

**Councillors** 

### Theydon Bois Parish Council

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

Clerk to the Council & RFO: Mrs Gloria Mussenden

# Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at The Village Hall at 8pm on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2013

Councillors Philip (Chair), Gooch, Hammond, Howard, Jones, Wood

**Present**: Purkiss and Young

**Apologies**: Councillors Hannibal, McDonald and Vincent

Officer Present: Gloria Mussenden (Parish Clerk/RFO)

### 171. Apologies for Absence

Councillors Hannibal, Vincent and McDonald

## 172. To discuss and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013 were approved and signed by the Chairman on behalf of the Committee.

### 173. Disclosure of Interests

(Existence of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or existence and nature of Other Pecuniary Interest or a Non-Pecuniary Interest). The Council has adopted the Essex Public Law Partnership Code of Conduct.

None

### 174. Public Participation session with regard to items on the Agenda.

No Public Present

### 175. Correspondence – Clerk's Report

A request for a donation for a Davenant student who is travelling to Durban to work in a charity run township school has been received, asking the Parish Council for a donation. She is happy to provide feedback upon her return and write an article for the Village News. The council agreed in principle.

Accuro Care Services are advertising for over 18's to work with children with disabilities during the school holidays.

Colin Freeman reported that travellers are occupying land on Latton Common, Harlow until they are moved on through a court order. He stressed vigilance of checking

properties and any access to paddocks and land.

The election of a County Councillor for Epping and Theydon Bois takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. Voting to take place between 7am and 10pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May in the Village Hall at 8pm.

St Mary's Church are holding a May Ball at Theydon Bois Golf Club on Saturday  $18^{th}$  May . Tickets are £35 per head and can be obtained from Sue on 01992 815034.

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

The list of payments made since the last meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting and cheques will be signed at the end of this meeting.

# Agreed: to approve the payments since the last meeting as previously Circulated but Grass Cutting costs and dates to be checked.

Cllr Philips reported on the last Committee Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

Draft management accounts and revised budget 2013-14 received and to be approved at the next meeting.

Details discussed regarding the Annual Parish Meeting planned for Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2013.

### 177. Planning Committee

Cllr Gooch reported that the plans for the Old School House have been passed.

Theydon Bois Tennis Club have submitted an application for flood lights and a meeting is planned with them to discuss. It was felt that the plans should go to full council and Cllr Gooch would attend the pre-application meeting.

### 178. Highways and Environment Committee

Cllr Purkiss reported that Abridge Road had now been resurfaced and that the drain outside the Old School House has been repaired. He also reported that the circle at the top of Green Glade has been repaired.

A letter has been received from the Association of London advising of their intent to crown three of the trees in the Avenue – Cllr Purkiss is going to query this.

Cllr Gooch reported that the CCTV needed upgrading at the Buxton Trust and that Essential would recommend some solutions.

### 179. Cemetery Committee

Cllr Hammond reported that a quote had been received for fencing for the new piece of land. We have two quotes at present and we would obtain a third to compare costs.

### 180. Youth Community Centre

John Worby was due to meet with Roy Newland following on from his meeting with Councillors. A date has been arranged for next Wednesday. John Worby to submit an invoice for his work.

### **181.** Reports from Representatives

<u>'Best Kept Village' competition</u>: Councillor Howard has circulated the application and Gloria Mussenden will be notified in due course. We will need to advise Pubs etc. when the judges are coming. Cllr Howard to speak to Quix regarding the smashed box at the front of their shop and explaining that it is a Health and Safety issue. The waste compound at Tesco's is a Health and Safety problem again with boxes/litter everywhere and Tesco's Head Office needs to be contacted.

182. 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.

Since the agenda was published, the Insurance renewal has been received and needs to be agreed on before June 1<sup>st</sup>. Cllr Philips proposed agreement with Zurich – All Agreed

183. 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.

None present

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Gloria Mussenden Clerk to the Parish Council Cllr. John Philip Chairman

### CLERK'S REPORT - FULL COUNCIL MEETING 25.04.2013

A request has been received from a young student who lives in the Village and attends Davenant School. She is travelling to Durban to work in a township School which is run by the Hillcrest Charity who provide education and other support to children who are HIV positive or have been orphaned by the illness. The overall cost of the trip is £1400 and she is expected to raise 50% and she is asking the Parish Council if they would make a donation. She would be very happy to provide feedback upon her return and write an article for Village News.

Accuro Care Services (under the umbrella of VAEF/Rainbow Services) are looking for people who are over 18 years to work with children with disabilities during the school holidays (15<sup>th</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> August) both on a 1:1 basis and group social and leisure activities. This is paid employment. Driving licence preferable but not essential.

Contact Katie Foster: 01279 443769 for an application pack.

Colin Freeman, the Essex Watch Liaison Officer reported that travellers are currently occupying land on Latton Common, Harlow until they are moved on through a Court Order. He stressed the need to stay vigilant; checking security of properties and any access to paddocks and land.

Annual Canvass of Electors: The Electoral Services thanked all households, who, with no change to their details, used the telephone, internet or text to confirm their electoral registration details and wants to encourage more households to do the same and to look out for the forms which are being sent out from the 1<sup>st</sup> October this year.

The election of a County Councillor for Epping and Theydon Bois takes place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2013. Voting to take place between the hours of 7am and 10pm.

The Annual Parish Meeting takes place on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May in the Village Hall at 8 pm. Do come along and find out what your Parish Council has achieved over the past year.

St. Mary's Church are holding a May Ball at Theydon Bois Golf Club on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May. Tickets are £35.00 per head and can be obtained from

Sue on: 01992 815034.

### NOTES FROM A MEETING WITH PCSO LIZAL SCOTT

A Meeting took place on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2013 at 8 pm, prior to the Full Council Meeting where members of the Public could express concerns relating to the recent spate of burglaries in the Village

PCSO Scott produced crime figures for the period 01.01.2013 to 27.03.2103 and reported that although there had been a number of burglaries in Theydon for this period, figures show that there had been no more than in past years. Thefts of/from motor vehicles are not all residents; some are commuters.

The public expressed concerns that there had been 6 burglaries up to 14<sup>th</sup> March but there was Police presence for just one week.

PCSO Scott explained that the whole of Epping and Brentwood had been suffering many burglaries every day and as a result Essex Police have been running Operation Nemeses and Operation Fluid to prevent burglaries and catch the burglars. Over the past weeks there have been increased foot patrols and mobile patrols, both uniformed and plain clothes and these patrols will continue until further notice. Theydon has a new PCSO – Norma Harrison – as PCSO Scott has now been moved to North Weald.

A suggestion was made that CCTV cameras be installed on approaches to the Village to assist the Police. (Mentioned at the last Full Council Meeting).

The Station Officer at Theydon Bois Station sees a lot of what goes on and has reported suspicious behaviour to the Police, but no follow-up has been made. It was commented that this ought to be taken more seriously as the Station staff are the 'eyes and ears' of the Village.

On 16<sup>th</sup> April Neighbourhood Watch representatives are meeting with the Essex Police Commissioner, Nick Alston. They will discuss the cuts in the Police force and why we have not got enough Police 'on the ground.' It was suggested to ask Eleanor Laing to attend.

Caroline Law, the neighbourhood watch co-ordinator, was concerned that she did not receive enough information from the Police but did comment that over the last two weeks she has been receiving updates from P.C. Andy Cook.

Information about crimes that are given to the Police are not acted upon quickly enough and interviews need to take place immediately. Also, technology now allows Police to 'tap into' the CCTV cameras as they are connected to Broadband. Councillor McDonald said he would take these matters up with Essex Police.

PCSO Scott agreed to ask P.C. Andy Cook to attend the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> May.

Councillor John Philip urged all residents to be more vigilant and to encourage and support our Neighbourhood Watch team as much as possible.