



BLACKFEN FORUM NEWSLETTER

January 2008

What is Blackfen Forum?

A community organisation which provides the opportunity for people concerned about the future of Blackfen to become more involved in decisions on local issues including the regeneration of Blackfen and surrounding areas.

Why do we need a Blackfen Forum?

To most residents Blackfen is regarded as a “community” in its own right and they wish to preserve its identity as such.

Unfortunately different parts of Blackfen fall into three separate wards (Blendon & Penhill, Falconwood & Welling, Blackfen & Lamorbey). The Forum is able to identify and bring to attention issues that affect the Blackfen community as a whole and which otherwise might be overlooked if dealt with on a “Ward only” basis.

Opportunities also exist for obtaining funding for local community projects.

Meetings

“Open” meetings are held three times a year, usually at Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall, 330A Burnt Oak Lane.

Who can attend?

Anybody who is a resident, a trader, or runs a business or represents a voluntary organisation in the Blackfen area is welcome.

Who else will be there?

Local councillors from all three wards are often present and are able to reply to questions. Representatives of the local police “Safer Neighbourhood Teams” regularly attend. Council officers are invited to respond to specific issues.

At the last meeting students from Blackfen School gave an interesting presentation on the problems faced by the young people of Blackfen.

Items addressed to date include:-

- Increased police patrols in shopping area.
- The need for adequate parking facilities.
- Disorderly behaviour by young people.
- Traffic congestion and delays.
- Graffiti.
- Fly-tipping in alleyways.
- The proposed regeneration project for the main shopping area

By expressing views and liaising with the Council, the police, and other authorities, improvements have been achieved or are being progressed on many of these issues.

Where can I find more information?

By visiting our website

www.blackfenforum.org.uk

Minutes of meetings are also available for reference at Blackfen Library.

Christmas Lights

Many thanks to Premier Autocentres for once again by bringing cheer to Blackfen by sponsoring the Christmas Lights.

Congratulations

To the new owners of the George Staples (formerly the Woodman) public house on the much needed attractive refurbishment of Blackfen’s “local”.

NEXT MEETING:- WEDNESDAY 27th FEBRUARY at 7.30pm
At Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall, 330A Burnt Oak Lane.