

Community Hub at the former Lilian Baylis School

What Lambeth Council and its partners propose

February 2009

Built in 1964, the former Lilian Baylis School on Lollard Street is easy to recognise. Made up of distinctive two- and three-storey blocks, with courtyards in between, the site is grade II listed. It stopped being used by Lambeth Council in 2005 when the Lilian Baylis Technology School moved to its new home on Kennington Lane.

Since then the North Southwark and North Lambeth Sport Action Zone (SAZ) has used the site to run sports activities for all ages, from physical activity to healthy living. This has provided a safe and inclusive place for the local community.

Neighbourhood community organisations have also been providing education and training courses from the centre.

Lambeth Council, who owns the old Lilian Baylis School site, wants to work with partners to expand the community services already there. Local ward

councillors have been supportive from the beginning and want to see the buildings used to their full potential. Lambeth Council, Sport Action Zone, Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre and the All Nations Centre (ANC) are working together to discuss the long-term future of the site.



Councillor Stephen Morgan,
Kate Hoey MP and
Councillor Lorna Campbell

“As local councillors, we have been working hard with partners to create a place that is based in the community for the community, and with Council support is led by the community.”

Councillor Lorna Campbell,
Cabinet Member for Health and Care Services



Feedback received from the council's consultation for the Lilian Baylis Development Brief in 2005 and from the North Lambeth Expo in 2008 has been taken into account to develop these plans.

As the project is still in its early stages, the partners are developing a vision for bringing the site back into use and would like to hear what local residents think.

“... to create a community hub that is inter-generational and inclusive with activities based around sports, health, arts and culture, economic activity, community activities, education, childcare and the environment from morning to night.”



All Nations' Centre
The Apostolic Church



Who are the partners?

The **four** partner organisations are:

- Lambeth Council
- All Nations Centre (ANC)
- Sport Action Zone (SAZ)
- Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre.

Lambeth Council As part of the Future Kennington regeneration programme Lambeth Council wants to provide a community centre on the former Lilian Baylis School site. The council is committed to working with All Nations Centre, Sport Action Zone and Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre to create more facilities that will benefit the local community.

Sport Action Zone

Set up in 2000 by Sport England, the Sport Action Zone programme addresses the lack of sports facilities and activities in some of the most socially and economically deprived areas of the country.

Thanks to the hard work of Sport Action Zone and their partners, the former Lilian Baylis School is now a centre for physical activity, sport and healthy living, serving local residents of all ages. Working with the neighbourhood's community organisations, the centre has also been able to offer education and training courses which improve the employability of local people. Meanwhile, volunteering opportunities have given residents valuable real-life work experience.

One of the best things about the centre is that it brings together all sections of the community. For example, young people enjoy sports activities, from basketball to dance, whilst those with long-term health conditions, mental health problems or frailties caused by old age access the healthy living centre and specially designed sessions in the studio and gym. Sharing facilities in this way breaks down the barriers of prejudice and fear and builds understanding and respect.

"The work undertaken by Sport Action Zone in Kennington has been key to getting local youths involved in meaningful, enjoyable sporting activities and training that would otherwise not be available to them."

Alistair Sutherland, Acting Borough Commander for Lambeth, London Metropolitan Police



"I am a passionate supporter of community use of the former Lilian Baylis School site, with community support at the centre of the project."

Kate Hoey MP and Co-Chair of Sport Action Zone



2008 Lambeth Street Athletics finals at the Lilian Baylis Old School

Proposals for the community centre

So far, Lambeth Council and Sport Action Zone have effectively transformed a once derelict site into a community centre focused on sports, healthy living and physical activity.

Sport Action Zone's programmes have been hugely successful – approximately 60,000 residents access the centre every year and this number keeps growing. This is a shining example of partnership working and has already attracted numerous official visits – as diverse as Princess Anne, David Cameron MP and Michael Jordan. Sport Action Zone hopes to build on this success.

The ANC proposes to bring all of its existing projects together at the centre and allow for further development of other successful services and programmes to support local people from 'cradle to grave'.

Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre wants to continue to offer a high quality service. It has a creative and child-centred approach to learning with stimulating and fun activities like role-play and dance. Teaching children how to eat healthily through growing their own food and cooking it is one of the activities they run to promote children's well-being. Moving to the Lilian Baylis School site will ensure that the aspirations of young children and their families are nurtured and supported.

Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre

Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre provides high quality care, teaching and learning in a safe and stimulating environment for young children between the ages of three and five years. It is committed to ensuring that children reach their full potential.

The Centre works in partnership with parents, carers, the Local Education Authority, community organisations and providers to offer a variety of services for young children and their families.

"Our children are from a wonderfully diverse range of cultural, religious and social backgrounds. Embracing the values of their heritage is also integrated into daily learning."

Glenda King, Head Teacher, Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre



Awarded an "outstanding" grade at the last OfSTED inspection in November 2008, Ethelred Nursery School and Children's Centre is "providing an outstanding start to children's education".

All Nations Centre

The All Nations Centre (ANC) has been part of the fabric of life in Prince's Ward for 62 years. As part of the Apostolic Churches in the UK, they are a worshipping faith organisation serving within the wider community and have been delivering innovative projects which improve the quality of life and life chances of children, families and communities since 1990.

The community outreach and regeneration arm of the ANC is the Lighthouse Education Service (LES). This charitable organisation is committed to supporting children, young people and families – in particular vulnerable and disadvantaged children – to make a positive contribution to their community.

The main focus of their work is education and skills with activities ranging from online homework clubs and social events to language classes and volunteer training for community-based projects. Other activities the ANC provides include church worship; day nursery; after school club; Saturday school; education and activities for young people excluded from school, or at risk of being excluded; youth work; music classes; and keep fit classes.



“ANC’s existing services and facilities complement those of Sport Action Zone and the Ethelred Nursery and Children’s Centre and, through this partnership, I think we can provide an inspirational place for the local community to meet and participate in a range of inclusive social activities across all generations.”

Rev Victor Jibuike, All Nations Centre

What next?

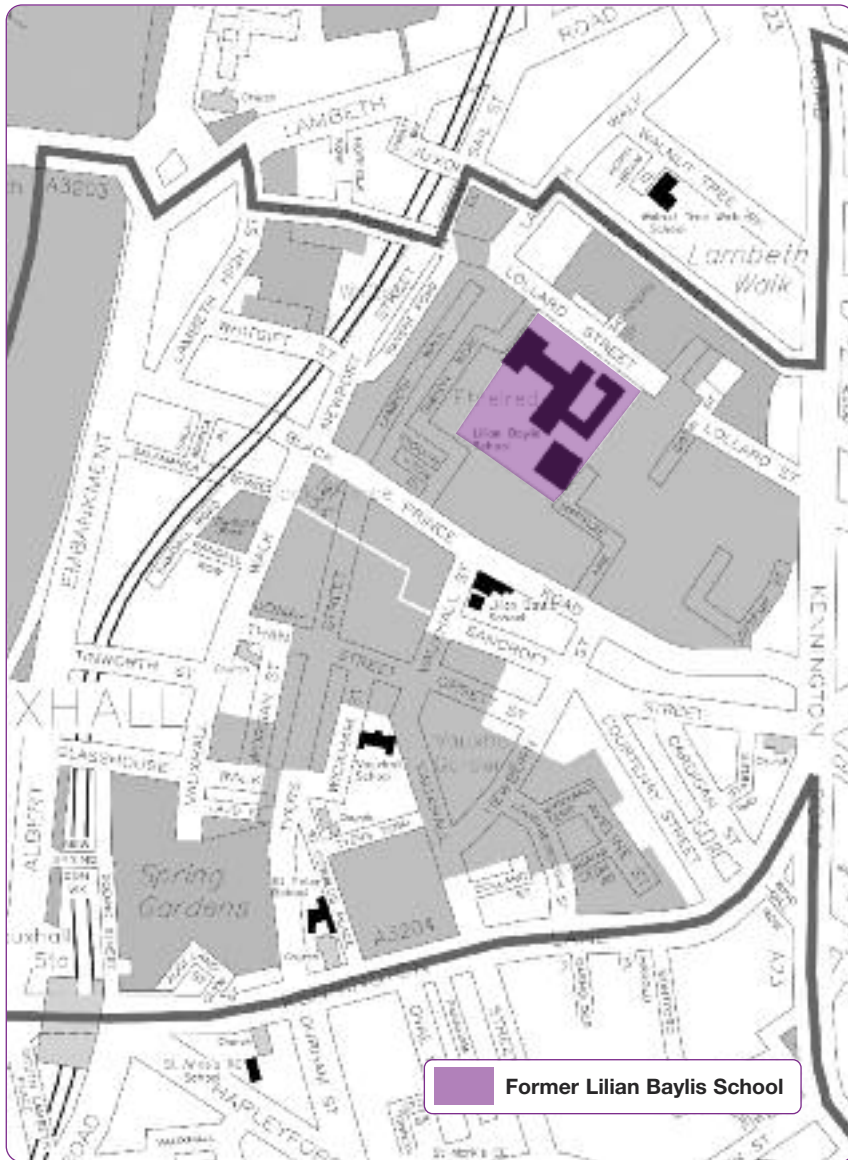
An outline of these exciting plans and how we will work together to achieve them will be taken to the council’s decision making body, in Spring 2009.

Further consultation and involvement of the local community will take place as the project develops. If you would like to receive email updates about the proposals please complete the form overleaf and send it to the freepost address.

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Lilian Baylis location



Your feedback

During the Lilian Baylis Development Brief consultation (2005) almost 4,500 leaflets were delivered to the local area and almost 17% were returned with feedback. Responses showed that:

- 80% of respondents were in favour of the site being reused for other purposes, 9% wanted the site to remain as a school and the rest were undecided
- Respondents considered the five most important uses for the site to be leisure (47%), followed by community uses (36%), housing (31%), education (29%) and employment (12%)
- In response to a list of concerns about any future development, the largest response indicated that addressing crime should be the top concern (32%).

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