



# Purfleet-on-Thames Community Forum

*For ease of reference topics appear as separate subjects rather than in the order discussed. Items do not appear in any order of priority, and may appear under an unlinked agenda item (e.g. AOB)*

## Meeting Minutes 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018

### 1. **Welcome**

John Rowles welcomed everyone and informed the meeting that minutes and agendas are available on the website and that the forum is looking at trying, where possible, to display the agenda along with the minutes of the previous meeting on a screen as paper copies are no longer being distributed. People were encouraged to read the agenda and minutes on the website prior to attending a meeting.

### 2. **Apologies**

Apologies received:

Garrett Doran, Cllr Oliver Gerrish, Cllr Victoria Holloway, Moira Pollington, Lynn Mansfield, Elizabeth Foster, and members of the Cratus team stuck in traffic.

### 3. **Guest Speakers Osman Dervish and Duncan Flynn from Cratus Beyond Lakeside**

A concept for Arena Essex was presented and included some boards which had been on display at a previously held public consultation – for more information visit [beyondlakeside.com](http://beyondlakeside.com)

The owners of the site are London Strategic Land, who are looking to submit both an outline application and a detailed first phase application later this year which will include details of the amounts/types of housing and the community facilities which, by that time, will have been agreed.

The area already has a shopping centre and leisure facilities are being increased. Cratus are looking to add the housing element to create a new town centre near to Lakeside comprising 2,500 1-3 bed dwellings, with one car space per dwelling and a total of 625 visitor parking spaces.

Some ground remediation works will be undertaken at the start; there will be phased building probably over 10-12 years, earliest properties being built 2020-2021.

The area has 20 acres of lake which has clean water, and there are 3,000 trees on site, all of which will remain.

Facilities to include a community hub and local amenities, aimed at encouraging a healthy lifestyle, include a lido and 3 kilometres of mountain bike trails for families within the wooded area.

Other ideas being looked at include a café, nursery and medical facilities.

Basics such as milk and bread will be available to purchase within the development, but residents will be reliant on Lakeside for their day to day shopping requirements.

The company have been advised that a new primary school will be needed, and they are looking at providing a three-form entry school.

The current grassland area will be extended to create a linear park.

Much discussion took place around roads and parking:

Cratus have no plans to undertake any work on the A1306; steep drops on both sides prevent road widening.

When asked what they intend to do about the roads due to increased traffic the response was that they could put money towards roads, but the roads are the responsibility of the council.

When asked if there are any plans to get rid of pre-existing businesses around the area to lessen traffic, especially HGVs, the response was that such things are down to Highways.

Entry to the site will be at the Sainsbury end, traffic calming measures to deal with the current drifting and cruising issues will include cameras and chicanes at the roundabout. As the roundabout will start to be in use 24/7 the expectation is that this will deter any future drifting and cruising at that time. Parking will be managed in a way suitable for the site and include street furniture to prevent on street parking. Houses will have drive on parking; and turning circles will enable the dropping off of shopping, as well as providing a place for vehicles to turn around.

There are discussions about moving the bus station at Lakeside to the retail park, and an internal bus service for the new site; talks are taking place with C2C re capacity, who hope to alleviate uptake by provision of four extra carriages and digital signalling.

1<sup>st</sup> Phase to include:

Provision/improvement of cycling and pedestrian links for the station and a foot and cycle connection to the Lakeside lakes; lido and cycling facilities.

The first phase build will comprise 85% flats, 15% houses. There is not the intention to build tower blocks or monstrosities and anticipated height of the

flats is 4-6 storey. The flats will be sited in two areas - close to the high bank by the A13 and near to the lake.

As this is green belt land environmental studies are under way and should be completed by the back end of November.

There is a green corridor link to the RSPB which runs along the north of the site. This green corridor is not owned or part of the site in question. The plan is for a link to be created to join the National Cycleway Route 147, and also to connect into the green corridor.

It was pointed out that the green path, which is on the north side of the Mardyke, comes out by the A1306 and users will need to cross over to the other side of the very busy A1306. This was acknowledged by Cratus. The Field of Peace near Davey Down will not be touched.

The track at Arena Essex is utilised by residents as street racing is not permitted. Is the race track to go and what provision is being made to rehouse/reallocate land to the Speedway team?

Under this scheme the race track will go.

Ongoing discussions are taking place with Stuart and John and Jackie; feedback from Speedway fans is being taken seriously.

The possibility of monetary support towards speedway, which is seriously underfunded, is being looked in to and might possibly be joint support for speedway, rugby and cycling.

As the development is to be phased will the Speedway be able to remain during some of the earlier phases?

In addition to Speedway the site is used by a fishing club, the Essex Land Rover Club and Lakeside Karting. Discussions are taking place with these groups. An annual review is due in November with the landlady of the site, at which time it will be ascertained whether she wants to continue running her business.

With Lakeside being £½ billion in the red during the first half of this year, is this a concern?

Ad hoc developments are taking place, e.g. Bellway building next to KFC. Discussions are taking place with Lakeside to utilise sites.

What proportion is to be affordable housing?

Discussions are ongoing with the council and, off the back of whether a primary or secondary school is required, a contribution might be made for highways improvements instead of providing affordable housing.

The target for affordable housing is believed to be 30%-40%.

#### 4. **Change the Name Petition**

The petition will run until 30<sup>th</sup> October and then be presented either to Cabinet or Full Council. Council to confirm which route in due course. An on-line link from the website to the council petition web page is available and paper petitions will also be accepted. If using the on-line petition, a validation request email will need to be responded to otherwise your submission will not be accepted.

An enquiry as to costs of the petition was raised by a forum committee member.

Swan (a non-profit housing association) are paying the cost of leaflet production and distribution.

The forum will be paying for collection boxes, circa £35.

(After the meeting various people offered to sponsor the cost of a box; all boxes were sponsored, therefore no outlay by the forum.)

What would residents have to do if the name changes?

Post codes designate an address rather than a place name.

No immediate action would be required.

Royal Mail would be notified.

As maps are gradually updated the name change would show.

When documents such as driving licences are applied for/renewed the new name can be used at that time.

A forum committee member stated that they thought too much effort was going into change the name and they also raised concerns that change the name was coming over as heavily biased by the forum with the forum having already adopted the name and it was also politically biased.

All time and effort have been undertaken on a voluntary basis.

Purfleet was known as/referred to as Purfleet-on-Thames in the past and old postcards show the name 'Purfleet-on-Thames'. The first reference to this name has been traced to 1866 but it has never been its official place name.

From the floor a new attendee asked what is trying to be achieved by a name change, and what are the objectives?

Although Purfleet had a lime industry it was also a community area up until the 1920s, at which time heavy industry took over and the area changed. We are now at another point of change with the PCRL regeneration programme and the possible development of Arena Essex. The name of Purfleet is linked in a lot of people's minds with industry, the forum wants to raise the profile.

5. **Section 106**

Section 106 money is paid by developers to mitigate issues caused by developers. If not used within five years the money is returned to the developer.

Communities have no say over the spending of 106 monies but can suggest projects to mitigate issues which can be added to a council wish list, to which the council panel refer when deciding how to spend 106 monies.

Locally, highways and health are major issues and a link to the council's web page will be put on the forum's website for anyone who may wish to submit a mitigation project idea to the council, e.g. something to do with the roads, or perhaps a park, which can then be added to the council's wish list.

6. **General Update**

A Quiz Night is to be held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> October at The Fleet

Gurkha Day, Purfleet Heritage Centre, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> August, entry £3

Heritage Open Day, High House, Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 10:00-16:00 with crafts, activities, and a mystery play

Classic Car Day, High House, Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 11:00-16:00 with vintage prams and 50s music – volunteers needed for stewarding duties

Battle's Over, 11<sup>th</sup> November, lighting of beacon on the green at 19:00

7. **Matters Arising and Any Other Business**

CLlr Abbas reported back that the new cameras installed in Centurion Way on 16<sup>th</sup> April, operating 24/7, were for public protection and only used by investigating officers for evidence and that a lot of positive things will be happening soon, but information cannot be disclosed at this time.

CLlr Abbas to check if the cameras could be used to monitor illegal lorry parking.

It was asked how the forum are pushing road issues having had a fatal accident and a serious accident a few months ago close to the school.

Issues concerning roads have already been raised in this meeting.

Highways issues are a frequent topic of discussion at forum meetings, and traffic has been a major concern for a long time.

Head of Highways came to a recent meeting where residents had the opportunity to raise any issues and questions they might have.

The forum has been involved with the resident parking scheme; and has also been pushing for two years for action to be taken by the school.

There are Traffic Regulation Orders dated 13<sup>th</sup> July 2018 coming into being for Tank Hill Road and Watts Woods which were explained.

(See Public Notice Traffic Regulation Orders below for details.)

In addition, it is proposed that the central line be moved over to allow parking bays on the outside of the bend.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER**  
**The Borough of Thurrock**  
**(Tank Hill Road, Purfleet)**  
**(No Waiting At Any Time)**  
**Order 2018**

- 1) Notice is hereby given that Thurrock Borough Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1, 2, 4 and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the 1984 Act") and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the 1984 Act, intends to make the above named Order ("the Proposed Order").
- 2) The general effect of the Proposed Order would be to introduce a new Waiting restriction "No Waiting At Any Time" at the locations specified below: -
  - a. Tank Hill Road, north west side, from a point 92m south west of its junction with Chieftan Drive to a point opposite its north eastern junction with Tank Lane
  - b. Tank Hill Road, south east side, at its north eastern junction with Tank Lane
  - c. Tank Hill Road, south east side, at its south western junction with Tank Lane
  - d. Tank Hill Road, south east side from a point 92m south west of its junction with Chieftan Drive to a point 38m south west of its south western junction with Tank Lane
  - e. Chieftan Drive from on both sides from its junction with Tank Hill Road to its junction of Centurion Way
- 3) A copy of the Proposed Order together with the plans will be available for inspection for a period of 21 days at the Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Thurrock, Essex, RM17 6SL, during normal office hours and also on Thurrock Councils website, [www.thurrock.gov.uk/publicnotices](http://www.thurrock.gov.uk/publicnotices)
- 4) Any objection to the proposed Order must be made in writing, giving the grounds on which it is made, and sent to the address in paragraph (3) or sent via email to [TransportDevelopment@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:TransportDevelopment@thurrock.gov.uk) to arrive on or before 3rd August 2018. Any objection may be communicated to other persons who may be affected.

13th July 2018

Andrew Millard  
Assistant Director of Planning, Transportation and  
Public Protection Thurrock Council

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER**  
**The Borough of Thurrock**  
**(Watts Crescent, Uplands)**  
**(No Waiting At Any Time & One Way Routing)**  
**Order 2018**

- 1) Notice is hereby given that Thurrock Borough Council, in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 1, 2, 4 and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the 1984 Act") and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the 1984 Act, intends to make the above named Order ("the Proposed Order").
- 2) The general effect of the Proposed Order would be to introduce a new Waiting restriction "No Waiting At Any Time" at the locations specified below: -
  - a. Watts Crescent, at its Western Junction with Arterial Road Purfleet
  - b. Watts Crescent, at its Eastern Junction with Arterial Road Purfleet
  - c. Watts Crescent, at its junction with Southgate
  - d. Watts Crescent, between Nos. 1 & 2
  - e. Watts Crescent, between Nos. 4 & 5
  - f. Watts Crescent, from its western junction with Arterial Road to Nos. 14
- 3) To introduce One-Way restriction on the roads specified below: -
  - a. Watts Crescent (Travel direction; East to West)
- 4) A copy of the Proposed Order together with the plans will be available for inspection for a period of 21 days at the Civic Offices, New Road, Grays, Thurrock, Essex, RM17 6SL, during normal office hours and also on Thurrock Councils website, [www.thurrock.gov.uk/publicnotices](http://www.thurrock.gov.uk/publicnotices)
- 5) Any objection to the proposed Order must be made in writing, giving the grounds on which it is made, and sent to the address in paragraph (3) or sent via email to [TransportDevelopment@thurrock.gov.uk](mailto:TransportDevelopment@thurrock.gov.uk) to arrive on or before 3rd August 2018. Any objection may be communicated to other persons who may be affected.

13th July 2018

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Assistant Director of Planning,  
Transportation and Public Protection  
Thurrock Council

The forum previously arranged for speed monitors to be installed. Two sets were installed on separate occasions, but the number of speeding vehicles was far below the level required for any action to be taken or for cameras to be installed. Endeavours will be made to get Highways and Road Safety to come to a forum meeting and everyone can make use of the opportunity to raise their concerns with them direct.

It was asked if a meeting could be held purely on speeding and that speeding be an ongoing agenda item.

In response to someone from the floor saying it how dangerous it was for pedestrians who had to walk in the road to pass vehicles parked on the path opposite Jarrah Cottages, Cllr Abbas said he had emailed the council about this but had received a confused response. He will raise this again with the relevant teams – Speeding and Highways - and report back to the chair once replies have been received. He was not able to supply a timeframe as this is out of his control.

#### Speedwatch

The serious accident by the school, referred to earlier, was said to have happened due to a combination of parking on the side of the road and speed. It was asked whether anything had been done about joining Speedwatch. Simon informed the meeting that he had been speaking with Cllr Gerrish for the past 8-9 months but due to lack of monies and residents needing to undertake training carried out by the Police this is not able to move forward; he also told the meeting that the motorcyclist involved in the fatal accident had been travelling at 60mph. (Details regarding the accident have yet to be released by the Police.)

During the discussion on Change the Name Simon interrupted to say too much time and effort was being spent on the name change and the forum should be focusing on the roads, especially because of the recent fatal accident. Also, that there should have been an agenda item specifically for roads at this meeting because of the recent fatality.

Whilst responding and acknowledging that there had been a fatality the phrase 'it is a shame' was used, at which point the committee member interrupted to express in strong terms that they felt that the phrase used did not reflect the gravity of what had happened and that it was much more than a shame that a young boy had died. The response to the insinuation of lack of care was that use of the phrase did not mean that the forum was neither bothered or concerned.

Interruptions to the meeting broke various points of the Code of Conduct and Constitution and the meeting had to be called to order. Everyone was told that they would be given the opportunity to have their say but needed to raise their hands and wait until invited to speak.

A couple of attendees exited from the meeting due to the committee member continuing to interrupt and for implying road safety was low on the forum's priorities.

Simon, the committee member who had been raising issues, was reminded that they themselves are a forum committee member with the opportunity to be active and involved in the work of the forum, discuss their concerns at committee meetings and propose agenda items, but that to date as a committee member they have not participated in any way or attended any of the committee meetings.

(Not all agenda items were discussed as the meeting ran out of time.)

8. **Next Meeting**

19:30 start, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September, St Stephen's.

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- Bracketed items expand on the topic but were not mentioned in the meeting
- 28 attendees at the meeting, including the following committee members:  
John Rowles; Trevor Batchelor; Hilary Mason; Claire Asplin; Adrian Hilsum;  
Christine Rowles; Elaine Anderson; Laurence Pitt; Simon Braybrooke-Gibbens
- If there is a topic you would like included at a future meeting or would like the forum to invite a specific speaker or Council representative, please email [chair@purfleetcf.org.uk](mailto:chair@purfleetcf.org.uk) giving as much notice as possible