

**LEE GREEN LOCAL ASSEMBLY  
MEETING**

**Tuesday 4 October 2016 7.30pm – 9.30pm**

**Trinity Church of England Secondary School**

**Taunton Road, London SE12**

**Record of Meeting**

	Items	Actions
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome, Introduction &amp; Format of meeting</b>	
	<p>Cllr Hooks, chair of the Lee Green Assembly opened the meeting with a warm welcome to all the attendees. He gave an overview of the Lee Green Assembly for the benefit of those attending the meeting for the first, explaining that the Assembly is a forum that brings local community together i.e. people living, studying and working in Lee Green. There is a Local Plan which sets out key priorities for the area. There is also a fund which the Assembly decides how it is spent to help address some of the issues raised in the Local plan and to support local initiatives which benefits the area.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Update from the Police Safer Neighbourhood Team</b>	
	<p>PCSO Abi provided this update to the meeting. She mentioned that there has been some changes within the safer neighbourhood team with further changes expected within the next couple of weeks. The team is going to get smaller and on the back of this would be a bigger team responsible for more robust work. It was said that this would free up the time of the local safer neighbourhood team to do more community policing, doing door to door, and more one on one etc. There would also be other teams assigned to offer support when it is needed.</p> <p>In the last year, the priorities for Lee Green remains the same, and these are burglaries, anti-social behaviour and motor vehicle crimes. There are no major incidents reported apart from the normal burglary and motor vehicle crimes which are said to be on the increase. This problem is not isolated to Lee Green, but rather a borough-wide issue. However, certain measures have been put in place to address these problems including teams sent out overnight, use of plain clothed officers to try and catch perpetrators. All these measures are still ongoing. Residents are encouraged to report incidents to police as they occur by telephoning or emailing the team. This would assist the team to target areas where there is a notable increase and ensure resources are diverted to those areas. A crime reference number is issued for things taken from motor vehicle or homes which would assist owners with their insurance claims.</p> <p>The team noted a footfall of burglary last year in the lead up to Christmas. They are hopeful that this will not occur this year. An</p>	

	<p>observation that many of the incidents reported occurs in properties with sash windows mainly in homes off Burnt Ash Road. The new task team would keep an eye on things and do some overnight patrols across the area.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Update on Manor House Library</b>	
	<p>Liz Dart, Council Head of Library Services provided the update on Manor House Library as follows: The Council originally set out to find a partner to work with to provide a community library at Manor House at the same time as Forest Hill and Torridon. Unfortunately they couldn't find a suitable partner who could deliver to expectations. Rather than compromise the process in any way, the Council decided to re-do the bidding exercise again. This placed Manor House a little behind schedule. Lessons learnt from the previous exercise meant that new bidders for Manor House could have a premises management agreement with the council instead of the expectations on them to take on full responsibilities for future repairs of the building. This will ensure a less onerous partnership with the community organisation.</p> <p>The statutory responsibilities for the structure of the building will remain with Lewisham Council and the repairs and maintenance work would be split. The community partner would take on the cost of things like utilities, staffing the building and have the obligations to ensure the hours of operation remains the same as the opening hours before the downgrading was proposed. Lewisham will still retain the book stocks and have visiting library staff in the building. The community partner would bring some other kind of activities into the space. The details of the activities would be clear when a partner is secured.</p> <p>The tender process is open again. The Council has spoken with 40 different organisations over the summer. Someone was brought in to help get the word out beyond Lewisham and to consider other organisations that might be interested in this opportunity. A good response was had so far. The deadline for submission of bids is the 21<sup>st</sup> of November. A good spread of interest has been received from a variety of organisations including arts and cultural organisations, looking for performance and visual art space.</p> <p>Some timetable of events was provided as follows: Liz will be meeting with representatives from the assembly library working group on 5 October to discuss how they can be involved in looking at the bids submitted. This is expected to happen sometimes in December. The final report would be presented to Mayor and Cabinet on 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2017 with a recommendation on who the partner would be. A target date of when the new partner is likely to take over the running of the library and the building is from 1<sup>st</sup> of April 2017 if possible.</p> <p>The meeting is also informed of the recent changes within the Library service. In order to achieve one million pounds savings the council has to embark on a very significant staff re-organisation within the library service. A number of staff were</p>	

	<p>made redundant and they leave the service by the middle of October. There would be some form of library service provision but on a reduced opening hours of 24 hours a week. The new arrangement would come into place for the interim period from 16<sup>th</sup> October until a new partner is secured. New opening hours are from 9.30am-1.30pm on Mondays, 9.30am-5.30pm on Tuesday, 11am-7pm on Thursday and 9.30-11.30am on Saturday.</p> <p>It was said that existing hires would be accommodated in the new opening hours and flexibility may be applied where there is a need to. New hires are welcomed as the cost accrued from this could help in paying the cost of opening times cover.</p> <p>A session of question and answer followed this update.</p>	
<b>4.</b>	<b>Assembly fund bids presentation, Voting and Result</b>	
	<p>The chair provided a brief overview of the Assembly fund as follows: There is a total of £15,000 to apply from. This is made of £12,500 for the assembly and an additional £2,500 Councillors' discretionary fund to benefit local projects. In Lee green the Councillors agrees to add their grant to the Assembly fund to make a larger pot every year. All applications received for the 2016-17 funding had been looked at by the assembly coordinating group and have recommended the five bids that met the criteria for funding.</p> <p>Five community groups seeking funding assistance from the 2016-17 Assembly fund provided a brief background of their group and presented their bids to the meeting. The bids were from Friends and Users of Staplehurst Shops, Lee Green Lives, Lee Fair Share, Lee Manor Community Gardens and Lee Manor Society respectively.</p> <p>A vote was taken by show of hand to decide which project gets funded. All the bids presented received a seal of approval from the meeting.</p> <p>A general question was raised around the underspent of fund. There was a general consensus that the underspent is publicise in the community inviting bids from groups. It was agreed that priority would be given to those groups who has never received funding from the Assembly before.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Feedback on the Assembly showcase event on 18<sup>th</sup> June</b>	
	<p>Jim provided the feedback on the Assembly showcase event held at the Manor House Garden Festival. He presented the idea of forming a local consortium to the meeting. Building on the success of the showcase event in which around 12 local groups participated, work has commenced to gather support for the formation of a consortium of local community groups. It was said that this process would promote collaboration working amongst community groups and support them to start looking at how best to develop their projects.</p>	

	<p>It was mentioned that a proposal has gone before Mayor and Cabinet recommending the abolition of all Assembly fund. Although the fund has been granted a reprieve this year it is possible that this might be considered the following year. Given the pressures on the Council budget, there is a need to think ahead about how local groups are supported financially.</p> <p>The discussion on the best approach to progress this ideas has already taken place at the coordinating group meeting. It is highly possible that funding would be needed to support groups with relevant training and incentives for the recruitment of volunteers to support and increase their capacity. The Assembly is therefore asked to support the creation of a consortium and fund it. The Consortium would be expected to return to the Assembly to seek approval for any spent. This process could involve a joint bid by the groups to other funders in order to support things that would be done.</p> <p>The meeting was therefore asked if they would be willing to commit some of the Assembly underspent towards the formation of a consortium and the future maintenance of the Assembly website. The request was met with a number of objections from the floor. The main concerns were that no bid had been prepared for this idea. The meeting also asked to see a proper breakdown of cost for this idea to assist them with their consideration.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Update on Leegate redevelopment proposal</b>	
	<p>The approval granted by Lewisham Strategic Planning Committee in May 2016 for the planning application went to the Mayor of London for the last stage before it's finally agreed. The application still remains with the Mayor of London. Two reasons attributed to the delay were the recent change of Mayor and the other was that the Mayor of London office is working with St Modwen's on the application. At present it is not clear when the application is likely to be returned to Lewisham Council. Assuming it does, it still has to go through section 106 process which is a discussion around what the developers pays towards supporting the community in a variety of ways. This needs to be negotiated before the final approval is given to the proposal.</p> <p>It was also reported that Killian Morris who was the driving force behind the proposal, the manager responsible for the project has been given six month leave suffering from health problem.</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Community Updates and any other business</b>	
	<p><u>Update on Assembly Local Plan</u> Linda Wanbon informed the meeting of a summary paper on the Local Plan included in the meeting packs. An explanation that a lot of the items raised at the meeting are reflected in the plan. The plan is intended to bring all issues raised at assembly together so there is an overview and more joined up work. The meeting's</p>	

	<p>attention was drawn to the section about the development for Manor Lane and Burnt Ash Road Street Scape. There is a reference to a paper to Mayor and Cabinet which people might find of interest.</p> <p>Attention was also drawn to the last paragraph of the summary paper which highlights the many contributions of volunteers to supplement many projects delivered in the area. It was further highlighted that with the current financial situation the Assembly needs to start planning for the future if Assembly funding is no longer available.</p> <p>A special thanks was expressed to everyone and representatives from local groups who contributes toward making Lee Green a vibrant, successful and engaged community.</p> <p><u>Old Street</u> The chair invited anyone who wishes to raise issued surrounding the anti-social behaviour developing from the hostel in the area to speak with him after the meeting.</p> <p><u>CPZ issues</u> He further highlighted the issues being experienced by people living on the edge of the overrun of the effect of the CPZ. People living around the edges of areas covered by CPZ are now feeling the consequences of cars moving to their area. The chair suggested that perhaps this issues can be built into the Local Plan to help address issues in those areas</p>	
<b>8.</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b>	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting.	