

Planning Team (Open Meeting) July 25th 2013

Agenda	Discussion	Action
Welcome & Introductions	John, (Chair), Vincent Ofeodu, Anthony, Carol (notes), Karl, Elspeth	
Apologies	Henrietta, Karl, Ron, Maureen, Gill, Sandra, Norris Johnson, David, Patrick Canning,	
	Welcome to member Vincent Ofeodu who has been a member of DBU for over five years	
Matters arising from notes of previous meeting	Corrections to Minutes: Add Ron to apologies and correct the spelling of Vince Stops.	
	<p>Carol confirmed attendance of Cllr Guy Nicholson to talk at the September forum.</p> <p>David has met with Rita Chamber, a new officer from Hackney Council, who would like to talk to members about Home Care and the Meals on Wheels review.</p> <p>At the last Planning Team suggestions were made about Healthwatch talking to members about Healthwatch. However, there were queries as to the possibility of DBU hosting three speakers. Members present agreed that it would be fine to have three speakers.</p> <p>Carol informed that Lord Low is confirmed for December – members agreed that he would be ideal. John suggested that we send Lord Low a copy of Transport Report for review.</p>	<p>Carol to send reminder to Cllr Guy Nicholson and send invitations to Rita Chamber & Liz Hughes</p> <p>Carol to send invite to Liz Hughes</p> <p>Carol contact Lord Low to confirm attendance of the next meeting in December. Carol to send the ‘Getting There’ report to Lord Low to</p>

	<p>Healthwatch Hackney was launched earlier this month. John, David and Carol attended.</p> <p>Alex, Maureen, Karl attended the Dalston Festival which went well. Distributed leaflets and two new members registered with DBU – members present commented that it highlighted the need to do more outreach.</p> <p>John informed members that, during the week long Dalston Festival, he joined a panel talking about the public realm and development in Dalston. Discussions were held on the local area action plan and Cllr Vincent Stops was invited to explain Hackney Council's plan relating to high rise blocks in the area.</p> <p>Concerns were raised about the difficulty accessing some of the shops in Hackney and also the shops and cafes are blocking the footway and enforcement officers appear to do nothing because they have not had a complaint.</p> <p>Karl suggested that we need enforcement officers to tackle shops (particularly, shops and cafes on Kingsland High Street, and Ashwin Street) that block the footway. John discussed Green Lanes intersection plans. John pointed out that urgent action needed to be taken against Council plans to make the footway into a shared space for cycling at the intersection of Green Lanes & Stoke Newington Church Street. The planning officer</p>	<p>comment on the Transport Report_ send in PDF or RTF format</p> <p>John and Karl to approach enforcement officers.</p> <p>John to draft letter to Feryal Dimici regarding the Green Lanes & Stoke Newington Church Street intersection plans</p>
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	<p>sent out a proposal which was incompatible with needs of disabled pedestrians needing to use that space.</p> <p>Concerns were raised by John about the impact of proposed changes to the Eastern Curve, currently the only accessible green space in Dalston. Hackney Council is considering proposals to convert this into a shopping street and cycle way.</p> <p>Karl informed members about UK Vision Strategy – a national-wide push to enable better vision. John suggested that this was a good piece for the newsletter, to inform DBU members of the work being done, but expressed reservations that focussing on impairments could take us away from the social model.</p> <p>The role of DBU in Hackney is important because we raise awareness on key issues such as benefit cuts which has a devastating effects on the lives of disabled people.</p> <p>DBU's presence in the borough has been influential to the extent that we have been invited to take part in quality training for members of LBH staff.</p> <p>Karl commented on the need to encourage members to get involved in the functioning of DBU. John suggested that we remind ourselves of the value of DBU - where we are today, where we are going, what is happening. Elspeth commented that DBU gives confidence to</p>	<p>Karl to write small piece about UK Vision Strategy for the DBU Newsletter.</p> <p>Perspective discussion on the future of DBU to be discussed briefly at next planning team meeting and also review the suggestions that were made by Andrea.</p> <p>Set up a working party to encourage active participation? Discuss at the next Planning Team meeting.</p>
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	<p>members even though they do not come to meetings.</p> <p>Vincent suggested that we prompt members by word of mouth – Carol making the occasional phone calls – we could invite members to become more involved by assisting with volunteering:- to do mailings, meeting and greeting new members at the Forum, etc.</p> <p>It was suggested we set up a working party – to encourage members to take a more active role rather than being passive.</p>	
AOB	<p>Anthony suggested that we consider inviting Tanni Grey Thompson as a speaker for March. This will be discussed at the next Planning Team meeting.</p> <p>John raised concerns about the importance of recording notes for the Forum. It is a lost opportunity if officers and councillors make suggestions or say that they will get back to us but we have no record of this, so we can't chase them up.</p>	Discuss future speakers at the next Planning Team meeting.