



**Minutes of the Open meeting held on  
Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> March 2017 at 7.30pm  
in Bulphan Village Hall**

**Present:** Janet McCheyne (Chair), Cllr. Brian Little, Cllr. Sue Little, Angela Shearing (Committee), Bob Shearing, Judy Wright, Diane Perkins (Committee), Dawn McMahon, Roy Thomas, Corinne White, Bev Johnston, Dave Hale, Kim Towlson (Horndon-on-the-Hill Society and Community Forum), Amy Thongmak.

No.	Detail	Action
1.	Janet welcomed all to the meeting.	
2.	The <b>minutes of the last Open Meeting</b> held on 12th January 2017 were agreed and signed	
3.	<p><b>Matters arising from minutes not already on the agenda</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Memorial Bench at the far end of the park is due to be unveiled on Easter Monday at the Easter Antics Event, Monday, 17th April 2017, 1 - 4pm at the village hall and park.</li> <li>b) West Horndon Surgery gave much thought to enabling a prescription delivery and collection point in Bulphan, but the practicalities and legalities mean that this won't be possible. Thank you to Peter Bennett for being prepared to help with this.</li> <li>c) The details of doctor's surgeries and contacts on the back cover of the Hobnob are now all correct.</li> <li>d) Peter Butler, Outdoor Sports &amp; GreenSpace Maintenance Officer at Thurrock Council, has the "No golf, no horse-riding" sign for the park, and on 7th February he said he would come to the Community Cafe with the signs to confirm where they are to be placed. Cllr. Brian Little agreed to remind Peter.</li> <li>e) Diane had attended Horndon-on-the-Hill's Forum AGM and said they appeared to be a well-organised group, and that our villages shared many of the same issues and that regular contact and communication would continue to be useful. Janet thanked Diane for attending. Kim told us that the Orsett Christmas Fayre, in which Bulphan, Orsett and Horndon-on-the-Hill had collaborated, would this year be on Saturday, 9th December.</li> <li>f) The consultation on the closure of the redundant loop of the A128 closed on 3rd March and a decision is expected within a week from now.</li> </ul>	Cllr. Brian Little
4.	<b>Treasurer's Report:</b> no treasurer's report was available: Janet will circulate by email and at the Community Cafe as soon as possible.	Bernie/ Janet
5.	<p><b>Correspondence:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Association of Forum's next meeting will be on 21st March 7pm at Stifford Clays: Kim will attend and has offered to take forward our views: we have been asked to comment on future funding of Forums, as some Forums are inactive or almost so, and still receiving funding from the Council.</li> <li>b) A document has been received setting out the Port of Tilbury London Limited's Vision for the Thames (Protect, Improve and Promote).</li> </ul>	Kim
6.	<b>Planning matters and enforcement update:</b> Planning officer Jenny Palmer had sent an update:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The self-storage yard at Burrows Farm is sub-judice (being considered by a judge or court), so she is unable to comment on that at this time.</li> <li>b) A 2nd Enforcement Notice had been issued regarding the removal of the modular buildings on the waste transfer part of the Burrows Farm site. There has since been a fire, which damaged these buildings. The council did not agree to remove the Enforcement Notice, pre-application advice has been given and a planning application is expected.</li> <li>c) The outline application for demolition of the existing buildings and construction of 26 residential properties (17/00150/OUT) at Burrows Farm remains invalid.</li> <li>d) The activities at the Scaffolding company adjacent to Wick Place will be investigated soon.</li> </ul>	Cllr. Brian Little
7.	<b>Bus Users Group:</b> Judy and Brian had attended. The change of day of the 265 bus to now run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays had been agreed and would take effect in April 2017. The request for a slightly later time in the morning was being considered.	
8.	<b>Village Hall matters:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The level of bookings remains high and the hall is kept very busy!</li> <li>b) Dave had had problems getting the manhole in the entranceway repaired, but it is done now.</li> <li>c) The hall now has a Premises Licence, which will mean that local organisations will be able to sell drink, show films, perform music and carry out other activities during their bookings. No alcohol will be stored on the premises, and the public will not be able to come in to buy alcohol. Those in charge of the bar will have to sign to accept responsibility for adhering to the licence conditions.</li> <li>d) There will be a public meeting at 4pm on Friday, 31st March 2017 in the hall to approve the proposal that the village hall committee charity changes to an incorporated charity, to reduce the personal liability of committee members.</li> </ul>	
9.	<b>Bulphan in Bloom matters:</b> next event will be a Race Night on 25th March. Details have been leafleted and posters have been put up.	
10.	<b>Police update:</b> the Community Policing Team's update had not been received lately: Brian will follow up with the PCSO Team/JoJo.  <b>Speedwatch:</b> Kim and Brian reported that a high number of speeding motorists travelling along Church Road/Fen Lane, even in the 20mph zone. Residents asked if VAD signs (flashing signs) could be provided and Brian said these were being discussed. The possibility of another sign on the "Welcome to Bulphan" signs saying that this is a Community Speedwatch Area was discussed. There was a lively discussion about parking on the yellow lines and zig-zag lines at the school: reporting, with reg nos and if possible photos was recommended.	Cllr. Brian Little
11.	<b>Organisation of Easter Antics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) There would be the usual Easter egg hunt for the under-8's at 1.30. The Easter Rabbit and helper would attend.</li> <li>b) There would be a seasonal raffle</li> <li>c) Nick and Frances Hansen would attend with their willow-woven goods and associated craft activities for the children.</li> <li>d) There would be a table for crafts for younger children</li> <li>e) We would welcome suggestions for activities for the older children to enjoy.</li> <li>f) There would be no walking-round-the-village treasure hunt this year.</li> <li>g) Refreshments would of course be available.</li> <li>h) The memorial bench would be unveiled</li> </ul>	

	<p>i) Despite the ban on moving poultry, it was hoped there would be some sort of seasonal livestock at the event!</p>	
12.	<p><b>Memories Day:</b> in response to public demand, the Bulphan Village Memories Day would be repeated on Saturday, 30th September 2017. We invite anyone who has any photos or documents relating to the history of Bulphan to allow us to scan them, and display the scanned documents/photos. Janet to see if Horndon-on-the-Hill could again lend their display boards. The exhibition would run from 3 - 8pm. Please ask your neighbours, family or people who used to live in Bulphan, if they have anything about Bulphan history, which they are willing to share.</p>	Janet
13.	<p><b>Councillor update:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Brian told us about the plans for a very large new port at Tilbury: Tilbury2. It is such a large proposed development that it has to go to the Secretary of State. There are information days in the Tilbury area for the public to view the plans. English Heritage are preparing a wish list of community/heritage benefits they would like to see provided if this proposal is adopted.</li> <li>b) Widening of the A13 between Orsett Cock and Manorway: the money has not yet been assigned but is likely to be.</li> <li>c) The disruption on A128 at Barnards Farm/railway bridge area is due to rail works. The councillors had taken up complaints at our last meeting about mud on the road. The problems straddled the Thurrock/Brentwood border, but have now been addressed.</li> </ul>	
14.	<p><b>Questions from the floor:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Option C/Lower Thames Crossing: the decision continues to be deferred. The current secretary of state for Transport, Chris Grayling, has been querying some of Highways England's statements and demanding more robust evidence.</li> <li>b) Dead horses: residents had been distressed by the recent dumping of several dead or dying horses on verges by the A128. Apart from the distress caused, there is a disposal cost which falls to the council. Residents were asked to be very vigilant and report suspicious activity. This counts as fly-tipping.</li> <li>c) A resident asked about plans for the Harrow site: the industrial-scale fly-tipping had been cleared, and the planning application for a Well-being and Weightloss Centre has so far received no objections. Residents were pleased that the derelict site would be cared for in the future.</li> <li>d) A resident reported that an ongoing issue regarding wheelie bins had been resolved and thanked Cllr. Brian Little for his intervention.</li> <li>e) Several residents raised a complaint that the streetlight outside 33 Church Road had not been working for some time. Brian asked for the lamppost number so he could follow this up. If residents feel the new LED lights are not shaded correctly, (i.e. there is upward light-spill) please report this to Brian.</li> <li>f) A resident reported that the Brentwood Road sign at the junction of Brentwood Road and A128 near the Plough Motel obscured sightlines: Brian asked her to email him and attach a photo.</li> <li>g) A resident asked if the councillors had received much feedback about the increase in Council Tax for 2017/18. Cllr. Sue Little said that the rise in the Thurrock Council portion of the Council Tax was mostly accounted for by the Adult Social Care precept, and that increase had been less than 2%.</li> <li>h) A resident asked what the impact of the recent budget would be Thurrock Council and in the Thurrock area: Cllr. Brian Little said that it was very early days, but, disappointingly, the allocation of business rates to the areas where the businesses are based is being discussed, and some business rates are likely to continue to be given to areas where they do not suffer the impact of much business.</li> </ul>	Cllr. Brian Little Cllr. Brian Little

15.	<b>Next Open meeting:</b> Thursday 11th May 2017 at 7.30pm in Bulphan Village Hall	
16.	<b>Future meetings:</b> 29th June (AGM), 14th Sept, 9th Nov. <b>Future Forum events:</b> Monday, 17th April, 1 - 4pm: Easter Antics children's egg hunt and family afternoon at the village hall September 30th, 3 - 8pm: Bulphan Village Memories Day at the village hall.	