

## East Tilbury, Linford and West Tilbury WELCOM Forum Minutes from 25<sup>th</sup> January held at Linford Methodist Church @ 7.30

**Present:** John Purkiss – Chair, Dave Bowling Vice Chairman, Frazer Massey – Treasurer, Cris Bowling-cook/Linda Mulley secretary, Gordon Stevens, Christine Osbourne, David Gunn, Sandra Gunn, Rob Quick, Kim Towlson, Jimmy Allen, Fred Mulley, Iris Crane, Pam Painter, Rose Phillips, Valerie Adams, Cllr Sue Sammons, Renie Bell, Rosley Keefe

Apologies: Michael Keal, Scott Sullivan, Brain Martin, Kim Ford, Chris Ford, Jan Fawsitt, Liam Judd, Rosie Roast, Kerry Graham

Minutes of previous meeting need to be amended with regard to Heritage Lottery giving 65,000 to the Library this should in fact be to the Bata Heritage Fund, otherwise minutes agreed and signed.

### **Matters Arising**

Lower Thames Crossing again is one of the major interests for the area causing concern as H.E. (**Highways England**) are changing continually where exactly the road will be and where it will surface and what it will look like with regard to it being raised up or sunk down between banks, whether it can be blocked out using Trees as the impact on the area could be devastating, but as Designs are changing constantly it depends on what's possible. At the moment it will run 570 metres behind Beechcroft. At a Taskforce meeting which is made up from Councillors not all coming from areas which will be effected by the build and two members of the public, the meeting was told the route and the elevation of the road is NOT negotiable. Initially when John, Dave, Linda and Stephen Metcalf went to Westminster to meet with H.E. they were told there would be areas that could be discussed. It was asked if there would be work for local people but were told that this would not be the case of course there would be a need for Newspapers and Milk, so no benefit of work in the areas where the crossing could possibly run. Cllr Sammons said that Thurrock Council were still saying that they did not want another crossing in the area.

The next Taskforce meeting is the 19<sup>th</sup> February which will be dealing with the visual side of the crossing.

Kim Towlson who is a member of the Lower Thames Crossing group said that the group has not been very vocal since George Abbott left but they were putting things in place for when the Consultation comes and that they needed everyone to reply to the questionnaire and that it is expected the questions will be structured so as to lead people to give the answers they want and we should be aware of how we answer it.

H.E. intend to have a Road Show go around to visit places and clubs in all the areas affected to tell people about the LTC and have visual maps available taking questions and to give answers, we hope to invite them to the Forum meeting in March to give a demonstration of the Road Show. If anyone

would like to invite them to their club etc please notify the Forum so we can pass the information on them.

### **Broadband**

Frazer has been chasing this up and has spoken to Murry James and is hopeful that in the near future we will have better broadband.

### **Gobions Park**

Are having their first meeting next week and are looking for new people to join the group. New signs have been ordered for the park and general repairs will be taking place April/May and anyone who enjoys gardening and has time to spare and would like to help please contact the Forum who will pass on your interest.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

In the absence of our representative Kim Towlson gave the Crime figures for our Area and both Kim and Cllr Sue Sammons said that there was not crime being reported to the police in the Area but people were complaining on Social Media this will not get us more police visits unless it is reported correctly.

There is currently a Scam being played, by a delivery of a Mobile Phone please be aware.

### **Ingrebourne Valley**

People again are being very vocal on FB with regard to the mud coming off lorries from the site and someone had actually been into the site and discovered that the wheel washer was not working and a jet washer was just laying on the ground. This should have been reported to Cllr Sue Sammons or taken up directly with the Council, so please be aware of this we can in some cases put an end to the appalling mud on the roads.

### **Thameside Nature Trust**

Jimmy Allen joined the park last August and they have been organising the new school Art project and are working to get people engaged in the nature park, they will be running projects throughout the year. He was asked to convey to the people making the pricing of such projects aware that they would get more children into the park projects if the prices were keep low. It was asked about the Fishing Lakes and Jimmy said that there was discussions going on as there were groups interested in running Fishing Clubs but as the Lakes were so unique with such a variety of creatures as well as fish

it was proving a lengthy process. Birds of prey (8) had been seen flying in the park. There is work going to take place in the near future with regard to a path from Gobions Park to the Nature park.

### **Speed Watch**

West Tilbury has 4 people and East Tilbury has 2. There are signs and a camera which will be shared between the West and East Tilbury. Speed watching can only be done in daylight hours, and the teams are looking for somewhere that the equipment can be stored securely and safely so both groups can have access. If anyone is interested in joining this group of community minded people please contact the Forum.

### **106 Monies**

Dave has been working hard on this as initially Thurrock Council did not want to spend any monies in the Area where it was generated but as the documents involved with 106 monies clearly states that it should only be used or 'site specific'. We are currently awaiting a meeting with Leigh Nicholson as we have been told that Thurrock Council will allow us to use the monies for Indoor/outdoor sports in the East Tilbury Area but we have differing figures and are asking for clarification on this. We are looking at clubs etc that would like to contact the Forum to tell us of any requirements they need so we can list everyone. Ideas are Skate Ramp in Gobions Park, Trim-track in Gobions Park and a Netball Court if possible also assistance to something for Knit and Natter.

There is an amount of money which is attached to a Pedestrian bridge, where it will be placed is a little uncertain and what its design entails is unknown but this has been going on for a few years so we are well into this agreement .

### **Solar Farm**

Cllr Sue Sammons was asked again about the Community Benefit Fund and the monies that should be going into it for the local community and the Planning office again had not followed through with the enforcement of this agreement even though the Solar Farm has been in operation for the last year. It was asked what the officers in the Planning Dept actually got paid to do as this is another Planning Dept error where the community has had to chase Thurrock Council to do what should have been done when construction took place. This money should be available annually for the life of the fund,

### **AOB**

Gordon Stevens has contacted the Road Users Group and asked to be put on the emailing list and to be notified of meetings in advance. Gordon noticed that the closure of the Bridleway 58 and the alternative route from British Rail was unsafe which he brought to the attention of Council.

***Love Lane to be closed*** due to constant fly tipping

Hedge in front of Rigg Milner is causing problems for people pulling out as it blocks the drivers view, Cllr Sue Sammons has spoken to the council, but it depends on whether it comes under council or the Doctors to keep it maintained.

13<sup>th</sup> February Pancake evening 6.30 at St Catherine's also an Ash Wednesday Service at St Catherine's

**Next meeting will be Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> at Linford Methodist Church @ 7pm for 7.30pm**