



**Minutes of the Open meeting held on  
Thursday, 10th January 2019 at 7.30pm in  
Bulphan Village Hall.**

**Present:** Janet McCheyne (Chair), Annette Miles (Treasurer) Angela Shearing (committee), Diane Perkins (committee), Peter Tarrant (committee), Dave Hale, Corinne White, Bob Shearing, Roy Thomas, Iris Aedy, Judy Wright, Cllr. Sue Little, Cllr. Barry Johnson, Kim Towlson (Horndon-on-the-Hill Forum), Dawn McMahon, Lorraine Brien, Gary Brien, James Willes, Karen Willes, Ken West, Bill French, Chris French, June Morgan, Leslie Nualls, Lesley Nualls, Beverly Johnson, Mike Ellis, Palo Singh, Jasbir Kaur, Daniel Hills, Karen Hepburn , Doreen Whall

**Apologies:**

No.	Detail	Action
1.	Janet welcomed all to the meeting and made Health & Safety announcements.	
2.	The minutes of the meeting held on 8th Nov 2018 had previously been distributed to those on the Forum email list and hard copies had been available at the Community Cafe. They were approved 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 “No dogs in the MUGA” signs had been affixed next to the entrances, but were being ignored by some. Residents are encouraged to politely point out the signs to those dog owners who may have missed them.</li> <li>b) A resident had asked for information on the process for the adoption of an unadopted road (e.g. Albert Road). Since 2010, it has not been Thurrock Council’s to adopt previously unadopted roads, only new roads created by developers. There can, in any case, be significant costs, time delays and legal challenges and uncertainties with the process.</li> <li>c) There had as yet been no reply to the letter to Roger Hirst, asking why Essex has one of the lowest ratios of police to residents.</li> <li>d) The ‘phone box had been removed on 6th December 2018, the ‘phone having been removed many months before that.</li> <li>e) The letter box relocation from a vulnerable position outside the former shop (which may soon be demolished) to a safer position near the village hall was requested on 3rd July 2017. Royal Mail have been regularly emailed for an update: they now say it is in the hands of contractors Romec. Janet has asked for Romec’s contacts to make sure they are aware of the urgency of our request.</li> <li>f) Following yesterday’s training at WI with a First Responder, there are now 47 people who are more confident in using the defibrillator outside the village hall.</li> <li>g) Father Christmas’s Sleigh Tour on Christmas Eve had been very well-supported, and the refreshments had cost £36.50 (funded by the Community Cafe). The Rotary Club had suggested we consider having the refreshments beforehand.</li> <li>h) The New Year’s Eve gathering had attracted twice as many people as last year, and the expenses had been covered by a donation from the Scott-Gowers family.</li> </ul>	All
4.	<p><b>Treasurer’s report:</b> Current balance is 10,445.25 (of which £111.24 is ring-fenced for the entranceway £195.00 for the drainage group and £3441 for the Mardyke Way Interpretation sign). We have received £300 admin money from Thurrock Council, and paid out £130 for the Christmas Tree.</p>	



11.	<b>Village Hall update:</b> Plans for the amended shop design had been passed, and the decision on the table store extension would be made on 29th January 2019.	
12.	<b>Cafe/Post Office:</b> in the last year, the cafe had, thanks to the generosity of volunteers and customers, taken about £3,000 and paid out about £2,000. £850 was spent on consumables, £25 on equipment, £760 donated to village projects and £400 paid to the village hall towards hiring the hall. Residents were welcome to submit requests for funding for minor community improvements.	
13.	<b>Councillors' feedback:</b> a resident had requested double yellow lines around the junction of Stanley Road and Church Road, and wished to know who the request should be sent to. After a lively discussion around parking generally, councillors advised that the council Highways Department were the contact to approach. It was pointed out that consultation would have to take place and residents in the vicinity may not wish to have double yellow lines outside their properties. Regarding persistent anti-social parking by one resident, at the junction of Victoria Road and Church Lane, the advice was also to contact Highways, with photographic evidence.	
14.	<b>Bulphan in Bloom update:</b> no update available.	
15.	<b>Police &amp; Speedwatch update:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Kim was pleased to report that his newest recruits have now been trained. He was also pleased to report that at the most recent Speedwatch session on Horndon-on-the-Hill, no speeders had been seen.</li> <li>b) A resident had written to the council, explaining how alarming it is negotiating the junctions on the A128, because of the speeding vehicles, and requesting traffic-calming measures to be considered. The reply indicated that there are 6 accident hotspots along the A128, and they intended to investigate the most appropriate traffic calming measures. Cllr. Sue will ask the police to carry out speed checks.</li> <li>c) As our local PC Laura Brady was unable to attend the meeting, councillors were asked if they knew if anything was being done about the prolific offender who was smashing car windows to remove items. The identity of the individual is known as is his car and address. Councillors were not aware of any police action which had had a lasting effect, but the individual did have an unfortunate minor accident recently.....</li> </ul>	Sue
16.	<b>Questions from the floor:</b> a resident said that debris from a road traffic accident before Christmas was still on the verge near the A128/Church Rd. junction, and was blowing onto the main road. Janet will report it via the council website	Janet
17.	<b>Next events:</b> Easter Antics on Easter Monday, 1 - 4pm. Egg hunt for under-8s, cafe and bar open, various other activities.  Next Open Meetings: Thursdays, 7.30 - 9pm 14th March, 9th May, 17th July (AGM) 12th Sept, 14th Nov 2019	