

**LEE GREEN LOCAL ASSEMBLY  
MEETING**

**Tuesday 20 March 2018 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 Simon Hooks chairing, welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the agenda. A brief overview of the assembly process was provided for the benefit of the people attending the meeting for the first time.</p>	
<b>2</b>	<b>Police Safer Neighbourhood Team Update</b>	
	<p>PC Tamara Phipps and PC Mitchel Oates from the Lee Green Safer Neighbourhood Team provided the following updates on what the team has been doing since the last meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crime figures – there has been a significant drop in reported cases of burglaries between the months of October to February were reported with only 2 incidents has been reported for February so far.</li> </ul> <p><b>How does Lee Green compares to other areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A comparison of how Lee Green compares to other areas in the Central cluster were presented.</li> <li>• Measures to tackle theft from motor vehicles continues with regular patrols in vehicle and on foot. There has been a reduction this month in this type of offences which has gone down from 20 to 13 in February and even less for March so far.</li> <li>• A map showing hot spots areas for different crimes was presented. The areas flagged up includes Manor Park and the Leegate Centre car park which is notable for a number of theft of motor vehicle number plates.</li> </ul> <p><b>Some of the actions taken so far to tackle problem</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A contact point set up once a week to enable residents raise any concern they may have with their Safer Neighbourhood Team. The next residents Contact day will take place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at the Sainsbury's Store on Staplehurst Road between 10am and 11am.</li> <li>• Meeting planned with the head teachers of the local secondary school and college to discuss issues after school</li> <li>• Issues relating to residential burglaries flagged up with the Emergency Response Team on the daily briefing, who, along with the Safer Neighbourhood Team conducts regular patrols in the notable areas during peak times</li> <li>• Ongoing uniform and non-uniformed patrols in known hot spots</li> </ul>	

	<p>areas to address drug and theft from motor vehicle continues. Some arrest has been made resulting from the covert patrols were attributed to the reductions in offences of this nature.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing work with the local hostels which accommodates offenders with previous convictions for theft from motor vehicles to deter re-offending.</li> <li>• The use of social media to give Crime Prevention Advice centred around keeping vehicle safe and ideas for keeping burglaries down is said to continue</li> <li>• In the near future the police are planning to give out forensic property marking also known as Smart Water pen. This is currently being rolled out in Blackheath and other Lewisham wards and will soon get rolled out in Lee Green.</li> <li>• Other methods of reporting crime were provided. There is a met Voting survey on the metropolitan police website where residents can vote for the most pressing issues of concerns in their area each month. For the month of March the issues with the most votes were begging and theft from motor vehicle. Those issues will remain a focus for the team in the month of March.</li> <li>• Some update were also provided about a known beggar who was recently arrested in Lee Green resulting in a decrease in reported cases of this nature.</li> </ul> <p><b>Some success stories were reported as follows:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been an increase in patrols and conducted stop and search in the Legate Car Park, resulting in 6 youth referred to the Youth Offending Team and cautioned. 3 adults were also arrested for various drug and driving offences</li> <li>• Continued partnership work with Lewisham Council to deter begging offences at Hither Green Station and Staplehurst Road continues</li> <li>• The same partnership is being used to tackle drug and antisocial behaviour around Hither Green Station and Staplehurst Road</li> <li>• The team obtained and executed drug warrants which has resulted in shutting down a cannabis factory in the area. One male was arrested during this operation</li> <li>• The team is seeking to obtain a closure order on a nuisance property being used for drugs and prostitution.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ward Panel Meeting</b></p> <p>The team holds ward panel meeting at Lewisham Police Station where they discuss issues of concerns with residents and is also where people can voice their opinions and explore solutions in tackling issues arising in the community with the police. People interested in joining the panel are asked to leave their contact details on the sheet provided. The next panel meeting is scheduled to take place on 10<sup>th</sup> of April at 7pm in Lewisham Police Station.</p> <p>A question and answer session followed after the presentation.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Assembly fund financial report 2017-18</b>	
	A summary report on how the Assembly fund has been allocated in	

	<p>2017-18 financial year was provided to the meeting. Each year the assembly receives a funding allocation of £15,000 to help meet its chosen priorities. A list of organisation who benefited from the Assembly fund in the financial year were mentioned as well as the sum allocated to each project and the remaining underspent.</p> <p>The meeting was also informed of a bid of £265 received from Lee Manor Community Garden which will be presented to the assembly during the course of the meeting. Should the above sum be approved by the meeting, this will leave the assembly with an underspent of £486. The assembly agreed at their last meeting to leave any underspent with Lee Green Lives to hold on trust for the assembly until an idea of spend is found.</p> <p><b>Assembly fund bid presentation</b></p> <p><u>Lee Manor Community Garden</u></p> <p>A presentation was heard from a representative from the Lee Manor Community Garden in support of their funding request from the remaining Assembly fund. Funding is required for the replacement of wooden planters used for raised beds. This garden is located on Micheldever Road and was set up to conform to the idea of one of the Assembly objectives of promoting healthy lifestyles, support the elderly and to maintain / promote use of green spaces and parks. The garden has been going for around 7 years. Attendance at the garden either to work or visit the garden has been reasonably good with around 100 attendance recorded in the last year.</p> <p>The group is requesting the approval of £265 to purchase planks to make new planters and also to cover the cost of the purchase of third party Public Liability Insurance which is a legal requirement.</p> <p>The next gardening session will take place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018 from 10.30am till noon. All are welcomed.</p> <p>To decide the outcome of the bid, the chair directed that a vote is taken by show of hand. All the people present voted in favour of funding this bid.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Lee Forum – Next Steps towards the Neighbourhood Plan</b>	
	<p>A brief background information of the purpose of the Lee Forum and what it does was provided for the benefit of those attending the meeting for the first. Neighbourhood plan were brought into existence under the Localism Act. It was created as a way by which local people can influence planning policy adopted by the Councils to reflect what local people in areas wanted to be built, protected and how they wanted to see their local area grow with the changing needs of the community.</p> <p>A presentation was heard from 2 members of the group as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The group has been in existence since 2015 and its aim is to improve the well-being of the area particularly through making a neighbourhood plan.</li> </ul>	

- An explanation of the areas covered by the forum was provided. The Forum covers most of Lee Green ward including a small bit of Blackheath and Greenwich i.e. Middle Park and Sutcliff
- The government has provided a limited pot of fund to assist with set up for which the group has been applying for
- Most of the work to progress the scheme are delivered free by volunteers

**What the Forum does and how far along they are**

- The first year was focused on consulting with the community through meetings, social media and surveys. Consultation will remain open until the end of the Neighbourhood Plan which is hoped to be sometimes in 2019
- Evidence gathering - The stages the group has to go through are quite prescribed and are evidence of what exist already and matches what people have asked for.
- Drafting the Neighbourhood Plan –a draft is currently being developed and this is where some of the funding will be spent.
- It is hoped that the plan will be put out for Consultation to get feedback from local people in the summer 2018
- The document will be adjusted to reflect the feedback received during the consultation and will be presented to both Lewisham and Greenwich Council for their assessment hopefully by Autumn 2018 to check that there is no clash with any of their planning policy
- The plan will be independently examined to check that it does not clash with national policies and encourages sustainable development
- A referendum will be held by everyone who lives and works in the area who gets a chance to vote on the plan, following which the plan is adopted by the respective Councils
- Once the plan is adopted, whenever the Council receives planning application for any building in the specified area, they will compare it with what is in the plan as well as their own policies. They would ideally agree or disagree with the plan or request amendment based on what is in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Other reasons given for developing a Neighbourhood Plan is in regards to the Neighbourhood Plan Legislation which states that community who adopts a plan gets a say over how the Community Infrastructure Levy is spent locally. A brief explanation of the term Community Infrastructure Levy was provided. When developers gets planning permission from the Council, they give money to the Council depending on the size of the development. That money is spent somewhere within the borough. Where an area has adopted a Neighbourhood Plan they get a say of how 25% of the fund is spent to benefit the people who were affected by the development.

Some of the feedback collected from the consultation conducted has given rise to the delivery of projects outside of the Neighbourhood Plan and there are no deadline specified. The feedback collected by the Forum were said to be identical to those collected from the Assembly meeting. As a result some collaboration works has taken place with the Assembly in progressing some of the actions.

### **Some examples of Feedback and Projects proposed**

- 1) Protection of parks and outdoor spaces - A common theme listed in the Forum's and Assembly aims. This is the sort of policy that can be included in the Neighbourhood Plan. In progressing this, the Forum would be creating Pockets Park of community garden and allotments by conducting a mapping of green and non-green areas that could be used. People were encourage to send in information and ideas of other known places and areas they would like to see protected.
- 2) Derelict and Empty Building – Campaigns to get building of properties back from the river quaggy, to give space to wild life breeding
- 3) Identifying and promoting new walk routes - providing more seating areas, better signage and planting in Lee Green and on the Greenwich area, through improving access to parks and open spaces
- 4) Provision of more school places / community and art spaces - Planning Policy could be used to allocate land for community centre use. For example in Weigall Road there is a big playing field which is currently underused. It has been suggested that the land could be better use if they had more recreation facilities within it.
- 5) The New Tigers head which has been empty for quite some time was cited as another project picked up by the Forum. A group of around 7 forum members have been looking at various options to bring the property back to community use by devising a social enterprise model. Enquiries has been made with investors who had advised that the property is overpriced and also identified a big issues with the lack of parking facilities on site.
- 6) Improving shop fronts – The forum can develop a policy around shop front design in the Neighbourhood Plan. If there is an establishment that people would like to see more of they can be included in the plan. An explanation on the current status of the Leegate Centre was provided. The site cannot be included as an allocated site in the plan because the planning application has been agreed before the referendum and the adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan by the council.
- 7) Protecting heritage sites and building – an example of the policy that could guide this was cited. The forum would need to adopt a design code for extensions and new built i.e. by ensuring the extension fits in with existing building, the heights, the distance from the pavements and visual line.
- 8) A number of locally listed building in the Forum area recorded on the English Heritage register were shared with the meeting. Greenwich is due to consult on the ones in their area in April and no date has been agreed for Lewisham to consult on their listed building. Other possible sites has been suggested on Lee High Road and Manor Park.
- 9) Local housing and jobs – The forum has adopted the idea of site

	<p>allocation in their search for sites that could potentially be used for new housing or working sites. A map showing possible sites was presented to the meeting. The sites were identified by the consultants engaged by the Forum. These are currently suggestions and would need to be consulted on should the Forum wish to acquire them. The Forum could apply for funding under the community right to build if the community wants to take on a particular site to build social housing etc.</p> <p>Although majority of the forum work is based around planning permission for new building, there is also the issues of existing building especially the ones that has been neglected. This is another area that the forum has been working on. A number of neglected properties within the forum area were highlighted and the legal powers that the Council have to the address such issues were explained. Under Section 215 of the Town and Country Planning Acts 1990 Councils have legal power to write to owners of neglected building requesting they repair their property. If the owners does not comply with the request within a set period of time they can be taken to court and fined.</p> <p>Further information on how to provide feedback on the works of the forum can be found on their website <a href="http://www.leeforum.org.uk">www.leeforum.org.uk</a> comments may also be emailed to <a href="mailto:info@leeforum.org.uk">info@leeforum.org.uk</a></p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Follow-up on Traffic and Parking in Lee Green</b>	
	<p>Since the last meeting, no update has been received from officers from the Council Transport Division. However, behind the scene officers has been working with TFL and Greenwich Transport Division to look at certain issues, particularly the impact of that the traffic on the main has on local areas. This was said to be largely due to efforts of some local residents including LeeLive which has been campaigning to get the authorities to find lasting solutions. Lewisham Transport Division manager has hinted that the CPZ would be looked at in the area again in 2019.</p> <p>A parking working group has been set up to progress this matter. The group will work with officers from the Council Transport unit to look at ways to explore various options at addressing issue. There is still opportunity for people to put their name forward to join the working group.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Report back from the Lee Green Consortium</b>	
	<p>The meeting received a report about the volunteer's event held in Lochaber Hall back in November 2017 where over 60 people attended. Attendance were a mix of users and volunteers. A good time was had by all including music and raffle prizes.</p> <p>The Lochaber Hall Community Association who had recently joined the membership has become very active in the ward so much so that</p>	

	<p>they agreed to host the Lee Green Youth Club which was previously based at the Lee Green Community Centre, to support the delivery of their weekly session and holiday scheme.</p> <p>Lastly, the annual Assembly showcase event at the Manor House Garden Festival for which the assembly provided funding for will be held this year on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2018 in the grounds of Manor House Gardens. Many local groups and organisation will be present in the tent to showcase some of the activities they deliver in the community.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Community updates and any other business</b>	
	<p><b>Leegate</b> The revised planning application has called for considerable more housing. The scheme no longer has ASDA as they had pulled out of the scheme. The revised plan now has a limited retail shopping space.</p> <p><b>Planning Application Consultation</b> The international Academy of Greenwich (IAG), a free School on the Greenwich side is putting together a consultation package for pre-planning application for their new site before it is submitted to Greenwich. The school plans to build a school on the old Bowing Sports Club which is classed as Metropolitan Public Land. A number of local concerns has been raised with councillors and Lee Forum about the proposal.</p> <p>A statement in the plans in regards to parking facility for staff directs their staff to park on Cambridge Drive and Leyland Road which currently has no parking restrictions. Many residents in the affected areas are opposed to this and have raised their concerns with Councillors and Lee Forum A consultation on the plan is being held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at the Old Colfean Rugby Club from 4pm to 8pm and on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March 10am to 2pm. Residents are encouraged to attend to give their views on the draft plan.</p> <p><b>Voluntary Service Lewisham</b> This project is a charity based in Lewisham since 1969. It is currently based at the Leemore Centre in Central Lewisham and supports vulnerable and isolated people. This is done by recruiting volunteers to deliver services on the project behalf. The project delivers a range of services from Mental health drop in session at several location across the borough. It also runs a befriending service where volunteers would visit people in their own home once a week including telephoning befriending services.</p> <p>One of the mental health drop in service is held at the Lee Centre on Aislbie Road on Monday and Friday morning from 10am to 1pm. The service also provides a driving scheme, where drivers volunteer transports people to different places for medical appointment at the hospital or their doctor's surgery, respite care and day care centres. Anyone interested in volunteering with the service is asked to contact the organisation at the Leemore Centre.</p> <p><b>Lee Learning Hub</b> The meeting heard a short presentation about a fee paying tuition</p>	

	service for school age children provided by the Lee Learning hub.	
<b>8</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b>	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting.	