



# Purfleet-on-Thames Community Forum

Minutes – 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 19:30

*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)*

1. Welcome

Although not announced at the meeting due to technical issues at the start, the following is being minuted:

The minutes of the previous meeting and the last AGM were signed off by the Committee and are available on our website.

2. Apologies

Due to technical issues at the start, apologies received were not announced but are minuted below: Andrew Gouldstone, Elaine Anderson, Steve Lines.

3. Speaker:

Nicola Windsor, NELFT IMC Project Manager, and Jason Robinson from PCRL, regarding the IMC (integrated medical centre)

With a growing population there is a need to expand both capacity and quality of primary care and the new IMCs will focus on a range of services, early intervention and prevention.

IMCs will bring new primary care health professionals to better meet the needs of the local population. Alongside primary care there will be multi-professional teams providing enhanced services for residents. Additional services will be available including blood tests, children and young peoples' health and care services, mental health and wellbeing support, social care and community led services. Extended primary care teams will include physiotherapists, clinical pharmacists, advanced nurse practice able to prescribe and this will be GP led.

Building works start at Corringham (led by NELFT) this week and it should open Spring 2022.

Tilbury (led by Thurrock Council) is at the design scheme stage and to be complete Winter 2023.

The master plan for Grays (led by Basildon Hospital and EPUT) is being reviewed and the scheme is due to restart in March.

Key concerns raised by residents are transport and access which are being looked at by Transport and Highways at the Council and the design teams.

Community involvement will be sought for naming the IMCs and for mural artwork.

The Purfleet IMC is an integral part of the regeneration as it is part of the delivery of health, education, skills and training and will primarily serve Purfleet, Aveley and Ockendon residents enabling patients to access the majority of what they need close to home.

The IMC will make use of the ground and first floors, with residential above, and architects are currently undertaking detailed design. There will be treatment rooms and office areas for IMC staff on the first floor, backing onto a central atrium for natural light.

PCRL are trying to bring dentistry and pharmacy into the IMC as these are not included within the plans.

Once the Purfleet IMC has passed business case approval with the NHS and the model has been shaped it will be presented to the Design Forum around March/April for input and the plan is to also present to the community for review, and to ask for help in identifying any gaps.

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

4. Speaker:

Neil Brand, Police

Residents were asked to continue to report suspicious behaviour and it was noted the previous lockdown had been quieter crime-wise.

PC Adam Priest has joined the community policing team, replacing beat officer PC Tom Strom. PCSO Laura has been seconded to Op Bluebird (port watch) and our new PCSO is Jacqueline Tweedle.

Town Centre Team officers Butcher and Plom are involved with Operation Smile - anti-social behaviour on the Garrison Estate - with some good success. There have been community protection warnings, notices, and arrests around damage to CCTV cameras on the estate, and good feedback received from McCalls and the council. This is still a number one focus for the Police.

Last June Neil moved to a new role as community safety engagement officer to develop and improve engagement with communities in Thurrock and Louise Burrows joined the team in November. At the same time Thurrock Council introduced a resident engagement team and they work alongside the community safety engagement team. Currently most of the work is undertaken on social media and on-line due to COVID.

According to quarter 2 figures from the Thurrock Public Perception Survey, which is a key driver, things are moving in the right direction with confidence in local policing increasing. It was asked who completes this survey. Neil will make enquiries and he also mentioned they are looking to see if they can obtain breakdowns such as age, ethnicity.

The priority for developing engagement is visibility focus, delivered by the town centre team who should be on foot, and increasing social media presence.

5. General update

Steve Lines, Highways, was not present but had provided responses to questions raised in the November meeting:

*545 Sign*

Thurrock don't use this sign for senior schools and the pelican crossing is felt to be adequate.

*Do Highways have plans to work with police re school parking issues?*

Parking is a decriminalised offence so is covered by civil enforcement and dealt with by parking enforcement in rotation with all schools in the borough. The council transport development team has no plans re investigation or design in the vicinity of the school as the school travel plan has yet to be completed and there is difficulty liaising with the primary school.

*Thurrock Freight Access Map*

Map has been updated making by-pass the preferred route instead of London Road.

Should the lorry park shown near the school be on the Beacon Hill industrial estate?

It is believed that due to this map lorries end up on the Mardyke estate. This needs to be investigated.

*30mph Signs Harrisons Wharf*

Hopefully these will be removed by the contractor in the next 2 days.

30mph sign on right-hand side of Tank Hill Road near primary school

This distracts drivers and is on the wrong side of road. Can this be moved?

No, it is in the most suitable location as there is already signage clutter. It will be monitored and if it is proved to be a safety issue it will be reviewed.

If anyone has questions for Highways please send them to John 2-3 weeks before the end of March to give enough time to obtain a response in time for the meeting at the end of March.

Cllr Update by Cllr Holloway

### *Gritting Roads*

As there are 545km of roads there is a winter plan and the council's approach to gritting roads is set out on the website – main road networks which include bus routes and then secondary roads. If a resident feels a road needs something or is dangerous please contact your local councillor who can then flag this with the Environment Team.

### *Council Budget*

Meeting next month with plans to increase council tax and social care.

There is a £43m black hole which is not Covid related.

### *Covid*

Numbers are still high but heading in the right direction. Everyone needs to remain very cautious.

The vaccination programme is going very well and by the end of the month all care homes and the vast majority of 80+ and some 75+ will be vaccinated.

## 6. Matters arising any other business

£75 million Housing Infrastructure Funding (HIF) has been granted, Section 73 outline planning amendment approved, and enabling work started for the first 61 homes.

The HIF monies will be used to purchase any land needed for infrastructure including surface lands adjacent to the railway line, demolition and land remediation, for reprofiling, roads, highways, bridge works and will pay for the new railway station which will be in the middle of the town centre. The existing station will have to be demolished to rebuild London Road so an interim station will be in place by the middle of next year, at which point the current station will close.

*What is the square footage of the IMC and is it one of the largest out of the 4 IMCs?*

3,140 sq m (just over 2000 sq m) split between 2 floors and the sizes are all similar due to the services provisions.

*Why is Purfleet not getting the café facility or the community facility in the IMC?*

The community facility is in the town centre. The IMC will be a self-contained health hub with dentistry and pharmacy.

*Is the community facility as well designed as what we have seen in the IMC?*

Yes, it will be light and airy.

*Will we have opportunity to see that at the next community design forum?*

Plan is to set up a rolling programme during this year. PCRL are working through which part of the scheme will be brought to which forum but the community facility, town centre and all the early works will be brought forward as the design evolves.

*Why are there no plans to put a library and hub in the IMC?*

Louise said she will have to defer to the council colleagues and that the plans are very early indicative designs but are up for discussion by all the partners. There are definitely plans to have community hubs in the IMCs as they are meant to be a whole person centre rather than just medical.

*Will the IMC replace Purfleet Care Centre and the PCC close or will they run in tandem?*

NHS Property Services decide whether to pay for both or merge the two. Any changes to access or premises would have to go through public engagement and consultation.

Cllr Holloway said she was concerned saying the IMC should be an additional resource, on top of the existing centres, not an exchanged resource, and wanted reassurance that the PCC will remain and there will be a growth in health delivery services, not a reduction.

Louise said there will be an increase in the number of people offering primary care services but that it is done on a primary care network footprint. The service is available for people in Purfleet, South Ockendon and Aveley and the IMCs are being developed alongside that primary care network delivery. Where the GP facility might be might change, or there might be a different primary care offer in the IMC. Nothing has been confirmed yet and the plans are only indicative at this stage.

Alan Dod said these are supposed to replace facilities already being lost from Orsett Hospital so to hear of the potential of losing facilities in our local area is very concerning.

The IMCs will be an improvement, not a loss of facilities. Outpatient facilities at Orsett will still be provided but in four different areas including looking at a potential mobile diagnostic unit.

The Thurrock IMC is earmarked as an urgent care centre. Work is going on to model that but is slightly delayed as Basildon Hospital can't concentrate on this during the pandemic, but they are looking at mobile imaging and diagnostic facilities being available at more than one site. IMCs are hoping to be open 7 days, 7-7, but not yet finalised.

*It is already difficult to get an appointment with a GP in Purfleet. What is the criteria for joining a GP at the IMC, how many patients will be accepted, especially if Purfleet Care Centre closes and there are new residents from the regeneration?*

Louise said enough medical appointments would have to be factored in, to account for the growing population.

Jason said the design brief they are working to is to support 20,000 people.

Cllr Holloway said that if you are well enough to travel, and you can get an appointment, you can be seen at a different IMC.

*From the chat Louise was asked if the management of the IMC or PCC will be handed over to companies such as Virgin Drs.*

Louise will have to take the question away but that any changes to providers or facilities are subject to public consultation.

7. Next meeting, 30<sup>th</sup> March 2021