



## Theydon Bois Parish Council

Parish Office, The Village Hall, Coppice Row,  
Theydon Bois, Essex CM16 7ER

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Gloria Mussenden  
Minutes Secretary & Assistant to the Clerk: Mrs Sarah Barnes

### Minutes of the Parish Council held at The Village Hall at 8.00pm on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2013

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs Philip, Gooch, Vincent, Hannibal, Wood, Young, Hammond, Howard and McDonald

**Apologies:** Cllrs Purkiss and Jones

**Officers Present:** Gloria Mussenden (Parish Clerk and RFO)  
Sarah Barnes (Assistant to Parish Clerk & Minutes Secretary)

Councillor Philip opened the meeting by welcoming approximately 300 residents who had been invited to attend the meeting by Theydon Bois Action Group and explained the current situation regarding the Issues & Options Consultation. After answering a few questions regarding the local plan he encouraged residents to attend the meeting at the District Council Offices on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2013 at 7pm where such a large presence would demonstrate a strong opposition to potential development in Theydon Bois.

#### **46. Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Jones and Purkiss

#### **47. To discuss and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2013.**

The draft minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.

#### **48. Declarations of Interest (existence and nature) with regard to items on the agenda. Members of the Council are subject to the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 (SI.2007/1159)(The Revised Code)**

None

**49. Public Participation Session with regard to items on the Agenda.**

John Warren wanted to comment on a development planned for Ripley Grange.

**50. Correspondence – Clerks Report**

The Clerk explained that a full copy of her report had been circulated to all Councillors and was available from the Parish Office for any residents who may be interested. The Clerk drew particular attention to the following:

- The clerk wanted to record our thanks to Tony Ames and Jim Watts for their continued time and effort in producing the Village News.
- Forthcoming events were highlighted –  
A coffee morning at the Sixteen String Jack for Macmillan Cancer Support on 27<sup>th</sup> September.  
A quiz night with a fish and chip supper at the village hall on 4<sup>th</sup> October in aid of Cancer Research UK.  
An Arts and Craft Fair on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October in aid of the Chigwell Riding Trust for Special Needs.  
A quiz at the village hall on 12<sup>th</sup> October at 8pm with a fish and chip supper, organised by St Mary's Church.
- Volunteers are urgently required to help litter-pick around our village. Volunteers are asked to be at the Village Hall by 9am on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October.
- Robert Levene has been appointed by EFDC as a Tree Warden to join Sue Warren and Jane Turner.
- An email had been received from the Local Crime Prevention Officer, Tony Ellis, reminding residents that burglaries tend to increase at this time of year – he made suggestions how we can keep our homes safe.
- The Rural Preservation Society have written to Forward Planning Team at EFDC expressing their concern about the numbers and figures presented in the appendix to the Report they have issued concerning the Issues & Options Consultation.

**51. Finance and General Purposes Committee/Community Liaison Committee**

Councillor Philip commented on the following:

51.1 Payments made since last meeting were approved.

51.2 We have recovered over £4,000 VAT and have had our annual audit returned with everything being in order. Cllr Philip extended his thanks to the Finance Committee for their help with this.

## **52. Planning Committee**

Councillor Gooch commented on the following:

- 52.1 The next Local Plan workshop will be held on the 5<sup>th</sup> October. Councillors Gooch, Philip and Jones will attend.

There have been 12 applications since July.

Great Gregories Farm's application for a slurry pit was withdrawn and re-submitted. Mossford Nurseries (currently a Caravan Cub Site) made an application to expand to a formal site (up to 25 caravans). This was refused because of its impact on the Green Belt. The old Darlingtons and Railway Arms sites are continuing to be developed.

## **53. Highways and Environment Committee**

Councillor Hammond commented on the following:

- 53.1 The tree consultation was going well, regarding the tree's that had been marked with a white cross.  
The Primary School oak tree was possibly going to be replaced and dedicated to Mrs Bonds.

## **54. Cemetery Committee**

Councillor Hammond commented on the following

- 54.1 Three of the newly planted trees and 10% of the hedge plants have been lost due to the hot weather we experienced during the summer

## **55. Youth Community Centre**

- 55.1 Councillor Philip advised that our Solicitor was still in talks with the Chairman of the Trust.

## **56. Reports from Representatives**

- 56.1 As there was no representative present from the Parish Council at the recent Theydon Seniors event, Sue Sowerby reported that once again it was a popular event with approximately 30 people attending. The entertainer was very good and sadly it was noted that no one attended from Roberts Daniels Court or Frank Foster Home.
- 56.2 Councillor Howard commented that over 200 completed questionnaire forms had been received. These had helped to highlight resident concerns at a meeting he had attended with the Limes, where seven GP's were present. Councillor Hammond agreed that it was a good meeting. Councillor Gooch queried why we can't have a surgery like other villages where it is open five days a week and you can just turn up and see a Doctor.
- 56.3 Councillor Wood confirmed that from the beginning of September 2013, the 541 bus has stopped going to Princess Alexander Hospital and she needs to ascertain the number of people affected by this. Residents were encouraged to contact the Parish Office to show their support of the 541 bus and let us know how often they used the service. This would assist Cllr Wood in trying to organise possible alternative transportation to the hospital.

## **57. A memorial bench for Rosie Grant.**

The Parish Clerk reported that a letter had been received from Rosie Grant's sister, requesting a memorial bench on the village green. The City of London would make the decision and would likely allow the bench to be situated on the village green although it would be the Parish Council's responsibility for the maintenance and upkeep of the bench.

**The Councillors unanimously agreed and supported this.**

## **58. Any Other Urgent Business for report (without decision)**

Please note that no decisions can be lawfully made under this item. The Local Government Act 1972 section 12 10 (2) (b) states that business must be specified; therefore the Council cannot lawfully raise matters for decision.

Councillor Philip mentioned that there is a new junction planned for the M11. This would be junction 7a and would be north of Harlow.

**59. Public Participation session – Open forum for members of the public to voice their views or make suggestions on any other Council Business or matters of local importance.**

- A resident, John Warren, was concerned about the implication a development at Ripley Grange will have on this village, although this doesn't fall within our parish. Councillor Philip said that he had advised the developer of the correct procedures and that Loughton Councillors are in favour of protecting the Green Belt. Councillor Gooch said that he had spoken with the developer and was told that a metal structure had been erected on the site and that no one had noticed, proving that the development would not be visible from Loughton Lane. Although, Cllr Gooch was still concerned about the impact the development would have on Loughton Lane with the increased traffic and with the entrance being so near to Davenant Foundation School.
- Roland Frankel advised that the Scouts would soon be starting an Explorer section (for ages 14-18) from 7-9pm at the Scout Hut. Councillor Philip congratulated him on behalf of the Council.
- A resident was concerned about the movement of the crane that is currently on the old Darlington's site. Cllr Hammond explained that it was quite normal and safe and that cranes are generally allowed to move with the wind – making them safer.
- A resident was concerned about the parking up to the corner of the Green and Avenue Road. She was worried that there would soon be an accident with there not being enough space for two cars to pass. Cllr Purkiss said that Highways won't do anything about the lack of yellow lines. Cllr Philip felt that a letter should be sent to Highways regarding the situation.
- A resident complained about the kerb stones in Woodland Way. Cllr Hammond encouraged residents to report problems on Essex County Council website. Residents needed to obtain a unique reference number (URN) and then this would give weight to the Parish Council's requests.
- A resident complained about the fact that the scaffolding on 16 Orchard Drive had been up for over a year. Cllr Gooch said that there had been a meeting with the owner and they had been asked to remove all but one of the adverts that had been suspended from the scaffolding.
- A resident complained about the parking situation outside Premier Valets and Venus Flowers. Cllr Philip explained that they own the area but suggested that perhaps the Highways and Environment Committee should write to the shop owners asking them to be more considerate.

**60. The following Agenda items will exclude Public and Press.**

Pursuant to section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 it is resolved that because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the public and press leave the meeting during consideration of the following items of business:

Staff wages have increased. This was agreed on during the last Finance Committee Meeting.

**Councillor Philip closed the meeting at 21.37pm**

**Gloria Mussenden  
Clerk to the Council**

**Councillor John Philip  
Chair of the Council**

## **CLERK'S REPORT FULL COUNCIL MEETING 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013**

The Village News was delivered earlier this month, which I am sure you will agree, always provides a good and informative read and keeps us up to date with what is going on in our Village. A great deal of effort and time goes into producing this every quarter and I just want to record our thanks to Tony Ames and Jim Watts – the Village News editors and to all who contributed.

I would just like to highlight some forthcoming events that have been put on the noticeboards:

Tomorrow the Sixteen String Jack are hosting a Macmillan Cancer Support Coffee Morning and that starts at 10.30 am.

A quiz Night is taking place at the Village Hall on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October – 7.30 pm for 8 pm with a Fish/Chicken & Chips Supper in aid of Cancer Research UK.

There is an Arts and Crafts Fair on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October from 10.30 am – 4.30 pm in aid of the Chigwell Riding Trust for Special Needs.

Another quiz – this time with a musical theme – again at the Village Hall – on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October at 8 pm with a Fish & Chip Supper. This is organised by St. Mary's Church.

Volunteers are urgently required to help litter-pick around our Village to keep it looking tidy and a place of beauty for us all to enjoy. Volunteers are asked to be at the Village Hall by 9 am on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> October. It will only be for a couple of hours. Thereafter litter-picking will take place on the first Saturday of each month at the same time.

Robert Levene has been appointed by EFDC as a Tree Warden to join Sue Warren and Jane Turner

I have received an email from the Local Crime Prevention Officer, Tony Ellis, to remind residents that burglaries tend to be on the increase at this time of year with the nights drawing in and he has made a few helpful suggestions to keep our homes safe:

- 5 lever mortice locks on external doors and secure locks to windows
- Extra care when locking up and remove keys from locks and place them out of sight
- Automatic light timers and external lights
- Avoid leaving care keys near a door or window

The Rural Preservation Society have written to the Forward Planning Team at EFDC expressing concern about the numbers and figures presented in the appendix to the Report they have issued concerning the Issues & Options Consultation.

This letter and other items mentioned in my Report can be viewed at the end of this Meeting.

**Gloria Mussenden**