

Dalston Square Culture and Community Engagement Forum
6pm, Monday 30th November 2015
Education Room, Dalston CLR James Library
MINUTES

Present: Maia Chiara Rossi, Donna Fugassa
 Victoria Dzivenu, BLEMA
 Lloyd French, local resident
 Lucy McMenemy, Cultural Programme Officer, LBH
 Alessia Mastroleo, Donna Fugassa
 Cllr Peter Snell

Apologies:
 Nick Connaughton, Arcola Theatre
 Cory Defoe, Dalston Town Centre Manager, LBH
 Fiona Duffellen, Dalston Square resident (Fiona is now standing down from the forum)
 Juliet Formby, Age UK East London
 Ted Rogers, Head of Libraries, Heritage and Culture, LBH

Notes: Minutes by Lucy McMenemy (LBH)

Item		Action
1.	<u>Welcome/Introductions / Apologies</u>	
2.	<u>Minutes of the last meeting</u> The minutes were approved.	
3.	<p><u>Update on funding for cultural events in Dalston Square</u></p> <p>The council has received some additional Section 106 funds from Barratt Homes and this has enabled the following budgets to be created for Dalston Square and local networks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalston Square Cultural Programme - £20,000 revenue funding per year for 2 years. Lucy McMenemy will devise a strategy for this, based on evaluation of previous programmes in the square. <p>In addition, some other pots of funding have been created from the Section 106 agreement, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dalston Cultural Programme - £22,000 for cultural events and activities across Dalston – a call-out for proposals will be sent out shortly. • Dalston Children’s Network - £12,000 will be available to this network to develop a collaborative project. <p>The funding for Dalston Square will enable a programme of cultural activities to be pro-actively planned. The aim of the programme will be to make Dalston Square a welcoming place for everyone in the community in which to enjoy high quality cultural activity. It will be delivered in partnership with local arts and cultural organisations.</p>	

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4.	<p><u>Review of recent events</u></p> <p>‘Super Dads’ Games Days in Dalston Square - Sat 1st, 8th 15th & 22nd August</p> <p>Universal Board Games held a series of ‘Super Dads’ games days in Dalston Square, as part of a research project about the impact of game-playing on the family, with an emphasis on improving parenting, relationships and wellbeing (particularly in relation to fathers and children) in a low-cost, supportive environment.</p> <p>The events were well attended with approx. 45 people attending each one. These events were open to all families living in Hackney and encouraged families to enjoy time playing games together while boosting literacy and numeracy in a fun, low-cost way.</p> <p>Fundraising for Hackney French Youth Theatre – 2-4pm, every Saturday in August</p> <p>Young people who attend the Mind Your Language French Theatre club undertook fundraising in Dalston Square for an exchange visit to their peers in France. This took place at the same time as the games days above and also included acoustic drumming and dance on 22nd August.</p> <p>The fundraising was a great success, with the group raising approx. £250 which was used towards the costs of the exchange visit.</p> <p>The exchange was part of an organised programme and it represented an opportunity for many of the participants to travel out of the UK for the first time.</p> <p>Rugby World Cup Trophy Tour – Monday 7 September, 5-9pm</p> <p>As part of the build-up to Rugby World Cup 2015, the international Rugby World Cup Trophy Tour visited Dalston Square.</p> <p>The event was an opportunity for Rugby fans to get closer to the Webb-Ellis Cup 10 days before the world wide event started in Twickenham.</p> <p>The event was very well attended and included a photoshoot for rugby fans alongside rugby stars.</p> <p>Garage Sale Trail Launch event – Sat 26th Sept</p> <p>Led by HCVS, the project brought together Hackney residents, voluntary sector groups, schools, Children’s Centre’s, residents associations and businesses to run Garage Sales across the borough in a friendly, neighbourly community event.</p> <p>The activity in Dalston Square represented the launch for the event. Eight stalls were run in Dalston Square by local organisations including including Dalston CLR James Library (books and old library stock) and Artburst Ltd (children’s art kits).</p>	

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	<p>There was a charitable element to the project; people & groups taking part donated a share of their sales proceeds to the 'Hackney Giving' Fund. Hackney Giving is a collaboration led by Hackney CVS and the East End Community Foundation, which channels funding and support to smaller charities in the borough to bring community benefits.</p> <p>www.hackneygiving.org.uk</p>	
5.	<p>Update on proposed Dalston Food Market in Dalston Square</p> <p>A local entrepreneur, Max Kennedy, has proposed that he run a food market in Dalston Square every Sunday. He has already run a similar project at the Petchy Academy and more recently in Gillette Square.</p> <p>Max Kennedy has presented his proposal to this forum and gained support from the (small number of) residents who attended.</p> <p>One of the action points from the last meeting was for Lucy McMenemy to consult with colleagues within the council to explore regulatory and capacity issues relating to the market.</p> <p>Further to the above consultation, Lucy reported that, as it is a proposal for a weekly market, the council takes the position that the markets team would need to be actively involved, but there is no surplus capacity to do so at present.</p> <p>If the market was given a license by the markets team, the pitch fees would be unlikely to fully cover the cost of the market team's involvement. (Legislation prevents the markets team from charging above a certain amount per pitch.)</p> <p>If the market was treated as a private (unlicensed) market, certain public roads would need to be temporarily blocked off to comply with markets legislation, which the council has no budget for. In any case, this option is not supported by the council, as it would be considered necessary for the markets team to be actively involved in the market.</p> <p>This has been discussed with Max and he has been offered opportunities to hold occasional markets in Dalston Square for which there would be capacity within the council to oversee. Max has declined this for the time being.</p>	
6.	<p>New proposals:</p> <p>1) Arcola Youth Theatre and ABP Autograph performances: Sunday 6 December, 2-4pm</p> <p>The Sound and The Fury. This spoken word event will see 60 young poets from Arcola Youth Theatre and performers from ABP Autograph Gallery sharing their their views and thoughts with the public. This event promises to challenge preconceptions, spark debate and get people talking.</p> <p>The young people will be aged 13-19. The performance are interactive</p>	

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	<p>and aim to engage audiences of all ages.</p> <p>2) BLEMA presents 'African Christmas in Dalston Square': Saturday 12 December, 12noon-4pm</p> <p>BLEMA dancers are regular performers at the Hackney One Carnival. They propose to bring their amazing African dancing, drumming, acrobatics and story-telling performances to Dalston Square. There will also be a number of stalls selling African clothes and jewellery.</p> <p>In between the professional performances, BLEMA drummers will offer free African drumming workshops for all ages.</p> <p><u>Feedback from forum members:</u></p> <p>1) One forum member suggested that the drumming on the 12th may be intrusive to local residents. The majority of the forum members felt that the hours of the event were regarded as acceptable for acoustic drumming.</p>	
7.	<p><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></p> <p>Date to be confirmed – at Dalston CLR James Library, in the Education Room (2nd Floor)</p>	