

Islington Olympic Board 7 January 2010 minutes

Committee Room 3, Town Hall, Upper Street, N1 2UD

Attendee	Organisation	Position
Kevin O’Leary, Chair of Islington Olympic Board	Islington Council	Corporate Director of Environment and Regeneration
David Vandivier	Islington Community Network	Chair (and vice-chair of Islington Strategic Partnership)
Declan Hamblin	Sport Islington	Chair
Jonathan Gibbs	Aquaterra	Chief Executive
Mark Taylor	Cambridge Education @ Islington	Director of Schools
Ronke Lawal	Islington Chamber of Commerce	Manager
Cllr Ruth Polling	Islington Council	Executive Member for Leisure and Equalities
Samir Singh	Arsenal FC – Arsenal in the Community	Museum and Education assistant
Sarah Baker (item 4)	Sadler’s Wells	Creative Learning Project Manager
John Thorne	Islington Council	Olympics Officer (minute taker)
Apologies		
Howard Barnes	Islington Council	Service Director Cultural Services
Kevin Kumar	London Metropolitan University	Corporate Projects Manager
Louisa Bolch	NHS Islington	Non-executive Director

1. Welcome and introductions

Kevin O’Leary welcomed everyone to the meeting. A round of introductions followed.

2. Minutes and matters arising from the last meeting on 5 October 2009

The Board agreed the minutes of the last meeting. Matters arising:

- Mark Christodoulou is due to circulate a map of the borough's leisure centres. John Thorne will follow this up.

3. London-wide update on the London 2012 Games

John Thorne introduced a paper that he had circulated before the meeting. Key points:

- General – Olympic Park and stadium, change of some venues, visitor centre due to open in 2010
- Sport and physical activity – Sporting Future for London strategy, Active London website, Go London physical activity strategy
- Culture – Cultural Olympiad projects to be launched in 2010, Big Dance, London 2012 Open Weekend, Live Sites, pan London film permit
- Volunteering – London 2012 volunteer programme, Mayor of London's Host City Volunteers Programme
- Young People – Get Set education network
- Business – Fair pricing charter for conference venues, Approved marque for accommodation, Promotion of London to journalists and travel operators, CompeteFor
- Public Realm – City Operations Programme and Street Dressing, Olympic Route Network, walking and cycling routes
- Employment & Training – Personal Best
- Communications & Community Engagement – London 2012 branding, London 2012 badges

Main points in discussion:

- Aquaterra is linking into the Active London website
- Local employment figures for the Olympic Park are low
- For the Get Set education network London 2012 state that Islington has 74 schools, but actually we have fewer. It was **agreed** that John Thorne will follow up with London 2012
- Highbury Grove and Highbury Fields schools have been doing work related to the Get Set education resources. It was **agreed** that Declan Hamblin will look into promoting this as a good news story.

4. Islington 2012 Action Plan

John Thorne gave an update about the Islington 2012 action plan and put forward actions that are proposed for 2010.

Action plan update

Key points:

- The Passing the Baton exhibition about the Olympic & Paralympic Games at Islington Museum was very successful. Over 2000 people visited the museum in the six-week period of the exhibition (18 September to 30 October), which is nearly double the same period in 2008. A talk was given

by Paralympic gold medallist Tom Aggar, an Olympic walk took place, and informal talks were given to school groups and others. Feedback has been very positive

- As part of promotion for the exhibition a poll was held to decide Islington's most popular British Olympian/Paralympian. Kelly Holmes topped the poll, followed by Daley Thompson and Steve Redgrave
- The council and All Change have been awarded a grant of £41k from the 2012 Cultural Skills Fund. The grant is for an Urban Arts Academy to train creative apprentices. It has been awarded by the Arts Council for the period January to March 2010
- 43 schools have now registered for the London 2012 Get Set education network. We had the largest increase of any local education authority in one quarter, which qualifies us for a visit from a sporting champion.
- Work is underway to take the 2012 Games into schools that build on this and other work. An officer group with officers from Cambridge Education @ Islington and Children's Services and also the Olympics Officer has met twice.
- St John's Gate was voted as the borough's favourite landmark in a competition to decide what should go on an Islington London 2012 badge. This was organised by London 2012 in consultation with the Olympics Officer as part of a competition for a set of a London-wide badges
- A licensing agreement to use the London 2012 host borough logo has been sent to the council by London 2012.

Action plan 2010

John Thorne introduced a paper that he had circulated before the meeting. This has 22 proposed actions to take forward the Islington 2012 action plan in 2010 and towards 2012:

Sport and physical activity

- Starting Blocks
- Promote Olympic and Paralympic sport

Culture

- Engagement with Creative Islington and arts groups
- Big Dance
- Live Site

Volunteering

- Islington 2012 Volunteer Taskforce

Young People, Disabled People

- The Games as part of the school curriculum
- Schools Olympiad
- Disabled people

Business

- Promote Islington's visitor offer
- Fair Pricing Charter for conference venues; Visit London Approved marque for accommodation
- Homestay

Communications & Community Engagement

- Current work: website, leaflet, meetings and events

- People's Record
- Communities 2012 project
- Islington London 2012 event – Playing Our Part
- 2012 events
- Visits to Olympic Park

Employment & Training

- Personal Best and jobs fairs

Public Realm

- Walking and cycling routes
- Fleet procurement
- City Operations Programme and Street Dressing

Key points in discussion:

- Starting Blocks aims to help talented young sportspeople in the borough. It could be promoted by Sport Islington to clubs, by schools to young people, by the Olympics Officer to the media, and by the Chamber of Commerce to potential business sponsors.
- A live site is a big television screen in a public place that will show specific BBC coverage of the Games. Potential locations are Highbury Fields, the Business Design Centre, Finsbury Park, and the Emirates Podium. It was **agreed** to express an interest to host a live site and that Kevin O'Leary would contact the Business Design Centre.
- The Islington 2012 Volunteer Taskforce aims to encourage residents to volunteer locally for the Games. A potential source of volunteers is the Octopus Community Network, current community festivals, Friends of parks, Sport Islington, the Islington Volunteer Centre, and school leavers.
- It was understood that London Metropolitan University is undertaking research into the impact of the Games
- Could the Community Games have a stronger Olympic theme? For example could different estate represent different Olympic countries?

The meeting **agreed** the report.

5. Big Dance

Sarah Baker introduced Big Dance:

- It is a bi-annual week-long event in London to promote dance and physical activity. It will next take place on 3-11 July 2010. Big Dance was held in 2008 and will be held in 2012
- It is run by the Arts Council and the GLA with funding from the Legacy Trust
- London is split into five hubs. Islington is in the northern hub, which is led by Sadler's Wells
- The week will promote dance, its different styles and hold a spread of projects
- Fifty grants of up to £1k each are available to organisations

- On 10 July there will be a world record attempt in a mass participation dance at Trafalgar Square. Sarah needs 2000 participants from the northern hub
- There is a School Dances pledge to increase dance, with an event planned for Friday 9 July. There will be a promotional video for schools
- Events at Sadler's Wells include a course for freelance artists, a funding surgery for groups, and a week-long festival at Lilian Bayliss theatre
- The Big Dance website will show events, grants and downloads: <http://www.bigdance2010.com/>. Big Dance will be launched on 20 January
- The Olympics Officer will keep the Board updated of Big Dance.

The council-run mass participation event will link to Big Dance.

6. Next meeting

The next meeting is on Monday 12 April, 2-4pm. Samir Singh offered to check whether a room at the Emirates Stadium may be available.

John Thorne will investigate whether the following meeting, on Wednesday 30 June, 2-4pm, could be held as a part of a visit to the Olympic Park.

7. Any Other Business

None.