

**LEE GREEN LOCAL ASSEMBLY  
MEETING**

**Thursday 10 October 2018 7.00pm – 9.00pm**  
**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 Jim Mallory chairing, welcomed everyone and went through the format of the meeting. 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>The Safer Neighbourhood Officers gave their apology for this meeting but in their absence Cllr James Rathbone presented a written update provided by the team.</p> <p>Figures shows the overall crime rate record for Lee Green was 82 in June, 90 recorded in July, 85 in August and 84 in September. The vast majority crime recorded fell into two categories i.e. theft and violence against a person including antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>Figures comparing Lee Green with other areas of the borough and London wide were provided. In comparison with crime rate in other areas within Lewisham, Lee Green has one of the lowest crime rate. Hot spots where crime are mostly occurring were outlined on a map. The map showed a cluster in the north of the ward</p> <p>Information comparing Lee Green crime figures with other areas of the borough and London wide were provided. Figures shows that Lee Green has one of the lowest crime rate in the borough. A map showing hot spots where crime usually occurs was presented. This shows a number of activities occurring in a cluster of areas in the north of the ward i.e. Lee High Road between Central Lewisham and the crossroad into Blackheath. Most notable crime in this area were theft from motor vehicle where cash, credit cards, documents and leisure and sports equipment's have been stolen.</p> <p>Some instructions on how people can prevent items being stolen from vehicles were provided as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that cars are locked at all times</li> <li>• Close car windows and sun roof</li> <li>• Secure number plates with tamper resistance screws</li> <li>• Fit locking and anti-tamper wheel nuts to secure alloy wheels</li> <li>• Secure anything that is on the outside of vehicles to the vehicle.</li> </ul>	

	<p>Contact details for the team were provided as follows - mobile. 07720233877, email - LeeGreen.SNT@met.police.uk</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Assembly General Update</b>	
<b>a</b>	<p><b>Traffic &amp; Parking in Lee Green</b></p> <p><b>Parking matters</b> - The working group set at the last meeting aimed at progressing this issue held their first meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September with a number of Council Officers, councillors and residents representatives in attendance. Officers from the council provided some useful background information on parking process and policy in introducing a new CPZ in an area. The process starts off with an informal consultation where people will be asked to vote on whether or not they would like a CPZ introduced on their street. Where there a 51% votes from at least 10% of resident votes in favour of the scheme, a referendum will be called for a CPZ to be installed for the area. Before introducing the referendum, officer have to look at the potential impact of the scheme on surrounding streets and consider the different factors before announcing a referendum to introduce a CPZ.</p> <p>Officers informed the group about a consultation to introduce more CPZ in some of the areas that are not currently covered by the scheme. The consultation is proposed to take place in the new year. The areas considered will cover the East and West of Burnt Ash Road towards Lee Railway Station. Officers will be meeting with the Lee Green Councillors in early January 2019 to discuss where the boundaries for the consultation should be. Subject to this discussion, there would be a referendum with the relevant streets to see if a CPZ is wanted. Further information about the proposed scheme would be available in the new. The next meeting of the working group where the proposals received from council officers would be discussed is planned for 22<sup>nd</sup> January.</p> <p>Other issues also raised at the working group meeting were in relation to school drop offs and pick up and cars obstructing driveways. Also raised were the impact on parking locally during the construction phase of the Leegate redevelopment if it goes ahead. The group wants to ensure that proper consideration is given to this issues when the plan is coming to fruition. Concerns about parking and traffic on Woodyates Road, particularly commuters parking and rat running was also raised as an issue for concern.</p> <p><b>Traffic matters</b> – Reference was made to the paper on traffic developed by Leelive which gave a helpful insight into concerns around traffic and rat running through Lee Green. Officers provided information on the Mayor of London Transport strategy which was said to state an ambitious expectation of around 80% of journeys made in a sustainable manner. This hopes to see 1 in 5 journeys made by cars and this is what Lewisham council will be working towards achieving in the long term. In terms of how this will be achieved in Lewisham, there are specific plans within the borough, to develop a scheme known as “Healthy Neighbourhoods”. Up to 18</p>	

neighbourhoods will be develop across the borough where a number of factors like traffic calming measures, parking and disabled access will be looked at. Around half a million pounds would be made available in each area to develop these measures towards achieving a healthy neighbourhoods.

#### How the Healthy Neighbourhood scheme will work

Over a period of time, one or two schemes will be prioritise each year across the borough and will get an injection of funding. Healthy Neighbourhood measures would be discussed with the local community and before it is introduced. Officers were quite optimistic about how quickly Lee Green might be able to benefit from this programme of works and could be amongst the first set to be rolled out because of the works that has been done already through the assembly.

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#### **Leegate Redevelopment**

The planning application for the scheme is currently being looked at by the Mayor of London around the viability of affordable housing element. Planning officers have informed councillors that the Mayor of London will be issuing stage 1 response for planning proposal within the next week. The response will explain what they are or are not happy with in the plan. St Modwens and the Council will need to provide a respond to this. Councillors and members of the working group has made representation to the cabinet member for housing in Lewisham expressing their concerns about the proposals around community space provision, location of trees and percentage of social housing. The percentage per unit put forward by St Modwens was 16%, Lewisham requirement is 25%.

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#### **Celebrating Our Community**

A social event was held at the Manor House Library on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September to celebrate and support volunteers working across the ward. Free meal was provided courtesy of the owner of Pistachio café in Manor House Garden. The event was attended by up to 50 people many of whom were volunteers. The new MP for Lewisham East was also in attendance.

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#### **Hither Green fund from planning agreement**

An amount of £27,000 has been found from Section 106 fund to be spent on improving infrastructure in the Hither Green area. The areas to benefit from the fund overlaps between Lewisham Central and Lee Green wards, outside Hither Green Station. The sum of between 5-7 thousands will be made available for Lee Green ward. FUSS has been notified of the funding and they are currently deliberating on the areas for improvement which that the fund could be spent on. Two suggestions has been proposed so far. One was for the replacement of the bench and planters previously located outside Sainsbury which were removed as they pose a health hazard and the other to provide more street trees along Staplehurst Road. Consultation with traders in the area shows many were in favour of trees and benches. A project proposal for the bid will produced and submitted to the section 106 board on 11<sup>th</sup> of October.

4	<p><b>Assembly bids presentation</b></p> <p><b>Lee Green Lives</b>  Lee Green Lives (LGL) runs a community centre, based at Unit 3, Leegate, where a range of activities that continues to expand, takes place. The centre hosts other local groups' activities and meetings. The centre also act as a focal point for activities and outreach on behalf of tenants living on Leybridge and other Clarion-run estates in the ward, funded by Clarion. Without the centre, the community loses a vital focal point. The group is seeking £5,395 needed to sustain the centre's running costs and charges associated with maintaining it.</p> <p><b>Lee Green Consortium</b>  Lee Green Consortium is seeking £1,200 from the Assembly to continue to develop and consolidate the work of a "consortium" of local groups, building on the success of the Community Showcases, held at Manor House Gardens in June 2016, 2017 and 2018. The initial aim of the group was to promote the work of our community groups under the banner of "Our Community, Our Say". Longer term, the project aims to consolidate and sustain the cooperation of local groups so that, whatever the funding future, it is in a strong enough position to survive, for the benefit of the Community. The founding members were Friends of Manor House Gardens, Lee Green Lives and Lee Manor Society. Other groups who have made significant contributions have since joined over the last couple of years .</p> <p><b>Friends and Users of Staplehurst Road Shops (FUSS)</b>  FUSS is seeking £3,046 from the assembly to deliver its annual community Christmas Fair. The Fair will be held on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December and occupy Staplehurst Road from Hither Green Station to the junction with Longhurst Road, requiring street closures from 9pm on 30<sup>th</sup> November to 6pm on 1<sup>st</sup> of December . On the 1<sup>st</sup>.of December, local volunteers and businesses together with seventy stall holders come together to create what is believed to be the largest one off street fair in Lewisham. The funds generated support the work of FUSS in providing planters, plants manure and tools. This enables the organisation to continue its work in enhancing the environment. The build up to the Fair and the day itself provides the opportunity for local people to work together and helps create a sense of community.</p> <p><b>Manor Park Friends</b>  This group is seeking £2500 from the Assembly towards the cost of installation of a water fountain in Manor Park. An explanation was provided on how people are increasingly reminded of the importance of drinking plenty of water and avoiding sugary drinks. Bottled water are expensive and plastic is damaging to the environment, an issue that has received much attention in recent times. The UK is pushing for more water fountain provisions, ideally one in every public park. The group are aware that surrounding parks in the borough already have one installed but Manor Park does not. Some of the benefits of having a water fountain to both health and the environment were explained. Officers from Lewisham Council and Glendale are in support of the project and have recommended a supplier and have committed to carrying out future maintenance after it has been</p>	
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	<p>install. The group have already secured half of the fund required to progress the project from the council's public health funding, it is hoped that the assembly will support the bid presented to get the remaining half needed to complete the project.</p> <p><b>Lee Green Assembly – Tree Replacement Programme</b>  The Assembly provided funding for the replacement of 2 street trees last year and this prompted additional contributions by individuals. Recent survey carried out identified so much loss of existing street trees that were cut down at an inappropriate time of year, before a replacement could be planned. A team of residents have developed a revised strategy to ensure that Lee Green Ward can keep pace with the losses at the very least. An amount of £264 is sought from the assembly towards this project. The sum will be matched by a donation. It was mentioned that Lewisham have increased the cost of tree from £240 to £264 per tree.</p> <p><b>South London Counselling Services</b>  SLCS is seeking £1540 from the Assembly to deliver a series of support services to residents in the area. The main aim of this project is to tackle anti-social behaviour including, drug dealings and reduce noise in Lee-Green ward to promote a healthy, stimulating and safe environment in which all residents can live, work, learn, interact and have fun. Some examples of support that will be on offer will include, mentoring and early intervention support for children and young people and their families, mediation and conflict resolution, group and peer support for children and young people.</p> <p><b>Lee Fair Share</b>  The idea for a Lee Fair Share Heritage project came about from discussions with members of Lee Fair Share who wish to create a booklet with photo displays of their memories of the 60s, 70s and 80s. The project will be overseen by the Lee Fair Share coordinator who will design the project and its themes based on local and online research by local historians. The project will culminate in a social event open to the community at the Lee Green Centre with a display of photos which will then be transferred to Manor House Library.</p> <p><b>Voting to decide which project gets funded</b>  The voting process for all project proposals was explained by the chair. The question was asked about whether people will prefer to vote for projects individual or in block. The preference chosen was to vote for projects in block. The result of the vote taken by show of hands shows people voted in favour of funding all the projects proposed.</p>	
<b>5</b>	<b>Local Democracy Review</b>	
	<p><b>Background to the review</b>  Some background information on the reasons for the review were provided. This review stems from a promise in the election manifesto with a commitment by new mayor to hold a democracy review of how residents and local businesses involve themselves in local</p>	

democracy. The council makes decisions daily on over 800 services it provides to its community. Lewisham has had a directly elected Mayor over the past 16 years. The current model used in Lewisham of the mayor and 54 councillors was implemented in 2002.

#### **Why a review now**

- To enhance the mayor and council's openness and transparency in decision making, so that people can find out what is going on
- To increase public involvement in Council's decisions
- To promote effective decision making – how the council can improve in the way it makes decisions.

A lot has happened over the past 16 years, with the borough population significantly increased. The pressures faced by the council and the people of the borough has changed and the council now have a housing crisis which was not present in 2002. Young people are finding it harder to have options that they may have had 16 years ago, not just with housing but with job opportunities. There are also uncertainty around what is going to happen to the country following the proposed exit from the European Union next year.

The council itself has changed in terms of its responsibilities, it now has more responsibilities than it had back in 2002. An example cited was around its role in public health which used to be within NHS but something the council now take a lead on with partners in the borough. There is also the Localism programme which allows some areas to set up Neighbourhood Plans and issues around working with major partners within the NHS as an approach to try and integrate health and social care. To do this the council has to share decision making with the NHS.

Although the council has seen an increase in its responsibilities, the resources needed to meet those responsibilities have drastically reduced. Funding received from the government has been cut by around 63% in the current decade.

#### **About Lewisham**

- Lewisham has 54 ward councillors in 18 wards, each ward has 3 councillors
- The council provides over 800 different 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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

#### **What council does already to involve people in decision making**

- There is a website where people can view details of meetings,

	<p>agendas and decisions made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It holds various public meetings</li> <li>• It holds assembly meeting in each ward across the borough</li> </ul> <p><b>Increasing public involvement in decision making</b></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"> <li>• Are the council's current ways of involving the public in decision making clear, effective, accessible and cost efficient?</li> <li>• Is public involvement the central part of what the councils does? Do they seek to involve the public at every opportunity automatically?</li> <li>• What are the most important parts of effective decision making?</li> <li>• What stops the council from making effective decisions?</li> </ul> <p><b>Get involved and tell us your views</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From now until December, the council will be asking people to complete a paper or an online consultation by visiting <a href="http://www.lewishamlocaldemocracy.com">www.lewishamlocaldemocracy.com</a></li> <li>• Talk to family, friends, colleagues and neighbours, and encourage them to take part in the online consultation or attend meetings</li> <li>• Signup for the email updates on the campaign and encourage others to do so</li> <li>• The outcome of the consultation and recommendations will be available in spring 2019.</li> </ul> <p>A question and answer session followed this presentation.</p>	
<b>6</b>	<b>Community Updates and any other business</b>	
	<p><b>Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)</b></p> <p>A brief explanation on the CIL funding was provided as follows: This is essentially Section 106 money that can be allocated to an area as a result of a development that is perceived to have or would have a negative impact on surrounding area and therefore developers have to invest in those communities as a result. The council takes this Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from developers which is a standard levy that will be applied to all developments across a certain threshold and the money will be re-invested in the community to align with the priorities agreed for the area by the council.</p> <p>In the case of Lewisham, the discussion about how the fund is spent is discuss at Assembly meeting to enable the community to have a say on how the fund is spent. There is a consultation coming out within the next 3 weeks where the assembly and local councillors will be required to identify the priorities within the ward which people feel CIL money should be invested in. This will be brought back to the assembly for a discussion at a future date.</p>	

	<p><b>Hither Green Station Petition</b></p> <p>Information was received about a petition to South Eastern in relation to station accessibility. The Department for Transport has made available a sum of £380,000 to invest in making train stations more accessible. A circulation went out for the nomination of stations to benefit from the fund. Hither Green Station got the highest number of nomination. South Eastern Trains will be considering all nomination received and they will be going back to the Department of Transport with what they envisaged should be the priority. Several enquiries and a petition about accessibility issues at Hither Green Station has been sent to the local MP's office who has been lobbying the relevant government department to get a feel of what is happening. Information received from the Department of Transport highlights a major problem at Hither Green Station. One of the issues with Hither Green is how the platforms are laid out. It is envisaged that any improvements to the station would be very expensive compared to some of the other stations.</p> <p><b>Lee Green Open Studio Event</b></p> <p>The annual Lee Green Open Studio event will be held on the weekend of the 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> November at Manor House Library.</p>	
<b>7</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b>	
	<p>Cllr Jim Mallory declared an interest as chair of Lee Green lives and the Lee Green consortium both of which were seeking funding from the Assembly fund. He further declared an interest in the Friends of Manor Park bid as his daughter is a member of that group.</p>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Thanks and Close</b>	
	<p>The chair thanked everyone for coming and brought the meeting to a close</p>	