

## Northfleet Area Forum

1 June 2006

7:30pm

### Present:

Councillors: Valerie Ashenden  
R Bowman  
E A Brook  
J P Burden  
Jean Christie  
K Jones  
C Meredith  
R J E Parker  
R J R Target  
D H W Turner

**Note:** Councillor M V Snelling was also in attendance.

Mrs S A Whatmough, Head of Democratic Services  
Mr C Woodley, Head of Policy and Partnerships  
Mr N C Channon, Democratic Services Officer

### Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J J Loughlin JP, H Smith and N J S Thandi.

#### 1. Appointment of Chair

It was moved, seconded and resolved that Councillor R J E Parker be appointed Chair of the Forum for the ensuing municipal year.

#### 2. Appointment of Vice-Chair

It was moved, seconded and resolved that Councillor Valerie Ashenden be appointed Vice-Chair of the Forum for the ensuing municipal year.

#### 3. Neighbourhood Arrangements for Northfleet

The Forum was reminded that the Council, at its annual meeting, had established the Northfleet Area Forum, had approved its terms of reference and membership and had appointed the ex-officio members.

The Forum had been asked to consider:-

- The mechanism for appointing up to ten co-opted members;
- A work programme;
- A timetable of meetings.

It was suggested that co-optees be sought from the following sectors of the community.

Business Community	2 persons
Faith Community	2 persons
Youth Council	1 person
Senior Citizen Group	1 person
Existing Northfleet North Forum	1 person
Residents Association	1 person

It was agreed that the Council be recommended to appoint Mr Brian Kilcullen, former Chairman and a current Director of Gravesend & Northfleet Football Club as one of the co-opted representatives of the business community.

Prospective co-optees would be requested to provide a short biography to the Council.

Persons co-opted to the Forum would need to abide by the Code of Conduct in the same way that elected Councillors do. The term of appointment would be for the municipal year.

In respect of the work programme it was suggested that the Forum look at the following issues:-

- The Northfleet Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan (of which a copy would be circulated to Members on the Forum);
- Community Safety Issues in Northfleet;
- Active Citizenship and Community Empowerment.

The Head of Policy and Partnership stated that the Forum would need to have adequate resources to ensure that the work programme was sustainable.

A timetable for future meetings of the Forum would need to be drawn up.

It was anticipated that Forum meetings would be held in Northfleet. Advance publicity would need to be given to encourage the public to attend meetings.

It was hoped that meetings would be held in July, September, December 2006 and February 2007.

With regard to the inclusion of Istead Rise in the Forum it was noted that the Ward Councillors had convened a consultation meeting with residents. The meeting was scheduled to take place on 8 June. Residents would be made aware of the meeting through the local newsletter IRIS.

#### **Recommended to Council that:-**

- (1) there be two co-optees from the Business Community, two from the Faith Community, one from the Youth Council, one from Senior Citizen Organisations, one from the Northfleet North Forum Area and one from Residents' Associations; and**
- (2) Mr Brian Kilcullen of Gravesend & Northfleet Football Club be appointed as one of the co-optees from the Business Community.**

**Resolved** that:-

- (1) the Head of Policy and Partnership in consultation with the Chair draw up a set of guidelines and a "job description" for prospective co-opted members;
- (2) the workplan for the Forum be:-
  - overseeing the Northfleet Neighbourhood Renewal Action Plan;
  - encouraging resident participation in addressing Community Safety Issues in Northfleet; and
  - the development of a project to promote Active Citizenship and Community Empowerment.
- (3) the next meeting of the Forum be held in July on a date to be determined by the Chair in consultation with the Head of Democratic Services and further meetings be held in September and December 2006 and February 2007 at locations within the Northfleet area.

**Note:** Councillor M V Snelling spoke with leave of the Chair on this item.

**Close of Meeting**

The meeting ended at 9:06pm.