

**Crofton Park assembly meeting
Saturday 26 January 10am – 11.45am
Crofton Park Community Library
Meeting notes**

Cllr Morrison welcomed everybody to the Crofton Park assembly meeting and explained that we were doing our meeting bit more informally today. Firstly we will be finishing early to enable people to leave and join the Save Lewisham Hospital A & E march. Secondly the first half of the meeting will be the launch of the Crofton Park Neighbourhood Forum which the assembly agreed at the last assembly meeting in November 2012 and from now on the first half of every assembly meeting will be the Neighbourhood Forum and the second half assembly business.

1. Cllr Morrison explained the library has been broken up into six working group discussion areas these were:

- supporting older people
- building a business forum
- community events, activity and community in the Community including Croftonpark.com
- supporting Tenants and Residents Associations
- young people
- environmental group, including traffic, planning and environmental issues including trees

Attendees at the meeting were asked to select a discussion area of their preference and to join that group and discussions were had for the hour to plan future activity for the Neighbourhood Forum.

2. Simon Jones and the young people from Prendergast Ladywell Fields updates the assembly on the youth activity happening the former Safer Neighbourhood assembly youth unable had now become part of the Youth Parliament where all primary schools meet at Prendergast Ladywell Fields to feed their ideas into local priorities. For the assembly's Neighbourhood Forum community cohesion priority young people will be doing a poster competition about what is a local community and what community cohesion means to them. Simon also updated on the Safe Havens Campaign and the 1000 hands young people will be meeting and putting their hands of a large wrap of material which will be taken to City Hall and Ten Downing Street and wrapped around them.

Simon also updated on the re-launch of youth club Walk in Space on the 25 January which the Mayor of Lewisham attended which now operates on a weekly basis at St Savours Church Hall and has 60 young members and thanked the Crofton Park assembly for their financial support.

3. Marc Zhara from Skanska updated the assembly about the joint Lewisham-Croydon street lighting replacement scheme happening across the whole of the Borough. The Crofton Park ward is scheduled for replacement next month. The replacement of lights will be a white light source and reduce light pollution and are more environmentally and energy friendly. Marc asked for questions from the floor.

Q. There are some old attractive gas lights still on some roads in the ward; will these all be taken away as that would be a shame?

A. Lewisham has identified some heritage roads to Skanska, sometimes the heritage can be integrated, but sometimes it is not always compatible and in that case they will have to be replaced.

Q. At the meeting today we have set up an environment working group who are concerned with such matters as this, so would it be possible for contacts from this group to be updated on the light replacement's plans for each street?

A. Each road is sent a letter informing them of the proposed plan of works for their road four weeks in advance with an opportunity to respond, but if I am provided with contact details I can provide an update of all planned work to the group.

Q. You spoke about light pollution can you elaborate more please?

A. Yes the new lights produce white light which is projected downwards but no light is emitted upwards, so the lights are actually brighter on the ground but not upwards.

4. The Crofton Park Safer Neighbourhood Team reported that there had been a significant increase in burglaries in the ward recently. Plain clothed officers were currently working to apprehend the suspect. The officer explained that the Safer Neighbourhood team needed residents to be vigilant and encouraged residents to set up Neighbourhood Watch schemes, those interested can speak to the Safer Neighbourhood team who can advise them how to do this.

5. Judy from Montague Theatre Arts introduced herself and told everyone about the variety over 60's theatre, dance and music activities they offer in the local area. These activities are led by the community for community and in order to continue and be successful need local participation. They work closely with EPSP and have recently done some work with the LCPCG and performed theatre workshops about scams which were very successful and they are hoping to do more in the future.

The meeting was closed early so people could go to the march.

No declarations of interest were raised at the meeting.