

**Beckton Community Forum – 26<sup>th</sup> September 2002**  
**St Mark's Centre, Tollgate Road, Beckton**

In attendance:

Earlene Bentley	Resident
Nazira Khanam	Resident
Cllr A Chowdhury	LBN, Beckton Ward
David Pennock	BCHP
Kevin Blowe	Beckton Neighbourhood Facilitator
Mary E Daniels	Resident
Juan Johnson	Launch Pad
Milton Jackson	Resident
Ann Wheadon	Youth Offending Team
Angela Rodney	East Thames Housing Group
Philip Niland	Resident
Cllr J Leitch	LBN
Jan Foster	ETHG
Fran Wood	Shaftesbury Housing
Martin Tilbury	LBN
V W Alliez	Resident
Cllr A Kellaway	LBN
Casey Powell	NCY Trust (Kingsford School)
Tony Cesay	Resident
Nick Ely	LBN – Parks and Conservation
R O Adesola	Resident
J Jha	Resident
P Kin	Resident
John S Smith	Resident
Paul Ilott	Resident
Sheila M Campbell	Resident
John Barry	LBN

- 1 Refreshments and Registration
  
- 2 General Introductions  
New people introduced themselves to the meeting.
  
- 3 Apologies and Declarations of Interest
  - 3.1 Apologies – Malcolm Smith
  - 3.2 Declarations of Interest - none
  
- 4 NRF (Neighbourhood Renewal Fund) Update Kevin Blowe – [Item Added To The Agenda]
  - 4.1 Kevin briefed the meeting on the current situation. He explained that NRF is about getting services delivered locally in a different way and encouraging greater community involvement. Just under £30m has been given to Newham and has been divided into Newham's key priorities. Projects have been put forward that cover these areas. Where common issues come up across the area, the Local Strategic Partnership will be making a decision on borough-wide projects. The Local Strategic Partnership (which includes Community Forum reps) will be working out which projects are viable. By mid November money should be released. People can see Kevin or Marc in the office during week for further updates, and people will be kept informed through forthcoming newsletters.

- 5 Environment Presentation – Cllr June Leitch
- 5.1 Cllr Leitch explained that this presentation would examine the Mayor's Environmental Priorities and other Environment Issues which formed part of his election campaign. These priorities are:
- 5.2 Street cleanliness:  
Currently LBN is looking at ways of improving the service – for example, more mechanisation, new cleansing machines, new later shifts (7am-midnight) for refuse collectors. This is also about educating people to take responsibility for dropping litter, educating traders to dispose of their waste properly, and encouraging schools to take up recycling schemes.
- 5.3 Abandoned and untaxed vehicles  
Problem not so bad as before. Newham did have the most severe problem in London but now has the most improved service in London. LBN investigates 1600 vehicles per month, of which 950 are removed. Working towards a removal target of 24 hours (24 hours from time Enforcement identify that the vehicle is abandoned).
- 5.4 Flytipping and Trade Waste  
The Council's Overview and Scrutiny department are looking at various different remedies, including looking at a chargeable fee for removal of flytips. The target for removal is 24 hours, though it needs central Government to pass legislation that would assist local authorities in dealing with this problem. To this end, LBN is currently lobbying government. Again, educating residents to use free/paid collection service is integral to this. It was suggested that this free service could be advertised in future newsletters.
- 5.5 Enforcement  
This underpins the work of the other priorities. The Environment Department is working with other areas and other initiatives e.g. Respect, in order to achieve results. This has led to successes such as Operation Charlie, which ran from September 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>. This was a multi-agency operation targeting untaxed vehicles south of the A13 (results of which included 100 untaxed vehicles removed, 15 burnt out cars removed, 109 untaxed vehicles reported, and 11 stolen/forged tax discs recovered).
- 5.6 Complaints were voiced that abandoned cars were not being removed on time, and on one occasion took over five weeks to deal with. Cllr Leitch agreed to look into it. She also advised that if this situation should arise again, they should immediately inform their local councillor.
- 5.7 Additional topics raised included:
- an update on the Beckton Ski Slope was requested. John Barry agreed to provide this.
  - Efforts being made to persuade Management Agencies to take responsibility for the unfenced car parks attached to buildings in the area, which have attracted flytipping and abandoned cars.
  - Parents blocking entrances to schools and surrounding driveways. Although parking wardens have been making flying visits, tougher enforcement would be popular.
  - LBN has (adult and children) education programmes to persuade citizens to be more responsible and to encourage recycling.
  - Legislation prohibiting the way fridges are disposed off, necessitating alternative arrangements for removal of them.
  - LBN operates CCTV in certain areas to combat flytipping. This again will form part of the Overview & Scrutiny investigation.

- 5.8 Finally Cllr Leitch reminded the meeting that they as local residents are best suited to propose solutions to these problems.
- 6 National Aquarium – Michael Dixon
- 6.1 This item was not dealt with. The Silvertown Quays project was not signed off by the London Development Agency as there were outstanding questions that the relevant committee wished to see answered that could not be immediately addressed. Therefore, Michael Dixon felt that it would be inappropriate to talk about the project at a public meeting until the master building agreement is signed. He agreed to attend a future meeting once the project was signed-off.
- 7 YOT (Youth Offending Team) - Ann Wheadon [Added to the agenda]
- 7.1 Ann introduced herself to the meeting as the YOT representative for Beckton Community Forum. She briefly explained that the Youth Offending Team was a multi-disciplinary team and a statutory agency with representatives from Police, Education, Probation, Social Services and health. Anne also mentioned that particular offences and patterns of offending are more prevalent in Beckton than in other areas. She requested a space on the next agenda to talk in more detail about the work of the team.