Leadership Behavior

Listed here are some good suggestions to help create effective leadership in any group. They are presented here as a guide for anyone starting a Neighborhood Organization but apply to life in general...

- Back up and support your people.
- Be decisive, but be seen to be making fair and balanced decisions.
- Ask for people's views, but remain neutral and objective.
- Be honest but sensitive in the way that you give bad news or criticism.
- Always do what you say you will do - keep your promises.
- Work hard to become expert at what you do technically and at understanding your people's technical abilities and challenges.
- Encourage your people to grow, learn, and take on as much as they want to at a pace they can handle.
- Always accentuate the positive (say 'why don't we do it like this', not 'don't do it like that').
- Smile and encourage others to be happy and enjoy themselves.
- Relax and give your people and yourself time to get to know and respect each other.
- Take notes and keep good records.
- Plan and prioritize.
- Manage your time well and help others to do so too.
- Involve your people in your thinking and especially in managing change.
- Read good books and take advice from good people in helping to develop your own understanding of yourself, and in particular of other people's weaknesses. Some of the best books for leadership are not about business at all. They are about people who triumph over adversity.
- Achieve the groups' tasks and objectives, but never at the cost of your integrity or the trust of your people.

...and *always* remember to say "Please" and "Thank You". A little praise and courtesy can go a long way!