Backend: blog-service

Implement the likeController

File to be edited: likeController.js in controllers folder

This guide outlines the steps to implement the Like controller functions: addLike, removeLike, and getLikesByPost. These functions handle adding likes, removing likes, and fetching likes for a specific post.

1. Setup and Imports

- Objective: Import necessary modules and models.
- Steps:
 - 1. Import the Like model to interact with the likes collection:
 - 2. Import the Post model to interact with the posts collection:

2. Implement the addLike Function

- Function Name: addLike
- Objective: Add a like to a specific post by the current user.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use Post.findById(req.params.id) to check if the post exists.
 - Return a 404 Not Found error if the post does not exist.
 - 2. Use Like.find0ne() to check if the user has already liked the post.
 - Return a 400 Bad Request error if a like already exists for this user and post.
 - Create a new Like document with the user (from req.user.id) and post (from req.params.id).
 - 4. Save the Like document using like.save().
 - 5. Update the post:
 - Add the like._id to the post.likes array.
 - Save the updated post using post.save().
 - 6. Respond with a 201 Created status and the created like.

3. Implement the removeLike Function

- Function Name: removeLike
- Objective: Remove a like from a specific post by the current user.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use Like.findOne() to find the like document for the current user and post.
 - Return a 404 Not Found error if the like does not exist.
 - 2. Check if the like.user matches req.user.id.
 - Return a 403 Forbidden error if the current user is not authorized to remove the like.
 - 3. Delete the like using like.deleteOne().
 - 4. Update the post:
 - Remove the like._id from the post.likes array using the filter method.
 - Save the updated post using post.save().
 - 5. Respond with a success message.

4. Implement the getLikesByPost Function

- Function Name: getLikesByPost
- Objective: Fetch all likes for a specific post.
- Steps:
 - Use Like.find() to retrieve all likes where the post matches req.params.id.
 - 2. Use populate() to include the user's name and email fields in the result.
 - 3. Respond with the retrieved likes in JSON format.

5. Error Handling

- Objective: Ensure robust error handling for each function.
- Steps:
 - 1. Wrap the logic of each function in a try...catch block.
 - 2. Log any errors to the console for debugging.
 - 3. Respond with a 500 Internal Server Error status and a descriptive error message in case of failure.

Implement the likes Router

File to be edited: likeRoutes.js in routes folder

This guide outlines the steps to implement the provided routes for managing likes on posts. These routes handle adding likes, removing likes, and fetching likes for a specific post.

1. Set Up Dependencies

- **Objective**: Ensure necessary modules and middleware are available.
- Steps:
 - 1. Import the express module to create a router.
 - 2. Import the addLike, removeLike, and getLikesByPost functions from the likeController.
 - 3. Import the protect middleware to ensure only authenticated users can interact with the routes.
 - 4. Import the logger module for logging requests.

2. Create a Router

- **Objective**: Use express.Router() to define and manage routes for likes.
- Steps:
 - 1. Initialize a router instance using express. Router().

3. Add Logging Middleware

- Objective: Log incoming requests for debugging and monitoring.
- Steps:
 - Use router.use() to add a middleware function that logs the HTTP method and URL of each request.
 - Use the logger.info method to log the message in a structured format.
 - Call next() to pass control to the next middleware or route handler.

4. Define the Routes

• Objective: Implement routes for adding, removing, and fetching likes.

• Steps:

1. Add Like:

- Use router.post() to define a route for adding a like to a post.
- Apply the protect middleware to ensure only authenticated users can add likes.
- Attach the addLike function as the route handler.

2. Remove Like:

- Use router.delete() to define a route for removing a like from a post.
- Apply the protect middleware to ensure only authenticated users can remove likes.
- Attach the removeLike function as the route handler.

3. Fetch Likes:

- Use router.get() to define a route for fetching likes for a specific post.
- Apply the protect middleware to ensure only authenticated users can view likes.
- Attach the getLikesByPost function as the route handler.

5. Secure the Routes

- Objective: Ensure only authorized users can access these routes.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use the protect middleware to validate the user's authentication token.
 - 2. Ensure the middleware attaches user information (e.g., req.user) to the request object for further use in controllers.

6. Export the Router

- **Objective**: Make the router available for integration with the main application.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use module.exports to export the router instance.
 - 2. Import and mount this router in your main application file (e.g., app.js) under the desired base path.

Note: Update routes in server.js in blog-service according to the requirement.

API gateway: Implementation for /likes Route

File to be edited: gatewayRoutes.js

This guide outlines how to implement the /likes route function, which forwards requests to the blog service's likes API. It ensures secure interaction with the backend, handles different HTTP methods, and provides proper error handling.

1. Set Up Middleware for the Route

- **Objective**: Ensure the route is protected by middleware.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use the protect middleware to secure the /likes route.
 - This middleware should validate the user's authentication token and attach user data to the req object.
 - 2. Ensure the middleware is applied before the route handler.

2. Construct the Target URL

- Objective: Dynamically create the URL to forward requests to the likes API in the blog service.
- Steps:
 - Extract the base URL for the blog service from the environment variable (BLOG_SERVICE_URL).
 - 2. Append /api/likes to the base URL.
 - 3. Add the dynamic part of the request URL (req.url) to complete the full target URL.

3. Forward the Request Using Axios

- **Objective**: Relay the incoming request to the blog service.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use axios to send the request to the target URL.
 - 2. Forward the following from the incoming request:
 - Method: Use req.method to preserve the original HTTP method (e.g., GET, POST, DELETE).

- **Headers**: Include the Authorization header from req.headers.authorization for user authentication.
- **Body**: Forward req. body for requests like POST or PUT.
- Log the forwarded request using logger.info for traceability.

4. Handle the Response

- Objective: Relay the response from the blog service back to the client.
- Steps:
 - 1. Check if the blog service returns a successful response.
 - 2. Send the status and data from the blog service response to the client using res.status(response.status).json(response.data).

5. Handle Errors

- **Objective**: Provide robust error handling for different failure scenarios.
- Steps:
 - 1. Use a try...catch block to catch errors during the request forwarding process.
 - 2. Log the error using logger.error with details about the HTTP method, target URL, and error message.
 - 3. Use optional chaining (error.response?.status) to determine the status code for the error response:
 - If the blog service responds with an error, forward the same status code and message to the client.
 - If no specific status code is available, default to a 500 Internal Server Error.
 - 4. Include a user-friendly error message in the JSON response to the client.

Frontend: Like Functionality

File to be edited: LikeButton.jsx

Implement handleLikeClick and fetchLikes

This guide outlines how to implement the fetchLikes and handleLikeClick functions. Follow the steps carefully to ensure proper functionality and error handling.

1. Implement the fetchLikes Function

- Objective: Retrieve the current like count and the user's like status for the specified post.
- Steps:
 - 1. Update the Function:
 - Update the function fetchLikes within the useEffect hook.
 - 2. Access Authentication Token:
 - Retrieve the auth_user object from localStorage and parse it.
 - Extract the token. If the token is missing, alert the user and stop execution.
 - 3. Fetch Likes from the API:
 - Use the fetch API to send a GET request to the endpoint: \$\{import.meta.env.VITE_API_URL}/api/likes/\$\{postId\}.
 - Include the Authorization header with the token for user authentication.
 - 4. Handle API Response:
 - Check if the response is successful (response.ok).
 - Parse the response as JSON to extract the likes data.
 - 5. Update State:
 - Use the length of the likes data array to update the likes state.
 - Determine if the current user has liked the post by checking if their user ID exists in the likes data. Update the isLiked state accordingly.
 - 6. Handle Errors:
 - Use a try...catch block to catch and log any errors. Alert the user in case of an error.

2. Implement the handleLikeClick Function

- **Objective**: Allow the user to like or unlike a post and update the UI accordingly.
- Steps:
 - 1. Update the Function:
 - Update the function handleLikeClick.
 - 2. Access Authentication Token:
 - Retrieve the auth_user object from localStorage and parse it.
 - Extract the token. If the token is missing, alert the user and stop execution.
 - 3. Determine HTTP Method:

- Use POST if the user has not liked the post yet.
- Use DELETE if the user is undoing a like.

4. Construct API URL:

■ Use the endpoint: \${import.meta.env.VITE_API_URL}/api/likes/\${postId}.

5. Send API Request:

- Use the fetch API to send the request.
- Include the Authorization header with the token for user authentication.
- Check if the response is successful. If not, parse the error response and throw an error with a meaningful message.

6. Update Like Count:

- Fetch the updated like count by calling the same API endpoint as in fetchLikes.
- Update the likes and isLiked states based on the response.

7. Handle Errors:

■ Use a try...catch block to log and alert the user in case of an error.