

SUMMARY OF THE GROVE PARK ASSEMBLY

Saturday, 4 March 2017 at 11.00 am

PRESENT: Councillors Suzannah Clarke, Colin Elliott and Hilary Moore

ALSO PRESENT:

Apologies for absence were received from

Introductions and welcome to the Grove Park Assembly

Cllr Colin Elliott welcomed everyone to the assembly and introduced Cllr Hilary Moore and Cllr Suzannah Wise

Community Safety update

Detective Inspector Domenica Cattenio updated the assembly regarding the murder on Lambcroft Avenue on Friday 24 February 2017. This is an ongoing investigation concerning the tragic murder of Dean Pascal-Modeste and therefore the police cannot answer any questions. The incident happened at 3.45pm when police were called to reports of a man believed to be in possession of a firearm on Lambcroft Avenue. Armed police attended and upon arrival Dean Pascal-Modeste was found suffering from numerous stab wounds. Police and local people tried to help him and unfortunately this was unsuccessful. Four males were arrested and they have now been released on bail, last night one male was charged. If you saw anything even if you think that it is insignificant please do contact the police.

Save Lewisham Hospital

Gillian Lewis told the assembly about the Save Lewisham Hospital Campaign which started in 2012. Lewisham Council helped the campaign defeat Jeremy Hunt's plans twice, helping with legal fees to take the challenge to the High Court. Despite this services are still not safe and there is a national march on 4th March starting at Tavistock Square. Gillian urged people to join in and support the NHS. Part of the role of The Campaign is on-going vigilance regarding budgets. The Service needs an increase of about 4% per year to maintain current levels of service and the current government are increasing budgets by about 1% per year. This is leading to pressures such as the bed shortage that is currently hitting the headlines. For example, Croydon Hospital is currently running at 99% beds full and hospitals usually run at 85% occupancy to allow for effective management of patients.

The compound effect of the cuts is that there will be a £20 billion shortfall by 2020 and the effect is further compounded by the cuts in social care services, despite government policy advocating referral to this provision.

Evidence on the crisis in NHS and Government Plans - some facts and figures.

The NHS Federation <http://nhsfunding.info/> including:

- list of failed contracts with private health companies, and the resulting consequences
- info on closed A&E's and 40% of Maternity Units due to hospitals being overcrowded

- list of Royal Colleges, Patient Groups, Unions, Think Tanks, Associations, Select Committee's, Unions & the Government's own task force on mental health - who have repeatedly warned the Government of the dangers of its deliberate policy of under-funding the NHS and Social Care
- record breaking figures – five-fold rise in just two years, of patients waiting more than 2 hours to be transferred from ambulance to hospital: lowest income rise for NHS since 1950's: unprecedented staff and GP shortages, highest published figures of patients delayed in hospital
- a new study published in the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine in Feb - linking an unprecedented rise in mortality in England and Wales to cuts to the NHS and social care
- CHPI – Centre for Health and the Public Interest - an independent non-party think tank <https://chpi.org.uk/> including:
- the Sustainability and Transformation Plans - a critical assessment of the Government's current plan to reorganise the NHS: reduce funding by £22b by 2020, create 44 areas in England with no regard for how existing organisations work together ie hospitals, clinics etc and the enforced sell off of NHS buildings and land
- Patient Safety in Private Hospitals – with the underfunding / overcrowding of NHS hospitals, business is booming for Private Hospitals. The NHS pays a premium for each patient sent, 28% of patients in private hospitals are now NHS, but 6000 patients a year are admitted to NHS hospitals from private hospitals. Data on patient care is not collected by an independent body and is officially rated 'poor' by the CQC. Private hospitals don't employ medical staff, but use Bank staff so post operative care is left to a Resident Medical Officer, typically a Junior Dr, who will usually be monitoring over 40 beds, with no on site Specialist to turn to, and usually no access to intensive care beds if a patient's condition deteriorates
- Full list of MPs with connections to Private Health Companies <http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/selling-nhs-profit-full-list-4646154>
- Health Campaigns Together – umbrella organisation for most of the Health Campaigns in England, for up to date News and information <http://www.healthcampaignstogether.com/>
- Professor Allyson Pollock, co-author of the NHS Reinstatement Bill <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cz5dl9fhj7o> TED talk on the abolition of NHS with latest figures from American Institute of medicine re fraud, unnecessary admin costs, overpricing
- Report on the myth that people living longer are causing the NHS to be unsustainable <https://www.sochealth.co.uk/2016/11/14/myth-demographic-time-bomb/>
- Keep Our NHS Public <https://keepournhspublic.com/> a wealth of information, KONP are briefing Cllrs and other bodies on the Governments Plans
- <http://www.savelewishamhospital.com/> Our local campaign, working together with KONP, The NHS Reinstatement Bill Campaign and many others – also briefing Cllrs, attending Local Authority Health Scrutiny Meetings, Trust and CCG Board meetings

Updates from 2015/16 Assembly Funded groups

Baring School Road Safety Initiative £1,150 - Samantha Walker thanked the assembly for funding this project. The School being on Baring Road does have traffic issues and the children and staff have nearly been knocked over on many occasions. A portable traffic camera clocked 81 offences over 3 months in this area. The School conducted a safe street campaign asking neighbours, parents and local business where the hotspots are and there was a huge response. A report was then put together regarding the issues and an action plan was created. The impact of this has been huge and it has helped to build a good relationship with neighbours. The action plan has been shared with the local people, the police and the council amongst others. As a result of this the CCTV camera has been put at the school end of Linchmere Road and thus reduced traffic offences in the area. Our children therefore know that they can make a difference. The children have designed a banner asking drivers to drive with care and also a poster. The School Junior Travel Ambassadors attended a London event and spoke to a senior police officer about enforcement.

Chinbrook Dog Show £1,225 – David Higgs thanked the assembly for continuing to support the Dog Show which has been going since 2012 which initially started as a means to promote the meadows. Each year the show evolves and gets bigger with 90 pitches last year. The show will always support local groups and most of the assembly funding went towards licensing and toilet hire, the rest of the money comes from pitches, L&Q and fundraising. This year we plan to have a two day carnival and this will be on the 12 and 13th August, the format of the Dog Show will be the same, but the Saturday will be more family orientated including a Grove Park Talent event and a parade. We will be doing some Crowdfunding and we always welcome volunteers to help us.

Carers Lewisham Young Carers Club £1,900 – Philip Mills thanked the assembly for continuing to support Carers Lewisham. The organisation has been in the borough for 28 years and it works with unpaid carers from the age of 5 upwards who are looking after members of their family who are ill. Carers Lewisham has run a regular club at the Ringway for around three years now and it gives the young carers an opportunity for respite and an invaluable break. There are over 500 young carers registered in Lewisham and there is a high proportion in Grove Park. The money has been used to continue to provide respite including day trips out and activities such as horse riding. Carers Lewisham and the young carers really appreciate the support of the Grove Park Assembly.

Scale Projects, Grove Park Youth matters £1,850 – Chris Daley thanked the assembly for its support and stated that Scale Projects is a local social enterprise running since 2011 working with young people. This project was commissioned to conduct 30 consultation interviews with youth aged 16-24; documenting the work aspiration of these youth and the skills they wish to develop for their future work or life in general.

The key consultation elements included future aspirations, identifying the enterprise and employment skills they hold, the enterprise and employment skills they would like to develop; the practical household and home maintenance skills they hold; the practical household and home maintenance skills they would like to develop.

There were 31 consultation interviews completed. Of the youth interviewed 60% wanted to be contacted in the future for potential work experience opportunities. The youth were asked which skills they think youth need in general:

- 70% of them felt literacy is the most important general skill for youth;
- Skills to develop, Presentation skills 37% organisation skills at 34%;
- When asked which home maintenance skills they wish to develop, 42% want to learn the correct use of hand tools, followed by 36% want to learn the correct preparation of woodwork
- 60% of the female interviewees were interested in learning bricklaying.

The next stage of the project is to offer the young people some work experience in these areas with a test market and to work alongside other national / local initiatives.

WG Grace Senior Citizen Tuesday Club £1,400 – Georgina Butler thanked the assembly for continuing to support this project which continues to give older people opportunities to do things such as knitting and bingo on Tuesday's. Everyone is welcome and last year there were three coach trips to the coast and a Christmas Lunch. An artist also visits the club so that we can be involved in a wall hanging for the local area.

ChART update

Suzannah Clarke told the assembly that ChART (Chinbrook Action Residents Team) is based at the WG Grace Centre and is all about improving the lives of local residents. It is resident led and has three workers, Anja Headicar - Health and Green Spaces Coordinator, Chris Daley - Financial Inclusion Coordinator and Suzannah Clarke - Employment, Skills and Training Coordinator. ChART is currently looking at a Carers Hub and there is a coffee morning to discuss this on 22 March at the WG Grace Centre between 1030am-1230pm.

ChART now has a Walking Group which meets on Monday at 10.30am at the WG Grace and this is open to people of all ages. In addition to this on the second Saturday of each month there is a coffee morning at the WG Grace and this from 10.30am – 11.30am.

The ChART Job Club started last September and already 2 people have found full time employment, several people have enrolled on training courses and 1 person has gone to University. There are drop-in sessions from 11.30am-2.30pm every Friday at the Adult Learning Centre in Grove Park. There are also individual sessions available at different times.

Information items Councillor and Community updates

Grove Park Public Realm – A copy of the plans were provided and this will be an agenda item at the next assembly.

Grove Park Youth Club - The Council operated the youth club on the corner of Marvels Lane and Grove Park Road until 2013, when the borough-wide strategy for providing youth services was reviewed.

Since the building closed, officers have reviewed a number of options for providing new homes and other community facilities on the site itself and in the neighbouring area, talked to adjacent land owners including L&Q, and run a number of community engagement events.

Officers have attended local assembly meetings and run consultation events specifically on the future of the site and options for redevelopment. At these there has been a constant sense from the community that the centre should be reopened and the youth services returned. A group has formed which wishes to

save the centre, has recently become a building preservation trust and is arguing for community asset transfer rather than redevelopment.

At the end of February there was a positive meeting with the Building Preservation Trust, the Mayor, Heidi Alexander MP. The Council is now waiting for a formal proposal or offer to come forward for consideration.

Baring Road – Cllr Clarke told the assembly that Baring Road is too fast with not enough crossing points. Since the 20mph limit there have been more cases of overtaking. The Council and the police are aware of this and after a period of adjustment there will be some enforcement and a re-design of the whole road to slow it down. This will include up to 4 crossings and the plans will go to consultation.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 12.55pm with no declarations of interest.