



**Minutes of the Open meeting held on
Thursday, 11th January 2018 at 7.30pm in
Bulphan Village Hall.**

Present: Janet McCheyne (Chair), Dawn McMahon, Peter Tarrant (Committee), Dave Hale, Roy Thomas, Iris Aedy, Judy Wright, Ron Smith, Rod Addison, Pauline White (LAC), Diane Perkins (Committee), Karen Willes, Colin Pankhurst, Lynda Robertson, Richard Robertson, Corinne White, Mike Fox
Kim Towlson (Horndon-on-the-Hill Society & Community Forum)
Kirsty Paul, Principal Planning Officer, Growth and Strategy Team, Environment and Place, Thurrock Council

No.	Detail	Action
1.	<p>Janet welcomed all to the meeting. The meeting commenced with a minute's silence in tribute to Alan Cox, treasurer and backbone of Bulphan in Bloom, and the inspiration behind the Community Cafe, who had passed away suddenly the previous day. Apologies had been received from a number of villagers, committee member Angela Shearing and Councillors Brian and Sue Little. Health & Safety announcements were made.</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of the last Open Meeting held 9th November 2017 were agreed and signed. Matters arising from minutes not already on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Defibrillator quiz: this fundraising event would be held on Saturday, 3rd February 7.30 for 8 in Bulphan Village Hall. Tables of 8, bring your own drinks and nibbles. The Forum insurance covers equipment up to £10,000, so it would be covered at no extra cost. b) Dunnings Lane: this would be closed for 200m from Blankets Farm towards St. Mary's Lane from 5th - 26th February, for carriageway repairs. The meeting again expressed their disappointment that a single, effective resurfacing was not being done. c) Thanks to Peter Tarrant, the total cost of the Christmas tree this year was £50. Cost shared between Forum, Cafe and Village Hall d) All other actions were complete, or appear on the agenda below. 	
3.	<p>Guest speaker: Kirsty Paul Kirsty gave a very detailed and informative talk on why Thurrock needs to produce a new local plan (mainly because the housing needs dictated by central government have been increased). The planners want effective consultation with the people of Thurrock, so imaginative interactive sessions are to be held. Your Bulphan, Your Voice - Community Planning Event will take place during the Community Cafe session from 1.30 - 4.30pm on Friday 9th March 2018. Janet to find out how people who are not available during the day can submit feedback. In order to meet the target of 32,000 new houses, the council will look at urban areas first, but at the moment there are only sites for 7,000 houses available. A resident queried the validity of the assumed need for 32,000 houses and Kirsty said it was based on well-worked out National data. 2 books with more details are available from the cafe/Janet on request.</p>	

4.	<p>Treasurer's report: Current balance is £3,701.88 (of which £111.24 is ring-fenced for the entranceway and £195.00 for the drainage group). The Christmas raffle at the cafe had raised £134 for Forum funds.</p> <p>A request was made for funding for maintenance of the willow-dome, which was built by Forum and Bulphan in Bloom volunteers 8 years ago. Naomi had arranged a working party and asked if funds could be allocated for living willow, dead willow and other requirements up to a maximum of £100 (actual costs likely to be much lower). This was agreed.</p>	
5.	<p>Chair's correspondence:</p> <p>a) Janet attended Orsett Forum meeting last week. Main topics of discussion were the Christmas Fayre, the latest on the Lower Thames Crossing, litter problems, consultation on health provision (reallocation of services currently at Orsett Hospital) and successful grant awards.</p>	
6.	<p>Planning matters:</p> <p>a) Former Bulphan shop: the plan for 2 new houses has been withdrawn, and an amended application is expected.</p> <p>b) 1 Manor Cottages application to change a garage/games room to a 2-bedroomed residential dwelling had been approved.</p> <p>c) The decision on the 52 houses on land adjacent to Martins Farm was refused.</p> <p>d) An application for a 3-bedroomed house at the Harrow, in addition to the Wellness and Weight-Loss Centre had been submitted: awaiting decision</p> <p>e) Malgraves development (50 homes and a hospice): an amended application for 80 homes had been submitted. Decision 6th April 2018.</p> <p>f) Balgownie Farm: permission has been granted for 6 new homes; however, an application for 3 additional smaller homes has now been received.</p>	
7.	<p>Village Hall update, including new shop: Janet and Dave had a positive meeting with Detlev Munster, the new Assistant Property Director at Thurrock Council. The Council Property Board is due to meeting 11th January (today) and the Assessment Panel meet week beginning 15th January 2018.</p>	
8.	<p>Bulphan in Bloom update: in view of the sad news about Alan Cox, Bulphan in Bloom's treasurer, the AGm planned for 15th January is postponed.</p>	
9.	<p>Police Newsletter: Janet read highlights from the latest Police newsletter. Our own Neighbourhood Beat Officer, Laura Brady had visited the Community Cafe and had been seen around the village. Janet will attend the next Community Policing event at Aveley on 29th January and ask for more details about the use of drones.</p> <p>Speedwatch: 2 volunteers had resigned, but 2 new volunteers had been recruited.</p>	
10.	<p>Next events:</p> <p>a) Saturday, February 3rd Defibrillator quiz, 7.30 for 8 in the village hall</p> <p>b) Friday 26th January, 1.30 - 4.30 at the cafe Health consultation event</p> <p>c) Monday 12th February, 7.30 - 9.30pm: training for emergency rest centre volunteers - places still available.</p> <p>d) Friday 9th March: Community Planning event 1.30 - 4.30 at the cafe.</p> <p>e) Easter Monday April 2nd 2018: Easter Antics</p>	
11.	<p>Questions from the floor:</p> <p>a) Complaints were voiced about the amount of dog-fouling taking place, particularly on the footpath from 4 Acres on the A128 to the junction with Church Road, and the recreation ground. However, most areas of the village seem to be experiencing this anti-social behaviour. A resident suggested that making the bin</p>	

	<p>on the A128 more obvious (it is at present sited almost within the hedge) may encourage people to clear up after their dogs.....</p> <p>b) A resident warned drivers that there are deep ruts at the side of the road in Parkers Farm Road, which could cause damage to your vehicle.</p> <p>c) A resident said that lorry-parking (and coach-parking) in Brentwood Road at the Peartree Lane section and at the Middleton Hall section is causing problems. The advice given was to report it on the council's website, and if the response is poor, to ask our councillors to follow it up.</p> <p>d) Concerns were expressed about the dangerous conditions at the Orsett Cock/A128 junction, where traffic is turning out of the Kier Construction site at the football ground and the customers of Bombers Cafe. Suggestions were to remove the hedge entirely, to put width-restrictions in place and to have prominent "No right turn" signs at both junctions from this loop.</p>	Janet
12.	<p>Next Open meetings: Thursdays 8th March, 10th May, Monday 9th July (AGM) 2018, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.</p>	