

Beckton Community Forum Meeting 20 June 2002



Please note, this meeting was held at two different venues and times on the day of 20 June. The daytime meeting occurred at St Mark's Community Centre, Tollgate Road and the evening meeting held at the Winsor Park Resource Centre, Warwall.

As the agenda for both items was identical, these minutes are an amalgamation of both meetings. Where an item was discussed at one meeting but not the other, this will be indicated.

Attendance: Daytime Meeting (13:00 – 15:30)

Name	Role/Representing
WPC Newman	East Ham Police Station
WPC Williams	East Ham Police Station
Paul Illot	Local Strategic Partnership Rep
Elizabeth Laird	Community Forum Chair
Kevin Blowe	LBN, Neighbourhood Facilitation Advisor
Mark Hutin	LBN, Neighbourhood Facilitation Advisor
Teresa Dacosta	BCHP
Nicole Ferreira	Resident
Martin Tilbury	LBN, Education
John Barry	LBN, Community Forum Team

Attendance: Evening Meeting (19:00 – 21:30)

Name	Role/Representing
Peter Kiu	Resident & Forum Treasurer
PC Locker	East Ham Police Station
PC Cruickshank	East Ham Police Station
Sandra Erskine	Resident
A Lally	Resident
M Kaur	Resident
Rob Few	BCHP
Fisayo Ogundana	Resident
Olamide Soleye	Resident
Elvis Gentles	Resident
Vijay Parmar	Resident
Ashok Patel	Resident
I. Ali	Resident
MD Mukid Miah	Resident
Floyd Russell	Winsor Park Centre Manager
Paul Illot	Local Strategic Partnership Rep
Cllr Clive Furness	LBN Councillor
Elizabeth Laird	Community Forum Chair
Val Alliez	Resident
Lydia Trotter	Resident
Jarnigav Akhtar	Resident
B Hemmings	Resident
Michael Potts	Resident
Liz Hanrahan	LBN, Education
Julius Antwi	Resident

Georgine Antwi
Josephine Okye
Julia Layne
Anne Wheadon
R Lewis
M Miah
I Ali
Tony Cesay
Martin Tilbury
John Barry

Resident
Resident
Youth Offending Team
Youth Offending Team
Resident
Resident
Resident
Social Entrepreneur
LBN, Education
LBN, Community Forum Team

1 General Introduction

- 1.1 Introductions were made.
- 1.2 **[DAYTIME MEETING]** The two new Neighbourhood Facilitation Advisors, Kevin Blowe and Mark Hutin, introduced themselves to the forum. Their role initially will be to assist the Community Forum, encouraging excluded groups, wider involvement and undertake extensive outreach work.
- 1.3 They will also draw up a plan to help the area spend its part of the £30 million designated to Newham through its Local Strategic Partnership. They announced plans to hold a meeting in July to set-up the panel that will decide who takes a lead on the various projects.

2 Apologies and Declarations of Interest

- 2.1 Apologies were received for Malcolm Smith.
- 2.2 No declarations of interest

3 Minutes

Minutes were not discussed

4 Matters Arising

None

5 Kingsford School – John Cochrane and Liz Hanrahan

- 5.1 The new school represents Newham's first PFI (Private Finance Initiative) school. This means that the company that builds the school will be responsible for managing the building for the next thirty years (cleaning, maintenance, room hire etc.).
- 5.2 It is still on target to be opened in September. Although the building is new, the school already exists in a different location and is already therefore well established.
- 5.3 The pupils will be between the ages of 11 and 16 years old, with a mixed gender and in total 1500 pupils. There will be 1,00 pupils at the school in September, which will increase by 300 pupils per year until the capacity of 1500 pupils is reached.
- 5.4 Children will not be leaving the school grounds at lunchtimes. Also the school opens from 7.30 am, although lessons do not start until 8.30 a.m., so that there will be a

staggered entrance for children. The school also runs a Breakfast Club, which is proving very popular (with 80% attendance). Similarly, children will also leave over a staggered period, as there are After Hours Clubs, and will be assisted to bus stops and off of the premises by adults.

- 5.5 A consultation exercise was undertaken to see how children intend arriving at school and the results suggested a high proportion would be walking to school (over 30%). However, the impact that additional traffic might have on the area will also be monitored. Some minor changes to the road layout surrounding the school have already been made.
- 5.6 The school will be available for use in the evening, but at a commercial rate; these rates have yet to be decided. Newham will be paying for some community use of the building and it is intended that Adult Education will expand from the Globe into the school.
- 5.7 The meeting was shown a layout of the school building and the surrounding roads. John Cochrane said that he would find out if there are plans to strengthen or landscape the perimeter fencing of the school.
- 5.8 It was asked if there was any provision specifically to encourage Afro-Caribbean children. It was explained that Learning Support Units have been set-up in Newham and are working to reduce all excluded minorities and discrimination. Cllr Furness added that anyone could request a breakdown on exclusions from their local councillor, however he pointed out that the lowest attainment rates in Newham were from white boys.
- 5.9 It was added that the current acting Head Teacher, Joan Deslandes, is happy to attend future Community Forum meetings once the school has opened in September.

6 Local Issue (Added to the Agenda) [EVENING MEETING]

- 6.1 Several residents reported that there had been a local incident on the estate. Floyd Russell – manager of the Winsor Park Resource Centre – has just completed a report and he is available to discuss the incident should anyone want to do so. He will also be meeting with East Thames Housing on 4 July 2002 to discuss the matter further.
- 6.2 It was requested that the Housing Association be invited to attend and answer questions at the next meeting. This was agreed.

7 Voyages Out (Added to the Agenda) [EVENING MEETING]

- 7.1 Bradley Hemmings from the Greenwich and Docklands International Festival spoke briefly about the Voyages Out event taking place at the Royal Albert Dock (adjacent to Beckton Park DLR station) on 7 July 2002 from 8 p.m. Free entry for everyone.
- 7.2 This is the culmination of projects that they have been running in conjunction with local schools [Storey, Gallions, Winsor, Drew and Scott Wilkie Schools]. It will involve the launch of a fleet of illuminated boats followed by a pyrotechnic and water display, courtesy of the renowned German theatre company, Titanick.

8 Youth Academy – Tony Cesay [EVENING MEETING]

- 8.1 Tony Cesay, ABA National Welterweight Boxing Champion, informed the meeting of his hope to establish a physical community sports academy in East London. As a boxer it is his contention that attracting children and young adults to a sports programme can benefit them in terms of discipline and self-esteem, as well as

helping them gravitate towards self-improvement and education. It is also felt that these goals will also benefit families and local communities. Tony was warmly applauded.

- 8.2 He is currently writing a proposal for an Academy, similar to one already working successfully in Durham. It was suggested that this academy might not necessarily require a permanent physical base, but rather might use various local centres as venues.

9 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Youth Offending Team **[EVENING MEETING]**
Anne Wheadon from Newham's Youth Offending Team introduced herself to the meeting and explained that she will be linking into the Beckton Community Forum from now on. It was hoped she would be able to use future slots in the agenda to feedback and explain more information to the Community Forum about the work of the team. Julia Layne explained that she had been writing a Youth Crime Strategy and an action plan to look at supporting young offenders, and those who are at risk of offending. It also looks at ways of promoting inclusion and developing relationships with communities.
- 9.2 Nightingale Way **[EVENING MEETING]**
Several residents complained that this road was being used as a cut through by children and as a result there had been an increase in incidents of vandalism and graffiti. The residents agreed to suggest a solution to this problem, and if it had the support of other residents, they would submit a bid to the Building Confidence scheme. In the meantime it was recommended they contact the Council on 020 8430 2000.
- 9.3 The Unfinished Bridge **[EVENING MEETING]**
Residents complained that this bridge had remained unfinished for some considerable time and that it was attracting vandals and flytipping. Cllr Furness explained that it was currently part of the plans being revised by Ken Livingstone, Mayor of London, and that a decision would soon be known.
- 9.4 Youth Involvement
Martin Tilbury updated the group on efforts to initiate a youth sub-group for the forum, starting with a residential retreat. He was currently looking at this proposal in more details and would return to the forum with the hope of receiving financial support.
- 9.5 Winsor Park Resource Centre **[EVENING MEETING]**
Floyd explained to the room that he operated an open door policy should residents ever want to speak with him on any issue. He also added that the summer programme would soon be available.
- 9.6 Winsor Park Food Co-Operative **[EVENING MEETING]**
Georgine Antwi reminded residents that the Co-Operative is now running again. *Winsor Park Food Co-op* is an independent community led project, which operates a weekly stall selling fresh fruit and vegetables to residents of the Winsor Park Estate. The weekly stall operates from the Winsor Park Resource Centre on Fridays and Saturdays. There will also be a series of community events, the first of which will be a Caribbean Night on Saturday 29 June 2002.