

Islington Olympic Board 2 October 2008 minutes

Meeting Room, Finsbury Library, 245 St John St, EC1V 4NB

Attendee	Organisation	Position
Kevin O'Leary, Chair	Islington Council	Director of Environment and Regeneration Manager
Andrew Mortimer	Islington Chamber of Commerce	Chair (and vice-chair of Islington Strategic Partnership)
David Vandivier	Islington Community Network	Chair
Frances Morrell	Creative Islington	Assistant Director Cultural Services
Howard Barnes	Islington Council	Chair
John Mackinnon	Sport Islington	Chief Executive
Jonathan Gibbs	Aquaterra	Corporate Projects Manager
Kevin Kumar	London Metropolitan University	Non-executive Director
Louisa Bolch	Islington Primary Care Trust	Executive Member for Leisure and Equalities
Cllr Ruth Polling	Islington Council	Museum and Education assistant
Samir Singh	Arsenal FC – Arsenal in the Community	Olympics Officer (minute taker)
John Thorne	Islington Council	

1. Welcome by Chair & introductions

The Chair, Kevin O'Leary, welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Islington Olympic Board. A round of introductions followed.

2. Presentation on London 2012 Games

John Thorne gave a presentation about the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, which covered:

- Venues for the Games, including potential training locations in Islington
- London 2012 structure
- Opportunities for sport, physical activity, culture, volunteering, training, employment, business, sustainability, public realm, young people, and participation and engagement

- Sources of potential funding.

3. Presentation on Islington Olympic Vision

Cllr Ruth Polling gave a presentation about the Islington Olympic Vision, which covered:

- Olympic activity in Islington to date
- The Islington Olympic Vision
- The Islington Olympic objectives: sport, physical activity, culture, volunteering, training, employment, business, regenerating Islington's leisure facilities, public realm, funding, and participation and engagement
- The importance of the Islington Olympic Board.

The presentation had the same conclusion as the presentation that preceded it, that is:

- The Games are coming
- They offer great opportunities that can benefit all of us
- The challenge is to turn these opportunities into reality.

4. Discussion – response, partners' current plans

Members of the Board responded to the presentations they had heard, and stated their own current plans for the Games.

London Metropolitan University:

- Has 30,000 students who are mainly in Islington, and 3,000 staff
- Has a role in education that includes careers and raising aspirations
- Has a role in sport that includes successful teams, and would like to be more involved in the community
- Is seeking for a health and well-being clinic to be located next to the University's sports hall
- Can offer potential volunteers across 150 nationalities
- Offers a London 2012-approved training camp for fencing and basketball. The University is talking to various National Olympic Committees to find out whether they want to use the facility. If successful, this would be excellent for the University and the community. For example, Bristol may host the Kenyan team, and is linking local schools with Kenya
- Held a careers event in the summer that was linked to potential London 2012 careers
- Is talking to LOCOG about its Science facility being used for drugs tests
- Is talking to the London Development Agency about business support.

Other responses included discussion of:

- How the Games could be used to improve educational achievement. There is an opportunity for partnership programmes between Creative Islington and schools
- Branding restrictions

- Whether the London 2012 Games can deliver on its promises, given the experience of the Games at Montreal and Athens
- Every Premier League football team signed a letter of support for the Games. Arsenal hosted three football matches at the 1948 London Games. It offers hospitality opportunities for the 2012 Games, and is working with a creative and media diploma
- Access to Sports received funding from the Islington Olympic budget over the summer
- The Chamber of Commerce has had some involvement in Olympic procurement events and is on the CompeteFor database. Businesses will look to see what they can get from the Games. The National Enterprise Week at the end of November has a 2012 link.

John Thorne is to draft an action plan to take forward the Islington 2012 Vision and objectives. The views expressed will help inform the action plan, which will be brought to the next meeting of the Board.

4. Terms of Reference for Olympic Board

The draft terms of reference that had been sent before the meeting were agreed, with the addition that there should be a member from Cambridge Education @ Islington / Children's Services.

5. Arrangements to visit Olympic Park and next meeting

It was agreed that the Board will visit the Olympic Park. This will be immediately followed by the next meeting near the site with a representative of London 2012. Potential dates for the tour are:

- Monday 12 January 2009, 11am
- Monday 19 January, 2pm
- Thursday 22 January, 11am

John Thorne will circulate these dates and finalise the meeting as soon as possible.

The Chair thanked everyone for attending.