Backend: blog-service

Implement the PostController

File to be edited: postController.js in controllers folder

1. Implement the updatePost Function

- Objective: Allow authorized users to update a post.
- Steps:
 - 1. Retrieve the tags, categories, title, and content from req.body.
 - 2. Use Post.findById(req.params.id) to find the post by ID from the database.
 - If the post is not found, return a 404 Not Found response with an appropriate message.
 - 3. Check if the current user (req.user.id) matches the post's author:
 - If they do not match, return a 403 Forbidden response with an appropriate message.
 - 4. Prepare an updatedData object:
 - Add title and content to the object if provided.
 - If tags are provided:
 - Call createOrGetTags to retrieve or create the associated tag IDs.
 - Add the tag IDs to updatedData.
 - If categories are provided:
 - Call createOrGetCategories to retrieve or create the associated category IDs.
 - Add the category IDs to updatedData.
 - 5. Use Post.findByIdAndUpdate to update the post with the updatedData object and return the updated post.
 - 6. Respond with a success message and the updated post.
 - 7. Use a try...catch block to handle errors and return a 500 Internal Server Error response in case of failures.

2. Implement the deletePost Function

- Objective: Allow authorized users to delete a post and its associated data.
- Steps:

- 1. Use Post.findById(req.params.id) to find the post by ID from the database.
 - If the post is not found, return a 404 Not Found response with an appropriate message.
- 2. Check if the current user (req.user.id) matches the post's author:
 - If they do not match, return a 403 Forbidden response with an appropriate message.
- 3. Remove associated likes and comments:
 - Use Like.deleteMany to delete all likes for the post.
 - Use Comment.deleteMany to delete all comments for the post.
- 4. Delete the post itself:
 - Use post.deleteOne() to remove the post from the database.
- 5. Clean up unused tags and categories:
 - Call cleanUpTags to remove tags that are no longer associated with any posts.
 - Call cleanUpCategories to remove categories that are no longer associated with any posts.
- 6. Respond with a success message indicating the post and its associated data were deleted successfully.
- 7. Use a try...catch block to handle errors and return a 500 Internal Server Error response in case of failures.

Implement the Posts Router

File to be edited: postRoutesRouter.js in routes folder

- 1. Import functions implemented in postController.js that are associated with update and delete post functionalities
- 2. Add routes for Update and Delete functionalities

Frontend: Post Functionalities

Delete Functionality

File to be edited for Delete Functionality: BlogPost.jsx

This guide explains the implementation process for the handleDelete function, which deletes a post and includes authorization checks and error handling.

1. Retrieve User Authentication Information

- **Objective**: Access the currently logged-in user's authentication details.
- Steps:
 - Use localStorage.getItem("auth_user") to retrieve the stored user information.
 - 2. Parse the JSON string into an object using JSON.parse().
 - 3. Extract the token for authentication and currentUserId to identify the user.

2. Check for User Authentication

- Objective: Ensure the user is logged in before proceeding.
- Steps:
 - 1. Verify that the token exists.
 - 2. If the token is missing, display an alert message: "Authentication token not found. Please log in."
 - 3. Terminate further execution by returning early.

3. Verify User Authorization

- Objective: Allow only the author of the post to delete it.
- Steps:
 - 1. Compare the author of the post with currentUserId.
 - If they do not match, display an alert message:"You are restricted to delete this post, as you are not the owner."
 - 3. Prevent unauthorized deletion by returning early.

4. Send DELETE Request

- **Objective**: Communicate with the API to delete the post.
- Steps:
 - Construct the API URL using the post ID: \$\{import.meta.env.VITE_API_URL}/api/posts/\$\{id\}.
 - 2. Use the fetch API to send a DELETE request:
 - Include the Authorization header with the token.
 - Specify the HTTP method as DELETE.
 - 3. Await the response from the server.

5. Handle API Response

- Objective: Check if the post was deleted successfully.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use response ok to verify the response status.
 - 2. If the response is not successful:
 - Throw a new error with the message:"Failed to delete the post. Please try again."
 - 3. Display an alert message on success:

"Post deleted successfully!"

6. Redirect to Home Page

- Objective: Navigate to the home page after the post is deleted.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use the navigate("/") function to redirect the user to the home page.
 - 2. Ensure this step occurs only after successful deletion.

7. Handle Errors

- Objective: Gracefully handle any errors during the process.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use a try...catch block to wrap the logic.
 - 2. In the catch block:
 - Display the error message using alert().
 - Log the error for debugging purposes, if necessary.

Update Functionality

File to be edited for update Functionality: PostEditor.jsx

1: Check the condition where !formData.id is validating

1. Remove this condition so that update functionality can also be implemented here

2: Identify Where the apiUrl and method are Defined

1. Locate the part of the handleSubmit function where the apiUrl and method variables are being defined.

3: Update the apiUrl Variable

- 1. Modify the apiUrl to dynamically check if formData.id exists.
- 2. If formData.id is truthy:
 - Set the apiUrl to include the formData.id in the endpoint.
- 3. If formData.id is falsy:
 - Set the apiUrl to the base URL for creating a new post.

4: Update the method Variable

- 1. Check if formData.id exists.
- 2. If formData.id is truthy:
 - Set the method to "PUT".
- 3. If formData.id is falsy:
 - Set the method to "POST"