

Minutes 18th May 2017
Annual Meeting of Elmstead Parish Council
Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET

Present: Councillors P Beard (Chairman), N Bell, R Fairweather, B Kavanagh, M Kirby, J Routledge, J Snowden, J Triscott and M Ward
Also Present: County Councillor Carlo Guglielmi, District Councillors Fred Nicholls and Rosemary Heaney, Catherine Bicknell (Head of TDC planning), Mrs Baxter (Clerk) and 7 members of the public.

The meeting was opened at 7.45 following a refreshments break after the Annual Parish Meeting.

- 17/092 Election of Chairman 2017-18**
It was resolved that Cllr Beard will continue to be chairman for the forthcoming year.
Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Triscott, all in favour.
- 17/093 To receive the Chairman's declaration of acceptance of office**
Cllr Beard signed the Chairman's declaration of office.
- 17/094 Election of Vice-Chairman**
It was resolved that Cllr Routledge will continue to be vice-chairman for the forthcoming year.
Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Triscott, all in favour
- 17/095 Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Anne Smith sent her apologies.
- 17/096 Declaration of Pecuniary Interests and Non Pecuniary Interests**
None
- 17/097 Approval and signing of the minutes from 20th April 2017.**
It was resolved to accept the minutes from 20th April 2017 as true and accurate.
Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Bell, all in favour.
- 17/098 To receive an update about the progress of resolutions from the last meeting of the Council on 20th April 2017.**
The clerk made a verbal update. Regarding the TDC Local Plan Meeting at the Community Centre Cllr Routledge provided the following update: TDC have not decided about their marketing yet but will not be doing the leaflet delivery they did for the last exhibition. The 4th July date is subject to change. Mrs Bicknell informed the council that TDC can't say for definite that the TDC local plan is agreed until after the planning meeting on 12th June. If it is a positive decision the event will proceed. TDC will not do a leaflet drop for marketing the events, they will use press releases and contact people on their distribution lists.
Cllr Beard updated the public that a local business, Lanswood Park, has kindly offered to provide a defibrillator for the use of the village.
- 17/099 Election of Officers, Committee Members and Working Party Members**
See appendix 1. To discuss whether to add a grants officer as a new item under "Roles and Responsibilities".
Cllr Beard proposed that a grants officer role be created. Cllr Ward volunteered for the role.
It was resolved to accept the revisions and additions to appendix 1 for the current year.
Proposed: Cllr Ward, Seconded: Cllr Kavanagh, all in favour.
- 17/100 Public Speaking**
None

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17/101 County Councillor report

See attached

Cllr Beard congratulated Cllr Guglielmi on his election success.

Cllr Guglielmi also reported: He is awaiting a reply from Adam Garland (Essex Highways) regarding the feasibility of putting in a footpath along Tye Road to serve the development of 32 houses by Hills Development Group. He needs to establish the land ownership of the road verges so it will take about a month.

Cllr Guglielmi introduced Cath Bicknell, head of planning at TDC. He invited Mrs Bicknell to talk to the PC about the Border Garden Community (item 17/103).

17/102 District Councillor reports

Cllr Nicholls: TDC has a five year supply of housing.

A resident has called about the double yellow lines in Old School Lane. They have been painted in but they stop 50 yards short of the junction. They should have continued to the junction with Bromley Road. Cllr Guglielmi asked that photos be sent to him and he will follow up.

Cllr Heaney: Has received a call from a resident who is angry about Elmstead Playing Field not being open all day. She told him to contact the PC and Cllr Beard stated that we will deal with it.

17/103 Planning – Tendring/Colchester Borders Garden Community

Following on from the April 20th PC meeting, to discuss the concerns the PC has and any action to follow.

Cllr Guglielmi commented on the Garden Community workshop, saying that it was a missed opportunity to provide important information. What was presented at the workshop is not the final plan.

Cllr Heaney: Told the consultants that the Tye Road development had been approved and they said they would shift the border.

Cllr Beard spoke about the narrow green gap and made a plea that Elmstead is to be protected as a village. People spoke of their concerns; that they want to live in a village and see it retain its character and they would like to keep the community, that the number of houses has increased to 9,000 and that the road connecting the A133 to the A120 has moved towards Elmstead.

Mrs Bicknell said that beyond the green gap buffering Elmstead there would be a managed open space which is not to be built on and asked what we'd like to see on that amenity space. A country park/wildlife area was suggested. Mrs Bicknell also said that the connecting road could be a good barrier to development spreading further towards Elmstead, it provides a hard edge to development.

Mrs Bicknell suggested that the PC writes a letter to her to tell her our concerns and ideas and also to say how we would like to be consulted in future.

It was resolved that the PC will write a letter to Mrs Bicknell. Cllrs Bell and Routledge will draft the letter.

Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded Cllr Kavanagh, all in favour

Cllr Guglielmi added that the Garden Community will be tailor built for the community with 4 Primary Schools, 1 Secondary School and leisure and health facilities. It will not impact on Elmstead's infrastructure.

Cllr Beard thanked Mrs Bicknell for coming to the meeting.

17/104 Planning Appeals – To decide comments to send to the Planning Inspectorate

APP/P1560/W/7/3169150 Mr J Hills, Land adjacent Market Field School, School Road Elmstead. Outline application for the erection of 62 dwellings, associated garaging, parking and infrastructure. Deadline for representations 25th May 2017.

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Mrs Bicknell informed us that TDC now has its 5 year housing supply plan and this has been calculated using a conservative methodology so should stand up to challenge. The planning inspector does not therefore have to assume in favour of development. It was resolved to submit our previous objections to the Planning Inspectorate and include the information regarding the 5 year land supply.
Proposed: Cllr Beard, seconded: Cllr Routledge, all in favour.

17/105 Planning Applications – To decide comments to return to TDC planning

17/00586/FUL: The Willows, Elmstead Market Essex CO7 7DB. Variation of condition 2 of 13/00098/FUL (allowed at appeal 13/00061/REFUSE) to replace the touring caravan with a static caravan. Deadline for comments 22nd May 2017.
It was discussed that the residents have already replaced the touring caravan with a static caravan, contravening the planning conditions of the site. The static caravan has been situated very close to the neighbour's house. The site is too small for two families and their vehicles. The appeal conditions should be kept.
It was resolved to object to the application for the above reasons.
Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Routledge, all in favour.

Planning Determinations For information only:

17/00542/TPO: 51A Church Road Elmstead Colchester Essex CO7 7AW. 1 No. Cedar - De wooded. Remove badly pruned lower limbs. Slightly reduce some lateral limbs.
Approval - Full

17/106 Planning Application – Minerals and Waste Request for Scoping Opinion

*ESS/28/17/TEN/SPO: Wivenhoe Quarry, Colchester, Essex
EIA Scoping Request: Extraction of 4.6 million tonnes of sand and gravel as an eastern extension to the existing Wivenhoe Quarry, together with relocation of the existing primary processing plant, recycling operations and ancillary facilities, a proposed new vehicular access onto the B1027 Brightlingsea Road, totalling a 65 hectare area with restoration to EITHER agriculture or low-level water-based nature conservation habitats, woodland planting and hedgerow enhancement, including the importation of approximately 930,000m³ of inert waste.
Deadline for comments 22nd May.*

Mrs Bicknell explained that Tarmac will need to do an environmental impact assessment and before they do they can ask ECC what issues should be in the report – the scoping opinion. The application will then follow accompanied by the report. We can ask that they consider who we are concerned about, what the impacts on them are and what will create them?

The concerns discussed, particularly in relation to the owners of Rosedene which borders the site, were the proposed new access to the site from the B1027 Brightlingsea Road and the fact that Tarmac are moving their whole plant straight onto site 2 behind their house. They are worried about noise, dust, vibration and pollution. It was resolved to respond to the Request for Scoping Opinion to repeat our concerns in our previous submission. Cllr Routledge will draft a document.
Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded, Cllr Ward, all in favour.

17/107 Finance

To look through the finance report and approve the payments for May. See appendix 2.
It was resolved to accept the finance report and approve the payments for May.
Proposed: Cllr Bell, Seconded: Cllr Fairweather, all in favour

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17/108 Finance Committee Meeting Report

To receive the following statement as reviewed by the Finance Committee Meeting 27th April 2017:

- i) Fourth Quarter Expenditure (Comparison of Actual full year income and expenditure versus budget for 2017/18). This also shows the end of 16/17 - beginning of 17/18 reserves.*

The statement was received by the Parish Council. If anyone has any questions they are to contact the clerk.

17/109 Internal Audit Report and Annual Governance Statement

- i) To receive Jan Stobart's internal audit report and discuss any questions.*

This was received.

- ii) To approve the Annual Governance Statement (Annual Return Section 1).*

It was resolved to approve the above. There were no questions.

Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Routledge, all in favour.

17/110 Annual Return

- i) To consider and approve Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2016/17.*

It was resolved to approve the above.

Proposed: Cllr Bell, Seconded: Cllr Routledge, all in favour.

- ii) Signing of the Accounting Statements by the Chairman.*

Cllr Beard to sign.

17/111 Elmstead Market Playing Field

- i) Market Field School have requested permission for an event to be held on the playing field on the 20th May by the Multi Schools Council.*

It was resolved to give permission for this event.

Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Kavanagh, all in favour.

- ii) Wivenhoe U12s have requested permission to use the field for football training on Saturday mornings between 9-10.30am.*

It was discussed that several members are from Elmstead.

It was resolved to give permission for the use of the field with no cost.

Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Bell, all in favour.

- iii) Any update from the working party for the event to be held on the field this summer by Eranox events?*

No update.

17/112 Village Plan

2018 May Fair and/or Carnival – to discuss first steps. Appoint a working party or subcommittee?

Cllr Snowden: We can have a Mayfair and a Carnival. We can look at having queens and princesses, maypole dancing (asking Mr Gooch if we can use the village green) and having a procession with tractors and trailers. Cllr Snowden will look into insurance.

It was discussed that as the intention is that these events will be annual a subcommittee is more appropriate than a working party.

It was resolved that a subcommittee be created with the following members: Cllrs Snowden, Triscott and Ward. The subcommittee is to look for non PC members – this is to be advertised in Upmarket.

Proposed: Cllr Beard, Seconded: Cllr Kavanagh, all in favour.

17/113 Village Image

Cllr Kavanagh to make a proposal for improvements to the appearance of North Green. See attached.

It was agreed to explore the options discussed as follows:

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BT box – ask BT if they can remove it or replace it with an old style red one. Also we believe they should be cleaning it.

Salt bin – check with the handyman regarding moving the salt bin onto a concrete pad behind the bus shelter. (With respect to mowing the green)

Litter bin – ask TDC about moving the litter bin next to the bus stop.

The number and location of the noticeboards was discussed, with the suggestion that the PC noticeboard be moved, however the PC has previously agreed to a Parish Church noticeboard on the south west corner of north green so to discuss all options the PC would have to resolve to reverse this previous resolution.

The bench west of the bus shelter – this could be cleaned, replaced or removed.

It was also noted that the PC would need to get permission for changes to the North Green from Mr Gooch.

17/114 PC Meetings

To discuss refreshments, heating and if the length of the meetings requires other arrangements.

As the meetings are getting longer different options were discussed to help: 2 meetings a month, a separate planning committee, start the meetings earlier.

Having refreshments was also discussed with different timing options.

It was resolved to change the start time of the PC meetings to 7pm and to have a short refreshment break at 8pm.

Proposed: Cllr Kirby, all in favour.

17/115 Communications *Items of interest for inclusion in our July Upmarket report in addition to Cllr Routledge's report.*

Cllr Kavanagh would like to include a thank you to the businesses who listened to complaints/request and dealt with the problems: FV conservatories, Little Green Self Storage, Betta Aquatics and KMC management. Also to Lanswood for providing a defibrillator for the village and making councillors very welcome with a tour of their business park.

17/116 Items for next agenda or for information only

Cllr Routledge gave an apology for the next two meetings as she will be away.

Cllr Kavanagh would like to discuss road safety.

17/117 Exclusion of press and public

To resolve that pursuant to S.1 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the meeting be closed to the public and press for the following items of business.

17/118 Personnel Committee:

- i) Clerk's salary - the Personnel Committee are to make a recommendation following a salary review.*

It was resolved to accept the Personnel Committee's recommendation.

- ii) To report on the annual appraisal system.*

Held over due to the lateness of the meeting.

There being no further public business councillors were thanked for their attendance.

The meeting closed at pm.

Date of next Parish Meeting: Thursday 15th June 2017

To be held in the Community Centre, School Road, Elmstead

Minuted by Mrs. A Baxter

18th May 2017

Contact: elmsteadparish@gmail.com

01206 827139

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Appendix 1 (highlighted councillors have since left the PC)

Officers (Roles and Responsibilities) 2016/17 2017/18

TDALC	Cllr. Nick Bell	Cllr. Nick Bell
Community Centre	Cllr. Stan Beecham	Cllr. Jane Triscott
Public Transport	Cllr. Jean Routledge	Cllr. Jean Routledge
Road Safety	Cllr Nick Bell Cllr Stan Beecham	Cllr Nick Bell Cllr Bob Kavanagh
Dene Park	Cllr. Nick Bell Cllr. Ron Fairweather Cllr. Paul Beard	Cllr. Nick Bell Cllr. Ron Fairweather Cllr. Paul Beard
Parish Paths	Cllr. Jean Routledge Cllr. Nick Bell Cllr. Rob Redding	Cllr. Jean Routledge Cllr. Nick Bell Cllr. Bob Kavanagh
Flag Officer	Mrs. Cathy Brock (Principle) Cllr. Nick Bell (Standby) Cllr. Martine Ward (Standby)	Mrs. Cathy Brock (Principle) Cllr. Nick Bell (Standby) Cllr. Martine Ward (Standby)
Health and Safety	Cllr. Stan Beecham Cllr. Ron Fairweather Mr. Alan Dingwall	Cllr. Ron Fairweather Mr. Alan Dingwall
Village Schools	Cllr. Mike Kirby	Cllr. Mike Kirby
Communications	Cllr. Paul Beard	To remove

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Working Parties:

Bluegates Solar Donation Working Party

Chair	Cllr. Routledge	Cllr. Routledge
Member	Cllr. Kirby	Cllr. Kirby
Member	Cllr. Bell	Cllr. Bell
Member		
Member		

Elmstead Playing Field – Eranox Events Summer Fair – working party

Chair		
Member		Cllr Ward
Member		Cllr Fairweather
Member		Cllr Snowden
Member		

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Appendix 2

Elmstead Parish Council Finance Report

Closing Balances to 30th April 2017 are:

Current Account to 30 th April 2017	£36,916.38
Total April Expenses unpaid at 30 th April	£1,979.53
Total of expenses below (May payments - request for approval)	£189.66
Balance in current account after May expenses	£34,747.19
Deposit Account to Bank Statement Ref 153	£27,714.65
Active Saver Account (Bluegates Donation)	£10,057.39
Estimated Overall Closing Balance - Current and Deposit	£72,519.23

Income Details for April 2017:

Parish Precept	£14,898.00
LCTSS Grant	£1,103.00
Total income for April 2017	£ 16,001.00

Approval is requested for the following payments:

Elmstead Community Centre – hall hire April x 2	£32.00
Mr A Dingwall – petrol for strimmer	£6.59
Mrs A. Baxter – office supplies (file dividers, envelopes, copy paper, printer ink, files, wipes, rubber bands, clips and pins assortment)	£125.87
Cllr Beard – copies of keys for Elmstead Playing Field	£25.20
Total Cheques	£189.66

Report prepared by A Baxter – Clerk & RFO

15th May 2017

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ECC Report May 2017

Conservatives retain control of Essex County Council

The Conservative Party has retained political power at Essex County Council with an increased majority following the County Election last Thursday 4th May..

The political makeup of the council is as follows:

- Conservatives – 56 seats
- Liberal Democrats – 7 seats
- Labour – 6 seats
- Independent – 2 seats
- Canvey Island Independent Party – 2 seats
- Independent Loughton Residents Association – 1 seat
- Green – 1 seat

That means the Conservatives have an increased majority of 37 seats.

Leader of Essex County Council, Cllr David Finch, said: “I am delighted to have been given a mandate from the people of Essex to continue to carry on our work to make the county the best place to live and work, where our most vulnerable people are protected as well as given the chance to live independent lives.

“I am also looking forward to continuing to work in our new organisation as we restructure and change our culture in order to meet the challenges and opportunities we will face over the coming months.”

To see results for all 75 seats in 70 divisions go to our special election results page at www.essex.gov.uk/elections

The results in our Division of Tendring Rural West are as follow:

[Carlo Guglielmi - Elected](#)

[Conservative Party \(2668 votes / 59.50%\)](#)

[Rain Welham-Cobb-----Liberal Democrats \(536 votes / 11.95%\)](#)

[Duncan Gordon-----Green Party \(340 votes / 7.58%\)](#)

[Mary Newton-----UK Independence Party \(UKIP\) \(388 votes / 8.65%\)](#)

[Maison Urwin-----Labour Party \(552 votes / 12.31%\)](#)

Swing

Conservative Party	from 37.86%	to 59.5%	+21.64%
Labour Party	from .0%	to 12.31%	+12.31% (Not contested 2013)
Liberal Democrats	from 18.19%	to 11.95%	-6.24%
UKIP	from 28.51%	to 8.65%	-19.86%
Green Party	from 8.57%	to 7.58%	-0.99%
Tendring First	from 3.67%	to 0%	-3.67%

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New Cabinet members eager to meet the challenges ahead

A new Cabinet which will strive to “deliver lean, efficient and effective public services” was introduced at Essex County Council’s first Full Council today.

Announcing the reshuffled Cabinet, which includes four new faces, Council leader David Finch said that the team he has selected will bring knowledge and experience to continue the hard work and good results of the Council, and they are very eager to meet the challenges ahead.

Local government finances are under pressure, and by 2020 this Council will no longer receive any central government funding.

The Conservative Administration has been preparing for this and, over the last seven years, it made savings of £597 million, and will save a further £106 million by the end of 2017/18.

In his speech to the Council Chamber of 75 members – 29 newly elected at the 4 May poll – he pledged to focus on four priorities:

- enable inclusive growth;
- help people to get the best start in life and age well;
- help create great places to live and work and;
- transform the council to achieve more with less.

Cllr Kevin Bentley will continue to support Cllr Finch as Deputy Leader and as portfolio holder for **Economic Growth, Skills, Infrastructure and the Digital Economy**. Kevin will continue to champion inclusive economic growth and secure infrastructure investment in the County.

Cllr Dick Madden will remain responsible for **Children and Families**.

Cllr John Spence – having done a superb job in finance will now take on **Health and Adult Social Care** and will bring his wealth of experience and specialist skills to these challenging portfolios.

Cllr Ray Gooding will continue his responsibilities for **Education**.

Cllr Simon Walsh will continue in his role as **Environment and Waste** portfolio holder.

Cllr Louise McKinlay (NEW APPOINTMENT) is to lead the new **Resources** portfolio, which includes the Council’s financial management. Louise brings significant leadership experience and business acumen to the role.

Cllr Susan Barker (NEW APPOINTMENT) will be responsible for the **Culture, Communities and Customer** portfolio.

Cllr Sue Lissimore (NEW APPOINTMENT) will lead the **Housing, Planning and Property** portfolio, working with partners across Essex to bring forward sustainable development that provides new communities where people can live, work and play.

Finally **Cllr Ian Grundy** (NEW APPOINTMENT) will be responsible for **Highways**. Ian brings a wealth of experience to the Cabinet, which will be required for this challenging portfolio.

Electricals recycling shortlisted for national award

An innovative Essex scheme to repair, recycle and reuse small waste electrical items has been shortlisted for a prestigious national award.

The scheme, which launched last year, has collected around 6,000 small electrical items.

Nearly three tonnes of the appliances collected were passed on to new owners and a further eight tonnes safely and properly recycled.

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Now it has been shortlisted in the Local Authority Innovation category of this year's National Recycling Awards.

The scheme created convenient drop-off points at local libraries where residents could safely leave waste electrical and electronic equipment. Working and repairable items were collected by Wivenhoe Repair Reuse Recycle CIC and later sold to low income families while broken items beyond repair were taken for recycling.

This scheme has also meant that ECC has worked closely with partners in city, borough and district councils and local reuse organisations, and this initiative could provide a blueprint for future collaborations which will help reduce waste and improve recycling rates in Essex.

The winners of the awards will be announced at a gala award presentation taking place in London on 28 June.

The small electrical bins are still in place and small appliances including mobile phones, toasters, irons, radios and all leads, cables and chargers can be dropped off. Any electrical item small enough to fit in a carrier bag can be recycled by leaving them at one of these drop-off points.

To find the nearest small electrical recycling bin visit www.recycleforessex.com

Busy winter for Gritney Spears, Alexander the Grit and other Essex gritters

Gritters have salted more than 100,000 miles of roads to help keep Essex moving during a busy winter.

The figures were released this week as winter officially ended for Essex Highways' hard-working gritter crews.

Drivers were called out 55 times this year (47 last year), with more runs needed further west than in the southern "Thames" area.

Up to 62 gritting lorries go out for each separate countywide salting operation, spreading some 14,554 tonnes (13,400 last year) over the 2,000 miles of Essex's priority roads during the winter.

Essex County Council wishes to pay tribute to all the hard-working gritter crews who were on-call throughout the winter months, with many having to suspend New Year's celebrations and hold off on enjoying leftovers on Boxing Day to help keep Essex moving.

After a busy festive period, Essex had a period of intense cold in January into February so we had to grit the roads every night from 12-26 January.

In the meantime, Gritney Spears, Alexander the Grit, (so nicknamed by crew members) and all other gritters will now be parked up for the summer; but some will re-deployed to help fix potholes, install streetlights and improve our highways for Essex residents.

The Highways winter team uses accurate localised weather forecasting, relying on nine weather stations and many roadside sensors, to decide when and where to salt the highways and how much to spread. Road surface temperatures can vary significantly from air temperature.

The gritting crews are back on-call again from Monday, 23 October 2017.

Useful and interesting info:

- Essex County Council stockpiles 15,500 tonnes of salt for winter.
- One gritting run by all our trucks uses 200 tonnes of salt.
- There is a total of 62 gritting lorries, most of which can be fitted with snowploughs if required.
- Essex is divided into five weather zones as temperatures sometimes vary considerably.
- Morning gritting usually starts at 3am.
- Gritters are sent out when road surface temperature is forecast to get down to 1 degree centigrade or less.

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- The primary gritting network in Essex covers 40 percent of the entire road network which takes 70 percent of traffic.
- Last year pupils at Westlands Community Primary School joined Gritney Spears to help record an educational cover song about the work of Essex gritter crews.

Clacton cancer survivor helps launch ‘Know the Signs’ campaign

A cancer survivor from Clacton is appealing to her local community to be aware of the signs and symptoms of lung cancer, following her diagnosis 8 years ago.

Jackie, 70 of Legerton Road, Clacton is teaming up with the Essex County Council Public Health team to raise awareness of lung cancer and to show local Jaywick residents that with early detection a cancer diagnosis can have a positive outcome.

In late 2016 Cancer UK released data to Green Elms Medical Centre in Jaywick which showed that the Jaywick area had a considerably higher rate of suspected lung cancer than England as a whole.

This meant that Green Elms Medical Centre had 4 more cases of suspected lung cancer per 1,000 compared to the England average.

Staff at the medical centre were also concerned that patients were presenting late for lung cancer, meaning that they were not being diagnosed until their cancer was advanced where the treatment options are limited and survival rate is lower.

In response, the Essex County Council Public Health Team has teamed up with the medical centre and local cancer survivors like Jackie, to launch the ‘Know the Signs’ campaign in Jaywick today.

The campaign aims to educate local people on the signs and symptoms of lung cancer and encourage them to see their GP if they believe they have any of the key symptoms which include:

- Having a cough most of the time (And more than 3 weeks)
- A change in a cough you have had for a long time
- Being short of breath
- Coughing up phlegm with signs of blood in it
- An ache or pain in the chest or shoulder
- Loss of appetite
- Tiredness
- Losing weight

Mike Gogarty, Director of Wellbeing, Public Health & Communities said: “This campaign aims to show the positive side of early detection and that if you are diagnosed at an early stage like Jackie was, that the chance of survival is much greater. It is hoped that this more positive approach will encourage those that may be too worried or frightened, to come forward and book an appointment with their GP.”

Jackie has now been cancer free for 3 years and believes that this, in part, is down to the fact that her cancer was detected early and at a stage where surgery and consequent treatment stopped it from spreading.

“I was diagnosed with lung cancer 8 years ago and it all started with pneumonia. After the pneumonia I wasn’t getting any better, I still had a cough, was losing weight rapidly and felt very lethargic and just not myself. I went back to the GP who sent me for an X-ray which showed a tumour on my lung and I was diagnosed with lung cancer.

“It wasn’t long after diagnosis that I had surgery to remove the tumour and while in surgery they found another tumour behind it so they removed that too.”

“Following the surgery it took a long time to recover and I was taking daily tablets and was going back for x-rays every 6 months. I now go yearly for an x-ray and have been cancer free for 3 years.”

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Jackie added: “I’m working with the Public Health team to share my story to help others and get cancer diagnosed early. I am a very positive person and tried to keep positive throughout, and I consider myself lucky that the cancer was found at an early stage otherwise I may not be here now. I want to show others that even if you are diagnosed with lung cancer there are lots of survivors out there, just like me.

“So I would urge anyone, if you have got any signs or symptoms, have got a persistent cough, or you are losing weight or feeling lethargic, just go round and check with your GP, it might be that you only need some cough mixture or it could be that you have got cancer, but either way, the quicker you go to your GP the quicker you can get it sorted.”

More information on the ‘Know the Signs’ campaign can be found at www.essex.gov.uk/jaywickKTS and follow #jaywickKTS on twitter.

Lower Thames Crossing decision welcomed as “big step forward”

The Government’s decision to back a crossing at Location C and Route Option 3 for the Lower Thames Crossing has been welcomed by Essex County Council as a ‘big step forward to ending costly traffic queues’.

Highways England consulted on plans to create a new Thames Crossing in March last year (2016) with an unprecedented 47,000 responses.

Two weeks ago the Government announced it would be going ahead with Location C Route Option 3 linking the A2 in Kent and the M25 in Essex between junctions 29 and 30.

The route offers the opportunity to create more than 6,000 jobs and boost the economy by more than £8 billion.

As part of the plans they have also announced investing a £66 million to widen the A13 Stanford-le-Hope bypass from two to three lanes.

This announcement will transform Essex’s transport infrastructure. A new Thames Crossing is vital to help continue to promote economic growth within the county and keep Essex moving.

ECC is also very pleased to hear the additional announcement on widening of the A13 to support increased economic activity in south Essex and the pressure this brings about on key infrastructure in the area.

This crossing is a big step forward to ending costly traffic queues that often form around the crossing and can tailback onto our county’s roads.

The Council made its position very clear by supporting of Option C throughout, but it is important to now work together with partners to mitigate the impact of these works.

Planning and development of improvements to other roads and junctions affected by the new crossing including the A12, A127 and M11 will also need to be looked at.

Signature

Date