

**LEE GREEN LOCAL ASSEMBLY
MEETING**
Tuesday 17 June 2014 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Trinity Church of England Secondary School
Taunton Road, London SE12

Record of Meeting

	Item	Actions
1	Welcome, Introduction & Format of meeting	
	<p>Councillor Jim Mallory opened the meeting and welcomed those present. A vote of thanks was presented acknowledging the works of the two outgoing Councillors. Councillor Mallory asked those attending the meeting for the first time to indicate that this was the case. He explained the role of the Assembly and its workings, including identifying and focusing on local priorities.</p>	
2	Lee Green Safer Neighbourhood Update on Policing and Community Safety	
	<p>PC Ben Smith from the Lee Green Safer Neighbourhood Team provided this update. He informed the meeting about an emerging crime trend in the area. Recently has noticed a trend in the theft of items e.g. bicycle, stolen from garden sheds. People are asked to look into security of their garden sheds. Domestic burglary is still an issue for the area. In the past six months there has been 30 reported cases and four arrests made following investigation. The team continues to raise awareness of this crime, providing advise on security measures necessary to minimise the problem recurring. The team has been looking into second hand retailers and pawn brokers, using them to gather intelligence. The team has managed to intercept people trying to sell stolen goods and retailers selling doggy goods.</p> <p>The Leegate Centre is another area where concentrated policing has been deployed lately. There has been reported cases of anti-social behaviour mainly in the car park Teenagers lurking in dark corners. The police is working with schools and the local community to address this problem.</p>	
3	Lee Green Assembly Local Plan	
	<p>The chair of the working group presented this item to the meeting. The aim of developing a plan is to apply a strategic approach to the issues raised at Assembly over a number of years. Some of the</p>	

	<p>benefits of having a coherent plan were explained to the meeting. The plan has been developed using the ideas and suggestions collected at previous meeting. Those issues collected were then looked at, sorted and grouped under four main headings namely – Safe Healthy Living, Roads and Streets, Leisure and Amenities and Services. The group has noted that some of the sections overlapped and are interconnected and the Assembly would probably need to look at imaginative ways in which to deliver on these priorities in the future.</p> <p>Breaking into small groups, people were asked to examine the items listed in the plans under the four sections and include any others that they feel is relevant which are not already identified in the plan. During the discussion, a members of the working group will lead and direct discussion at each table, offering guidance where necessary. Each table is also asked to appoint a spokes person who will feed back to the meeting after deliberation.</p>	
4	Leegate and Parking Updates	
	<p>Leegate Development There is a public consultation being done by St Modwen at the Leegate Shopping Centre on 20 and 21 June. A set of papers has been produced by the working group to support people when looking at the proposal for the development. Some element of the proposal has been improved with an increase in the housing element from 40 to 250 units. However, there are still big issues which the Council's independent design panel have serious reservation. These issues includes the space allocated to the connection of the likely smaller shops that will be part of the development and the distinct absence of public space. Car parking arrangement are somewhat ad-hoc and as yet there are no spaces for community facilities even though this has come up in a number of contributions.</p> <p>The Assembly is asked to approve a draft summary response to the proposal drafted by the working group which will be presented to St Modwen. Cllr Mallory urge residents to attend the consultation and note their comments.</p> <p>Parking The Council is planning a re-consultation of its parking controlled across the borough. One of the key issues raised at several Assembly meeting is that consideration is given to the reduction of hours of operation in some areas instead of the one size fits all approach adopted borough-wide. People will have the opportunity to opt for a two hour control during the consultation. It is proposed that the consultation questionnaire will go out to all residents and businesses in July. There are argument and discussion to be had with regards to preference to hours of operation within each zones. People are encouraged to lobby their neighbours to complete and return the questionnaire.</p>	
5	Assembly funding Processes	

	<p>The processes for this year Assembly fund was explained. The purpose of the fund is to support chosen assembly priorities for each ward, bring about change and provide seed funding to potentially attract other sources of funding. Each ward has an allocation of £15,000 of which £12,500 is available for the Assembly to spend and the remaining £2,500 is set aside as discretionary fund for Councillors to allocate to local projects.</p> <p>The processes outlined requires the assembly to take a developmental approach to spending their fund. This will be done through identifying needs, developing ideas to address these needs and commissioning groups or organisations who will deliver these actions. The decision making process remains the same with the assembly voting to decide on their preferred project, further approval is decided under the Council delegated authority by the Executive Director for Community Services. Where a project is for more than £10,000 and will be paid to a third sector organisation, the final approval will be decided by Mayor and Cabinet Contracts.</p> <p>On the timeline for allocation of funding, the assembly is required to carry out a review of its priorities by the end of July and identify possible projects in their action plan suitable for funding by September. All project must be fully completed by end of November 2015.</p>	
6)	Community Updates and any other business	
	<p>Manor House Garden Festival The annual Manor House Garden Festival will take place on Saturday 21 June from 12 noon till 9pm.</p> <p>Old Biscuit factory on Staplehurst Road The meeting was informed of a planning application submitted for the change of use of the old biscuit factory on Staplehurst Road into a retail space. Investigation undertaken by a local retailer noted an interest from Tesco. Such move if successful will impact on the local Costcutter shop which has been serving the local community over many years. As a result Costcutter have started a petition against the plan. The chair urge people to support the petition if they felt that Costcutter have provided a good service in the community.</p>	
7)	Declaration of interest	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting.	