



Theydon Bois Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Council: Miss 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 30th March 2017

Councillors Present: Cllrs Gooch (Chair), Hannibal, Howard, Burn, Phillips, Wood and Purkiss

Apologies: Cllrs Philip, Crook, Withers & Julie Taylor (Parish Clerk and RFO)

Officers Present: Elizabeth Thomas (Assistant to Parish Clerk & Minutes Secretary)

478. Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Philip, Crook, Withers & Julie Taylor (Parish Clerk and RFO)

479. To discuss and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on February 23 2017.

- Signed as a true record

480. 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

481. Public Participation Session

- Internal report on the proposed Local Plan is out. It gives an indication of website returns. Theydon Bois did quite well for returns and interest groups including Rural Preservation and T-Bag were represented. Pointed out that issue had been missed re. railway line being breached and not creating a barrier. More returns will hopefully be more detailed, and more representative of views. It will be linked to village website.
- There will be workshops to update on the Plan, and a fuller report will come out May 2017.
- Concern expressed that Forward Planning at EFDC is being run by consultants as the regular staff are not there for various reasons.
- There are 65 new sites proposed – resident asked if we would get chance to feed back. Council are concerned about lack of policies.

482. Correspondence – Clerks Report

- We recently received a really nice letter from former resident thanking us for sending Village News.

- Residents at 45 Graylands wrote to see whether anything can be done to the rails which run along the pathway outside 41-46 Graylands, as some of the concrete posts have cracked, some of the metal rails have become unattached, and most are covered in rust.
- Neighbourhood Plan networking session will be held on Wednesday 26th April in Epping. Details circulated next week.
- Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation Television have been filming in Theydon Bois for a show about village life – this will feature in our Best Village entry.
- RE: Hate crime training course on 24/4 is now on 25/4/17 instead
- Meeting was arranged following concerns by villagers about burglaries and crime in Theydon Bois – venue was Youth Centre, off Loughton Lane on Saturday 25th March, at 3pm.

483. Finance and General Purposes Committee

- Payments since Last Meeting: Approved
- Finance & General Purposes Committee: RFO has been away sick so no meeting was able to take place. Nothing major to report otherwise.
- Adoption of EFDC Code of Conduct update: Cllr Gooch propose, Cllr Wood second. All agree. Adopted 30/3/17
- CCTV Update: Our CCTV system is installed and paid for. Cllr Withers who was overseeing project has seen it in action and approves. Query – is the CCTV connected to internet? Cllr Withers to follow up. Cllr Purkiss asked if we had a camera pointing to the main gate of the allotments: apparently this is not in operation – Cllr Withers to follow up.
- Playground At Theydon: leaflet drop has been done, and they are organising a fayre. Quiz night recently raised £800. Rural Preservation donation: £1k. sponsored events planned too. Cllr Gooch recapped that last time we said we would commit £20k from Section 106 funds and £20k from a Public-Works Loan, to pay for the floor. John Worby has been alerted re. transfer of lease to PAT.

484. Planning Committee

Cllr Gooch commented:

- Old School House: demolition caused concern, but we have met the applicant and saw the new plan which went down very well with the Planning committee. They are going to replicate old design and bricks etc. New application being put in soon.
- 26 Piercing Hill: No decision yet, latest application goes to EFDC on April 12.
- 1 Graylands: minor amendments going to committee.
- 16 String Jack: approval of conditions to come.
- Neighbourhood Plan: we will book places on fact-finding coffee mornings which are upcoming.
- Forward Planning: Cllr Gooch to see D. Coleman at EFDC when we have guidelines – clerks to circulate these when they arrive.

485. Highways, Cemetery and Environment Committee

Cllr Purkiss commented:

- New lorry for Highways has been sighted – they were using it to assess strength & depth of tarmac on different roads. Jon Whitehouse commented that more works on local roads to follow within the next year. This should be processed by local panels – Cllr Purkiss suggested a discussion with ECC regarding what should be done.
- Parking for local shop staff: Queen Vic Pub allows Tesco, Tikadi and Indian Ocean staff to use their parking lot. Cllr Hannibal reported hearing that people go to work in Belgique and park for 3-4 hours, well over the 2-hour limit. No traffic wardens means no checks made. Cllr Gooch suggested that we can refer concerns to the co-ordinator of the parking partnership.
- The Hoppit: the improvement project will involve churches and City of London have been consulted too. Brambles are being cleared from the path, and St Marys team is aware of this. More to follow about the Hoppit next time.

486. Community Liaison Committee

Cllr Howard commented:

- No Spring party – cancelled due to transport problems and attendees dropping out en masse.
- Next event is June 9 and we are planning it now.
- Christmas Market – Dec 8. May be difficulty in getting this into village news – more soon.
- Christmas Seniors Party – Dec 1

487. Reports from Representatives

None

488. Any Other Urgent Business for Report (without decision)

- BT Building: they have funds to do the fences here – more soon.
- Neighbourhood Watch Meeting: Halloween antics on the Green mentioned – namely kids throwing eggs. We used to go and see Tesco staff the week before Halloween and warn them not to sell eggs to teens that week.
- Public Participation: Resident commented that it should be at the start and end of meetings. It was apparently agreed in 2011, to have it at the end of the meeting as well as the start in January, March, May, July, September & November. Public proposal that we have public participation sessions at both ends of the meeting each month: good for democracy. Cllr Hannibal pointed out that this request wasn't on this month's agenda – Cllr Gooch advocated that the subject goes on the April agenda. Clerk to comply.
- Belgique wall: people see this as dangerous and we heard several grumbles about crashing into or falling over it, including near misses at night and the two actual accidents we had at the Christmas Market last year. EFDC enforcement were told and they asked Belgique to do a retrospective agreement. Cllr Gooch to follow this up with Jerry Godden.
- Pavement and shopkeeper parking issue: still ongoing. Shop workers are coming to a meeting soon to talk about this in more depth.
- Abridge Road parking issue: Jon Whitehouse reported that NEPP talked about this today in relation to restrictions – officers will be able to design the scheme here.

489. Following Agenda items will exclude Public and Press
None.

Councillor Gooch closed the meeting at 9.20 pm

Julie Taylor
Clerk to the Council

Councillor John Philip
Chair of the Council