problems.

- *It was answered by MITIE that these problems should be escalated and discussed at the TRA.*

Someone in Daubeney has had a leak for 1 year the clerk of works has not checked their property.

- *It was answered that MITIE check the work and the Clerk of Works tries to gain access to each individual dwelling.*
- *It was said by Lewisham Homes that the pipe work is old and not part of the Decent Homes improvements and the leak is a repairs issue not Decent Homes*

It was said that people have been emptying their baths with buckets in Daubeney Towers for 26 years because the drains are so slow

Re-housing

It was said that there isn't enough support to help people with re-housing. Details have been updated then have been lost by officers. It was said that there should be a surgery for people in North Lewisham so they don't have to travel to Catford to get rehousing advise.

It was said that there are vulnerable families in poor quality temporary accommodation. Landlords are raising rents and serving eviction notices.

Pepys – accessibility

It was said that there are many parts of the estate that are inaccessible to pushchairs and disabled people due to the number of steps.

- *It was answered that at the moment money is being spent inside peoples homes but after the Decent Homes programme has finished there will be pushes to try and get further funding for the estate grounds and to look at disabled access.*

CCTV in Lifts Harmon and Pelican House

It was said that there is urination and defecation in the lifts in Harmon and Pelican House but there is CCTV so why is no one ever taken to account for this anti-social behaviour.

Daubeney Tower Storage room locked

It was said that the storage room in Daubeney Tower has been locked for a long time. Lewisham Homes said that the residents wanted it locked but it was suggested that the consultation was with a really small number of residents.

Pendennis House

External cupboards not accessible locks don't work.

5. Money for Local Community Facilities

Nancy Stridgen the Evelyn Assembly development worker informed that the Evelyn Assembly has been asked to suggest a **community facility** which would benefit from £10,000 to spend on 'capital' (physical) improvements. This money can't be used to put on activities and clubs.

This is from the 'Section 106' money which needs to benefit the local community when there is a new development.

Definition of Community facilities – Can usually be facilities used for social, recreational and leisure purposes e.g. community halls and centres, youth clubs, libraries, leisure facilities, community / adult education, adventure play centres, meeting places and community offices, arts and cultural facilities, and community facilities attached to faith buildings.

There were table discussions, here are the results:

Do you have any ideas where the money should be spent in Evelyn ward (see map)

General

- Playclubs and schools
- Redesign children and youth outdoor space to promote more activities and healthy lifestyle
- Bike Racks outside public facilities along the riverfront – EcoCommunities
- Improved signposting where facilities are
- A local educational/ museum/historical artefacts centre to house everything recently unearthed by developers. This would serve to teach local youth and newcomers about the rich historical heritage of the area

Grove Street Play Area

- Improvements

Deptford Park

- Café social enterprise with local people trained to run.
- Outdoor Gym for children teenagers adults pregnant women old age pensioners
- Outdoor Gym with a shelter
- Splash Park like Belvedere splash park
- More seats in Deptford Park

Akwaaba Centre

- Laundry Room

Riverside Youth club

- Improvements

2000 Community Action Centre

- Work to improve & new computers
- Wifi and scanner/printer
- Stage door sanded and painted
- Floor sanded and varnished
- Tables and chairs

Trinity community rooms

- Revamp heating and paint

Playarea by the River

- Improve this playspace
- Make it accessible for 16-25 year olds

Environment

- Plant New Trees
- Promote Community Gardens
- Raised beds community growing area in the boat area on Deptford Strand/ Foreshore/ SE8 3BA and alongside riverfront where the boat wynch is.

- More recycling waste bins along riverfront for tourist and walkers
- Shrubs green space
- Grass in Evelyn overtaken by weeds
- Glendale is neglecting the grass on Deptford Estates

Do you have any ideas on the type of improvements you would like to see

- Generally making all inclusive community improvements

6. Community Updates

Sabrina Jantua – Community Connections

Sabrina Jantua from Community Connections spoke to the meeting.

She advised that Community Connections is an 18 month project to try and help older people connect with their communities helping isolated people make links with clubs and activities that will last after the project has finished.

There are community development workers that make links with local clubs and organisations and also look at ways to increase facilities and activities for local older people.

Also there are Community Support facilitators that work individually with older people and encourage and support people to attend local activities and services.

Sabrina asked the meeting is anyone can think of someone that might be helped by support to get out please contact: communityconnections@ageuklands.org.uk or call: 020 8314 3244

Roz Amat Extended Schools Coordinator

Roz explained that she is the extended school coordinator for this area. She is trying to get local young people more aware and involved in their community. She works with Primary Schools but is making links to Deptford Green as well. She is setting up community ambassadors via the school councils and wants them to link into the Evelyn Assembly so that they can have an influence on assembly work. She will be back at the next assembly to let us know their progress.

Healthwatch

Miriam Long from Healthwatch spoke to the assembly. She explained that Healthwatch Lewisham allows local people to have a say in local health and care services. She circulated leaflets and asked if anyone wanted to share their experiences please contact her and that peoples feedback influences the way that the services are paid for.

Healthwatch Lewisham St. Laurence Community Centre, 31 – 37 Bromley Road, Catford, SE6 2TS Tel 020 7998 7796 info@healthwatchlewisham.co.uk
www.healthwatchlewisham.co.uk

Pepys Community Library

Pepys Community Library at Pepys Resource Centre is now open 3 days a week Monday Wednesday and Thursday from 1pm – 6pm.

Riverside Youth Club

Is was advised that Riverside Youth Club is open with activities every day in the Half term.

The Quay Point

thequaypoint.co.uk It was said that the community website is up and running so please have a look.

KEYS Supplementary school

This supplementary school is for 6-18 year olds at the Pepys resource Centre Saturdays from 9am please contact us if you are interested.

No By-Election

It was advised that there would not be a By-Election before the election on the 22 May for Evelyn ward.

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.