

## Dalston Square Culture and Community Engagement Forum

7pm, 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012

Education Room, Dalston CLR James Library

### MINUTES

**Present:** Gubsy Agolia-Astinall, Keswick Lodge resident  
 Vaida Baltrusaityte, Dalston Square resident  
 Tricia Davies, Chair, Mayfield Close Estate TRA  
 Cory Defoe, Dalston Town Centre Manager, LBH  
 Cllr Michele Gregory, LBH  
 Anna McSweeney, Dalston Square Residents Association  
 Lucy McMenemy, Cultural Programme Officer, Cultural Development  
 Edward Rogers, Head of Libraries, Heritage and Culture, LBH  
 Dave Shanks, Forest Road, Acer Street and Holly Street TRA  
 Andrew Wright, Dalston Square resident

**Apologies:** Lorne Stefanini, Chair, Rhodes Estate TRA  
 Cllr Sophie Linden, LBH  
 Cllr Jonathan McShane, LBH  
 Cllr Angus Mulready-Jones, LBH

**Notes:** Minutes by Lucy McMenemy (LBH)

Item		Action
1.	<b><u>Welcome/Introductions</u></b>	
2.	<b><u>Terms of reference for the group</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The terms of reference for the forum were agreed.</li> <li>• In brief, the aims of the forum are:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that residents in the vicinity of Dalston Square are consulted about the cultural programming of the square.</li> <li>• To ensure a shared sense of ownership of the square from all sections of Hackney's community.</li> <li>• To create an opportunity for other key stakeholders, representing cultural venues in the Dalston area, to participate in the shaping of the programme.</li> <li>• To identify opportunities for linking Dalston Square's programme with cultural activities taking place in other public spaces in Dalston, in order to ensure a complementary approach.</li> <li>• To develop opportunities for Dalston Square to become a vibrant and healthy area that promotes a variety of well-being initiatives.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
3.	<b><u>Additional stakeholders</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A draft list of additional stakeholders in the area was circulated, with a view to inviting them to the forum on an occasional basis. All were asked to consider any other names / reps that could be included.</li> </ul>	All: put forward any additional names at next meeting
4.	<b><u>Background work started by Hackney's Cultural Development Team</u></b>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LM outlined the consultation work already done for a programme of cultural activity and community engagement in the square.</li> <li>• The aims that were developed out of the consultation were circulated, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To foster a shared sense of ownership of Dalston Square amongst the whole community living in the locality.</li> <li>• To develop Dalston Square as a part of a network of accessible outdoor spaces for all forms of culture in Dalston, with complementary programming.</li> <li>• To develop the content of the programme with local arts organisations and local community groups.</li> <li>• To create on-going and high quality animation of the space.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
5.	<p><b><u>Methodology for programme development and decision-making</u></b>  There will be two kinds of programming in the square:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community engagement activities designed to deliver the key aims of the culture and community engagement programme</li> <li>• Unsolicited proposals from cultural event producers</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Entertainments License</u></b>  An entertainment license will be required for the square. LBH is currently exploring the most appropriate licensing arrangement for the square.</p> <p>It was observed that the license hours should take into account the opening and closing hours of the Youth Hub.</p> <p>Forum members are requested to consider the appropriate hours for such a license, in order to ensure that the programme does not become a nuisance to residents.</p> <p><b><u>Community Engagement Programming</u></b></p> <p>Outline ideas for a rolling programme have already been developed out of community consultation, led by Hackney's Cultural Development Team.</p> <p>Residents or community groups may also wish to develop ideas of their own – all ideas are welcome – contact Lucy McMenemy, Cultural Programme Officer – <a href="mailto:lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk">lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk</a> Tel. 020 8356 2919.</p> <p>The forum will be consulted about project ideas / proposals in the quarter before their delivery.</p> <p>In the first instance, forum members will receive a written proposal for each project on the agenda, prior to the forum meeting.</p> <p>At the forum meeting, the artists / cultural organisation proposing the project will be invited to give a presentation, enabling the forum to ask</p>	<p>All: consider what the appropriate hours are for outdoors entertainment in the square and report back at the next meeting</p>

Item		Action
	<p>questions and discuss the project in detail.</p> <p><b><u>Implementation</u></b>            Various permissions will be required for events from authorities such as police, licensing, Hackney's HEAT team etc – LBH will advise each event organiser of necessary permissions to secure.</p> <p>Hackney's Cultural Development will work with Event Managers to co-ordinate the delivery of the activities and their promotion to local residents.</p> <p>Any residents wishing to be involved in specific projects can express an interest through the forum, or direct to Lucy McMenemy, Cultural Programme Officer: <a href="mailto:lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk">lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk</a> 020 8356 2919.</p> <p><b><u>Unsolicited proposals from cultural event producers</u></b></p> <p>A policy will be developed which outlines the kind of event / project that will be appropriate for Dalston square by LBH. This policy will outline the suitability of commercial and corporately-branded events.</p> <p>Organisers of unsolicited events will be asked by LBH to complete an Event Application Form in the first instance.</p> <p>Unsolicited events that are considered appropriate for the square will be presented to the Forum for consultation.</p> <p><b><u>Distribution of the Forum's work</u></b></p> <p>Data about the demographics of the locality could inform programming and publicity.</p> <p>The Minutes of each meeting, and summaries of all presentations about future projects are to be distributed as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant email networks</li> <li>• Hackney Website</li> <li>• Dalston Square Residents Association website</li> <li>• Noticeboard of Dalston CLR James Library</li> <li>• Noticeboards of Dalston Square blocks</li> <li>• Print-outs for people without email – list of addresses to be collated</li> </ul>	<p>LM: to research.</p> <p>LM: to action.</p>
6.	<p><b><u>Proposals for June-August 2012</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LM presented an overview of events that could take place this summer in the square.</li> <li>• Two were confirmed events:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Climbing wall as part of the Beechwood Road street party on 2 June 2012.</li> <li>• Two performances of The Van Man by C12 Dance theatre, as part of The Big Dance (a pan-London dance programme) on 16 June 2012.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• It was agreed that it would be good to programme an event in Dalston Square on the 21<sup>st</sup> July, as part of the One Hackney</li> </ul>	<p>LM: apply for permission for bungee trampolines as part of One Hackney Festival.</p> <p>LM: Arrange a meeting to facilitate</p>

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	Festival. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A pop-up cinema proposal is being developed by The Lost Picture Show for later in the summer – to be presented to the forum</li> </ul>	presentation by Lost Picture Show.
7.	<p><b><u>Initial ideas for Sept-December 2012</u></b>            LM presented a number of potential projects for Sept-Dec 2012. Fundraising would be necessary to implement some of them. The presented project ideas represent a menu of options – they are not fixed in stone this stage.</p>	LM: invite relevant artists to present to forum at next meeting.
8.	<p><b><u>AOB</u></b></p> <p>The needs of older residents were discussed. A lack of personal mobility could prevent older residents from accessing the square and its programme. It was agreed that ideas for overcoming this issue need to be explored and solutions built into event planning.</p> <p>Many Keswick Lodge residents are keen knitters –it would be ideal to develop an intergenerational knitting project that brings different generations together.</p> <p><b><u>Promotion of events</u></b>            Local schools will be ideal places to promote events (Shacklewell, Seabright, Queensbrige, De Beavoir, Holy Trinity and Colvestone primaries were all mentioned.)</p>	<p>All: consider if you could assist in helping older residents to get to events.</p> <p>All: project ideas involving knitting welcome!</p>
9.	<p><b><u>Date of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>18<sup>th</sup> July 2012.</p> <p>Please note that these meetings are attended by an invited group of resident representatives. For further information, please contact <a href="mailto:lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk">lucy.mcmenemy@hackney.gov.uk</a> tel. 020 8356 2919</p>	