



DOWNHAM ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2017

19:00 – 21:00 HOURS

Downham Health & Leisure Centre

7-9 Moorside Road BR1 5EP

**PLEASE SCROLL DOWN TO READ
MINUTES**

Minutes of the Meeting

Welcome from the Chair – Cllr. André Bourne opened the meeting and welcomed all present. After ‘house-keeping’ Cllr. Bourné had the privilege of introducing Charmaine Binns and her troupe of R&B line dancers.



Line Dancing with Charmaine Binns & Co. – The Downham Assembly were delighted to be entertained by the Over 50’s R & B line dancing group who performed two dance routines before inviting members of the Assembly to get up and have a go themselves. It was a great way to open the meeting and got everyone energised and engaged for the business ahead. Thank you to Charmaine and her fabulous Over 50 dancers.

Please see information below if you are interested in attending one of Charmaine’s R&B line dancing classes.

Dance yourself Fit to the latest R&B Soul tunes.

Every Tuesday
7.45pm – 8.45pm
£5.00
Irish Community Centre, 2a Davenport Road, Catford SE6 2AZ

Every Monday 7.00-8.30pm
£5.00
Goldsmith Community Centre, Castilon Road, Catford SE6 1QD

2016-17 Assembly Fund Priorities – What were they and what projects were funded to address them?

The Assembly Fund is a budget allocated to each ward to meet the local assembly priorities. The programme has been running for seven years.

The purpose of the Assembly Fund is to:

- support chosen assembly priorities for each ward
- help each assembly make decisions and bring about change
- provide 'seed' funding to potentially attract further sources of funding

Assembly Fund value

There is £15,000 available for each ward.

Of this £15,000:

- £12,500 is available to the assembly; and
- £2,500 is a discretionary element for Councillors to spend

The discretionary element is to be decided by all three Cllrs (or two where consensus is not possible) and can be spent on any small project that benefits the ward.

The Downham priorities chosen by the Assembly last year were as follows;

- **Children and Young People**
- **Older People and Intergenerational Projects**
- **Connecting Communities**
- **Creating A High Quality Living Environment**

These priorities set the criteria for all the projects funded last year.

The table below lists those projects funded last year, several of whom took the opportunity to present on their successes of their project at this Assembly.

Project	Main Assembly priority addresses	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Yes I Can – Motivational Project ET4G Ltd. in partnership with REAP	Children and Young People	£457	£457
Adventure Outreach – Wide Horizons	Children and Young People	£1,990	£1,355
My Community Through My Eyes – The REAP Centre	Children and Young People	£2,000	£1,200
Young Carers Play Club – Carers Lewisham	Children and Young People	£2,000	£1,000
Jelly Babies Baby Massage & Yoga – Jelly Babies	Children and Young People And Connecting Communities	£1,956	£881
Downham Celebrates	Children and Young People, Older People and Intergenerational Projects And Connecting Communities	£2,000	£1,500
1 Life Fit Bus - DHLC	Children and Young People, Older People and Intergenerational Projects And Connecting Communities	£1,450	£1,050
Downham & Whitefoot Drop In (Formerly 999 Club) – St. Luke's Church	Children and Young People, Older People and Intergenerational Projects And Connecting Communities	£1,900	£1,900

Over 50's Club	Older People and Intergenerational Projects	£1,820	£910
Downham Men's Project - Blue Ribbon Foundation	Older People and Intergenerational Projects And Connecting Communities	£1,500	£900
Digital Inclusion – Eco Communities	Older People and Intergenerational Projects And Connecting Communities	£1,700	£850
Elderly Social Afternoon Tea Club – Prosper Kassor Foundation	Older People and Intergenerational Projects	£1,988	£497

Cllr. Bourné invited several project leads to take the floor and to present on the successes of their respective projects. Please note Eco Communities, for reasons beyond their control, were not able to deliver their project and so sent apologies to the Assembly. The Over 50's Club also had to send apologies due to illness.

Jelly Babies Baby Yoga Massage and Yoga - Laura Igiehon – Laura is a Certified Infant Massage Instructor and Mum and Baby Yoga Teacher passionate about empowering new parents to give their children the best possible start in life whilst taking care of their own wellbeing.

The project provided community classes aimed at families with very young children. The focus was on relaxation, wellbeing and community parenting; the idea being that as a new parent you are not alone.

During each class, time was put aside to share ideas, challenges and stories around parenting whilst learning new skills and techniques to calm babies.

Infant massage has numerous benefits including aiding relaxation for baby and parent, relieving pain associated with wind, Colic and constipation, building muscle tone and aiding brain development and coordination. The course also helped build individual's confidence, assisted in the development of new friendships and enhanced bonding with babies.

St. Luke's Front Room Project – Rev. Nick Walsh - The Front Room Project (formerly the Downham and Whitefoot Drop In) has been hosted and managed by St Luke's Church since the previous 999 Club on Downham Way closed down. It is also known as the Front Room where local people can come and socialise in a warm, welcoming and friendly environment.

The Project offers hot drinks, snacks and board games as well as a comfortable seating area, access to the kitchen, background music (or scheduled 'film shows'), as well as the use of three computers and free Wi-Fi. More recently, the Project has been offering support with IT, Arts and Crafts, Writing and Drama.

The Project works in partnership with Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB), Phoenix Community Housing, PDSA (People's Dispensary for Sick Animals), Downham Nutrition Project and others who all offer support and advocacy for service users.

The Front Room is part-run by volunteers and by paid staff (a female Support Worker and male Project Manager), who offer low level support and advocacy, such as help with making appointments to housing, the dentist, GP etc.

The Front Room has seen a steady growth in numbers, and people who attend are from various backgrounds and lifestyles, such as:

- Retired
- Unemployed
- People with mental& emotional health issues
- People with a learning need
- Working part-time and on a low income
- Experiencing poverty
- On benefits
- Ex-offenders
- Feeling isolated and lonely

Approx. 20-30 people frequent The Front Room each Tuesday and Friday from 9.30am – 2.30pm. Aged 18 upwards, the average age of attendees is mid-50s. People who use the service mainly come from Downham and Whitefoot Ward areas

All local residents are welcome, no criteria precludes any adult from benefitting from what the Front Room provides (other than anti-social behaviour).

The Project continues to fund raise so that it can continuing working towards its aims of;

- Prevent isolations and loneliness
- Offers friendship and a welcoming environment
- Supports people experiencing hunger
- Offers low level advocacy support and referral to partner agencies
- Offers residents new skills and interests
- Enables people to socialise with others
- Enables people access to computers and free Wi-Fi
- Provides access to a phone free of charge (to make appointments for example)
- Encourages participation and Community Cohesion

Wide Horizons – Presentation by Jack – The Adventure Outreach project created new outdoor learning opportunities for disadvantaged children from New Woodlands School.

By taking children outside, connecting them with their local environment and providing an adventurous, child-centred and fun experience, the project increased educational attainment and motivation to learn among participants.

Creative use was made of school grounds, local parks and other green spaces in Downham to deliver engaging Adventure Learning sessions such as mini beast hunts, nature studies and orienteering.

Linked to the school's curriculum, the sessions enriched children's learning whilst also improving their wellbeing, self-confidence, communication skills and emotional resilience.

Additionally, the programme strengthened children's citizenship by developing young people who are environmentally conscious, took pride in where they live and became active members of their community.

Each Adventure Outreach session lasted approximately two hours and were led by an Adventure Outreach Tutor, who is both a skilled and experienced educator and trained outdoor Practitioner.

The Blue Ribbon Foundation – Downham’s Men’s Project – Trevor Pybus – The Project came about in an attempt to promote better health and wellbeing for men...” The Blue Ribbon Foundation seeks to deliver health promotion messages where men may congregate, for example at football clubs, in pubs, cafes and at work.

To date the Blue Ribbon foundation have developed an ongoing programme of work to improve the dialog with men in Downham. The Downham Men’s project is a joint piece of working in collaboration with the Whitefoot Assembly and Community Connections.

The key objectives of the project are: to raise awareness of male health issues; to encourage local men to take positive action to safeguard their health and wellbeing, including encouraging men to visit their doctor more often.

Between February and May the group delivered four steering group meetings to discuss the ongoing programme of work.

The programme has delivered a unique walk in and along the River Ravensbourne between Deptford and Bellingham which took place Wednesday 13 September 2017. The walk was delivered by Thames 21.

The project’s walking football programme is current being delivered at Goldsmith’s Community Centre each Wednesday between 1 - 3.30pm .Between 1pm & 2pm the group works on developing a Downham Men's newsletter which is followed by the Walking Football session between 2pm & 3:15.Participates do not have to attend the whole session; they are more than welcome to dip in and out - Tea & Coffee will be available.

Also on Thursdays at Downham Leisure & Lifestyle Centre between 7-8.00pm.

Anyone wishing to take part in Downham’s Walking Football please contact Trevor Pybus at Trevor.Pybus@ageuklands.org.uk.

1Life Fit Bus – Downham Health & Leisure Centre – Emma Greenslade – The Fit Bus is a 9-seater minibus which goes to locations in Lewisham and Bromley with a large variety of equipment on board.

There are two qualified instructors who drive the bus to regular locations including parks, housing estates, community groups, schools and retirement homes. They deliver physical activity sessions at all locations, with information also given on exercising outside of the sessions and on healthy eating. Participants are asked to attend in ‘active wear’ and to bring a bottle of water.

Thanks to the Downham Assembly the 1Life Fit Bus delivered 20 weeks of 1 ½ hour sessions. Over 184 people took up the service. The split between genders was pretty much 50/50 and the most popular age group was 6-10 years old. People from all different ethnicities engaged in the service though the majority were white British people.

Many of the participants were already engaged in some form of activity or other but there were some that had never had any experience with exercise. This last group of people benefitted most from the service.

For more information on how to get involved with the 1Life Fit Bus please contact Downham Health & Leisure Centre Tel. 020 8461 9200.

Downham Celebrates – Lesley Furniss – Lesley explained that the Downham Celebrates committee currently runs two successful festivals per year at Downham Health & Leisure Centre, one in summer and one in winter. The Downham Festivals are very inclusive; residents of all ages and backgrounds attend and many also participate in the creation of the festival.

The festival is an opportunity for everyone in the community to come together and have some fun. Feedback from those who participate is always very positive with many people coming back year on year; people really enjoy the day. Many local organisations and small businesses attend as it's an opportunity for them to promote their services. Local residents with disabilities are able to access the majority of activities.

The fun filled day in the main is free so that the community has the opportunity to do something together. The festival offers many free activities for children and young people in particular which helps local families on low incomes.

The festival also attracts a range of older people some of whom use the day to raise money for activities; some come just to enjoy the atmosphere and meet other people. Other older people used the day to break down isolation.

At the summer festival which took place on the 1st June 2017, 60% of attendees were from Downham. 30% were at the festival for the very first times. Another 30% heard about the festival via posters displayed in the locality and via social media and of those that completed the questionnaire, 66% of them said they gave it 10 out of 10 for value and entertainment.

The winter festival will take place on Saturday 2nd December 2017 at Downham Leisure Centre.

REAP Youth Club – My Community Through My Eyes (Video and Editing Project) – Fiona Calder - The Project worked with young people encouraged to film and document issues in their world for example within their homes, schools, friends, activities, hobbies, and lifestyle.

Last year, a television programme was aired across the nation which high-lighted drug related crime within Lewisham. The negative stereo-typing of young people can manifest in many ways; young people can become more fearful of one another or become anxious about leaving their homes, or suffer depression, lose hope, self-worth and self-value.

The idea behind the 'My Community through My Eyes' project was show and promote the positive things that young people are doing within Lewisham.

The programme was designed to promote positive outlooks and an 'I can' attitude, whilst giving the children and young people the task of searching, highlighting and promoting all the positive things in their lives, and the things we can easily take for granted.

Moreover, the young people were encouraged to keep a journal of their respective experiences and to write down their feelings in order to better help understand the root cause of various feelings and to discuss them in a safe environment as a group.

As well as focusing on the positive things that children and young people engage with in their respective worlds the project also taught them a creative life skill in learning how to video and edit effectively. To produce these documentaries a lot of team work was

required and so learning to respect other people's opinion and to support peers with their ambitions also became integral to the project.

The members of REAP Youth Club and all those that took part in the project would like to extend their heart-felt thanks to the Downham Assembly for giving them the opportunity to run the project.

To view a video of the project please go to the following links;

<https://youtu.be/sNMfJelvFAc>

And

[Www.reapcommunity.com](http://www.reapcommunity.com)

YES I CAN – By ET4G in partnership with the REAP Centre – Joe Cobham – The 'Yes I Can' Project delivered a joint initiative aimed specially at children from the age of 10 to 19 years old. The project was designed to inspire, educate, motivate and empower young people.

Step 1 of the programme entailed the screening of videos which demonstrated the achievements of prominent personalities who had overcome a multitude of difficulties to become the prominent, up-standing, well-regarded people they are. The videos were then followed by a forum where participants were given the opportunity to discuss the videos and raise questions.

Other areas covered by the screening of videos included: British Values, Anti-Extremism, Anti-Bullying, Anti-Gang, Anti-Social Behaviour & Confidence Building.

The whole project culminated in a social event for all the young participants held at the REAP Centre in December last year.

Borough of Culture Presentation – Nancy Stridgen, Cultural & Community Development Officer, and Lewisham Council – Nancy explained the idea behind the London Borough of Culture. Moreover, how Lewisham is bidding to be the first London Borough of Culture.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, has launched a competition with a £1m prize attached which will be awarded to the borough that wins the competition. Lewisham's bid will be submitted 1 December 2017 and winners for 2019 and 2020 will be chosen soon after.

Nancy advised the Assembly that The Borough of Culture bid is all about the people of Lewisham and that even if you don't think 'culture' is something you 'do', you are part of Lewisham's culture & heritage. WE all make Lewisham unique.

Nancy asked the Assembly if it would take part in an exercise which would better inform those putting the bid together as regards what makes Downham and Lewisham special and what, if we were to win the title and the money, would those at the Assembly like to see the money spent on.

Before explaining the exercise Nancy asked if the Assembly would take part in a photograph to be added to the 'Lovelt Lewisham' website and bid.



Those that were happy to be included in the photograph can be seen above.

Nancy then introduced the exercise which involved people getting into groups and answering three questions. The questions and the Assembly's responses are as below;

What's your Hidden Gem in Downham? What's special that peoples don't know about?

- Downham has a rich history from its inception over 70 years ago
- Downham has a multitude of green spaces – some of them are hidden we have woodland walks and wide open spaces
- Downham has exceptional views especially of the city skyline from Durham Hill
- Downham has great diversity and many opportunities for the different groups to come together
- We have good social cohesion young and old and from different backgrounds
- Historical sites still remain like the Peter Pan pond although it needs attention
- The War Memorial by Iceland
- Wesley Halls Downham Way
- Goldsmiths has reopened
- Good Leisure Centre
- Councillors are good
- Downham Assembly giving you a chance to understand and contribute to the local area
- Wildlife crossing signs by Southend Pond to help the Canada Geese cross the road
- Derek running the boys club and being part of the Methodist Church
- The green spaces Forster Park, Durham Hill, Beckenham Place Park X2
- The Community its diversity and experiences
- International and diverse
- Good community provision – churches, shops, transport links, green space, community groups and community space

- On the edge of a city and country
- Prefabs
- St Marks
- Phoenix Housing Association
- Ali Williams and Trevor Pybus
- THE PEOPLE
- Downham Playing Fields
- The new housing built to house people from Bermondsey led to the Bermondsey and Brook Lane medical mission being funded. See the book 'they sent them out' by Dr Andrew Fergusson.
- Faith groups willing to open their doors to lots of communities
- Downham Celebrates festivals – different groups meeting and sharing and opportunity for local talents
- Lots of Beautiful Open Spaces, Durham Hill, Beckenham Place Park lovely leisure centre and woodland walk.

What is your Hidden Gem in Lewisham? What makes you proud of Lewisham?

- The Catford Cat X2
- The Broadway Theatre
- All the tree-lined streets and wide streets
- Diversity of its people
- The fact that 18 wards are like villages full of community activities
- Lewisham market / Brockley & Blackheath farmers market
- The Ravensbourne River X2 , the Quaggy and the Linear Pool
- All our fabulous parks – so many
- Lewisham Market good value fruit and veg
- Having a green borough by planting on the corners of roads
- Leisure Facilities – swimming pools
- Libraries
- Local Markets
- Blythe Hill Fields
- DLR
- Heidi Alexander MP
- Accessible to people with disabilities
- Horniman Museum
- Blackheath Park
- Rivers Ravensbourne, Quaggy and Pool River
- Green Spaces; Foster Park and Blackheath

What do you think the bid should include? How can we celebrate our uniqueness and help communities in long lasting positive ways?

- More trees, helps reduce pollution, looks good and homes for wildlife
- Cinema
- Heated outside swimming pool
- Inter-ward tournaments – male and female all wards take place
- Lewisham Day – Like May Day to celebrate the Lewishamness and the people of Lewisham

- Development of a borough wide inter-generational project where young people teach elders their culture and vice versa
- Regeneration money for Catford, make sure the Cat is kept
- Remembering what was, remembering what is, remembering what will be – A continuum – our life journey
- Collect and Celebrate the Memories of the Elderly in Downham
- Inter-generational Projects
- Community Archives
- Fix up the community buildings (churches, community centres)
- Transport so people can experience gems and treasures
- Ideas from the Public
- Getting fit bus into a wider area
- Use of green space for free community celebrations
- Parades – like we used to have
- Social and Cultural experiences for Older Isolated people in Downham
- The north has 'Meet me at the Albany' and 'Age Exchange'. What about something similar for the South of the borough?
- Set up a youth club after school in Downham that is always open
- Use of Green Space for free community celebrations
- Faith Groups have a dialogue - Interfaith work
- Celebrate the History of Downham
- Downham Celebrates community festival more often

Nancy explained how she is currently reaching out to all residents around the borough to discuss Lewisham's heritage, culture and identity and the bid itself. She further highlighted how people can get involved and support Lewisham's bid in three simple ways;

1. Circulate the website address and encourage people to add their bid ideas on www.loveitlewisham.co.uk . (Click 'Tell Us Your Ideas+') You can also do this by retweeting [@loveitlewisham's](https://twitter.com/loveitlewisham) pinned post. Look out for the prize draw.
2. If you use social media; follow and retweet/like [@loveitlewisham](https://twitter.com/loveitlewisham) on twitter, Facebook and [instagram](https://www.instagram.com/loveitlewisham) and show what you love about Lewisham's culture, heritage, special secrets and unique style by tagging [#loveitlewisham](https://twitter.com/loveitlewisham) and [#mylocalculture](https://twitter.com/mylocalculture). Tag in [@LDN_Culture](https://twitter.com/LDN_Culture) to let the Mayor of London's Culture team know you support the bid.
3. If you are part of an organisation or business however big or small, please send your hi-res logos to nancy.stridgen@lewisham.gov.uk and we will add you to the other supporters on the loveitlewisham website.

Neighbourhood Community Development Partnership – Trevor Pybus – Trevor explained that Community Connections have established Neighbourhood Community Development Forums based around health needs and which build on the models of the North Lewisham Health Partnership and Well Bellingham.

There are four forums covering four neighbourhoods. Downham falls into Area 4 together with Whitefoot, Catford South and Grove Park wards.

The forums bring together all the relevant groups in each neighbourhood to strengthen partnership links and ensure there is a common voice on the local issues and where gaps in services may exist.

These forums have £25,000 each per annum in Public Health funding to give out small grants to address the issues identified and to promote local action as identified through the gaps analysis already undertaken.

Trevor further explained that the Neighbourhood Community Development Partnership funding for Area 4 is now open. The funding gives us the unique chance for us all to work more closely together and build capacity to support the health and wellbeing of SE Lewisham residents.

The priorities for the SE Lewisham Neighbourhood Community Development Partnership funding will sit under three key themes:

- Accessing services - Improving communications or transport particularly for older people and those with long-term health conditions
- Social isolation - Group befriending or activities particularly those which bring together people of different ages or cultural backgrounds
- Healthy lifestyles - Improving physical or mental health especially for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups, older people, LGBT community and/or those with long-term health condition

If you would like to apply for funding please contact your Assembly Coordinator, Ali Williams for more information either via email Ali.williams2@lewisham.gov.uk or via telephone: 020 8314 6293

The closing time & date for all applications is 9.00am 24 October.

Setting the Priorities for the 2017-18 Assembly Fund – Ali Williams

Ali asked the Assembly to help set the priorities for the 2017-18 Assembly Fund which will be launched week commencing Monday 9th October 2017.

As with previous years, those in attendance selected the priorities they considered most important and which the Assembly Funds should be directed towards. Following is a list of all the priorities ranked in order of highest priority first.

Priority	Score
Cleaner, Greener, Safer Downham	14
Older People & Intergenerational Projects	10

Health & Wellbeing	10
Connecting Communities	8
Parking, Road Safety and Traffic Calming	8
Safety, Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour	7
Community Facilities	6
Neighbourliness, Community Activities and Events	5
Children & Young People	3
Unemployment and Skills Development	3
Creating a High Quality Living Environment	2
Vibrant High Streets and Streetscapes	1

It was agreed this year that the Assembly Fund would address three priorities. As a result of the exercise above the top three scoring priorities are;

- Cleaner, Greener, Safer Downham
- Older People & Intergenerational Projects
- Health & Wellbeing

Ali advised the following regarding this year's Downham Assembly Fund;

How much is available - There is £12,500 available for Downham and the maximum amount that you can apply for is £2,000.

What can it be spent on – It must be linked to at least one of the Downham Assembly priorities.

How to apply –Complete the application form which is available to download at <http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/getinvolved/localassemblies/Downham-Assembly/Pages/default.aspx> and send it to Ali.williams2@lewisham.gov.uk or post a hard copy to Ali Williams - Cultural & Community Development Officer| London Borough of Lewisham | 2nd Floor, Laurence House, Catford. SE6 4RU

The deadline date for applications is **Monday 20th November 2017**. The Coordinating Group will meet to assess all applications received on Wednesday 29th November 2017 and recommendations regarding which projects to fund will be taken to the 6th December 2017 Downham Assembly, venue for which is yet to be confirmed.

Timescale

Assemblies must agree how they wish to spend their Assembly Fund by the end of

December 2017. This allows enough time for formal approval to be given, paperwork issued and returned and payment made to the projects before the end of the financial year.

Projects must be fully delivered by 30 November 2018. If this is not possible then project must contact the local assemblies' team as early as possible.

The decision-making process

The Downham Assembly adopts a commissioned approach to the allocation of assembly funds. The Assembly gives the Coordinating Group the mandate to assess each application to determine which projects best meet the set priorities and to make recommendations. These recommendations are then taken back to the Assembly for approval, they are also subject to formal approval by the Council.

When deciding the suitability of potential delivery partners, Council officers and coordinating groups will take on board whether they have received funding from other Council grant schemes or been funded previously by the assembly (or other assemblies).

Funding restrictions

The Assembly Fund cannot be spent on activities that require ongoing revenue support (unless funding for this has been identified elsewhere). Projects need to be self-contained or be able to demonstrate how they will become self-financing - the Assembly Fund is one-off funding.

The Assembly Fund cannot fund worship or activities that promote the views of a religious organisation.

The Assembly Fund cannot fund activities that promote the views of a political party.

The Assembly cannot fund activities and projects that have already taken place; i.e. no retrospective funding.

Organisations that have received funding previously and not fulfilled their monitoring requirements will not be eligible for further funding from the Assembly Fund.

Changes to Waste Collections – Ali explained the recent changes to the Borough's waste collections as follows;

Starting in October, most households will have a new food waste collection service and fortnightly black rubbish bin collections.

Free weekly food waste collections

Council are going to start recycling food waste. In October Council will be introducing free weekly food waste collections for people who live in a house or a flat in a converted house.

Fortnightly black bin collections

From October Council will empty the black bins every two weeks. Your black bin is for rubbish that can't be recycled in your green bin or food waste bin.

Collection day

Council will collect your black rubbish bin, green recycling bin and silver food waste bin on the same day. If you subscribe to the garden waste service, we will also collect this on the same day.

Who is affected by the changes?

- If you have your own rubbish and recycling wheelie bins (mostly people who live in a house, or a flat in a converted house), you will get the new food waste service and your black bin collections will change to fortnightly.
- There will be no change for blocks of flats that use communal bins
- Some properties on red routes will still get a weekly rubbish collection.

Sugar Smart Presentation – Danny Ruta, Director of Public Health was due to give a presentation on Public Health's new 'Sugar Smart' initiative. Regrettably, Danny had to send apologies.

Downham Safer Neighbourhood Team – PC Georgina Castellain of the Downham SNT introduced herself and gave an overview of current crime statistics for the ward. Georgina encouraged anyone interested in a breakdown of the crime numbers to go to the Downham SNT web pages by following the link below.

<https://www.police.uk/metropolitan/E05000442/crime/>

[Georgina also explained a current](#) Lewisham Safer Transport Team initiative. The Safer Transport Team are based at Catford Traffic Garage.

The aim of the team is to work with the local community to improve road safety, reduce collisions and improve driver standards. To achieve this aim, the team are looking to organise community Roadwatch schemes within the Lewisham Borough.

As such the team are looking for Councillors and members of the public to volunteer and also to assist the local Safer Transport Policing Team to undertake these community events. The only stipulation is that you don't participate in your own road.

Georgina advised anyone wishing to know more about the scheme or to take part should contact the Downham Safer Neighbourhood Team on their ward mobile number which is 07920 233873.

Community Announcements

The Downham Celebrates winter festival will take place on Saturday 2nd December 2017 at Downham Leisure Centre.

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

Ali also gave a brief overview of the role of the Coordinating Group which is to plan assembly meetings and to ensure the assembly is representative of the Downham ward explaining that co-group members should be familiar with their local area and should play a key role in promoting the Downham Assembly.

An Additional task of the group is to scrutinise funding applications to ensure that they meet the criteria set. The criteria will include the ward priorities, however the group may decide to look at other restrictions such as bid limits and targeting certain priorities.

An ideal Coordinating Group will have the following:

- Diverse age range, ethnic background and representative of the ward profile
- Representative from the third sector
- Local business
- Local community group or society
- Local residents
- Ward councillors

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Coordinating Group or would like more information then please contact the Downham Local Assembly Coordinator is Ali Williams at

Ali.williams2@lewisham.gov.uk or Tel: 020 8314 6293 or Mobile: 07834 145 007

Close of Meeting & Date/Time of next Assembly - André Bourne and Cllr. Timi Ogunbadewa thanked everybody for coming and for taking part in the various exercises and, in particular, for getting in the spirit with Charmaine's R&B Soul line dancing. The date and time of the next Downham Assembly Wednesday 6th December 2017 from 7-9pm. Venue to be confirmed.