

# Orsett Community Forum

## Minutes of the AGM held on 09 Dec 2008

### Present:

Graham Monk: (Chair)            Matt Jackson (Secretary)    Anjie Gaywood  
John Vesey (Treasurer)        Joanne Cooper (Minutes Secretary)    PC Nick Luff

The Chair opened the meeting at 7.35pm.

1. **Apologies:** Wendy Mayo (Ngage), Matt Ford (Highways), Angela Pearson (NHW), Lisa Plaistow (PCSO).

### 2. **Project Review 2008**

#### Playground Consultation Feedback

Joanne summarised the consultation results. 69% of people who completed the questionnaire preferred location A. 21% preferred location B and 7% preferred location C. In consideration of people's comments re cricket line of play it has been suggested for the location to be a combination of A and B. Andrea Winterflood (Council Play Officer) showed the forum a draft location plan and design following an initial consultation with Orsett schoolchildren on 02 December.

A number of forum attendees raised concerns about the actual size of the playground, location and design as portrayed on the plans. One resident felt that aesthetically the design would not fit in with Orsett Village and also had concerns re wording of the consultation.

An initial public meeting was held on 29 October for people to give their views on the proposed locations. There will be a second public meeting towards the end of January with revised plans showing the exact proposed location, scale and equipment.

A resident asked whether the playground would affect the existing tree line – Andrea confirmed that it would not.

In preparation for the January meeting Andrea agreed to confirm the following:

- Seek advice from RoSPA and HSE re risks to children playing in the playground from cricket and footballs
- Ensure a risk assessment is performed
- Confirm that there is no preservation order on the hedge in between location A and B

A question was asked about maintenance of the playground and CCTV. Joanne confirmed that the council had confirmed in writing in June/July that they would be responsible for maintenance of the playground. Andrea mentioned that we could apply to the Safer Thurrock Partnership re CCTV.

#### Bus Routes

Anjie mentioned that Ensign are starting to use the lay-by in Rowley Road again rather than the one in the High Road as agreed.

A resident confirmed that he had seen a couple of buses stopping both in Rowley Road and Rectory Road.

Another resident also expressed concern that buses are mounting pavements along Rowley Road from the High Road (in particular the Blue 200) and that buses are not giving way at the mini roundabout along the High Road at the junction with Bonham Drive. Anjie will ask Faye Cox to brief all drivers about these issues.

# Orsett Community Forum

## Minutes of the AGM held on 09 Dec 2008

Another resident asked about a new bus she had seen (265) going down High Road in the morning and then about 4/5pm. The concern is that a vehicle this size travelling through High Road will lead to congestion and difficulty for pedestrians. Anjie agreed to ask Faye to confirm all bus numbers/companies/routes/frequencies through Orsett.

Update: Anjie and Matt have confirmed that bus 265 is a new double decker bus route from First Group which runs between Lakeside and Brentwood. Anjie has asked Faye for a meeting to be held early next year to look at the areas of concern raised at the forum meeting.

### Pound and Lock Up

The Chair advised that there is a standoff between Highways and Cultural Services re the Pound and Lock Up – Highways are responsible but have no money to maintain it and Cultural Services have money in their budget but no responsibility for it. The Chair will be making a formal Level A complaint to the council where they will have 20 working days to respond. The Chair will also put in a Freedom of Information (FOI) request to the council regarding all paperwork for the Pound and Lock Up.

Anjie asked the Chair if Neil Rockcliffe had been contacted re this issue, the Chair confirmed that he has not.

### Safer Routes to School

Matt briefed everyone about a walk round meeting he'd had with Matt Ford from Highways on 19 November, with the following proposals/outcomes:

#### 20mph speed zone

To be put in place from High Road (just before Mill Lane entrance through to Rectory Road (just after Malting Lane/Prince Charles Ave) and up to School Lane. Note: the police won't enforce the zone unless there are self enforcing features present (Matt Ford has suggested using rumble strips) These proposals would be covered by the safer routes to school budget.

#### Parking/access and junction visibility issues

Areas requiring double yellow lines:

High Road junction with Pound Lane/Rowley Road

School Lane into top of Rowley Road

School Lane/Rectory Road junction– Matt Ford is investigating the re-modelling of the mini roundabout

Due to the conservation status of the village, road markings can be 50mm rather than the standard 100m width

Matt Jackson has advised that some issues identified would come under the maintenance budget and not the S106 money.

#### Other issues

Highways are not keen on boxing off the Rectory Road/High Road junction as they feel no-one would take notice of it

Highways feel that having a traffic survey consultation would be expensive and wouldn't add value. Matt Ford confirmed that a survey is not required in order to introduce a 20mph zone.

Matt Ford had a list of other projects for Orsett such as tactile crossing points in certain areas and a new pathway for Mill Lane/Village Hall

# Orsett Community Forum

## Minutes of the AGM held on 09 Dec 2008

Matt also mentioned about the council's plan to install a set of traffic lights on the westbound slip road (Southend to London) to Orsett Cock roundabout. The stop point will be the A128 bridge section. Matt has been told that this proposal is part of an accident reduction programme and a consultation is not required as there are no residents there. One resident feels that the council are putting this in place to divert traffic from the new London Gateway port. Matt agreed to put in a FOI request to the council for accident statistics for the roundabout and examples of traffic modelling.

Questions asked at forum:

Where is the Bryant Homes S106 money kept – with Thurrock Council or Bryant Homes?

What projects can the S106 fund – limitations and approval chain and until what date will the S106 funds be available?

What was the scope of the S278 Rowley Road project and what happened to funding after project was rejected?

Can the council identify a full scope of works to the forum that would absorb the S106 budget and identify items that would normally come under general maintenance budget?

Matt will be discussing all issues raised with Highways and feedback/formal proposals will be presented at the next open forum meeting.

### Summer Play Bus

Matt mentioned that the School is keen for the play bus to return next year. Andrea Winterflood advised that the council need more government funding for playrangers to support the play bus scheme. David Kooyman from the Orsett Cricket Club asked if he could be consulted on the day chosen for the play bus in Orsett next year.

### **3. Safer Thurrock Partnership**

PC Nick Luff mentioned that there will be another community awareness day on 13 December at the Whitmore Hall and the Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator will be attending.

Crime - there has been an increase in burglary offences in the ward. The police are reminding people to lock their doors and windows at night - if your windows are open at night they will put a note through to remind you.

Re PCSO patrol car – Dianne Revell has confirmed that she sent a letter to the head of Essex Police Alan Baker who has agreed to look into the issue. Nick confirmed that he has been able to get a vehicle for 90% of his shifts.

Neighbourhood watch weekly reports – Angela Pearson has confirmed that she will ensure that the NHW statistics are issued on a weekly basis.

Nick advised the forum that he will be leaving the post of Orsett NSO and will be taking the position of a Safer Schools Partnership Officer in Pitsea. He is waiting for a date but it could be as early as January 6<sup>th</sup>. He also confirmed that PCSO Eileen Marvin has now retired. From January the PCSOs for Orsett ward will be Coralee Baxendale, Teresa Martin and Mel Williamson, with PCSO Lisa Plaistow working slightly reduced shifts. The forum gave Nick a vote of thanks for the work he has achieved in Orsett ward.

# Orsett Community Forum

## Minutes of the AGM held on 09 Dec 2008

### **4. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported that out of the 2007/8 budget, money has been used for printing (approx £200) and for the play bus (£700). Money has also been allocated to the High Rd/Rectory Rd junction work and Welling speed sign but these projects have not been completed - the Chair has asked N-gage to investigate this.

### **5. Project Requests 2009**

The Chair confirmed that private funding options available for the forum next year are through Grassroots grants, Veolia and Thames Gateway (equipment only if on council land).

The following funding proposals were made:

- Orsett Playgroup - £50 to help paint the outside area fence, majority voted in favour with none against and no abstentions
- Orsett Parent and Toddler group - approx £800 for new equipment. Subject to the group accounts being satisfactory, majority voted in favour of the proposal with none against and no abstentions
- Orsett Cricket Club - approx £2500 for benches on the recreation ground, majority voted in favour of the proposal with none against and 1 abstention

Matt has agreed to seek costings for 2 new notice boards for Orsett School and the corner of Welling Road by the post box.

The Bowls Club funding request to the forum is no longer required as the club has found another funding stream.

### **6. Election of Committee Members**

Chair – Matt Jackson and Graham Monk were both nominated as Chair. A vote was called, 2 people voted for Matt and 6 people voted for Graham, therefore Graham will continue as Chair next year

Vice Chair – it was proposed for Matt Jackson to be Vice Chair – there were none against and no abstentions

Secretary – Anjie Gaywood was nominated as Secretary – there were none against and no abstentions

Treasurer – John Vesey confirmed that he is standing down – Anjie Gaywood agreed to take on this role on a temporarily basis until the vacancy is filled  
Minutes Secretary (non-voting role) Joanne agreed to continue in this post  
David Kooyman and John Vesey agreed to be committee members

### **7. A.O.B**

A resident asked if more "no dog fouling signs" could be put up in the village – the problem areas are in Rowley Road, the drought bed in Giles Close and the green on the new estate. Joanne agreed to take this up with the council.

A question was asked about the actual maintenance schedule for the playground -Andrea confirmed that playcheckers inspect sites on a weekly basis for graffiti and repairs and will be holding a meeting in the new year to confirm how the playcheckers do their rounds.

The next open meeting will be in February 2009, date TBC. The Chair thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 9.47pm.