

Tesside Re-development

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You are a young resident living close to the site of the redevelopment. You have just attended the Council meeting which discussed the finance for the re-development. As a young person who has grown up in the community you do not feel that your voice has been heard.

The plans that have been circulated show that the playing field that you and all your friends have used since you were little will disappear if the re-development is to take place. You are aware of the different issues discussed, though nobody is currently representing your views in the campaign.

You feel that you cannot let this re-development proceed without a fight. It will completely change the character of the community as well as denying all the young people in your community a place to play; this in itself is a key issue.

You decide to take the following action:

1. Organise a meeting for your local community particularly aimed at young people.

Action: Design a poster to put through doors in your local community encouraging young people to attend. The poster must cover the key aspects of the re-development explaining why you feel that it is necessary to get support.

(The poster will also give the details of the meeting.)

Action: Plan an agenda for the meeting

Action: Look on www.pm.org.uk to find the name of your local MP. You should write a letter to your local MP inviting them to the meeting, explaining how you feel and enlisting their help. (If you can get the local MP on your side it would be a big advantage.)

Action: Research on the Internet to find out what the government's views are on selling off playing fields for re-development. You may be able to use government policies as a vital lever in securing the field or at least forcing the local council to provide a new playing area for you.

2. Action: Visit the Middlesborough Council Website. www.middlesboroughgov.uk,
Make a list of useful information and contacts.

Find the name of the local councillors and arrange a meeting. Write down the key

points that you would wish to raise with them at the meeting e.g. issues affecting young people today.

3. Action: Research on the Internet to see if you can find any organisation that might support you in your project. Write down any useful findings.
4. After your initial meetings/research you decide to launch an informative website where young people are invited to have their say.

(Take a look at <http://www.e2000.org.uk/> this website provides opportunities for young people to express their opinions both at a local and global level.)

You receive money from a local doctor to help you construct and design the site as well as advertise it to young people throughout Middlesborough.

Action: Design and construct a web site which will inform and invite comments from local people...within the website invite young people to e-mail you with their views on the development.

Finally you have been asked by the local council to attend an important meeting concerning the re-development. You have been asked to do a 5-minute presentation, which explores the work that you have been doing. You will be representing the young people of your area. Good Luck!