

The Orsett Community Forum Community Meeting – 24th Feb 2009

Present:

G Monk	M. Jackson	D. Kooyman	J. Vesey
T. Pigg	W. Mayo (nGage)	Cllrs M & D Revell	

Council Reps: -

Highway D/C	Education	Environmental
M Ford	S. Yates	A Murphy

Friends Group: -

J. Cooper	A. Gaywood	T. Lovett	J. Megran
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The meeting was declared open at 19.40. The chair welcomed the residents, introduced the panel, council reps & our new PCSO's.

Budget

The chair asked the group to take a vote on the following outstanding items for approval. They included: -

- £2000 for the church clock repair – The forum unanimously approved funding*.
- £500 for play group equipment - The forum unanimously approved funding.
- £1000 Whitmore Scout hall landscaping - The forum unanimously approved funding.

* Environmental services will review each new clock repair case by case and allocate grants as required via Natalie Warren. The council only own two clocks (Purfleet Garrison & Tilbury Civic Square) and have a very small budget allocated.

Therefore the budget for financial year 2008/9 has been all but allocated with £50 remaining.

<u>2008/9 Allocation</u>	<u>£6900</u>
Play Group	£550
Parent Toddler Group	£800
Church Clock	£2000
Whitmore Hall Landscaping	£1000
Orsett Cricket Club	£2500
<u>Total</u>	<u>£6850</u>

Existing Funding in the bank	£2500 (PCSO vehicle)**
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** Essex Police will now fund PCSO vehicle – forum will investigate how to re-allocate funds. *While this issue has remained for over two years the forum are now satisfied with the outcome. The hard work many people have put in only goes to show dedication and resident support is the only way forward. The forum would like to thank all those involved and wish the PCSO's well with their new vehicle! The vehicle will be deployed to the team in the very near future.*

A further application was expected from the Orsett Bowls Club for a memorial board – This will be reviewed at the next open meeting when we have more details.

Matt Jackson presented next years Budget allocation for 2009/10, and explained that the council has reduced forum budgets by £50k. In the future forums will be allocated a base figure of £3750 and then a multiplier applied based on number of dwellings in the area. It was explained this way was a fairer process due to the way census data couldn't be broken down into enough detail for smaller villages within Thurrock. Orsett ward for instance includes Horndon and Bulphan – Both having their own forums. The budget for Orsett Forum 2009/10 will be ~ £5200 based on this process.

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Village Highways (Matt Ford)

Matt Ford presented a number of ideas for the village using s106 money: -

- Tactile Paving at crossing points
- Resurfacing works to Rowley Road, High Road & School Lane.
- Pathway rebuilding (incl. access to village hall)
- Highway lining throughout the village
- Possible 20mph zone in the village
- Traffic calming
- Drainage repairs to Rowley Road

Matt also explained the history of the original s278 project – block paving & 20mph zone for Rowley Road + highway table @ High Road – Rowley Road junction. As the s278 was rejected the council / developer renegotiated a s106 fund. This was a 10 year deal that will expire 2014 and has restrictions to its use.

Any project the forum / council investigate will require approval from the ward councillors, the portfolio holder and the head of council.

Questions/comments from the floor included: -

- Maintenance actions should not be paid for from this budget.
- Rowley Road / hospital driveway poor crossing point.
- What will the traffic calming actions include?
- Can we have a zebra crossing in School Lane?
- If the council plan maintenance actions will they tie-in with the s106 projects to prevent work being done twice.
- Can we have another vehicle activated speed sign at the north end of Rectory Road?
- Can the existing speed sign be moved to other locations around the village?

The chair requested any further comments / ideas be routed to the forum for collation. Use the forum website www.orsettcf.org.uk and provide feedback using the 'contact us' form or use email orsettcf@me.com .

The chair thanked Matt for his presentation.

Police

The chair explained that NSO Nick Luff had still not been replaced. Graham will investigate when a replacement will be appointed. PCSO Teresa Martin and her colleague introduced themselves and opened the floor for questions while explaining the role of a PCSO.

- School lane & parents parking is an ongoing issue
- Pathway obstructions in Rowley Road is an ongoing issue
- 44 Bus still stopping in Rowley Road after agreeing to stop in High Road lay-by.
- Speeding is a problem in the village what is being done about it?
- When will PCSO vehicle be available for use?
- Preventing burglary is also a priority for the ward – however the numbers are low.
- Can we have more parking wardens to patrol the school 8.30-9am / 2.45-3.30
- Can the PCSO's attend the walking bus scheme the school operate?

A link on the forum website has been included to the Essex Police - Orsett page.

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Pound & lockup

The chair received a letter from the council; it explained that they have attracted private sector funding and that the repairs will be carried out as soon as the funding is secured. Timing will be followed up by the forum.

Playground

The chair asked the group to vote for 'if they accept the £50k playbuilder funding and the additional £30k Veolia support'

The forum recorded a majority agreement with 1 abstention

The second part of the vote was for location. Previous consultation indicated that location A/B was the selected site for the playground. This vote will confirm that location if the forum agree to proceed with this proposal.

The forum recorded a majority agreement to progress with location A/B.
6 hands were counted against the proposal out of 30 total attendees.

The council will now fund ROSPA to complete a risk assessment for location A/B.

A question from the floor was asked regarding what installation phase we would fall into. At present this is unknown, however, the council will make this decision on 11th March 2009.

Installation phase two will commence April through June '09, and then phase three will complete the process in 2010 prior to the schools summer holidays.

A request was made to the forum further to equipment selection – and asked if a couple of open days could be arranged, and held at various locations around the village – to ensure the residents get a chance to review what's on offer.

Youth Club

As no youth club provision existed in the village currently the Bar N Bus was considered an alternative. The forum will investigate future support as the project required annual funding and 8-12 volunteers for each visit to the village.

It was recorded the NE cluster link in with the Bar N Bus scheme and thought funding could be provided. This will be investigated further and discussed at future forum meetings.

AOB

A resident raised a concern regarding transport to Palmers 6th form. It was explained the funding had been cut and that no free alternative had been advised. The resident was interested to see if any other Orsett resident was affected?

Meeting closed 21.45