



ENFIELD BOROUGH OVER 50s FORUM

www.enfieldover50sforum.org.uk

Minutes of the Meeting Held on Monday June 25th 2007

Present: 48 members

Apologies: R.Beare

1.0 Chair report:

MM welcomed members to the meeting and called on OG and RB to speak before the official meeting begins. MM reminded everyone to buy their raffle tickets. TW apologized that he had leave early for an OPTAG meeting.

2.0 Development officer report:

- 2.1 OG said that there is still one twin room available for the Edinburgh Tattoo due to unforeseen cancellation.
- 2.2 OG thanked volunteers for their help at the Healthy Heart day at Southbury Road leisure centre last Wednesday.
- 2.3 Limited tickets are available for the opera Tosca on June 15th at the Royal Opera House-if interested see Olivia after the meeting.
- 2.4 The over 50s booklets on the table have all the Borough walks in the parks detailed.
- 2.5 Roddy is planning an evening meal out in September and OG asked for a show of hands and approximately 30 people raised their hands.

3.0 Roy Barrows report:

- 3.1 RB spoke about the trip to the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire on Wednesday October 17th. This is limited to 50 people so members were advised to book early.

4.0 Chair report:

- 4.1 Mr Gulamhusein has audited and approved our annual accounts after a lot of hard work by Tony and Treasurer Peter Shukla. Copies are here today. There is a lot more money going through the books these days, due to increased membership and all the trips.
- 4.2 Cllr John Jackson –Chair of the Lea Valley Olympic steering group and vice chair of the London Olympic forum and Cllr Del Goddard, Chair of LBE leisure and cultural group, are the speakers for today. The Forum committee agreed that we anted to use the time to look at what is coming regarding the Olympics and not go over lost causes like the council tax surcharge. We must concentrate on the future and as we still plan to be around in five years time-what will Enfield gain from the Olympics?
- 4.3 Del Goddard began by saying-The centre of gravity of the Olympics would have been shifted to northern France if we had lost the bid. The Olympics do improve wealth in areas such as transport and social cohesion. The theme of sport for all is very important and not just for the elite. These events can act as a beacon for young people and help them understand the world in which they live. Regeneration is important and Barcelona and Sydney locked onto this opportunity. The Olympics will force facilities and transport to be ready-it will be impossible to have delays to Wembley Stadium! Arts and culture also gain as a bolt on and £30m is set aside for the opening and closing ceremonies. What is the legacy?
Will it give us a new baseline? We are geographically just north of the main Olympic area and this brings business benefits to Enfield. Arts festival plans are already underway. We must have a visitor strategy and must make our views known.

John Jackson said-There has been an involvement from the council with the Lea Valley Authority for 30 years. His main concern about Picketts Lock was the transport issue. He showed us photos of the new athletics stadium there and it was most impressive. Enfield and Haringey Harriers have now made it their home. He briefly told the history of the Lea Valley Regional Park-the authority was set up in 1967.The imbalance between east and west London will be rebalanced by the Olympics and as firms have now moved to the east, this will create jobs. It is estimated that 80,000 people will be offered jobs as a result. The Olympics are 3% of all building activity going on in London. A board/committee will be set up to manage the heritage facilities. The white-water activities will be at Broxbourne, plus the cycle velodrome. It will cost £10-15m per year to maintain the heritage facilities.

A lively question and answer session followed with comments such as:

Older people should be involved as volunteers and there should also be a veterans event and more public toilets.

Pensioners benefit on costs should happen as this is a high percentage of their income, although a great asset for younger people.

Will there be motor homes provision in Enfield as we are close to the M25?

There needs to be apprenticeships for the construction

Media can so often be negative about the games

What is the transport legacy?

Security with such huge crowds may be an issue for concern.

In conclusion, if we want things to happen we must engage in the process.

5.0 A.O.B

- 5.1 Member Frank is cycling for breast cancer and is looking for sponsors-see him at the end.
- 5.2 Ken Keen said that Sunday July 1st is the Veterans day parade in Enfield Town.

The date of the next Forum meeting in the Conference Room is on **Tuesday July 31st at 10am.**

AGM Agenda

- 1.** Apologies
- 2.** Guest speaker-Colin Barrett-LBE youth and communities manager
- 3.** Minutes of the June meeting-and matters arising from the minutes
- 4.** Chair report
- 5.** Secretary report
- 6.** Treasurer report
- 7.** Development Officer report
- 8.** Social secretary report
- 9.** AOB
- 10.** Raffle in aid of Cancer Care UK and the British Heart Foundation.