

Purfleet on Thames Community Forum
Minutes for meeting held on the 25th February 2014

Apologies: Deemus Lee, Stephen Mazza, and Andy Hudson

No	Item
1	The chair (JR) opened the meeting and gave a brief introduction on the aims of the forum.
2	Minutes of previous meeting were read and agreed.
3	<p>At this point JR asked the group if all were ok with holding over the general meeting to allow more time for the speaker and questions.</p> <p>The above was agreed by members</p>
4	<p>JR then formally introduced Mathew Essex head of regeneration for Thurrock Council. Mathew gave a brief history for the benefit of those that are new to the project which in different forms has been going on for years, from the initial concept which was just housing by the river to the prospect of perhaps a town centre. Initially the idea was to build a town centre in Botany Quarry with a school, shops and housing including green open space. JR first thought on seeing the artist impression, WOW, having been involved with this project I was amazed excited and astounded.</p> <p>These plans are nothing like we have seen in the past. I must point out that there are no hard copies of the plans to attach to these minutes at this time. This is because this presentation was shown before being discussed by cabinet at council.</p> <p>The area concerned covers the riverside site that is between the railway and the river up to the and including the BOC Co2 site; this part will be housing with 3 blocks of flats of about 6 to 8 stories with the addition of family houses. The main site takes in the Cornwall House and takes on an ovoid shape across the railway into the Botany Quarry area where there will be shops, housing, school, a health centre community building {un specified} and housing made up of low rise flats and family houses and finally a film/music studio. I should also point out that there appears to be lots of open green space. As stated previously there are many changes the only thing that is the same is the area concerned, this plan does away with level crossing moving the road to the north and crossing the railway by way of a bridge the station will also be moved slightly to the north and will be integrated into the town centre. At the end of</p>

	<p>Mathew's presentation there were questions from the floor some of which for legal reasons could not be answered at the meeting. The questions were varied and covered all aspects of the plan.</p> <p>Question, who is the developer? Still have some legal stuff to finalise before this can be made public.</p> <p>When will the building start? The developer is keen to start as soon as possible after the legal side of things is completed.</p> <p>How long will the project take? Ten to fifteen years.</p> <p>What type of school? The school will be primary. Education has said that a senior school is not required at this time.</p> <p>What is the level of affordable housing? About 10-15% {don't take my word on this} the level is low because the existing level already exceeds what is required. It is felt that we need a higher standard of housing to encourage the diversity of industry commerce etc to grow with existing families moving into the area. Mathew did point out that the developer was keen to engage with the community and this would more than likely be done via the forum.</p> <p>Prior to closing the meeting JR thanked Mathew and advised everyone that the next meeting would be on the 25th March at St</p>
5	<p>Prior to closing the meeting JR thanked Mathew and advised everyone that the next meeting would be on the 25th March at St Stephens and that our guests will be Andy Millard head of planning and transportation joined by Basil Jackson interim head of highways.</p>
6	<p>Minutes were taken s by John Rowles, No of attendees 72</p>