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# HONOR OAK COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Worker Report



APRIL 1, 2017

## London Borough of Lewisham (Statistical Information)

### 2011 Census

Key statistics for the borough include:

- The total population of the borough is 275,900, an increase of 27,000 (9.8%) since the 2001 Census.
- The 2011 Census estimates indicate there are 116,000 households in the borough compared to 107,400 in 2001.
- London as a whole grew by 850,000 residents to a total population of 8,174,000.
- Lewisham is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Inner London borough in terms of population size and the 12<sup>th</sup> largest in Greater London.

### Points of interest:

- Among economically active residents part-time working and self-employment have become more common than in 2001.
- Whilst the most populous ethnic group remains White British, both the actual number and proportion of residents stating this as their ethnicity has decreased since 2001. The next biggest group is now Black African.
- As seen across Britain the proportion of residents stating they do not have a religion has increased to 27.2% of the population.
- More residents now live in accommodation which is privately rented, 24.3% of households compared to 14.3% in 2001.

Lewisham ranks as the 48th most deprived of all 326 local authorities, placing it in the 20% most deprived areas in England and has the highest proportion of children and young people (29.6%) and older people (25.7%) in economic deprivation in England ([Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2015](#)).

Lewisham's population is relatively young, with one in four residents aged under 19 years. The population aged 60 years and over represents one in eight people in the borough. This contrasts with England as a whole, where between one in four and one in five people is over 60.

Males comprise 49% of Lewisham's population, females 51%. These proportions are not expected to change in the next few years.

## **Honor Oak (The Community) In Brief (Template)**

Honor Oak Community Association (HOCA) manages Honor Oak Community Centre. The Centre provides a space for social, leisure and educational activity within the local community and is used by a number of diverse groups who are charged a subsidised 'community' rate. With the money raised by commercial hire, the Association is also able to provide activities to benefit the local community. Currently, HOCA funds a free weekly 2 hour 'Digital Discovery session for the over 55s, provide free holiday activities for children and young people and free Community events e.g. Annual Summerfest, Christmas Panto and recent Heart Health event. The Association partner with Living Waters Christian Centre who run a much needed and well attended Food Bank one evening per week at the Community Centre and also works in partnership with 60 Up CIC, a local organisation, to provide a weekly Friendship Club for the over 55s. The Association funds the sessional tutors and venue space for the group. Funding has recently been awarded from Telegraph Hill Ward Assembly to run a 'Just For Men' project for older men. Further, HOCA has recently started working in collaboration with Bridge The Gap Studios, a Social Enterprise that works with young people all over London to encourage and facilitate behavioural improvements. The Association is funding a 9 month innovative program for 14-17 year olds living primarily in the SE4/Honor Oak Estate area that not only works with the young people but with their parents also.

The Centre also hosts meetings for local groups eg Honor Oak Tenants and Residents Association and Telegraph Hill Community Network to which a representative from the Association usually attends.

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We are awaiting the outcome of an application made to Greggs Foundation for funding towards a Homework Maths Club.

An application for Awards For All funding has been drafted seeking funding for computers for a new and improved IT Suite.

An application has been drafted for Henry Smith for funding for a Community Centre Coordinator/Development Worker.

### **What makes Honor Oak Community Centre different from many other Community Centres?**

A very spacious hall

An IT Suite

A well equipped creche

Nice gardens to the rear

## **Mission & Vision Statements**

It is good to have a Mission & Vision Statement of no more than a couple of lines each. These statements can then be used to introduce who you are when providing overviews, writing funding applications etc.

A Mission Statement defines the company's business, its objectives and its approach to reach those objectives. A Vision Statement describes the desired future position of the company. Elements of Mission and Vision Statements are often combined to provide a statement of the company's purposes, goals and values.

## **Suggestions for Statements**

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Honor Oak Community Association (HOCA) is a registered charity committed to managing a vibrant and inclusive Community Centre providing a diverse range of activities to be enjoyed by all within our community.

### **VISION STATEMENT**

A vibrant Community Centre that provides, and secures and supports community and user groups who can provide, inclusive and relevant programs and services to improve individual and community physical, mental and emotional health and well-being.

To realise our vision we will:

- Manage and provide a thriving, welcoming Community Centre where all are made to feel included and safe whilst accessing the opportunity to learn, develop and engage in positive activities.
- Ensure the Centre is available for hire for private events
- Actively consult with our service users to ensure the activities provided are meeting needs and demands.
- Publicise the work of the Association to ensure people know about the activities being offered at the Centre and are able to access them or contribute to them
- Ensure that HOCA has at its heart a respect for the people it serves and expect to see that respect reflected in the local communities and beyond.
- Explore new ways to maximise income to ensure the sustainability and success of the Centre.

## **Charitable Objectives**

Our Objectives, as stated in our Constitution are to:

3.1 promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, nationality, race or of political, religious or other opinions, by associating together the said inhabitants and the statutory authorities, voluntary and other organisations in a common effort to advance education and to provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants;

3.2 establish, or secure the establishment of, a Community Centre and to maintain and manage the same (whether alone or in co-operation with any statutory authority or other person or body) in furtherance of the Objects;

3.3 promote such other charitable purposes as may from time to time be determined.

### **From these we draw the following Organisational Aims and Objectives:**

#### **Aims**

HOCA aims to manage a Community Centre that enables members of the community to maximise their potential and opportunities to improve their well-being and quality of life, and to specifically;

- Enable and empower older people to have a safe, healthy and enjoyable quality of life by reducing the risk of isolation and loneliness in older people, resulting in improved mental and general health and wellbeing for the individual.
- Increase opportunities to learning and provide facilities for children, young people and families to develop the confidence and skills required to reach their full potential in life
- Enable and empower young people to have a strong social and personal identity, achieve their potential and make a successful transition to adult life.
- Enable people to be better informed about issues that affect them and able to take actions to improve their lives through access to information, advice and guidance.

#### **Objectives**

- Run an accessible community centre for all ages and abilities
- Ensure a diverse range of User Groups

- Encourage and enable local people to take an active part in the delivery and development of all service delivery, development and evaluation.
- Improve access to information about the centre's facilities by working with the current service users and local community to develop marketing and promotion materials and activities.
- Organise and promote community, family and cultural events that encourage creative expression and community cohesion

## EVENTS

In the light of HOCA's aims and objectives, the following events were organised

Summerfest 2016

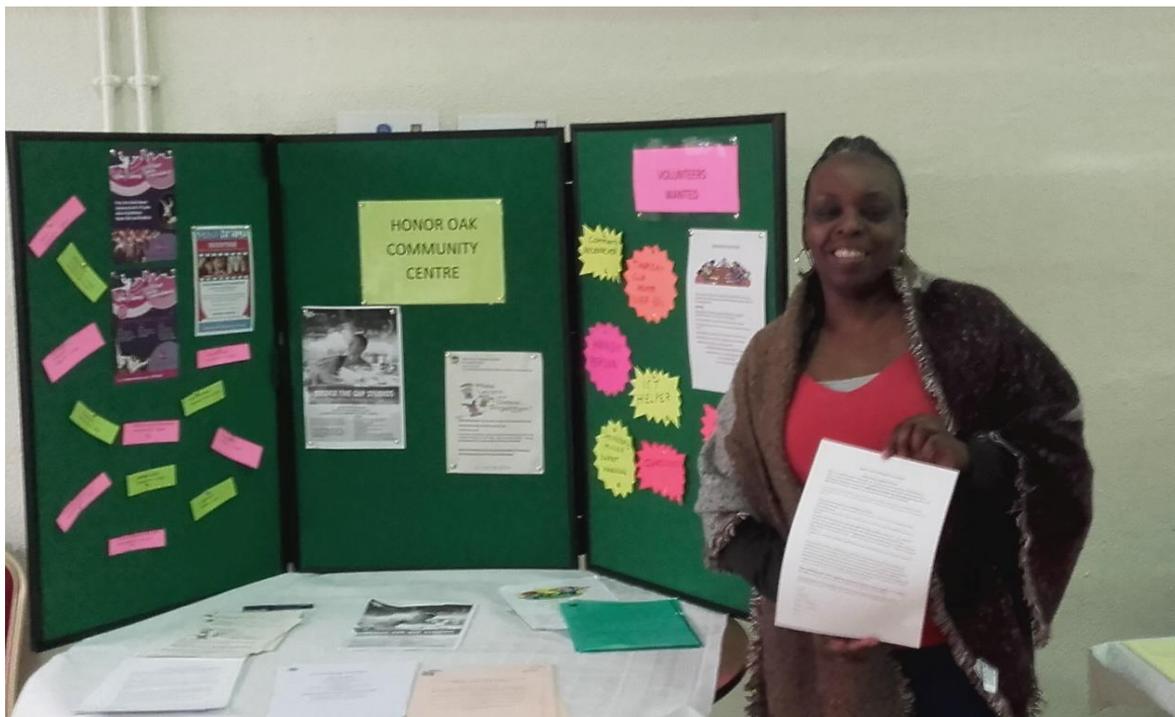
October Half Term Activities 2016

Community Christmas Panto Christmas 2016

Over 60s Christmas Party 2016

Heart Health Event February 2017

Maths Workshop for Years 5 & 6



Trustee Yvonne promoting the benefits of membership at the Heart Health Day in February

**Provisional Date for 2017 Summerfest: Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

## **Volunteer Community Researcher**

Felix Dyer was recruited in March 2017 as a volunteer Community Researcher. Felix comes to us with a wealth of Community Development experience. I have asked him to specifically look at community engagement. Below is a segment of the role description. The script in red is what Felix is currently working on.

*The Association seeks to recruit a volunteer researcher to build a profile of the needs of the wider community and Community Centre users. The role will involve:*

- Developing questionnaires in liaison with the manager;
  - Tick box options: opportunities, availability (weekend/daytime). Ask to keep details on file – contact directly.
- Conducting in-Centre and on-street surveys
  - At centre, current participants, at events, in interviews with key figures (trustees, TRA, community leaders (check demographics), programme leaders, at partners
- Recording and entering survey results on an electronic database;
  - Excel electronic
- Analysing data and feeding back results to the management team; and
- Raising the Centre’s profile to existing and potential sponsors.
  - Look what currently doing – link to those in same field or have contact – inc council services, social housing, tra, schools.
  - Mapping exercise of what is out there.

## **Projects**

### **Just For Men**

Attendance to the Just For Men project has been disappointing with only 2 men accessing the project and a further 3 expressing an interest but not attending. However, as the Facilitator is unwell, costs are being saved whilst ways are explored to grow attendance. The Community Development Worker will liaise with the Local Assembly Coordinator about extending the programme.

### **Over 55s Thursday Club (Partnership project)**

The Over 55s group continues to flourish. A total 35 older people currently access the club but do not all come at the same time. The current average weekly attendance is 10.

### **Top priorities for Telegraph Hill Assembly**

- Older people and intergenerational projects
- Cleaning up dirty streets, environment and ecology
- Neighbourliness, community activities, events and cohesion
- Community safety, crime and anti-social behaviour
- Parking, road safety and traffic calming

### **Top priorities for Crofton Park Assembly**

- Children, young people and older people
- The environment
- Health and well-being
- Improving community facilities
- Unemployment and skills development.

### **Onwards**

Plan and deliver a pilot Homework Club

Continued collaborative work with Bridge The Gap Studios

More involvement with the 2 Local Assemblies

Liaise with User Groups and the local community on the planning of 2017 SummerFest

Plan a programme of children & family activities for Summer 2017

Explore transport options for older people wanting to get to the Centre