



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 29th March 2022

1. Welcome and Meeting Etiquette

2. Apologies:

Lisa Wright, Mark Gibson, James Gibson, Adrian Hilsum, Christine Rowles

3. Guest Speakers:

Roy Anstaad, Essex County Fire & Rescue Service

General fire safety advice within the home was discussed and residents were encouraged to take up the offer of a free home safety visit and fitting of free smoke alarms by calling 0300 303 0088 or visiting essex-fire.gov.uk

Ellie Wright, Healthwatch Thurrock

Healthwatch is an independent consumer champion for health and social care who feed back their findings to commissioning groups and the council. They provide advice and guidance for health and social care and are looking for ad hoc volunteers.

If you are a carer Healthwatch would like to have a conversation with you about your experiences.

One piece of advice given was, should you get cut off whilst in a telephone queue for your GP surgery, to pass the details to Healthwatch so they can see which practices are affected and how widespread the problem is.

Contact details: 01375 389883; admin@healthwatchthurrock.org or FREEPOST Healthwatch Thurrock, Beehive Resource Centre, West Street, Grays, RM17 6XP.

4. Updates

The new benches are being very well used, thanks to Vince Taylor for his assistance.

Vince also took prompt action to get a large hole filled in when wooden bollards by The Royal Hotel were taken.

John has attended meetings at HHPP (High House Production Park) looking for more community engagement and involvement whilst their consultants work on the park's vision for the next 10 years.

PCRL hoardings have been blown down and are also being removed. Local councillor to confirm PCRL are only licenced to fit the hoardings and the hoardings belong to the council. Following on from the bus consultation there is the possibility we may have some new bus shelters. Due to the planned growth in our population, it was said the developers and the council need to be liaising with local bus companies. Cllr Lee Watson confirmed that transport routes will be looked at under the local plan.

The meeting was informed that it is easier to apply for event funding if you are a registered charity. The committee have agreed to move to become a CIO by the end of the year. No objections were raised to this proposal.

Sustrans (custodian of the National Cycle Network) are wanting to remove 2 cycle barriers near the RSPB. The land they are situated on does not belong to the council, having been



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given to Peabody's in 2018. A dual footpath for pedestrians and cyclists must be 3metres wide otherwise pedestrians can ask cyclists to dismount.

Platinum Jubilee, 2nd June - volunteers needed to help on the day.

London Resort in Kent have temporarily withdrawn their application due to Tilbury Ferry Terminal being moved to Grays. Gravesend Pier has been sold to Thames Clipper/Uber, and 2 new hybrid boats ordered for a Tilbury, Grays and Barking boat service.

Coffee with Cops has restarted at The Hub.

Cllr Watson reported that as the cost of the Garrison's refurbishment is astronomical the council are working with leaseholders; pest control measures are in place to deal with the rat issues; brown bin collection is currently very sporadic; new dog bin is to be installed.

Cllr Abbas reported that abandoned vehicles and other issues raised with him, including fly tipping and cruising at Lakeside, have been dealt with. There is a community vaccination bus at Grays Park on Friday 10am-4pm and will also undertake basic health checks.

It was put to the councillors that there are too many consultations which are ridiculously long and that the online and paper versions vary.

5. Matters Arising

Minutes of 25.01.22 were agreed, no matters arising.

6. AOB

Essex Book Festival is on 11th June HHPP 10am-5pm and are looking for volunteers. Contact Claire if you would like to help.

There is a new parenting course at The Hub in May, with more information available at the coffee morning at The Hub on 26th April.

St Stephen's Community Trust fortnightly coffee morning starts again on Wednesday 6th April 11am-1pm.

Litter pick on 28th May so the area around the green is tidy for the Jubilee on 2nd June.

44 river railings to paint by the green – work starts 9th April 10am, please bring a bucket and some water.

Heritage England have recently uploaded aerial photos of the area which are interesting.

7. Next meeting

19:30, Tuesday 31st May 2022, in the theatre at Harris Riverside Academy.

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 giving as much notice as possible