



# Theydon Bois Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Council: Mrs Julie Taylor  
Minutes Secretary: Mrs Sarah Barnes

## Minutes of the Parish Council held at The Village Hall at 8.00pm on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2014

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs Philip, Gooch, Wood, Young, Howard, Jones, Hannibal and Purkiss.

**Apologies:** Cllrs Vincent, McDonald, Hammond

**Officers Present:** Mrs Julie Taylor (Parish Clerk & RFO)  
Mrs Sarah Barnes (Minutes Secretary)

### 112. **Apologies for Absence**

Councillors Hammond, Vincent and McDonald

### 113. **To discuss and approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014.**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and Councillor Philip would sign at the end of the meeting.

### 114. **Disclosure of Interests (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

### 115. **Public Participation session with regards to items on the Agenda.**

None

## 116. Correspondence – Clerk’s Report

The Parish Clerk reported on the following:

- Notice Boards – Councillor Vincent has fixed The Bull notice board, the lock was replaced. We are still waiting to hear from EFDC regarding the notice board at The Heights.
- All Councillors have been invited to Peace Exhibition held by the Muslim Association.
- Theydon Bois Parish flags have been repaired by the Village Association.
- A letter has been received from the Citizens Advice Bureau thanking the residents of Theydon Bois for their kind donation of £641.00 that was collected during the Christmas Market.

## 117. Finance and General Purposes Committee/ Community Liaison Committee

117.1 Payments made since the last meeting were unanimously approved.

117.2 The Village Association has asked the Parish Council to cover the cost of repairing the lighting in the car park – the notice board was wired into the electrics for the car park lighting and the VA felt that the problems were the Parish Council’s responsibility. Councillors agreed to pay for the electrical work but remarked that it should have been informed of the problems.  
Councillor Purkiss agreed to investigate the cost of a new notice board by the Village Hall car park as the present notice board is damaged and the light does not work.

## 118. Highways and Environment Committee

Councillor Purkiss commented on the following:

118.1 Graffiti has been removed from the telephone cable box outside Theydon Bois Primary School. The road surface at the junction of the Queen Victoria with Coppice Row has been properly repaired. The bus shelter needs repairing and he would speak to Martin and Paul and ask them to have a look at it.  
Councillor Purkiss is in discussions with Highways regarding match funding and requested that we hold money over from this year to next (2014/15). **All Councillors were happy to roll money from this year over to next year for match funding.**

Is organising a Tree Strategy for our village – this would require a survey of the village, identifying ‘special trees’ and highlighting trees that have a TPO.

118.2 Councillor Philip acknowledged the amount of work that Councillor Purkiss had put into trying to resolve the dangerous parking on the junction of The Green and The Avenue. Councillor Philip proposed that we use £5000 from our reserves rather than using our match funding to fund the proposed TRO and yellow lining via NEPP of the upper Green. Councillor Philip thanked Councillor Purkiss for his work.

**All Councillors unanimously agreed.**

- 118.3 Councillor Gooch reported that the parking issue by the shops is getting worse and needs to be addressed. Sally has been asked to do an Index search of the properties to ascertain ownership of the area in front of the shops and Highways at Essex have been asked to provide a report detailing how much of the frontages they believe they own. It was discussed whether Highways should be invited to come and have a look at the situation.  
Councillor Philip asked whether these reports could be chased up and asked for this item to be put back on the agenda for next months' meeting.

## **119. Cemetery Committee**

- 119.1 Councillor Purkiss reported that Peter and Fiona have recently conducted a topple test.

## **120. Planning Committee**

- 120.1 Councillor Gooch reported that since the last public meeting we have had 15 applications, 3 of which were objected to.
- 120.2 There have been several complaints about the outside plinth at the new Turkish restaurant. There is no planning permission for the plinth although a planning application has been submitted but is not valid and the planning officer has asked the restaurant to provide proof of ownership of the land. The leaseholder believes that they own the land.
- 120.3 Councillor Philip explained the benefits of adopting and developing a neighbourhood plan with regard to any construction that maybe required following on from the Epping Forest Preferred Options. The first stage would be to designate a neighbourhood plan organisation – the Parish Council would be an appropriate body to propose a plan. Councillor Philip proposed that we take the parish boundary and ask the District Council to designate that area as our neighbourhood for the purposes of our plan.  
**All Councillors agreed that we should contact EFDC regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.**

## **121. Youth and Community Centre**

- 121.1 Councillor Philip reported that there was no real news, a letter had been sent to the head of the Community Trust asking for news. Councillor Jones asked whether we could request a letter from John Worby asking for an update or a summary.

## **122. Reports from Representatives.**

Councillor Wood asked Councillor Philip whether there had been any response from Eleanor Laing MP regarding the 541 bus situation. She also reported that ECC have approved the budget for the next financial year but there is no breakdown showing what percentage will be spent on buses.

Councillor Howard reported that the spreadsheet following the health questionnaire was nearly finished. He also reported that the Christmas Tree was due to be removed and we would have to consider what to do about a Christmas Tree for this coming Christmas.

**123. 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 Gooch reported that Banner Homes seems to have adopted the name 'Pavilion Court' for the new development. The name was suggested by the Parish Council because pre First World War, cricket was played on the top green and the flats are on the site of the old pavilion. The charity suggested for a donation from Banner Homes is the Playground At Theydon.

Councillor Philip will attend the opening on 25<sup>th</sup> April at 2pm and invited other Councillors to be present if they wished.

Councillor Howard commented on the new bench that has been installed by the pond and that, up until recently, it has been sitting in water. He enquired whether it would be possible to relocate the bench – Councillor Purkiss said he would investigate.

Councillor Wood reported that she had been asked to look into the situation regarding the village CCTV.

**124. 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.**

Cllr Jon Whitehouse reported that he had received a letter from Highways regarding funding, which is roughly £100,000 per division per year. He also reported that the Tour de France is due to travel through our district on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and should be very exciting, although there will be road closures.

**Councillor Philip closed the meeting at 9.10pm**

**Julie Clerk  
Clerk to the Council**

**Councillor John Philip  
Chairman of the Council**