



# **Golden Lane Estate Community Centre**

**- an Update from the Steering Committee**

For the last year, six residents of Golden Lane Estate — three leaseholders and three tenants — have been volunteering their time to meet regularly with both Corporation of London officers and with larger groups of GLE residents, in an attempt to represent the interests of the latter in the renovation and re-purposing of the estate's Community Centre.

Our aim is simple: to ensure that the future Community Centre operates in a way that ensures all groups on GLE are served by it. The estate is wonderfully diverse, with young and old, families and single people, workers from a range of professions including education, public service, retail, the creative industries, students, pensioners and many more, all living side by side and forming friendships. We want all members of our rich community to feel welcome in the Centre, and to reap the benefits of a wide range of activities.

The Centre, of course, needs to be financed. At present, it seems likely that City of London Community Education Centre (COLCEC) will take up residency in a section of the building. We view this positively, as it will help underwrite a significant portion of the Centre's operation. At the same time, we are cautious not to cede too much of the Centre's space to COLCEC at the expense of residents' ability to use it.

The Corporation of London still want to move the GLE estate office from the base of Great Arthur House to the Centre. We are opposed to this: our feeling is that the building is designated (as its name suggests) as a Community Centre, and its social functions do not sit happily with most of the functions of the estate management office. This issue is the subject of ongoing - yet good-natured! - discussions.

Our Steering Committee recently received a grant of £9670 from City of London 'Stronger Communities' Grant administered by City Bridge Trust, allowing us to instruct the social enterprise consultancy firm Locality to draw up a fully-costed business plan for how the Centre could be successfully run according to the community's vision. Locality have a long and successful track record of getting projects such as ours off the ground, and we are delighted to be working with them. If you receive a Locality survey asking for your views about the Centre, please do take the time to fill it in. These guys are on our side! You can also get in direct contact with the Steering Committee by emailing Sue Pearson on [sujpearson@gmail.com](mailto:sujpearson@gmail.com)

More news soon. For now, very best wishes,

Bill Clifford  
Annemarie Corbett  
Dawn Frampton  
Tom McCarthy  
Patricia O'Connor  
Sue Pearson