

**LEWISHAM CENTRAL LOCAL ASSEMBLY
MEETING
Tuesday 9 October 2018 7pm – 9pm
Lewisham Methodist Church Hall
Albion Way, London SE13**

Record of Meeting

	Item	Actions
1	Welcome, Introduction & Format of meeting	
	Cllr Joani Reid welcomed everyone and went through the format of the meeting.	
2	Police Safer Neighbourhood Team Update	
	Representative from the SNT were not present at the meeting and written update were not provided.	
3	Local democracy Review	
	<p>Background to the review Some background information on the reasons for the council's democracy review was provided by cllr Codd. The council makes decisions daily on over 800 services it provides for its community. Lewisham has had a directly elected Mayor over the past 16 years. When Damien Egan was standing for Mayor he pledge that he will review how residents, local communities and businesses involve themselves in local democracy to include more local involvements. This review was agreed by the council at the beginning of July and will run until the end of December. A report on what has been heard from the community and what is decided would be produced by April 2019. The presentation on the council's local democracy review was provided as follows:</p> <p>About Lewisham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lewisham has 54 ward councillors in 18 different wards elected by residents, 3 in each ward • The council provides over 800 services • The annual budget of the council is about £240million • The borough has 301,000 residents with a quarter of the population younger than 19 • The borough is rated the 15th most ethnically diverse local authority in England • It is projected that the borough will keep on growing to around 344,000 by 2031 • Council's budget has seen a cut of £163,000 in the last 8 years and there is more to come • The council is keen to encourage more people to get involved with local democracy and become more informed, involved and empower 	

	<p>What the council does already to involve people in decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council has a website where people can view details of meetings, agendas and decisions made • It holds various public meetings • It holds assembly meeting in each ward across the borough <p>Focus of the review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The review was set up to enhance the mayor and council's openness and transparency in decision making • To increase public involvement in Council's decisions • To promote effective decision making – how the council can improve in the way it makes decisions. <p>Increasing public involvement in decision making</p> <p>The aim of the review is to get people to start thinking about the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the council's current ways of involving the public in decision making clear, effective, accessible and cost efficient? • Is public involvement the central part of what the councils does? Do they seek to involve the public at every opportunity automatically? • What are the most important parts of effective decision making? • What stops the council from making effective decisions? <p>Get involved and tell us your views</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From now until December, the council will be asking people to complete a paper or an online consultation by visiting www.lewishamlocaldemocracy.com • People are encouraged to talk to their family, friends, colleague and neighbours, encourage them to take part in the online consultation or attend meetings • Signup for the email updates on the campaign and encourage others to do so • The outcome of the consultation and recommendations will be available in Spring 2019. 	
4.	Hither Green funds from Planning agreement	
	<p>The meeting was informed of the notification received from the council about some section 106 funding found for Hither Green to spend on infrastructure improvements. The areas identified overlaps between Lewisham Central and Lee Green wards. The deadline for the submission of ideas of possible projects to commit the fund to is 11th October 2018. Calls for further ideas would also be made at the assembly meeting. Councillors have already consulted the Hither Green Community Association to seek ideas on what the fund can be spent on. Some of the suggestions that has come through includes provision of planters on Hither Green Lane, more streets trees and minor streetscape improvements. Further ideas is welcomed and can be submitted during the course of the meeting.</p>	
5.	Assembly bids presentation	

	<p>A brief explanation about the assembly fund was provided along with how it had benefit many projects delivered to the community. Representaives from the seven project seeking funding from the assembly presented their proposal to the meeting.</p> <p>i Greening Lewisham Project - £3,438 The Greening Lewisham project has been working with local residents, delivering various environmental improvements in areas across the Lewisham Central ward. For this round, the project wish to deliver 3 community led street scape improvements at sites across the ward. This works will include the installation of a new bench and plaque in the green area at Littlebourne, planting new street trees on Hither Green Lane and provision of new planters and hanging baskets at Mercia Grove as part of the Greening Lewisham project.</p> <p>ii Marischal Road Resident Association - £1445 The cobbled section at the lower end of Marischal Road used to be lined with 3 ornamental cherry trees. 2 of the 3 trees were damaged by falling scaffold in high winds earlier this year and had to be removed. The holes were tarmacked over by the council and currently looked unsightly. Since the trees have gone, the area now attracts flytipping. Also the wheelie bins aligned with the trees are now strewn across the streets. Funding is required to replace the two trees and install raised planters between the trees to form a barrier to help camouflage the wheelie bins and hopefully deter flytippers.</p> <p>iii Diamond Days Lunch Club This lunch club has been going for over 7 years providing hot meals for the elderly over 55s. The group meets at St Swithuns Church Hall every Friday from 11.30am to 2.30pm. Various other activities including, card marine, flower arranging and 1 speaker a month takes place after lunch which helps participants to socialise after meal. The group need funding to purchase a defibrillator as advised by St John’s Ambulance, a fridge freezer and to go on coach trip once a year to places of interest.</p> <p>iv Lewisham Pensioners Forum Lewisham Pensioners Forum have recognised the issues around digital exclusion particularly affecting the elderly population in Lewisham following a pilot scaheme. The group is asking for £2000 to pay Catbytes, a digital community interest company which offer sessions to the elderly enabling them to become more digital savy. Funding requested from the assembly will be used to purchase tablets for use by participant and Wi-Fi provision.</p> <p>V Free Me - £3254.68 Free me is a peer led support group to women recovering from eating disorders and addictions. Funding is required to support and deliver a beading for recovery project to Lewisham Central residents working towards recovering. Some statistcis about people suffering from eating disorder were highlighted as well the waiting time on the NHS to get treatment and how this delays impacts on the sufferer. A local resident who had benefited from the programme explained how the programme had inspired and</p>	
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	supported her recovery.	
vi	<p>Ben Connors & Artmongers – £2000</p> <p>This project is seeking funding from the assembly to create a place making mural on the flank wall to the florist on Loampit Vale. It is thought the proposed work will build on the previous mural artwork undertaken to brighten the environment, draw on themes of togetherness in the community and create pride in the local area. The flank wall currently looks rundown and has been tagged with graffiti. The idea is to involve young people to come up with ideas for the mural. The artist has met with young people at a local school, Prendast Vale School. It is proposed that workshops will be conducted with year 6 pupil at the school to develop ideas. A selection process will followed to choose the final preferred design.</p>	
vii	<p>Good Gym - £118.32</p> <p>Good Gym are a group of runners who meet at the Glassmill Leisure Centre every Monday, running together to local community space and charities to help out with physical task such as painting, gardening etc. The group have so far done 176 real task. Alongside this project, the group also have a scheme known as one-off mission, visiting the elderly in their home, to help them with a task that they cannot complete such as overgrown garden, or something seemingly simple like changing a light bulb. The group is seeking funding from the assembly to purchase 10 LED work head light to support their work in the community particularly in the winter months when the night draws in earlier.</p>	
6.	Project voting process & result of ballot	
	<p>The voting process were explained as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People now have the opportunity to decide whether or not all the projects who have presented their proposal should be funded • Voting would not be done by show of hands as is the usual practice but rather by casting votes using the ballot boxes and tokens provided. Seven labelled boxes were laid out on a table, one for each project. • People may vote for all or some of the projects of their choice which they feel should be funded by the assembly, during the break by dropping one token in each of the boxes of their preferred project/s. <p>The results of the ballot were called out by the chair at the beginning of the second stage of the meeting. The result showed that all the project proposals were successful in their bid and would therefore be funded.</p>	
7.	Community Updates & Any Other Business	
	<p>Lewisham Station Users Group</p> <p>This group is holding a public meeting on Thursday 25th October, from 7pm at St Stephens Church in the Town Centre. The meeting will be chaired by the local MP Vicky Foxcroft. The purpose of the</p>	

	<p>meeting is to seek the views of the public about Lewisham Station improvements. Representatives from Network Rail and South Eastern Railway are expected to attend the meeting. All are welcomed to attend.</p> <p>Lewisham Pensioners Forum</p> <p>The coordinator for the pensioners forum informed the assembly of the recent activities of the group. Their annual Pensioner's Day event week attracted a record of over 350 pensioners. The group runs a support group every Monday delivering a range of activities to the elderly at St Mauritius House on Lewisham Park and organises a walking for health sessions in Lewisham Park on Mondays at 12pm for all abilities. A music and singing session takes place before the walk at 11am. The Pensioners Froum is launching a meeting of organisation that provides services for the elderly in Lewisham at the end of the week. The aim of the session would be mainly to explore how they can deliver more collaborative working, seekig funding together to improve and enhance services for the elderly.</p> <p>Save Lewisham Hospital Campaign</p> <p>The meeting was informed of the proposed cuts to Public Health funding in Lewisham. This cuts came about as a result of further reduction in Central Government funding. The proposed cut will reduce vital health visitors, early years service i.e. services to young children under 5s, services to adults with substance misuse problems and preventive public health services to promote health and wellbeing for Lewisham residents. People were asked to back the campaign by visiting the group's website at savelewishamhospitalcampaign.com to read the detailed commentary and advice on how to complete the consultation exercise. Save Our Lewisham Campaign is also asking the council to oppose these cuts and join with other councils in London to lead on this.</p>	
8.	Declaration of interest	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting	