

Item 9: Petitions Update Report – 22 October 2014

Petition No.	Description	Presented by (and date)	Portfolio Holder	Status Full copies of the responses may be obtained from Democratic Services
438	Petition to Thurrock Council for the re-siting of pedestrian crossing and the reinstatement of parking at Tesco Express, Southend Road, Grays	08/04/14 * Submitted by a local resident	Cllr J. Kent	<p>A letter was sent to the Lead Petitioner on 23/04/14 which outlined:</p> <p>Prior to implementation last year, a full investigation was carried out in order to site the crossing at an appropriate location to deal with the unsafe practices that were occurring.</p> <p>A statutory consultation was carried out and letters were delivered to businesses in the immediate vicinity of the proposed crossing location. Meetings were also held with Managers from Tesco and following discussions regarding the safety of customers and road users, the position and the layout of the Zebra Crossing was agreed.</p> <p>An independent Road Safety Audit was carried out on completion of the works on site and recommendations have been made relating to the position of the bollards and the length of the white zig zag markings etc. These amendments will be carried out shortly.</p> <p>There is a clear demand for the Zebra Crossing outside the Tesco store and unfortunately there are no alternative suitable locations that the crossing could be relocated to.</p>

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				Whilst there is concern for the lack of parking facility on the forecourt, the unsafe vehicle and pedestrian manoeuvres that were being undertaken could not be ignored.
439	Thurrock Council considers the use of space at Defoe Parade for the purpose of a weekly market to include any Farmer's markets and French market. This is requested due to the lack of shopping facilities and value for money in the area and also to bring the community together.	23/07/14 Presented at Council by a local resident	Cllr L Worrall	<p>Thurrock Council's Housing Department currently provide a license to a market provider for the provision of a market at South Ockendon. They also have an expired licence for a market in Tilbury which may be extended pending conversations with the market provider.</p> <p>The Housing Department do not run markets but provide licenses for providers to run markets on Housing land.</p> <p>If the shop keepers in Defoe Parade wish to work with a market provider or, if they wish to become one themselves, then they simply need to put a business plan together which shows a sustainable market can be run and gain a license from Housing to run a market in Defoe Parade.</p>
440	We the undersigned call on Thurrock Council to continue installing the verge hardening along Lenmore Avenue and Rectory Road, Little Thurrock. This will help improve parking provision on these busy roads, keep verges green and save money on verge repair.	10/09/14 Presented at Council by Cllr Kelly	Cllr J. Kent	The cost of rolling out this project will be £136,950 it is further estimated that the deployment of this form of verge hardening to every part of Thurrock would benefit from it would be £3m. The Council does not have funds available for this purpose and therefore a report is being taken to November Cabinet seeking approval to write to the Secretary of

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				State for Transport asking central Government to provide the money.
441	<p>For many years Dr Devaraja has been negotiating with Thurrock Council to buy a piece of land adjacent to Graham James Primary School in The Sorrells. We the public realised that the Council is not willing to sell to Dr Devaraja.</p> <p>The community is in need of a new purpose built surgery. We support Dr Devaraja on this project.</p> <p>We therefore call upon Thurrock Council to make a decision and grant Dr Devaraja the chance to go ahead with this project for the Corringham community.</p>	<p>15/09/14</p> <p>Submitted by Dr Devaraja</p>	Cllr J. Kent	<p>Cabinet considered this matter at its meeting on the 3rd September 2014. Although seeking to purchase the site for a number of years, and having the Council's consent to do so since 2006, Dr Devaraja has been unable to complete the purchase. His opportunity to do that expired at the end of 2013, and since then the Council has been endeavouring to agree with NHS England the selection of a different purchaser who would develop a new surgery in which Dr Devaraja (and potentially other neighbouring GP's in similarly unsuitable surgery accommodation) could become tenants.</p> <p>This plan is still very much on track, and NHS England have commissioned a focused option appraisal which will review bids from two parties to develop the surgery during October 2014, enabling a decision to be made during November. It is then anticipated that the Council will sell the site to the nominated provider by the end of 2014. Dr Devaraja has been informed of the up to date position by both NHS England, and by the Council.</p>

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442	<p>The Petition calls on Thurrock Council to prohibit the culling of badgers on council-owned land and invest in vaccination programmes locally. We ask this because we believe culling to be inhumane, inefficient and unscientific.</p> <p>This is a national issue which will be of direct concern to the people of Thurrock when DEFRA "rolls out" its culling policy in 2014. The object of the petition is to ensure that Thurrock Council's badger population is as safe as possible from slaughter and that the already available injectable badger vaccine against bTB is used in as many cases as possible. We ask this because we believe the culling policy is inhumane (DEFRA's measurement of "humaneness" is to time the screams of wounded badgers), inefficient (previous culls showed an increase in bTB because of badger movement) and unscientific (the majority of scientific opinion hold that a cull will have "no meaningful result").</p>	30/09/14 Submitted online by a resident.	Cllr T. Fish	A response is currently being prepared, to be sent to the lead petitioner by the deadline of 28 October 2014.
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