

# MINUTES OF THE DOWNHAM ASSEMBLY

Monday, 21 October 2013 at 7.00 pm

## 1 Welcome from the Chair

Cllr Julia Fletcher welcomed everyone to the meeting, and outlined the agenda.

## 2 Minutes from last meeting & Apologies

Minutes were accepted, and apologies were taken from Cllr Clutten who is on maternity leave

## 3 Downham Assembly Fund (Overview of Projects highlighted at last Assembly & Prioritisation Exercise/Voting)

Cllr Fletcher gave an overview of what has happened in relation to identifying issues and potential projects.

She highlighted that Downham Celebrates would be part funded from the Councillors Discretionary funding and therefore wasn't included as a possible project.

She then outlined the prioritisation process and that everyone had the opportunity to rank their top 5 projects, and that Matt would collate these results over the break.

## 4 Refuse Collection and Recycling

Paddy and Kate from Lewisham Council provided an overview on recycling within the Borough and also the service standards that they adhere to. Additional information can be found here -

<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myservices/wasterecycle/Pages/default.aspx>

## 5 Big Lottery A better Start: Fulfilling Lives Presentation

Penny from VAL gave a presentation about the Better start bid. Presentation attached

## 6 Baring Hall Hotel - What we're hoping to achieve

Anthony from Antic, the new leaseholders of the Baring Hall Hotel, came to present the development plans and hopes for the pub moving forwards. Talking specifically around the crime issues of times gone by, the hope to develop the rear of the site to include some new housing, as well as keep a space for functions and farmers markets.

## 7 Downham Assembly Fund - Results of Prioritisation

The top 5 projects to be commissioned are as follows;

1. Investments in Local Youth Clubs
2. Investment in Sports Activities by Local providers
3. Basic Cookery Courses to help people 'Eat Well for Less'
4. Railings around Shroffold Road Play Park
4. Life Skills Training

## **8 Community Updates**

Trevor Pybus invited members to the upcoming Remembrance Service, and also asked people to input ideas for development at Beckenham Place Park.

Selvin Reid highlighted the recent drop in levels of anti-social behaviour within the ward, but asked people to contact him if any issues [Selvin.Reid@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:Selvin.Reid@lewisham.gov.uk). He also updated people that the Safer Neighbourhood Team was now the Local Policing Team, with a smaller amount of dedicated police officer time. He also asked that all Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators make themselves known.

Cllr Fletcher mentioned that there had been a recent spate of burglaries and asked people to be aware, and that trimming back hedges would also make it harder the burglars to hide from view. She also reminded the assembly that the Downham Winter Festival would be taking place on the 14<sup>th</sup> December, and that the committee were also looking for new members, and that anyone interested should contact her.

## **9 Any Other Business**

It was highlighted to the Assembly that Lewisham Council charge £15 for 3 items of Bulky Waste to be disposed of, and that people could not afford this fee and as such it was having a detrimental impact on the local environment as fly tipping continues to rise.



## A Better Start

A bid for between £30 - £50million over 10 years, to achieve:

•A **step change** in outcomes for 0-3 year olds and their families, specifically in the areas of:

- Diet and nutrition
- Speech and communication
- Social and emotional wellbeing

•A **system change** that provides the evidence for early intervention and preventative activity and results in communities empowered to support parents-to-be, parents, young families and their children

•A commensurate **reduction** in the need for reactive or remedial interventions from statutory organisations



## **The developing child and toxic stress**

Lewisham's bid is through to the final 15. It proposes intensive activity in four wards: Bellingham, Downham, Evelyn and New Cross.

Although the outcomes for 0-3 year olds are pre-eminent, the successful bid needs to focus on the health, wellbeing and preparedness of parents and future parents as well as the environment in which parents and young families operate.

[http://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/multimedia/videos/theory\\_of\\_change/](http://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/multimedia/videos/theory_of_change/)



## Our proposal

Improving outcomes for children is everyone's business.

In Lewisham, we have made significant advances in the way organisations work together to improve outcomes. We can now work alongside all our communities so that they recognise the crucial role they play in supporting families and young people.

Investment will:

- provide support and skills to parents-to-be
- develop community resources and expertise
- encourage healthy, safe and supporting environments
- tailor healthcare and other local services, including early years providers, so that they respond early and in a way that best meets the needs of the child and the carers



## A Better Start

Work now underway to develop the final bid:

- Mapping local investment in 0-3 year olds
- Engaging the local community in designing and planning the investment
- Engaging wider stakeholders to ensure that activity complements what already exists and operates holistically
- Designing a portfolio of interventions and programmes
- Trialing some interventions now – our 'early adopters'

Deadline for applications – 28 February 2014



## What do we need to demonstrate

- That we have strong **partnership working** and **senior commitment**
- That we have an in-depth understanding of local needs and that our proposed interventions will be **community-based** and **meet local needs**
- That our interventions are **scientific** (unproven but based on scientific evidence) **or evidence-based** (proven)
- interventions are **located within the community** and will respond to **local needs**
- That our interventions are **fit with local policy**– they will fit with, and improve, existing provision
- our approach is **outcomes-based** and will fit with the outcomes desired by A Better Start
- That we have **clear delivery plans** in place, have secured suitable resources and infrastructure for delivery, and our approach will be **feasible** and **sustainable**
- That we have identified and secured other **sources of funding**
- That, we will be able to work with the evaluator to define what works well where, including how we will **estimate and measure our reach**



## What our partnership can do

- Ensure that our understanding of local needs, draws upon the expertise and working practice of partner/local organisations
- Participate in the resource mapping exercise so that we have a clear understanding as to the existing level of investment
- Consider whether there are innovative, evidence-based interventions that could be expanded in these four wards
- Attend our 'A Better Start' conference
- Support around the forthcoming 'Strategy day'





## How can you get involved?

Share your vision for YOUR VILLAGE

Share your contact details so we can keep in touch

Help with our Fund Mapping

Share what you know works and how you know it works!

Email: [penny@valewisham.org.uk](mailto:penny@valewisham.org.uk)

Phone: 020 8314 7018