



# The Express



Newsletter

**Copers Cope Area Residents' Association**

**JULY 2011**

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## **PUBLIC MEETING**

**8 pm Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

Beckenham Public Hall, 4 Bromley Road,  
Beckenham, BR3 5JE

**Open Meeting of the  
Copers Cope Area Residents Association**

Guest Speaker  
Councillor Peter Morgan  
talks about the Localism Bill

We hope you can join us

[www.coperscope.org.uk](http://www.coperscope.org.uk)

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central and northern Beckenham*

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## COPERS COPE AREA RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

### CONTACT US

Telephone: 020 8650 6239

Website: [www.coperscope.org.uk](http://www.coperscope.org.uk)

**Colin Watts (Honorary President)**  
**Nick Carter (Honorary Vice President)**

David Vevers <i>Chairman</i>	chairman@coperscope.org.uk
VACANT <i>Vice-Chairman</i>	vacancy
Louise Cooper <i>Express Production Editor</i>	louisefaycooper@yahoo.co.uk
Chloe-Jane Ross <i>Membership &amp; Advertising</i>	express@coperscope.org.uk
VACANT <i>Treasurer</i>	vacancy

### COUNCILLORS COPERS COPE WARD

Councillors can also be contacted by post:  
c/o The Civic Centre, Bromley, BR1 3UH

Cllr Russell Mellor	russell.mellor@bromley.gov.uk	020 8464 3333
Cllr Michael Tickner	michael.tickner@bromley.gov.uk	020 8313 4422
Cllr Stephen Wells	stephen.wells@bromley.gov.uk	020 8313 4422

### MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, BECKENHAM

Robert Stewart MP	robertstewartmp@parliament.uk	020 8650 1944
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### LONDON ASSEMBLY MEMBER

James Cleverley	james.cleverley@london.gov.uk	020 7938 6571
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# YOUR RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION NEEDS YOU!



We are seeking volunteers to assist us in monitoring and informing residents on local issues.

There are still some areas where we need help.

- **Roads, Transport and Road Safety** - local transport services, traffic and road safety, provision of street furniture, parking, street services (street cleaning, cutting of verges, leaf and snow clearance).
- **Environment** - refuse and recycling, litter, fly-tipping, graffiti, dog fouling, reduction in local carbon footprint and trade emissions.
- **Education, Children and Young People** - school admissions and educational standards, special education needs, early years development, family social care services, further education.
- **Sporting and other leisure activities** - local availability and potential for development of arts, crafts, sports, youth clubs and cultural activities.



Do you have an interest in these areas? Do you already participate in local forums on these issues? If so can you help us?

Helping with your local community doesn't necessarily require you to join the Committee or attend Committee meetings. We would love to welcome you informally. For further information please ring our Chairman, David Vevers, on 020 8650 2078.

**All contributions no matter how big or small, on any area would be greatly appreciated.**

**CCARA PUBLIC OPEN MEETING WEDNESDAY 6 JULY 2011  
BECKENHAM PUBLIC HALL**

Address by Councillor Peter Morgan FRICS MCIArb - Localism Bill



Commencing at 8 p.m.

CCARA is privileged that Councillor Morgan has agreed to give the association a talk, principally on the subject of what the implications of the **Localism Bill** are likely to be for individuals and for voluntary associations such as ours.

This weighty Bill is the piece of legislation (scheduled to become law around November this year) most linked to the “Big Society” agenda of which we have heard so much - but possibly understand so little. The legislation will, at least in theory, offer the opportunities for building individual and community capacity for self-determination and is particularly important in the spheres of planning, local services and housing.

Councillor Morgan is a family man with a political career spanning four decades intertwined with his professional work as a Chartered Surveyor specialising in valuation and rent review work and as an Arbitrator on retail property. He has been very active in voluntary work over the years and has wide sporting interests - formerly cricket, rugby and hockey and now golf and sailing.

He currently holds the title of Portfolio Holder for Renewal and Recreation within the Council and is Chairman of the Bromley Economic Partnership and other Committees of the Council. In addition he is active on the Greater London Enterprise, a representative of the London Councils Culture, Tourism and 2012 Forum, London Councils Economic Development Forum and the Orpington Town Centre Steering Group.

The CCARA is hopeful that we will get a good turnout for what promises to be a thought-provoking, instructive and interesting evening and we look forward to extending a warm welcome both to the Councillor and to the public.



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## CRIMES IN COPERS COPE APRIL 2011



**METROPOLITAN  
POLICE**

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Crime type	Crime count	Crime rate
Total notifiable offences	78	5.48
Residential burglary	4	0.28
Burglary other	5	0.35
Theft of motor vehicle	2	0.14
Theft from motor vehicle	17	1.19
Robbery business	0	0.00
Robbery personal	3	0.21
Violence against the person	14	0.98
Most serious violence	0	0.00
Anti-social behaviour	45	3.16

### Last three months trend

Area	February	March	April
Copers Cope	46	50	45
<u>Bromley</u>	853	954	1169
<u>MPS</u>	32106	35815	40943

### Nearby wards

Ward▲	Crime count	Crime rate
<u>Bellingham</u>	70	5.13
<u>Bromley Town</u>	100	6.90
<u>Clock House</u>	28	1.78
<b>Copers Cope</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>3.16</b>
<u>Downham</u>	71	4.96
<u>Kelsey and Eden Park</u>	121	8.20
<u>Penge and Cator</u>	73	4.37
<u>Shortlands</u>	11	1.18

Source: "Crime in your local area" map link, Metropolitan Police Service, Bromley - Copers Cope Safer Neighbourhoods Team,  
<http://www.met.police.uk/teams/bromley/coperscope/index.php>





**[www.traderregister.org.uk](http://www.traderregister.org.uk)**

We all hear stories of how someone has had work carried out on their property, only to be ripped off or left with an unfinished job. The Trader Register has been set up by the Safer Bromley Partnership, driven by a determination to help Bromley residents locate decent and reliable home improvement traders.

Whilst the Trader Register is not an approval scheme, consumers can use the register to find a trader that has made a commitment to fair, honest trade and providing good customer service. All traders on the scheme have had their work checked out by a Bromley Council Trading Standards Officer and in the unlikely event of a customer being unhappy with work carried out the trader will work together with Trading Standards for a fair resolution.

The Trader Register website also has a sample building contract which we advise consumers to use. Once you have selected a trader and the work has been completed please return to [www.traderregister.org.uk](http://www.traderregister.org.uk) to leave comments and rate the work carried out. This helps future consumers make an informed decision.

If you do not have access to the website you can call 020 8464 3333 quoting 'trader register' for details of traders on the register.

### **Are you a local trader?**

If you are a local reliable trader looking to join the scheme you can do so by visiting the website. The Safer Bromley Trader Register is a free scheme to join. Traders will need to supply three referees and meet the criteria set on the website.

**saferbromley**  
partnership

## FUN DAY BECKENHAM GREEN 10 SEPTEMBER 2011 DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Think Count Basie, Nat King Cole, Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers. Think Goodnight Irene, Let's Face the Music and Dance, I've Got You Under My Skin. Think Balalaika, Swing Along. Think Rose-Marie, Show Boat, Swing Time. Think Roy Orbison, Engelbert Humperdinck, Bill Wyman, Kris Kristofferson, Buddy Holly, Tommy Steele. Think George V, Edward VIII, George VI.

What is the common link?

I think you've got it!

You've really got it! 1936.

Coincidentally the year that Copers Cope Area Residents' Association was formed!! And to mark the occasion of the 75th Anniversary of our founding in style we have formed a partnership with the Beckenham Town



Centre Management Team in organising a Fun Day on Beckenham Green from 11.00 a.m. till 5 p.m., principally for children and parents, which will include a Mini-Funfair, music, dance and entertainment featuring local performers together with a number of fun sporting activities in

conjunction with local sports clubs. As part of the festivities we also hope to have a raffle and tombola on the day.

This represents advance notice of the Event but we hope to give much more detail leading up to the date. We would like to showcase local talent. If any local individual or group feels competent about performing music, singing or dance in front of a large crowd in the open air please contact Peter Dow Tel: 020 8650 7967 to register your interest and we will see if we can fit you into the programme. We also have in mind a Tug-of-War Competition to take place during the afternoon and are looking for Teams of under 7 year olds along with corresponding Teams of Dads to compete on the Senior circuit. I think these will probably come mainly from schools in the area but if you think you have a winning combination contact Peter as soon as possible.

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## **NEW: ART STUDIO IN BECKENHAM**

By Malcolm C.Llewellyn.



After some considerable time of consultation and reviews Bromley Council has granted Citygate Church permission to develop the Grade 2 listed Art Studio in Beckenham Road (adjacent to Beckenham Library). Citygate will reopen the Studio this summer after extensive refurbishment. It will open with a Dance Studio 6 days a week, run by professional instructors. A structured timetable

for classes will be available for 4 year olds up to senior citizens. A small fee is payable and refreshments will be available.

Future activities will include Art Classes, Drama Groups, Musical Rehearsals and Performances

## **FATHER MALCOLM AT ST. GEORGES CHURCH**

By Malcolm C.Llewellyn.



Father Malcolm became Rector of St. George's Church Bromley Road Beckenham in November 2002. Before being ordained in the Church of England he was a professional musician performing on various instruments in numerous venues . After establishing himself at St George's he set up with a group of like-minded associates St George's Chamber Orchestra. He thoroughly enjoyed the many festivals at St. George's - the

main religious ones at Christmas and Easter and the annual St. Georges Festival (of which this year's edition has just taken place).

He took up his new Position as Assistant Chaplain at University Hospital Lewisham in November 2010, and was promoted to Trust Chaplain in April 2011. He hopes to complete a degree in Health Care in June 2011. He is thoroughly enjoying his new career and is very pleased that the Church of England has allowed him to remain living in the Copers Cope Ward.

### NEW CASES AND UPDATES ON EARLIER APPLICATIONS

#### **125 Park Road**

An application was refused in early November 2010 to demolish the existing buildings and erect a four storey block comprising 9 flats and a two storey block comprising 3 business units (Class B1) and 12 parking spaces. This refusal is now subject to appeal and the CCARA has written to the Inspectorate to support the Council in contesting the appeal on grounds that this overdevelopment would be both unsuitable for the site and cramped for occupants and that size and bulk together with increased traffic movement could create noise and disturbance detrimental to amenities of adjacent and near neighbours. The Appeal Hearing has been listed for 24<sup>th</sup> August.

#### **Land Rear of 86-94 High Street:**

On 30<sup>th</sup> March an application was lodged for an extension of time for implementation of consent granted on appeal in 2004 (despite considerable opposition from local residents and strong objection by the CCARA) for a 3/4 storey block of 39 flats with 32 parking spaces. At this stage there appeared to be no request for changes to the original scheme but in May the developer held a consultation exercise at the Beckenham Halls with a view to a revised application to reconfigure the site. Many people visited the exhibition on the day including a number of representatives of the CCARA and in general there were comments that a revised layout might be more acceptable. As there is an extant appeal consent, there is little doubt that development of some kind will take place, so changes to create a more open appearance might be considered the lesser of two evils.

#### **Land Rear of 91-117 Copers Cope Road (The Old Nursery)**

A revised application lodged in August 2010 for an already approved scheme could have enabled 103 and 105 Copers Cope Road to be retained on the frontage but was subsequently refused on grounds of unsatisfactory access arrangements and traffic and pedestrian safety. Site clearance has taken place over the past few months and a further revised application to allow for some reconfiguration of the site was approved at a Council Plans Committee on 9<sup>th</sup> June.

## **66 and 68 Park Road**

In recent years there have been a number of applications for a large block of flats on each of these sites. All were either withdrawn or refused but written appeals were lodged in March against the most recent refusals. Although the LBB Planning Appeals department had confirmed on 15th June that the Inspector was unlikely to make site visits before July and it would therefore be some weeks before the outcome was known, the inspector has indicated that the decisions were taken on 21st June, presumably without the site visits! The appeals are upheld for both sites with planning consents granted in accordance with the refused applications and each with an award of costs against the council. Costs can be awarded where the inspector agrees that the council has "behaved unreasonably" and therefore caused unnecessary or wasted expense to the applicant. A circular issued in 2009 explains that costs are justified where the decision makers cannot show reasonable planning grounds for a decision contrary to the council officers' professional advice; sadly this decision comes too soon for proposed new legislation to support decision-making at a local level.

The inspector has also commented that whilst density targets have been removed from national housing policy, local planning authorities may wish to set out a range of densities across the local plan area but in taking the appeal decision had found no evidence that maximum and minimum density levels set out in the Bromley 2006 Development Plan have now been abolished. One would have thought that more recent national policy would take precedence. The inspector has stated also that there is no persuasive evidence to indicate an overriding need for family homes in this area - reports on other appealed sites in the borough suggest that this comment could well be open to dispute by members, officers and local residents. Meanwhile, following more recent decisions at council's plans committees, both sites have alternative consent for terraced housing; since some quite spacious detached houses and a number of more modest dwellings still remain in Park Road, many people may feel that that proposals for housing would be more in context with the surroundings; probably the financial aspects are more likely to influence to the developer.

## **The Beckenham Kent County Cricket Ground**

Many people who live fairly close to the cricket ground will have become aware that representatives of Leander Sport and Leisure (who own the site) have been in pre-application discussions with local residents on their intended proposals to improve facilities and ensure greater financial viability for the club. We are told that all discussions to date have been on

the basis of accommodating as many requests and concerns as practicable prior to the formal application and we understand that Leander have already made a number of revisions to initial plan drawings to take account of views expressed by consultees. The CCARA has received a number of e-mail messages both from people who would wish for our support and from those who have very strong objections to any kind of development. However, until a formal application is submitted to the Council it would be inappropriate for the CCARA to make any comment. Nevertheless we are seeking to obtain as much advance information as possible and the CCARA Chairman and the former Planning Liaison Rep (who had many discussions with Leander in the 1990s, both during the early stages of development on the former Lloyds playing fields and prior to the housing development at the corner of Worsley Bridge Road and Stumps Hill Lane) met on site with the Chairman of Leander and his co-director to learn about the proposals at first hand. But, although it is possible to appreciate proposed changes to layout of the grounds and the general aims to improve club facilities, the CCARA Executive is currently waiting for Leander to provide further detail, more specifically on the height, bulk and general external appearance of any new buildings. When more information becomes available watch this space!

### **St Paul's Church, Brackley Road**

Our regular Sunday services:  
weekly 8am, 10:30am, 6:30pm &  
4pm on the 3rd Sunday each month.

We would be delighted to welcome  
you to the following events

Male Voice Choir ~ July 23rd  
Beetle Drive ~ September 17th  
Back to Church Sunday & Harvest  
Festival ~ September 25th  
Bromley Youth Orchestra ~ Oct 15th  
Quiz Night ~ November 26th

For further details please go to  
[www.stpaulbeckenham.org.uk](http://www.stpaulbeckenham.org.uk)  
Or contact the Church Administrator  
020 8650 0501

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Activities during the week include:  
A male voice choir, a Bridge Club,  
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class and Townswomen's Guild  
(More details call 020 8650 0501)

### **St Paul's Pre-School**

Vacancies from September  
Contact Leader Sharon Gray  
020 8650 4281 (term-time)  
Or 07878 744 472

## UPDATE: COUNCIL SPENDING ON PARKS

Bromley council advise that support for parks is being maintained despite savings being made. The council has committed to maintain support for "Friends of Parks" initiatives and to continue funding park security through their current contractor, Ward Security.

However, the Council's Parks and Greenspaces Service will be restructured to create a saving of £300,000 a year. The number of staff will be reduced from 46 to 39. A single parks ranger team will operate across all parks and open spaces instead of having separate teams staff for specific parks. There will no longer be a team of rangers based at Crystal Palace Park, Ward Security will be based at the park and will patrol, undertaking the 'locking duties' at night. This will mean that Crystal Palace Park will be managed in the same way as other parks.

The new Parks and Greenspace Service will consist of three teams:

- Contracts - covering grounds maintenance, cemeteries, trees, play and infrastructure
- Community and Development - covering countryside and urban park development, friends of parks, fundraising, healthy lifestyles and the BEECHE at High Elms
- Ranger Services - multi-purpose rangers covering all landscape sites, event management and security.

Councillor Colin Smith, Executive Councillor for Environment, said "We will continue to maintain and improve our parks and open spaces inspite of the difficult decisions we have to take. We are facing unprecedented financial pressures which have been extensively outlined elsewhere. We have a dedicated team of staff and Friends of Parks volunteers and we are grateful for their continued support. We are working hard to minimise any potential impact and are hopeful that any compulsory redundancies can be contained to very low single figures. We will also continue to invest in the Friends of Parks network and maintain parks and open spaces that we all enjoy".



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## BEC FEST

By Nick Cater



For those who know of only one Beckenham author - Enid Blyton, who lived at Clockhouse Road and Chaffinch Road - the town's first literary festival is a chance to meet and talk to more local writers than they could have envisaged.

The event, called Bec Fest ends at Beckenham Library on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> July with two well-known authors giving behind-the-scenes accounts of their work.

At 11 a.m. the Crystal Palace novelist Chris Bowden (*The Blue Book*, *The Yellow Room*) will discuss writing literary mysteries, and at 3.30 p.m. the prolific Malorie Blackman, author of 50 books and many TV dramas, talks about such creations as her *Noughts and Crosses* series, *Pig Heart Boy* and *Byker Grove*.

This winds up two weeks of talks, writing workshops and debates for all age groups at the Library, mostly in the afternoon and early evening, covering not only books but self-publishing, illustrating, travel writing, sport and war reporting. Tickets are £1 at the Library enquiry desk.

The BBC's David Loyn, who has recently been on our screens reporting from the embattled Libyan city of Misrata, was due to speak on July 7<sup>th</sup> about his craft and its history, as well as his book *Butcher & Bolt*, about Afghanistan. A week earlier another journalist, Daily Mail sports writer Brian Scovell, was answering questions about stars like Bobby Robson and Brian Lara.

Writers workshops are on creative writing (run by former Spare Rib poetry editor Zoe Fairbairns on July 5<sup>th</sup>), short story writing (run by Karen McLeod, author of the award-winning *In Search of the Missing Eyelash*, on June 27<sup>th</sup>). July 2<sup>nd</sup> is devoted to children's authors including Alex Milway and Gary Northfield. .

Murder mysteries, poetry, work by the Beckenham Scribblers and many others in the neighbourhood are also on the menu. You can see the full

programme online and get further information via the contact details below:

Web: [www.bromley.gov.uk/downloads/file/836/becfest\\_programme](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/downloads/file/836/becfest_programme)

Email: [Beckenham.library@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Beckenham.library@bromley.gov.uk)

Phone: 020 8650 7292

## **TESCOS WITHDRAWS**

Residents who took the trouble to write to Bromley Council objecting to a request for extended hours to sell liquor at the Tesco Express near Beckenham War Memorial have been rewarded: Tesco has withdrawn its application, which had been due for hearing on June 30th.

Tesco got its liquor off-licence only last autumn, after quickly accepting limits like not selling alcohol until after 10 a.m., when the schoolchildren are mostly off the streets, and not pushing too hard with prominent low-price promotions. But they came back this spring asking to start selling at 8 a.m. and set the restrictions aside. The public reaction presumably gave them second thoughts.

## **TAKE CARE... BE AWARE...**

Recent advice from our local police is that anyone getting off the tram at Beckenham Junction should be particularly mindful of their personal possessions and safety.

If a crime is actually being committed and/or someone is in immediate danger, ring 999.

For all non-emergency matters contact your local Police office on:

Phone: 020 8721 2772

Email [Coperscope.snt@met.police.uk](mailto:Coperscope.snt@met.police.uk)

Information centre: 0300 123 1212



# The Beckenham Public Hall

4 Bromley Road, Beckenham BR3 5JE

The Public Hall Beckenham, located close to Beckenham town centre, is a grade II listed Victorian building with a character and charm of its own. Its location and facilities include a purpose built licensed bar making it an ideal venue for wedding receptions, parties (including 18th birthdays) dances, clubs, meetings, concerts and theatrical productions.

## The Public Hall also offers the following activities:

- **prime**  – Exercise classes designed especially for the over 60's to achieve a healthier lifestyle in a relaxed social environment. Mondays 9.30am-10.30am and Thursdays 10am-11.30am £3 per session
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## LOCALISM BILL UPDATE

By Peter Dow

An earlier edition of The Express dealt in some detail with the content of the Bill, which gives new rights for local communities to become more involved in local affairs and, theoretically at least, frees up professionals on the front line of public services to do things in response to what communities need rather than to government demands. People will be able to come forward to form neighbourhood forums and produce a neighbourhood plan for developments (houses, shops and businesses, for example).

The Bill has passed through the Commons and is currently with the Lords being examined line-by-line in the Committee Stage. After the Third Reading in the Lords both Houses will consider a series of amendments as the Bill goes back and forth between the two Houses in the so-called “Ping Pong” process up to the stage where both houses reach agreement on a final version. The Bill is scheduled for Royal Assent in November this year.

During the process of the Bill a number of amendments have already been proposed to strengthen strategic planning, by bolstering the duty to co-operate and to widen provisions on neighbourhood planning to make neighbourhood forums more inclusive of both local people and local businesses. This will involve a shift of resources, but how the redistribution will come about is not entirely clear. A duty is to be imposed on developers to consult local communities before they lodge proposals for large-scale developments and CCARA can already see some evidence of this happening on the ground in advance of the new legislation.

On the other side of the coin there is some fear that unless there are sufficient safeguards collaboration issues may arise with, for example, the potential blocking by these forums of much needed social or economic development for purely selfish reasons. Many different communities and interest groups can exist in the same physical area but all with a valid claim to be representative of the community. And will the individuals making up the forums have the skills, resources and staying power to match their enthusiasm? A number of ambiguities and contradictions in the localism theme are thus yet to be resolved.

As advertised elsewhere in the current issue Councillor Peter Morgan is speaking to the Association on aspects of this Bill on 6 July at 8 p.m. at Beckenham Hall and it is to be hoped that those attending will gain a

better insight into some of the difficulties associated with it. The new law is certainly going to have a significant impact on the way in which community affairs are devolved, handled and delivered by the local authority and is therefore of great relevance to the residents of Copers Cope and the Borough generally.

## 10 THINGS SAID ABOUT THE LOCALISM BILL

1. It will establish the "communities right to challenge" to help community groups run local services if they want to. The council will have to consider any group who express an interest in taking over council run services.
2. It will be easier for community groups to buy buildings (such as pubs, shops and libraries that are put up for sale).
3. Council tax increases above the ceiling set by government can be vetoed by local residents.
4. Local residents will be able to trigger referendums on any local issue to make their views known (the result of the referendum may not be binding).
5. There will be more power for councils and parish councils to run any services the way they want (away from central government) through "power of competence" in the Bill.
6. It will be a criminal offence for councillors to deliberately withhold or misrepresent an interest.
7. Government housing targets to build three million homes by 2020 will be scrapped.
8. The "community infrastructure levy" that local councils set on developers will ensure some money goes directly to the neighbourhood where developments have been built, so it can be spent on local facilities.
9. Parish councils and community groups can set-up local planning rules, which can then be voted on in local referendums.
10. Communities will also get a "right to build", this will enable developments to be built if 50% of local residents vote to do so in a referendum (and certain safeguards are met also).

## NEW MAYOR OF BROMLEY



On Wednesday 18 May 2011 at Bromley Councils Annual Meeting Councillor David McBride of Cray Valley East ward was elected Mayor of Bromley. Mayor McBride duly appointed Councillor Reg Adams of Clock House ward as Deputy Mayor.

Councillor McBride said: "I'm very pleased to be appointed Mayor and to represent the London Borough of Bromley. We have much to be proud of in the borough and I look forward to meeting as many people as possible over the coming year and highlighting the crucial work of the third sector in our community, as well as the important contribution made by the private sector. I'm looking forward to focusing on raising awareness of my chosen charity - the Biggin Hill Battle of Britain Trust - so that it gets an extra boost during the year."

You can follow the Mayor on Twitter, the Mayor said "With more and more of us using Twitter for commentary and information I think it is a powerful way of telling people what's coming up and sharing my first hand experiences about the work we will be doing to support a range of groups, schools, charities and individuals during these next twelve months. Added to that, it is a great way of getting feedback from residents about the work of our Mayoral office."

Residents can twitter the Mayor at  
<http://twitter.com/#!/MayorofBromley>

Also at the AGM the following Councillors were appointed to the Executive.

Councillor Stephen Carr	Leader of the Council
Councillor Colin Smith	Deputy Leader & Environment
Councillor Robert Evans	Adult & Community Services
Councillor Ernest Noad	Children & Young People
Councillor Tim Stevens	Public Protection & Safety
Councillor Peter Morgan	Renewal & Recreation
Councillor Graham Arthur	Resources

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The Association's AGM was held on 30 March 2011. During the AGM Mr. Ian Muir, a local historian presented an enjoyable slide show of some 150 slides depicting scenes of Beckenham, some of which dated back to the 1860s, comparing them with present day views. Mr. Muir had kindly gave his presentation free of charge but asked that, should anyone wish to make a voluntary contribution at the end of the evening, he would like such proceeds to be given to a pet charity of the CCARA's choice. £43.70 was raised

The following notable points were raised at the AGM:

- The Chairman urged volunteers to come forward to help the Association wherever possible.
- The Association's accounts were approved.
- One nomination had been received for the chairperson of the Association, Mr. David Vevers. Mr. Vevers was duly confirmed and elected as Chairman for the coming year.
- **The motion to increase member subscriptions to £3 p.a. for individuals and £1.50 p.a. for affiliates with effect from 1 January 2012 was proposed and agreed.**
- One member raised a question about the CCARA's position on the proposal that parish councils be re-established if 10% of the population so wished in areas where they had formerly been in existence. The Association has taken no formal position at this stage pending further information about the "Localism Bill", however the Association urges members to make known their opinions.
- Councillor Michael Tickner, who was present at the meeting, gave an update on the threatened closure of the Beckenham public conveniences. He advised that the matter is still under review on the local council. He is however more hopeful that they will be kept open.
- Councillor Wells, who was present at the meeting, gave an update on the situation of the Beckenham Convenience Store. Due to continued trading of alcohol after hours, its licence has been totally revoked. The store may appeal to the Magistrates Court.

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