

June MLGB Neighbourhood Forum Meeting Notes

Thursday 3 June, 6-7pm

Chaired by Emma Bentley-Fox (East Street Arts)
Layla Robleh- Davies (East Street Arts) taking minutes
9 people in attendance (8 organisations, 1 resident)

Meeting Agenda:

- Welcome & check-in
- Abbie & Emma from the council to give us an update on the Forum Application
- Discuss ideas for exploring the application in a more creative/fun way
- Discuss ideas for the August summer school
- Emma to introduce ESA's climate change festival and how to get involved
- Set date/location for next meeting

Welcome and member updates:

- Rory talked about the upcoming community conversations in Lincoln green and the Great Big Get Together on 26 June (which they've partnered with Jo Cox's charity) & how Lens lab has been out in the community. Rory mentioned funding of £150 that is available to residents via U Choose/Small Sparks.
- Sheila from Burmantofts Senior action has been speaking to her service users on the telephone and helping to encourage them to get them outside again post covid.
- Paul - Co-op academy - Was on half term but has been working towards teacher assessed grades and helping year 11 students preparing for colleges. Students are getting out again post covid and there is a need for them to engage with the community.
- Abbie- Leeds Council. Abbie gave a presentation to a planning conference, focusing on creative engagement and talked about Mabgate and our forum.
- Kevin- Leeds city college. Kevin mentioned the college has a base around Mabgate. Students coming to the end of the year and doing final assessments. Kevin also mentioned he is now an ESA board member.
- Cllr Denise Regan - Mentioned she has been on a walkabout with the highways team from the council and they are coming up to the 2nd phase of development on Mabgate.

Forum Designation Application

Abbie Miladinovic and Emma Lewis from Leeds Council Planning team have been supporting us in drafting the application for us to become a designated forum.

Abbie talked through the process briefly.

The document needs to meet some legal requirements, so can be quite bureaucratic!

It is made up of several aspects including:

- Letter of application

- Legal requirements
- Draft constitution
- Forum values

Kat our artist in residence has also written a membership statement.

Abbie mentioned we will need to designate a board for the forum (made up of active members) who will drive the progress of the neighbourhood plan.

As we know the forum needs to be made up of 21 people who, live and work in the area.

The document contains other key information such as:

- The complaints process - members behaviour
- Disbanding the forum
- Extending the life of the forum after 5 years.
- Supporting statement - challenges, work done so far, members

The final document will have 6 weeks of communication from the council to see if there are any objections.

Abbie took questions from the group:

Question from Cllr Regan about max no of people for the forum: Abbie mentioned there isn't a maximum number.

Question from Motunrayo - How do we guarantee the diversity of the forum members
What should a forum look like?:

Abbie mentioned feedback can be given throughout the process.

Marie is a PhD researcher who has been doing research to identify what a representative forum would look like. This research identifies where we need to do further work.

Representation is a requirement of the area it covers.

Cllr Regan suggested the forum needs a more inclusive name? It could be alienating. Could we alienate people living on the border of our areas.

A discussion on how to make the statement more visual -

Emma suggested that we could do a creative workshop to perhaps create a cover for the document and to visualise our values.

- Rory - Rory mentioned he is keen to be involved.

August Summer school

Emma discussed the upcoming Summer School in August and how the forum could get involved in making this an intergenerational Summer School.

We are focusing on students transitioning to new secondary school yr6 - yr 7 but also want to work with older people in the community.

- Paul from Co-op academy has organised events for these students transitioning from Primary to Secondary school in the first week of August. Paul has offered us facilities at the college to host the summer school and can promote to his existing student list. He is currently putting his programme together and is heavily involved with Fotsal (one-touch football).
- Sheila from Burmantofts Senior Action is also keen to get involved and happy to chat with us and the residents.
- Emma mentioned she is eager to do a skill share between older and younger generations which could include cooking or photography for example.
- Rory - Would like to get involved with possible music and breakdancing sessions
- Kevin at Leeds City College has offered their facilities too.

Emma introducing 'The Space Between'

Councillor Reagan said she would share our programme and could we share via email with her.

Layla shared the link and asked people to email if they would like to book cabanon or via eventbrite

marketing@esamail.org.uk

Future Meetings

Emma asked do we keep the zoom meetings moving forward?

- Cllr Reagan says yes as she suspects lockdown may continue.
- Paul - Keen to get out and experience and meet people though

We discussed perhaps a hybrid of both?

Perhaps planning meetings in person and short meetings via zoom.

Any other business -

Abbie suggested a get to know the neighbourhood walk for the summer school.