

MINUTES OF THE FOREST HILL ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 9 June 2015 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Peter Bernards, Maja Hilton and Paul Upex

48. Welcome from the Chair- Cllr Maja Hilton

49. Launch of Forest Hill assembly 15/16 funding - Agreement of priorities and table discussions

Attendees were put into groups around tables and asked to discuss current priorities for Forest Hill. Each group listed their top priorities which can be found in the spreadsheet '2015-16 Priorities into Grid'.

The information provided formulated this years priorities:

- **Youth engagement and provision-** looking for activities that will appeal and support new and existing schemes young people. These could include those that are Art , Music, Drama and Sports based. We are also keen to open up the criteria to include ideas around exciting intergenerational projects.
- **Making Forest Hill more attractive** - looking for proposals that will help to keep Forest Hill streets clean and appealing. This could include the planting of trees and flowers or a proposal that would increase street art or improve an area.
- **Community events** – looking for proposals around events that include celebrations, e.g Christmas or events that engage residents and local groups offering education and relevant information to the Forest Hill area, as well as being fun.

Supporting local Traders – looking for proposals that could support and promote Forest Hill as a vibrant town centre and the Kirkdale area for local businesses.

How much is available?

There is £13,620 available for the Forest Hill ward in 2015–16. You can apply for a maximum of £2,500 for each individual project.

How to apply

Contact maya.onyett@lewisham.gov.uk for a proposal form or download directly:

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/getinvolved/localassemblies/Forest-Hill-Assembly/Pages/default.aspx>

Closing date for all proposal forms is Friday 18 September 2015.

Voting on projects will take place at the Forest Hill Assembly Meeting to be held on Saturday 17th October venue to be confirmed, 1.30 – 3.30pm.

50. Presentation updates from previously funded projects:

Friends of Albion Millennium Green- Ann Field

Ann thanked the assembly for voting for them to gain assembly funding which has helped the Green in its up keep and maintenance, amongst other things. She also thanked the Council for its support, including signposting to other services and support through advise and information.

Regarding the current funding for a large container , they have found a place to house it but have been delayed as they have to obtain planning permission which

includes a further £195 fee. The Green is owned by a Trust, initially match funded by the Council, but is entirely run by volunteers.

It has been used for outdoor theatre performances by Sydenham Arts Festival through to organised botanical trails, nature trails, children's birthday parties, events and by locals just generally using the area to relax.

They would like to develop the area to include activities for older children and young people such as linking with Forest Hill and Sydenham school's.

They are always looking for more volunteers to help with bigger tasks such as moving heavy items and lighter tasks such as planting.

They meet once a month, second Saturday of the month, 10.30 – 2.30 (or any amount of time people have available)

If you would like to get involved contact:

secretary@amgfriends.org.uk

www.amgfriends.org.uk

Tel: 07831676587 or 07976869472

CRI Family Fun Day – Chris Franks gave the presentation, Family Fun Day Presentation June 2015- see attachment.

51. SNT update on the recent robberies across the Town Centre

PC Michael Hill explained that for the last 2 years, 24 reports of shoplifting in the whole of Forest Hill has been recorded. This year there has been 17 reports in the town centre, and 7 in the surrounding areas, last year there was 10 reports in the town centre and 14 in the surrounding areas. He acknowledged that this is 3 more reports in the town centre than last year, and although not good it is, perhaps, not as bad as public perception might seem.

He has advised Forest Hill Traders about Lewisham's Business Against Crime scheme at a recent Forest Hill Traders meeting via Pauline from the Sugar Mountain shop. He will also be talking to traders individually.

Crime Prevention Advice

Forest Hill has recently suffered an slight increase in the number of reported robberies in the last month. We remind people to keep valuables from sight as best they can and to be mindful of those around them when out and about.

Also, the MPS have launched Operation Valens, designed to reduce acts of Criminal Damage. For the next nine months your local police, especially the dedicated ward officers will be focusing on reducing Graffiti within the ward. Let us know of any areas in your neighbourhood blighted with this and we will liaise with the local authority to have it removed by contacting us on 020 8721 2723 or ForestHill.SNT@met.police.uk.

Officers from your local policing team have been conducting high visibility patrols within Forest Hill's Town Centre following complaints of street drinkers in the area. Officers have dealt with a number of individuals and seized numerous cans of alcohol. In general, there is a focus on increasing patrolling across Forest Hill.

52. Join the Forest Hill Assembly Coordinating Group

- **Feedback forms – agenda items next meeting**

Cllr Hilton highlighted the importance of completing the feedback forms and invited members to join the coordinating group which plans the assembly and discusses local issues and updates . If you would like to join contact maya.onyett@lewisham.gov.uk for further information.

53. Community information

Cllr Upex updated on the Kirkdale Streetscape Improvements Scheme, see Kirkdale presentation 9th June 2015

- Public consultation runs until 30th June
- Consultation leaflet delivered to properties adjacent to scheme
- We are not holding a wider public consultation exercise as this point because we do not have a fully funded scheme, but should the funding be allocated to take forward a feasible scheme, there will be a further full public consultation as part of the detailed design process

View the document at the consultation portal <https://lewisham-consult.objective.co.uk/portal>

Comments to: transport@lewisham.gov.uk

It was suggested that air quality and 20 mph zones to be included in the next assembly.

Forest Hill Society are running an event - Dr David Cotton, author of 'Climate Change, A Wake Up Call', 7.30 pm Wednesday 17th June at the Hobb.

8. Close

Cllr Hilton thanked everyone for attending.

The next assembly will take place on Saturday 17th October 2015, venue to be confirmed

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting.