



**Minutes of the Open meeting held on
Thursday, 9th November 2017 at 7.30pm in
Bulphan Village Hall.**

Present: Janet McCheyne (Chair), Dawn McMahan, Peter Tarrant (Committee), Dave Hale, Roy Thomas, Iris Aedy, Judy Wright, Ron Smith, Angela Shearing (Committee), Bob Shearing, Rod Addison, Pauline White (LAC)

No.	Detail	Action
1.	<p>Janet welcomed all to the meeting. Apologies had been received from a number villagers, and committee members John Hanson (Treasurer), Diane Perkins (Secretary) and Councillors Brian and Sue Little. Health & Safety announcements were made. Janet informed the meeting that Cllr. Sue Little had recently received a Local Government Information Unit award, presented at the Guildhall. From thousands of local councillors nominated nationally, Sue had won the Health and Care category for motivation, making a difference people's lives, interaction with residents and innovation.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the last Open Meeting held 14th September 2017 were agreed and signed. Matters arising from minutes not already on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The "Down Memory Lane" event had been well-supported and enjoyable. Thanks were expressed to those who had contributed items to be displayed, also to Peter Tarrant, Dave Hale, Bob and Angie Shearing, Naomi Cooper, Suzanne Hanson, Alan and Linda Cox and those who willingly helped to clear up at the end. b) Peter had inspected the Victoria Road ditch and advised Kelly accordingly. Rod reported that Bulphan in Bloom intended to cut back the vegetation there soon. c) Cllr. Brian Little had passed on residents' concern about Doesgate Lane being dangerously narrow towards the Dunton end: the council had promptly replied that work in that area was not on the agenda. d) Regarding use of S106 money and the considerable amounts the council are holding, or would be holding, from developments in Bulphan, Peter had the full agreement of the meeting that funding of projects in the Bulphan community should take priority over those in the wider Thurrock community. He suggested that improving Dunnings Lane to an acceptable standard as a matter of urgency could be suggested as an appropriate use of some of that money. Janet to pass this suggestion on. e) Defibrillator: after further research, Janet discovered that if the defibrillator was obtained through the Ambulance Service, no VAT is payable. Unfortunately, the funding for schemes where defibrillators could be provided for a modest donation has run out now. The cost of a vandal-proof case and defibrillator would therefore be £1,500. Someone who would regularly monitor the equipment would be needed, and we are fortunate in that Dave Hale has agreed to take on this role. The village hall committee have agreed to pay for the electricity. It was agreed that the equipment would need to be covered by insurance. Janet was asked to find out if the Forum insurance would cover it, and if not, what the extra cost would be. <p>After discussion, the meeting agreed that a fundraising quiz night would be held in February 2018, and that any shortfall in the funds raised would be contributed from Forum and Cafe funds. Dave offered to devise the quiz and would advise the best date. Janet to promote in the Hobnob, on posters, at the cafe and on social media.</p>	<p>Janet</p> <p>Janet</p> <p>Janet</p>

3.	<p>Treasurer's report: Current balance is £3,567.88 (of which £111.24 is ring-fenced for the entranceway and £195.00 for the drainage group). A request was made for funding for the village Christmas tree. Last year, the village hall, Forum and cafe had each contributed £40. Janet was asked to source a similar tree this year, and the meeting agreed to again share the cost, subject to a maximum of £50.</p>	Janet
4.	<p>Chair's correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Janet attended Horndon-on-the-Hill Forum meeting last week. The dangers of lorries exiting the Bomber's Cafe at the Orsett Cock had been highlighted. Bulphan residents echoed these concerns. Janet to write to Cllr. Brian Little to ask what action he intends to take to improve safety at this site. b) All Forum chairs have been invited to attend a meeting with Kristina Jackson (CVS) regarding Community Safety. 	Janet
5.	<p>Lower Thames Crossing: Janet passed round a map showing some changes to the proposed route. The Action Group are prioritising air pollution as the most negative aspect. All are still opposed to Option C, and there is support for both A14 and the route via Canvey Island/A130. The next public meeting of the Action Group, where more information will be available, will be at 3pm on Sunday 26th November at East Tilbury Community Sports Hall, East Tilbury School.</p>	
6.	<p>Thurrock Road Users Group: the next meeting would be held on Monday 11th December and Janet will attend</p>	Janet
7.	<p>Planning matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Former Bulphan shop: still awaiting decision. b) Burrows Farm: the application for 26 houses was refused on the grounds of inappropriate development in the Green Belt, and insufficient sight lines to permit safe exit onto A128. c) 1 Manor Cottages had applied to change a garage/games room to a 2-bedroomed residential dwelling. Changes to the building would be minimal. d) The decision on the 52 houses on land adjacent to Martins Farm is due to be made 15th December. e) Bonham Grange (Pieris Place) was due for completion in the summer: Mr. Norcross says 60% of phase 1 is sold. f) Manor Grange in Doesgate Lane, 6 houses, launching in Spring 2018, due for completion 2019. g) Hatch Farm Stables: 4 executive homes "coming soon" h) There has been some groundwork at the Harrow, in preparation for the Wellness and Weight-Loss Centre. i) No activity yet on the 2 semi-detached houses at Jusootus, Albert Road. j) Malgraves development (50 homes and a hospice): no activity yet. 	
8.	<p>Bus users group: Judy had been unable to get to the October meeting of this group, but said that the service provided on 3 days a week by Transvol to Orsett, Grays and Lakeside is very reliable and the drivers were obliging. Shoppers had limited time at the destination, but were grateful for this service nonetheless.</p>	
9.	<p>Village Hall update, including new shop: the Council Property Board met in September and had no objection to transferring the lease of the hall on a 99-year lease. Dave and Janet will attend the Assessment Panel meeting and give a presentation. The date of that Panel meeting is not known, as various officers have to meet to decide the date, attendees and agenda. Residents expressed their frustration at the protracted delays caused by the council and felt that a strongly-worded letter to the Chief Executive of the Council should be sent, explaining the unique situation we are in (having a benefactor willing to fund the cost of building the shop), the need for the village to have a shop and the benefits to the</p>	

	council of the Bulphan Community managing the hall. Residents felt that unless there is a timely response from the council, with timelines, that involving the media would be the only option. Janet will write to the senior officers involved and the chief executive.	Janet
10.	Bulphan in Bloom update: village-wide planting was carried out in October; BiB volunteers continue with the upkeep of the churchyard; there is a farm-machinery maintenance schedule. Kelly had provided a beautiful windowsill display at the Harvest Thanksgiving and their next fundraising event would be Cream teas in May 2018.	
11.	Police Newsletter: Essex Police are setting up an Independent Advisory Group of 15-18 year olds from across Thurrock. They will sit on a panel with the Police on a monthly basis and will be given the opportunity to question the police and influence the way they work and interact with young people. Please contact the police if any young person you know fits the criteria and wishes to take part (email 70832@essex.pnn.police.uk)	
12.	Next events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Wrap up the Hall at 3.45pm on Friday 17th November: to highlight the need for people with lung conditions to wear a scarf to cover their nose and mouth when going out in cold air, we will be wearing scarves and holding hands in a human chain to wrap around the village hall. NHS will be photographing our efforts! b) Christmas Eve Sleigh Tour, Sunday 24th December, 4pm. Festive refreshments back at the hall. c) Easter Monday April 2nd 2018: Easter Antics 	
13.	Questions from the floor: a question was asked about the use of drones by the police. Residents expressed concern about their privacy and wanted reassurance that the police drones were only used to solve specific crime incidents. Janet to find out more.	Janet
14.	Next Open meetings: Thursdays 11th January 2018, 8th March 2018 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.	