Notice of Meeting

Tuesday, 20 October 2009
5:00 - 7:30 pm
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barking

For information about this meeting, please contact:
John Dawe on Tel: 020 8227 2135
Fax: 020 8227 2162
Minicom: 020 8227 2685
E-mail: john.dawe@lbbd.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. Photographs and Refreshments - 4:30 p.m.
2. Apologies for Absence - 4:50 p.m.
3. Welcome and Introductions - 5:00 p.m.
4. Minutes of the meeting held on 13 July 2009 - 5:10 p.m. (Pages 1 - 6)
5. Ice Breaker - 'Play your cards right' - 5:15 p.m.
6. Democratic Services - Outline of role within the Forum - 5:25 p.m.
7. Explanation of role's within the Forum - 5:45 p.m.
   
   Existing members talk about last years sub groups and what they did.

8. What are the issues for Barking and Dagenham's young people - 6:00 p.m.
   
   Baseline assessment with perceptions of the borough and youth issues

9. Identification of Issues to be changed or influenced - 6:30 p.m.
   
   Young people identify issues that are important to them in B & D and things they would like to change/influence- YP call out ideas.

10. Choosing this year's Sub-Groups - 6:50 p.m.
    
    • 2 Sub-groups are to be chosen and on what days they will run
• Chris O’Connor (Children’s Services) to explain about a new 3rd Sub Group that is formed entitled “Young Inspectors/Consultation”

• Young people to nominate themselves for one of the sub groups

• Sub-groups will start to meet week beginning 03/11/09

11. Any other business - 7:20 p.m.

12. Closing remarks from the Chair - 7:30 p.m.

13. Date of next meeting

   Date: 20 January 2010
   Time: 17:00 p.m.
   Venue: Council Chamber, Barking Town Hall
# MINUTES OF THE B.A.D YOUTH FORUM

**Monday, 13 July 2009**  
_Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barking_  
5:00 - 7:00 pm.

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<tr>
<th>Forum Members</th>
<th>School</th>
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<td>Abigail Odum</td>
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<td>Adu Barffour</td>
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<td>Andrew Kerr</td>
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<td>Ashleigh Browne-Obeya</td>
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<td>Aston Joshua</td>
<td>Warren</td>
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<td>Ben Thorne</td>
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<td>Ben Harold</td>
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<td>Bobby Bates</td>
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<td>Cathy Wallin</td>
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<td>Charles Azoba</td>
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<td>Colin Crosfield</td>
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<td>Connor Murray</td>
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<td>Daisy Ogunlana</td>
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<td>David Hayward</td>
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<td>Hollie Moore</td>
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<td>Israef Akinfewa</td>
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<td>Joyce Fasehun</td>
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<td>Kennie Fricker</td>
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<td>Kieran Roberts</td>
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<td>Kymberley Otchere</td>
<td>Jo Richardson</td>
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<td>Laura Handley</td>
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<td>Lennox Gbolahan</td>
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31. Apologies for Absence

Tommy Lee, Joshua Aston and Sally Ann Sindrey

32. Welcome and Introduction

The Chair Kymberly Otchere welcomed the Forum members to the meeting.

The Forum evaluated their year as members and concluded that it had been a worthwhile investment of their time.

33. Minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2009

Agreed

34. Youth Champions Update

The Youth Champion Kymberly Otchere stated that she was getting her project on music finalised. It would be up and running in the summer. She has met up with a Graphic Designer to design the Project’s Logo. Leaflets will be given out in week commencing 13 July 2009. She asked that Forum members help distribute leaflets and be part of the project. She ended by encouraging the forum members to keep up the good work and thanked them for their contributions over the past year.
35. **UKYP Representatives Update**

Ben Thorne, the UK Youth Parliament Representative provided the following update:

He said that he had applied for a grant to help in the promotion of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) issues. The application was unsuccessful as another group called CARESS had applied first and received the funding. He proposed the possibility of joining in the work of CARESS to ensure good services for young LGBT people in the borough.

36. **Health and Environment Sub-group Feedback**

Andrew Kerr provided the following update:

The sub-group’s project is a campaign called ‘Unprotected sex comes as part of a package’. They will be promoting the campaign at the Dagenham Town show on 18 and 19 July 2009 with their newly designed leaflet and an ‘Unlucky dip’. The group will also be delivering workshops to other young people during the summer break.

37. **Crime and Safety Sub-Group Feedback**

Ayomide Simisaiye provided the following update:

The sub-group is promoting awareness about knife crime. They have designed a logo to be put on T shirts and for people to put their own slogans on them. The phrase they have chosen is ‘Get a life, Lose the knife’. This campaign will also be promoted at the Town Show on the 18th and 19th July along with leaflets from the Home Office.

38. **Equalities Sub-group Feedback**

Ben Thorne gave the following update:

The sub-group produced a short film to be distributed to schools and incorporated into the Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE) curriculum. They hope it will educate young people and break down myths and pre-conceived ideas. There will be a premiere of the film at the Vue Cinema in Dagenham. Ben thanked Sally Allen-Clarke, Ann McDonnell and Julie Willett for all their support.

39. **Streetbase Feedback and Discussion - Micah Gold and Jo Feeney**

Micah Gold and Jo Feeney gave a presentation on Streetbase; a new youth activities programme that LBBD will launch this summer. It was described as a positive activity easily accessible for 11 – 16 year olds. Its aim was to attract 75% of LBBD’s young people; a total of approximately 15,000. Mr Gold and Ms Feeney emphasised the importance of ensuring the voices of young people are heard in order to shape future decisions. They also reported plans to develop
flagship youth centres in each of the borough’s six localities, with the Vibe continuing as the main flagship centre.

The six localities are as follows:

- North – Marks Gate is to be the flagship Centre. There will be a Streetbase Local which can take place in any community centre

- Central – Valence Primary and the Vibe

- West – Gascoigne community centre and Abbey sports centre. A foyer is also proposed.

- South West – Sue Bramley centre is the flagship centre. Talks have also been held with the developers of the thirty thousand homes in the locality to deliver youth activities. The Streetbase Local will be in the Ripple Road School.

- East – Wood Lane sports centre and Eastbury ward. There will also be an extra centre as the Streetbase Local.

- South East – There is a bid for £5 million for a Performing Arts Centre.

Apart from the generic Streetbase logo, there were other sub-brands e.g. Streetbase Local, Streetbase active and Streetbase Advice. Jo Feeney reported that 1232 young people were surveyed for 5 choices of the Streetbase logos. Half of the young people surveyed said they did not take part in youth activities and Ms Feeney sought feedback on this matter.

Ms Feeney advised that proposals had been made to change the Woodlane Sports centre into a young people’s youth centre. She stated that feedback was needed on what facilities young people would want in the centre.

Ms Feeney reported plans to set up a Streetbase radio where young people would be able to DJ and share information. She stated that young people changed their mobile phone numbers frequently. It was, therefore, difficult to use text messaging as a reliable system of communicating with them.

There had been an unsuccessful £5 million bid to the government to build a youth centre in the middle of Dagenham Park.

Ms Feeney and Mr Gold advised that a free party in the park on Sunday 13 September 2009 at the Central Park, Dagenham had been planned. It was pointed out that there were budgetary restraints on inviting artists and a lot of volunteers were needed to make the event a success. A website had been launched which promoted Streetbase information [http://www.streetbase.info](http://www.streetbase.info) People registering on the website would be entered into a prize draw for an iPhone

Jo sought responses to the following questions:

- What do the Forum members think of how Streetbase is shaping up?
• Are the Streetbase sub-brands right?
• Is the mix of Streetbase flagship and Streetbase Locals right?

In response to a question regarding vandalism, Ms Feeney confirmed that the premises would be supervised and managed in order to avoid vandalism. She added that the centres would be open on Fridays and Saturdays. In the summer, the Vibe would have an event all day everyday and at the end of each week, there would be a trip to Alton Towers.

40. British Youth Council  - Axel Landin

Axel Landin introduced himself as the 18 year old Leader of the Camden Youth Council. He is currently campaigning to be the British Youth Council Chair. He called for more unrepresented groups to join his campaign. Axel expressed his disappointment at the media’s negative portrayal of young people as ‘yobs’ and ‘hoodies’, but pointed out that this was not necessarily the truth in all circumstances. Dispelling the negative stereotypes was one of Axel’s priorities.

Axel described a successful campaign against a shopkeeper in Camden that had installed a “Sonic Teenager Deterrent” a device which emits an unbearable sound only heard by teenagers and children. He described the moral victory for young people after officials had asked the shopkeeper to disable the device.

Axel was asked the following questions by the Youth Forum members:

• Were you able to attend youth meetings at a younger age?
Axel responded that he was not as he had helped to set up the Youth Council in Camden in 2007.

• Is anything being done in Camden Council to raise awareness of LGBT issues?
Axel responded that there were thirty-six democratically represented youth councillors in Camden. He added that there is a young person representing LGBT to flag up issues. Axel said that he would create a communication channel for members of the BAD Youth Forum and Camden Youth Council who could work in a cross council capacity.

• What are the crime levels in Camden Council?
Axel responded that parts of Camden are very deprived areas but are situated right next to very affluent ones. Other areas are tourist areas. He pointed out that young people whose parents have less time and money and who have nowhere to socialise will inevitably fall into crime. The Camden Council has spent £11,000 of its budget to set up an organisation called True Colours. It is run by young people and trained Youth workers. He added that it was important for young people to be given an opportunity to express their views.

• Do young victims of assault get their voices heard?
Axel responded that he had been a victim of an unprovoked attack four months
ago. He stated that there was nothing in place to support young victims of assault and added that it is important to have such groups as young victims could lose their confidence as a result of an assault.

He ended by explaining to the Forum members that LBBD will send two candidates to the annual council and vote for the three candidates. He will be one of the three candidates and urged the forum members to vote him in as the British Youth Council Chair.

41. **End of Year Youth Achievement Awards Certificates**

The End of Year Youth Achievement Awards was awarded by Chris O’Connor, the Group Manager for Engagement in Children’s Services. Certificates for participating in this years’ Forum were then awarded to all the young people.

42. **Closing remarks from the Chair**

The Chair congratulated the Forum members and thanked them for their hard work and commitment that had led to the success of this year’s Forum.

43. **Next meeting**

Annual General Meeting
20 October 2009
Council Chamber
Town Hall, Barking