

**LADYWELL ASSEMBLY  
MEETING**  
**Thursday 18 October 2018 7.00pm – 9.00pm**  
**St Andrew’s Centre,**  
**Brockley Road, London SE4 2SA**

**Record of Meeting**

	Item	Actions
1	<b>Welcome, Introduction &amp; Format of meeting</b>	
	Cllr Liz Johnston Franklin welcomed everyone and went through the format of the meeting.	
2	<b>Police Safer Neighbourhood Team Update</b>	
	<p>PC Andrew Dobson from the Ladywell Safer Neighbourhood Team updated the meeting on what the team has been doing to address SNT priorities in the last three months:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Burglary and motor vehicle crime were said to be the two main crimes recorded for the area. Crime figures for burglary in July was 9, in August 7 and in September 6. Figures were said to be down on numbers recorded for the same period in 2017.</li> <li>• For theft from motor vehicle, there were 8 recorded for the month of July, 6 in August and 3 in September. Figures remain the same as those recorded around the same period last year.</li> <li>• Theft of motor vehicles – 5 recorded cases in July, 5 in August and 1 in September.</li> <li>• The team have noticed a recent increase in antisocial behaviour namely on Shell Road / Nudding Close. This involved youth smoking cannabis in an abandoned vehicle, reported stolen in 2015.</li> <li>• Elsiemaud Road - issues with drug dealing and smoking cannabis. The team has conducted regular patrol around the area with high visibility as a measure to reduce this problem. There has been no further reports so far since these measures were put in place. Same sort of issue reported on Gretfield Close. Team is currently gathering intelligence.</li> <li>• Brookbank Road / Vicars Road, reported trouble with youth after school. Joint work with school and regular patrol taking place after school to tackle these issues.</li> <li>• The police has received reports of someone exposing himself in Hilly Fields Park. Suspect is described as a white male, 5'5 in height, brown hair. This happened around 6pm. People are advised to be on the look-out when walking through the park.</li> <li>• Some general advice provided on how people can keep their home and property safe especially as burn fire night approaches.</li> <li>• Other measures the police have put in place includes regular weapon sweep, setting up resident contact days at the train station and other local locations. This provides the opportunity</li> </ul>	

	<p>for local people to raise any matter they may have with the police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The team are planning a community clean-up day in areas prone to flytipping in partnership with colleagues from Lewisham Council. Volunteers from the community are welcomed to join the team. Date to be confirmed.</li> </ul> <p>Question and answer session followed this update.</p>	
<b>3</b>	<b>Assembly Fund Projects Presentation</b>	
	<p>Projects seeking funding assistance from the assembly fund presented their proposal to the meeting. An explanation of the process was provided by the chair. Each project was given 5 minute to present their proposal to the meeting.</p> <p>1. <u>Brockley Better Streets – Ladywell &amp; Brockley Streets</u>  This group is seeking funding from the assembly to set up a number of workshops aimed at addressing road safety issues in key areas across Ladywell and Brockley ward. The group conducted a research which highlighted a number of issues including, dangerous crossing, areas too dominant by cars and suffers from rat running, high level of pollution and regular stand offs between cars and the 484 bus at various bottlenecks.</p> <p>The group wish to run a trial scheme to find some simple solutions to this problem. This will consist of 2 steps, the first will involve running a series of workshops to collect ideas and options for street changes. The second will involve using a planning street kit at community events to test residents’ aspirations for changes to their streets.</p> <p>2. <u>Max Media Art – Art in the Park</u>  This group is seeking funding from the assembly to support the delivery of Art in the Park, which will be held on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2019. Over 1000 people attended the event last year. During those six hours there were live music for both young and old, including the Felix School of Rock Band and theatre performances. The festival also delivered various workshops for kids, including, storytelling and collaborates with many local businesses who sponsors or advertise.</p> <p>3. <u>Francis Drake Bowls Club – Shelter for Home and Away visitors</u>  This project is seeking funding from the assembly to provide additional shelter for home and away visitors at the bowls club. Current membership at the club is 40, the shelter on premises can only sits up to 20. The aim is to provide additional shelter that will accommodate everyone including visitors to the club. Presently, the club use a foldable marquee to serve this purpose and this is prone to weather. The group is seeking funding from the assembly towards the building of a more solid structure.</p> <p>4. <u>St Andrews Centre Youth Club</u>  The club wish to run a cookery course entitled “small changes now means big health and well-being result later. This project will bring young people and the elderly together, introducing them to</p>	

	<p>cooking new food which promotes good health and well-being. Using guidance from Change4life, School Food Standards and Eat Well guide, all participants will take part in nutrition and cooking classes with a qualified chef/ nutritionist who will work to build on and enhance their skills. The group will work together to create performances of what they have learnt about food and nutrition and what changes they have made.</p> <p>5. <u>Ladywell Street Trees Replacement Programme</u>  This project has been running since 2011, engaging with the community to get trees planted on streets across Lewisham. By next spring the group would have facilitated the planting of around 650 trees. Last year was awarded grant from Ladywell Assembly towards the planting cost of 8 trees. This directly inspired the local fund raiser from Ladywell to fund raise for an additional 11 trees which will be planted this winter. The project benefits local people and makes city life more bearable and healthier and is a measurable effect on the level of pollution and climate changes.</p> <p>6. <u>Youth First – Ladywell Adventure Playground</u>  This will hopes to deliver a 12 weeks course introducing young people to gardening. Young people will plant fruits and vegetable in the grounds at the Ladywell Adventure Play Ground on raised beds. They will put together a greenhouse, planting seed/flowers, researching different flowers and understanding the roles of insects to improve their mathematical knowledge. On completion of the 12 weeks programme, young people will be invited to a 3 days residential trip where they will experience exciting outdoor activities.</p> <p><u>Quo Vadis</u>  7. This project wish to deliver “my home environment” project to support people living with mental health to access therapeutic activities. The proposed project will give clients the opportunity to search for and explore different art and craft materials such as painting, metalwork, woodwork, stones, ceramic etc. to create original objects which has meaning for them and is of significance sentiment. The materials created will be use to decorate gardens and homes in hubs around Ladywell where supported accommodation is offered.</p> <p>A brief explanation of the market place and voting process was provided by the chair. People present at the meeting were asked to visit each of the stalls set out for the market place event to learn more about the proposals from organisations and groups seeking funding and asked questions they may have before voting for the project/s they wish to support.</p> <p><b>Voting for projects</b>  Seven ballot boxes clearly labelled with the names of each project has been provided along with coloured discs. Attendees can cast their vote for the project of their choice by dropping a disc in the allocated boxes. At the end of the voting round, the disc in each boxes will be counted and the numbers recorded.</p>	
4	<b>Community Update and any other business</b>	

<p><b>a.</b></p>	<p><b>Proposal to create a Ladywell Assembly Community Website</b>  A volunteer on the assembly coordinating group informed the meeting about the proposal for setting up a community website for the assembly. The website will help promote and publicise the activities of groups in the area. It will highlight the works of the assembly by discussing some of the issues raised at meeting such as parking, air quality etc. and publicise calendar of event.</p> <p>Volunteers are needed to help write and support the content of the website. Anyone interested in helping is asked to leave their contact details with the assembly coordinator or at the signing-in desk.</p>	
<p><b>b.</b></p>	<p><b>Silver Road development &amp; proposed art work on Ennersdale Road</b>  Some information received about the rejection of the planning request for a development on Silver Road by Lewisham Council. The reasons for the delays in the installation of the suffragette mural planned for under the railway bridge on Ennersdale Road were explained. Some essential works is needed to the bridge before the mural can be painted. The latest response from Network Rail was that the gutters will be fix in the next 16 weeks, which will take the mural installation into the new year. There was a call for people to put pressure on Network Rail to bring the repairs forward so the mural can be done in the centenary year by sending an email to <a href="mailto:Sam.collon@networkrail.co.uk">Sam.collon@networkrail.co.uk</a> on behalf of the Ladywell Assembly.</p>	
<p><b>c.</b></p>	<p>A representative from the Save Our Lewisham Hospital Campaign informed the Assembly about a consultation proposing cuts to public health funding in the borough. The proposed cut will reduce vital health visitors and services to young children under 5 years, reduce services to adults with substance misuse problems and preventive public health services to promote health and wellbeing for Lewisham residents. The group are campaigning for the Council to join other councils to oppose the government austerity measures.</p>	
<p><b>d.</b></p>	<p>St Andrews Charity Sale - On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> of November St Andrews Youth club are holding a sale of donated items to raise fund for the youth club and one of the charity they support. The event will take place at St Andrews Centre from 5pm to 8pm. All are welcomed.</p>	
<p><b>e.</b></p>	<p>Ladywell Society is holding a barn dance on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> October from 7.30pm to 10.30pm at Ladywell Centre, 148 Dressington Avenue SE4 1JN. Tickets can be obtained online for £5 and £7 at the door.</p>	
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Question Time with new Mayor of Lewisham</b></p>	
	<p>An opening address by the Mayor of Lewisham providing some background explanation on the priority issues for the borough. One of the big issues that has emerged over the years is about housing. The council currently has around 10000 families on the</p>	

housing waiting list and around 2000 families in temporary accommodation.

Another issues that came up during the election campaign relates to the current state of secondary schools in the borough. Early year's education in Lewisham was said to be amongst the best in the country and primary education amongst the best in London. The mayor acknowledged that secondary schools in the borough does not meet the same standard. Many parent send their children to secondary schools outside the borough as they have little confidence in the borough secondary schools.

The finance of the council and the continuous cuts to council's budget by central government was explained. The council's budget back in 2010 when the mayor became a councillor was said to be £400m, a year later this was reduced by the government to £230m. There is a further proposal to reduce this by a further £50m, identifying areas of cuts over the next two years is a challenge which the council is currently facing.

Some areas of achievements in spite of the constant financial burdens were listed as follows:

- The proposed redevelopment of the Ladywell old bath site
- Building of Place Ladywell, a development of 24 units to house homeless families in the borough
- The council welcomed 15 families from Syria and Iraq as part of the refugee resettlement programme. That programme is hopes to welcome a further 100 refugee families over the current administration. This would make Lewisham one of London's lead borough for refugee resettlement.
- Lewisham and Islington Council were the first in London to sign up for the London living Wage scheme. Paying London Living Wage not just for council staff but also encouraging contractors working for the councils to pay their staff at the new rate.
- Through the assemblies and other forums the council is conducting a democracy review to look at how more decision making can be made at a local level.

A list of questions raised by resident for the mayor were read out by members from the Assembly Coordinating Group.

1. In campaigning to be the new mayor one of your pledges was improving Lewisham's secondary school performance- what do you have planned?

**Response** – Works has begun to look at improving secondary education in the borough a couple of years ago. For the time being council resources and spending in secondary schools are protected. As part of this improvement, the Lewisham Learning scheme was launched, a partnership between the schools and the council which aims to look at sharing good practice and how schools aims to work with each other to improve resource. A strong political focus has been placed on secondary school achievements and its performance to ensure that young people in Lewisham does not perform less than children from anywhere else in London.

2. How will you ensure that local residents voices are heard when they are consulted about local developments i.e. the recent consultation about the Playtower? Your predecessor did not pay regard to local residents despite a lengthy and presumably costly consultation exercise.

**Response** – The mayor has recently called for a review of the Local Implementation Plan and a draft is being produced. A public consultation process was conducted over the summer known as 'Common Place'. This allows people to access a borough map and leave comments about issues on individual streets in the borough. Thousands of responses were received from the survey which the council found very useful. In terms of the Playtower, the council is currently looking at the housing offer that the developers have proposed. The numbers that the developers have put forward is slightly different from those that they won the bid on. The council wants to ensure that they maintain the level of affordable housing accepted in their initial bid.

3. I heard that there is a proposal to axe Ward assembly funds, and possibly "replace" them with a contribution from the Community Infrastructure Levy for particular projects. Is this true and what will it mean for organisations seeking funding for community projects?

**Response** – This is one of the proposal put forward as part of council savings to remove the funding that the council gives to local assemblies. The cuts imposed by government means the council can only do less. Rather than outright cut the assembly fund, the mayor have asked officers to look at how the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money can be used. This fund was previously known as Section 106 fund. This fund is what developers pays to the council for new development in an area. Historically, the council finds it difficult to spend Section 106 fund and is usually banked. Lately, local assemblies has been actively involved in identifying projects suitable to spend the fund on. The new proposal would see local people getting a say on how the CIL money is spent rather than it being concentrated on Town Centre Improvement.

4. One of our priority as a ward is the provision of genuinely affordable housing which I know is something you are committed to. What are your numerical & percentage targets on this within the different sectors of housing in the borough (social rental, private rental & owner occupation) & what measures should be used to assess success or failure in this during your term in office? Will the lifting of the cap on local authority borrowing for house building help?

**Response** – An acknowledgement that council is not building enough of genuinely affordable housing. Too often private developers are coming through with developments of 10-15% affordable housing. There is one in Lewisham Central which has been rejected by the council and the developers are taking the matters to appeal. The council initial target outlined in the election manifesto was for the provision of 50% affordable housing. The

Mayor of London has a floor target of 35% affordable housing in new developments. Lately the council has taken a tougher stance on new developments and requires at least 35% affordable social housing in any new development. The Silver Road development was cited as an example of a development which has not met this target and was rejected by the council on the grounds that it did not have enough affordable housing. The mayor explained that success can only be measured by the level of affordable housing that local families can afford.

5. Lewisham Council has turned my Street (Fossil Road), into a free car park, my beloved Beckenham Place Park, into a Theme Park and Lewisham Town Centre, into Croydon. Tell me what you are going to do, to make me want to continue to still live in Lewisham, because right now, I am getting sick of the place!

**Response** – Controlled parking consultation had already taken place on Fossil Road and residents voted in favour of a 2 hours control for the area. In regards to Beckenham Place Park, this is a park in Lewisham towards the Bromley border. The park formerly has a golf course which was closed by the council. Funding had been secured from the Mayor of London towards park improvement and wild swimming pond. This improvements has resulted in a huge increase in the number people using the park. The large mansion in the grounds is currently under renovation and on completion will be use as a facility for young people.

6. What is Lewisham doing to tackle single use plastic e.g. market stalls' plastic bags on Lewisham market. Or single use plastic cups at outside venues? These surely can be restricted via licensing conditions.

**Response** – There are commitment in the manifesto to banning single use plastics in council building. In terms of market traders, they are protected under government legislation. However, talks will be held with trades on cut back on the use of plastic bags. Over the next two years there would be an ongoing campaign for a total ban of using plastics on council buildings and this will be extended to the assembly meeting as well.

7. Lewisham has one of the lowest kerbside recycling rates in London, and the rate appears to be going down. Moreover, as recently publicised in the media, there is much confusion amongst the public about what can and cannot be recycled. What is the Council doing to rectify these problems?

**Response** – This is one area where Lewisham featured at the bottom of the league table. Works has already began to improve recycling rate in Lewisham. For instance, food recycling has begun to increase so those numbers is expected to change and this should move the borough up the league table. The mayor acknowledged that messages about recycling needs to be consistently repeated particularly to reach those who are new to the borough. It also does not help that every borough does things in different ways, the mayor would like to see more agreement across London councils, adopting a consistence way of recording

recycling rates. There is also growing evidence that lower quality plastics are getting turned away at the final recycling destination. It is possible that these are the ones that gets dumped in the oceans. There is ongoing plans to install drinking water fountains in parks to help facilitate this environmental changes.

8. in light of last week's IPCC climate change report stressing we only have 12 years left to avert environmental catastrophe, what are his priorities over the next year to ensure Lewisham is at the forefront of global action on this issue and can he please confirm when the Council is expected to reach a decision on the divestment of its pension fund from fossil fuels?

**Response** – The council is currently working with the pension committee around divesting from Fossil fuel along with other London borough. In terms of improving air quality, it was acknowledge that London has some of the most toxic air in Europe. More emphasis needs to be laid on encouraging people to reduce car journeys. The introduction of the ultra-low emission zone along the south circular road by the Mayor of London was said to be very welcomed. It is expected that the scheme will be extended to areas in the borough including in Ladywell. Improving cycling in the borough was also said to be a priority for the council. A delegate from the borough visited Waltham Forest borough to look at a scheme run by the council which encourages people to walk and cycle.

9. What plans does the Mayor have to further improve cycling routes in the borough, especially on quiet routes? [Some very useful improvements can be made at low cost, such as additional dropped kerbs, improved road surfacing, signage and cycle stands

**Response** – The council is working closely with Transport for London to fully support the segregation of cycle route in Deptford linking it with Old Kent Road. This scheme was said to have been approved. Around £2.5million has been secured for another area in Deptford to deliver a neighbourhood project for cycling and walking. Lewisham was one of seven borough to secure this fund. There are also plans to carry out a feasibility study for a segregated cycle highway along the A21 Bromley Road and the provision of cycle storage in every neighbourhood in the borough as a way of encouraging more people to cycle instead of driving.

10. How do you intend to ensure young people in Lewisham are supported and what are your plans for youth services

**Response** – The Mayor praised the services delivered by Youth First and other youth organisation in the borough, to engage young people in the borough. The Council still funds youth service well above what other borough are doing. The cuts to council budget has led to cuts in this service and the sparse resources available are mostly spent on statutory provisions such as mental health etc. The mayor pledges to continue to support youth service looking into what is best and how the council can do more with the funding available to make the service more effective for users.



11. Speed bumps are seen to "encourage" dangerous driving as cars and vans drive at higher speed than permitted (e.g. 20mph) down the centre of roads in order to avoid them. Does the Mayor have data that proves these bumps actually reduce speeds? If not, will he seek to have these not re-instated when roads are resurfaced, and not installed in the first place?

**Response** – The evidence received by the council seems to suggest there has been a decrease in speed in areas where speed has been monitored. There is a big issue around enforcement. The mayor has raised the issue about the enforcement of 20mph with the police who have said it is not a priority for them. This has meant that the scheme relies on volunteers to monitor speeding using hand held cameras. Drivers caught speeding are sent a caution letter.

With regards to speed humps, one of the main issue is where the height has been reduced to allow a quicker journey for emergency. A promise by the mayor to look into reviewing this.

12. We have had conversations previously about proportional representation and I know you are in favour of it. There was a vote in the council last year which was very close. Can you tell us what your plans are to modernise democracy in Lewisham?

What's the problem you're trying to solve with the Democracy Review or do you want the Review to work out what the problem is?

**Response** - The last review was in 2002 when Lewisham adopted the directly elected mayoral model. The current review will seek to look at the benefits of elected mayoral model which people voted for as opposed to one that is decided by a small group of councillors. There is also a need to look at the weaknesses of having an elected mayor where too much power is held by one person. The mayor has already made some changes since coming into office. The council constitution has been recently amended to allow mayor and cabinet to make collective decision.

13. Recently you stated that one of the things that you liked about Lewisham is that each area has its own distinct character, what are you going to do to protect Ladywell' s distinct character, in particular the village character? What are you going to do to protect the area from inappropriate building developments (in terms of height, appearance and overdevelopment) that are not in keeping with the area and do not meet many people's housing needs in terms of affordability?

**Response** – Every part of the borough is recognised as having distinct character and these are what the mayor hopes to protect. In recent years various controls and guidance has been introduced which increased the number of neighbourhood forums and brought forward characterisation study. The figures received from GLA shows the council's target is to build 1300 homes per

year. The GLA wants to increase this to 2300 homes. The mayor think this is too high and unachievable. There is also a proposal to conduct a characterisation study which will demonstrate what makes the borough special creating a neighbourhood identity.

14. I would love to know more about street cleaning. The streets are covered in dog poo, and weeds take up half of the pavements, at time causing the dog poo to be in the middle of the pavement. There is also plenty of fly tipping. I used to ring the council every so often but they don't seem to care despite the love Lewisham campaign. I could be ringing Lewisham every day there is so much dirt on the roads around here.

**Response** – A subject that comes up at every assembly meeting is about street waste and flytipping. The council has invested in six body camera which it hopes to use as a pilot. Mayor is consulting trade unions to look at how the project is delivered. In the interim, there are few mobile CCTV cameras around which can be placed in areas prone to constant flytipping. The council's environmental team respond promptly to collect and dispose of the waste, when they are reported with limited resources. There is a further proposal to reduce the weekly street sweeping on residential streets to fortnightly as part of the council's budget savings.

15. Most of the paths in Hilly Fields have been recently resurfaced which is very welcome. However there remain some very rough sections which adversely affects both wheelchair users and cyclists. Is it intended to complete the resurfacing of all paths?

**Response** – Over £100.000 funding went into resurfacing of paths in parks. The priority remains trying to identify where it is mostly needed.

16. What are you going to do to secure the Bakerloo extension and its original proposed route to Hayes?

**Response** – There is a meeting planned with the deputy mayor for regeneration and Heidi Alexander, the deputy mayor for Transport for London. The mayor is lobbying very strongly to get the Bakerloo Line not just to Lewisham but beyond. This will be good news to residents in Ladywell, Catford and other areas south of the borough. This will contribute to improving air quality and public transport infrastructure. There is an online back the Bakerloo Line campaign which Lewisham has set up with Southwark, the mayor asked people to sign up and add their name to it. More backing to this is needed to show there is a real strong support for it in the community. An explanation that this tube extension is competing with larger project like the Cross Rail and the government will decided the merit of both when considering allocation of funding. One of the challenge of the Bakerloo Line extension is the lack of support from Bromley Council and are resisting the extension to their borough. TFL has indicated that although this can be viewed as a factor however, it will not stop the scheme going ahead.

The chair thanked the mayor for attending the meeting and

	responding to residents questions.	
<b>6.</b>	<b>Assembly fund voting result</b>	
	<p>The outcome of the voting to decided which proposal gets funded from the Assembly fund was announced as follows, with six out of the seven projects successful with their bid.</p> <p>Youth First (Ladywell Adventure Playground) – gardening project and residential received 68 votes</p> <p>St Andrews Centre – Cooking project received 66 votes</p> <p>Francis Drake Bowls Club – Assembly points received 45 votes</p> <p>Max Media Arts CIC - Art in the Park received 44 votes</p> <p>Street Trees for living – Ladywell Street Trees received 43 votes</p> <p>Brockley Better Street – Ladywell &amp; Brockley streets received 33 votes</p>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>Declaration of interest</b>	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting.	