

SLADE GREEN COMMUNITY FORUM

Registered Charity No. 1097246

Website: www.sladegreen.org



ANNUAL REPORT, 9TH DECEMBER 2010.

By Forum Chair Roy Hillman, on behalf of the Executive Committee

Mostly it has been a relatively quiet year for the Forum, but the last part of the year has seen a lot of activity, with concerns being raised about the future of the local library service, which will be a key issue at the AGM, the arrival of a very substantial consultation document on future planning and property development from 2011 - 2026, which we will respond to by the 22nd December deadline, and the anticipated approval of a developer for the housing on the Howbury site due the week after the AGM. Additionally there has been activity relating to the proposal for Haberdasher's Aske to take over the running of Slade Green Infant and Junior school, and also mention of the possibility of expanding Peareswood school.

Large steps forward have been made towards commemorating the events of April 16th and 17th 1941 when the bravery of local volunteers saved the centre of Slade Green from being blown up. We've had two aims with this project. Firstly, simply that the events and people involved should not be forgotten. We also hope that local children will understand that the people involved were ordinary local people, not super-heroes or celebrities, as it has been a concern that some local children seem to believe that ordinary people can't achieve anything. Two fund-raising 1940's dances took place during the year, and we have had substantial donations from local companies and individuals, and a grant from the foundation connected to the News-Shopper. We hope to have a plaque in place for the 70th anniversary.

We've carried out our main aims of informing and consulting by publishing Newsletters, producing updates between Newsletters, and holding Public Meeting, as follows:

Three Newsletters have been published (circulation about 4800), and have included:

- information from the Council on plans for the Howbury site and community facilities in Slade Green;
- information about local drama clubs; activities for 13-19 year olds; North End Children's Centre; the mobile library service; the toddler group at Slade Green Christian Fellowship; changes to the process for booking rooms at the Howbury Centre; and courses run by Howbury Friends;
- publicity for various events, including those run by Slade Green library, by Howbury Friends, the Children's Centre; the RSPB and by ourselves;
- information about the status of the process relating to the proposals about local schools

Three Public Meetings have been held with presentations on new Bexley Link healthcare consultation arrangements, and two meetings looking at proposals about the future of the Howbury Centre site.

One weakness during the year has been the website, which has been hit by problems relating to my computer system - it would be good if a volunteer would come forward to help with this, so we are not reliant on one person.

Forum members continue to regularly attend Community Safety Partnership meetings about the area, in particular passing on information received about trouble spots in the area. And we ran a story-telling event for adults at Slade Green library, which will be repeated just before Christmas.

Forum members have also been involved as volunteers for TriForum, organising TriForum's mail outs to young people. TriForum is a joint 'youth arm' of Belvedere, Erith, Northumberland Heath Forums and ourselves. Unfortunately there has been no funding for TriForum events, and nothing much in sight - perhaps one event in partnership with another organisation for the February half term.

We anticipate that during the early part of the year, we will be involved in consultations about the future of the local schools, and an exhibition relating to the proposed new housing on the Howbury site. Additionally we would hope that there will be further consultation about the community facilities on the site, as strong concerns remain that these will be insufficient.

I'd like to thank everyone involved in the past year - Committee members, volunteers at events, people who attend public meetings, and (if re-elected), look forward to working with you all again this coming year!

Slade Green Community Forum Executive Committee 2009-2010: Roy Hillman (Chair/Treasurer, Plantation Road); John Eastaugh (Secretary, Slade Gardens); Gill Davies (Lincoln Road); Mel Hudson (Lincoln Road); Mandy Jarvis (Forest Road); Brenda Langstead (Craydene Road); Kevin McLaren (Hildren Drive); Brian Rodmell (Alderney Road).

Slade Green Community Forum Annual Report 9th December 2010

previous year ¹ :	<u>FINAL INCOME AND EXPENSE ACCOUNT OF SLADE GREEN COMMUNITY FORUM 2009/10</u>		
	<u>Income 2009/10</u>		
4.00	Donations	2.64	
	Trafford Hall / Funding for History of Policing event	890.00	
107.89	Interest on Scottish Widows account		
220.00	TriForum, restricted for provision of toilets at TriForum events		
	restricted funds received from Bexley Council for costs of consultation and consultation publicity		
520.50	about the future of community facilities in Slade Green		
1,536.79	restricted funds received from Bexley Council Small Grants Scheme (Breakdown for 2009-10: £242 Public Meetings; £808 Newsletter; £150 Insurance)	1,200.00	
2,389.18			Total Income 6 April 09 - 5 April 10 2,092.64
	<u>Expenditure 2009-10</u>		
99.33	* Admin	33.90	*
	Cost of underwriting 1940's dance event	250.00	
810.60	* Newsletter	601.40	*
150.00	* Public Liability Insurance	165.00	*
	Seniors Storytelling Event	58.97	
456.99	* Forum Updates	353.10	*
	History of Policing Event	584.48	
220.00	Toilets for TriForum events		
393.50	* Costs of General and other public meetings	108.00	*
75.00	* Costs of Executive Committee meetings		
520.50	Consultations/Publicity		*
172.20	Pumpkin Party		
18.00	* Memberships	18.00	*
2,916.12			Total Expenditure 6 April 09 - 5 April 10 2,172.85
	Outstanding liabilities and other funds owed ² as at 5 April 10		
	* Newsletter	217.20	
353.10	* Forum Updates		*
54.00	* Costs of General and other public meetings	149.34	*
33.90	Admin		
441.00	Total outstanding liabilities and other funds owed ³	366.54	
2,079.56	Total expenditure plus liabilities and other funds owed, less previous liabilities	2,098.39	
	* - Items treated as core expenditure for calculating the amount to be held in a Reserve Fund		
3,241.55	(as per Reserves Policy of holding reserve of 50% of total non-exceptional annual expenditure - the highest amount for each line of expenditure from each of the	2,777.87	
1,621	calculated Reserve Fund amount ¹	1,389	

notes

1. The Reserve Amount is a 'target amount' estimating what it would cost to run the Forum for six months, which the Executive Committee will consider at the Executive meeting following the AGM, and decide whether to match that amount in the actual Reserve Fund. Last year's was considered unusually high so the actual Reserve held remained £1048.

2. Other funds owed covers where cheques have been drawn but not yet debited, or where services have been received but not yet invoiced for

3. As at the date of the Annual Report, payments have been drawn to cover all of the liabilities outstanding at 5 April 10