

BEAM PARK COMMUNITY FORUM - AGM MEETING MINUTES

Teams Meeting only

30th July 2025

Item No.	Description	Action Owner
1.0	Welcome	
	SH welcomed all attendees to the meeting. It was noted that the meeting was being transcribed for minute-taking purposes. SH announced a small change to the agenda, with the guest speaker from Tutors United presenting first.	
	Guest Speaker: Tutors United Project Update	
	<p>OM, Head of Region at Tutors United, provided an overview of their organisation and the outcomes of the recent pilot programme at Beam Park, which was funded by the Beam Park Fund.</p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tutors United provides online and in-person tuition to primary school pupils (Years 4-6) to support their transition to secondary school, focusing on Maths and English. The Beam Park pilot programme ran for 15 weeks and supported 11 primary school pupils and their families. Two university students were hired and trained as tutors. Results: The programme saw significant academic progress, with a 47% average improvement in English and a 221% average improvement in Maths after just six hours of tuition. Parent Feedback: Feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive, with many noting an increase in their child's confidence and a desire for the programme to continue. 64% of the pupils are eligible to continue next year, and there is a waiting list of 5 additional pupils. The service is provided completely free of charge to residents. <p>Q&A Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr C asked if there was provision for secondary school pupils (GCSE level). OM explained that Tutors United's niche is early intervention at the primary level to prevent the attainment gap from widening. They have piloted some summer programmes for early secondary years but do not offer a standard secondary school programme. Cllr S praised the project for supporting disadvantaged pupils and asked for the presentation to be shared so he could pass it on to Havering Council. He also enquired about funding for pupils outside of specific funded areas. OM clarified that most of their work is done in partnership with organisations like L&Q, but they always encourage families to register their interest. SH clarified that under the Beam Park Fund's criteria, 51% of beneficiaries must be from Beam Park, but there is scope for the remaining 49% to come from the wider local community. 	Share Tutors United presentation with councillors – SH & OM
2.0	Housing Management Update	

	<p>SGT and JS provided an update on housing management issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parking on Halewood Way: The proposed changes to the white lining have been postponed. The current layout of visitor and resident permit bays will remain as it is for now. • Management of Bin Sheds (Canton & Duxbury): A blitz clean has been completed at Canton House, with pest control treatments and proofing works carried out. A dedicated bin store cleaner has been hired to jet wash the stores every Monday. An action plan is being developed to tackle bulk waste at Canton House, which will include more regular CCTV monitoring. Similar pest control works are planned for Duxbury House. • Heating System Issues: Neighbourhoods are aware of ongoing issues, particularly in Dearborn House, where radiators are not heating up correctly. The issue is being managed by L&Q Energy on a case-by-case basis. Cllr Stanton suggested this could be due to a need for system cleaning and inhibitor, which SGT agreed to feed back to L&Q Energy. • Soundproofing: AG confirmed that all flats are built and tested to meet building regulations for soundproofing. Any specific noise nuisance issues are a housing management matter. SGT confirmed there is an active ASB case for the resident mentioned by Feliciano and that an investigation is ongoing. • Housing Lead Response Times: The standard is to acknowledge a query within 24 hours and respond within 5 days. SGT acknowledged that capacity issues have made this challenging but advised residents to log all queries through the L&Q call centre or website, rather than direct email, to ensure they are picked up by the wider team in cases of staff absence. • Bird Fouling at the MUGA: SGT confirmed that large eagle deterrents have been ordered to prevent pigeons from roosting under the flyover. As Havering Council owns the flyover, permanent netting cannot be installed without their permission. Cllr S confirmed he has provided the correct council contacts to L&Q to facilitate this if needed. It was agreed that more frequent cleaning of the MUGA would be arranged, with a clean scheduled for every 8 weeks in the interim. • Finch Way Road Sign: SGT will investigate why there is no road name sign and get one installed. • Speeding and One-Way System: JS confirmed that they are looking into installing speed bumps and larger, clearer signage to address issues with speeding and drivers not abiding by the one-way system. Cllr S has raised the issue with local police and Havering Highways, who will provide recommendations 	Investigate and arrange for a road name sign to be installed on Finch Way - SGT
3.0	Development Update	
	<p>AG provided an update on development matters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial Units: The nail bar is now open, as is the Nero Lounge. • Phase B Planning Application: Following resident consultation via a SurveyMonkey, the planning application for Phase B (a mix of houses and flats) will be submitted in two weeks. • Thames Avenue Parking: Despite the installation of water-filled barriers and double yellow lines, some drivers are still parking illegally and blocking access. More robust measures are being considered. • Multi-Faith Space: AG provided a detailed update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The original multi-faith space in Block S was too large and costly for any of the 40 operators who were tendered to run it. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L&Q are in discussions with LBBD to relocate the community facility to a more suitable space on the ground and first floor of Block N. ○ As Block S is now available for commercial sale, the Rainham Islamic Group has expressed interest in acquiring it to open a mosque. ○ AG stressed that this would be a commercial sale and is in addition to the multi-faith provision being planned for Block N. Cllr Stanton expressed support for a solution that provides both a dedicated place of worship and a separate multi-use community space. ● Flooding in Central Park: AG confirmed that recent flooding and fencing around play equipment is not a failure of the drainage strategy, but is due to other works pushing water into the area. These works have been stopped to allow the park to dry out before the Summer Fun Day. 	
4.0	Community Cabins Project	
	<p>CR presented a new project involving two donated cabins located on the Vistry site complex.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vision: To transform the cabins and the surrounding area (currently rubble and weeds) into a community-owned and led space. ● Ideas: The project includes plans for a wildflower garden, a green roof (already donated), planters for growing fruit and veg, and beehives. A beekeeping company is willing to train local residents to manage the hives and produce honey, potentially leading to a small social enterprise. ● Usage: The cabins could be used by community start-ups, for mental health support sessions in partnership with the NHS, or for resident-led groups like cooking classes or social clubs. 	CR invited interested residents to visit the site to see the potential. SH will coordinate a group visit.
5.0	Community Survey & Forum Update	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Survey Results: SR gave a brief overview of the recent resident survey, which received 178 responses. Key themes raised included safety, community, cleanliness, parking, and communication. A "You Said, We Did" response is being prepared. ● Forum Awareness: SH highlighted that the survey revealed a critical gap, with most residents being unaware of the Community Forum's existence. ● Co-Chair Opportunity: SH announced an opportunity for a current resident member to become Co-Chair, to work alongside Feliciano and share the leadership responsibilities. Interested members were asked to email SH directly. 	
	Any Other Business (AOB)	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Resident Engagement (Fire Safety): AG explained the requirement for a Resident Engagement Strategy for the Building Safety Case Report for tall buildings. He noted that a previous attempt for Portland House received zero responses. He asked for the Forum's help in encouraging residents of Columbus House to respond to the upcoming consultation on their preferred communication methods for fire safety information. SR agreed to share the relevant data from the recent resident survey. 	Share resident survey data on communication preferences with AG for the fire

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Felix Project: Cllr Stanton shared dates for the Felix Project, which provides free surplus food to residents at the Albion Village Community Centre. • Police Incidents: Cllr S reiterated the importance of residents reporting all incidents directly to the police to ensure accurate crime statistics and appropriate resource allocation. • Simple Life Residents: Cllr S suggested inviting a representative from Simple Life to future Forum meetings, as their residents are also part of the community. SH confirmed they are regularly invited and will extend the invitation again. 	<p>safety engagement strategy - SR</p> <p>Extend an invitation to Simple Life to attend the next Community Forum meeting - SH</p>
	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	Wednesday 29 th October 2025	