

Beechwood Village

NEWSLETTER

Issue 42: April 2022

Welcome to the spring issue of our
Beechwood Village newsletter.

www.swan.org.uk

www.beechwood-village.co.uk



LOOKING AHEAD: UPDATE ON NEXT STEPS

We have seen some great progress made on the future plans for Beechwood Village. Of the 971 planned, high-quality homes, over 550 of these new homes have already been completed and mostly occupied. Construction also continues on Phase West, bordered by Beeleigh East and The Fryth, where 108 new homes have been built to date.

As mentioned in our previous newsletter, we are demolishing some properties on Lincoln Road, Rochester Way and Well Gardens to help us make a start on the next phase (known as Phase North) of new homes as part of this regeneration. These works are currently underway to prepare the land and build the foundations for more new homes.

The health and safety of the communities we work with is really important to Swan and, with the correct security measures in place, we hope to

avoid any anti-social behaviour (ASB) during these works. If any issues do occur, please first contact the police. For more information on how to report ASB, please visit <https://www.swan.org.uk/anti-social-behaviour>, email ASB@swan.org.uk or call the Swan switchboard on 0300 303 2500.

As Covid-19 restrictions are lifted, we will be re-starting 'resident information days' later this year to give residents a chance to speak to representatives from Swan Housing Association and Basildon Borough Council about the progress of the site.

Further details, including dates and times, will follow in due course. However, should you have any other concerns or queries about the current building works in the meantime, please contact Shona McKinnon, Development Manager, on smckinnon@swan.org.uk or visit **The Consultation Shop** (details on the next page).

THE CONSULTATION SHOP

A reminder to all Beechwood Village residents that our consultation shop remains open every Tuesday and Thursday for you to speak to our team face to face about the future plans for the estate and ask any questions you may have.

Where: The Beech Community Hub, 8 Austen Rd, Basildon, SS14 3RZ

When: Every Tuesday 10am - 1pm and Thursday 3pm - 6pm

For any enquiries relating to The Consultation Shop, please contact: William Oldham – Swan Housing Association, Community Development Project Officer

Phone: 01277 314391 | **Mobile:** 07872 033403

Email: woldham@swan.org.uk

BEECHWOOD VILLAGE COMMUNITY GARDEN – PART TWO!



Last Autumn, Swan's Customer Involvement and Community Development (CICD) team, along with Axis team members and over 20 residents from Beechwood Village and the Craylands Estate, began the revival of the Beechwood Village Community Garden.

Since then, the CICD team and a group of young people, from our 'Holiday Hunger' programme in collaboration with Essex Boys and Girls Club, returned to the garden for the second stage of the project - to plant bulbs and spread wild flower seed balls ahead of spring.

Together, they planted a variety of bulbs, including tulips, daffodils and hyacinths which, once bloomed in spring, will provide cover, protection and nutrition for bugs and insects while also creating a welcoming outdoor space for residents to enjoy. Do look out for those bulbs blooming this spring!

The event was part of the 'Backyard Nature' project which is being run at Beechwood Village to encourage children to get involved in protecting nature within their communities, with the wild flower seed balls being provided by the project. The bulbs planted were purchased using the Beechwood Village Community Trust (BVCT) funding received during summer 2021.

A big 'thank you' goes to all those involved throughout this project! We hope you enjoy the blooming garden this spring when the CICD team will also provide further updates on the Backyard Nature project.

If you'd like more information on how to get involved in projects like this in the future, please contact Community Development Project Officer, William Oldham, on woldham@swan.org.uk.

AQA LEARNING PROGRAMME

Now available to Beechwood Residents!



Swan is delivering a distance learning, education programme to help improve the life skills of our customers. Swan's Customer Involvement & Community Development (CICD) team, alongside the exam board AQA (previously known as Assessment and Qualifications Alliance), are registered providers of the AQA Unit Award Scheme (UAS).

The UAS is a flexible, self-learning platform that provides many educational courses such as Design and Technology, Home Economics, Hospitality, Food and Nutrition, to name a few. Each come with educational content and bitesize



coursework for all learners, regardless of ability.

Each time an individual completes a course, it is validated by AQA and a certificate is issued.

We are pleased to announce that the AQA learning programme is available to all residents at Beechwood Village. If you would like further information, please contact **Abdullah Hossain**, Swan's Employment and Training Manager on 01277 844 242 or ahossain@swan.org.uk.

ONLINE LEARNING FOR PERSONAL SKILLS



If you are looking for a job or would simply like to improve your skill set to help with career opportunities, we are now offering a wide range of **FREE accredited eLearning courses**. You can register yourself at any time and complete them online as and when suits you. Here are just some of the courses available:

- CV writing
- Customer Service in Hospitality and Tourism
- Level 2 Food Hygiene and Catering
- Presentation skills
- Digital Business skills
- Social Media Marketing
- Construction Digital training package
- Hair and Beauty career
- Care Certificate training
- First Aid

If you would like to sign up for any of these courses or would like to find out more, please contact **Abdullah Hossain**, Swan's Employment and Training Manager on 01277 844 242 or ahossain@swan.org.uk.

AND THE WINNER IS...

In our previous newsletter, we invited children of Beechwood Village (aged 16 years or under) to complete our 'Backyard Nature' creepy crawly crossword to be in with the chance of winning a **£30 Love2shop voucher**.

Thank you to all those who took part and we can reveal the winner is...

Drum roll please...

A huge congratulations to 12-year-old **Phoenix**. We hope you enjoy your win!

Stay tuned for future competitions in this newsletter later this year.



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

By phone: 01277 844242

By email: involvement@swan.org.uk

Or visit the new project website for latest updates on consultations, community news and events taking place at The Beech Community Hub: www.beechwood-village.co.uk

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