

## Item 8: Petitions Update Report – 25 March 2015

Petition No.	Description	Presented by (and date)	Portfolio Holder	Status Full copies of the responses may be obtained from Democratic Services
440	<p>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.</p>	<p>10/09/14 Presented at Council by Cllr Kelly</p>	Cllr J. Kent	<p>The cost of rolling out this project will be £75,000. 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 is currently pursuing competitive grant funding for highways maintenance. The potential to finance a verge hardening programme will be reviewed once the outcome of Thurrock's funding bid is known.</p> <p>The bid for highway maintenance improvements was submitted in February and we are currently awaiting the outcome.</p>
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</p>	<p>15/09/14 Submitted by Dr Devaraja</p>	Cllr J. Kent	<p>Cabinet considered this matter at its meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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</p>

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	<p>Corringham community.</p>		<p>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> <p>Update – January 2015. The NHS England option appraisal was carried out and this has resulted in the Council opting to dispose of the land to North East London Foundation NHS Trust, for the development of surgery facilities. Both parties are working towards the disposal being finalised to ensure a capital receipt to the Council this financial year 2014/15.</p> <p>NHS England have informed Dr Devaraja of the circumstances and it is hoped that he will take up the option of moving his surgery to the newly build facilities once they are developed.</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	<p>Thurrock Borough Council is aware of the DEFRA arrangements to allow the culling of badgers in certain prescribed areas where there are high levels of bovine tuberculosis and the polarised viewpoints that such a cull creates. None of these locations is close to the boundaries of this authority.</p> <p>The Council recognises that badgers are an animal that has a specific protection (The Protection of Badgers Act(1992)) which makes it an offence to injure, kill or take a badger or to damage or interfere with a sett unless a licence is obtained from a statutory authority. In the case of the recent DEFRA initiated cull Natural England was the approving authority as opposed to any local council.</p> <p>Thurrock Borough Council does not allow individuals or organisations to undertake hunting or culling of badgers on land under its control and has no plans to give consideration to amending this position at this time. Should there be a change in primary legislation which impacts on this position it would be considered by the Council.</p> <p>The Council is, however, not in a position to consider a vaccination programme for any animals that inhabit its estate due to the potentially significant cost at a time when it is facing significant funding constraints over the foreseeable future.</p>
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443	<p>Arrange for the construction of a suitable sound barrier to reduce the amount of noise being caused as a result of the increased size and volume of traffic movement on the A13 approach slip road to the West Stanford le Hope interchange.</p> <p>Myself and fellow ward councillors have received concerns from residents with regards to increased noise as a result of the size and volume of traffic on the slip road to the Stanford Le hope interchange. Thurrock Council to date have no plans to install any noise barriers and have said that the port will have to pay into a general amenities fund that can be used for unforeseen highways issues but this will not happen until warehouses are occupied which may take time. It is not fair on local residents to have to close windows and not be able to live a quiet life as a result of this increased traffic. We therefore call on Thurrock Council to install noise barriers as soon as possible to protect the residents from this increasing noise issue.</p>	7/11/2014 Submitted by Cllr S. MacPherson	Cllr J. Kent	<p>Officers had arranged for some analysis to be undertaken to determine what the best solution would be to reduce road traffic noise in this area of the Homesteads. Those options will include a noise barrier on the west bound off-slip. This report has now been received from Environmental Health and its conclusions were considered.</p> <p>The environmental work for the London Gateway Port does not require noise barrier for this slip road. Thurrock officers have carried out analysis which shows that noise barrier here will have little impact on the current noise levels.</p>
444	<p>We ask Thurrock Council to work the new owners of the Pegasus club to keep the trackbed of the Corringham Light Railway open and accessible to the public footpaths that intersect it. We ask Thurrock Council to consult with the new owners of the Peg club and the CLR Society to maintain the track bed and produce Wildlife feeding station at</p>	7/11/2014	Cllr J. Kent	<p>Petition issues have been considered and advised that significant engineering would require planning permission. Any related formal planning process would need to take into consideration the historic value and local support for access. Society have been advised that they may wish to submit an application to create a permissive footpath</p>

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	<p>Kynoch Wildlife Corner beside one of the public footpaths within the Pegasus club land.</p> <p>The Corringham Light Railway Society would like to save the remaining sections of the Corringham Light Railway track bed behind the Pegasus Club in Herd Lane, Corringham, Essex.</p> <p>The land behind the Peg has been put into the sale of the Peg club and it's future is under threat from the new owners whom have been informed that the Society is working down there, but are also aware that as we have no money to carry out any work, that we are technically trespassing. We have been informed we will soon be hearing from the owners to cease and desist in the area. But I would like to work with the new owners, regardless of if we have money or not, because I feel that the work we are doing is making a difference down there. We have already made a feeding station in the area and it is thriving and we have called it Kynoch Wildlife Corner. We have chaffinches, wotvoles and terrapins in the lower Kynoch lake. If this land is blocked off and we are not allowed down there anymore, all this would be lost and the place will just become overgrown again. Recently, the Society walks that we hold have been a huge success and we have been praised by local councillors and the</p>			<p>along the track bed and/or the non-definitive footpath route to establish appropriate rights of way to continue to access the area. Information under Section 53(2) of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 are attached detailing the procedure required.</p> <p>If a planning application is received which includes the removal of the track bed then the historic value and local support for access will be a consideration when the application is determined</p>
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	<p>South Essex MP Stephen Metcalfe who have all walked the line and feel that this is a good thing that needs to be kept up.</p> <p>Loosing this land by blocking it off would be very detrimental to this area, that is a part of the countryside, no matter how close it is to civilisation.</p>			
445	<p>To install double yellow lines on Lodge Lane (Slip Road) South side. Opposite Sockets Heath Shops. From 40 to 50 Lodge Lane.</p> <p>There has always been issues with parking opposite our drive ways preventing access and egress from our properties.</p> <p>However since the hairdressers and car showroom and the various take-aways and cafes that have since opened the situation had deteriorated and is now far worse.</p> <p>Vans and cars are parked there obstructing views and cause safety issues, as it is difficult to see pedestrians whilst manoeuvring from our drives.</p>	<p>21/11/2014</p> <p>Presented by Councillor Redsell</p>	Cllr J. Kent	<p>Letter sent to Lead Petitioner (Cllr Redsell) on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 advising that a Public Notice will be drawn up with a proposal to install the restrictions as requested.</p> <p>The statutory consultation to undertake this is currently underway and closes on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015, and subject to there being no objections, double yellow lines will be introduced within 8 weeks.</p>
445a	<p>To relocate parking bays in Daiglen Drive, South Ockendon to the front of the Derwent Parade Shops.</p>	<p>18/11/2014</p> <p>Presented by Councillor Curtis</p>		<p>Council Officers have met with the South Ockendon Community on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 and 11<sup>th</sup> December 2014 to discuss the parking concerns in Derwent Parade. These meetings included residents, tenants, the South Ockendon Forum and Shop Keepers.</p>

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				<p>A number of options were put forward from the Council to address parking issues in Derwent Parade and through listening to the community an additional option was added which met with the majority of agreement.</p> <p>The Council developed the proposal put forward by the community and went out to consultation on a revised scheme in February 2015 to create additional parking spaces in Derwent Parade. An objection was received in the course of the consultation and this is currently being considered.</p> <p>A final consultation with the community took place end of February 2015 and restrictions are being suspended.</p>
446	We the undersigned, are concerned about the constant need for police attendance at a property within the Little Thurrock Blackshots Ward. This house is neglected and sometimes noisy, including the occasional use of a quad-bike.	08/01/2015 Presented by Councillor Redsell	Cllr Smith	The Anti-Social element of this petition has been referred to the local Neighbourhood Policing Team. Information is also being cross-checked in regards to noise complaints to identify the most appropriate course of action from the Environmental Protection team.
447	We the undersigned, all tenants residing at the Dexter Close Sheltered Housing Complex, wish to make it clear our distress and upset regarding the withdrawal of the full time Warden service.	21/01/2015 Presented by a resident	Cllr Worrall	<p>A full response has been sent for this petition explaining the changes that have happened within Sheltered Housing and the reasons for the changes.</p> <p>Specific issues have been addressed at a meeting between the Sheltered Housing Manager and tenants and Dexter Close to try</p>

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				to allay any concerns that they have.
448	We, the undersigned, ask Thurrock Council to propose and consult on a painted yellow line plan for Hardie Road/Bevin Walk, with a view of implementing on confirmation that residents are content with the council's proposals to address the matter.	Presented by Cllr Hebb at Council on 28/01/15	Cllr Gerrish	Officers are drawing up proposals in consultation with the Council's Housing Directorate prior to local public consultation.
449	We the undersigned, all tenants residing at the Attlee Court Sheltered Housing Complex, wish to make it clear our distress and upset regarding the withdrawal of the full time Warden Service.	04/02/2015	Cllr Worrall	Petition just received after verification. Response will be written regarding the changes made to Sheltered Housing.  A tenants meeting will be arranged regarding specific issues for Attlee Court to allay any concerns.
450	We the undersigned, demand that the Library Service investigate imaginative library provision rather than the suggestions included in the 'Future of Library Service' survey and are against the proposal for closure of libraries including the mobile library	25/02/2015 Presented by a resident	Cllr J. Kent	A full response is being prepared to send to the petitioner. Over 3000 responses were received by the council in response to the consultation about the future shape of the library service. All responses have been carefully considered and will inform the changes which will need to be made to the library service to ensure it has a vibrant future in the face of budget reductions to meet the savings required by local government. Additional uses for library buildings to generate income, shared use of facilities and the transformation of libraries into community hubs are all being planned. A late submission

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				to the consultation regarding the mobile library is also being considered although current plans are to publicise the Homelink home delivery service to replace the mobile library, which has become in need of costly repair.
451	We the undersigned, residents of London Road call upon Thurrock Council to improve residents parking facilities. There are parking problems being caused by parking from the users of the Sure Start Centre and the Local Doctors Surgery	Presented by Cllr Baldwin at Council on 25/02/2015	Cllr Gerrish	This matter is being investigated.
452	We the undersigned, being residents of East Tilbury and/or users of East Tilbury Library, petition and request Thurrock Council to ensure that no cuts are made at East Tilbury Library to either staffing and/or current opening hours.	Presented by Cllr Palmer at Council on 25/02/2015	Cllr J. Kent	A full response to the petitioner is currently being prepared. The decision of the March 2015 Cabinet meeting was to support the recommendation that no library will close in 2014/15. Due to the level of savings to be achieved no guarantee can be given regarding reductions in staffing or hours, however the council is working to minimise any impact to residents.
453	We the undersigned, wish to protest strongly about the Council's decision to withdraw the 374 bus and want them to carry on running what is a lifeline to Basildon and Orsett Hospitals.	Presented by Cllr S. Little at Council on 25/02/2015	Cllr Gerrish	A revised 374 bus service will start on the 5 <sup>th</sup> May to link East Tilbury and Linford to Grays and Stanford-le-Hope. This is a commercial service with a revenue contribution from the Council. The 265 service will now go to Hordon-on-the-Hill.

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454	<p>This petition has been started by the people of East Tilbury and Linford to save the bus that serves the villages. This bus is essential to the residents, young and old for schools, college, hospital, shopping and access to chemists and dentists.</p>	<p>Submitted by Cllr Palmer on 25/02/2015</p>	<p>Cllr Gerrish</p>	<p>A revised 374 bus service will start on the 5<sup>th</sup> May to link East Tilbury and Linford to Grays and Stanford-le-Hope. This is a commercial service with a revenue contribution from the Council. The 265 service will now go to Hordon-on-the-Hill.</p>
455	<p>Save Our Thurrock Libraries</p> <p>We, the undersigned, oppose the closure of any of our 9 Thurrock Libraries. We also oppose:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any significant cuts to the library services in all 9 Thurrock Libraries.</li> <li>• The proposal of libraries being run solely by volunteers, as trained staff are essential to run our libraries on a day to day basis.</li> <li>• The withdrawal of the mobile library service, which serve the most vulnerable and isolated of our community.</li> </ul>	<p>Presented by Cllr Speight at Council on 25/02/2015</p>	<p>Cllr J. Kent</p>	<p>A full response to the petitioner is currently being prepared. In 2014/15 none of the 9 libraries will close and the council is working to minimise cuts to library services. No library will be run solely by volunteers and the valuable contribution of trained staff is acknowledged. The mobile library service is due to be replaced by the Home Link service which will enable books and other items to be delivered to residents homes. The local Authority continues to be committed to ensuring a service is provided to our most vulnerable and isolated residents by expanding the Home Link service.</p>
456	<p>This is a Petition from the residents of Manor Road, Grays, RM17 6EF to state that we would like our road to be a resident parking only with Aid of Permits for all residents and also with Visitor Permits.</p>	<p>09/03/2015 Submitted online by a resident.</p>	<p>Cllr Gerrish</p>	<p>This matter is being investigated to assess feasibility.</p>

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