



Your local assembly, your say!

**Blackheath Assembly
27 March 2014
St Matthew Academy
7.30pm - 9.30pm**



Meeting Notes

1	Welcome and Introduction to the meeting
	Councillor Chris Maines welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the agenda.
2	Discussion on use of Blackheath for Music Festivals
	<p>Good Hope Festival Statement Cllr Chris Maines read out a statement from Tommy Mizen regarding the Good Hope Festival:</p> <p>Dear Residents of Blackheath Firstly please accept my apologies for not being able to attend this evening.</p> <p>As many of you will be aware The Jimmy Mizen Foundation were successful in obtaining the licence for The Festival, and we are grateful for the support many of you gave in helping up get this. After a lot of thought, The Jimmy Mizen Foundation has made the decision to move the Good Hope Festival to the first weekend in August 2015.</p> <p>On the 2nd August this year, we will be holding the launch of the Good Hope Festival on Blackheath. This will be an open event for the local community and our partners to hear all about the Good Hope Festival.</p> <p>Due to the tight time frame we have to put this on, we feel that by moving to 2015 we will give ourselves more time and a greater opportunity to work with the local community, festival partners, and supporters to ensure that the festival will be the weekend we have promised. Community is very important to us and we understand that there are many concerns surrounding the festival and feel that giving ourselves more time, we will be able to alleviate these concerns and put on a festival that everyone can be proud of.</p> <p>We have a fantastic team who've worked hard to get us to this point and we will continue to work hard for a safe, successful, and fun weekend to promote Peace, Hope and Change.</p> <p>Over the next year and a half, as we build towards the festival, the work experience and 'Festival Friends' programme will continue to run, creating even more opportunities for our young people.</p> <p>We will of course keep you all updated on the progress of the Good Hope Festival</p>

and look forward to working closer with the Blackheath community as we work towards 2015. Yours sincerely, Tommy Mizen (Festival Director).

Lewisham Council

Kevin Sheehan (Lewisham Council Executive Director for Customer Services) then spoke about Lewisham Councils decision making process around allowing festivals on Blackheath. Main points included:

Scrutiny of Festival Applications

Stage 1

- festival Promoters submit pre application forms.
- submissions are put through a process where council officers test if proposals are in line with agreed policies for events on Blackheath.

Stage 2

- if proposals pass the first stage the proposal is submitted to Lewisham Councils Licensing Committee for further scrutiny, this committee decides if an event should be awarded a licence.

Stage 3

- if the Licensing Committee grants licence, proposal is passed to the Events Safety and Advisory Board. They meet with the applicant directly, scrutinise all details, e.g. noise levels, timings, running of the event, management plan. At least 3 months before the event.
- there is also a consultation on any road closures.

2014

The only applications that have reached Stage 2 for 2014 are On Blackheath and Good Hope Festival. Good Hope will not be taking place now in 2014.

- it is the councils policy to promote as diverse a range of events as possible.
- both proposals were in line with policy and had merit.
- it was said that 'On Blackheath' will make a donation of £15,000 to the maintenance of the heath
- Good Hope Festival has charitable and community developments aims and John Lewis programmes for young people and artists
- no parking at the events 'On Blackheath' participants to be directed to Lewisham station and buses rather than Blackheath village.

On Blackheath

Alex Wicks from On Blackheath spoke to the assembly. Main points:

- Harvey Goldsmith is the promoter and is very established and professional
- Directors are local people
- John Lewis is the headline sponsor
- one of the aims is to promote Blackheath to the rest of London
- have been consulting with local people and attended the Blackheath Joint Working Party meetings
- event aimed at over 25's and families
- formal launch in 2 weeks @onblackheath for twitter or

www.onblackheath.com

- communication with local groups and via local press and media
- work to allow local people access to the festival and there will be a review of the event afterwards also.
- proposal for capacity of 24,999, Lewisham Council is suggesting 14,999
- special temporary flooring will be put on walkways on the heath to protect the grass.
- it was said that the event has been planned for 4-5 years and the company has managed many other events in London
- the ticket price will be £45-£50 with discounts for under 16s

Questions and Answers

- On Blackheath to use a base by the Territorial Army building to hold equipment to protect the heath.
- Good Hope Festival have reduced the scale of the commercial space
- proposals were for different parts of the heath
- having events in two different areas of the heath would allow a comparison to see where is the best location for any future events
- a lot of work has been carried out with the Jimmy Mizen Foundation on their festival plan
- if an event is agreed for 2014 it does not mean that it would get automatic approval for future years, every event goes through the same process
- there was concern that the Hare and Billet Road could be closed for up to nine days. It was said that work will be carried out with Events Safety Action Group, TFL and the police to try and keep disruption to a minimum.
- it was asked that the **380 bus route** is kept during the disruption as it is some peoples only access to Lewisham and shopping.
- it was said that there would be a thorough clean up of the site that the organizers would pay for
- there was concern over the dispersal of crowds after the event
- It was said that the event would be stewarded and that participants would be stewarded to walk to Lewisham station.

3 Update on transport changes due to the Lewisham Gateway development

Doug Finlay from Muse Developments and Phil Stanier from Local Dialogue spoke to the Assembly about the Gateway Development in central Lewisham.

Doug Finlay spoke about the Gateway development. Full details are on the Lewisham Gateway website www.newlewisham.com Information also by calling 02074038587.

Main points included:

- development will make it better for pedestrians and create better routes to the high street with safer walkways
- there will be 400 residential properties, shops, food outlets and 'Confluence Place' a park in the middle of the development.
- Phase 1 will close Station Road this spring, temporary pedestrian routes

	<p>will be signposted and a temporary taxi rank will be provided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • in 2 years time road rerouting changes will be completed and the roundabout will be gone • Bus stops have already moved to Thurston Road in March • Granville Park pedestrian crossing will be left. • moving the Sewer also • hope to include a cinema <p>Questions, Answers & suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • it was said that re-opening the access to Platform 4 (on the Tesco side) would help greatly, it was suggested that residents email Southeastern to ask for this to go ahead. • it was answered that there were no plans to close the park at night time • there was concern that the sun would be blocked out in the park by the tall buildings • there will be no over traffic walk way • it was said that oyster card holders will be getting information about changed to the 108 bus <p>Leaflets were circulated.</p>
4	Blackheath Village Lights
	<p>Funding</p> <p>It was explained that there has been funding from this years and last years councillors discretionary funding and assembly funds totalling £6,000 for village lights. Volunteers have been working with lighting companies to come up with potential designs for the village. Traders will also be asked to contribute to the lights as they will improve the shopping experience in the village.</p> <p>Agreement</p> <p>The Assembly agreed by a showing of hands that the old lights needed to come down and that new more cost effective, modern lights should replace them. It was advised that Lewisham Council's contractor Skanska would maintain the lights and also put them up and take them down after the festive season.</p> <p>Cross Street Lights</p> <p>It was said that cross street lights might not be achievable this year due to the necessity of getting agreements for each business to use their façade as a point to hang the lights.</p> <p>Results</p> <p>The result of the vote was that the majority of people wanted a festoon of small coloured bulbs across the street. This was reflected in the comments also where people wanted the style of lights that had been in the village previously, coloured cross road bulbs. Details below:</p> <p>David Walton and Howard Shields from the Blackheath Society presented a number of variations that could be possible and the assembly voted on sheet for the most popular design.</p>

1. Lampposts

Please choose which lamppost design you prefer A or B

A Hanging Globes from Lampposts	<u>14</u>
B Gold and Silver trails on Lampposts	<u>17</u>
Those that had written 'No Lampposts'	14
Those that left Lampposts blank	10

2. Tree Design

Please choose which tree design you prefer A or B

A Hanging Globes from trees	<u>8</u>
B Small bulbs trailed across branches	<u>37</u>
Those that had written 'No Trees'	3
Those that left Trees blank	7

3. Cross Street Designs

Please choose which cross street design you prefer A, B or C

A Festoon of small bulbs	<u>42</u>
B Hanging Globes across the street	<u>4</u>
C Hanging Gold with silver stars	<u>0</u>
D Gold shooting Stars with trails	<u>2</u>

3. Colours of Lights

Do you prefer white or coloured lights

A White	<u>17</u>
B Colours	<u>35</u>

4. Scheme

Which overall scheme do you prefer?

1= first choice 2 =2nd choice 3 =3rd choice

A Cross Street decorations

1 - 49 2 - 5 3 - 0 1st choice

B Lamppost Decorations

1 - 1 2 - 14 3 - 25 No- 2 3rd choice

C Tree Decorations

1 - 5 2 - 22 3 - 14 No- 1 2nd choice

5 Update on Blackheath Village Day

It was advised that the work of the Village Day on the 6 December is moving ahead. There will also be a Christmas Fayre in Blackheath Halls on the 23

	November 2014.
6	Proposed local Public Art information and feedback
	There was information about a proposed public artwork under the railway arch between Lewisham High Street and Lewisham Hill. People were asked to fill out feedback sheets on their view of the light box. The majority of people were in favour of a light box but felt very strongly against the design.
7.	Community Updates
	<p>Blackheath and Greenwich Eco Group Blackheath and Greenwich Eco Group spoke about the idea of a Vegetarian Day. It would promote vegetarian eating as a way to help save the planet. If you are interested please contact valeriepb@googlemail.com.</p> <p>Lewisham Cyclists www.lewishamcyclists.co.uk Brian Tupin from Lewisham Cyclists spoke to the Assembly about Lewisham Cyclists Space for Cycling campaign. It aims to improve quality of life for all, by making local streets safe and inviting for everyone to cycle.</p> <p>The campaign seeks to create the conditions where anyone, of any age or ability, feels able to cycle safely, conveniently and enjoyably for any local journey, as part of a wider vision for healthy and liveable streets and communities. Please contact Brian on brian.turpin@ntlworld.com if you would like more information.</p>

There were no declarations of interest at this meeting.