

**Meeting of Corringham, Fobbing and Homesteads Forum
Held on 11th July 2016 at 7.30pm in Corringham Library**

Present:

Bill Dawson	BD	Treasurer	}	Committee
Penny Partridge	PP	Joint Sec		
Jenny Meads	JM	Acting Chair		
Malcolm Knight	MK	Fobbing Friends		
Roy Jones	RJ	Councillor TBC		
Aaron Watkins	AW	Councillor TBC		
Jack Duffin	JD	Councillor TBC		
Dave Plant	DP	}	Residents	
John Fox	JF			
Rita Dawson	RD			
John Evans	JE			
Lynn Fox	LF			
Brenda Scott	BS			
Kabul Sandu	KS			
P O'Rourke	PO			Frost Estate Association
A Sharp	AS			
Carl Axford	CA			
Nathan Drover	ND	Thurrock Borough Council		
Trevor Hutchinson	TH	D P World		

Apologies

Danni Tate, Judith Acreman, Alan Phillips, Pam Tate, Alex Ridley, Carol Sharp

Minutes of previous meeting

Agreed

Matters arising

The person who had previously not received the minutes is now receiving them.

Nathan Drover - Transport Development Manager, TBC

Nathan Drover was welcomed to the meeting. He talked through the list of possible infrastructure improvements and took questions.

ND explained that he looks after all new highway developments and has been involved in the port infrastructure. The Inspector at the public inquiry proposed that 1.2 million pounds would be put

into mitigating any impact of the port. DP World have paid this money to Thurrock Council. The Forum subcommittee have looked at the list of possibilities and fed back. ND's observations about the proposals were as follows:

A13 widening. This is an £80 million pound scheme which has been partly funded with contributions from the port. This doesn't need to be on the list.

Revised lorry parking restrictions. The council currently supports lorry parks in 3 places in the borough. There is a temporary facility at Iron Latch. Currently the Manorway is enforced by the police, Thurrock Borough Council have applied to take this over. The police issued 12 parking tickets recently. JF showed a list of lorries that have parked illegally and asked when the application was made. ND believes it was 6 months ago and it is now with Thurrock's solicitors. ND will feed back on the current situation. A resident asked if DP World can enforce parking, TH said that they have no jurisdiction. They do have signs in place and information goes to all hauliers. Another facility is almost ready. If people let DP World know the registration numbers of any offending hauliers he will write to the companies. The issue is where the slip road is; when driving round the turn in the road you are faced with a parked truck. TBC have a duty of care to residents. How expensive would it be to put a camera there? There is already an ANPR in the area. This would be considered as a possibility. There was a suggestion that TBC restricts the length of the layby but the length of the merge is regulated.

Control of freight on unsuitable routes. Bans are currently in place apart from access. The biggest future problem is when the A13 or the Manorway are blocked. They are thinking of banning lorries completely in one direction. Then camera enforcement can be installed. This has disadvantages for some people. The only way to do it is to prove that lorries haven't stopped. A resident asked what would happen when the A13 works have started. Recently they have closed a lane from 9.30am – 3.30pm which has been a problem. They are not sure how it's going to be built yet. They can require that the contractor keeps 2 lanes open, but this is difficult for traffic management. There will be more lane closures during the summer and these will be monitored.

Revenue funding for bus services. There is an existing 300 service but the committee have reviewed this service and it's being suspended on 21.7.16. When the new warehouse opens a new service will be rolled out. A Stanford, Corringham, Port circular route would be well used.

Signalised crossing at Giffords Cross Road. This is going to be done by the port and doesn't have to be funded by the Section 106. Should be done at the back end of this year.

Shared use of cycle lane from Rookery Corner to rail station. The widening of the footway may be funded. TH spoke out that he would have an objection to this as the money isn't to facilitate residential travel.

Red light enforcement at Sorrells roundabout. Vehicles coming in to the port are having some shunts. The Road Safety Partnership may put in a speed camera where pedestrians are crossing.

Noise barriers along A13 west bound. These were not put in on the Basildon side as they were not required. Some landscaping has been cut down and residents have lobbied for noise barriers. This may come out of the A13 widening money. A resident asked if it should be funded by DP World but this is not considered necessary as lorries don't generally use this route.

Improved links across the rail line towards One Tree Hill. There is currently no footpath. If the housing proposed near Gable Hall goes ahead they could put a foot bridge there. This could be funded.

Thames path extension to Pitsea station (from the Manorway). This is not a high priority as there is a cycle way on Southend Road.

Lampits Hill to Springhouse Road cycle link. An improved route is desired. The Frost estate committee want to be involved in any decision. The lighting and street signs all need replacing. They should all get together and coordinate to avoid duplication of works. There are problems with the residents' grass and it's a very complicated legal situation; there would be a lot of objections. A resident asked about a footpath on the Frost estate. This too would be very complicated.

Extend Sorrells roundabout Corringham Road to Rainbow Lane with gating order. This cycleway would be an amenity route and wouldn't score highly.

Resurfacing the Manorway to reduce noise. This should be funded by TBC and won't solve the whole problem but there is no money in capital funding this year. If we sit tight it may happen. A resident asked if it could be done before the target traffic flow is reached. TH explained that it's a cash flow issue.

Remove Manorway central verge. There are ongoing maintenance problems, and concreting the central verge would save money long term. TH said that they are desperate to do the pelican crossing and asked if there was a date for this? Currently it's at the solicitors and there were delays with getting tenders first.

Enhanced pedestrian crossing point on Church Hill. This suggestion is controversial.

Half layby for buses on Church hill. Buses are blocking the road causing congestion.

Variable message sign on Manorway. This is a good idea. TH said that they are pushing for this at the port. It's possible that Highways England will provide a sign at the Manorway under another funding scheme.

Off road cycle link St Clere's to Mucking and Mucking to East Tilbury. There is an option to take the route from the wildlife centre to St Clere's, through the residential development. This is a leisure route and there is no point doing it until the Mucking tip is finished.

Miscellaneous maintenance ie street lighting improvements at Hardie park, Manorway, Lampits Hill. TBC are rolling out led lights. There are very few places that need attention and these will be picked up. ND explained that TBC are under pressure to find funding for traffic wardens to go out at night. It was reported that the rubbish at Rookery Hill is very bad.

Residents asked about the 1.2 Million allocated for the Manorway - the council has had it for over a year. Where is the interest? Should it be added? The money is index linked. ND will look into this. The potholes around the borough are being repaired. They are jet patching, where they spray the hole and fill in, it lasts very well. They suck all the moisture out then fill, it is very quick.

A resident asked about general litter. Are you working with other teams? The biggest problem is the Tilbury approach road. There are multiple agency enforcements. The Police and Highways England are working together every 3 months, but didn't get on top of it. It was noted that Grays gets more attention than the east of the borough.

It was brought up again about item number 10 on the proposed improvement list, the rail bridge. This is the escape route and shouldn't be put on the back burner. It should be a priority. This was brought up during the enquiry. Can Highways England fund this? Can this be highlighted? It was noted that the farm applied to set up a haulage business along there but this wasn't allowed. Are TBC going to be doing any extra investigation works for when the A13 is blocked? The A13 widening will start in the spring. Discussions with the contractor will take place, using modelling to measure traffic flow. They could take out the central reservation and run a tidal flow. Residents are concerned at traffic coming through the area to avoid the A13. How can this be stopped or slowed? Signage will help. Essex wants to use signage to direct people to the A13 instead of the A127. ND is very keen to get this right and it will be a priority.

A resident asked if we can investigate what has happened to the feedback from the committee. Is there anything extra on the list? The forum will send it again via DT. ND will email DT and pull things together, including observations from the other forums. ND explained that controlling HGVs has got to be the priority. The Forum would like to continue to dialogue over this and ranking would be helpful. Perhaps it would be wise to spend some of the money on the smaller ideas to see what the impact is.

A resident brought up the Giffords Cross Road traffic lights which back up frequently. People go through the town centre to save time but the traffic is very fast. Can they be slowed down? A safety camera has been proposed. If the Gateway energy centre goes ahead there is a planning obligation to fit up 2 cameras.

A resident noted that the complaints of rat-runs focussed on Lampits Hill. However, Fobbing has an increasing problem. There is an increase in traffic due to port employees.

A resident asked about the camera on the Manorway, what type is it? It's a speed camera. It was suggested that it should be a red light camera.

ND was thanked for coming to the meeting. Before leaving he said he was happy to take back any queries from the rest of the agenda.

Treasurer's Report

There have been no transactions. BD has applied for the forum expenses from TBC and Lynn Gittins (TBC) is aware the Homesteads merge.

Public Forum

A discussion took place about anti-social behaviour in the area. Can we ask a Councillor to speak to the police or whoever is in charge saying that we want more police on the ground? The old PCC had a meeting in Hassenbrook School – they had agreed to spend 10 million pound on a custody suite in Southend. We don't need this; we need people on the ground. RJ asked the police about this, he is concerned at the time it takes for the police to respond to calls. The new portfolio holder for communities is communicating with the police and wants to reintroduce a new police presence into the area. Some anti-social behaviour is from non-Thurrock residents. RJ has noted concerns and these will be taken forward. JM reported that young people are rude to staff and customers in the library. It has been suggested that the public should get involved! The new police promised are specials and volunteers.

A resident asked if DT could write to Chairs of other forums to get a consensus of what is happening elsewhere.

Ward Councillors Report

AW had contributed previously to the discussions about the potholes and anti-social behaviour.

JD is still pushing for the grass cutting programme to be released and will feed back when received.

RJ had put in a request re parking at the junction of Springhouse Road and St Johns Way. Investigations have concluded that restrictions will be implemented in 2016-17.

Re Branksome Avenue and the dog bins. It is noticeable that there hasn't been any further problem.

AW reported that the recreation ground grass has been cut. There have been problems with the grass cutters being sold off. He is aware of the anti-social behaviour around Recreation Avenue and is looking for solutions.

AOB

It was noted that there were Travellers parked along the Manorway. An enquiry was put into the council by JD but there has to be two weeks to serve the sentence. Multiple complaints have been put in.

The flowers are now in in the town centre. Morrisons donated some plants. Thank you to BS for all her hard work.

JF asked about Christmas trees for this year and if we wanted him to contact local schools.

There was a vote:

Are we happy, as a forum, to pay for 5 trees? Do we want JF to approach Hazel Parr and schools?

The vote was unanimously in favour.

A resident asked if there were any plans to do anything around Corringham to smarten the area up. He was told that we are open to suggestions and, although we don't have large amounts of money, we would be delighted if he brings some ideas to the next meeting.

There is no forum meeting in August.

Next meeting is at 7:30pm on 12th September 2016 at Corringham Library.