

Community

July 2018

newsletter for the community and voluntary sector in Redbridge

Could you stand for the Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership?

Can you represent the voluntary and community sectors' interests with Redbridge Council and other public sector partners? If so, think about standing as a representative for the sector on the PaVSP.

What is the PaVSP? What does it do?

The "Public and Voluntary Sectors' Partnership" (PaVSP) is made up of five voluntary and community sector representatives, five local Councillors and a single representative from each of NHS Redbridge (the Clinical Commissioning Group), NELFT, the Fire Service and the Police. The Partnership meets up to four times per year to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern that specifically affect the voluntary and community sectors. Key issues that the partnership is likely to focus on this year include:

- Redbridge Council's asset review (including discussions about premises for the voluntary sector)
- A co-produced review of Redbridge Council's future funding of the voluntary sector after 2020

- A "refresh" of the Redbridge Compact, the agreement between the local voluntary and public sectors about how we work together.

Council officers and staff from RedbridgeCVS support the work of the Partnership members, and RedbridgeCVS manages these elections on behalf of the voluntary and community sector.

We encourage as many people as possible to stand

We would like to encourage as many of you as possible to apply, to ensure that a good cross-section of local groups can be represented in the membership so that

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together they can confidently reflect a wide range of the views, wishes and needs of local voluntary and community sector organisations.

How to stand, and how the election works

Any voluntary or community group wishing to nominate a candidate should complete a nomination form. You can download this at www.redbridgecvs.net/pavsp18, or you can contact Colin Wilson at colin@redbridgecvs.net or on 020 3874 4135 to request that a form be emailed or posted out to you. The deadline for us to receive nominations is noon on Thursday 30 August 2018. The nomination form invites you to write up to 200 words on why you/ your nominee should be elected.

After receiving nominations, we will set up an online voting system. We will publish the names of candidates, the name of the organisation which nominated them, and their 200-word statement. Each of our member organisations will get one vote. If you wish, you can request a paper ballot form. We will publicise these arrangements through channels including eNews, Facebook and Twitter. Voting will close at noon on Friday 14 September 2018.

The five candidates with the highest number of votes will be elected, with up to three substitutes being appointed from those with the next highest number of votes.

The commitment given by PaVSP members

Candidates must be aware that the Partnership meetings are NOT a chance to promote individual groups, but give us the opportunity to support and promote the needs of the sector as a whole. Partnership representatives must be willing and able to talk to the wider sector through occasional attendance at the monthly Network meetings hosted by RedbridgeCVS, to gather comments from sector colleagues, and share feedback on how the Councillors and others they meet with are responding to the voluntary and community sector's issues. RedbridgeCVS staff are available to brief and support the voluntary and community sector representatives. Partnership meetings are currently held on weekdays at 5pm at the RedbridgeCVS office in central Ilford and last no more than two hours.

Current members

The current voluntary sector members (who will be entitled to stand again in this election) are:

- Jon Pushkin
- John Garlick
- Jon Abrams
- Nigel Turner
- Bushra Tahir

Substitutes

- Nicholas Hurst
- Sudarshan Bhuhi MBE

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Black/white or colour • From 3p per sheet

Details from 020 3874 4136



Want to find out about volunteering?

Want to recruit volunteers or work more effectively with your existing volunteers?

Talk to Volunteer Centre Redbridge.

020 8514 9624



RedbridgeCVS is recruiting trustees

Could you help support the voluntary sector in Redbridge?

Do you have skills which would help our Board of Trustees to achieve our mission to “promote, support and develop a strong, effective and independent voluntary and community sector in Redbridge”?

RedbridgeCVS – the umbrella body for community groups and charities in Redbridge – is looking to recruit new trustees to its Board. Following a review of our work programme and a skills audit of the current trustees, the Board are specifically seeking individuals who have skills and expertise in:

- Facilities and estates – procurement and management
- Legal expertise, particularly relating to commercial leases
- Marketing and social media

In line with our Equality & Diversity Policy, we actively seek to recruit individuals from underrepresented groups, and are committed to promoting and valuing equality and diversity in all of our activities. We welcome and celebrate the diversity of the

communities in Redbridge and are strongly committed to achieving equal opportunities and access for all people and groups in society. You would need to be able to commit to:

- attending Board meetings held every 2 months (alternate between morning and evening meetings and normally lasting for two hours)
- reading papers and preparing any comments on them
- responding to requests for comments/approvals to items in between meetings
- if asked to become a member of RCVS Board sub-committees this would require, attendance at meetings held every 2 months
- attendance at an annual away day.

How to apply

If you are interested in applying for this role, in the first instance please telephone either Ross Diamond, Chief Executive Officer, on 020 3874 4143 or Liz Pearce, Operations Manager, on 020 3874 4144 for an informal chat and to get an information pack. The closing date for applications is Wednesday 19 September. Interviews will be scheduled in late September.

Community Day

10am-3pm, Thursday 30 August
High Rd, Central Ilford

Something for everyone in the centre of Ilford, with stalls and displays from local public services and voluntary groups along the High Road.

If you'd like a free stall for your community group, please contact Liz Pearce on 020 3874 4144, or email liz@redbridgecvs.net.



Goodgym Redbridge celebrates second birthday

Redbridge GoodGym combines doing good for local people with getting fit.

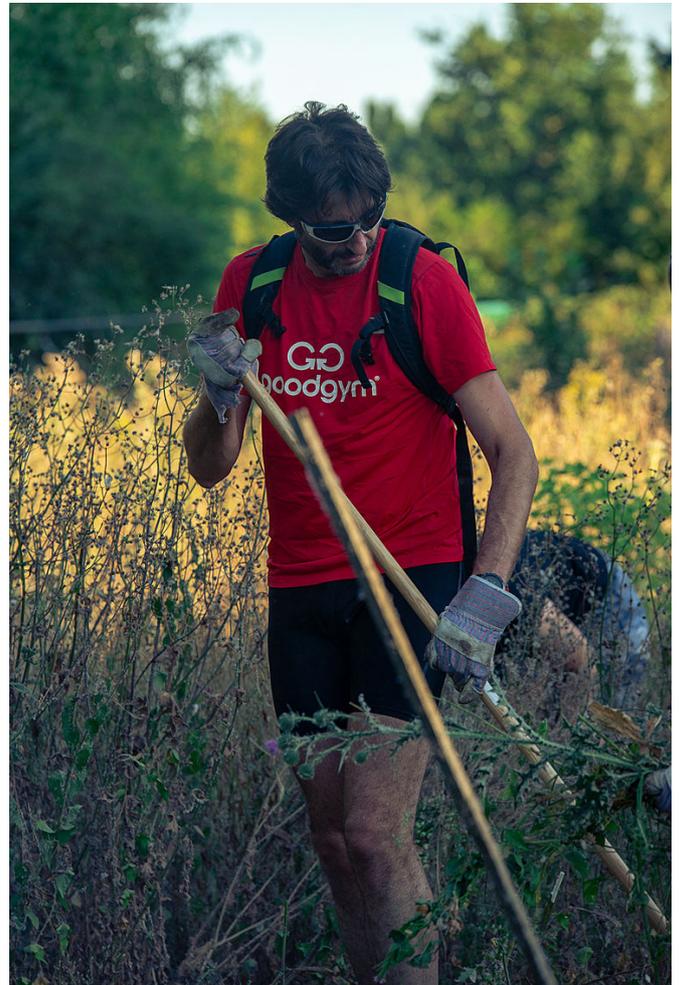
Group members combine exercise such as running with helping groups and individuals, for example mixing paint with Forest Recycling Project or sorting food for Redbridge Foodbank.

For their birthday event, they headed to Redbridge Lane West Allotments, where they cleared up waist-high weeds before exercising their abs at the nearby recreation ground and running 4km back to their base.

The group then headed to the George pub for birthday cake, a few drinks and some birthday song. They are confident that their next two years in Redbridge will be as useful and enjoyable as the last two.

For more information about Goodgym Redbridge or to get involved, check out their website at <https://www.goodgym.org/areas/redbridge>

Photo, right: a Goodgym member takes on the weeds



CleanupUK is on your side against litter

Want to improve your neighbourhood and make a difference to your local community?

Cleanup UK will help you run your own clean-up and put you in touch with others who also care and want to take action! For more information, please get in touch with Neeta on 07463 660 843, or email Neeta.Kanagaratnam@cleanupuk.org.uk



New rules mean more people can't be trustees – and the rules apply to senior managers too

The law is about to change about who can and cannot be a charity trustee, or hold certain senior management posts.

Old rules: Disqualification of trustees

A person is disqualified from serving as a charity trustee if they:

- have an unspent conviction involving dishonesty or deception
- have been declared bankrupt or made an arrangement with their creditors which has not been discharged
- have been removed by the Charity Commission, high court or court of session in Scotland from being a charity trustee
- have been disqualified as a company director or
- is subject to an order made under the Insolvency Act for failure to make payments under a county court administration order.

In most cases, a person in this situation can apply to the Charity Commission for a waiver. It is an offence, punishable by a fine and up to two years imprisonment, to serve as a charity trustee while disqualified.

New rules: Disqualification of trustees and people in senior positions

From 1 August 2018, the above disqualifications still apply. People are also disqualified if any of the following apply:

- an unspent conviction for specified offences under counter-terrorism legislation, money laundering legislation or the Bribery Act 2010; offences of misconduct in public office, perjury or perverting the course of justice; or attempting, aiding or abetting these offences
- contempt of court
- being designated under terrorist asset-freezing legislation
- being on the sex offenders register

Also, from 1 August, anyone who is disqualified from serving as a charity trustee is also disqualified from holding senior management functions. These are defined as:

- the most senior executive position in a charity, with overall responsibility for the day to day management and control of the charity and

accountable directly to the trustees; and

- the person (other than the most senior executive) with overall responsibility for day to day management and control of the charity's finance.

The designation is based on the functions actually carried out by the person, not their job title.

Waivers from disqualification

A person who will be caught by the new provisions can apply to the Charity Commission for a waiver from disqualification. The Commission's general view is that the disqualification should apply, but there are some circumstances where it will agree to waive the disqualification if it is in the charity's interests to do so. The person must get a waiver before they take up the position.

Action

Charities must:

- read the Charity Commission Guidance at <http://bit.ly/2991LZPA>
- identify which senior managers may be affected
- explain the changes to trustees and senior managers and agree a plan of action
- check if any of the affected people is disqualified on the Insolvency Service, Companies House and Charity Commission websites
- from 1 August a disqualified person without a waiver must resign as a senior staff member. One way forward might be to redeploy them into another role. Both sides should get legal advice – the charity must get legal advice if considering terminating the person's employment
- put procedures in place for future staff and trustee recruitment to get declarations from them in good time to apply for a waiver if necessary
- put procedures in place to ensure senior staff and trustees know what events trigger disqualification, and that they should let the charity know if any occur. You may want to ask them to sign regular statements that they are not disqualified. You may need to change contracts of employment

Resources

- **Charity Commission news release** – brief summary of key actions at <http://bit.ly/2882UkT9>
- **Useful 3-page overview** from Stone King solicitors at <http://bit.ly/2AA2xo6R>
- **Detailed guidance** from the Charity Commission at <http://bit.ly/2991LZPA>
- **Guidance from Unlock**, a charity supporting people with criminal records, at <http://bit.ly/2LRDSYE>

This information is summarised from Sandy Adirondack's legal update emails for voluntary organisations. To subscribe to these emails, send your details to legalupdate@sandy-a.co.uk.

Mental health charity holds school session

Sky Sharma Foundation held a wellbeing session on 4 July at Downshall Primary School.

The session involved year 6 school children who will be moving on to secondary school and covered how they can self-help and change their negative thoughts into positive ones.

The children participated in activities including colouring, role play, listing their fears of going to secondary school, house of thoughts and feeling happiness. At the end of the session the children from each table were asked to give two strategies to be happy.

For more information see the group's website at www.skysharmafoundation.com



Peace walk to mark human rights day

Celebrate International day of Peace 2018 by joining the Redbridge Inter Faith Peace Walk.

This year the international day of peace has an additional dimension in that it is the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The theme for the International Day of Peace in 2018 is "The Right to Peace – The Universal Declaration of Human Rights at 70".

The walk will visit local sites linked to different faith groups, including:

- the Holocaust Memorial Garden, Valentines Park
- the Buddhist vihara in Balfour Rd
- the Hindu temple in Cleveland Rd
- Ilford Islamic Community Centre
- the Vine Church
- Karamsar Gurdwara in the High Rd, where a vegetarian meal will be served.

Join the annual Redbridge Inter Faith Peace walk at 1pm on Sunday 23 September.

Meet at the Holocaust Memorial Garden, Valentines Park, Ilford (Cranbrook Rd entrance)

Photo, below: last year's Peace Walk



Funding Diary

Funding for buildings, refurbishment and equipment

To tackle the rising number of hate crimes against religious buildings, churches, mosques, temples and gurdwaras can now apply for a new round of funding under the Government's Places of Worship - Security Funding Scheme. A total of £1 million is available during this funding round. (Jewish community sites are funded through a grant administered by the Community Security Trust.) Places of worship can bid for security equipment but not for the cost of recruiting security personnel. The maximum grant available per application is £56,000.

More information: <http://bit.ly/2LG99HQ>

Closing date: Friday 10 August

Helping people stay in work

The Challenge Fund is a new time-limited source of funding aimed at testing new approaches to helping people experiencing mental health or musculoskeletal issues to stay in work. The Fund is worth £4.2 million and is run by the Government's Work and Health Unit, a joint unit funded by the Department for Work and Pensions and Department of Health and Social Care.

More information:

<http://challengefund.flexigrant.com>

Closing date: Friday 17 August

Building integrated communities

The Integrated Communities Innovation Fund supports a range of projects that are bold and innovative in approach and encourage integration. Of particular interest are projects that can, in time, be scaled up further. Overall, projects supported will be innovative, provide evidence of achieving integration, understand how outcomes will be measured and evaluated, demonstrate partner and community buy-in, show potential for growth and be led by organisations willing to share their experiences.

More information: <http://bit.ly/2vt1UPp>

Closing date: Monday 20 August

Reducing loneliness

Funding of £30,000 to £100,000 for voluntary organisations with existing projects that are already helping to build connections to prevent or reduce

loneliness and want to do more to build on this work. The government's £11.5 million Building Connections Fund aims to make the best use of community assets and joining up local services to connect people, enable communities to bring people together and build connections and understand more about the individual benefits of preventing loneliness.

More information: <http://bit.ly/2AweXW3>

Closing date: Friday 24 August

Support for family-based projects

Registered charities whose activities support and encourage the family to work as a cohesive unit in tackling problems that face one or more of its members can apply for grants of between £1,000 and £5,000 through the Kelly Family Charitable Trust.

The three areas of activity that the charity wishes to support are interventions that support families and help them in ways that prevent the fracture of the family unit, e.g. practical family support, relationship counselling, mediation; families where sexual abuse, physical abuse, domestic violence, alcohol abuse and drug abuse threaten the integrity of the family unit; and prisoners and in particular their families, during and after the period of imprisonment.

More information: <https://kfct.org.uk/>

Closing date: Saturday 1 September

Defence of human rights

Funding for charities that work with marginalised and excluded people in society, with a focus on migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, criminal justice and penal reform, human rights, and particularly access to justice. The funder tends to support charities with annual income between £150k and £1.5m that do not have substantial investments or surpluses.

More information:

<http://abcharitabletrust.org.uk/>

Closing date: Friday 7 September

Disadvantaged or disabled children

Grants for children and young people of 18 years and under experiencing disadvantage through illness, distress, abuse or neglect; any kind of disability; behavioural or psychological difficulties; or living in poverty or situations of deprivation.

More information:

<https://bbc.in/2O27GiJ>

Closing date: Thursday 13 September

For more help with fundraising, contact [Shaweb Ahmed](#), our Community Fundraiser, at shaweb@redbridgecvs.net or on [020 3874 4137](tel:02038744137)



RedbridgeCVS is a charity which exists to support voluntary and community groups in the London Borough of Redbridge.

RedbridgeCVS services include:

- information about local groups, events, jobs and funding, delivered through our website, our weekly email newsletter and our bimonthly publication Community
- support with fundraising and help for local groups to get organised and develop
- training on the topics that are really important for small groups, in small, friendly groups, with discounts the more you book
- help from Volunteer Centre Redbridge with finding volunteers for your group, and helping your group to work with them effectively
- representing voluntary groups in meetings with bodies like Redbridge Council and the NHS
- meetings where you can get to know other local groups and share best practice
- advice about the policies and procedures you need, and how to plan your work
- affordable and good-quality room hire and photocopying
- projects to help local communities improve their health and fitness

Join RedbridgeCVS

Membership is free: we invite all community groups to join if they are based in Redbridge or work with Redbridge people. Some of our services are only available to members, and members get a discount on fees, such as those for training or room hire.

More about RedbridgeCVS

See our website at

www.redbridgecvS.net

or ring us on

020 8553 1004

We're funded by:

