

MINUTES OF THE SYDENHAM ASSEMBLY

Saturday, 22 January 2022 at 11.00 am

PRESENT: Councillors

ALSO PRESENT:

Apologies for absence were received from

1. Welcome from the Chair

Cllr Liam Curran welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes of the last meeting Saturday 2nd October 2021

Previous meeting minutes approved.

3. Update on Main Grants funding to local groups

This item was deferred. A comprehensive update on Main Grants funding can be found in the Agenda Reports Pack for the Mayor and Cabinet Meeting from 2 February 2022 starting on page 292, accessed via the following link:

<https://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/g6497/Public%20reports%20pack%2002nd-Feb-2022%2018.00%20Mayor%20and%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

4. Presentation of Sydenham NCIL funding of £88,084

A presentation was given by Sara Wickert, Community Development Officer for Sydenham and Genevieve George, Third Sector Manager, explaining the NCIL funding context, application and assessment process and providing an overview of projects that are being recommended for NCIL funding, those where alternative funding sources have been sought and those projects that are not being recommended for NCIL funding.

List of projects recommended for NCIL funding:

- Rhyme Time / Friends of Sydenham Library £1,410
- Adults' and children's crafts at Sydenham Library / Friends of Sydenham Community Library £1,650
- Ageing Well in Lewisham / Lewisham Churches Care £9,000
- Community Facilities Improvement / Venner Road Hall Community Association £9,700
- High Street Happenings / SEE3 Ltd £9,800
- JRHYS Community Workshop 1-2-1 / James Ross Hunter Youth Support CIC £10,000

- Home Park Trim Trail / Resident applicant / Lewisham Council £13,729 (Cross ward project; £14,575 NCIL funding has also been recommended from Bellingham ward)
- Legendary Community Club/Youth First £15,000
- Street SmART: An Intergenerational Women's project, Safer Streets through Creative Awareness / Sydenham Arts Ltd £17,794.50

The following projects have been identified for alternative sources of funding from Lewisham Council:

- Sustainable Christmas Trees / Sydenham Community Project £21,876 (£10,938 per ward; Cross ward project with Forest Hill)
- Bell Green Neighbourhood Forum Air monitoring network / BGNF £4,000
- Home Park Bins / Resident applicant / Lewisham Council £5,940 (£2970 per ward; Cross ward project with Bellingham)

The following projects have not been recommended for NCIL funding

Open Green Gates / Grow Mayow £9,500 (£4,750 per ward; Cross-ward project with Perry Vale)

Growing Lives / Sydenham Garden £59,540.72 (£29,770.36 per ward; Cross-ward project with Perry Vale)

A Road to Creativity / Roadworks Media £20,000

Mental Health Drop-ins / Voluntary Services Lewisham £35,000

Permanent Cafe at Sydenham Wells Park / SWPIG / Lewisham Council £23,000

Improving signage in the high street / Resident Applicant / Lewisham Council £9,599.31

Holiday clubs for children and young people with SEND / Brent Knoll and Watergate Co-operative Trust £6,356

Information on NCIL funding available and the list of projects recommended for funding as well as a full list of project application summaries can be found at <https://communityfunding.lewisham.gov.uk/sydenham> the presentation will also be available online in due course. Please check the Sydenham Assembly pages for updates <https://lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/localassemblies/sydenham> or email sara.wickert@lewisham.gov.uk

5. Lewisham Borough of Culture 2022 - launch event

The Borough of Culture programme launches on Friday 28 January with events happening all across the borough. The Day One programme can be found at <https://www.wearelewisham.com/event/day-one/> and local events, including those taking place in Sydenham can be found at <https://www.wearelewisham.com/event/artonyourdoorstep/>

6. Bell Green Neighbourhood Forum

BGNF has successfully got money for its communication programme. This will allow the group to draw up a plan with aims to prioritise pedestrians above cars, improve the environment while protecting local assets. Currently BGNF is

engaging groups and residents to get involved in the project and also looking for people to help leaflet. To get involved please email bellgreenforum@gmail.com

7. Lewisham Homes - Building for Lewisham programme

Silverdale site progressing well and due to be completed in May. Elderton Road confirmation of demolition of garages has gone out and the main works contractor for the project is now out to tender. Markwell Close and Hensford Gardens are undergoing reviews of feasibility

London Community Land Trust are still inviting applicants to apply for homes at Citizens House, Unity Way (Brasted Close), Sydenham. These homes will be sold well below the market rate and should be completed in by the summer. More details at <https://www.londonclt.org/lewisham>

8. Community Updates

Modal Filters on Silverdale and Bishopsthorpe Road

There has been an 18 month extension on the modal filters in Silverdale and Bishopsthorpe road and there will be a review ahead of this, within the next year.

Q: At what point will residents be invited to input their feedback?

A: Officers are currently planning out the consultation process with a commitment to a full consultation. Residents will be informed as soon as dates have been agreed.

Planning issues – Our Lady & St Philip Neri School, enforcement including flyposting

Regarding OLSPN School, all parties are committed to addressing the planning issues at the site and ensuring the continued operation of the school. See the Community update for a more detailed update.

Flyposting from the fun fairs. Cllr Best has requested that the proprietors of the fun fair be written to by the Council asking them to remove old posters from Sydenham Road as they have been left up well beyond the date of the event and are littering the high street.

The Sydenham Centre – improvement works and hire of venue

The Sydenham Centre is currently undergoing improvement works to improve the energy efficiency of the centre.

Q: Can we have improvements to the door entry at the Sydenham Centre?

A: Centre user meetings have resumed and this issue has been raised. Councillor surgeries are currently taking place in Ignition Brewery, meaning the brewery entrance can be used instead for this.

Sydenham Arts

What's coming up:

- Street smART, our creative project exploring Women's safety and how we can make Sydenham a safer place through awareness, campaigning and innovative approaches using the arts
- Waking The Sydenham Dragon, part of Lewisham Borough of Culture's Day One celebrations on 28th January
- Film Returns, our first film screening of 2022 will be The Lobster- Yorgos Lanthimos' surreal black comedy romance, starring Colin Farrell, Rachel Weisz and Olivia Coleman @ The Grove Centre (TBC), 24th February, 7.30pm
- online film meetup, Talking Films. Playlist to watch at home is on our website, and we'll be meeting to discuss the content on 3rd Feb, 7pm. Free
- Moving With Parkinson's will start again towards the end of February. Contact james.hodgson@sydenhamarts.co.uk (or contact us through the website) for more info. Classes are totally free, and drop ins are welcome.
- more coming up throughout the year, including a pilot mentoring programme for young creatives, plenty more events, our Artists Trail and more...

See www.sydenhamarts.co.uk, and follow Sydenham Arts on Facebook, Instagram and twitter for all updates.

Spontaneous Productions

What's on:

- 28th Borough of Culture activities 2:15pm outside the Sydenham Centre including surprising interventions with characters from the future riding interesting vehicles. Then 3:15pm outside Sydenham Library. And joined by students again at 4:15pm
- 19th February, 8pm at the Sydenham Centre - Scratch Night + 600 seconds: FUTURESHOCK, highlighting the impact of technology
- 5th March – 3rd April at the Sydenham Centre - Little Red Riding Hood: The Truth
- April-May, Abigail's Party
- End of May, outdoor theatre in the part - End of! – a climate change musical for all ages

For more information or to buy tickets go to <https://spontaneousproductions.co.uk/>

James Ross Hunter Youth Support (JRHYS)

Collet thanked everyone for the recommendation for NCIL funding and highlighted the ongoing sessions at TNG Youth and Community Centre for young people and their families.

Friends of Sydenham Library

Sydenham Library is now open 10am-5pm Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 10am-4pm Saturday. They are looking for volunteers. Anyone interested should contact contact@sydenhamlibrary.co.uk or call 020 87781753. Friends of Sydenham Library is also looking for someone to help with the website as well as to get involved in craft fairs or other activities at the library. For more

information or to join Friends of Sydenham Library please contact friendsofsydenhamlibrary@gmail.com

Craft and other activities recommended for NCIL funding are due to start in April. Rebecca Snook introduced herself as the Rhyme Time facilitator.

SEE3

The Christmas event was a success and fundraising is ongoing to ensure the Christmas and other events can continue as well as raising money for Christmas lights. Alex Bourdelon, Sydenham Community Project has been assisting with the SEE3 website.

SEE3 reported one vacant shop on the high street, the old Santander.

The recommendation for NCIL funding means that more events will be coming up later in the year. Please contact SEE3 via <https://www.see3.co.uk/contact-us> to share your ideas and go to <https://www.see3.co.uk/> for updates on events.

9. Questions and Answers

Q: A resident raised the issue of basic maintenance, namely tree trimming, not being addressed in a timely manner. Another resident raised the issue of flytipping, despite reporting to the Fix My Street app, particularly the corner at Venner Square.

A: Residents should continue to report issues via the FixMyStreet app. Cllr Best suggested a notice to deter fly tippers and also working with traders to get a camera up at flytipping hot spots.

Q: A resident requested meetings are face to face

A: While face to face meetings are something councillors would also prefer to get back to, the nature of the pandemic and having to plan meetings in advance means that we can only go on information or forecasts ahead of the actual meeting dates.

Q: A resident raised the issue of Royal Mail's sporadic deliveries.

A: Ellie Reeves, MP, has written to Royal Mail about this issue.

Q: A resident asked whether CPZ's would be discussed.

A: While there is no specific update at the moment, there is a plan for a borough-wide CPZ consultation, with a timeline for next year. Cllr Best offered to get an update, but it would not be before the upcoming elections.

10. Meet the Mayor meeting date

UPDATE: The Meet the Mayor meeting for Sydenham will take place online at 7pm on Tuesday 8th March

11. Close of Meeting

12. Community Updates

The following Community Updates document was distributed to participants in advance of the meeting:

Community updates for Sydenham Assembly 22 January 2022

1 Lewisham Homes - Building for Lewisham programme in Sydenham

Silverdale is anticipated to complete in May. The scaffolding has been removed and Lewisham Homes (LH) are working on the internal fit out. Like most of the industry LH continue to be challenged by material and labour shortages so productivity on site is not always predictable, but we continue to monitor closely. The Elderton Road scheme had an update provided to residents on 20th December to inform all that the demolition work of the garages had been completed. The newsletter is also on the commonplace site here <https://s3-eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/commonplace-customer-assets/eldertonroad/Elderton%20Road%20Demolition%20Letter%20December%2021-%20FINAL.pdf>

The Elderton project is out to tender for the main works contractor currently and LH will be informing residents when the contractor is appointed and construction of the new 5 homes will commence, we hope this will be within the next 3 months. Mayor and Cabinet approval was granted on the 12th January 2022 to proceed. Markwell Close and Hensford Gardens <https://hensfordgardens.commonplace.is/> are undergoing reviews of feasibility due to the increasing build costs in the construction industry and also the Building Regulations changes that will be coming in to use mid-June. LH hope to provide an update to residents once that viability work is completed.

Site on the corner of Mayow Road and Ferryman's Lane is still being reviewed by the development team at Lewisham Homes. We have raised the issue of the rubbish dumping and overgrown brambles and suggested a meanwhile use of a community garden.

London Community Land Trust are still inviting applicants to apply for homes at Citizens House, Unity Way (Brasted Close), Sydenham. These homes will be sold well below the market rate and should be completed in by the summer.

There are 11 homes available:

- 6 x 2 bedroom 3 person homes - each being sold at £272,500
- 5 x 1 bedroom 2 person homes - each being sold at £215,000

To be eligible you need to:

- have lived in Lewisham for at least 5 years and preference is given to those in Sydenham and Forest Hill
- be able to obtain a mortgage (which entails having 10% of the asking price in savings and a steady source of income)
- be able to demonstrate housing need.

More details here <https://www.londonclt.org/lewisham>

Peabody Housing Association - 154-158 Sydenham Road SE26 5JZ

Work continues on the construction of a part 2/ part 3-storey building fronting Sydenham Road providing 17, one, two and three bedroom self-contained residential flats and 155sq.m ground and first floor commercial floorspace (use classes A1, A2, B1, D1, D2), with the provision of upper floor residential balconies; and the construction of a part 2/ part 3-storey building at the rear of the site comprising 10, three bedroom single dwelling-houses, 1, one bedroom self-contained flat and 1, two bedroom self-contained maisonette, together with associated landscaping. There 14 parking bays (including 4 disabled spaces) and dry/ secure cycle spaces.

2 Planning issues

2.1 Our Lady and St Philip Neri School Construction

The Archdiocese's Judicial Review (JR) of the Planning Inspectorate's appeal decision was not granted leave to proceed in late November 2021. Planning Officers and the Archdiocese have been in discussions around a way forward for the site, and the Archdiocese has submitted a request for pre-application advice to the Council that Planning Officers are currently reviewing. All parties are committed to addressing the planning issues at the site and ensuring the continued operation of the school.

2.2 Regents House Business Centre, Cobs Corner (291-307 Kirk dale)

There are two extant planning permissions at this site (DC/19/114157 - 9 units, DC/19/113878 – 35 units) as well as an extant Prior Approval. The developer has not indicated which consent will be implemented or when. Any planning consent can be implemented within the three year window from the decision date. Implementation is a matter for the developer provided all pre-commencement matters are resolved.

2.3 Queensthorpe Mews site

There are two pending appeals at the Queensthorpe Mews site. One for three terraced houses (DC/20/118208), the other for extension and alteration works to the existing building (DC/20/118697). Residents were notified of both appeals in the usual way in December 2021 and the decisions will likely be issued by PINS later this year. There is an extant consent at the site for three dwellings at the rear of the property.

2.4 Planning Enforcement

The planning enforcement complaint regarding unauthorised high street flyposting linked to a recent local funfair has been registered (ENF/21/00383) and Planning Enforcement Officers are investigating the matter. As complainant, Sydenham Society will be updated regarding resolution of the case in due course.

3 Highways

3.1 Modal Filters on Silverdale and Bishopsthorpe Road - The temporary arrangements have moved into an experimental phase, which was necessary so that the modal filter remained legal as the original temporary traffic order expired in early January.

This will allow for a period of further data collection to assess the impact of the modal filter. This will include surveys of traffic volume and speed being undertaken on nearby streets so that the wider impacts can be understood. During this period there will also be a public consultation where residents and stakeholders will have the opportunity to share their views about the traffic restriction.

The data and the views expressed through the public consultation will then be considered in the context of the Council's agreed policies and objectives and a decision will be taken about whether to retain the measure on a permanent basis or remove it.

Whilst the experimental traffic order can be in place for up to 18 months (June 2023) the Highways Team have reassured us that the intention is to undertake a review well ahead of that, and within this calendar year.

As Ward Members we will continue to engage with officers and the Cabinet Member in relation to this scheme and seek to achieve the best outcome for the local area.

3.2 Footbridge between Sydenham Park Road and Dacres Road

Works to upgrade the Sydenham Park footbridge have been rescheduled as there is a review of the design consider if a more user friendly access can be provided on the Dacres Road side of the bridge.

3.3 Issues of speeding

Although our roads have been made 20mph limit, speed surveys have shown that a lot of drivers are ignoring it and driving too fast. We are working with Transport for London to carry out further measures on the worst "offending" roads to try and bring the speeds down to those acceptable in a 20mph limit.

Currently financial resources are stretched as Transport for London do not have any Local Improvement Plan (LIP) funding to support other measures including physical traffic calming and extra signing etc. We will continue to work with officers on any designs but implementation will be delayed until we have resources available.

We continue to work with Transport for London and the Police on the Community Road Watch initiative. It is for the Police to manage enforcement of the speed limit.

4. Borough of Culture 2022 – We Are Lewisham-

<https://www.wearelewisham.com/>

We Are Lewisham begins on Friday 28 January 2022. The first day is visually and creatively impactful, setting the tone for what will be a wonderful, celebratory, inclusive year. Residents will have the opportunity to engage with culture across the borough with events happening indoors and outdoors, on the street, in schools and in venues throughout the day.

9 – 10am: 'Commotions' at train stations across the borough, including transport hubs - Lewisham DLR, Hither Green, Catford, Blackheath, Deptford and Bellingham stations.

Students from Trinity Laban are working with local musicians and community music groups to create some brilliant, exciting new pieces of music, which will be performed at key sites across the borough to set the tone for the day. Expect dancers too – and TV new crews and photographers have already expressed an interest in covering these events. We will of course be sharing as many of these as possible on social media.

Artist	Artform	Location	Ward
Lewisham Choral Society	Singing	Lewisham DLR	Lewisham
Lewisham Concert Band	Music	Hither Green	Lee / Lewisham Central
Lewisham Staff Choir	Singing	Catford	Catford South/Rushey

			Green
Blackheath Halls Quartet	Music	Blackheath	Blackheath
Trinity Boundless	Dance	Deptford	Deptford
Trinity Voices in Motion	Dance	Bellingham	Bellingham

10am – 4.30pm: Identity Tapestry

Lewisham Shopping Centre (next to H&M, indoors)

The UK premiere of '[Identity Tapestry](#)' by US artist Mary Corey March will be unveiled. Lewisham residents will be invited to 'map' their identity on the Tapestry during the day, with the end result an amazing piece of artwork that visually represents the diversity of our borough.

11am – 4.30pm: Artist in Residence

Led by renowned poet, Jacob Sam-la Rose, Artist in Residence will see all 18 wards host an artist to create work for and with the local community. This day-long celebration and invitation to get involved will spread across the entire borough. From 'STOMP!' style workshops and reclaim sculpture-making to sing-a-longs and spoken word performances, residents will be able to make their mark during Day One, regardless of postcode. Again, we'll sharing plenty of these works via our social media channels throughout the day, and will have photographers out and about to capture the works coming together. Find out where your Artist in Residence is below:

Ward	Time	Name	Art Form	Venue
Blackheath	9am to 4.30pm	Janet Barfield	Sketching	Blackheath Handmade Food
Evelyn	11am - 4pm	Desola Kazeem (Subculture)	Caricature	Evelyn Community Centre
Catford South	11am to 3pm	Linda Litchfield	Stitching and Knitting	Torridon Library
Perry Vale	10.30 to 5pm	Shiroma Ratne	Vegetable Printing	Moonlane Books
Ladywell / Lewisham Central	10am to 4pm	Salina Gani	Drawing From History	PLACE Ladywell
Crofton Park /Brockley	11.30am and 2pm	Karen Marie McCaffrey	Irish Song	Arlo and Moe
Forest Hill	11am to 5pm	Daisy Young	Clay with Seeds	Forest Hill Library
Deptford	11am, 1pm and 2pm	Cleo Savva	Stomp Workshops	999 Club
Whitefoot	10am to 4pm	Alice Burnhope	Stitching	Goldsmiths Community Centre

Downham	10.30am to 4pm	Kim Alexander	Stop Motion Film	Downham Health & Leisure
Grove Park	2pm to 6pm	Leon Clowes	Audio Project	Grove Park Library
Telegraph Hill	12noon to 4.30pm	Tom Berry	Screen Printing	Honor Oak Community Centre
Bellingham	11am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm	Nina Goodyer	Stencilling	Beckenham Place Park Courtyard
Lewisham Central	11am to 2.30pm	Nadina Ali	Poster Project	Migration Museum
Lee	12.05pm to 1.30pm	Yeu-Lai Mo	Chinese Calligraphy	Arts Network
Brockley /Crofton Park	11am to 9pm	Angela McMahon	Reclaimed Material Sculpture	Brockley Jack
Sydenham	From 10am	Paul Lewis (on behalf of artist Dylan Lewis-Gallego aged 15)	Spoken Word	Ignition Brewery
Rushey Green	4pm to 8pm	Katherine Smith	Badge Making	Ninth Life
All	2pm to 6pm	Usva Seregina (they/them pronouns)	Collage Making	Online

12pm-12.15pm: Creative Challenge: LBOC BOP

Across 40 primary schools in the borough

The Bop is back! IRIE! Dance - in collaboration with Lewisham Education Arts Network (LEAN) - will celebrate January's creative challenge by inviting all Primary Schools in Lewisham to join a mass dance moment - the LBOC BOP. We'll be filming this and sharing clips on social media, encouraging others to film their attempts too!

2 – 5pm: Liberty Festival (invite only) at the Albany

Elsewhere, the Albany will see a creative takeover from Liberty Festival who will host performances in anticipation for their main festival in July. Six artists will run three one hour taster performances to invite conversations around the creation and support of D/deaf and disabled work. Audience capacity is strictly limited, but if you would like to attend, please contact the Culture Team and we will do our best to accommodate you.

6.30pm: Piccadilly Lights Projections

Piccadilly Circus

A new film, We Are Lewisham, celebrating our wonderfully diverse borough, will be premiered at the famous Piccadilly Circus big screen. The film weaves together the identity of Lewisham and what it stands for, by showcasing photos and clips of diverse people – artists, community members, local heroes and famous faces - interspersed with identity statements.

6 – 9pm: Projections

Four locations: Lewisham Shopping Centre, Goldsmiths University, Downham Leisure Centre and Broadway Theatre

We will also be projecting the film onto sites across the borough, creating a visually striking, open-air experience that celebrates Lewisham. The projections have been planned at sites across the borough to avoid mass gatherings, and we will also be sharing the film and images via social media.

You can read more on the We Are Lewisham website.

CLLrs Chris Best, Liam Curran and Jack Lavery