

Bristol Somali Forum Meeting (BSF)

Date: 15 July 2010

Time: 11.00 am – 1.00 pm

Venue: Barton Hill Settlement

Type of meeting: BSF monthly meeting

Chaired by: Latif Ismail

Present

BSF Management Committee

Latif Ismail, Chair
Said Burale, Treasurer
Abdi Mohamed, Secretary

In attendance:

Full Name

Organisation/Representing

Abdullahi Farah	Somali Resource Centre
Omar Sabriye	Community Elder/Somali Resource Centre
Mohamoud Mumin	Amana
Ahmed Mohamed	Bristol Somali Youth & Cultural Society (BSYCS)
Dalmar Osman	Somali Development Group
Liban Obsiye	Amana
Mohamoud Matan	Amana

Also present:

Roger Allen	BCC Housing
Mukhtar Abdi	Bilingual Family Mentoring Project
Keith Openshaw	Avon and Somerset Police
SGT Jon Ames	Avon and Somerset Police
Ian Quaife	Bristol City Council, Community Cohesion
Farhan Ahmed	Bristol City Council, Community Cohesion
Sue O'Donnell	Councillor (LibDem), Lawrence Hill Ward
Shirley Brown	Councillor (LibDem), Ashley ward
Yusuf Salah	Community Worker
Jo Sliverman	Student (Observer)
Tracy Brown	St Pauls Unlimited
Dianne Dodd	St Pauls Unlimited
Suleiman Hilowle	Barton Hill Primary school
Sally Webb	Bristol Brunel Academy
Nichola Hill	Bristol Brunel Academy
Chye Lim	PCSO, Avon and Somerset Police
Suad Abdullahi	Bristol City Council, Migration Fund Project
Nichola Ferris	NHS
Abdi Omar	SEDSOB
Nick Batchelar	CYPS, Service Director
Fadumo Dualeh	Parent (Observer)

Apologies: Apologies were received from:

Dheeho Yusuf
Ahmed Awale

Mawlid Farah

Minutes

1 Latif took the chair and welcomed everyone.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting

2.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 17th June 2010 were agreed.

2.2 Matters arising:

2.2.1 None.

3 BSF Update

Abdi Mohamed, BSF Secretary, said:

- The Forum Management Committee met with Nick Batchelar, CYPS Service Director;
- Participated the following meetings:
 - Neighbourhood meeting;
 - Meeting between the Somali and Polish communities;
 - Somali community meetings with the police – in relation to the recent Stapleton Road incident where AbdiRisak Mohamoud had been stabbed to death.

1. Stapleton Road Incident

1.1 Keith Openshaw informed the group that:

- 8 people were arrested and released on bail in relation to AbdiRisak Mohamoud's death;
- The meeting between the Police and Somali community on Sunday 11th July 2010 was well attended;
- There is a great deal of frustration and anger among young people; and
- Relationship between Somali and African Caribbean young people is very volatile.

1.2 Dalmar Osman also noted the following points:

- Young people are frustrated and don't trust the police, they had been angered by the arrest of Abdi Mohamoud's brother;
- We are working to bridge the gap between young Somalis and the wider society;
- Schools should help us educate young people.

1.3 Jon Ames said that they will work with SDG, and other Somali-led organisations, to engage with young people.

1.4 Sue O'Donnell stated:

- Somali women expressed lack of engagement with the police and the process during the meeting on Sunday 11 July;
- They have requested a women's focus group and she had spoken with few people within the council.

1.5 In addition, the group noted the following:

- Somali Forum could empower the women;
- Lawrence Hill and Easton Neighbourhood Partnership to widen the engagement;
- The incident highlighted the need to empower and continuously engage with young people;
- Be always pro-active and inform the community;
- Stapleton Road is an area that needs a multiagency approach;
- Intercultural relationships among Somali families/community need to be bridged;
- There are limited resources for young people at present;
- Somali forum has limited resources too.

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Somali Forum to form a women's focus/task group	Latif	ASAP

2. Bristol Brunel Academy

2.1 Sally Web and Nichola Hill:

- Coordinate and support new arrival and BME pupils;
- Mainly, Somali students are supported by main stream structure;
- Home-school links, in class support and mentoring services are provided;
- Support is offered to students, teachers and parents;
- Finding relevant courses and qualifications that meet the needs of all our students was the biggest challenge;
- Future plans include commitment to use data analysis, mentoring provision, developing literacy and ESOL programmes and ICT.

2.2 Participants raised the following points:

- Parents were not happy with their children taking BTEC courses/qualifications;
- Can similar presentations go into the business community and sold the qualifications;

- Level of unemployment among Somalis is great because of the way deal with overseas and the aforementioned qualifications;
- English language is a key to progress;
- Use different methods to cater the needs of students;
- Must support the work of the Bristol Brunel Academy LEA (Learning English as Additional Language) Team.

Action	Responsible	Deadline
Parents need to be educated	Management	To be agreed
Invite other schools	Latif	To be agreed

3. Education and Achievement

3.1 Nick Batchelar:

- Happy to hear the change at Bristol Brunel to respond to a changing context;
- We must not let a tragic incident inspire us to do something;
- Must engage with Somalis, particularly parents ;
- Welcome the Somali Forum Leadership:
 - Strengthening engagement;
 - Continuing dialogue;
 - Building capacity.

3.2 Bigger picture across the city in relation ship to the BME Action Plan 'Raising Achievement Narrowing the Gap'

- Four key priorities:
 - Leadership and management for high achievement;
 - Teaching and learning
 - Developing relationships: partnerships with parents, carers and the community;
 - Developing relationships and building a culture of learner participation.

3.3 More details of the report that Nick presented, please see the attached document.

9.0 AOB

9.1 Shirley Brown:

- Spoke to a group of young people and discussed the need to change the negative perception;
- Campaign for 'Life is not for knife'

Date of Next Meeting:

Date: **12th August 2010**

Time: **11.00 am to 1.00 pm**

Venue: **Barton Hill Settlement**

41-43 Ducie Road

Lawrence Hill, Bristol BS5 0AX

Future Dates

September	October	November	December
16	07	04	02