



WHITEFOOT ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY 20TH MAY 2015
7.30 pm – 9.30pm
Whitefoot Lane Christian Centre
480 Whitefoot Lane - Bromley BR1 5SF

Minutes of the Meeting

Welcome from the Chair - Cllr Jonathan Slater extended a warm welcome to all and gave a brief overview of the meeting's content.

2015/16 Financial Year Resurfacing Programme - Tony Ajala, Asset Protection Engineer of the Transport Engineering Team gave an overview of the 2015/16 Capital Renewal of Carriageway Programme. Tony explained that the London Borough of Lewisham allocated £3.5m for resurfacing works in 2014/15 and as a result resurfaced 73 roads.

Following on from the previous successful years of capital renewal of the carriageway and footways works, Councillors have been sent a letter to inform them of the provisional list of carriageway resurfacing works for 2015/16 programme.

All the works included in the current resurfacing programme are subject to a prioritisation processes, ensuring that the worst carriageways are resurfaced first. Site investigations and analysis are carried out to determine the final priority and the treatment to be applied.

The methodology below explains the principles used in prioritising the resurfacing programme:-

- Coarse Visual Inspection (CVI) assessment of the carriageway infrastructure on an annual basis. The information is interpreted to provide an indication as to the level of deterioration of individual roads.
- An annual carriageway priority assessment which takes into account; insurance claim factor, traffic calming, bus routes, class of road, institutions in the road (schools etc), UK Pavement Management System results (from the CVI), a visual assessment and repair cost factor.
- A priority programme of improvements is prepared and as a general rule the carriageways in the worst condition being resurfaced first.
- Prior to resurfacing work, further investigations are carried out to determine current construction of the carriageway to fully assess and design the improvement works required.

To improve the Transport Engineering Team's assessment and to add some local, qualitative input / knowledge the assembly were asked to identify up to three roads within the Whitefoot ward where it is considered the carriageway is in more urgent need of repair (re-surfacing) than those roads identified in the priority list tabled.

Once the Transport Engineering Team receive the Assembly's feedback they will carry out an additional visual condition survey on the three roads nominated and make an assessment as to whether the roads identified should be considered a higher priority than some of those roads already included in the priority list.

In terms of communications to each Ward it is normal practice that Councillors will be informed immediately prior to the works being carried out. Individual letters to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, appropriate Ward Councillors, householders and businesses directly affected will be distributed, identifying the full extent of the works and start date.

Whilst every effort has been made to achieve a definitive programme, it will be subject to change throughout the year. Such changes can arise from the need to address unforeseen maintenance demands and to fit around any utilities (gas, water, electricity etc.) works.

Any additional resurfacing work will be subject to 2015/16 allocated budget and the Borough's prioritising approach.

A question and answer session followed Tony's briefing.

Section 106 - outcome of ballot – Cllr Slater reminded the Assembly of the process so far with regards to the allocation of Section 106 money within the ward.

The Whitefoot Assembly currently has £75,000 of Section 106 money to spend on "Community Facilities" as a result of the demolition of the Tiger's Head Public House at 350 Bromley Road and the old Courts site at 335-337 Bromley Road.

The loss of amenity from the two sites and the inevitable disruption that resulted from the development had an impact on those that live closest to the area therefore, it was agreed to consult the residents of Whitefoot re. which community facilities they felt were most in need of improvements. The current S106 available must be spent on community facilities. Community facilities are usually facilities used for social, recreational and leisure purposes.

When work on the Excalibur Estate commences a further £64k of S106 money will also be released in two phases. Local residents, via the local assembly, will again be consulted on how best to spend the money.

At the July 2014 Assembly – Those present took part in a 'Table-top' exercise to identify the community facilities most used and in most need of some improvements.

At the November 2014 Assembly there was S016 Market Place and table discussions. Those organisations identified at the July 2014 Assembly were invited to attend this Assembly to set out information relating to what they would spend Section 106 money on if successful in their bid.

Those that held an information stall were;

- Goldsmiths Community Centre
- St. John's
- St. Luke's Church Building
- St. Barnabas
- Whitefoot & Downham Community Garden (Oldstead Community Gardens)
- Fellowship Inn
- Beckenham Place Park
- Whitefoot Lane Christian Centre

Finally, in February 2015 a Section 106 ballot went out to every resident in Whitefoot inviting people to nominate the facility they most wanted to receive S106. Those present at the February Assembly were also given the opportunity to vote for their preferred community facility.

Information gathered at the three assemblies and from the door-to-door ballot informed the final decision.

Results as follows;

First Place - Goldsmith's Community Centre to receive £41k

Second Place – St. Luke's Church Building to receive £18k

Third Place – St. Barnabas Community Hall to receive £18k

Cllr. Ingleby assured the Assembly that although Forster Park was not part of the recent Section 106 ballot it would be considered when consulting the community on the £64k S106 from the development of the Excalibur Estate.

Section 106 Presentations - Father Patrick Jordan of St. Luke's Church and Rev. Stuart Lek of St. Barnabas Community Hall delivered presentations on what they hope to achieve with the Section 106 money awarded.

St. Luke's Church Hall – St Luke's wish to provide a resource for the local residents where they can meet for social, educational and community activities. In order to make the space more useful improvements to the kitchen space to include a coffee bar and cooking facilities and to upgrade the existing lighting arrangements will be necessary. The building can then be used for cooking classes and social meals. There will be space for a seniors social club, Busy Bees Parents and Toddlers Club, tea dances, drama, computing and the drop in which took over from the Downham 999 Club. The 'Front Room' concept will continue and be able to grow, offering a 1:1 space for 'social listening', 'skilled listening', space for people to tell their story, counselling, and for people to meet with their Councillor or to seek advice and advocacy regarding benefits. A Phoenix Housing representative will also be able to use the space to hold surgeries.

The first Councillor surgery will take place at St. Luke's on the last Saturday of the month from 10.00 – 11.00am with Councillor Slater.

To further extend the use of the building St. Luke's wish to install VDU screens so that the building can be used effectively for meetings by local organisations that need good sound and visual systems to communicate to their audiences. As installation of these changes will cause some disruption to the existing décor there will be a need to redecorate after the work which will be an additional cost.

Father Patrick Jordon was pleased to announced that the £18,000 of Section 106 money would be added to the £34,000 they had managed to secure from other funds enabling the work listed to be undertaken.

Patrick Jordon wished to give credit to Cllr Daby for her hard work and negotiations in managing to relocate the 999 Club to St. Luke's.

St. Barnabas Community Hall – Reverend Stuart Lek gave the Assembly some historical context on St. Barnabas which was built between 1927-1928. The Section 106 money will be spent on the installation of an accessible toilet with baby change facilities and the refurbishment of the existing toilets so that the space can be opened up to a wide range of groups including those with a physical disability. The hall will more available to groups such as Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies and the improvements will complement work already undertaken costing £10,000.

It is important to stress that the ward-wide consultation is only part of the process regarding the delivery of section 106 money. The community facilities that have been identified have been presented to the Community Resources Manager who, in turn, will take the recommendations to the S106 Board.

Once the Community Resources Manager indicates the projects are viable a Project Initiation Document (PID) needs to be completed.

The Assembly Coordinating Group will then form a S106 Working Party to work with the community groups identified. The completed PID is then presented to the Section 106

Board and the Head of Lewisham Planning Department makes final decision and signs off the PID.

The Senior Officer Responsible and the designated Project Officer over-seeing the preparation of the PID's and the work will be the Assembly Coordinator (Ali Williams). Ali will retain overall responsibility for the projects within London Borough of Lewisham.

Update on Goldsmith's Community Centre + Q&A's – Sue East, Treasurer of Goldsmiths Community Centre gave an update on the closure of Goldsmiths due to the discovery of asbestos on the site. The discovery came about during an upgrade of some of the electrics and was found in the gymnasium ceiling. This asbestos was deemed as 'stable' so not considered a huge problem, however, a more thorough, subsequent survey discovered asbestos containing materials in the paint and, as some of the paint was flaking, Goldsmiths had no option but to close the areas where the paint wasn't stable. These were areas that were rented to various groups, consequently, Goldsmiths Community Association began to lose income until, eventually, it was no longer financially viable to keep the centre open. In March this year the decision was taken to close indefinitely.

Sue expressed deep thanks and gratitude to the wider community that have supported Goldsmiths over this extremely difficult period and to those who have offered a temporary home for some of the groups enabling them to continue to operate. An example is the Silver Lunch Club, part funded by the Whitefoot Assembly, which temporarily moved to St Marks and is now at Wesley Halls. The club runs every Monday. Approximately 20 people attend each week. Demand outstrips what can actually be produced with the resources available. This is a very successful project. Sue invited all those at the Assembly to attend the Silver Summer Ball scheduled to take place on Saturday 30th May 2015 from 430pm – 9.00pm at Wesley Halls.

Sue explained that a full conditional survey would now be undertaken and once results of the survey were published Goldsmiths Community Association would know exactly what they were dealing with.

Sue advised that Viola Environment Trust had issued G.C.C. a grant which was paying for the initial electrical work being carried out at the time the asbestos was discovered. Depending on the outcome of the condition survey, Viola are likely to make a further grant which will be added to the £41,000 Section 106 money earmarked for Goldsmith's C.C.

Sue was keen to stress that the garden at Goldsmith's remains open and further stressed the importance of activities remaining there so that Goldsmiths remains in people's conscience. On the previous Sunday two, professional gardeners, facilitated a gardening awareness event in the Goldsmith's garden which was a great success.

A Question and Answers session followed Sue's update with questions ranging from 'how can people find out where some of the groups have moved to and how can people get involved in the Steering Group being formed to take Goldsmith's into the future'?

Sue advised people to keep accessing the Goldsmith's website, still active and up-to-date. In addition, Sue agreed that the notice boards outside Goldsmith's could still be utilised and that people could still email the generic Goldsmith's email account which was being checked twice a week.

With regards to the Steering Group, Sue advised that, to date, there had been one meeting with a Goldsmith's representative, the Ward Councillors and Council Officials. This group decided upon the full condition survey. Once the survey is complete and it is

clear what the association is dealing with a Steering Group will be formed made up of people with the necessary skills (e.g. fund raising, business acumen, building skills etc.) to take the necessary action and necessary work forward.

Sue reassured the Assembly that the original list of interested parties had not been lost and that people who had expressed an interest in joining the Steering group who would be contacted in due course. Sue invited anyone interested to leave their details with Ali Williams at the end of the meeting.

Matt Henaughan, Community Resources Manager of the Cultural and Community Development Service added that Goldsmiths Community Association had taken all the correct and necessary steps in relation to health and safety and reducing the risk to members of the public.

Matt advised that two contractors were required to undertake the condition survey which would should have taken place on the same day as this assembly. The survey would be a full 'nuts and bolts' survey which would look at the issues in full, the process for tackling the issues and the cost implications. It is hoped that the results of the survey will be released within the next 10 days. Depending on the outcome of the survey the Council will be looking at where other funds can be drawn on to meet costs involved in tackling the issues.

Matt went on to say, from the Council's perspective, there is 100% commitment to a community centre in this part of the ward. Matt also echoed Sue's comments regarding the over-whelming support received from the community. Matt agreed to return to the October 2015 Assembly to give an up-date.

'Our Place' (Youth Activity) Update from Sarah Wickens of Phoenix Community Housing – Phoenix Community Housing are currently leading on a project called 'Our Place' which is funded by Central Government.

Phoenix put together a bid for £35,000 to Central Government to allow them to develop the 'Our Place' project which focuses on youth leadership, improving the environment and place-making. The Our Place project aims to give young people more power over local services and budgets in their neighbourhoods, aligning these with all the other resources that the community can bring.

Phoenix is working with young residents, partners and other local groups to make the South Lewisham area better for young people. To help Phoenix do this, they asked young people in local secondary schools to complete a short survey, to find out what they think of the area and what their interests are. The information is being used to help set priorities and develop new projects for young people in the Phoenix area.

Outcome of the survey were;

- Young People value the current local amenities and enjoy living in an area with both good transport link and quiet spaces.
- Young People want more activities and events to take place aimed at their age groups.
- There is a high fear of crime amongst young people in all areas surveyed.
- 49% of young people have not attended any activities or clubs.
- Only 4% of young people attend organised activities.
- The main reason given for not attending activities is school work but the following three reasons young people do not attend are:
 - lack of motivation, lack of time and lack of knowledge.
 - 225 young people wish to volunteer or set up activities in their local area.

Going forward the project hopes to;

- Establish a Youth Agency
- Establish a Youth Bank
- Media Studio
- Environmental projects (Space Invaders)
- Training & leadership training

Phoenix Community Housing are currently looking for external funding to take the project beyond 2017. It is expected that young people will get involved in raising the funds themselves.

For more info, please contact: Sarah.Wickens@phoenixch.org.uk

Whitefoot Community Clean Up Day – Cllr. Daby informed the Assembly there would be another Ward ‘Clean Up Day’ on either the 4th July or the 25th July and asked the Assembly to nominate their preferred day, identify approximately 10 areas that need attention and let Ali Williams know if they want to get involved.

The clean up will be under-taken in partnership with volunteers from the Church of Latter Day Saints who estimate providing as many as 70 volunteers.

A meeting to discuss the logistics of the clean-up has been scheduled for Wednesday 3rd June 2015 from 3.00pm in Room A of the Civic Suite, Catford. Cllr. Daby invited anyone interested in taking part to come to the meeting.

Community Safety Update – Sergeant John Berry of the Whitefoot Safer Neighbour Team gave an update on community safety and local policing matters.

Motor vehicle crime remains a priority in the Whitefoot ward and, as such, Whitefoot officers have increased patrols in problem areas. Additionally, an operation targeting theft of motor cycles is on going. Some arrests have recently been made, including a local male arrested by PC Clays. The arrested male was found in possession of parts belonging to three stolen bikes. Enquiries continue.

In relation to illegal drug possession a warrant was recently executed in Blacklands Road and a quantity of drugs were received from the site. Cash was also seized thought to be the proceeds of crime A suspect is currently on police bail.

With regards to anti-social behaviour, reports of criminal damage in Conisborough Crescent were responded to and three local youths have been identified and interviewed.

A ‘good news’ story - On the 16th May a three year old child was reported as missing. PCSO Wilson located the child who was soon reunited with his family.

On the 23rd April the fifth Community Action Day took place which focused on engagement within faith communities, hate crime and community cohesion. During the day, officers carried out a number of activities on the borough and spoke with the local community. Officers from the Whitefoot Safer Neighbourhoods Team visited the Tahir Mosque on Verdant Lane, SE6 and spoke about crime that has affected them and explained reporting procedures and how to seek help.

Whitefoot & Downham Summer Parade Working Group – Cllr. Daby gave a brief overview of the planned Downham and Whitefoot Summer 2016 Parade that will mark the

90th anniversary of the Downham Estate. The next Planning Meeting for the event will be on Tuesday 26th May 2015 from 6.30pm in room 3 of the Civic Suite, Catford. Anyone wishing to join the Parade Working Party is welcome to attend.

Community Round Ups

Lewisham Historical Society – Will be hosting a talk on the past, present and future of Beckenham Place and its park covering history, ecology and geography on Friday 29th May 2015 at the Methodist Church Hall, Albion Way, Lewisham, SE13 6BT commencing at 7.45pm.

Goldsmith's Summer Ball at Wesley Halls on Saturday 30th May 2015 from 4.30-9pm. Sue East promoted the ball and advised where tickets could be purchased. There will be a three course meal prepared by Sharon Wilson who is a 'MasterChef' quarter finalist and the 35 piece Lewisham Concert Band will play plus there will be rock and roll, 60s style, with a group of fantastically talented young musicians straight from the latest national tour of Dreamboats and Miniskirts.

The ball is part of the Silver Lunch club project which, despite the difficulties at Goldsmiths is continuing to flourish at Wesley halls on Mondays.

The idea of The Summer Ball is to give the lunch club members and any other eligible local people an opportunity to dress up and relive the sort of event they may have attended when they were young.

Tickets are £10 for local older people or £15 guests. Free tickets are available for local residents who can not afford one.

St. Mark's Summer Fayre – Janet Hurst advised that St. Mark's Church would be holding their Summer Fayre on Saturday, 30 May at St Mark's Hall, Baudwin Road, SE6 1RN, from 11am – 2pm. There will be stalls selling home-made cakes, jams etc, books, toys, gifts as well as raffles, tombola, children's lucky dip and guess the doll's name. Light lunches and tea/ coffee available. Admission 20p, children free.

Community Chest Gathering – Phoenix Community Housing – David Cummins encouraged one and all to join together for a big community strawberry tea party at the Phoenix Community Housing Community Chest Gathering. Those attending will have the opportunity to vote on how the £100,000 Community Chest Fund should be spent by voting on their favourite project. There will also be Tea Cup rides, Teenzone and an opportunity to win an iPad – Saturday 6th June 2015 from 12.00pm – 3.00pm at The Green Man, 355 Bromley Road, London, SE6 2RP.

Downham Celebrates – Trevor Pybus promoted the Downham Celebrates event set for Saturday 13th June 2015 at Downham Health and Leisure Centre. Everyone is invited. Trevor also floated the idea of a Downham Assembly V's Whitefoot Assembly 'walking football' match. Anyone interested in making up the teams please contact Trevor directly at;

Trevor.Pybus@ageuklands.org.uk

Downham Smoothie Bike – Trevor also announced that he stores the Downham Smoothie bike which anyone can borrow for any local event. If you are interested in borrowing the Smoothie bike please contact Trevor at the following email address; downhamcommunityproject@hotmail.co.uk

Lewisham Pensioner's Forum - Tamsin Bacchus, Membership and Administrative Officer of the Lewisham Pensioners Forum invited all present to attend the 'LiberTea' event celebrating steps on the 'Journey to Democracy' which will mark the 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta. The event will be at the Saville Centre, 436, Lewisham High Street, SE13 on Tuesday 16th June 2015 from 1.00pm – 3.00pm. Guest speaker, Arthur Torrington of the Windrush Project will give a short talk on 'Liberation 1838' – how enslaved Africans with their successful rebellions in Saint Dominique, Haiti, Barbados and Demerara did as much to hasten the abolition of the slave trade as any Liberal activities in the British Parliament.

AOB

Cllr Slater welcomed Cllr. Alan Smith, Deputy Mayor for Lewisham to the Whitefoot Assembly.

Allotment Produce – Fay Williams of the Delicious Most Nutritious Project announced that the allotment she is associated with has produce available for any service who could benefit from the free food and who are not in receipt of funds or grants. If you know of any service that could benefit, please contact Fay directly at; fayjw@hotmail.com

Date and time of Next Whitefoot Assembly - The next Whitefoot Assembly will take place on Wednesday 7th October from 7.00pm – 9.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.

Feedback Forms and Co-group Membership – Cllr Slater encouraged all present to complete their feedback forms especially Question 9 which invites attendees to make suggestions for future topics at future assemblies.

Cllr Slater also promoted the Whitefoot Assembly Coordinating Group, explaining the work of the group and encouraging anyone who wished to join the group to contact Ali Williams at;

Ali.williams2@lewisham.gov.uk

Cultural & Community Development Officer, London Borough of Lewisham, 2nd Floor, Laurence House, Catford. SE6 4RU

Telephone Office: 020 8314 6293 | Mobile: 07834 145007

Close of Meeting