



**Minutes of the Open meeting held on
Thursday, 30th January 2020 at 7.30pm in
Bulphan Village Hall.**

Present: Janet McCheyne (Chair), Angela Shearing (committee), Peter Tarrant (committee), Jo Goddard (committee), Dave Gulvin (committee), Diane Perkins (Committee) Annette Miles (treasurer), Tracey Potton, Jessica Potton, Lynda Cox, Dave Topliss, Linda Topliss, Judy Wright, Iris Aedy, Rod Addison, Roy Thomas, Dawn McMahon, Denise Wakeling, Steve Nicholls, Andrea Nicholls, Keith Godden, Lesley Nualls, Leslie Nualls, Keith Blackmore, Corinne White, June Morgan, Tom Neil, Helen Winter, Ron Smith, Bev Johnson, Irene Wellman, Mark Wellman, Steve Benn, Bernie Benn, Dave Hale, Paul Luke, Barry Shepherd, Jackie Shepherd, Fathima Sureiha, Vichu Manivannan, Jacky and Jeff Vickers

Apologies: Lynda Robertson (committee), Kim Towlson (Chair of Horndon-on-the-Hill Forum) Cllr. Sue Little, Cllr. Barry Johnson

No.	Detail	Action
1.	Janet welcomed all to the meeting but forgot to point out the H & S procedures.	
2.	The minutes of the Open Meeting held on 14th November 2019 had previously been distributed to those on the Forum email list and hard copies had been available at the Community Cafe. They were agreed and signed.	
3.	<p>Matters arising from the minutes, not already on the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Steven and Janet have not yet carried out the inspection of the emergency pumps. b) Clearing of the ditch between Albert Road and the Recreation Ground has not yet been carried out by the council. c) The A13 will be closed from the Orsett Cock to the Manorway from 9pm Friday 7th Feb. until 5am Monday 10th: please avoid the area if possible. It is hoped signage and other measures will deter too many drivers from cutting through the villages to avoid the congestion. d) There has been no response as yet to our request to relocate the letter box (again) to the correct site. e) The plaque acknowledging the Harrow Inn will be made tomorrow and installed at the Glass House Retreat soon. f) Christmas Eve Sleigh Tour had gone well: Mardyke Rotary Club had collected a generous amount from Bulphan residents, and had received a total of £10,000 from 14 Sleigh Tours and a raffle. Some of the funds had been donated to the new St. Luke's (Bulphan) Hospice and the rest shared between another 10 or so local charities. g) The New Year's Eve event had been a modest but enjoyable occasion. 	Janet Steven
4.	<p>Treasurer's report:</p> <p>Current balance is £4,056.47 (of which £111.24 is ring-fenced for the entranceway and £195.00 for the drainage group). Janet confirmed that the Interpretation Board at the Harrow, the defibrillator and Bulphan in Bloom's equipment are all covered under the Forum's insurance. We need to add the emergency pumps.</p>	Janet
5.	<p>Planning matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) No appeal has yet been lodged for the 2 Peartree Lane developments. b) The application for 2 semi-detached houses on the site of Cosy was refused today. c) No update on Atwal Villa, which is still the subject of enforcement action. d) There is an application to demolish the house at Four Acres and build a new house. 	

	<p>e) The list of S106 funds collected from Bulphan housing developments has not changed, so there is £5,000 available towards upgrading the hall car park, £28,705 to extend William Edwards School and £306,581 towards the 53 affordable units in Chadwell St. Mary.</p> <p>f) A resident had heard that the complex for over 55s at Langdon Hills Golf Club would be considered by the planning committee at their February meeting (6pm 13th Feb)</p> <p>g) Residents requested that future S106 money be allocated to the hall car park upgrade.</p>	
6.	<p>Village Hall Report</p> <p>The builders have completed the shop shell; Village Halls Week Open Afternoon was successful and will be repeated next year, on a Saturday to make it accessible for more people. The new table store is now in use. Quotes had been requested for a new door adjacent to the table store to allow for easy access to the recreation ground. A resident suggested that a higher priority for hall finances might be resurfacing the hall car park: the council are responsible for this, but the hall have to pay a third. This suggestion will be passed on to the hall trustees, who will meet in March, together with the suggestion that Janet apply for a grant to help with the car park resurfacing expense.</p> <p>Several people have been nominated to perform the opening ceremony for the shop: tbc.</p>	Janet
7.	<p>VE75/VJ75 celebrations update: details for the VE75 weekend remain as minuted in previous meetings, with the following additions: a grant of £900 has been given by National Lottery to support the celebrations, a party band has been booked for the evening do on the Saturday. Tickets for the afternoon tea party and the evening event will be on sale very soon: the afternoon tea party on Saturday 9th May will be from 2 - 5pm in the hall and tickets are £4 for adults and £2 for under 12s and will be available from Janet and numbers will be limited to 100. The evening event will be 8 - 11pm in the hall, licensed bar, bring your own nibbles but not your own drink: adults £4, under 12s £2, limited to 150 people only. Both events are open to residents or past residents only. The events in the cafe at the hall on the afternoon of Friday 8th, and the church service in the hall on Sunday 10th May at 10am are both open to anyone.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to erect a plaque at or near the Manor Farm field in which a Battle of Britain Spitfire crashed, killing the pilot. This was considered by all to be an excellent idea and will be taken forward, ideally in time for VE75.</p>	Janet Janet
8.	<p>Bus users group: Judy provided a report on the recent bus users group meeting: she had attended with Iris, Palo and Jenny, and had requested that the 265 bus which runs on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays be timetabled 15 minutes earlier, to connect in Orsett to the Basildon bus. The NiBS operator who was at the meeting said they would try to enable that.</p>	
9.	<p>Speedwatch: regarding Speedwatch, Kim Towlson, local co-ordinator, had asked that Bulphan volunteers be sought to take part in the Speedwatch sessions, and 3 people expressed an interest.</p>	
10.	<p>Shopkeepers: Forum members were introduced to Fathima Sureiha and Vichu Manivannan, who will be taking on the lease of the shop. They told us something about themselves, and said they were recruiting newspaper delivery people and also counter staff, including people who would like to train as Post Office clerks. Dave Hale then opened up the shop for those who wished to view it. A resident asked about opening hours (6am to 9pm) and delivery lorries (occasional 7.5 tonnes vans, normally the shopkeeper's own small van). Fathima confirmed they would be a Lottery outlet.</p>	
11.	<p>Police liaison:</p> <p>a) Straying horses: horses regularly getting loose from Blacksmith's Field had been causing a lot of concern. This has been happening for many years. Janet had been discussing possible actions with local PC Laura Brady. Although the police should attend if a horse is on the highway or at risk of going onto the highway, residents said this doesn't always happen. The police should close the road if the horse can't be put back in its own field, and the Green Yards should be called to catch and impound the horse. Again, this doesn't happen. Residents are left to deal with the situation themselves, or the horses are put in any handy field. The horses are fly-grazing and the owner won't provide his contact details.</p>	

	<p>PC Laura asked if residents could provide her with the horse-owner's vehicle registration number.</p> <p>b) Parking on the pavement: PC Laura has spoken to 2 car owners regarding parking on the junction of Church Lane/Victoria Road. Please could residents report vehicles which regularly park and obstruct the pavement, giving PC Laura the registration number and a photo if possible.</p> <p>c) A resident had asked for crime in Dunnings Lane to be mentioned: burglary, hare-coursing, fly-tipping. This will be passed on to PC Laura. Paul Luke, Ecofresh milkman, said that frequently reports suspicious activity on his milk round.</p> <p>d) An alternative non-emergency 'phone number for Essex Police was provided: 01245 491491</p>	
12.	<p>Lower Thames Crossing Update</p> <p>A supplementary consultation had been launched yesterday, asking for comments on the various changes which had been made to the design of the crossing/road. The council is urging residents to respond, as it can see no clear benefits to the scheme. The consultation runs for 8 weeks only. Here is the link to view it online: www.lowerthamescrossing.co.uk/consultation-2020 and there will be a consultation event on Monday 9th March from 2 - 8pm at Orsett Hall Hotel.</p>	
13.	<p>Bulphan in Bloom update:</p> <p>The plants at the junction of Victoria Road and Church Lane have been cut back to improve visibility. lots of litter has been picked and pruning/tidying carried out. The current bank balance is £9,095.77 of which £4792.68 is ring-fenced for Victoria Rd leaving available funds of £4,303.09. The following purchases are to be made</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approx 120 replacement lavender plants ● Replacement tubs/barrels ● Sandblasting the farm machinery <p>Forum members agreed to make a joint entry with BiB in the RCCE Best kept village competition and to join BiB in the Great British Spring Clean on 21st March. A resident suggested that we also have a Great Bulphan Summer Clean and a Great Bulphan Autumn Clean. Volunteers to help the small Bulphan in Bloom crew will be warmly welcomed.</p>	
14.	<p>Questions from the floor:</p> <p>a) it was reported that the waste bin from outside the old shop had been removed. Janet to find out whether it will be placed elsewhere in the village and received several suggestions for suitable sites.</p> <p>b) A resident had requested a pedestrian crossing near the church. Janet explained that this has been requested many times over the years and that traffic engineers have investigated it several times. There is no suitable place to site the crossing safely (too near a junction, too near a bend, too near a driveway etc). The safest place to cross is from the pavement outside Clifton, to the pavement next to Bulphan Hall Farm's gate. Trees being removed from the garden of Bulphan Hall by the new owner may improve visibility somewhat. If the green belt land between Bulphan Hall Farm and 33 Church Road is ever developed, the developer may extend the pavement along that stretch, providing safer places to cross.</p>	Janet
17.	<p>Next events:</p> <p>Mitu Ahmed, Parks Engagement Officer, will be beginning Active Parks coffee mornings on Tuesdays, 10 - 12 at the hall and park. First session 25th February. He will also be running a Family Active Parks Family Day during the half-term: 10 - 12.30 on Wednesday 19th February.</p> <p>Funding Workshop at the Community Cafe on Friday 20th March</p> <p>VE75 Celebrations - 8th, 9th and 10th May 2020</p> <p>VJ75 Celebrations: 15th August 2020</p> <p>N.B. There will be no Easter Antics this year, due to unavailability of committee members, and the VE75 celebrations.</p>	Janet
18.	<p>Next Open Meetings: Thursday 12th March, 14th May, AGM 30th July, 10th September, 12th November 2020, all at 7.30 - 9 in the village hall</p>	

