



Website

September 2010 Newsletter

Dear Neighbour,

Nimby Events Ltd - Licensing application

There is an application to Lewisham Council which we have become aware of which we thought should be brought to the attention of members. Any comments must be made by **MONDAY 20th SEPTEMBER** to licensing@lewisham.gov.uk. Please note that grounds for objection under the Licensing Act must fall under one or more of the four licensing objectives:

- The prevention of crime and disorder
- The prevention of public nuisance
- The protection of children from harm
- Public safety

We have the following information:

Applicant: *Nimby Events Limited, Chislehurst*

Proposed site: *The area of Blackheath bounded by Shooters Hill Road, Wat Tyler Road, Goffers Road, Hare and Billet Road.*

This is much the same area as was occupied by last year's climate camp except that the site extends across Hare and Billet Road as far as the northern boundary of Hollyhedge House.

It is intended that a fence will be erected around the boundary of the site, with an entrance close to Whitfield's Mount.

Numbers: *25,000 expected to attend on each day*

Application: *Films, live music, recorded music, dance, supply of alcohol.*

Hours: *Premises open from 12 noon to 2300 on Saturday and 12 noon to 2230 on Sunday. Music will cease half-an-hour earlier, and sale of alcohol one hour earlier.*

Date: *Second week-end in September annually from September 2011*

The BVRG Committee has discussed this proposal, and based on the information available intends to object to this licensing application on the grounds of public nuisance and public safety. This objection is related to the supply of alcohol as noted above. Whether or not the event takes place will be discussed at the Blackheath Joint Working Party, and decided by the Council. One BVRG member contacted the applicant, who informed the member that he "is making presentations to the Blackheath Society and BVRG [in w/c 13th Sep]". Neither society has in fact received an approach from the applicant.

Save The Village Library

The petition to save the library now has over 4,000 signatures, including all three councillors and well-known local resident Glenda Jackson. The decision-maker as to whether we have a library or not is the Mayor of Lewisham, Sir Steve Bullock. Please lobby him:

Mayor's Office
Civic Suite
Town Hall

Catford SE6 4RU

Tel: 020 8314 6193

Email: steve.bullock@lewisham.gov.uk

The Mayor also has a website: <http://www.mayorsteve.co.uk/>

The next important step is a second public meeting about saving the library. Please put this in your diaries now:

Blackheath Concert Halls
Wed 13th October
7.30 p.m.

It is important that we get as many people along as possible.

In order to get the message across to the Mayor as forcefully as possible, you can also lobby the MP and councillors:

Heidi Alexander MP (Labour) heidi.alexander.mp@parliament.uk

Chris Maines (LibDem) CllrChris.Maines@lewisham.gov.uk

Amanda De Ryk (LibDem) CllrAmanda.DeRyk@lewisham.gov.uk

Kevin Bonavia (Labour) CllrKevin.Bonavia@lewisham.gov.uk

They have all expressed their support for a library in the Village, but more people contacting them can only help. Please encourage your friends to do so too.

There is an online petition at <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/save-our-blackheath-village-library.html>

Blackheath Village Library Users' Group now has a website at <http://www.blackheathvillagelibraryusersgroup.org>

There are three possible outcomes:

1. The library stays in the present location, possibly with the top floor rented out to reduce overall rental costs. This would require a continuing commitment from the Council;
2. Age Exchange is adapted to provide library and other facilities. This would require a capital contribution but a reduced continuing commitment from the Council;
3. There are no more library facilities in the Village. This is the money-saving option preferred by the Council.

Please give as much support as you can to retaining library facilities in the Village!