



WERA Bulletin

July/August 2011

WERA welcomes new secretary



We are delighted to announce that at the recent WERA EGM on 12th July, Jacqui Niles was appointed to be the association's Secretary.

Welcome Jacqui!

We're now on facebook!



Search for 'Weir Estate Residents Association'.

Follow us on



@WeirEstate

and find us at

www.wera.org.uk

email:

info@wera.org.uk

Weir Community Day a huge success

The Weir Estate hosted the annual Weir Community Day on Saturday 11th June, jointly organised by WERA and The Weir Link. The event was opened by Lambeth's Borough Commander, Chief Superintendent Nick Ephgrave. A large number of VIP guests were in attendance, including Thornton's ward councillors, Cllr Ed Davie, Cllr Lib Peck, and Cllr Diana Morris, as well as Cllr Steve Reed, Leader of Lambeth Council; Cllr Christiana Valcarel, Mayor of Lambeth, David Oyedele, Youth Mayor of Lambeth and Chuka Umunna MP. Chuka spoke of his praise for the event saying "People talk about 'The Big Society', but we've been doing it for years in Lambeth. What goes on here is a model of best practice and it's what we're seeking to do across the whole Borough of Lambeth."



Over fifty community partners came along including Thornton Safer Neighbourhood Team, the Community NHS team, Thames Water, Lambeth Living, Freshview, Lambeth Play Association and Age UK, as well as estate contractors Morrison Facilities Services and Pinnacle PSG.

Music was provided by local community radio station, Generation

Radio; and a steel band beating out old and new tunes.



During the speeches, Mayor of Lambeth, Cllr Christiana Valcarel said "My theme is working! Diversity, culture and equality. The Sun is shining, the children are smiling, I'm dancing to the steel band and I'm so proud to be the first citizen of this borough. We cater for ALL."

Dave McEvoy, WERA Chair said "The event showcased the best of our community and we were delighted to share the success of the event with our community partners The Weir Link. We are thrilled with the many community services and groups who turned out to make this the best event the estate and our community have ever seen. WERA and The Weir Link would like to thank everyone for coming and supporting us."

Clare Ballard-Yawson, Weir Link Centre and Family Services Manager said

following the event "Many people have commented that community day 2011 was the best yet, we think the result of the partnership working between The Weir Link

and WERA has been key. Unity is strength – an old but true belief. Pooling resources to ensure maximum benefit for the whole community is the basis of community development and empowerment as well as value for money. Willing volunteers is also the foundation of success for such an event. Thank you to all who helped in whatever way."

The event was supported by HSBC in Balham providing two volunteers to help out on the day.

The aim is now to grow the event every year to include more activities, community groups and services.

More pictures online at www.wera.org.uk

Community Garden fencing completed - Community Garden update

Work to install new metal fencing around the Weir Community Garden site and prepare the area for its next phase of development was completed on 25th July 2011 by contractor SSG Construction.

Despite being delayed due to the discovery of a number of gas leaks in the Anfield Close area of the estate adjoining the community Garden site, the site is now ready for the next phase of works to implement the garden by designers Touchwood Tree's Ltd.

In the first phase of preparation works, the walls have been repaired by installing brick pillars and removal of two old wall mounted benches along the boundary wall.

There will now be a number of open days arranged in conjunction with Touchwood Trees designers where residents can discuss the plans and get involved in putting the garden in place, WERA have also asked residents to come up with a name for the space, though sadly none have been received as yet.

SSG, one of Lambeth's main construction contractors have cleared the site and it will soon be formerly handed back to WERA to commence the next stage of

the project.

Two gates have also been installed for easy access.



The gates will shortly be locked and consideration is being given to improving security.

Dave McEvoy, WERA Chair said 'We are delighted that the project is moving forward despite unexpected delays. We can now move forward and develop the next phase of the project for the

benefit of residents and local people'

PHASE ONE: Repair walls, install fencing/gates and clear site – SSG

COMPLETED 25th July 2011

PHASE 2: Consult residents, open days, install garden by Touchwood Trees – to start August 2011

Grand Opening: September 2011

Touchwood Trees have displayed information within The Weir Link, and you can write your suggestion of the garden name on a sheet in The Weir Link.

Weir making some changes

Weir Estate Residents Association has revealed a new look logo during our recent Weir Community Day on Saturday 11th June.

The new logo was designed by the printers after an earlier design proved too costly to use in printing and has been released to coincide with the second birthday of the association's thriving website www.wera.org.uk.

The newly re-designed logo has kept a similar recognisable design to the previous logo but has received a two colour black and white makeover, with

same size lettering to make it uniform. The logo also now incorporates the web address as part of the design.

Dave explained 'We wanted to promote the association on a wider scale at the event by having some great promotional items, the design is fresher and more modern, something that residents and our

partners will recognise. I am delighted with the new look design and it marks 2 great years of WERA.org.uk which continues to go from strength to strength.'



Dave added 'This shows the associations commitment to continue to improve and develop for a better future for Weir Estate Residents and our standing in the community.'

WERA has given away some new promotional freebies featuring the new design.

Pens and merchandise is available from WERA and will be given to residents attending meetings.

The newly designed logo has already been added to the website and will be featured on all future publications issued by Weir Estate Residents Association.

Recycling on Weir Estate

Recycling bins throughout Weir Estate are being filled with non-recyclable items. These items are classed as contamination and could mean the entire contents of the recycling bin may not be recycled.

The main types of contamination are carrier bags, food waste and textiles. These cannot be placed within the recycling bins. Carrier bags can be recycled at some supermarkets. Textiles can be placed in recycling banks specifically for textiles, or you can donate them to charity.

If you use black sacks within your home to hold recycling waste, please do not put them into your shared recycling bins. When black sacks are spotted at the sorting plant it is assumed they are full of general waste and are disposed of, so please empty recycling into the recycling bin,



and dispose of black sacks with general waste.

For more information on recycling, contact Lambeth Service Centre on 020 7926 9000 or email recycling@lambeth.gov.uk or visit www.lambeth.gov.uk/recycling



All residents received information about Recyclebank a few months ago. The scheme sees residents being awarded points for recycling, which can be redeemed for vouchers to spend in local business', cinemas and sports facilities.

More information is available by contacting 0844 409 9490, or online at www.recyclebank.com (*Ensure you change the site to UK, on the top right corner.*)

Weir Estate 'Significant' Walkabout visits by Lambeth Chief and local MP

Within the past 2 months, Weir Estate has had two important visits in which WERA was able to promote the work it has undertaken to improve the area and issues facing the future of the estate with both Derrick Anderson CBE – Lambeth Council's Chief Executive making his first official visit and a planned organised walkabout by Chuka Umunna MP. Both visits were attended by the Weir Estate Chair and members of the associations committee.

WERA elected committee member, Brenda Lewis said 'These are very significant visits by two very influential people in our area and have a major impact on life on Weir Estate. We were delighted to be able to welcome Mr Anderson and Chuka Umunna.'

Both were introduced to staff at The Weir Link and issues around repairs and maintenance of the estate by Lambeth Living both featured heavily in discussions. Mr Derrick Anderson, Chief Executive of Lambeth Council for the past five years visited on 30th June 2011 also attended by local councillors and officers from the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Chuka's walkabout was held on the 17th of June as part of his schedule as local MP to pick up local area issues. Mr Anderson said following the visit 'I have to say the pride



and commitment in the Weir Estate to see it improve shone through magnificently. I was also mightily impressed with the engagement of tenants, especially those who have contributed personally to the look and feel of the estate. There is clear evidence of joint working in the fact that both crime and antisocial behaviour do not appear to be an issue on the site thanks to the working with local police officers and partners.'

Chuka Umunna said 'The most important people on these walkabouts are the residents themselves, they are the VIP's as they know the issues that affect resident's lives on estates. I get a lot of casework from housing estates and I feel the best way find out more about these is to come out to estates like Weir to see and hear it for myself.'

Community Coffee afternoon

Chuka also held a coffee afternoon at The Weir Link on Friday 30th July 2011, in which residents could bring along their issues to discuss with Chuka. The event was very well attended by members of the wider community, and Chuka will be dealing with a number of issues raised by local residents.

If you have an issue you would like to raise with Chuka as your local MP, you can phone 020 8769 5063, or email chuka.umunna.mp@parliament.uk



Weir Estate Residents Association

c/o The Weir Link
33 Weir Road
London
SW12 0NU

Web: www.wera.org.uk

Email: info@wera.org.uk

Weir here to help...

Weir Estate Resident Association is able to assist Weir Estate Residents and Leaseholders to resolve any repair issues as the Lambeth Living recognised formal body representing our estate. If you have had a long running issue that has not been resolved, WERA officers can act on your behalf using the collective power of the residents association. We have successfully settled many repair cases for those living on Weir Estate.



When raising any repair issue to Lambeth Living, please **ALWAYS** ask for a reference number as this will be required during any case work undertaken by the association on your behalf.

Lambeth Living - Residents - 020 7926 6000 Lambeth Living - Leaseholder Services - 020 7926 6700

Should any works not be carried out or you are not satisfied with the level of work completed, please contact your association for support, advice and assistance by using the contact details on the left. One of the team from WERA will then make contact with you as soon as possible to discuss your concerns.

We are here to help YOU as a Weir Estate resident!

Crime Prevention advice from Thornton Safer Neighbourhood Team

Would all residents please ensure that they lock all doors and windows in their properties, and secure their bicycles, as it has been noticed by our team that there have been a number of burglaries, and bike thefts in recent weeks, in areas around the Weir Estate, where residents are not using all available locks. WERA have worked very hard to ensure that you as residents have been supplied with doors that are as secure as possible, but they are only secure if residents make use of the locks provided.

Please do not buzz strangers into the blocks on the estate; only allow people entry if you are expecting visitors. As well as this, be vigilant not to let strangers follow you in through the security doors, this has always been an issue in Lambeth Living properties, but again comes down to residents looking out for each other and not permitting strangers entry.

Acting Sgt Rob Wood



Thornton Safer Neighbourhood Team can be contacted by telephone on 020 8721 2622 or on the team mobile 07920 233 840.

You can also email the team
Thornton.SNT@met.police.uk

DIAL 101
TO CONTACT THE POLICE

In an emergency
always call 999

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Weir Estate Residents Association will be Tuesday, 13th September at 7pm in The Weir Link, 33 Weir Road, London SW12 0NU.

This meeting is to be attended (definitely!) by Chief Superintendent Nick Ephgrave, Lambeth Police Borough Commander

We look forward to seeing you there!!



Smartphone users:

Use this QR code to sign up to receive the WERA Bulletin via email.

Scan the box using your mobile device, and follow the instructions.