

**LEE GREEN LOCAL ASSEMBLY
MEETING
Tuesday 18 January 2022 7pm – 9pm
Meeting held online via Teams**

Present: Councillors Jim Mallory, James Rathbone, Octavia Holland
Also Present: Sakthi Suriyaprakasam, Adeyinka Joseph

Apologies: No apologies received

Record of Meeting

	Items	Actions
1	Welcome, Introduction & Format of meeting	
	<p>Cllr Octavia Holland welcomed everyone to the meeting and went through the agenda.</p>	
2	Mayor of Lewisham presentation	
	<p>A presentation was given by the Mayor of Lewisham, Damien Egan who expressed his thanks to all the residents who volunteered during the peak of the Covid 19 pandemic to support their neighbours and family members. In his presentation, the Mayor sets out his priorities for the coming years, highlighted some of the challenges faced by the council in its delivery of services to support the most vulnerable in the community, puts into context what is happening in local government generally and cited some examples of how the council has made a difference across all locality.</p> <p>An explanation on the state of the budgets over the past ten years and the difficult decisions that councillors has to make to balance the books was given. In real term, Lewisham budget has dropped from 2010 till date from £400m to £240m. The Mayor outlined his priorities for the future as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment – clean-up of the borough • Improving jobs prospects, digital skills and infrastructure • Protecting local shops and restaurants • Ensuring continued improvements in children’s social care • Housing and heritage (keeping building within the local character) <p>An announcement was made on the launch of Lewisham Borough of Culture event. An event to kick-start the yearlong celebration will take place on Friday 28th January.</p> <p>An open conversation followed the presentation to hear people’s thoughts on what they think is important to them and where they think the council needs to focus on.</p>	

3	Lewisham & Lee Green Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN)	
	<p>A presentation on the result of a recent review of the Lewisham and Lee Low Traffic Neighbourhood Scheme was given by Zahur Khan and Louise McBride from the Council Highway Team as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scheme was implemented back in July 2020 as a result of the pandemic when the government was urging local authorities to implement schemes like the LTN to mitigate some of the issues around Covid to encourage social distancing. • The main aim was to encourage people to cycle and walk to improve air quality, improve road safety, reduce traffic whilst protecting public health and encourage people to be more active. • Following the implementation of the scheme, a number of feedback was received from local residents raising concerns and issues around how the scheme was operating. • In November 2020, a revised scheme was implemented by opening up some of the restrictions to traffic. • The council undertook a large scale consultation last summer with over 35,000 residents as part of the review over a six week period asking for resident's views on the original and the revised scheme. Around 7,000 responses was received. Useful data was collected which helped inform a review. • Traffic volume, traffic speeds, air quality in and around the LTN and key bus routes identified by Transport for London were also measured as part of the review. • The findings of the review was considered by Mayor and Cabinet at a meeting on 12 January 2022. The approval was given for the proposals for a permanent traffic order which will retain the Lewisham and Lee Green LTN amended in November 2020. • As part of the permanent order, the council will work with local schools to implement School Street scheme where schools are supportive. • The physical restriction will be replaced with ANPR cameras to give greater access across the LTN zones. Emergency services will be exempted from these restrictions. • An aspect of the design will also include further greening and provision of street trees, electric charging points, cycle hangers and cycle stands, better crossing facilities and seating. • A full report on the review can be found on the council website. <p>A Question and answer session followed this presentation.</p>	
4	Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL)	
	<p>A presentation was given on the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy by Sakthi Suriyaprakasam (Community Development Service Manager) and Adeyinka Joseph (Community Development Officer) who provided detailed explanation on the context of the NCIL funding, application and assessment process and a summary of projects that have been recommended for NCIL</p>	

funding and those that have not been recommended for funding. A list of recommended and non-recommended projects presented to the meeting were as follows:

Projects recommended for Lee Green NCIL

- Renewing and updating aspects of the planters in Staplehurst Road Reinstating the FUSS Christmas Fair in 2022 - £5,000
- Staying healthy, safe & connected in the Community - £6,476
- Lee Green Health & Wellbeing - £6,440
- Better Facilities for Manor House Library - £6,316.80
- Lee Forum CIC - Burnt Ash Hill Street Tree Planting - £1,019.08
- Lee Green Consortium – All in it Together - £8,549
- Lee Manor Society – Burnt Ash Road Tree Planting - £3,000
- Baseline Recommendations Report to improve Active Travel Safety in Grove Park and Lee Green -£2,550

Non-Recommended project

- 178 – South London Counselling & Support Services - Positive Futures

Following the presentation the chair invited comments and view from people in attendance to establish whether they agree with the recommendations or not.

The following comments and views were recorded on the NCIL bids during the questions and answers session:

- A comment was made on the recommended bid by Lee Green Consortium, citing insufficient information in the summary on what they intend to do with the money and how it will be spent. The resident queried whether the group plans to report back to the Assembly to provide an update on what they have done with the funding.

Response provided by Cllr Mallory to the query raised on the Consortium bid that given the lack of time to allow groups to prepare and work together on a wider basis, the decision was taken to submit a bid on behalf of the consortium in case there was insufficient bids to cover the total ward allocation. If funding is approved, the group would act as custodian of the fund and will consult properly and agree a process of allocation. The consortium will work together to look for where there are needs or gaps in services, sharing intelligence, a process which will enable them to catch things as they come up and allocate funding accordingly to address those needs as they arise during the 2 years lifespan of the NCIL funding.

- A comment was made on the recommended bid for the Baseline Report to improve active travel safety in Grove Park and Lee Green. The comment was whether this element of safer travel should have been covered through the Low Traffic Neighbourhood programme instead of the NCIL fund.
- A resident expressed disappointment to see that the bid for a youth project from South London Counselling & Support Services

	<p>was the only bid not recommended. The resident saw this as a good bid specifically aimed at providing much needed support to young people.</p> <p>Response provided by Cllrs and Officers with both providing clarification that they had looked at the details of the project and it was clear in the application that it was a borough wide proposal which didn't target Lee Green residents sufficiently. Given that Lee Green had received a relatively small amount of NCIL allocation compared to other wards it was agreed to prioritise bids that were focused on benefit to ward residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification was sought on what would happen to the fund where a project does not go ahead or where it is deemed not viable for delivery. <p>Response provided that any unspent fund will be recirculated and added to the next round of NCIL funding allocation for the ward.</p> <p>There were no other comments that opposed the other recommendations</p> <p>All 51 participants in attendance broadly supported the recommendations</p> <p>The chair thanked everyone for their input and explained the next steps in the process. All the comments made at the meeting would be fed back in the report that goes before Mayor and Cabinet report at their meeting on 9th of March and all applicants will then be notified of the decision on their bids thereafter.</p>	
7	Community updates and any other business	
	There were no items to update the meeting	
8	Declaration of interest	
	<p>There were no interest declared at this meeting.</p> <p>The chair thanked everyone in attendance and brought the meeting to a close.</p>	