

MINUTES OF THE BROCKLEY ASSEMBLY

Tuesday, 17 March 2015 at 7.00 pm

PRESENT: Councillors Obajimi Adefiranye, John Coughlin and Alicia Kennedy

25. Welcome from the Chair

Cllr Alicia Kennedy, Chair of the Brockley assembly, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

26. 2014/15 Successful projects, a brief presentation from:

- **Local community street tree planting initiative (£2,400) –**
The Brockley Society

Dom Eliot talked about the new street trees initiative. Trees can be chosen by an individual, a group of neighbours, an organisation or a business. This winter the Brockley Society has directly facilitated the planting of 36 trees, an annual count which has more than doubled every year since 2012. According to the Council there are 500 vacant tree-pits in the Brockley area, and an even larger number of gaps. The aim is to fill them over the next few years.

Thanks to the Assembly's grant, the first twenty trees to be sponsored for planting next winter will attract a 50% discount.

The scheme covers watering of the young trees. Dom explained that if volunteers help with this then the overall costs can be reduced.

You can find out more about getting involved with Brockley's trees, by viewing their blog, plus further information at

brockleystreettrees.blogspot.co.uk.

Or contact trees@brockleysociety.org.uk

- **Deptford Cinema – Subsidised Ticket Scheme (£2,000)-**
Deptford Free Cinema CIC

Deptford Cinema is a brand new volunteer-run, not-for-profit cinema - and everyone is invited to come and visit. At the moment the cinema is being built by a committed group of volunteers, all of whom are local residents. For the next few weeks whilst the finishing touches are done, the cinema is showing 'DIY Screenings' – a chance to come in, check out the place and to see a film in the (almost-finished) screening theatre.

The cinema will show all kinds of films – new and old, UK and from around the world – and programming is done at public meetings (every Sunday, 4pm), where people can propose films and then, with support, programme them.

The Cinema will mean that world-class programmes are available just round the corner .

They offer discount tickets for Brockley residents

Screenings will normally be low cost (£5 to see a film, or £3.50 for

concessions). Any Brockley resident will automatically qualify as a concession, and anyone who would normally qualify as a concession will be able to attend for free! All you need to do is bring some proof of eligibility

(any letter addressed to you will do, or any card or document showing eligibility for a concession if that applies).

For further information and to check what's showing go to deptfordcinema.org or follow the Cinema on **Facebook** or **Twitter** @DeptfordCinema

- **Brockley Max Festival 2015 – Opening Night (£2,436)** Max Media Arts CIC Ltd

Now in its 14th year, The Brockley Max is a community arts festival, celebrating local talent in Brockley, Ladywell, Crofton Park and Honor Oak. It will once again be taking place from 29 May to 6 June.

There will be 9 days of great events including our opening event '*Brockley Max Opening Night*' on Friday 29 May from 4pm to 10.30pm by Brockley station. Sponsored by the Brockley Assembly, this will feature live music and dance performances.

Their 'Art In The Park' on Hilly Fields on Saturday 6 June, in the afternoon, will feature children's art workshops, a live stage, a craft market, performances and food. In between there will be over 50 wonderful and varied arts events. For the first time the Brockley Street Art Festival will be part of Brockley Max.

To keep up to date with developments go to

DEPTFORD brockleymax.co.uk and brockleystreetart.com

- **Breakspears Mews Community Garden (£1,395)** – The Brockley Society

Funds from last years Assembly were used to complete the final beds on the formerly fly tipped site behind St Peter's Court, Wickham Road. A wildlife area with three connecting ponds was built and planted. A small greenhouse was installed for raising seedlings and housing tomatoes, cucumbers and melons. A bed especially for the blueberries is now in place. With over 600 visitors the Garden proved a popular place to visit as well as a place to meet new people and socialise whilst tending the fruit and vegetables.

During the growing season the Garden is available to all those who live and work within the Brockley ward and usually opens two evenings a week and for one daytime session on either Saturday or Sunday.

If you would like to join in growing fruit and vegetables, email

breakspearsmews@brockleysociety.org.uk to be added to the opening times alert system. Opening times for the week ahead will also be displayed at the entrance to St Peter's Court and Breakspears Mews, Ashby Road once the growing season starts.

The Breakspears Mews Community Garden AGM will be held at 2pm, on Saturday 21 March 2015 – with the Garden open from 1-4pm. All are welcome.

Another big Open Day will be held sometime in July – the date will be published in the June Brockley Society Newsletter.

- **Brockley Tree Pits Planting Project (£600)**- Brockley Cross Action Group

The Brockley Cross Action Group have secured Assembly funding to clean out and weed the old tree pits, which are located at Brockley Cross and on the Brockley Road. They will add compost and fertiliser to the soil and plant a suitable selection of low growing colourful shrubs and herbaceous perennials. Crucially they will also install a protective edging around the beds and lay bark mulch over the surface of the beds to reduce weed growth and retain moisture. All the work will be done by local volunteers who have a proven track record of caring for community planting beds at Brockley Common.

These volunteers would also be involved in the care of the plants afterwards. If you want to get involved with this project or with the Brockley Cross Action Group, email

brockleycrossactiongroup@gmail.com

- **Creative Project for 60 plus (£500) - Bright Beginnings**

Around 20 residents, aged 60 and over, from Leander sheltered accommodation, estate and local community, will be coming together for an innovative month long art project.

The art project organised by Bright Beginnings, a group of women who have injected new life into the Leander Community Centre, organising exercise classes, community outings, youth activities and employment advice will consist of painting, drawing and image transfer workshops. The workshops aim to help the residents get creative and challenge them to think up different ways of how to present their ideas as a painting or drawing. They are then given the option to transfer their art onto cushion covers, t-shirts, bags, handkerchiefs, and even mugs – creating unique mementos or gifts.

Joan Francis from Bright Beginnings advised that if anyone wants to get involved to email her at treasures.heaven@btinternet.com

- **Food for the Soul (£650)- Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust**

The Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust is a Supported Housing Project for single homeless young women aged 16 to 25 based in Brockley. The Food for the Soul project will consist of a series of workshops aimed at educating the young women about aspects of healthy eating.

The title, Food for the Soul, indicates the beneficial elements that cooking and eating together can have, in terms of promoting wellbeing, mutual understanding and sharing.

The project will include practical cookery demonstrations and interactive sessions aimed at improving the health and wellbeing of the young women who participate. They are hoping to have some involvement of older women, who are involved with the Trust, as a way of bringing a different perspective and information to the group. The Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust do excellent work – if you would like to help them to do more consider giving them a donation at justgiving.com/mpmt/donate

- **Make a Skate Deck – (£1,595) - Frameless Arts C.I.C.**

This summer (mid June) 20 young people aged 7-11 years old will be given the chance to make their own robust, fully useable skateboard to take away. They will learn every part of the process - from making the deck from scratch, from laminates of wood, to creating your own design, and attaching trucks, wheels and grip tape. This is a free project with all materials provided. Details available soon – check at the [Frameless Arts CIC on Facebook](#)

27. 'Bag it and Bin it' project

Julia Burke, from the Corbett Residents Association in the Catford South Ward, outlined her experiences with dealing with the Lewisham wide issue of dog mess within her project that is still in the developing stages.

She explained that the problem of dogs fouling our pavements is nation-wide and so, affects us all. It is unpleasant, anti-social, smelly and an undisputed health hazard.

The Corbett Residents' Association has started the process of setting up a "Bag it 'n' Bin it" Clean-up Campaign.

This includes selecting all 13 streets of The Corbett Residents' Association, in particular, focusing on the streets which are most severely affected or are in consistent, concentrated use, ie: routes to the park, roads surrounding and to the 2 schools, the 2 shopping parades, the Library and the Dr's surgery.

The aims are to create a safe and clean environment for all who use our streets and educate/inform the public as to their responsibilities as dog owners.

Activities included/ to be included:

- Using elements of the "Bag it 'n' Bin it, Big Scoop" nation-wide campaign of June, 2013, a 'Doggie –Doo Team' set up, from volunteers, to undertake the initiative.
- LBL metal signs, stating that it is a criminal offence to allow one's dog to foul the footpaths and that offenders are liable to prosecution will be installed along designated streets.
- The official LBL 'Bag it 'n' Bin it' pavement stencils applied to pavements throughout the designated areas.
- Subject to permission from Skanska, laminated "Bag it 'n' Bin it" signs will be affixed to lampposts.
- Free Doggie-Poo Bags distributed to dog owners.
- A focused initiative is being developed to take place on the streets, with the issuing of informative flyers, posters and "doggie-bags".

It was agreed to get feedback in a few months time on the success of the project and what lessons could be learnt to run a similar scheme in Brockley.

The following useful contact were provided:

Dogs Trust – 020 7837 0006

www.dogstrust.org.uk

Love Lewisham app.

Environmental Health – 020 8314 7171

Corbett Residents' Association

www.thecorbett.org

julia.burke3@ntlworld.com

28. Cutting Shapes dance performance

Short demonstration by Kerry Boyd

29. Macaroni Woods outdoor residential centre

Update and short film by James Wilkinson

Noah's Ark Children's Venture (also known widely as Macaroni Wood) is a registered charity, operating from woodland in the Cotswolds. For almost 40 years they have been providing facilities to a wide range of groups from Lewisham. These groups include children, young people, adults, including those with disabilities and special needs.

Macaroni Wood is only two and half hours from Lewisham, making it an ideal location for short-stay residential breaks. The main building, Bazley House, can accommodate up to 27 people in 9 bedrooms.

Discounted rates may be applicable.

For more information, contact 01367 850356

E: macaroniwood@btconnect.com

W: www.macaroniwood.org.uk

30. Street Art Festival presentation

The Brockley Street Art Festival aims to improve the appearance of the area through the creation of stunning murals along the Brockley Corridor and throughout the neighbourhood.

The week long community event in May is being organised by local residents, the annual Brockley Max festival and Global Street Art (London's foremost mural-organisers). Artists and mural designs will be vetted rigorously and adhere to a strict code of ethics (nothing offensive).

The organisers are building support with local landlords, and shop owners, to turn the blank walls of Brockley into great art for everyone.

For further information email

phillipabrockleystreetart@gmail.com

Following a full discussion of the issues around street art and its impact on Brockley, it was agreed to award the funding pending the successful outcome of a follow up meeting, to take place within 10 days, called to look at:

- The proposed Brockley sites where the art will be placed
- The Process for picking the artists and the art
- Brockley Street Art's community consultation plans, and
- How they see the assembly being involved.

An open invitation was given to the assembly for all those who would like to be involved in the further discussions.

31. Community information

Clare Cowen from The Brockley Society (email clare@sumner-type.co.uk or chair@brockleysociety.org.uk) invited everyone to take part in a mass photo (like the one last taken in 1918) in Hilly Fields on Sunday 19th July.

32. Closing remarks

- Join the Brockley Assembly Coordinating Group
- Feedback forms

Cllr Kennedy highlighted the importance of completing the feedback forms and invited members to join the coordinating group which plans the assembly and discusses local issues and updates . If you would like to join contact maya.onyett@lewisham.gov.uk for further information.

- Date and agenda items for next meeting:

Tuesday 16 June 2015, 7pm, Leander Community Centre

9.35pm Close