



THE LEWISHAM CENTRAL ASSEMBLY

**Saturday 9 June 2012
7-9pm
Lewisham Methodist Church
Albion Way, London, SE13 6DE**

Minutes of the Meeting

Welcome, introduction & format for the evening

Cllr Stella Jeffrey (Chair) opened the meeting by thanking everyone for attending. The format of the meeting was as follows:

- Launch of the assembly fund for 2012/13
- Assembly fund presentation
- Assembly fund feedback reports
- Review of improvements to Lewisham Library
- Break for tea, coffee and light refreshments
- What's happening at St Mungos
- Have your say about Lewisham health and care services
- Communities first panel update
- Community Updates

Launch of the assembly fund for 2012/13

John O'Reilly (Local Assemblies Coordinator) explained that the assembly fund for 2012/13 was £18,750. The coordination group, chaired by Cllr Stella Jeffrey, had agreed that Elevating Success could present to today's assembly as the project was due to commence in August 2012. All other organisations were invited to submit an application no later than Friday 31 August 2012. The maximum limit will be £5,000 and projects will be required to make a brief presentation at the next assembly which will be held at the Leemore Centre on Thursday 11 October 2012. John said that he was happy to discuss any concerns during the refreshment break or after the meeting.

Assembly fund presentation

Andrew Brown and Tyro Brown from Elevating Success gave a presentation on the summer programme activities on the Mercator Estate. The main points were as follows:

- School's Out was designed for young people living on the Mercator Estate and surrounding areas, to experience activities that they might not have normally participated in, at no personal cost.

- The programme was funded by the This Local Assembly and our partners included Lewisham Homes & L&Q
- 42 young people attended over a three week period in August 2011
- In 2012 there will be a two weeks activities programme starting on Monday 30th July 2012
- Four days a week from 10am-4pm aimed at 25 young people from the Lewisham Central Ward
- Lewisham Homes & L&Q are will to help with advertising and marketing of the programme.
- £5000 is requested from Lewisham Central Local Assembly

The assembly voted by 25 votes to 2 to accept the application. The funds will be released in the summer to enable Elevating Success to undertake the programme.

Assembly fund feedback reports

St Swithun's golden oldies club

Rev Jane Kustner thanked the assembly for the award of £3,500 which has enabled St Swithun's to set up a successful golden oldies club targeted at residents over 50 years of age. On Friday 1 June Lewisham Mayor Sir Steve Bullock attended a diamond jubilee celebration which was attended by over 30 people. The group meets regularly every Friday afternoons and is open to new members.

St Marys Heritage Board

Marion Watson also thanked the assembly for the award amounting to £5,561. Marion explained that the church had been in existence for over 1,000 years and was one of the oldest in Lewisham. They had used the template at St Margaret's in Lee as the basis for the development of the heritage board. Madeleine Adams has been appointed as the designer for the heritage interpretation boards. The diocese has given their permission and a meeting has been arranged at the end of June with Glendales who manage the green space where the board will be located. The panels will be delivered on 5 November 2012 and it is expected that the heritage board will be constructed in early 2013 (subject to Glendale's agreement)

Review of improvement to Lewisham Library

Antonio Rizzo (Service Manager, Community Services) made a presentation on the planned improvements to Lewisham Library. The main points were as follows:

- Lewisham Library has 12,000 issues per month and 20-25,000 visitors per month
- Open 7 days (61 h/w) with free computers and wi-fi
- 75,000 items in total including books, CDs and DVDs
- Reading promotion activities for all ages

- Central Library looks dated with main doors, toilet facilities, stock availability and study space needing attention
- a new layout is planned for the 1st floor with rearranged study space and larger children's area. There will also be a new space for teenage children.
- Assembly might be able to help with Soft seating, study tables on the refurbished ground floor costing £5,000m or
- new furniture for children and families to play and read at a cost of £3,000
- drawings and specifications will be prepared in June 2012
- tendering to begin in July 2012 and works expected to start around September 2012
- renovation works to completed by the late October 2012

Antonio was asked specifically about staffing levels and the reception facilities on the ground floor. Antonio replied that there has been no reduction in front line staffing at Lewisham Library. There will be 2 sliding doors at the front entrance to the building and a new counter which will improve the customer interface.

There followed a short break of 15 minutes for tea, coffee and light refreshments

What's happening at St Mungo's?

Alan D'Arcy, Lewisham Area Manager, thanked the assembly for the opportunity to promote their services in a positive way. The main points of the presentation were as follows:

- 40 years experience of working with London's homeless and vulnerable population
- One of the South East's biggest providers of support services to vulnerable people
- St Mungo's believes that everyone should have decent place to live and something meaningful to do
- 3 high support hostels, 1 independent living scheme and 63 units of accommodation
- 76% male, 24% female, 34% BME groups
- 64% have sub use issues and 70% mental health issues
- 100% Lewisham referrals, primarily street homeless or at risk of street homeless
- Housing and 24 hour support provided
- Access to specialist services
- Access to work and training
- Promote independent living
- work closely with drug and alcohol treatment services
- main partner agency is the London Borough of Lewisham

Have your say about Lewisham health and care services

The assembly welcomed Miriam Long who gave a brief presentation on having your say about Lewisham health and care services:

Miriam explained that Lewisham Link is an inclusive network to enable people and organisations in Lewisham to have a say and influence the planning, commissioning and delivery of health and care services. Link positively encourages public participation with a strong emphasis on the needs of service users.

The purpose of attending today's meeting was to ask people for their views on the services that they have received. Residents will be asked to rate services such as booking appointments, waiting times and friendliness. The information will be used to plan future plan services and determine priorities for health and social care in the Borough. Miriam said there was a positive response from today's meeting and she looked forward to working with the assembly in the future.

Communities first panel

Cllr Jeffrey gave the report in the absence of the Chair, Jo Honeybell who was unable to attend the meeting. The Cabinet Office has awarded Lewisham Central £33,910, to be spread over the next 4 years. The delivery organisation is the Community Development Foundation (CDF). £5,500 is available this year and decisions need to be taken by the end of June 2012. The minimum award is £250 with the maximum set at £2,500. 10 applications have been received and the closing date has now expired. Further information about the communities first panel can be found on the Hither Green community association website.

Community Safety Update

Kennedy Obazee introduced himself as the community safety officer for the Lewisham Central ward. Overall, the team covers 4 localities in Lewisham (North, South, Central and East) They provide a responsive and proactive service that works collaboratively with a range of partners including the police and probation service. They aim of the service is to reduce anti-social behaviour which involves early intervention and dispute resolution. The team can also prosecute offenders if there is evidence of persistent violation of the law in relation to anti-social behaviour. Kennedy displayed a number of personal alarms which have been purchased by the community safety team. Residents were invited to leave their contact details with Kennedy if they wished to receive a personal alarm as their were limited numbers at the meeting.

Community Updates

The following community updates were brought to the attention of the meeting:

- Residents were reminded about a consultation exercise concerning the Courthill Road junction. There will be an opportunity to comment on the proposals and meet officers from Transport for London (TfL). The dates were Thursday 14 June between 4:30pm and 7pm and Saturday 16 June between 1:30pm and 4pm. Both events will be held in Lewisham Library.

- Lewisham refugee week will take place starting on Saturday 16 June
- The next Lewisham Central safer neighbourhood panel will take place on Wednesday 13 June 2012
- There will be a concert at St Marys on Saturday 23 June starting at 7:30pm
- The Olympic flame will be travelling through Lewisham on the morning of Monday 23 July 2012 from 7:30am until 9pm. Remember to set your clocks early!!
- There will be a London clean up campaign focusing on Bonfield Road. More information to follow
- Ecumenical fun day will take place on Saturday 30 June. All local churches will be involved and everyone is invited to take part.

Formal close of assembly business and date of next meeting

Cllr Jeffrey concluded by thanking everyone for attending and gave details of the next meeting. This will be held on Thursday 11 October 2012 between the hours of 7pm and 9pm at the Leamore Centre, Clarendon Rise, London, SE13 5ES. . The assembly coordinator will make arrangements to notify residents nearer the time.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 3pm.

No declarations of interest were made at the meeting