



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 28th January 2020

1. Welcome

Everyone was welcomed and a brief explanation of the purpose of the Forum was given for new attendees.

2. Apologies:

Adrian Hilsum, Cllr Qasar Abbas, Cllr Oliver Gerrish.

General meeting paused for AGM and then recommenced; AGM minuted separately.

3. Guest Speakers:

Gavin Beard, Adult Social Services, Community Led Support (CLS)

CLS is a new approach and following a successful pilot is being rolled out across the borough, offering local support. The service is no longer based at Civic Offices and residents are now able to access services without the need of a referral through talking shops and drop-ins, or by an appointment, at Purfleet Care Centre Tuesdays 10-12, or South Ockendon Community Hub Mondays 10-12.

Information available at www.thurrock.gov.uk/adult-care-in-your-local-area or phone Thurrock First 01375 511000.

PCRL:

Jason Robinson, MD Urban Catalyst – Regeneration and Master Plan

Swan and Urban Catalyst are in partnership with Thurrock Council in a joint public and private venture.

Timescales were given as:

2020 - Approval given in January for 61 homes, a community park and a play area

2021 – First homes will be completed

2023 – Will see new town centre, Integrated Medical Centre (IMC), primary school, Quartermaster Studios and London South Bank University operational, and circa 500 homes will be completed

2023-2033 – Phased completion

The project is in Judicial Review and early February should receive unconditional assent.

The level crossing is to close this year with a new bridge being built in London Road.

Traffic management plans include a 20mph speed limit and exclusion of HGV traffic.

PCRL are aware there will be a lot of construction going on and want to minimise impact on current residents and wish to re-engage with the community via the Design Panel.

Propose to reinstate the Design Panel from March to look at managing the build/local community impact/estate management with workshops continuing throughout the life of the development.

Two sites are under consideration for the IMC – town centre/near new primary school - building to be delivered by 31.12.22 so should open 01.01.23



Purfleet-on-Thames Community Forum

The project is 'tenure blind' meaning affordable housing will not be identifiable and will not be segregated.

A new temporary ticket station will be situated off Botany Way.

Duncan Innes, Project Director, Swan Housing – 1st Phase of Development, Zone 1A

61 dwellings, a mix of 2 and 3 storeys, will be built - x16 2-bed; x37 3-bed; x8 4-bed with the scheme taking two years to complete. Hollow Wood will remain as woodland.

Construction start date will be spring/early summer following on-site preparation work, demolition work, remediation works and ground level works.

Construction vehicles will come off London Road as far away from existing properties as possible.

Hollow Woods Crescent sales activity will be latter part of 2020/early 2021.

Responses To Questions From The Floor

The existing ground level in the town centre will have two levels of car parking built on it and will become underground parking due to a plaza on top of the parking levels, and the plaza will be 6.8 metres above the current ground level.

It was explained that community space is needed in Purfleet. If the church hall is in use no other hall is available, and St Stephen's Community Trust has no room to expand its operations. It was asked if there would be one large single space or two or three spaces dotted through the scheme.

A community facility will be in the lower level of the buildings at the town centre.

Community facilities are square metre areas allowing flexibility and could be a library, a hall, a museum, play facilities. Engagement with the residents needs to take place to understand the need.

PCRL are up for conversations regarding road naming; Royal Mail veto certain names; the suggestion was put forward that roads close to the river have a nautical theme.

Yes, there is a caveat for homes for local people. Section 106 has a cascade mechanism – local, work in the borough, then the vicinity.

Construction of the bridge is not at the design stage yet but there will be raised elements and two sets of traffic lights to slow traffic down. Cllr Victoria Holloway to take this up.

PCRL will be widening the entrance of Botany Way westwards and recognised that this route to the temporary ticket station will be shared with heavy traffic and will look at widening the footpath along with resurfacing.

There are Thurrock Council tenants in Botany Way, and much remediation work is required.

The town centre is the highest part of the site and it will be possible to see the river south of London Road. The river wall is 7.3 metres high. The ground level will be raised via car parking and the new wall will be 7.5 metres high, future-proofed to 8.5 metres.

The river front will be open to the public and will be modulated; it will not be a wall of residential buildings. Amenities hoped for – museum, art gallery.

Access will be required for maintenance, servicing and emergency services.

What size is the new temporary car park and what will the fees be as commuters use Cornwall House car park which is cheaper than parking at the station? The new temporary station car park will be larger than the existing station car park and will be under the control of C2C so parking charges are under their control. There could be some months of inconvenience if timescales between PCRL and C2C do not coincide.



Purfleet-on-Thames Community Forum

The resident parking scheme may need revisiting.

The parking permits opposite the Royal are not part of the scheme.

It makes sense to work out access to the platform for train users approaching from the west as otherwise their walk to and from the station will be adversely affected.

Swan adhere to statutory requirements, are considerate builders, and will work hard to minimise disturbance to residents such as dust. If there is a real nuisance concerns should be raised on-site with the designated person.

4. General Updates:

Christmas Lights

Thanks to Ensign Bus, PCRL, Garrison Residents Association and Thurrock Housing for their donations.

Name Change

Supported by Leader of the Council, Head of Regeneration, local Councillor. Decision tomorrow at Council meeting whether to formally adopt the name Purfleet-on-Thames.

Policing

Operation Caesar, nuisance bikes, is continuing.

Operation Cannister is restarting with Enforcement Team on a Friday and Saturday night.

Contact has been made with UK companies whose vehicles have been captured breaking weight limit restrictions.

New Town Centre Teams at Stanford, Ockendon and Grays were introduced last year.

Another four officers based at South Ockendon Police Station are about to start, x2 at Tilbury and x2 at Purfleet. Due to geographical boundaries they will not cover the whole of Purfleet but should be visible and patrolling more on foot/bike and will focus on known hot spots. The Sergeant is on Twitter and posts regularly.

An operation regarding vehicle crime was conducted at Watts Woods end and the industrial area and ANPR is used.

Attendees were encouraged to take car keys to their bedrooms and not to leave them near the front door where they could be scanned; to consider the use of bollards; and to lift the handle upwards when closing/locking UPVC doors.

Blue light patrols which enter Purfleet are from Grays.

Discussions have taken place with PCRL re crime and buildings.

There is a new District Commander.

Update From Councillor Victoria Holloway

Name Change - All groups in the Council support the name change.

Budget - To be presented in February and increases likely to be passed.

Orsett Hospital - Will keep a close eye that all services remain in Thurrock and are operational before Orsett Hospital closes.



Purfleet-on-Thames Community Forum

5. Matters Arising and AOB:

WW2 Commemorative Committee

Please let the Forum know of names of local people who served and if you have details of any memories or photos from that period.

Centenary Of Sale Of Purfleet

Whitbread bought Purfleet in 1777 and sold it on 24th June 1920.

Looking to link the name change to this date and have a celebration.

Essex Fire Service

Free home visits – call 0300 303 0088 or contact home.safety@essex-fire

Quiz Date Amendments

Date changed from 28th February to 6th March.

Date changed from 29th October to 30th October.

Diary Dates

25th March Culture Evening and Slice of Purfleet History at Harris Riverside Academy.

Every Saturday morning at St Stephen's Church – fresh fruit and veg for sale.

8th and 10th May VE Day 75th Anniversary celebrations taking place at Purfleet Heritage & Military Centre.

6. Next meeting

Tuesday, 31st March, 19:30

1st Floor Viewing Area, High House Production Park, Vellacott Close, Purfleet RM19 1RJ.