

Purfleet on Thames Community Forum
 Minutes of open meeting held Tuesday 31st May 2011
 Venue: Fondue Club

No	Item
1	<p>Welcome John Welcomed everybody to the meeting.</p>
2	<p>Apologies for Absence Tim was not able to attend the meeting.</p>
3.	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting Minutes of 26th of April were approved as a true record. John apologised for any errors as he had to write up the minutes himself.</p>
4.	<p>Updates/Matters arising from Previous Meetings There were no matters arising from previous meeting.</p>
5.	<p>Guests Speakers</p> <p>Jim Nicolson – Community Protection Manager</p> <p>Jim's team is made of 5 Officers. It is expected that the team will grow to become 8 in total. The Community Protection team deals with the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - any antisocial behaviour - fly tipping (reduced by 28% in the last couple of months) - environmental crime - substance misuse problems (Adults) - Domestic violence and child abuse <p>Jim noted that it is not the police alone who can deal with crime. Crime, he said, is caused by a lot of things and more can be done to stop crime taking place in the first place. The Thurrock Community Partnership, which comprises the Community Protection Team of the Thurrock Council, the Police and other agencies (Housing, Horticulture, Youth), work together to identify and tackle crime related incidents. Some of the activities undertaken by the partnership include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fire breaks: a program aimed at instilling discipline into young people who are likely to get into crime. There was a passing out parade the previous week. - Partner Walk Around: one was undertaken on the 24th of May. For the partner walk around, members come to specific locations to deal with societal issues. Before the event a questionnaire is administered to identify the issues to deal with. After the event, there is a write up of what the concerns are as well as the response. - The main issues identified during the partner walk around were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dog fouling, - Need for more litter bins in the Garrison Estates, - Maintaining fencing on some private lands' - Smoking cessation - Suspected community theft (manhole covers) - Abandoned shopping trolleys - Litter in Water Lane - Vandalising recycling bins in the Garrison Estate.

	<p>Jim asked community members to inform them of any problems and they will do all they can to solve it.</p> <p>Issues raised by members were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The absence of a zebra crossing, pelican crossing or calming measures leading to deaths and accidents. There was a call for action to stop the fatalities. Jim highlighted that the department of Highways is responsible for this action and members expressed frustration at the way such straight forward requests have to pass through long bureaucratic channels and which end up not being attended to. It was mentioned that calming measures have been requested from the council for over 25 years. - There was concern that bins being requested for will end up in the Garrison Estate. It was noted that the estate is only a small part of Purfleet and that rubbish bins are needed in other areas as well. - There was a request for a commitment from the partnership for cleaning certain areas to make them friendly play spaces for children (areas not specified). - It was noted that the turning to Aveley which was blocked to reduce traffic to Aveley is not working since motorists turn at the roundabout to go through Aveley. Jim mentioned, as has been in other meetings that the block was only the first phase. - Members asked if the walkabout could be done on a weekend to ensure that community members participate. It did not seem to be a good option. - It was mentioned that uplands estate was also left out in the walkabout. Jim responded by saying that the initial focus was on town centres but there is now a plan to include all areas.
6.	<p>Meetings Attended and Correspondence</p> <p>No new meetings were attended.</p>
7	<p>Business Discussion – Ideas on how to take the forum forward, Fundraising</p> <p>It was decided that the committee meets the following Tuesday to take forward discussions regarding the The Big Lunch project.</p>
8.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Fondue club is not a suitable venue for open meetings, especially in the summer. It was agreed to keep it as a winter venue. 2. The need to follow up on the closure of North road. Nothing stops the council from changing the angle of the road but complete closure is unacceptable. John agreed to write to Andy Millard but Gareth stated that there will not be a response from him in time for the counter argument. It was suggested that John writes individually and in collaboration with the councillors. 3. Street sign in North Road taken down. It has to be replaced. It was generally accepted that if the community needed anything done, they have to keep pushing for it. 4. Lorry Park – possibilities being explored. 5. Bluelands Quarry – John mentioned that the community keeps an eye on it once it starts. One of the main reasons for approval was to generate 365 jobs.
9.	<p>Date and Venue of Next Meeting</p>

	28 th June at Mulberry Drive. It was decided that the next open meeting be shorter to make time for the Committee planning meeting for the Big Lunch.
10.	End of Meeting John apologised for the noise at the Fondue club and brought the meeting to a close.