

Erith Town Forum General Meeting



Thursday 27th April 2017

Bexley College (Erith Campus), Walnut Tree Road, Erith

Attendance:

Forum Members:

Doreen Ives (Chair), DJ Akande (Erith Riverside Residents Association), Bill Brookes (Erith Playhouse Theatre), Alison Fisher (Erith Rowing Club), Nicola King (Erith Riverside Shopping Centre), Jerry Martin (Erith Safer Neighbourhood Panel), Rev. Rob Radcliffe (St Johns Church West St), Dennis Roberts (Baptist Church, Erith), Alec Tapper (FORGE), Rosemary White (Erith Park) Cllr Edward Boateng

Members of the Public:

L Finch, Peter Kilner, Irwin Parkhurst, Sarah Batten, (The Exchange Project) Peter Nuttley (The Exchange Project), Luisa Baker (Lighthouse Project), Kevin Kingston, (LBB), Janet Baxter, Gill Davies, Tanya Harris, Sue Cummins, Joan McCarthy, Chris Wakeman, Janet Mace, Chris Mace, Ken Chamberlain, Duncan Brobie, Eileen Brobie, Roy Hobson, Sumeet Malda, Gurpreet Anand.

Apologies:

Joan Armitage, Chris Broadbent, Lorraine Davidson, Cllr Joe Ferreira, Cllr Abena Oppong-Asare

Item	Notes of Meeting	Action
1.	Welcome and apologies for absence The chair welcomed everyone to the General meeting section of the evening, the apologies above were received.	
2.	Matters arising from Jan 2017 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes of the last meeting were circulated and time given to read through In future these will be sent in advance of the meeting. Rev Rob Ratcliffe to be added to the apologies for the January meeting It was suggested that the following the presentation from Andy Pike (RRRL) that the forum keep an eye on emission levels from the site. Would it be possible to find out current levels of incinerations? DI to investigate Do we know if the RRRL proposals were agreed by the council? EB to find out the current position. 	NT DI EB
3.	Treasurers report The treasurer is currently on holiday so no formal report was given, although the chair told the meeting that no monies had been spent since last meeting.	
4.	FORGE Alec Tapper and Joan McCarthy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FORGE has a new chair Pat Fearnside The gardens are much improved, the council have cleared away large bushes making the area more open with smaller shrub planting proposed. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a recent visit from The Friends of Parks and Gardens scrutiny committee, including 8 councillors, they were quizzed on their aims and activities and what help was required. • Watering the site continues to be a problem and the Councillors has agreed to help. Perhaps using the standpipe that will be used for the Pop Up restaurant. • There are 6 Friends of groups in the borough and the details will be added to the Council website so that the group can get more publicity 	
5.	<p>Erith Riverside Shopping centre update – Nicola King, Centre Manager</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been a few changes at the centre, with tenants Blue Inc. and Cash Convertor have left the shopping centre. Not yet known who the new tenants will be. Please visit Nicola in the Centre office if you would like rent a space. The address is Office 93 Erith High Street – just next to Paddy Power and the Learning Centre. • Events – Events organisers Bert and Gert are working with Bexley Council and Centre Management to hold regular Arts and Crafts events at the centre. The dates are: 3trd June 5th August 28th Oct, 9th Dec. It is hoped to have 10 stalls each event, if you would like a stall please contact Nicola. • New LED lights are being installed, this will take 3 weeks to complete • It was asked if there were any more issues relating to Car parking? There were no questions from meeting. 	
6.	<p>Erith Safer Neighbourhood Panel – Jerry Martin</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The last meeting was on Friday 6th April, • 2 Members of the Forum attended • The meeting was not quorate, and it was discussed how to increase attendance at the meeting. It was suggested that the location and day of the meeting be changed to allow more people to attend. • Doreen Ives will circulate the date and venue of the next Ward panel meeting. 	DI
7.	<p>Clinical Commission Group - Dennis Roberts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CCG have been discussing how to follow the Health Ministers instruction to have GP's available 7 days a week. • There will be an urgent care centre so that you can book a Doctor's appointment after 6:30pm. • These will be based at the Urgent care centre in Erith (From 5th June) and at Queen Mary's. (From 9th May) • They will be run by all GP's in a rota system, so you will be able to see a GP not necessarily your own GP. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will also be open Sat and Sun from 8am – 8pm including bank holidays 	
8.	<p>Erith Fun Day – Irwin Parkhurst</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erith Fun day will be on Saturday 15th July at the Erith Recreation ground 12 – 6pm • Plans are progressing well, lots of food stalls booked, ice cream vendors, separate toilets have been arranged following feedback from last year. • Kassiopeia, the soft play centre, will be bringing along soft play equipment. <p>Q: Are you still looking for stall holders? A: Yes, still taking bookings for the event, although this is filling up fast. Applications are welcomed from Organisations, local businesses, Crafters etc. If you would like to book a stall, please see the Erith Fun Day Facebook page or speak to Tracy.</p>	
9.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breathing space Tanya Harris and Sue Cummins told the meeting of a new initiative funded by Mind and Orbit housing, to help improve the mental health of their tenants. The project is aimed at early intervention, to deal with low level issues before they become more serious. Further publicity material for the project will be circulated when printed. It was agreed that the project could advertise on the Erith Fun day Facebook page. • Re-instate, the Mental Health charity in West St, are having an Open day on the 28th April– advertised • FORGE are having a Clean-up day 14th May 9am to 12:30. Leaflets will be posted advertising the event. • British Gas If you are registered as disabled and use British Gas you may be entitled to a refund under the British Gas Warm Home discount scheme. Apply to Energy Customer Service, or online www.britishgas/myaccount • Currency The meeting was reminded that £5 notes are changing and that old ones will no longer be tender after the 6th May. After this date you will need to take them to the Bank. £1 coins are also changing and old ones will no longer be legal tender after October. • St Johns Church are having an Open day on the 24th June, chance to look around the oldest church in Erith, do brass rubbings etc. There will also be refreshments after the service. • It was stated how nice it was to see Doreen chairing the meeting again. 	
10.	<p>Date of next meeting: 27th July 2017 at Bexley College</p> <p>Future meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 26th October 2017 • Thursday 25th January 2018 • Thursday 26th April 2018 	