

IN FOCUS **FOREST GATE**

September 2011



Plans afoot to regenerate Forest Gate

In advance of a formal consultation to regenerate Forest Gate Town Centre, developer Obsidian is holding a public exhibition of its proposed plans on Thursday 22 September.

For the past four years, Obsidian has been in talks with Newham Council about how best to regenerate parts of Woodgrange Road, Earlham Grove and Sprowston Road. The initial proposals were presented at this year's Forest Gate Festival, where residents commented on the plans.

Feedback showed that residents were keen to see Forest Gate regenerated. Whilst shops were welcomed there was a call for more independent retailers rather than high street brands. The unique character and heritage of the area was also important to residents and there were concerns about the nature of the new housing proposed, particularly high rise apartments.

The proposed masterplan addresses all these points and sets out key elements of the development. These include:

- replacement of all community facilities in new and enhanced buildings



- new shops, whilst retaining the best of the existing offer, and the introduction of new retailers, cafes and restaurants

- significantly improved streets, including wider pavements and new crossings and space which reflect the Victorian character of the area

- the erection of a number of new buildings including a residential 26-storey tower, three three- to eight-storey buildings, three buildings of seven to 12 storeys and a replacement building for the Methodist Hall.

These proposals are still in the planning stages. If you would like to comment on aspects of the developments you should visit Durning Hall, Earlham Grove, on Thursday 22 September from 2-9pm. Staff from Obsidian will be there to explain their plans in more detail, answer your questions and note your comments.

**For more information visit
www.obsidiangroup.co.uk or
call 020 7499 1300.**

CONTACT US

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email infocus@newham.gov.uk



Community praise



Mayor Sir Robin Wales has praised Newham's community for the way residents have responded to appeals for information following the recent unrest.

A special edition of the Newham Mag, containing CCTV images of those involved in disturbances in Newham, has generated a number of arrests and numerous warrants. Around a third of the images have been identified thanks to information from residents.

Sir Robin said: "What we saw taking place in Newham and elsewhere across the country is completely and utterly unacceptable.

"Thankfully our borough was not as badly affected as others in London and elsewhere, because of the strength of togetherness and cohesion in our community."

If you can identify anyone involved in the disturbances call Newham Police on 020 8217 5481 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. More images can be seen on page 10 of the Mag and online at www.newham.gov.uk/cctv

CLEANING UP THE CHATSWORTH ESTATE



As part of an initiative to tackle dumped rubbish and fly-tipping in Forest Gate, a resident of the Chatsworth Estate has been issued with a fixed penalty notice of £80.

The resident was caught fly-tipping on the community green by a council street scene enforcement officer. As well as the fine, she was informed of the seriousness of the offence.

This is not the first time that a local person has been fined for dumping rubbish in the neighbourhood and the area is now constantly monitored.

Councillor Kay Scoresby,

community lead councillor for Forest Gate, said: "We have worked very closely with Swan Housing and the council's community safety division to ensure that the estate remains a safe and clean environment for everyone.

"We will prosecute and take appropriate action against anyone behaving anti-socially."

If you know anyone dumping rubbish or causing anti-social behaviour in your area, please contact the council's anti-social behaviour hotline on 0800 731 3300.

NEWHAM'S GCSE RESULTS IMPROVE YEAR UPON YEAR

The borough's schools are celebrating their best ever GCSE results with the number of pupils achieving A*- C grades increasing for the eighth year in a row.

This year's results are the biggest annual rise since 2004 and the percentage of young people achieving five or more A* to C GCSEs or equivalents including English and maths rose from 52 per cent in 2010 to 58 per cent this year. This is an increase of 6 per cent and a figure which exceeds this year's local authority target of 55 per cent.

St Angela's Ursuline School's pupils had a 78 per cent pass rate, Forest

Gate Community School achieved a 53 per cent pass rate and St. Bonaventure's School had 69 per cent of pupils achieving five or more A* to C GCSE grades.

Councillor Quintin Peppiatt, executive member for children and young people, said: "I'm delighted that our schools continue to show improvement in their results. It is a testament to the hard work of the borough's head teachers, teachers and staff.

"It is lovely seeing so many excited faces and knowing that our pupils will go on to do some excellent things in the future. This is the real face of young people in London."

PROBLEMS PARKING ON YOUR STREET?

Following concerns and complaints from residents about how difficult parking in their local streets is becoming, the council will soon be asking local people their views on whether a residential parking zone (RPZ) should be installed in their area.

There are 17 residential parking zones (RPZs) in operation across the borough with a number of different operational hours and days tailored to the needs of local people.

In an RPZ, all kerbsides are marked out as either a parking bay or by yellow line parking restrictions. People who do not live in the area can only park within an RPZ at



certain times. Permit holders are allowed to park their vehicle at any time within a permit holder bay in their area.

The consultation is due to start next month and will look at parking in Forest Gate (specifically Woodgrange Road towards Manor Park) and

Green Street West. Details of where you can view the plans and comment on the proposed scheme will be advertised in schools and on community notice boards.

To find out more about the proposal email chris.hanson@newham.gov.uk

COULD YOU BE NEWHAM'S NEXT YOUNG MAYOR?

Do you have big ideas about education, jobs, regeneration, young entrepreneurs and tackling crime?

Do you want to represent the views of one of the youngest populations in the UK?

The election for Young Mayor of Newham and Newham's Youth Council is open to any young person living in Newham between the ages of 14 and 18.

To be a candidate for Young Mayor of Newham you must be aged 14 on or before 7 September 2011 and younger than 18 on the final day of polling; 2 November 2011.

As Young Mayor of Newham, you will be the voice of young people in the borough. You will be representing their views, and making sure that they are taken into account when decisions are being made that affect them.

Being Young Mayor is a challenging but rewarding role. You will meet new people, develop as a person and be able to make a real difference to the young people of Newham.

If you need help completing the application form, or would like to speak to someone about the role, call the Young Mayor's office on 020 3373 8555 or email youngmayor@newham.gov.uk

YOUNG MAYOR 2011 YOUR VOTE COUNTS.
www.newham.gov.uk/youngmayor
@ym_newham

Nominations: 7-28 September 2011
Voting day: 2 November 2011

To apply or find out more visit the website.

Spotlight on... Safer Neighbourhood Teams



Safer Neighbourhoods Teams (SNTs) are about policing at a local level: residents working with police and partners to identify and tackle issues of concern in their neighbourhoods.

Following consultation with residents, from 30 September, your SNT will be changing. Under the changes SNTs will remain responsible for addressing local crime and safety concerns. There will be no reduction in the number of police constables (PCs) and police community support officers (PCSOs) within SNTs, so every ward

will still have at least five, some six.

However, SNTs can now share officers with their neighbouring wards in times of need. During these times, wards that are supporting their neighbours will have a minimum of one PC and one PCSO from its dedicated team to make sure there is still a permanent uniformed presence in every ward.

SNTs will also play a role in tackling anti-social behaviour in their neighbourhoods.

You can get involved with your local SNT by going to www.met.police.uk/teams/newham

WHAT'S ON FOREST GATE

Variety concert

St Edmunds Centre choir's fundraising variety concert on Saturday 1 October at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 (£5 concessions). The venue is St Edmunds Centre, 464 Katherine Road, Forest Gate, E7 8PN. For more information call Audrie on 020 8471 0223.

For even more things to do check out the What's On in Newham calendar, where you'll find listings for more than 6,000 events visit www.newham.com

If your group has an activity to promote please contact us on: 020 3373 2684 or email: infocus@newham.gov.uk

MEET YOUR LOCAL COUNCILLOR

Councillors out and about: If you would like a councillor to visit your community organisation, school, place of worship, meeting or event please call 020 3373 1540 or email syed.haque@newham.gov.uk
To email your local councillor write firstname.lastname@newham.gov.uk e.g. shama.ahmad@newham.gov.uk



Shama Ahmad



Paul Brickell



Ellie Robinson



Akbar Chaudhary



Leanora Cameron



Winston Vaughan

Forest Gate North Ward
Every Saturday (alternating)
10.30 - 11.30am
Durning Hall
Earlham Grove
Forest Gate, E7

Forest Gate South Ward
Every Saturday (alternating)
except Bank Holiday weekends
10.30 - 11.30am
The Gate, 4 - 20 Woodgrange Road
Forest Gate, E7

Need to talk to Mayor Sir Robin Wales? Being an elected mayor, Sir Robin is directly accountable to you. Look out for Question Time times and dates in the Newham Mag, visit www.newham.gov.uk/mayor or call 020 3373 0437.