

THE ABERFELDY ANNOUNCER

The newsletter from Aberfeldy Big Local



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Aberfeldy Big Local Updates

Since the last issue of the Aberfeldy Announcer in March, the ABL team have been busy starting up activities at the Front Room in 39 Aberfeldy Street.

We re-launched our Community Chest grants in March, hosted a parks consultation event in collaboration with Tower Hamlets Parks Team, ran a children's play session in the sunshine, re-started the Tea Room and so much more!

We had hoped to announce a summer event, but given where we are, it's still not possible. So we've got this summer to listen to people's ideas and plan for an autumn or winter celebration.

Read on to find out what's coming up and how to get involved!

ABERFELDY
big local

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www.aberfeldybiglocal.com

The ABL Tea Room

The Aberfeldy Big Local Tea Room has now re-opened, formerly the Tommy's Tea Room at the Tommy Flowers pub. Pop in for a hot drink, a slice of local resident Barbara's delicious homemade cakes and a chat with other local residents.

Over the last month, we've welcomed back the Tea Room regulars as well as new customers who are keen to build local connections.

Now that the Tea Room will be taking place at 39 Aberfeldy Street, we need to come up with a new name for it.

The name will be chosen at the end of July. Get involved in helping us choose a name by adding your suggestions to our chalkboard!

Open **Mondays from 9am to 1pm** and on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 9am to 2pm**.



Community Chest

In March, we re-opened the Community Chest grants with a budget of £500-£1000 to fund new ideas, activities and events that would bring people in Aberfeldy together, build community spirit and create opportunities to meet and have fun with neighbours.

This year, successful projects include a children's art club, a befriending group, traditional handcrafts, healthy cooking workshops, outdoor toddler play sessions and a week-long summer project for children wanting to develop entrepreneurial skills, among others. You can contact the team for more information on these activities.

Some grants have already started and we've been receiving positive feedback from Aberfeldy residents.

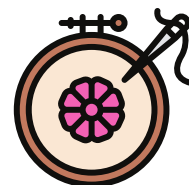


Activities coming up...

We have lots of community activities coming up that all residents can get involved in. Pop into 39 Aberfeldy Street to speak to the ABL team if you have any questions about any of the activities going on.

MONDAYS 1.30PM-3.30PM

Join local resident Rasheda Begum for Bangladeshi traditional handcrafts, including crochet, embroidery, fan-making etc. Speak to the **ABL team** to book a place.



TUESDAYS 12-2PM

Bingo Club for over-50s at 39 Aberfeldy Street.

TUESDAYS 4-5PM

Kids Art Club at 39 Aberfeldy Street, places need to be booked.



WEDNESDAYS 3.30-5PM

Join local coach Shazad Majid for football sessions for kids at the Aberfeldy Community Centre. Contact Juliana at Poplar HARCA to find out more.

WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS 3.30PM-5PM

Parent-led fun club on Wednesdays and homework club on Fridays @ Aberfeldy Centre.

FRIDAYS 9.30AM

Women's Healthy Body, Healthy Mind walking group led by local resident Monzo Ara (Moni) Khatun. Meet outside the Aberfeldy Community Centre.

WEDNESDAY 30TH JUNE, 7TH JULY & 14TH JULY 9AM - 11AM

Toddler Craft Mornings at St. Nick's Church. Pop in and join in with fun arts and crafts, sensory play, refreshments and a goody bag to take home. Contact laurab@parishofpoplar.org to find out more.



THURSDAYS FROM 10.30AM

Local befriending group. Meet at 39 Aberfeldy Street at 10.30am.

THURSDAYS 10AM-12PM

Crochet, knit and natter at 39 Aberfeldy Street.



MONDAY 2ND - FRIDAY 6TH AUGUST

BOSSKidz aims to introduce children to the world of entrepreneurship at an early age. Each term will end with BOSSKidz Market Fair* where the kids will sell their product or service to real customers.

Call **Neha Gupta** on **07404184603** to register.



Parks Updates



In April, ABL teamed up with Tower Hamlets Parks Team to run a consultation event for residents to see the plans created from the previous consultation in September 2020.

The design boards were displayed in the windows at 39 Aberfeldy Street for the rest of April and May and followed up with questionnaires in the parks and outside 39.

The LBTH parks team collated the data which shows how important having good quality green and open space is for Aberfeldy residents. Creating better play opportunities for children of all ages ranked highly, adults of all ages want to get fit and play sport in improved environments, dog walkers want to exercise their four-legged friends and others just want comfortable benches to sit in and enjoy the sun.

How the spaces connect and link together was important, as was fencing and barriers on to busy Abbott Road.

The team at London Design Agency (LDA) have listened to all the feedback and are in the process of producing new boards for the next stage of consultation. The boards will present back these ideas, showing possible running trails connecting the three sites, locations of children's play spaces, barriers, planting and thoughts about dog areas.

LBTH Parks and Big Local teams will hold another outdoor exhibition on Saturday 17th July of these new boards to get detailed feedback from local people as the next stage is the planning submission at the end of August.

Please come and give your views on **Saturday 17th July from 12pm to 4pm** at Millennium Green.

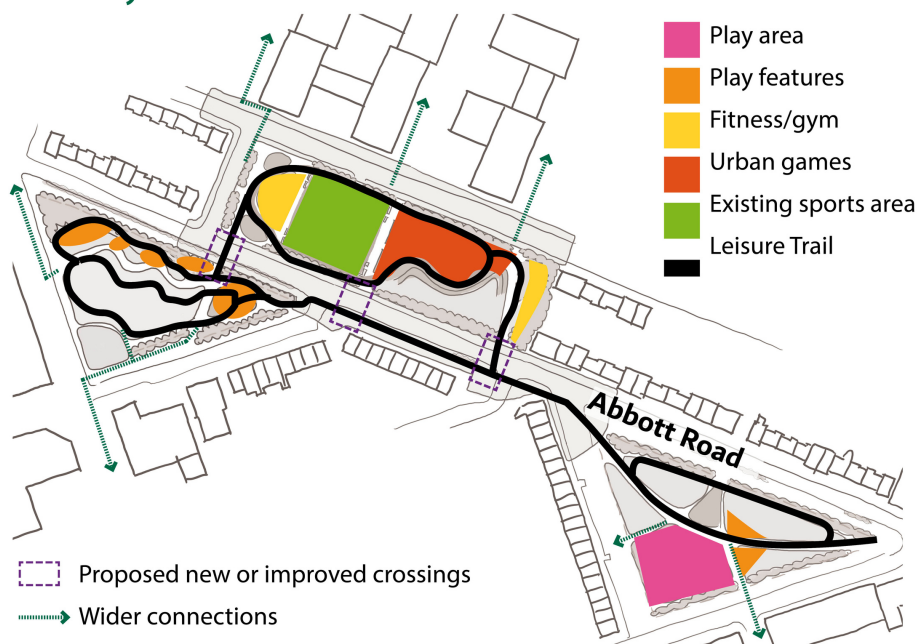


New Parks Plans

If you can't attend the consultation on Saturday 17th July, the boards will be displayed at Aberfeldy Big Local's base at 39 Aberfeldy Street. Pop in and give your feedback, either during a Monday - Wednesday morning Tea Room session or when you are passing by.

Here is a preview of some of the plans you can expect to see:

Activity Trails



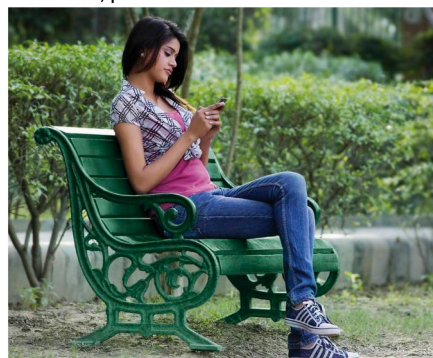
Enhancements to existing sports surfaces



Open lawn areas to be enjoyed by all, a space for leisure, picnics and events



Surprise play features across all 3 spaces

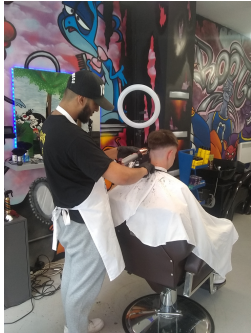


A variety of seating provided along the routes for resting, or for parents and carers

Support your local businesses

Since our last newsletter more shops on Aberfeldy Street have been opening up. It's been great to see the hustle and bustle of Aberfeldy Street. We have some brilliant local businesses offering a range of services as well as creative projects we hope to work with over the next few months.

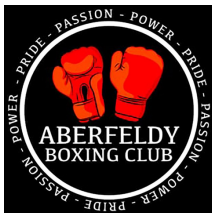
Come down and discover Aberfeldy Street!



Roots Barbers
@rootsbarberslondon
37 Aberfeldy Street
Monday to Sunday 11am-7pm



More Life Home
@morelifehome
41 Aberfeldy Street
Wednesday - Sunday 12pm-5pm



Aberfeldy Boxing Club
@aberfeldyboxingclub
29 Aberfeldy Street
Monday to Saturday



The People Speak
@the_peoplespeak
27 Aberfeldy Street
Monday to Saturday 10am-9pm

Roots Barbers is currently offering £5 off a hair cut with a flyer, pop in to Big Local at 39 to pick up one up.

The Tommy Flowers is a community pub open Thursday to Sunday.



We've heard from a few local people interested in using the still closed units, most of which have existing leases. The role of Meanwhile Space is to bring empty space in to more productive use and they are working with Poplar Harca on Aberfeldy Street units, you can contact them at aberfeldystreet@meanwhitespace.com.

A trip down memory lane

Hidden away in the minds of local people are fascinating memories and stories of life in Aberfeldy.

We have been having conversations with local residents of all ages about places on the Aberfeldy, what the shops used to be, where their wedding photos were taken, all the chats in the local launderette, childhood memories and what life was like when the docks were active. Lots of these things have changed over the last thirty years and the development of Aberfeldy will change the shape and the layout of the area and the activity around it.

As Aberfeldy Big Local is a project rooted in the community, we are interested in capturing these stories from the past as well as now, in the present.

We've been finding out more about creative local people and their talents, from children drawing in art club to John at Workshop 53, reminding us that the skills to make films are available to anyone with a smart phone. As Aberfeldy goes through the next round of changes filming, photographing and talking about how the area is now can be an ongoing Big Local and community project.

Our friends at The People Speak are storytellers, editors, artists and inventors who host regular Talkaoke sessions where stories have started. The ABL team will be asking for their help to pull this information together.

What's your story and how do you want to tell it?

Big Local would love to scan your Aberfeldy photos, creating a digital history of the area, have you got photos you would be happy to share? Aberfeldy Street has changed already and will do again, are there keen photographers out there who could be taking photos now to record these changes?

How do we capture what's important to you?

Film? Conversations? Photographs? Poetry? Expressive arts? What would you share?

People have asked for cinema evenings, could we make our own film to show?

Speak to the team at 39 Aberfeldy Street to find out how to get involved in this project!



About ABL

Aberfeldy Big Local is a community organisation that was set up and funded by the National Lottery with an investment of £1 million over 10 years, into the Aberfeldy estate up until 2026.

The Aberfeldy Big Local project aim is to support local people to work together, identify local needs and take action to respond.

An Aberfeldy example based on surveys and local conversations was people of all ages saying they need somewhere to meet, socialise and connect with neighbours. Big Local responded by funding the Tommy Flowers, the Aberfeldy Boxing Club, a football youth group and toddler sessions at St. Nicholas church.

How does it work?

A partnership board of between 8 and 16 people who must live on Aberfeldy meet once a month to discuss local issues, what will improve the area and benefit the whole community. The partnership board and the local knowledge, power and information they have, are essential to running the project.

How to get involved?

The partnership needs community minded local residents to oversee the Local Plan themes of People Places and Power and work with residents to make decisions on ideas that benefit the community. **We are recruiting for new partnership board members now.**

Are you interested in community organising, want to build on what makes your community a good place and cooperate with others to identify what could be improved. **Do you want to meet other local people, put your skills to good use and be involved in planning and shaping the Big Local legacy? If so, your area needs YOU!**

We are always looking for people to join us! Speak to the team at 39 Aberfeldy Street to find out how you can join.

You can also register your interest in volunteering in the community on projects you are interested in.

If you want to find out more about ABL or have an idea for something that would benefit the community, you can contact the team at hello@aberfeldybiglocal.com or **07436 568 483**.

Follow us on social media or visit our website www.aberfeldybiglocal.com

