

Beechwood Village

NEWSLETTER

Issue 40: September 2021

www.swan.org.uk

www.beechwoodcommunity.co.uk

UPDATES FOR BEECHWOOD VILLAGE

Welcome to the summer issue of our Beechwood Village newsletter. This newsletter is to update you on the progress on site and to let you know about next steps.

While the Covid-19 pandemic has brought challenges over the past year to us all, we are continuing to work hard on the regeneration of Beechwood Village in line with government advice and in partnership with Basildon Borough Council, to deliver 564 new homes. To date, 67 new homes have been built at Beechwood West with a further 184 homes currently being constructed.

We would also like to remind you of our dedicated **Customer Involvement & Community Development team**. You may have already met some of the team who have been working throughout the public consultations to collect your feedback and thoughts. The team will continue to support residents through training courses and

learning skills such as customer service and general business skills, while also working with local groups and organisations.

Will Oldham (Community Development Officer) is your first point of contact for all things related to Community Development.

Will would love to hear from you and he can be contacted on 0787 2033403 or woldham@swan.org.uk

You probably know that we have a dedicated community space in the heart of Beechwood called '**The Beech Community Hub**'. The Beech is a venue for everyone and is the home of many groups within our community. It is an area where people come together and feel safe and at home. Now that Covid-19 restrictions have lifted, **The Beech** has been re-opened for regular activities such as boxing club, martial art lessons and young people's activities through multiple providers. For further information please get in touch with Will Oldham (as above).



The Beech Community Hub

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

We also want you to know that works can begin on the next phase of **Beechwood Village**.

Following our recent letter to some of you about the demolition of some existing homes on the site of Beechwood Village, selected properties on Lincoln Road, Wells Gardens and Rochester Way will be prepared for safe demolition. You will receive a further letter to tell you when works are due to start. For your peace of mind, all unoccupied properties will be protected against vandalism, theft and squatting by secure hoarded fencing erected around the site.

The health and safety of the communities we work with is really important to Swan and with these

security measures in place, we hope to avoid any anti-social behaviour (ASB) during this time but if any issues do occur, please firstly contact the police. For more information on how to report ASB, please visit <https://www.swan.org.uk/residents/help-advice/anti-social-behaviour-hate-crime/> or call the Swan switchboard on **0300 303 2500**.

While all possible measures will be taken to minimise disruption, as with all works of this type, there may be some limited noise, dust and vibrations during working hours. Noise and vibration monitors will be installed to make sure that this is minimal.

If you want to speak to us, please contact:

For Basildon residents:



Louise Humby – Basildon Borough Council, Project Manager, New Homes Programme, Development & Investment Team, Growth

Telephone: 01268 207919

Email: louise.humby@basildon.gov.uk

For Swan residents and private owners:



William Oldham – Swan Housing Association, Community Development Project Officer

Telephone: 01277 314391

Mobile: 07872 033403

Email: woldham@swan.org.uk

TRANSFORM & ACHIEVE



Abdullah Hossain is Swan's Resident Employment and Training Manager and has been running a skills and employment programme

for Beechwood residents with support from the Customer Involvement & Community Development team.

If you're currently unemployed, have been looking for work or your job has been affected by Covid-19 over the last year, we can help you with:

- One to one assessment of your skills and career options.

- Connect you with local job agencies to support you with securing work, training or volunteering opportunities.
- Build confidence to help your job search and interview performance.
- Offer you a range of free accredited e-learning courses that may help to increase your employment options.

If you would like to find out more please contact our Customer Involvement and Community Development team on 01277 844242 or involvement@swan.org.uk

BRINGING NATURE BACK

Having access to nature and the great outdoors is very important to everyone and especially for children's good mental health and wellbeing. Educating children and young people about how to protect our planet is an investment in the future for us and our children.

Swan Housing Association has partnered with 'Backyard Nature' at Beechwood Village and in Laindon to share simple, fun and free nature-based activities.

Children between the ages of 5 and 13 years old can sign up to become 'Backyard Nature

Guardians' to find green spaces that they can look after and call their own. The Guardians will also be set tasks throughout the year such as planting 'wild seed balls' to protect the bees, making sure the birds have enough food and water and the creation of bug hotels.

Are your children keen to become **Backyard Nature Guardians**? Please get in touch with our Customer Involvement & Community Development Team for further information and to register your interest. Email involvement@swan.org.uk or call 01277 844242.



**BE A
BACKYARD NATURE
GUARDIAN**

BACKYARD NATURE

"No one will protect what they don't care about; and no one will care about what they have never experienced."

Sir David Attenborough

THE CONSULTATION SHOP IS OPEN!

The Consultation Shop for Beechwood Village has re-opened its doors. Held at The Beech Community Hub **every Tuesday 10am - 1pm and Thursday 3pm - 6pm**, Beechwood Village residents are invited to drop in, speak to our team face to face about the future plans for the estate and ask any questions you may have.

As Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted, we are aware that we must move forwards with care to keep everyone safe. If you do not feel comfortable with meeting face to face or cannot do so due to other reasons, then do send your questions to us by telephone or email at any time.

For any enquiries relating to The Consultation Shop, please contact:

William Oldham – Swan Housing Association, Community Development Project Officer

By phone: 01277 314391 **By email:** woldham@swan.org.uk **By mobile:** 07872 033403



COMING SOON...

To help you stay up-to-date with the latest news and progress on this regeneration project, we're creating a new project website for the Beechwood community and residents.

This website will be updated regularly to share consultation documents and the latest designs, images and plans to keep you fully informed of site activity as we progress. Stay tuned for more information.

If you have an enquiry about the Beechwood Village regeneration, please contact us:

By phone: 01277 844242

By email: involvement@swan.org.uk

**all information correct at time of going to print*