



THE LADYWELL ASSEMBLY

Thursday 12 July 2012

7-9pm

**St Andrews Centre
Brockley Road SE4**

Minutes of the Meeting

Welcome, introduction & format for the evening

Cllr Vincent Davis (Chair) opened the meeting at 7:05pm by thanking everyone for attending. The format of the meeting was as follows:

- Presentation from the Ladywell Leisure Centre staff
- Dog welfare and the role of Lewisham Council
- Community safety update
- Break for tea and coffee with opportunity to meet with the presenters
- Launch of the assembly fund for 2012/13
- Assembly fund 2011/12 feedback presentations
- Community updates and AOB
- Close of business and date of next meeting

Presentation from the Ladywell Leisure Centre staff

Stephen Murphy (Centre Manager) and Matthew Houghton (Sports Development Officer) gave the presentation about the current facilities available at the Ladywell Leisure Centre. The main points are as follows:

- The gym is a relaxed and welcoming environment with friendly and qualified fitness instructors. There are cardiovascular machines, resistance machines and separate free weights and stretching areas. In total, there are 100 gym stations at the Leisure Centre.
- As part of the Free Swim initiative "Free Swim 4 Life", anyone over 60 or 16 and under, can swim across all the swimming pools for free. The pools are 28 metres in length which comply with all the relevant standards.
- The crèche offers a wide range of toys and activities to keep children amused, whilst adults make the most of the facilities that are on offer. The crèche staff are qualified, friendly and fully trained in child care.
- The exercise studios have semi-sprung floors and air conditioning and are the perfect place to lose weight, tone up and get healthy. There are also a number of exercise classes on offer at the Centre which are very popular with residents.
- A new feature of the Centre are the flumes or waterslides. All members of the family are able to enjoy speeding, zigzagging and splashing into the

water. The flume is only available during certain times and customers are advised to check the timetable or contact the Centre for precise details.

Dog welfare and the role of Lewisham Council

Kay Foley (Animal Welfare Officer) made a presentation on dog welfare issues. The main points are listed below:

- Statutory function for the collection of stray dogs and respond to animal welfare complaints
- In 2011/ 2012 there were 306 complaints of stray dogs in the London Borough of Lewisham
- Dog control orders apply to the fouling of land by dogs, failing to remove dog faeces and not keeping a dog on a lead. Other powers include preventing more than four dogs onto specified areas and permitting a dog to enter land from which dogs are excluded
- Environmental Enforcement Officers, Glendale Security Officers, Housing Associations (Nominated Staff) and Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams have powers to enforce legislation
- BARK Project aims to educate the community on dog welfare and the implications of irresponsible ownership
- focus on school education programme and community talks to raise awareness of responsible animal ownership and legislation.
- 5 dogs seized and their owners successfully prosecuted for failing to look after them.
- To date over 400 dogs chipped through the BARK Project

Community Safety Update

Pc Amanda Thomson began by sharing the latest crime figures for the Ladywell ward. There were 47 recorded burglaries which was up one from the previous year. The motor vehicle crimes reported was 62 which represents a 50% increase compared to 2011. The team has been working closely with the Brockley Safer Neighbourhood team and there have been targeted patrols around the Brookbank Road area. Another ward priority is anti-social behaviour in Dressington Avenue. The problem occurs after 9:30pm when Ladywell youth club closes. There have been reports of young people being involved in disturbances along Dressington Avenue and also on public transport along Vicars Hill.

Pc Thomson then went on to share some good news. A burglar was caught and criminal proceedings are pending in this case. PCSO's have been attending local schools and providing information relating to crime and safety issues. The team will be helping out at the Olympic and Paralympics games over the summer along with teams from other parts of the country.

Pc Thomson concluded her presentation by asking for volunteers to join the Safer Neighbourhood Panel. The panel is comprised of people from different parts of Ladywell and one of the objectives is establishing the ward priorities. The current ward priorities are burglary, anti-social behaviour at Dressington Avenue and theft from motor vehicle. The next meeting will take place in September 2012 and every

three months thereafter. Any interested people were invited to speak with Pc Thomson during the refreshment break.

Denis Savin and Cynthia Campbell introduced themselves as the community safety team for Ladywell. They explained some of the issues that they have been involved in since the last assembly meeting. In particular, the emphasis has been on preventing reoffending and working closely with victims of crime. In addition to this the team has been targeting hate crime based on religion, race, gender, sexual orientation, disability or age. They continue to work closely with the Safer Neighbourhood team and, wherever possible, respect anonymity. Residents are welcome to attend the surgery at Lewisham Library which is held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month. Denis also explained that they were looking for another venue to hold their surgeries in the future. If anyone was aware of a suitable venue they should let Denis or Cynthia know. Finally, residents were warmly invited to attend a community safety event in New Cross tomorrow. There will be an opportunity for a free bicycle and safety check for the bike enthusiastic.

In connection with a residents' question Cllr Davis advised that parking would not be discussed at tonight's meeting as it was not an issue on the agenda; parking had been addressed by a previous assembly; there was insufficient time available to discuss the issue at tonight's assembly; there had already been a street meeting on Vicar's Hill and others were planned to address the parking issue.

There followed a short refreshment break and an opportunity to meet with the presenters

Launch of the assembly fund for 2012/13

John O'Reilly (Local assemblies coordinator) formally launched the assembly fund for 2012/13.

John explained that there was a balance of £17,970 in the Ladywell assembly fund. This is because the assembly meeting held in March 2012 unanimously agreed to allocate £780 towards hanging baskets in Ladywell Village. The coordination group, chaired by Cllr Davis, had met and agreed the criteria as follows:

- £10,000 will be available to groups that work primarily with younger people (up to 25 years of age). The maximum limit per application will be £5,000 or 50% of the fund.
- £6,970 will be available to other projects that meet one or more ward priorities (excluding services for younger people). The maximum limit per application will be £3485 or 50% of the fund.
- £1,000 will be available for smaller projects. The maximum limit per application will be £250.

All projects applying must receive the approval of the assembly. There will be a special voting event held on Wednesday 19 September 2012. Full details will be worked up by the coordination group which meets in early September 2012.

Applications were available either by e-mail or hard copy and should be returned no later than Friday 31 August 2012.

The assembly accepted the above proposal unanimously by a show of hands.

Assembly Fund 2011/12

The following organisations were successful in applying for funding in 2011/12 and reported on progress with the delivery of their projects as follows:

Montage Theatre Arts

Bernadette Bishop reported on the project which received funding of £9,245 from the assembly. Approximately 40 young people benefited from the youth dance and performance programme which runs for a total of 36 weeks. A key element of the course has been involvement of the young people in the process through the establishment of a youth committee. This has helped to plan a youth drama festival with the decisions being taken by the young people themselves. The course participants have produced their own musical video and also improved their IT skills. The long term objective of the project is to recruit a number of volunteers to develop the aims of the project in the future.

Brockley County Football Club

Lisa Cole thanked the assembly for the award of £6,746. The project met its objectives by ensuring that 150 young people (between 7 and 17 years of age) from all backgrounds received training from qualified coaches. A total of 150 young people attended Brockley County Football club on Tuesday evenings, of whom 24 received specialised goalkeeper training. 2 Managers were also able to achieve their level 1 training. A number of young people were present in the hall and they assisted in the distribution of photographs taken at Brockley County Football club.

Lewisham Youth Theatre

Helen Stanley and Victoria represented the Lewisham Youth Theatre. They received a total of £2,085 at the September assembly. The Step-Up Ladywell project has helped to equip 15 Ladywell participants aged 14-19 with key social and emotional skills and provide opportunities to explore alternatives to negative behaviour through drama. Through the sessions at the Catford Broadway Theatre and one to one support sessions all the participants were able to successfully complete the course programme. Continuing participation with Lewisham Youth Theatre will increase the potential for the long-term impact of the project on participants' social and emotional needs. Helen and Victoria completed their presentation with an audio and visual production from a young persons perspective.

Lewisham Community Sports

Simon Packard and Josh Franklin were the representatives from Lewisham community sports at the meeting. They were allocated a total of £12,000 from the

assembly fund. The programme will be based at St Dunstan's College due to the temporary closure of Prendergast school. The aim of the project is to provide young people with a range of diversionary activities during the summer holidays. The course participants are engaged in training opportunities and take part in activities such as a basic 3 hour first aid course. There is also a social element to the programme with day trips to the O2 Arena. A number of young people were present at the meeting and said how much they enjoyed being part of Lewisham community sports.

Ladywell Youth Village

Mohammad Rahmani (Lewisham Council Youth Services) sent his apologies to the meeting. A delegation of young people from Europe were visiting the Youth Village as part of their tour of the UK. Mohammad will provide an update at a future meeting.

Brockley Design Festival

The Brockley Design Festival received £2,650. Clare Cowen from the Brockley Society had previously supplied a report at the 6 December 2011 assembly.

Community updates and AOB

Geoffrey Thurley invited residents to attend the 5th anniversary event organised by the Friends of Brockley and Ladywell cemetery. This will take place on Sunday 22 July 2012 between 11am and 4:30pm at Ladywell and Brockley Cemeteries. There will be an exhibition in the Ladywell chapel and guided walks visiting the graves of prominent people. More information can be found by visiting www.foblc.org.uk

Jack Murray from the Misrule Theatre invited residents to come along to free performances that will be taking place over the summer in Ladywell Fields and other locations in Lewisham. Further information can be found on the website www.misruletheatre.co.uk

The Action for refugees in Lewisham provides free advice and support to local refugees, asylum seekers and minority ethnic communities. The services include welfare benefit advice, housing, healthcare, employment, schools and education. They also operate a food distribution service which has become essential to some members of the community. AFRIL need to raise £180 by 18 July for this service to continue. Leaflets and further information were available at the meeting.

Antonio Coronado introduced himself as a professional sculptor living in Ladywell. He would like to construct a sculpture on Hilly Fields at no cost to the Council or the assembly. This would attract more visitors to Hilly Fields and have long term benefits for the area. Antonio will be having discussions with the Council's parks department and local assemblies coordinator aimed at developing the project idea further.

Close of assembly business and date of next meeting

There being no other business the meeting was concluded at 9pm. Cllr Davis thanked everyone for their contribution to the meeting. The next assembly will be held on Wednesday 19 September 2012 and invitations will be sent out nearer the time.

There were no declarations of interest made at this meeting