

ERITH TOWN FORUM GENERAL MEETING



Thursday, 28 April 2016 - 8.00pm-9.00pm
Bexley College (Erith Campus), Walnut Tree Road, Erith

ATTENDANCE

Forum Members:

Dennis Roberts (*Vice Chair in the Chair*)(Erith Baptist Church), Cllr Joe Ferreira, Joan Armitage (*Treasurer*)(Bexley Civic Society), Chris Broadbent (Disabilities Groups), Nicola King (Erith Riverside Shopping Centre), Jacquie McDonnell (Bexley College), Jerry Martin (Chair, Erith Safer Neighbourhood Panel), and Alec Tapper (FORGE).

Members of the Public:

Janet Baxter (Carrack House, Bexley Road), Duncan & Eileen Brodie (Windrush Court), Tracy Copley (Lesney Park), Dan Fee (Lesney Park Road), Linda Finch (Bexley Road), Peter Kilner (Brasted Road), Barry Lupton (Appold Stree), Joan McCarthy (Avenue Road), Therese Oliver (Lesney Park), Irwin Parkhurst (Lesney Park Road), Bob & Chris Scutt (Sherwood House), and Chris Wakeman (Lesney Park Road).

Speakers – London Borough of Bexley:

Danny Ridgeway (Principal, Bexley College), and Lorraine Stares (Bexley Accessible Transport Scheme)

Also Present:

John Abbott (Note Taker).

Apologies for Absence:

Doreen Ives (*Chair*), Cllr Edward Boateng, and Cllr Abena Oppong-Asare, D J Akande (Erith Riverside Residents Association), Fred Finck (Erith Yacht Club), Alison Fisher (Erith Rowing Club), Ray Hudson (Bexley Neighbourhood Watch Association).

NOTES OF MEETING		Action
1.	MINUTES – 28 JANUARY 2016. To be presented to July 2016 meeting.	
2.	ERITH MARKET.	
2.1	Cllr Joe Ferreira reported on the 12 week trial of the Erith Market being held every Wednesday selling clothing, accessories and homeware. If successful, there would be space to expand along Pier Road.	
2.2	There was some discussion on the most suitable day for holding the market with support in addition for a Saturday market. Cllr Joe Ferreira said that it was the Council's decision to operate the market on a Wednesday although he accepted this clashed with markets in Swanley and Woolwich. It was noted however that a Saturday market would clash with the Dartford market	
2..3	Nicola King reported there was increased footfall in the shopping centre during market days and said she would support a Saturday market.	
2.4	It was considered that additional advertising e.g. in Morrisons would help promote the market.	
3.	FORGE (FRIENDS OF RIVERSIDE GARDENS).	
3.1	Alec Tapper reported that the spring flowering displays would shortly be making way for the summer planting. The Council had removed some shrubbery to open up the area and he would be discussing with a newly appointed officer at the Council the future plans for maintain the attraction of the gardens.	

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3.2	Another major clear-up of the Thames foreshore organised by Thames 21 had been set for 8 May 2106 when they would have the help of the army cadets and Morrisons/KFC.	
3.3	There was some discussion about the amount of littering, particularly beer cans and a suggestion for the designation of an alcohol free zone.	
4.	ERITH SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD PANEL.	
4.1	Jerry Martin reported that the next meeting of the Panel would be held on 19 May 2016 at the Pier Road office beginning at 7pm.	
4.2	He reported that although the police were having to meet funding reductions neighbourhood policing was safeguarded to some extent.	
5.	CLINICAL COMMISSIONING GROUP.	
	Dennis Roberts reported that good progress was being made with the introduction of a cancer unit at Queen Mary's Hospital.	
6.	COMMUNITY LUNCH – 5 JUNE 2016 & OLD PEOPLES OUTING.	
6.1	Dennis Roberts reported on the arrangements for the community lunch at Christ Church hall on Sunday 5 June 2016 (12.30pm - 3.30pm).	
6.2	Dennis Roberts reported on the arrangements for the elderly persons' outing to Eastbourne on Saturday 16 July 2016 - £10 pp, 10am from Queen Street Baptist Church.	
7.	ERITH FUN DAY – 9 JULY 2016.	
	Therese Oliver reported on the arrangements for the Erith Fun Day to be held on Saturday 9 July 2016 (12 noon – 6pm) at the new venue of the Erith Sports Centre which would provide more space for stalls and events. The Erith Rotary Club website carried details of the event.	
8.	ANY OTHER BUSINESS.	
	a) Erith Railway Station	
8.1	It was hoped that funding would be available to improve accessibility for the disabled to the London-bound platform at Erith Station	
	b) Queens Road/James Watt Way Junction.	
8.2	Chris Broadbent asked whether measures could be taken to relieve traffic congestion at the Manor Way/ James Watt Way roundabout during peak periods e.g. by introducing a filter light in the traffic signals at Queens Road.	
	c) Former White Hart PH.	
8.3	Cll Joe Ferreira reported that a petition was being raised over the planning application for redevelopment at the rear of the former White Hart PH.	
	DATES OF MEETINGS 2016/17.	
	(venue Bexley College (Erith Campus), Walnut Tree Road beginning at 7pm):	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 28 July 2016 • Thursday 27 October 2016 • Thursday 26 January 2017 • Thursday 27 April 2017 (AGM) 	