

Minutes Purfleet on Thames Community Forum Monday 26th October 2009

Meeting Opened 7:45pm

The Chair opened the meeting by introducing himself and gave a brief overview of the forums history and successes to date.

Apologies were given

The minutes from the last meeting were agreed one notation.
East of England Development Corporation should have read East of England Regional Assembly.

Garrison Renewal Update - Speakers

Darlene Martin – Regeneration Officer Thurrock Council
Janice White - Strategic Renewal Services Manager
Sue Hastie - Tenants Participation Officer

Darlene introduced herself to the meeting and advised the previous officer; Val Johnson was now on secondment for 6 months Darlene was now lead officer dealing with the Garrison Renewal Project Scheme.

To date there have been 13 events held and now sensed an atmosphere of consultation fatigue, but re-affirmed how important it is to keep everyone on board.

Darlene continued with an update of outcomes so far

- Short to Medium term initiatives have been identified
- Presented a flavour of the questions that have been asked through the consultation process
- In the process of formulating a residents panel
- Report presented to the audience giving outcomes of consultation events and questions invited.

Q: What is the time line for anything happening?

A: Start looking at some short term outcomes as soon as tomorrow (27.10.09)

Q: Over the past 20 years loads and loads of questions. If one thing came out of the consultations, this would keep people involved. Start giving the community something it might only cost two-bob

A: Sue Hastie –

Tenant Participation Officers have a statutory responsibility to consult with tenants. Have found it difficult to engage with residents wanting to get involved in formulating residents association. Suggested projects are a Community Café, Allotments, and Youth Flat. There was an assurance given that, there will continue to be a two-way dialogue with the residents of the Garrison estate and the wider community together with the Strategic Renewal Services Manager, HRA (Housing Revenue and General Fund) Purfleet Garrison sits under the Purfleet Masterplan and as a result the community development officers of the Thurrock Thames Gateway development corporation and the Purfleet Community Forum – Georgette Polley nominated as representative.

Q: Will the meetings be daytime?

A: SH: Dynamics of how it will run are down to the panel to decide.

Royal Opera House Update

Gabrielle Forster-Still – Education Manager (Thurrock)

Projects Starting in Purfleet – Series of workshops starting tomorrow Tuesday 27th October through to 5th December 2009 focusing on the history of Purfleet funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. As many volunteers and participants as possible are needed to help shape the writing, music and scenery. The Special Opening Event planned, is in the form of a peoples opera. This will be a new work and the intention is to write an opera here.

In addition there will be 4 insight evenings during November at the Thameside Theatre

After Christmas ROH will open out to the wider community of Thurrock

Production Park underway opening autumn 2010

Lakeside Cluster – Extended Schools Agenda

Leanne Wise

Consultation for disadvantaged communities on provision of extended services. Leanne informed the meeting of the types of projects and funding that maybe available to the local community and urged everyone present to take and complete a questionnaire.

Report from the local policing team.

42 Crimes to date this month, this is 10 more than last month.

Operation Pumpkin focused on Halloween, Fireworks and anti-social behaviour.

Residents were invited to the N.A.P. meeting scheduled for the 16th November 2009 at St Stephens.

Any Other Business.

Forth-coming events:

Grangewaters – Camp Fire Festival

1000 days to the Olympics bulb planting at Blackshots.

High House Dovecote Open 11-2pm 31st October

Remembrance Service Heritage Centre 1st November

Christmas Fayre – 27th November 2009

Demus Lee addressed the meeting with things to celebrate in Purfleet.

The bridge linking RSPB to Purfleet grand Opening scheduled Feb/Mar 2010

The R.O.H & High House site including the community walled-garden

Saturday morning music club held at St Stephens

Chairs Update

Regarding lights all the way through Purfleet cost likely to be too prohibitive.

Barrier Flower Baskets to be re-located to the Uplands and replaced by hanging baskets on poles.

Bus turn-round awaiting reply – aim of the forum would be to see this site utilised as a distressing area a nice place to sit and rest.

Stonehouse Roundabout – Possibility of siting a fabricated Thames Barge art installation on roundabout dialogue with TTGDC and Thurrock Council continues.

Poo Bins and Rubbish bins – a brief discussion followed.

Question for Cllr Smith – Would it be possible to put up more Prosecution Notices regarding dog fouling in the area.

Question from PCSO's Spider Park are there lights and who is responsible for maintaining them?

Action L.Gittins to investigate and report back.

Question from Derek Fergie

Concerns raised over the Purfleet by Pass. Both as a result of the lack of footpath and HGV's using it as a lorry park, even to the extent they are now leaving trailers parked there unattended. Who is responsible for the verges?

Chair informed the group at the next meeting there will be a presentation from the Strategic Transport Unit of Thurrock Council regarding the local transport plan

Action: Cllr Smith to investigate who is responsible for the land and report back.

Next Meeting Monday 30th November 2009 -