

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Notice of Meeting

ASSEMBLY

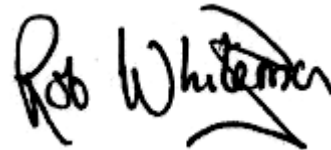
Wednesday, 7 September 2005 - 7:00 pm
Council Chamber, Town Hall, Barking

To: Members of the Council of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham

Chair: Councillor J Davis
Deputy-Chair: Councillor W F L Barns

Declaration of Members Interest:

In accordance with the Constitution, Members are asked to declare any personal or prejudicial interest they may have in any matter which is to be considered at this meeting.



R. A. Whiteman
Chief Executive

Contact Officer Valerie Dowdell
Tel. 020 8227 2756
Fax: 020 8227 2171
Minicom: 020 8227 2685
E-mail: valerie.dowdell@lbbd.gov.uk

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Minutes - To confirm as correct the minutes of the meeting held on 27 July 2005 (Pages 1 - 3)**
3. **Petition: Condition of Public Highway - Whitebarn Lane, Dagenham (Pages 5 - 7)**
4. **Local Issue - Presentation on Housing Futures**

Presentation by Ken Jones, Head of Housing Strategy, Housing and Health Department

- 5. Appointments**
- 6. Customer Services Report (Pages 9 - 10)**

Presentation by Steven Forbes, Head of Older People's Services, Social Services and Primary Care Trust.
- 7. Leader's Question time**
- 8. General Question Time**
- 9. Report of the Community Forums (Pages 11 - 18)**
- 10. Report of the BAD Youth Forum (Pages 19 - 23)**
- 11. Any other public items which the Chair decides are urgent**
- 12. To consider whether it would be appropriate to pass a resolution to exclude the public and press from the remainder of the meeting due to the nature of the business to be transacted.**

Private Business

The public and press have a legal right to attend Council meetings such as the Assembly, except where business is confidential or certain other sensitive information is to be discussed. The list below shows why items are in the private part of the agenda, with reference to the relevant legislation (the relevant paragraph of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972). There are no such items at the time of preparing this agenda.

- 13. Any confidential or exempt items which the Chairman decides are urgent**

ASSEMBLY

Wednesday, 27 July 2005
(7:00 pm)

PRESENT

Councillor J Davis (Chair)
Councillor W F L Barns (Deputy Chair)

Councillor A Agrawal	Councillor Ms M G Baker
Councillor G J Bramley	Councillor Mrs J Blake
Councillor Mrs J E Bruce	Councillor Mrs D Challis
Councillor H J Collins	Councillor L A Collins
Councillor Mrs J Conyard	Councillor B Cook
Councillor R J Curtis	Councillor W C Dale
Councillor J R Denyer	Councillor C J Fairbrass
Councillor M A R Fani	Councillor Mrs K J Flint
Councillor C Geddes	Councillor A Gibbs
Councillor I S Jamu	Councillor F C Jones
Councillor S Kallar	Councillor M A McCarthy
Councillor M E McKenzie	Councillor D S Miles
Councillor W Northover	Councillor D O'Brien
Councillor Mrs C T Osborn	Councillor R B Parkin
Councillor J W Porter	Councillor Miss N E Smith
Councillor A G Thomas	Councillor Mrs P A Twomey
Councillor T G W Wade	Councillor P Waker
Councillor Mrs M M West	

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Councillor J L Alexander	Councillor Mrs E E Bradley
Councillor A C Clark	Councillor A H G Cooper
Councillor Mrs J E Cooper	Councillor D Hemmett
Councillor Mrs D Hunt	Councillor T J Justice
Councillor R C Little	Councillor B M Osborn
Councillor Mrs J E Rawlinson	Councillor Mrs V M Rush
Councillor L A Smith	Councillor L R Waker

33. Minutes (6 July 2005)

Agreed, subject to the inclusion of Councillor Mrs West's apologies.

34. Petition opposing the extension of the existing Controlled Parking Zone in Manor Road, Dagenham

Noted that the Council will not be extending the existing Controlled Parking Zone.

35. Petition relating to Parking Issues in Saville Road, Chadwell Heath

Noted the actions taken to address residents' concerns relating to road safety in exiting Saville Road into High Road due to cars being parked on both sides of the

road.

Councillor Denyer emphasised the importance of enforcing regulations and requested that the relevant department ensures that appropriate enforcement is carried out.

36. Customer Services Report

Deferred.

37. Report of the Director of Finance: Statement of Accounts 2004/2005

Agreed the interim Statement of Accounts and noted that a final version incorporating an Audit Certificate will be reported to Members.

Councillor Bramley commended the work done by Councillor Geddes and officers in monitoring the Council's finances which had resulted in the production of a strong and healthy set of accounts.

38. Final Report of the Budget Process Scrutiny Panel

Agreed the recommendations made in the report.

Councillor Ms Baker, Lead Member, said the Panel felt that the recommendations they have made will raise Members' understanding further of the financial processes in the budget and she thanked everyone who had participated in the Panel for their work.

39. Report of the Standards Committee: Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy and Strategy

Agreed the changes to the Anti Fraud and Corruption Policy.

40. London Bombings - 7 July 2005

The Leader of the Council referred to a letter he had received from the Barking Muslim Social and Cultural Society condemning the bombings, and the reply he had sent on behalf of the Council, endorsing the sentiments expressed in the letter that we must stand united to root out this evil to make the world a better and peaceful place. Councillor Fairbrass also tabled a further letter from the Chairman of the Trustees of the Al-Madina Mosque condemning the atrocity, together with a copy of a guidance note issued to the local Muslim community. Councillor Fairbrass said that he would reply to this letter and thought that the advice given could be taken on board and used by all communities.

Councillor Fairbrass then went on to say that the Mayor will be holding a small reception on 18 August 2005 for representatives from organisations who gave help and comfort to those injured by the bombings to say thank you. Three people from the Borough lost their lives and, when the Council opens a new Civilian/Memorial Peace Garden in the Borough next year, specific reference will be made there to the people who died in the atrocity. Barking and Dagenham Labour Group Councillors are donating £1,000 towards this. Councillor Fairbrass also commended Councillor Geoff Porter, who works as a tube train driver.

The Chair fully endorsed the sentiments expressed on behalf of the Assembly.

A minute's silence was held in remembrance of the victims of the bombings on 7 July 2005.

41. Appointments

Agreed the following appointments:

Development Control Board (Wednesday Panel) – Councillors A Agrawal and W Northover

42. Leader's Question time

- Councillor Parkin asked the Leader of the Council if he would join him in congratulating the Barking and Dagenham Primary Care Trust on their achievement in changing from a zero star to a 2 star Trust, which puts them above average in the country.

Councillor Fairbrass responded that he did join Councillor Parkin in congratulating the PCT and hoped that they would continue to build on this achievement.

- Councillor Bramley asked the Leader if he would restate the Council's policy on naming and shaming.

Councillor Fairbrass said it has always been the Council's policy to name and shame, providing they are allowed to do it legally, and he reiterated that any press enquiries should be dealt with by the Council's Public Relations office.

43. Town Show Award to the Learning Disabilities Team

The Chair presented a cup to the Learning Disabilities Team which was awarded to them as first prize for a float at this year's Dagenham Town Show. Last year they entered a float for the first time and won first prize, and they won it again this year. Service users contributed to the making of the float and the project took them nine months to complete.

This page is intentionally left blank

THE ASSEMBLY

7 SEPTEMBER 2005

REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT

Title: Petition - Condition of Public Highway Whitebarn Lane, Dagenham	For Information
<p>Summary:</p> <p>A petition has been received from residents complaining about the condition of the road and footpath in Whitebarn Lane requesting that the road to be resurfaced at the earliest possible time.</p> <p>At a meeting involving Councillor Jamu, the Lead Petitioner was informed that Whitebarn Lane was included in a list of prioritised schemes. At the time of writing this report the works was programmed to commence on 8 August 2005 and estimated to be completed by the beginning of October 2005.</p> <p>Wards Affected: River Ward</p>	
<p>Implications:</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>Funds were set aside in the Highways Maintenance Programme (2005 /06) to do this work.</p> <p>Legal:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Social Inclusion and Diversity:</p> <p>The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on local authorities to make an assessment of the impact of new and revised policies in terms of race equality. Existing policies have already been subjected to impact assessments. This Authority has adopted an approach of extending the impact to cover gender, disability, sexuality, faith, age and community cohesion.</p> <p>As this report does not concern a new or revised policy there are no specific adverse impacts insofar as this report is concerned.</p>	

Crime and Disorder:		
Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a responsibility on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of any proposals.		
There are no specific implications insofar as this report is concerned.		
Recommendations		
The Assembly is recommended to note the action taken and the progress in undertaking the work on the Public Highway.		
Reason		
To assist the Council in achieving its Community Priority of <i>"Making Barking and Dagenham Cleaner, Greener and Safer"</i> .		
Contact Officer: Mike Mitchell	Title: Head of Environmental Management	Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 2677 Fax: 020 8227 2221 E-mail: mike.mitchel@lbbd.gov.uk

1. Background

- 1.1 A petition has been received from residents containing 114 signatures, representing 95 separate addresses. The petition complains about the condition of the road and footpath in Whitebarn Lane and asks for the road to be resurfaced at the earliest possible time.
- 1.2 A meeting was held with the Lead Petitioner, Mr Easton, in the presence of Councillor Jamu, on Wednesday, 29 June 2005 at the Civic Centre.
- 1.3 It was explained at the Lead Petitioner's meeting that a scheme for major resurfacing of Whitebarn Lane and part of Oval Road North had been on the list of schemes for prioritisation for the past two years and that the scheme had been included on the Highways Maintenance Programme for the 2005/06 financial year.
- 1.4 The work consists of resurfacing of both footways and carriageway in Whitebarn Lane and part of Oval Road North between Ballards Road and Whitebarn Lane. The work was programmed to commence on 8 August 2005 and at the time of writing this report it is estimated the work will be completed at the beginning of October 2005. The Lead Petitioner and Councillor Jamu accepted this course of action. Residents and Ward Councillors were advised of the proposals by letter before commencement of the scheme.

- 1.5 As part of the scheme residents will be offered the opportunity to have footway crossings constructed at the reduced rate of £265 for Oval Road North and £330 for Whitebarn Lane to allow front garden parking where appropriate.

3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The scheme will cost in the region of £250,000 and provision has been made in the funds set aside for the Highways Maintenance Programme (2005/06).

4. Consultation

4.1 Councillors

The following Councillors have been advised of the contents of this report.

Lead Councillor

Environment and Sustainability Portfolio, Councillor McKenzie

River Ward Councillors:

Councillors Jamu, L Smith and Mrs Twomey

4.2 Officers

Corporate Strategy

Muhammad Saleem, Solicitor to the Council
Robin Hanton, Corporate Legal Manager

Finance

Alex Anderson, Head of Finance (DRE)
Phil Horner,

Regeneration and Environment

In addition, the scheme has been subjected to consultation with, the Street Works Manager and the Highways Manager – Reactive Maintenance. No objections were raised.

Background Papers

- Petition.
- Letter / e-mail to Ward Councillors.
- Letters to all local residents dated 27 May 2005 and 2 August 2005. Re: the scheme.
- Highways Maintenance Programme (2005/06).

This page is intentionally left blank

THE ASSEMBLY

7 SEPTEMBER 2005

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SERVICES

Title: Customer Service Report	For Information
<p>Summary:</p> <p>In an effort to promote the importance of customer care, the Chief Executive has proposed that there be regular reports to the Assembly by Heads of Service on key customer services in their areas.</p> <p>Steven Forbes, Head of Older People's Services, Social Services Department, will give a presentation on customer services in his Division at this meeting.</p> <p>Wards Affected: None.</p>	
<p>Implications:</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Legal:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Social Inclusion and Diversity:</p> <p>The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on local authorities to make an assessment of the impact of new and revised policies in terms of race equality. Existing policies have already been subjected to impact assessments. This Authority has adopted an approach of extending the impact to cover gender, disability, sexuality, faith, age and community cohesion.</p> <p>As this report does not concern a new or revised policy there are no specific adverse impacts insofar as this report is concerned.</p> <p>Crime and Disorder:</p> <p>Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a responsibility on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of any proposals.</p> <p>There are no specific implications insofar as this report is concerned.</p>	

Contact Officer: Steven Forbes	Title: Head of Older People's Services	Contact Details: Tel: 020 8227 2337 Fax: 020 8227 2241 E-mail: steven.forbes@lbbd.gov.uk
--	---	---

Background papers used in the preparation of this report:

None

THE ASSEMBLY

7 SEPTEMBER 2005

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY FORUMS

Title: Report of the Community Forums	For Information
<p>Summary:</p> <p>This is the regular report on the work of the Community Forums and summarises their activities during June and July 2005. The main points covered are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Community Forums • Details of meeting dates and attendance figures • Presentations from <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the Council, ○ Other agencies • Neighbourhood Management feedback • Barking & Dagenham Local Strategic Partnership - Community feedback • Question and Answer summaries • Details of the informal performance indicator around the number of questions which received an adequate response at each Forum • Forum budget expenditures • Deputy Chair of Community Forum meetings, including sharing best practice • Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Community Forums and other Forums meeting discussions, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promoting Community Forums to harder to reach groups ○ Holding Question and Answer sessions at the start of Forum meetings ○ Keeping Members informed about any big/important issues in Wards in their Forum area. <p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
<p>Implications:</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Legal:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>None.</p>	

Social Inclusion and Diversity:

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on local authorities to make an assessment of the impact of new and revised policies in terms of race equality. Existing policies have already been subjected to impact assessments. This Authority has adopted an approach of extending the impact to cover gender, disability, sexuality, faith, age and community cohesion.

As this report does not concern a new or revised policy there are no specific adverse impacts insofar as this report is concerned.

Crime and Disorder:

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a responsibility on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of any proposals.

There are no specific implications insofar as this report is concerned.

Contacts: Councillor C Geddes	Title: Lead Member for Community Forums	Contact Details: Tel: 020 8924 3590 E-mail: cameron.geddes@lbbd.gov.uk
Julie Willing	Democratic and Electoral Services Officer	Tel: 020 8227 2119 Fax: 020 8227 2171 E-mail: julie.willing@lbbd.gov.uk

1. Introduction / Current Position

- 1.1 The review of Community Forums to consider their effectiveness and appropriateness as a vehicle for engaging and consulting with the community, as reported to the Annual Assembly, has begun. The terms of reference have been drawn up and all groups, including Members, community representatives, other agencies and officers will be engaged in the process.

2. Report Detail**2.1 Elections**

As a result of the by elections in the Goresbrook and the Becontree Wards the River, Village and Goresbrook and the Parsloes, Becontree and Valence Forum meetings were postponed. These meetings were subsequently held on 4 July and 18 July 2005 respectively.

2.2 Attendance

The attendance figures for the meeting of each of the Forums are as follows:

Community Forum	Date of Meeting	Attendance
Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames	27 June 2005	54
Eastbrook, Heath and Alibon	6 June 2005 (daytime)	26
ELM	14 June 2005	46
Parsloes, Becontree and Valence	18 July 2005 (daytime)	30
River, Village and Goresbrook	4 July 2005 (daytime)	26
Wellgate	20 June 2005	23

2.3 Presentations from the Council

Community Forum	Council Presentations
Eastbrook, Heath and Alibon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barking and Dagenham Direct • Improvements in Dagenham – details of expenditure in the Eastbrook, Heath & Alibon wards for 2005/06.
Eastbrook, Heath and Alibon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health Annual Report 2003/04 (B&D Primary Care Trust)
ELM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Action Plan
Parsloes, Becontree and Valence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barking and Dagenham Direct • Community Action Plan
River, Village and Goresbrook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benefits Advice (<u>Council and other agencies</u>) • Barking & Dagenham Direct • Community Action Plan
Wellgate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft Local Implementation Plan

2.4 Presentations from other Agencies

Community Forum	Presentations from other agencies/volunteers
Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Health Annual Report 2003/04 (B&D Primary Care Trust) • Age Concern Barking and Dagenham • Safer Neighbourhood Scheme – Metropolitan Police
ELM	Tour of Eastbury Manor House by three local Volunteers
Parsloes, Becontree and Valence	Fair Share Trust Fund - update on the £818,000 funding that will come to the Fanshawe area over 10 years

2.5 Neighbourhood Management Updates

2.5.1 Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames

The report of the Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames Neighbourhood Management Co-ordinator highlighted the following issues:

Issue 10 of the community newsletter, Focus Three, has been delivered and work has begun on issue 11

The partnerships between Ripple Hall Community Association and the Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames Community Development Trust are ongoing. Requests for bookings and use of the hall have increased since the Trust took over bookings. Awaiting a report to go to the Executive regarding the waiving of rent charges to all Community Associations.

Early Years and Childcare Development Partnerships – Daycare Trust has been commissioned to carry out a feasibility study on lone parenting and employment.

2.5.2 Wellgate

The report of the Neighbourhood Management Co-ordinator provided information on the various environmental, health and youth and community projects, together with information on the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) Sub Group and Partnership working.

2.6 Community Feedback

The following Forums received regular feedback/updates from their community representatives on the work of the Barking and Dagenham Local Strategic Partnership:

Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames
ELM
Parsloes, Becontree and Valence
Wellgate

The Community Empowerment Network (CEN) is providing training for community representatives about feeding back to the Forums in a timely and meaningful fashion.

2.7 Community Forum Question and Answer Summaries

Issues raised at each Forum included:

Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames

- Standards of cleansing, grounds maintenance and housing estate management on the Thames View Estate
- Rubbish accumulation/collection behind the Spotted Dog Public House, in London Road and Crouch Avenue

- Litter sweeping generally
- Maintenance of community greens and collection of garden rubbish
- Provision of litter bins
- Level of cleaning in Castle Green praised but concerns raised about rubbish from shops and flats in people's gardens
- Environmental health, including
 - Rats and mosquitoes at the ditch running at the back of Westminster Gardens
 - Foul smells from the sewage plant at Beckton.

Eastbrook, Heath and Alibon

- Where children from the new Reede Road housing development would be educated
- Secure fencing where newly built access areas abut properties in Reede Road
- Breakdown of how the Forum allocated its 04/05 Budget
- Installation of a bottle bank in Oxlow Lane
- Provision of public toilets at Dagenham Heathway
- Availability of a definitive walking map of the borough
- Hazards caused by the poor state of pavements

ELM

- Changing corporate colours
- Maintaining the shrubbery next to Barking Park
- Condition of Sissley Road and surrounding streets caused by people:
 - mixing cement on the road
 - skips parked on pavements
 - broken tarmac
 - pavement parking
- Lack of information from the Council, including not receiving the Citizen
- Not receiving black/orange bags and the distribution/availability of orange bags
- Road markings at the junction of Meadow Road/Upney Lane
- Congestion caused by the bus lane on Ripple Road (adjacent to Rippleside Burial Ground)
- Delays to the repair and maintenance work and removal of crash barriers at the A13 roundabout/Ripple Road junction
- Streetlights on day and night along the A13 from Lodge Avenue to Asda
- (Unfounded) rumours of a new 'super prison' in Barking
- Problems experienced since raising a housing benefit related issue at a previous meeting
- Future development of the Eastbury School and University of East London sites
- Police patrols in Mayesbrook Park
- "No-Go" areas at night in places such as the Essex Road bridges
- Getting through to King George's Hospital being more difficult with their new 'phone system.

Parsloes, Becontree and Valence

- Traffic calming measures in Lymington Road and Kemp Road, including:
 - the outcome of a traffic survey in Lymington Road
 - consulting residents in Kemp Road
 - health implications (noise and air pollution) and structural effects on houses caused by continuous heavy traffic traversing pavements and road humps
 - concerns that a taxi company now operating in the area has increased/added to the existing problems of congestion and pollution (letter)
- Rubbish accumulation/collection and a request for a 'No fly tipping' sign at Wood Lane allotments
- Dangers caused by reckless riding of mini scooters
- Availability of a definitive walking map of the borough
- Anti social behaviour in Parsloes Park
- Working schedules of the Parks Police
- Community policing in the Forum area
- What the Council's budget allocation to address anti-social behaviour is and how this expenditure is monitored in terms of performance and value for money?/cost effectiveness

River, Village and Goresbrook

- Condition of the fence at the rear of Corals
- Pavement parking and parking in residents' driveways
- Legality of running a car repair business from a residential property
- Progress of the regeneration of the Heathway area and other retail related issues
- Fencing around the children's play area next to Hedgemans Road
- Installing CCTV and children playing football in the new Heathway Gardens
- Motorised bikes causing danger and noise late at night

Wellgate

- Public transport provision to the new clinic in Mill Lane
- Installation of new security doors to flats at Marks Gate
- Anti-social behaviour
- Communal aerial service in Nash Road
- Condition of the Padnall Lake area, including problems being caused by rats
- Opening hours of Marks Gate Police Station
- Post office vehicles using Morley Road as a rat-run
- Community Forum budget cuts

2.8 Questions – Performance Indicator

An informal performance indicator to reflect the number of questions actually answered satisfactorily on the night, with a performance target of 50 % plus, was introduced so as to assess the level of officer support provided at Forums.

The table below sets out the number of questions answered/not answered on the night, Forum by Forum, in the last cycle.

Forum	Questions answered on the night	Questions not answered on the night
Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames	7	2
Eastbrook, Heath and Alibon	7	1
ELM	4	11
Parsloes, Becontree & Valence	4	4
River, Village & Goresbrook	9	2
Wellgate	4	6
Total	35	26

Of 35 questions asked, 26 were not answered on the night. The percentage of questions that received an adequate response on the night during the last cycle is 74.29%. (This figure corresponds to 61.9% in the April/May cycle).

4. Budgets

4.1 Individual Forum Budget Steering Groups have met and agreed to the following items of expenditure for this year's budget allocation of £7,500, with others due to meet during the next round of Forums. Due to roll forwards some Forums have additional funding to spend in the current year.

Forum	Projects
Parsloes, Becontree and Valence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small grant awards to voluntary organisations* • Anti-litter poster campaign linked to a competition in local primary schools and purchase of litter bins to be placed inside the schools • Replacing three benches at Andrews Corner, one with a commemorative plaque dedicated to the late Councillor Wainwright • Printing costs of flyers designed by the Road Safety Team for volunteers for walking buses
Abbey, Gascoigne and Thames	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small grant awards to voluntary organisations* • Funding towards Focus Three community newsletter • Christmas tree lights <p>Expenditure of remaining 2005/06 budget to be determined</p>

*The deadline for applications for small grants to voluntary organisations is November 2005.

5. Deputy Chairs meeting

5.1 At their request, Deputy Chairs now meet separately on a quarterly basis to provide them with an opportunity to discuss common issues and draw upon each others' experiences. The main points discussed at their meeting held on 18 May 2005 included:

- The need for Forums to become more representative of the local community
- Attending each other's Forum meetings
- Reviewing the minutes of each other's Forum meetings to share ideas develop more ways to solve problems

6. Chair and Deputy Chair of Community Forums and other Forums meeting

6.1 These meetings were set up to review the progress of the Forums generally to discuss issues of good practice. The main items of discussions and outcomes of meeting held on 7 June 2005 were:

- The Deputy Chair of Eastbrook, Heath and Alibon Community Forum volunteered to visit different groups/organisations to promote the Forums to harder to reach groups. This will support the work of the Council in encouraging different groups/organisations to become more involved in their local communities through the Forums.
- The Access Group representatives now provide regular feedback to the meeting. They are proposing that a link be established on the Access web site, which was launched in July 2005, to the Council's web site to promote Forums to the disabled community.
- Question and Answer sessions may be held at the beginning of a Forum if this is considered appropriate to the organisation of a particular meeting.
- Heads of Services will be approached in advance of each Forum meeting to ascertain/seek information about any big/important issues in wards linked to a particular Forum so that Members and officers are in a better position to provide a response rather than being caught unaware.

7. Organisational issue – Technical support at Forum meetings

7.1 As a result of the concerns raised about the level of support provided to servicing Forum meetings following the review of the way Community Development staff work at Forums alternative arrangements are being considered to provide technical support at the Forums.

Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

- Agendas and Minutes of Community Forum meetings held in June and July 2005.
- Notes of the Deputy Chair meeting held on 18 May 2005
- Agenda and Minutes of the Meeting of Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Community Forums and other Forums held on 7 June 2005.

THE ASSEMBLY

7 SEPTEMBER 2005

REPORT OF THE BAD YOUTH FORUM

Title: Report of the BAD Youth Forum	For Decision
<p>Summary:</p> <p>This is the regular report on the work of the BAD Youth Forum and summarises the activities of the meeting of the Youth Forum held in July 2005. The main points arising are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Development Framework and the Statement of Community Involvement – Groundwork East London ask young people how to consult with them • Anti-Social Behaviour – The Borough’s Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005 / 2008. • Report of the Crime and Leisure Sub-Group and the Education and Environment Sub-Group. • Youth Achievement Awards • Summer Programme • Year End evaluation • Establishment and on going work of the 2005 / 2006 BAD Youth Forum – the first meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 October 2005 to coincide with Local Democracy Week. • Annual report to the Assembly – the Assembly is asked to consider receiving BAD Youth Forum annual reports after the last meeting of the Forum each year. <p>Wards Affected: None.</p>	
<p>Implications:</p> <p>Financial:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Legal:</p> <p>None.</p> <p>Risk Management:</p> <p>None.</p>	

Social Inclusion and Diversity:

The Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000 places a requirement on local authorities to make an assessment of the impact of new and revised policies in terms of race equality. Existing policies have already been subjected to impact assessments. This Authority has adopted an approach of extending the impact to cover gender, disability, sexuality, faith, age and community cohesion.

As this report does not concern a new or revised policy there are no specific adverse impacts insofar as this report is concerned.

Crime and Disorder:

Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 places a responsibility on local authorities to consider the crime and disorder implications of any proposals. There are no specific implications insofar as this report is concerned.

Recommendation

The Assembly is asked to consider receiving annual reports on the work of the BAD Youth Forum at the Assembly meeting following the last BAD Youth Forum meeting each year, and in so doing to amend the Council's Constitution.

Reason

To keep the Assembly informed of the activities of the BAD Youth Forum.

Contacts:

Councillor C Geddes

Julie Willing

Title:

Lead Member for
Community Forums

Democratic and
Electoral Services
Officer

Contact Details:

Tel: 020 8924 3590

E-mail: cameron.geddes@lbbd.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8227 2119

Fax: 020 8227 2171

E-mail: julie.willing@lbbd.gov.uk

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The final meeting of the 2004/05 Youth Forum was held on 19 July 2005. Certificates were issued recognising the young people's involvement in the Forum during the year.

2. Report Detail

2.1 Local Development Framework

The Council is required to draw up a Local Development Framework following a recent change to the planning system. This will cover everything from where to build houses to where shops, pubs and restaurants should be concentrated and will include a Statement of Community Involvement. This will set out how and when the Council will engage the community on planning issues.

Consultants / Representatives from Groundwork East London asked the young people for their ideas as to how best to consult and get their views about how their local area should be developed over the next 10 years. The suggestions put forward will be used to draw up the Statement of Community Involvement.

2.2 Anti-Social Behaviour

Young people were reassured that the Council continues to be committed to addressing anti social behaviour. The Borough's Crime, Disorder and Drugs Strategy 2005 / 2008 has now been drawn up and takes on board the concerns raised during public consultation last year which revealed, amongst other things, that anti-social behaviour was a main concern for young people.

2.3 Update from Sub-Groups

The outcomes of the final rounds of meetings of the sub-groups were reported as follows:

Crime and Leisure

- The group met with the Parks Development Officer to discuss plans for a Borough wide mini Olympics in the summer holidays and a skate park at Castle Green Park (which opened on 27 July 2005).
- Feedback from a questionnaire the group had drawn up to seek the views of other young people about crime and safety was presented to Borough Commander Robin Hope during a visit to Dagenham Police Station.
- The plan to hand out 'stop and search' rights information cards to young people did not go ahead following the recent acts of terrorism.

Education and Environment

- The group met with the a representative from SHANKS and the Environmental Sustainability Co-ordinator, Department of Regeneration and Environment (DRE) to prepare for a stall to educate the public about recycling and renewable energy on 'Big Green Borough Day' which took place during Sustainability Week in June.
- A petition against the use of non bio-degradable product wrapping has been prepared and will be submitted to the House of Commons.
- A Transport Consultant from DRE attended a meeting to discuss the Borough's Five Year Transport Strategy.
- The Chief Executive held a question and answer session where young people found out about plans for the borough and young people in the future.

2.4 Youth Achievement Awards

Several young people have achieved the accredited Youth Achievement (bronze) Award, three more are continuing to work towards this and four young people are now working towards their silver award.

2.5 Summer Programme

Young people will be participating in a residential visit to the Peak District in August.

2.6 Year End Evaluations

Evaluation of the work of the Forum 2004 / 2005 will be undertaken by the young people and fed back into the Summer programme with a view to implementing changes to make the Forum even better next year.

3. Establishment of the 2005 / 2006 BAD Youth Forum

- 3.1 Elections - The elections for the 2005 / 2006 Youth Forum will take place early September and the first meeting of the newly elected Youth Forum will be held to coincide with Local Democracy Week on Tuesday 18 October 2005 (and not on 13 October 2005 as stated in the Council diary).
- 3.2 Question and Answer Session – Consideration is being given to arranging a 'Question Time' style debate involving young people, Councillors, MPs, Transport for London and the Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police. The idea is to run this along the lines of a similar event organised in 2003, to be organised in conjunction with Local Democracy Week.
- 3.3 Review of leisure facilities - The new Forum will continue to work with the Youth Support and Development Service (YSDS) to develop / improve the Youth Organisations & Services for Young People within Barking and Dagenham Directory.
- 3.4 Intergenerational Project - Forum members will continue to support the Council's Intergenerational Project to bring young and older people together to promote contact and understanding.
- 3.5 Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) - The newly established Youth Forum will be asked to consider an invitation to regularly attend the Barking and Dagenham Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Social Cohesion Sub-Group meetings.
- 3.6 Greater London Authority (GLA) - An invitation from John Biggs to host a Forum meeting at the GLA headquarters in London will be also be considered.

4. Annual Report to the Assembly

- 4.1 The BAD Youth Forum is established each year to coincide with the academic year, i.e. September – 31 August. Up until now annual reports on the work of the Forum have been presented to the Council's Annual Assembly, which is held before the Forum has concluded its' annual programme of work, including any summer activities. Members are therefore asked to consider receiving annual reports of the BAD Youth Forum at the Assembly meeting at the October meetings of the Assembly, and to amend the Constitution accordingly.

Background Papers used in the Preparation of the Report:
Agendas and minutes of BAD Youth Forum meetings in 2004/05

This page is intentionally left blank