



# Theydon Bois Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Council: Ms Julie Taylor  
Minutes Secretary & Assistant to the Clerk: Mrs Elizabeth Thomas

## Minutes of the Parish Council held at The Village Hall at 8.00pm on Thursday April 30th 2015

**Councillors Present:** Cllrs, Gooch, Wood, Young, Hammond, Vincent & Howard

**Apologies:** Cllrs Philip, Jones, Purkiss, Hannibal & McDonald,

**Officers Present:** Julie Taylor (Parish Clerk and RFO)  
Elizabeth Thomas (Assistant to Parish Clerk & Minutes Secretary)

### 1. **Apologies for Absence**

Cllrs Philip, Jones, Purkiss, Hannibal & McDonald.

### 2. **To discuss and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on March 26<sup>th</sup> 2015.**

Signed as a true record.

### 3. **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

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

4.1 Doctors' Surgery: Residents explained how reduced hours at the surgery causes discontinuity of many types; Cllr Howard reported that he has been in touch with the Clinical Commissioning Group and that this type of situation is a pressing issue in this area. He has written to NHS England, met with The Limes Practice Manager, and been referred to NHS Essex from whom he had no response. Cllr Howard contacted NHS England again in the last few days and they are chasing it up; Debbie, the Limes manager would also like to come to a Parish Council meeting to talk to residents direct. We will wait for NHS England's next response and take it from there.

4.2 TFL Car Park: Resident suggested that we talk to traders from the immediate area of the present car park for their insights on this issue. Cllr Gooch reported that there are planning applications in for the proposed development and we believe that they will go to EFDC Committee in May.

4.2 Parking on the Green: A large concourse of residents attended to present the situation regarding parking problems on the Green (beside Green View, Woburn Avenue and Chestnut Cottages). Obstruction is a daily occurrence, the police have been called many times and residents are afraid that it will cause a serious incident. They would like permit parking only in this area. Cllrs Gooch and Vincent recounted the past history regarding traffic in this area, and that EFDC have previously rejected requests for permit parking here. However, Cllr Gooch affirmed that we are on North Essex Parking Partnership's (NEPP) waiting list for permit parking and that as some NEPP representatives are coming to discuss parking in Forest Drive, we should raise the issue of parking here at the same meeting. He recommended that all residents concerned should add to the dossier of evidence they

presented this evening, pass their details to the Parish Clerk for ease of correspondence, put together a petition regarding the issue and arrange some possible crowd-funding among themselves to help instigate parking restrictions.

## 5. **Correspondence – Clerks Report**

- **Burial issue:** Burials Clerk, Fiona Dodd, recently reported a phone call she had taken concerning a family just outside the Parish with a 2 year old child who is terminally ill and in Haven House Hospice. The family have limited funds due to not being able to work (they provide round-the-clock care for their daughter) but would like the child to be buried in Theydon Bois Cemetery when the time comes. The total cost for this would top £3000 as they are not Theydon residents. Fiona suggested a one-off waiving of the plot fee and charging £250 for internment; the subject was raised for further discussion. Council was sympathetic to the family's situation and discussed finance aspects and any reductions in rates we could make; there was a query whether this might set a precedent. Council agreed that more information was needed – we should discuss this with the undertaker, the family itself, Haven House and Loughton Town council (who may be able to donate a contribution) to get a bigger picture before deciding what to do. Cllr Vincent offered to do this research.
- **Seniors Tea:** Next one will be June 12.
- **Coppice Row Drains:** a problem here has been reported to Highways.
- **Best Kept Village:** Theydon Bois has been entered in this competition.
- **Donkey Derby:** will take place on the Green this summer.
- **Kids Fayre:** also scheduled for this summer, on the Green.
- **Petanque Court:** Has been registered as a Community Asset: we will inform MacMullen's Brewery.
- **Grass Cutting:** will happen Saturday May 2 on the Green.

## 6. **Finance and General Purposes Committee/Community Liaison Committee**

Payments made since the last meeting were approved.

## 7. **Planning Committee**

Councillor Gooch commented on the following:

- 7.1 Transport for London update: Cllr Gooch has contacted Nigel Richardson from EFDC and awaits his response. Cllr Philip had a meeting with Nigel also, and will report back soon. Cllr Gooch understands that prior approval and crossover applications will go to EFDC Committee on May 15. If there is a judicial review, we will know shortly, and will take appropriate action.
- 7.2 Storage: An area in the Village Hall campus has been made ready for a storage unit for planning files and other items. Village Association & Parish Council will contribute towards the cost (£4,500 + VAT and £1,400 for works.) Council also discussed access to the unit.

## 8. **Highways and Environment Committee**

- 8.1 Piercing Hill patching has been completed.
- 8.2 EFDC to be sent a letter about the petanque court being registered as a community asset; if the court is removed we should inform McMullens Brewery we will involve EFDC. Cllr Purkiss to draft.

## 9. **Cemetery Committee**

- Several burials have taken place recently.
- Maintenance and tidying-up needed: we need a new quote for this work.
- Re: Haven House child: JT impressed that time is of the essence here – will send Cllr Vincent information and new price list ASAP.

## 10. **Community Liaison**

- 10.1 Date has been set for the Christmas Market. The Christmas tree should be nearer to the market area - Cllr Howard has approached The Bull pub on this matter. We have 3 options – we can light their tree and they will contribute too; we can have a tree in their car park; we can light the trees on the

street corners. Cllr Vincent has spoken to traders about the next market and a meeting will be held in May to get the ball rolling, followed by more update meetings. Posters are to be produced and Ivan Pollock has offered to take over the set-up operations.

## **11. Health Matters**

11.1 Health: covered in section 4.1

11.2 Buxton Trust are not pursuing lighting of the tennis court at this moment.

## **12. Youth & Community Centre.**

12.1 Cllr Hammond has been in conference with Roy Newlan, everything is practically settled. We should be able to see something re. a pre-emption agreement; the constitution is also being redrawn regarding the trust being focused on Theydon Bois residents. Charity Commissioners will review it too. Lease was discussed, as was trustees for scouts. The lease will be 99 years.

## **13. Any Other Urgent Business for Report (without decision)**

13.1 Resident reported an issue concerning Il Bacio Italian Restaurant; noise from parties and such like makes an impact on the immediate neighbours at night especially when the restaurant doors are open. Cllr Gooch to investigate freeholder rights and who controls these. The resident has evidence concerning the problem and will maintain this. He has been in contact with EFDC; the enforcement team are based too far away to catch noise incidents when they are in full swing; but they suggested Environmental Health should arrange a visit when a karaoke night etc. is to take place, to experience the scale of the situation. There is also an issue of whether alcohol is being served outside. Cllr Gooch to write to Jerry Godden of EFDC Enforcement, with a copy to Glenn Chipp, CEO of EFDC, to arrange a report on the situation, and we will review at a subsequent Planning meeting. Licensing should also be alerted re. the alcohol situation.

13.2 Residents reported that there will be no Open Gardens in Theydon Bois this year – but they will drum up support for next year.

13.3 Cllr Howard announced that Theydon Bois Hall now has a defibrillator in situ: all those who want training please approach him about this.

## **14. Following Agenda items will exclude Public and Press**

14.1 Rose Bowl: Villager of the Year to be revamped into Chairman's Award for Recognition of Lifetime Achievement – the rose bowl to be cleaned and have a new base fitted, Cllr Young to arrange. First recipient of this award agreed by Council to be Bob Day.

14.2 Admin update: Cllr Wood noted that councillors used to email parish clerk and all other councillors if they could not attend a meeting – it would be helpful to reinstate this practice.

**Councillor Gooch closed the meeting at 10.05pm**

**Julie Taylor**  
Clerk to the Council

**Councillor John Philip**  
Chair of the Council