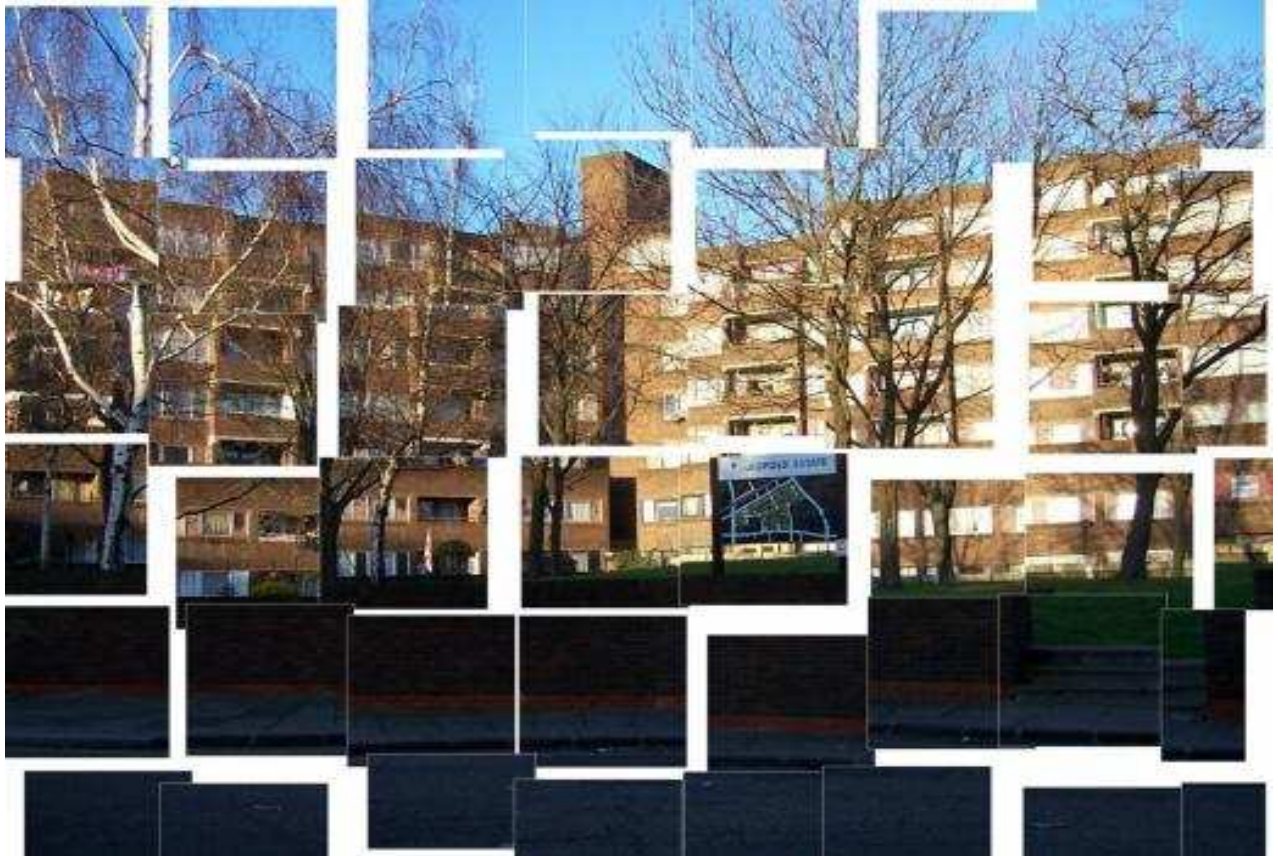




MARCH 2005

LART NEWS

Working for the New Leopold Area



HELP US PUT TOGETHER THE NEW LEOPOLD

The Leopold Area Regeneration Team and Poplar HARCA – are currently busy putting together the plans for when Poplar HARCA takes over the management of our Area – which will be the start of the Regeneration of the Area – which is likely to be in May or June this year – we are still waiting for the actual date

In order to do this we need your input. Tell us what are your priorities, what would you like to see take place in the New Community Hall and what do you think we should be doing to improve the environment of the new area.

We also need more members of our team. - If you would like join us please let us know. We urgently need members from Elmslie Point and the Ackroyd Drive sections of the Grey Blocks. The Time Commitment is as little or as much as you are able to give.



*New Effective
methods of Security
will be installed*

SECURITY

Security is the total priority of the Leopold Area Regeneration Team and Poplar HARCA. The aim will be to ensure that only the people who live in the Blocks are there and the people who loiter in the Stairwells and Entrance lobbies are removed.

IN the short term this will involve using the FULL range of the laws and powers available and in the long term it will involve removing the rat runs in the Red Blocks, better lighting and removing dark alleys, reducing the amount of entrances on to estate.

What sort of security do you wish to see in Our New area?

Do you wish to CCTV in key areas or do you wish to have a Concierge in some blocks - let us know.

All the options will be discussed by the Technical Sub Group of LART in the Coming weeks.

Environment



*The Green Space on the
Estate will be Maintained
and Enhanced.*

Looking after the Environment will also be important to the Leopold Area Regeneration Team and Poplar HARCA,

The plans for the Area shows high quality green spaces and it is the intention of LART to protect these for the future use of the residents of Leopold Area. The Environment sub Group of LART will be talking to Environment experts about the use of the Green Spaces. The current plan is to include areas where children can play in a controlled and protected environment without causing noise and inconvenience to other residents and also areas where residents can relax and enjoy the new environment.

These are, though, only initial plans and it will be important that you tell us how you want the Green Space in our area to be used.

It is the intention to commission some works of Public Art to mark the regeneration of the area and also to find ways of brightening up our area during the time when parts of our Estate will be a building Site.

It is also hoped to in some way include the Visual Arts specialties of St. Paul's Way School in a partnership.

Let us know if you have any thoughts on this.

BENGALI STRAP LINE HERE

NEW LEOPOLD COMMUNITY CENTRE

A Key part of the Regeneration of the Leopold Area will be the building of a new Community Centre - which is likely to be on St, Paul's Way next to the Current Café Reconnect.

The aim is that the Leopold Community Centre will run activities which will improve the quality of Life of Leopold Residents.

Exactly what the activities are will be dependent on what the Residents want. So please let us know. Ideas are some further Education Classes and things like dance classes - but it is entirely up to you. It is hoped that the activities will complement but not duplicate the items currently available at Café Reconnect and the Burdett Centre.

Another suggestion being considered in having an area which can be hired at modest cost for things like family parties.

The plans for the Area also include a new Senior Citizens Meeting space - which is likely to be in Baythorne Street - this will be a purpose built facility where Senior Citizens can meet during the day.

Once the new Community Centre is built the old outdated Community Hall will be demolished - it is the intention that the area where the Community Hall is now - will be grassed over and become a garden Area.

Car Parking

The Leopold Area Regeneration Team and Poplar HARCA are aware of the anxiety about Car Parking in our Area. We are also aware that with many additional new homes being built in the Area in the Coming Years this will become more of an issue.

LART's Technical Sub Group will ensure that there are adequate Car Parking spaces in our Area included in the Plans and also to ensure that there are sufficient designated disabled Car Parking Spaces.

One way of doing this, which Poplar HARCA and the LART Technical Sub Group are currently investigating is to ensure that all the underground Car Parks are usable. In order to do this it will be necessary to ensure that the

Car's are safe in the Car Park and also it will be necessary to ensure that they are safe for Residents to Use.

LART is aware that at the moment the Security in the Underground Car Parks is far from acceptable.

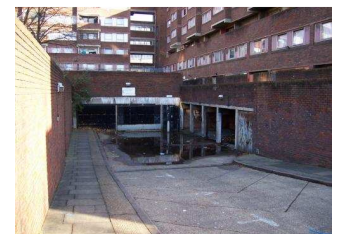
LART will be asking Poplar HARCA for ways in which this can be done.

Let us know what you feel about the Underground Car Parks being brought back into use and also what do you think will be a fair price to pay to use the Underground Car Park.

We will ensure that all suggestion will be taken into account when devising a Car Parking Strategy for the Area.



The old Community Hall will be demolished and a new one built.



The Underground Car Parks could be brought back into use

The Role of LART

The Leopold Area Regeneration Team is currently working in Partnership with Poplar HARCA to devise the plans for the future of the Leopold Area. We are currently discussing with Poplar HARCA the role of LART after they take over the Management of the Area. It is likely that LART will become the Shadow Board for the Area - responsible for the Monitoring the Management of the Area - holding Poplar HARCA directly to Account for their actions. It is anticipated that there will then be elections for board members and the chair of the Board.



A Meeting of LART

The Leopold Estate Today



Until Poplar HARCA take over the management of the Leopold Area, Tower Hamlets Council are still responsible for all services on the Estate. LART is pressing for them to take this responsibility to the full.

Water

LART is fully aware the problems some of us have experienced over water - this is being Caused by Thames Water reducing the pressure due to Numerous Leaks in the area. We have in the last year made an appeal to the Water Regulator about this - to no avail. Unfortunately Legally Thames Water is doing Nothing Wrong and Tower Hamlets Council has No Say in the matter. We are hoping that once the New Water Pumps are installed things will improve. Leaseholders unfortunately will have to pay for the installation.

Anti Social Behaviour

LART is aware that in some parts of our Area Anti Social Behaviour is getting worse - this is particular the case in parts of Perley House, Whytelaw House , Grindley House and Shelmerdine Close - We have continually made the Police and The Council aware of this situation. Unfortunately the Council seem to be more concerned in dealing with the aftermath of the problem rather than solving it. Hopefully this will be properly dealt with once Poplar HARCA takes over the management of the Area.

Poplar HARA Surveys

Prior to taking over the management of the Estate Poplar HARCA will be carrying out a full survey of the Area. This is so they are aware of the work that needs to be carried out and the type of new homes that need to be built. Please assist them if they ask for your assistance in this. If they need to have access to your home - they will contact you beforehand and carry full identification.

THEY WILL NOT JUST KNOCK ON YOUR DOOR AND ASK ADMITTANCE.

This is YOUR AREA - Tell us what you want

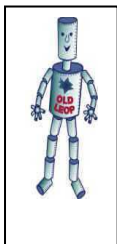


Talk to Geoff

Geoff Cade is the Poplar HARCA Resident Empowerment Officer for Leopold.

He does a surgery every Wednesday from 10am to 12 Noon at Café Reconnect.

He can be contacted at other times on 020 7510- 9900 or by email on Geoff.Cade@poplarharca.co.uk



Talk to LART

Ring our Helpline on 07092 311974 - leave a message on the Voicemail

Write to us c/o 30 Perley House, Weatherley Close, London E3 4BQ

Send us a message via our Website at <http://www.leopold.org.uk> - go to Contact us.

We will respond to all messages within 2 Working Days

Please also Contact LART if you would like to Join Our Team or can help us.

