

## Purfleet on Thames Community Forum

Minutes for meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2010  
At Mulberry Drive elderly people's complex.

JR the chair welcomed every one and outlined the functions of the forum.

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented and accepted by the group.

The first speaker Dr Raj was introduced and gave a brief appraisal on the Health Centres operation being put out to tender and how he felt his involvement would be affected.

Dr Raj outlined how he saw the future and the possible benefits that could be achieved with the centre being operated by an outside concern such as Boots or Tesco.

He also assured the group that he had no intention of leaving the centre and wanted to be a part of what he considered could be a bright new future.

Questions from the floor followed but Dr Raj felt that these could be better answered by Jonathon Weaver who is our speaker for the March meeting.

JR introduced Terry Piccolo our second speaker. Terry is the chair of Stanford le Hope Community Forum but also works for the Community engagement network.

He outlined his function and discussed the benefits of being involved. There are agencies in Thurrock that are in place to support the community from giving general advice to free training covering a wide variety subjects. Terry also outlined a new service for those that have internet access which allow those that sign up to get information on forthcoming consultations thus enabling the community to have their say.

Terry closed his presentation by inviting the group to sign up for the consultation prompts via email. He also asked the group to support NGAGE the umbrella organisation for all the forums in Thurrock by asking them to sign a petition urging the council to reinstate funding that NGAGE receives as this is set to be withdrawn putting the organisation in jeopardy.

Sharon from Thurrock Development Corp was due to be our 3<sup>rd</sup> speaker to talk about the new Mardyke Bridge but failed to attend. {it should be noted that an apology was received after the meeting}.

JR outlined a meeting that was attended by 5 members of the group.

He had received a request from a developer who wished to discuss with a small group their plans to fill in the Bluelands Quarry which is situated next to the A1306 & Stonehouse Lane.

The project involved filling in the quarry with what they described as inert material. This would involve something like 9 trucks an hour from 8am to 5pm Mon to Fri for 2years then a further 1 year to allow for settlement. After the 3 years the company are looking at building 2 warehouses and a hotel. This project will be subject to what the developer is calling a hybrid application. This involves 2 applications the first being a full app to support the infill and the second being outline to support the final build.

JR hopes to get the planners and Thurrock Transport Dept together at the April meeting hopefully to be help at the April Meeting.

Matters arising and any other business.

JR confirmed that the application made by Gareth on behalf of Purfleet health centre patient

participation Group to purchase equipment for a patient room had been granted.

There was a application for financial help from “ Tea “ to help set up a community gardening project. The Housing office are allowing her use of their garden are so that residents on the Garrison Est who haven't access to a bit of ground can have a go this project is open to all, the able and the not so able, wheelchairs are welcome.

The forum decided unanimously to support this project with our last £500 from the 09/10 budget.

JR confirmed the date and venue for the next meeting being Monday 29<sup>th</sup> March.

JR Then thanked all for attending and hoped they enjoyed the meeting.