

Brockley Assembly Meeting

St John's Church

5 June 2013

7 - 9pm

Minutes of the Meeting

1. Welcome and introductions

Councillor Darren Johnson opened the assembly meeting by welcoming everyone and briefly outlining the purpose of the Assembly programme for the benefit of residents attending for the first time.

2. Update from the Safer Neighbourhood Team

Sergeant Biddle explained that there has been an increase in the number of complaints regarding dog fouling. More enforcement is taking place regarding this issue.

A request for additional CCTV cameras was made. Sergeant Biddle explained that requests need to be channelled through the Council.

The Police are very happy for people to contact them directly. Contact details were provided.

3. Census results

Brigid Howarth, Lewisham Council Development Officer with responsibility for the Brockley Assembly, summarised the latest information to be released from the census:

- Brockley has a particularly high number of people aged 20 – 34 (39.4% compared to 27.6% across Lewisham).
- 7.1% of people in Lewisham describe their day to day activities as limited a lot. In Brockley this is lower than average at 5.2%.
- Residents in Brockley have higher average annual earnings (£30,363) than the average in the borough as a whole (£28,865).
- Burglary is higher than both the London and Lewisham average.

4. The New Approach to Assembly Funding and Introduction to Workshop

Brigid Howarth outlined a new approach to the Assembly Fund. To ensure maximum value for money for local communities a more strategic approach to the funding has been developed. The Assembly Fund will be spent on the most suitable actions to best meet priorities for the ward. In future it is anticipated that Assemblies will deliver a smaller number of high value projects that will have a greater impact on the ward.

5. Workshop on themes for 2013-2014

A workshop on ideas for the fund was facilitated by members of the Co-ordinating Group to identify themes and a range of specific projects that the Assembly could support.

People were invited to join one of 6 themed groups reflecting the current priorities of the Assembly: reducing crime, improving community facilities and shops, increasing youth provision, traffic and road safety and the environment. Each group presented their ideas.

Brigid Howarth explained that the Co-ordinating Group will review the information and determine how the funding can be best used to meet the priorities. Projects will be developed further, with the support of Council officers, to include costs, how project will be delivered, timescales etc. The Co-ordinating Group will present project ideas back to assembly who will agree what to fund at the meeting in November.

7. Update on Lewisham services & Environmental update

(a) Lewisham Hospital

Gillan from Save Lewisham Hospital Campaign updated the Assembly on the campaign. A People's Commission will be held on the 29th June in the Broadway Theatre, Catford. Lewisham's case will be heard in the High Court the following week with a decision expected at the end of July.

(b) Fire Station Closures

Cllr Johnson provided an update on the fire station closures. Two stations are currently earmarked for closure: Downham and New Cross. Cllr Johnson encouraged people to respond to the consultation (deadline 17th June).

(c) Air Craft Noise

Cllr Johnson explained that that the increase in air craft noise was due to a pilot scheme testing different flight paths to Heathrow. This pilot ended in March and the paths will not be continued.

8. Open Community Session

(a) Representatives from Rural Urban Synthesis Society (RUSS) explained that it is a local community group with the aim of creating sustainable social housing using the self build model. RUSS is exploring a potential site in Lewisham. Contact details as follows: www.the-russ.org / 020 8699 9065.

(b) Moira Tate from Brockley Max explained that the festival would not happen this year. A public meeting to explore the future of the festival will take place in July. Moira explained that more volunteers would be required and that volunteers could help in many different ways.

(c) A representative from Breakspeare Community Garden invited everyone to come to their opening event on the 13th July.

(d) A representative from Quay Point explained that a newspaper and on line news site is being developed for south east London. The first printed edition will hopefully be available in July.

9. Close

Cllr Darren Johnson closed the Assembly meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.