

**LEE GREEN LOCAL ASSEMBLY
MEETING**

Tuesday 23 June 2015 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	
	Councillor Simon Hooks opened the meeting and introduced the agenda.	
2	Lee Green Safer Neighbourhood Update on Policing and Community Safety	
	PC Jamie Layton has replaced PC Ben Smith as the dedicated safer neighbourhood constable attached to Lee Green. The SNT update was not available for this meeting.	
3	Assembly Local Plan Annual Review	
	<p>The Assembly Local Plan was adopted a year ago. A review is now needed to ensure that the priority agreed last year still captures what matters to people across the ward. Local Plan progress reports have been provided regularly over the past year at Assembly meetings. An overview of the plan was provided including highlights of what has been achieved so far. An appreciation of the contributions and the important work by local amenity groups towards the progress of the plan was acknowledged.</p> <p>What next ?</p> <p>Members of the Coordinating Committee has come up with three pre-suggested priority areas which the Assembly ought to focus on for this year. These are: 1) Lee Green Lives – promoting community development (2) parks and open spaces improvements (3) development of planning in Lee Green. The fourth has been left blank for the Assembly to choose. The meeting was invited to list their suggestion of a fourth priority in the space provided on the reverse of the evaluation feedback form.</p> <p>Proposed Improvements to Streets (Manor Lane and Burnt Ash Hill)</p> <p>Public consultation for both proposed improvement is now open. The Burnt Ash Hill public consultation runs till the end of June. The Manor Lane consultation has just gone live and is open until 31st</p>	

	<p>August. All information and designs relating to the proposed improvement can be found on the Lewisham Portal site and also on the Lee Green Assembly Community website.</p> <p>The main objectives of the proposed scheme are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the 20mph speed limit, reducing vehicle speed and improving safety at junctions • Control illegal parking • Help local economy by improving the appearance and accessibility of streets, widening pavements • Make the streets more pedestrian friendly • Discourage heavy duties vehicle and rat runs. 	
4.	Community Updates including Lee Green Lives	
	<p>The meeting received information about the funding bid success which Lee Green Lives received from Lewisham Council. This group manages and coordinates activities at the locally run Lee Green Community Centre supported by a paid administrator. Group activities are run by volunteers as activities at the centre continues to flourish. The funding secured will enable the group increase networking and improve communication with other groups in the area.</p> <p>The group is holding a community event on Saturday 12th September and their AGM takes place on 15th of July. All are welcomed.</p>	
5	Proposed Neighbourhood Forum	
	<p>Why set up a Forum Some local resident have been working towards establishing a Neighbourhood Forum, a legal framework which gives local people a greater say in any local planning decisions. The Forum is open to everyone who lives, works, has an interest or is an elected person in an area.</p> <p>Benefits of Neighbourhood Forums An explanation of the soft and hard benefits and what extra the Forum can add to the good work already begun by the Assembly and amenity groups in the area were provided to the meeting. The Forum can design a Neighbourhood Plan. This would be a planning policies that have same legal strength as council core strategy policy. It becomes a legally binding document which the Council and any developers has to consider when they are considering building in an area.</p> <p>It has general shared policies within it regarding green spaces, design principles and where offices homes and amenities go. It cannot conflict with Council policies but can effect change. Whilst it might not have a legal basis a non planning evidence of what the community wants can be added to the plan as recommendation.</p>	

	<p>Specific ‘Site Allocations’ may be added to the plan. This will reflect how under-used sites should be developed, how used sites could be reused if they become unused in the future and where needed infrastructure and amenities are provided.</p> <p>Where an area has a forum, the community through the forum can choose how 25% of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is spent locally. Where sites are empty a development order can be made for pre-planning application where developers negotiate with community. Community may also benefit from Community Right to build, where planning permission are not needed to build social housing and the right to bid for acquiring community assets.</p> <p>How effective can a Neighbourhood plan be Plans must be realistic, achievable, not restrict future development and they must be made collaboratively with councils and landowners. Lewisham Council offer support in areas where forums has been proposed. It cannot cover properties which had already submitted planning applications, e.g. Leegate Centre</p> <p>Forum Funding Locality funding is available where a forum can justify it needs in its application e.g. setting up a website or technical advice, hiring consultant. Currently in a 2 years out of a 3 years programme of £22.3m and the current government has pledged their support for neighbourhood planning. Local authority funding of £100,000pa for setting up forums and plans.</p> <p>Democracy Area designation is consulted on by councils. Membership is open to everyone who lives, works or has an interest in the designated area. Steering group strives to be representative and is elected annually.</p> <p>What the forum has to do</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the Neighbourhood area and forum recognized. • Engage with local people and businesses to establish priorities and identify volunteers • Build the evidence base • Draft the Neighbourhood plan <p>How to get involved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can email the group on leeforum@outlook.com • Be a proposer • Be a member of the steering group <p>You can find out more information about neighbourhood forums on: www.mycommunity.org.uk</p>	
6	Leegate Update	
	<p>Planning Application has been submitted and this is being reviewed since the last Assembly meeting. A four page response on the planning application submitted by St Modwen’s has been submitted by the Leegate working group. Planning officers is arranging a meeting with the working group and Better Lee Green to provide an</p>	

	update ahead of the schedule to present the application to Planning Committee. There has been a delay with the application going before the planning committee as a report accompanying it will not be ready for July. The main problem for the delay is largely around transport and concerns about the quality of the public realm.	
7.	CPZ Update	
	Most areas will be moving to a two hours restriction. Orders for replacement signs have been placed. It is proposed that the new signs will go up in July.	
8.	Assembly's fund processes and timetable	
	Processes for applying to the Assembly fund remain unchanged. Each Assembly is allocated £15,000 made up of £12,500 for the Assembly and the remaining £2,500 discretionary fund for the ward Councillors to support worthy projects in the area. The 3 Lee Green Councillors agreed that the discretionary fund is added to the main Assembly fund. Applications are open from 24 th June till 10 th September. Applicants would need to demonstrate that their projects addresses one or more of the issues listed in the Assembly Local Plan.	
	Community Updates and any other business	
	<p>Appeal for new members for the Coordinating Group</p> <p>An appeal was made for new members to join the Assembly Coordinating committee. This group meets two weeks before an Assembly meeting to plan and agree the agenda for the meeting. Volunteers on the group also provide advice and suggestions on how to further improve the meeting and move forward the priorities adopted by the Assembly. Anyone interested in becoming a member is asked to speak with the Assembly coordinator at the end of the meeting.</p>	
	Declaration of interest	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting.	