

Minutes

Harehills Forum meeting

Catch, 3rd July 2023

Present

Mothin Ali
Emma Bentley-Fox (East Street Arts)
Katie Greaves
Karen Harris
Joanne Harrison (LCC)
Ann marie Hayes
Tomas Johnson (LCC)
Terry Jones
Ian Kenning (LCC)
Ian MacKay (LCC)
Michaela Lesayova (East Street Arts)
Pat McKay
Yvonne Milliner
Chijioke Ojukwu
Rudolphe Solentini (Learning Partnerships)
Emma Tariket
Ruth Tiernan (LCC)
Ava Westcar

Apologies

Tom Partington
Tasneem Suleman
Terry Wragg (Leeds Animation Workshop)

| Comment | Action |
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| <i>LCC introduction</i> | |
| JH and IM presented a short slideshow to outline where we are in the pilot process, what has been achieved, what needs to happen next and identify resources that might be needed. | |
| <i>Election of key roles</i> | |
| <p>The group discussed whether the election of a committee roles should be postponed until the membership is larger and more representative of the community, or whether to elect to an interim chair role now.</p> <p>The advantage of electing interim roles, or even just that of a chair or similar, is that it can give the group focus and help them to make the transition to running the group with less support than they currently have.</p> <p>For clarity, AH suggested the role should not be a 'Chair' so the group decided on 'Interim Co-Coordinator' with the role being split between as many people as want to take it on.</p> <p>There were several nominations but some members were unable to commit the time at the moment. It was agreed that KH, KG and TJ will share the role until autumn / the new year (date to be decided later).</p> | |
| CO asked that that group consider creating a role for young people so they can learn new skills, enhance their CVs and become embedded in the community. This suggestion was well received. The details of the roles and any incentives will be discussed at future meetings. | All |

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| <i>Translation of engagement resources</i> | |
| <p>JH advised the group that the questionnaire has been translated using Word into 6 languages – Arabic, Central Kurdish, French, Polish, Romanian and Urdu – and that these are available on the Forum website and in the Compton Centre. AH and ET said there is a large Portuguese-speaking community so this should be added to the resources of translated materials. ML offered to translate into Slovakian and RS will check the French translation.</p> <p>CO suggested that young people be given the opportunity to translate the questionnaire. ML said that in her experience, incorrect translations can deter people from filling in questionnaires, so we need to be sure they are correct. There was general agreement in the principle of assistance from young people however, but debate about how to reward them for their time and the value they bring – other than cash payments, options could include transport tickets or gift vouchers etc.</p> <p>JH suggested devoting time to this in the next meeting.</p> | All |
| <i>Community questionnaire (general)</i> | |
| <p>KH will create an ‘easy read’ / visual version of the questionnaire. She also proposes to distribute themed sections of the questionnaire on social media. Given the complications of getting the privacy statement agreed for the online survey platform and the paper questionnaires, JH suggested it might not be so easy to just collect the data. She said she will look into whether a link to an online privacy statement can be provided on social media so that responses can be legitimately used. KG suggested breaking down the questionnaire so each themed section can be accessed via a separate link – JH agreed to do this.</p> | KH / JH |
| <p>Paper copies of the questionnaire are available in the library. The library and Shine have agreed to act as collection points.</p> <p>Additional paper copies have been taken by group members at the end of the meeting who will distribute them, along with flyers and posters.</p> | All |
| <i>Business questionnaire</i> | |
| <p>TP (via JH in his absence) said that the business questionnaire is now too long and may deter businesses from engaging. This will be discussed at a future meeting.</p> | All |
| <i>Breeze event</i> | |
| <p>RT and IK provided information about the Breeze event on Saturday 12th August and how young people can get tickets (see email from JH on 27/6 for details).</p> <p>A gazebo and table has been provisionally reserved for Harehills Neighbourhood Forum.</p> <p>JH said we need as many volunteers as possible to engage people at the event and ask them to fill in questionnaires.</p> | All |
| <p>CO queried whether this could be linked with translation or other opportunities for young people. JH said it could be. The group discussed incentives for young people to fill in the questionnaire such as providing a limited number of goody bags or doing a prize draw.</p> | All |
| <p>KH said we could get a large map (e.g. aerial photo) and ask people to put flags with comments on it to build up a picture of neighbourhood opinion.</p> <p>ML recommended we look at the “Green Map” open resource and training for young people.</p> | All |

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| <i>Summer School</i> | |
| EB explained that the summer school is an opportunity for 25 young people from the three pilot neighbourhoods (8 from Harehills, 2 already filled) to attend 4 days of events and activities where they can explore the meaning of their neighbourhood and produce a young people's priorities. Allocation of places is loosely based on first-come first-served but most of these applications come from professionals who work closely with children and families and know who would benefit the most. Food and transport is provided. Funding is provided from the pilot fund and East Street Arts are also contributing their own resources. | EB |
| The group suggested a mosaic theme might be appropriate for the summer school activities as this ties in with the mosaic street signs and the Brangwyn mosaic in St Aiden's Church. It also works well with the tiling theme Burmantofts have chosen to reflect the potteries. | EB / ML |
| At the end of the event (Saturday 19 th) the whole community is invited to a celebration event showcasing the outcomes of the week. | |
| The group were asked to promote the event by distributing flyers. | All |
| <i>Other engagement</i> | |
| ET will be working in the 5 Co-op schools in the area so she will raise awareness of the Forum and the engagement activities. | ET |
| Other ideas suggested by the group include a photo walk, green mapping walk, mapping communities in their space (linked to migration), nature activities such as borrowing bat detectors for observation / surveys, music events and food events. | All |
| There is potential for collaboration with Leeds Loves Parks who are doing some work on Harehills Park. They will be invited to future meetings. | JH |
| <i>Any other business</i> | |
| Active Travel (LCC) are doing some work in the area to encourage walking and cycling. They will be invited to future meetings. | JH |
| Post-meeting note: CO asked if there is an opportunity to have a social event linked to the next meeting, with food provided by a local business. The principle of this is an acceptable use of Forum funds but for transparency, an alternative option is to set out the use of funds and selection processes as a group, and host a social event at a future meeting so that we can ensure we are following fair procedures. No decisions have yet been made so if you have a preference, please let JH know by the end of the week. | All |
| <i>Next meeting</i> | |
| The next meeting will be on Monday 17 th July at Learning Partnerships. The main agenda items will be those that have been raised in this meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breeze event • Business questionnaire • Translation • Roles for younger people • Forum funds | |