

**RUSHEY GREEN ASSEMBLY
MEETING
Saturday 14 March 2020, 12pm – 2pm
Room 1 & 2
Civic Suite, London SE6**

Record of Meeting

	Items	Actions
1	Welcome, Introduction & Format of meeting	
	Cllr John Muldoon welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the agenda.	
2	Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)	
	<p>A brief overview of what NCIL is and the priorities which the assembly needs to ratify was presented as follows:</p> <p>An overview of the NCIL process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council has been collecting CIL funding from developers since 2015. This is a levy that the council charge developers on certain types of developments. • Around £9million has been collected from developers borough-wide so far • Regulations attached to the use of NCIL fund dictates that a proportion of this fund can be used to address local priorities in the areas where the development has taken place • Lewisham decided last year that up to 25% of this money will be set aside to be spent locally. This is known as the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy • Effectively, the money taken from this pot will be given back to the community to spend on projects to offset the impact of development in their area. <p>NCIL regulations and examples of how it can be spent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Officers has undertaken work to consider how NCIL can be spent in the community and have looked at examples in other boroughs where similar strategy has been implemented • The fund can be spent on virtually anything that offsets the impact of development and can embrace both capital and revenue projects • Some examples of how similar fund was spent in Camden were presented where up to £48,000 was used to provide afterschool facility for young people over a 3 year period • £65,000 was spent to redesign and provide 32 extra bed spaces at the Royal Free Hospital to become a dementia friendly space, £50,000 was put towards the restoration of a listed building and £150,000 spent towards the running cost of Primrose Hill Community Library for 2 years 	

- Others spending examples cited includes funding allocation towards platform planting at Kentish Town Thames link platform, provision of a notice board for Belsize Resident Association, restoration work at a museum and running services at a local library
- The council hopes to work with residents to determine how the fund is best determined in Lewisham.

Deciding the priorities

In deciding a set of priorities for spending the fund, the council used the Common place tool to consultation with residents from each ward this allowed residents submit their priorities for NCIL online. This was done by inviting people to drop a pin on a map of the ward to submit their priorities, either a pre-set or a priority of their choice and decides how to spend the fund in their ward. A paper version of the consultation was also made available for those who do not have facility to complete online. The site closed in January 2020.

A brief overview of how commonplace was used in Rushey Green were provided as follows:

- Around 925 people visited the site
- 358 unique people submitted a comment or agreed with a priority
- 209 unique comments on the priorities and
- 866 interactions agreeing with existing priorities

People who visited the site were offered the choice to either submit a priority or leave it at that or comment / like a priority already left by someone else. The result of all the information along with work that has been done specifically within the Irish Centre and other face to face consultations and activities carried out by the ward assemblies officers were included in the figures presented.

Top priorities identified through commonplace

- transport and streets
- community safety
- open / green spaces and nature
- air quality and
- Community facilities.

Analysis of Comments received

Some of the most Commented and liked projects were:

- Pedestrian Crossing
- Traffic calming
- Street trees
- Youth provision
- Catford Mews
- Food poverty

The assembly was also asked to agree the following priorities unique to Catford and Rushey which will help to deliver projects that will best benefit people of the ward:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaner and Greener Catford - This will cover issues highlighted under Transport and Streets, Community Safety, Open and Green Spaces and Air quality. Some examples of projects proposal expected for this priority will be along the line of tackling flytipping, park provisions, street trees planting, waste management etc. • A better public realm - This covers improvements such as street scaping / traffic calming, street furniture and road layout and could also influence the wider Catford master plan provision. • Art, Culture and Fun - This covers areas highlighted under Arts and Culture, a sixth most popular priority listed on Commonplace. This priority will cover things like community cohesion, street art, community festivals, play streets and music festivals. It will address the priorities around transport and streets, open green spaces and youth provision • Stronger more equal Catford – This will tackle equality within the area, supporting a stronger and better civic engagement. This meant delivering on projects that people want money to be focused on and this will go towards provision of mentoring, appointing a community development worker, tackling poverty reduction and the effects of poverty within the area. • Community facilities and services - This priority brings together a range of Commonplace comments relating to local facilities and services i.e. the Irish Centre. Projects under this theme could include investing in community buildings / facilities and services that operates from them or supporting local infrastructure through a larger group promoting micro-funding for local initiatives. <p>All five priorities listed above were ratified by the assembly through a vote by show of hands.</p> <p>Next stage of NCIL – What’s next?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The lists of agreed priorities will be published on the council website and the ward specific commonplace site • An open call for projects will be launched on 20th March 2020 • Workshops will be run to help develop project ideas • A long list of projects will be published on the commonplace site • Local assemblies will be asked to prioritise the project bank <p>A question and answer session followed this presentation.</p>	
4	London Borough of Culture 2021	
	The chair gave a brief introduction to the council’s successful bid for the 2021 London borough of culture. Andy Thomas from the	

	<p>council's culture and community team was invited to explain what this will mean for the borough and Rushey Green in particular. A short video showing the moment the winner was announced was shown at the meeting.</p> <p>Background information</p> <p>The Mayor of London made an announcement in May 2019 that there was going to be a second London Borough of Culture process. Following the announcement Lewisham went through a big engagement process asking people to send in their ideas via a website. Some of the borough art organisation were invited to help the council develop a programme. Greater focus was placed around asking people what was important to them in their home, what kind of home they want in the future and the issues they are willing to fight for to have a home they believe in. What emerge from this discussion was a theme of cultural activism. A programme was therefore built around this theme. The idea of Cultural Activism was explained as an approach of using culture to influence some of the important issues in the borough and London-wide. A short presentation on the council's manifesto around the chosen team was presented to the meeting.</p> <p>Protecting the place we love - A call to action on climate change</p> <p>The first line from the manifesto is about protecting neighbourhoods and a call to action on climate change. This includes the idea of hosting a Climate Carnival throughout the borough. This will involve holding series of workshops for costume making and holding various discussion about the impact on the climate</p> <p>Climate Commission - No idea presently on what this will be. However, there are plans to have something big that would grab people's attention.</p> <p>Climate Home – This is an idea that came about developing a temporary centre for youth organisations for performing. In responding to this, the council has committed to working with organisation who can deliver on this.</p> <p>Artist of Change – This would be an artist that is based within the council who will work with officers and members to channel some of the ways that decisions and policies on art and culture are made within the council.</p>	
4.1	<p>Strengthening by our diversity - A celebration of our borough sanctuary</p> <p>Mass Dance - This is about celebrating the borough's history. An idea which came from Irie Dance Theatre and Trinity Laban, based on celebrating different generation of immigration into the country and how they have influenced dance.</p> <p>Revolution through Music – a music programme that harnesses</p>	
4.2		

<p>4.3</p>	<p>the power of music to the way people think.</p> <p>In living memory – a local history project. Acknowledged that Lewisham do not currently have a local museum. However there are a lot of people gathering information about local history but currently no dedicated space for people to find out or experience them. Unclear how this will look like at present but currently working with Goldsmith University on developing this theme.</p> <p>Artist Change – This section will be based in the part of the council that works with refugees.</p> <p>We will be happy here – A commitment to building an inclusive society. This idea kick-start the whole programme, a suggestion put forward by an organisation that works with people who don't often have a voice and uses art and culture to support them find a place for their voice to be heard.</p> <p>Creative futures – This relates to the opportunities available in the art and culture sector for employment.</p> <p>With one voice / Artist of change- An acknowledgement that people from particular background often struggles to gain access to employment in this area. This programme wish to challenge this at different levels and give opportunities to young people from the community to gain employment in this sector.</p> <p>We are Lewisham – Working together to deliver change. This section is about getting people involved in borough of culture as much as possible.</p> <p>Creative Challenge - this would be the idea that would encourage everyone, amongst the challenge to be creative. This might be someone famous who sets the challenge or it might be a local organisation or an individual.</p> <p>Creative Time Bank – building on the borough's history of Time Bank in leading the nation in Time banking. This will help people who do not feel comfortable in accessing the Art e.g. Gallery, Theatre, and Dance Show. This strand aims to connect people in a way that people who are comfortable going to a gallery will buddy up with someone who isn't comfortable going and attend together, and sharing skills with others.</p> <p>Community Commission – This is a small grant of around a quarter of a million that would be set aside from the budget as a small grant programme. An explanation that the Council is in the process of appointing a delivery partner so that the programme is not Council focused but rather ownership will be outside the council.</p> <p>What could this means for Rushey Green?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Getting people to think about the cultural highlights of Rushey Green, things that people are proud of and would like to introduce to others e.g. a walking tour of the area to share the delights of what is going on in the area, tourism etc. 	
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<p>4.4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thinking about a Rushey Green programme running through the year. <p>People can follow the Borough of Culture conversation on Twitter and Instagram using the #IAmLewisham tag or email the team at - Cultural.Development@lewisham.gov.uk</p> <p>A short exercise took place where people were asked to hold a short table discussion around cultural highlights in the area and borough-wide.</p> <p>Feedback from the table discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The journey from Catford to the cat – the story of Lewisham The New Cross fire The Windrush era to this generation – utilizing Cumming Up and Calabash centre. Talking about the history of music through that generation Conducting history walk around Rushey Green Valuable to approach established churches and other religious institutions who has been around for so long and has been key to integrating new comers into the population whilst keeping the traditional roots Holding events and activities which brings people together and reduces isolation Celebrating what already exist in the area from the art trails to the open garden, bear festival, events in the library, Catford Mews, Catford market, and Irish centre etc. The history of the hospital – dementia care etc. Art trails and open house model - getting members of the community who are not artistic to host artists Creating spaces where musicians can perform in Catford – the idea of having a bad stand Catford in the Broadway where musicians can perform. 	
<p>5</p>	<p>Community update and any other business</p>	
<p>5.1</p>	<p>Food Market The Catford food market is back on 29th of March</p>	
<p>5.2</p>	<p>Changes to Parking Permits The council has recently changed its system on how people can apply for parking permits. People now need to apply for permits online.</p>	
<p>5.3</p>	<p>Calabash Centre A question was asked about whether this centre is closing. Cllr Walsh explained that there has been misinformation about the future of the Centre. People were re-assured that the Centre has never been under any threat of closure. There was a specific issue with a service for super high needs people that use the centre on Thursdays. There was not enough people accessing this service to justify its continuation on its own. The council has</p>	

	now consolidated this particular service with other services. Anyone requiring further clarification on the matter is asked to write to either the Rushey Green Councillors or to Cllr Chris Best, deputy Mayor who has responsibilities for health and well-being and has the full briefing about this issues.	
6	Declaration of interest	
	There were no interest declared at this meeting.	