



Bellingham Assembly
9 October 2012
7.00pm – 9.00pm
The Bridge Leisure Centre

Meeting notes

Your local assembly, your say!

1. Welcome and introduction to the meeting.

From Councillor Alan Hall.

2. Bellingham Festival Film

Iyare Igiehon introduced the film that he made about the Bellingham Festival and the community in Bellingham.

3. Assembly Fund (remaining funding)

Councillor Hall explained that there is £5,069 of available funding remaining. This is a combination of £1,319 unspent Assembly Fund and the £3,750 councillors discretionary fund.

He explained that the co-ordinating group are asking the assembly to vote if the remaining funding should be spent on Bellingham's festivals for 2013, with the following split of funds:

£2,535	Bellingham Festival
£1,584	Home Park Family Fun Day
£950	Carols on the Green

Q: It was asked how much the festivals will cost in total.

A: It was explained that the funds will secure the festivals to take place, though more funding will be applied for.

Everyone that signed in to the assembly had a voting card and 100% of the participants were in favour of funding the three festivals.

4. Update from Bellingham Safer Neighbourhood Team

Sergeant Chris Ellen spoke to the Assembly.

Olympic staffing

It was explained that during the Olympics many officers were unfortunately diverted away from Bellingham to help manage policing at the Olympic venues.

Open Futures Project

The Safer Neighbourhood Team, Bellingham Community Project and Lewisham Youth Service are partnering to run this project which aims to divert young people away from crime and build on life skills and work experience to give them the right start in life.

Bellingham Ward Panel

It was asked if anyone would like to join the Bellingham Ward Panel. This is a community meeting where residents decide on the priorities that they would like to police to work on to help solve safety and crime issues in Bellingham Ward.

Contact

It was reiterated that the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT) need to know about issues to solve them and are contactable on 020 8721 2489 or at Bellingham.snt@met.police.uk . It was explained that the SNT's number is not 24 hours if there is an emergency please call 999.

Neighbourhood Watch

It was explained that if you would like to set up a Neighbourhood Watch group in your area, the SNT can support you and offer all the materials needed and help with promotion.

Preventable Crime

It was explained that many crimes are preventable and to always check windows and doors are closed

Critical Incident Panel

It was explained that there are certain members of the community that are on the critical incident panel, if a critical incident happens the SNT contacts them.

Bellingham Ward Priorities

1. Randlestone Road - No Drinking Zone

This is now in force up to Sedgehill Road. There were a small number of street drinkers but there was a great deal of rubbish and there were incidents of anti-social behaviour by the alley by the side of the pub before the zone was in place.

2. Sedgehill School - Turnout issues

Due to the size of Sedgehill School officers attend at the end of the school day to help manage the flow of the young people around bus stops and travelling out of the area.

3. Riverview Park / Lushington Road

It was explained that these are areas to show a police presence. The stabbings at Beckenham Hill station had an effect on the number of young people going to the DUMPs adventure playground. The SNT are working with the DUMPs and showing a presence and numbers are increasing.

Metal Detectors

It was explained that British Transport police have mobile metal detectors that are brought randomly to different stations.

Sedgehill School Weapons Sweep

It was stated that there was a surprise weapons sweep at Sedgehill school and no weapons were found. It was commented that residents thought weapons were found in the privet hedges on the day of the sweep.

Beckenham Hill Incident

It was confirmed that the CCTV on Beckenham Hill did not catch the incident due to their being a train on the platform.

5. Table Discussions

The assembly then took part in table discussions noted below:

Bellingham Local Assembly - Look back at the year

1. What was good?

- advertising
- time of meetings
- festivals bring the community together and are free
- twitter account
- community involvement
- money was spent on what people wanted and not just what officials thought people want
- the assembly meetings have been good a chance to meet and discuss
- lots of support for young peoples issues
- supporting the boxing club
- all community events in parks should be continued to be supported

2. What could we have done better?

- spread funding over the priorities more evenly
- £1.4m allocated to Bell Green to improve traffic flow – look to see where this money has gone
- document outcomes - social media to feed back
- promote sport other than football
- perception of young people
- location (bridge leisure centre meeting)
- advertising the festival
- advertising screen on the green
- advertising on Lewisham website / libraries
- housing association better informed (Phoenix)
- presence of PCSO's to prevent anti-social behaviour – visibility
- more bus routes via Southend Lane, Sedgehill Road, Dunfield Rd contact TFL. no direct routes to Crystal Palace
- Sedgehill/ Dunfield / Oakfield potholes
- publicity what about Bellingham Community website?
- we still need a tennis court in Bellingham Area
- we need a large community notice board
- is there scope for a youth assembly, or meeting on a Saturday would attract

younger people

- highlight community gardens and growing fresh food

3. Have the priorities changed

- youth, antisocial behaviour and environment
- more care support for the disabled and less abled
- youth provision need to include employment training and apprenticeships
- youth provision and perception of young people remains a priority as does older peoples issues
- communication and improving engagement should become priorities
- antisocial behaviour does not feel as pressing an issue as some of the other priorities
- change poor parks and insufficient play areas priority into education support with study rooms resources with WIFI
- Bell Green £1.4m unallocated money a priority

6. Community Updates

1. Sydenham Community Library

Chair of Friends of Sydenham Community Library (FoSCL) Anthony Scully spoke to the assembly. It was explained that Sydenham Community Library which is located on Sydenham Road SE26 5SE, is on the boundary of Bellingham ward by Home Park estate and park which are in the Bellingham ward.

There was an update that signage to promote the library is nearly ready to go up and they are also looking into installing a community notice board by the library.

Eco Computer Systems

A leaflet was circulated about Eco Computer Systems who run the library and re-use and recycle IT equipment. If anyone has any old IT equipment that they would like to be recycled to support the library please call 0208 6945274 or log on to www.ecocomputersystems.org.uk.

Volunteers the Library

Volunteers are being sought after and application forms are available at the library. You can volunteer for as little as 1 hour a week. Contact the library directly or telephone 020 8778 1753 email libraries@lewisham.gov.uk
For information about FoSCL please go to <http://sydenhamlibrary.wordpress.com/>

2. Community Education Lewisham (CEL)

Therese Bush (020 8314 7708) Learning Manager from CEL spoke to the Assembly.

Free Courses

It was explained that there are free after school activities and courses for local people at the Brockley Rise and Stansted Road sites. There are also many courses for older people.

Funding

It was explained that community groups that want to run educational projects can apply for funding.

The CEL programme leaflet was handed out to each table.

St Dunstons

Reverend Timon Singh the new vicar of St Dunstons was introduced and welcomed.

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.