



Epping Forest  
Youth Council

***Epping Forest Youth Council***  
***Tuesday, 11th September, 2012***

# ***Agenda***

You are invited to attend the next meeting of **Epping Forest Youth Council**, which will be held at:

**Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping**  
**on Tuesday, 11th September, 2012**  
**at 7.00 pm .**

**Derek Macnab**  
**Acting Chief Executive**

**Democratic Services  
Officer**

R Perrin - Office of the Chief Executive  
Email: [democraticservices@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:democraticservices@eppingforestdc.gov.uk) Tel:  
01992 564532

**Members:**

Youth Councillors M Albert, V Armitage, C Barry, S Cascarina, S Cockram, J Collins, E Dolan, E Foster, E Gokmen, J McIvor, N Miller, I Padwick, G Perry, H Qadri, C Sander, I Sheikh, O Tinker, B Valera and A Williams

**Youth Councillors are reminded of the need to contact Diane Butler if they are unable to attend a meeting**

**1. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING**

At the last meeting it was agreed that Stacey would chair this meeting. Imogen would be Vice-Chairman.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**3. MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)**

To confirm the minutes of the last meeting of the Youth Council are correct.

**4. LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION**

Sarah Kirk and Jennifer Cordell will make a short presentation on the Local Plan.

**5. CONSULTATION ON DOG CONTROL ORDER (Pages 9 - 20)**

The documents attached for the Dog Control Order outline the consultation, which will run from 2 August 2012 to 2 October 2012. All responses can be either filled out online following the email address below or hand written and sent to Diane.

[www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/component/eventlist/details/3454-dog-control-orders-consultation](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk/index.php/component/eventlist/details/3454-dog-control-orders-consultation)

**6. YOUTH STRATEGY GROUP**

Diane to report.

**7. TRANSPORT SURVEY**

Jaymey and Aaron to report.

**8. MYSTERY SHOPPING UPDATE**

Ella, Carina, Sam to report.

**9. FACEBOOK AND TWITTER UPDATE**

Aaron to report.

**10. SUGGESTION BOXES**

Members to update on their school suggestion boxes.

**11. NEWSLETTER AND PUBLICITY**

Diane to report.

**12. NEW SUBMISSION FORMS RECEIVED**

To considered any new submission forms.

**13. YOUTH COUNCIL CUP AWARD**

Diane to award the Youth Council Cup Award.

**14. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- (i) To agree a Imogen as Chairman for the next meeting; and
- (ii) Members to raise items of business for consideration at the next meeting.

**15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- (a) Notices by Diane & Simon;

**16. DATE(S) FOR NEXT MEETING(S)**

To note that the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 9 October 2012 at 19.00 – 21.00 Civic Offices.

This page is intentionally left blank



Epping Forest  
Youth Council

## MINUTES

<b>Committee:</b>	Epping Forest Youth Council	<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday, 3 July 2012
<b>Place:</b>	Council Chamber, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping	<b>Time:</b>	7.00 - 8.55 pm
<b>Members Present:</b>	M Albert, S Cascarina, J Collins, E Dolan, G Perry, H Qadri, C Sander, I Sheikh, O Tinker, B Valera and A Williams		
<b>Apologies:</b>	V Armitage, C Barry, S Cockram, E Foster, J McIvor, N Miller, I Padwick and E Yamah		
<b>Officers Present:</b>	D Butler (Young Persons Officer), L Eales (Youth Council Administrator), S G Hill (Senior Democratic Services Officer), R Perrin (Democratic Services Assistant) and G Wallis (Community Development Officer)		
<b>Guest Present</b>	Mark Glenister (ECC)		

---

### 23. CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR THE MEETING

Noted that Grace would be Chairman for the meeting and Aaron was Vice-Chairman.

### 24. MINUTES

#### RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 June 2012 were a correct record.

### 25. EDWARD YAMAH

Grace advised Members that Edward Yamah had resigned from the Youth Council because of his Sporting commitments, which would impact on the amount of time he could offer the Youth Council.

Members wished him well in his sporting career, where he hoped to represent Great Britain at a future Olympics.

### 26. ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL PASSENGER TRANSPORT CENTRE - MARK GLENISTER

Mark Glenister gave a short presentation on his role as an Essex County Council Officer for Passenger Transport. He maintained contracts with bus and taxi companies, transporting a variety of residents around the County. He understood that Members had encountered problems with the public transport, school buses and behaviour of pupils on the buses and wanted to discuss their issues and concerns.

Members reported the various problems they encountered with public transport and felt that they were unfairly treated because of the minority of badly behaved young

people. Concerns ranged from buses not stopping to pick up passengers, not stopping when required at bus stops, to poor behaviour and verbal communication between the drivers and passengers.

Mark advised that complains for commercial services should be made direct to the companies through their complaints procedures, although he could provide contact details for these companies if Members requested. If the services were provided by the County Council then incidents should be reported to himself and the traffic commissioner.

**AGREED** that members with concerns should contact Mark through Diane for the complaints procedures.

## **27. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

Diane advised that she had collated the aims and objectives from Members election statements and grouped them together to create five main aims for Members to agree for their term of office. She would circulate a copy for comment to Members.

**AGREED** that Diane would circulate the aims and objectives for comment and Members would email comments back for the next meeting.

## **28. BRITISH YOUTH COUNCIL NATIONAL AWARDS**

Annie and Scarlet 2010/12 Youth Councillor came back to advise that the Youth Council had won the BYC National Award for a Youth Lead project, which included the production of the safety DVD and safety cards.

Diane advised that the BYC National Awards logo could now be used for a year alongside the EFYC logo. She congratulated previous Members and would like the current Members to promote the award.

## **29. TWITTER - ACCESS AND GROUND RULES**

Simon asked Members to consider ground rules for the use of Twitter for the EFYC Twitter page.

**AGREED** that the following rules would be circulated for approval;

1. Using proper English;
2. No inappropriate content using the Grandparents rule (i.e. would you let your grandparents see it?);
3. Tweets should be about the Youth Council, their activities or related issues;
4. We are all going to put our initials at the end of the tweet so we know who's tweeted;
5. If we mention people in our tweets we will try to link them;
6. We will agree who will tweet updates;
7. We will remember that photos of people may need their consent; and

8. We will report any abuse or concerns about people connecting with us to a responsible adult.

**30. CABINET FORWARD PLAN**

Simon advised Members that the Council produces a Forward Plan, which notifies the public of future business that the Council will be considering for the next four months, which was updated each month. EFYC Members would be advised of any business that may affect young people, so that they could be consulted and make comments.

**ACTION:** Officers would consult the Forward Plan each month and notify Members if they felt it may affect young people.

**31. NEW SUBMISSION FORMS RECEIVED**

a) Forward Planning

To discuss the progress with the Local Plan, Issues & Options document, including policies that would influence and control development in the District up until 2033.

**AGREED** that the Forward Planning team were invited to the next meeting

**32. BUSINESS FOR NEXT MEETING**

(i) Chairman for the next meeting would be Stacey.

(ii) Business for consideration at the next meeting;

- Consider inviting Epping Town Council to a future meeting to discuss the Skate Park Idea in October 2012.

**ACTION:** Diane/Hamzah to invite Epping Town Council to the meeting in October 2012.

- Transport for London – To invite TfL to a future meeting.

**AGREED** that TfL should be invited once Members had completed the Youth Project Awards in October 2012.

**33. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Olivia enquired whether the notice board information should be displayed before the end of term or in September 2012.

**AGREED** that in consultation with the School, Members should decide on the best time to display the information.

Edward asked whether the information could be displayed on the school IT news board, which he edited. He thought that this would notify pupils of the work the Youth Council were doing more effectively.

Evie advised that she was still awaiting a reply from the local MP Eleanor Laing but would follow the letter up with an email.

**ACTION:** Evie to contact Eleanor Laing.

Diane enquired whether Iffah still wanted the Safer Communities team to attend a future meeting or training session regarding personal safety.

**AGREED** that Safer Communities would be invited to a future meeting.

(a) Notices by Gill/Lucy/Diane;

- **Youth Strategy Board** - Gill advised that the Youth Strategy Board had welcomed the idea of incorporating two Members of the Youth Council onto the Board. The role would be for the whole term of office and would be supported by Gill. Members interested were requested to complete a formal application that Gill or Diane would provide and the deadline would be 13 July 2012.

**AGREED** that Members interested in the post should contact Diane.

- **Pick up times** - Gill asked Members to remind parents about picking Youth Councillors up on time.

- **Staff Shortages** - Gill advised Youth Councillors that Staff shortages were expected shortly but hopefully all trips would remain organised where possible.

- **Olympic Torch** - Diane advised that Members would be working in groups and would rotate around the events. Arrival times would be 7:30 a.m. and pick up would be at 12:30 p.m. Bad weather had been predicted and if this affected the event Youth Councillors would be advised by text.

- **Jack Petchey Award Winners Tash and Carina**

Tash had won for helping out at the Heath works project and the school library. She always gets involved in other community groups and makes a useful contribution to the Youth Council group.

Carina had won for her positive approach and good ideas, working in her school and the community. She is enthusiastic, a good team player, professional and mature at all times.

- **BYC Certificates** – Members were presented with certificates for the completion of 6 training sessions; Understanding Local Youth Councils, Meetings, Representing, Campaigning, Public speaking and Media with the BYC.

- **Evaluation Forms** – Lucy asked that all Members complete the evaluation forms for the BYC training.

Simon informed Members that this meeting would be Becky's last meeting for a while as she would be on Maternity leave.

#### **34. DATE(S) FOR NEXT MEETING(S)**

The next meeting would be held on 11 September 2012 at 19.00 – 21:00, Civic Offices.

**CHAIRMAN**



Date: 31 July 2012

Our Ref: ESS/RG/Dog Control Consultation

Your Ref:

Mr R Gardiner  
(01992) 564089  
email:rgardiner@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

Dear Sir or Madam

## **Epping Forest District Council Dog Control Orders consultation**

Using powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, Epping Forest District Council (EFDC) is proposing to introduce three Dog Control Orders (DCO) making it an offence for a person in charge of a dog to:-

(a) fail to remove dog faeces deposited on any public land within the district.

(b) fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer, on any public land within the district.

(c) fail to limit the number of dogs which a person may take onto public land within the district to four dogs.

Before commencing any further, the Council is consulting on the proposed orders between 2 August 2012 and 2 October 2012. Any responses to the consultation will be reported back to the Council Members before any final decision on the proposed DCO are made.

### **Consultation responses**

Consultation responses to specific questions posed (as detailed in the enclosed consultation document) and any other comments, can be made on the Council's website at [www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk](http://www.eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

We would like to encourage anybody who would like to respond to the consultation to use the on-line facility to help us collate all the responses.

Responses and any requests for information can also be made in writing to Epping Forest District Council, Civic Offices, High Street, Epping, Essex, CM16 4BZ or by email to [contactus@eppingforestdc.gov.uk](mailto:contactus@eppingforestdc.gov.uk)

Further background information on the proposed Epping Forest District Council DCO can also be viewed on Epping Forest District Council's web site.

The EFDC website also provides:

- Copies of the three proposed draft DCO,
- Maps identifying the land where the orders would apply i.e. the whole district,
- Anticipated "Frequently Asked Questions".
- Provision to respond online to the consultation questions,
- Links to additional information.

Copies of documents can also be viewed at and requested from the Council civic offices.

If you would like to discuss the matter, please telephone me on 01992 564089.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R Gardiner".

Mr R Gardiner  
**Environment & Neighbourhoods Manager**

Enclosed:

Consultation document & questions



## Proposed Introduction of Dog Control Orders

Using powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, Epping Forest District Council is proposing to introduce three Dog Control Orders making it an offence to:

- a) Fail to remove dog faeces deposited on any public land within the district.
- b) Fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer, on any public land within the district.
- c) Fail to limit the number of dogs, which a person may take onto public land within the district to four.

Before proceeding any further, the Council is consulting on the proposed Orders. Responses to the consultation will be reported back to District Councillors before a final decision on the proposed Dog Control Orders are made.

### Dog Fouling

In 1998 the Council designated the whole of the district under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, making dog fouling an offence.

The 1996 Act has a number of limitations, most importantly, there is an exclusion for land used for agriculture or for woodland, including all land in the ownership of the Corporation of London. The proposed dog fouling Dog Control Order would re-designate the whole district, making it an offence for a person to permit a dog in their control to foul and fail to remove faeces immediately, from any public land in the whole of the district, including land owned by the Corporation of London.

1. Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a Dog Control Order to control dog fouling over the whole of the district, making it an offence to fail to pick up dog faeces deposited on any public land?



Yes



No



Don't know

Other, please comment

## Dogs on leads when directed

This Dog Control Order would enable officers effectively to carry out dog fouling enforcement work safely by ensuring that the person responsible for a dog can be required to put and keep their dog(s) on a lead(s). It is envisaged that this Order will rarely be used and will have little impact on dog owners but will aid enforcement where necessary. The Corporation of London officers may also use this power if a dog is found to be out of control on their land.

2. Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a Dog Control Order that allows an authorised officer to request a dog to be put on a lead on any public land?

Yes  No  Don't know

Other, please comment

## Maximum Number of Dogs

The council receives a number of complaints each year about 'professional dog walkers' taking an excessive number of dogs onto recreational land and public areas. Complaints refer to the dogs being out of control, blocking footpaths and fouling without the person responsible being able to pick up the faeces because of the number of dogs in their control.

Based on guidance and experience, the Council is proposing to introduce a Dog Control Order that restricts the number of dogs a person can have in their control on any public land to four.

3. Do you agree with the proposal to introduce a Dog Control Order within the district that restricts the number of dogs a person can have in their control on any public land to four?

Yes  No  Don't know

4. If you answered 'No' to question 3. do you believe that a restriction on the number of dogs a person can have in their control on public land should be imposed at all?

Yes  No  Don't know

5. If you answered 'Yes' to question 4, what is the number of dogs you believe that one person should be restricted to have in their control on public land?

fewer than 4  5  6  7 or more

Other, please comment on the number of dogs that you think is acceptable

## Contact Details

This section is not compulsory but would help us with our survey. The information will not be used for any other purpose.

If you would like to leave your contact details, please tick box

Are you an Epping Forest district....

Resident?

Visitor?

*Other (please state)*

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

## About You

In order that we can ensure our services meet all the needs of our community we would be grateful if you would complete the general questions below. You do not have to provide this information but it will be kept strictly confidential if you do.

Are you?

Male

Female

Age Group?

Under 18

46 to 55

18 to 25

56 to 65

26 to 35

66 to 75

36 to 45

75+

To which of these groups do you consider you belong? (please tick one box only)

White British

Black or Black British - African

White Irish

Any other Black background

Any other White background

Asian or Asian British - Indian

White and Black Caribbean

Asian or Asian British - Pakistani

White and Black African

Any other Asian background

White and Asian

Chinese

Any other Mixed background

Any other ethnic background

Black or Black British - Caribbean

What is your religion, even if you are not practising?

Christian (including Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)

Sikh

Hindu

Muslim

Jewish

Buddhist

Any other religion

None

Do you consider yourself to be?

Heterosexual

Other

Gay or Lesbian

Prefer not to say

Bisexual

Do you consider yourself to be disabled in any way?

Yes

No

If yes, please tell us how it affects you?

It affects my mobility

It affects my vision

It affects my hearing

It affects me in another way (please specify)

**Thank you for your time in completing this survey.**

This page is intentionally left blank



## Dog Control Orders (DCO) Consultation

### 1. Summary

Using powers under the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, Epping Forest District Council is proposing to introduce three Dog Control Orders making it an offence to:-

- (a) fail to remove dog faeces deposited on any public land within the district
- (b) fail to put a dog on a lead when directed to do so by an authorised officer, on any public land within the district
- (c) fail to limit the number of dogs which a person may take onto public land within the district, to four dogs

Before commencing any further the Council is consulting on the proposed orders. Any responses to the consultation will be reported back to the District Councillors before any final decision on the proposed DCO are made.

The answers to five questions are specifically being requested (as detailed below) but any comments on the proposed DCO are welcome.

### 2. Background information

The issue was reported to the Council's Cabinet (Report reference: C-073-2011/12) on 23 April 2012 after the possibility of introducing DCO was raised by the Corporation of London with regard to public land in their control. In 1998 the Council designated the whole of the district under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996, making dog fouling an offence. The 1996 Act has a number of limitations, these include:

- the legislation does not apply to roads over 40 miles per hour and land running adjacent;
- fines are set at £50 and cannot be altered;
- there is no offence for offenders not to provide their details; and
- most importantly, there is an exclusion for land used for agriculture or for woodland, including all land in the ownership of the Corporation of London.

The proposed dog fouling DCO would re-designate the whole district, making it an offence for a person to permit a dog in their control to foul and fail to remove faeces forthwith, from any public land in the whole of the district, including land owned by the Corporation of London.

After consultation with the Corporation of London, council officers also recommended that DCO be considered to allow an authorised officer to request a dog to be put on a lead and limit the number of dogs that a person may take onto public land.

Members decided that consultation be undertaken on the introduction of DCO as detailed above.

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 introduced dog control offences that can be controlled by Dog Control Orders (DCO). Section 55 of the Act enables local authorities to make Orders that apply to offences aimed at the control of dogs to specified land in their area.

Under the Act the Council can authorise others to enforce its provisions. As part of the introduction of the DCO as well as authorising Environment & Neighbourhood Officers currently employed by Epping Forest District Council, it is also proposed to authorise Corporation of London Officers to carry out enforcement of DCO on their land. It is also proposed to extend the enforcement powers to Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) based in our district.

The Act provides that Orders may apply to all public land which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access with or without payment.

The penalty in relation to any offence under a DCO on summary conviction is a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale, currently £1000. The Council is also able to offer fixed penalty notices (FPN) to any offenders as an alternative to prosecution.

The level of fixed penalty has been set previously at £75 if paid in full within 14 days and a discounted level of £50 if paid in full in 10 days after the fixed penalty is offered. Most first time offenders will be offered the opportunity to discharge the liability for any prosecution by payment of a FPN. Officers do not offer FPN on the spot. There are no “on the spot fines”. Offenders may be issued with an “incident ticket” to record the offence but any formal prosecution or offer of an FPN will only take place from the office after the incident.

### **3. Benefits of adopting the proposed DCO**

The main benefits of adopting the DCO as proposed are seen as:

- additional public land that currently has no protection from dog fouling would be covered;
- the whole of the district would be covered by dog fouling control in public areas;
- the implementation of DCO's would by its very nature raise the profile of dog nuisance and promote responsible dog ownership.
- the proposed DCO introduce a new power to assist enforcement officers in performing their duties safely, by enabling authorised officers to require dogs to be put on a lead;
- there is the option of dealing with offences by way of fixed penalty notice (FPN), that Members have pre-determined, thus saving Court and officer time;
- the number of dogs that one person can be in charge of on public land will be restricted to a reasonable number that the person in charge can effectively control.

### **4. Enforcement**

Dog control orders will introduce a number of new offences and cover a lot more land, currently without any control. This is likely to result in more complaints that will have to be responded to by EFDC enforcement officers.

It is proposed that some of the extra demand for enforcement could be addressed by refreshing and empowering PCSOs to target these offences and greater use of Environment and Neighbourhood Officers for pre-planned operations to target priority areas. The Corporation of London also plan to use their existing enforcement officers on their land as part of their normal duties, to record and investigate breaches of orders.

There may an initial increase in enforcement work and necessity to prosecute some offenders to publicise the requirement of the orders, but it is hoped that the orders will change the moral landscape and make it less acceptable for the few irresponsible dog owners to allow dogs in their control to continue with activities which the orders seek to control.

### **5. Procedure for making DCO**

The Dog Control Orders (Procedures) Regulations 2006 set out how DCO shall be introduced.

Before making a DCO the authority shall:

- consult upon its proposals to make an order by publishing a notice of the proposal in a local newspaper circulating in the area in which the order would apply is situated;
- consult every other authority with powers under Section 55 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005, which for EFDC means all Parish and Town Councils; and

- where all or part of the land in respect of which the proposed order would apply is access land then we are required to consult with the Access Authority for that land, the Local Access Forum for that land and the Countryside Agency, now Natural England.

In addition, it is proposed to include the Lea Valley Regional Park Authority (as a major land owner) in the consultation and to consult with residents via the Council's website.

The notice referred to above shall identify the land, summarise the Order, state where any maps identifying the land can be viewed, state the period in which representations shall be made which should not be less than 28 days and state the address/e-mail where representations can be made. The Council must then (whilst having regard to any representation made) decide to proceed with the making of the orders.

At least seven days before any Dog Control Order comes into force, the Council shall:

- where practicable place signs summarising the Order in conspicuous positions on or near land where the Order applies;
- publish in a local newspaper in the area where the Order applies a notice that the order has been made and stating the place where it may be inspected or copies obtained;
- make available the information on the Council's website;
- send copies of the information to the Parish and Town Councils; and
- send copies of the information to the Access Authority, Access Forum and Natural England.

The DCO is then comes into force at least fourteen days after it is made.

Following the consultation process officers will bring another report back to Cabinet so that members can take into consideration its results and also to consider extending the powers of enforcement to officers of the Corporation of London and PCSO's.

As the proposed orders will cover the whole of the district, it is not deemed practical to place signs across the whole of the district. However any orders will be clearly advertised in a local newspaper, council publications (as opportunities arise) and the council's website. The Corporation of London will also advertise any DCO that are adopted.

## **6. Additional background information:**

- Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005
- Dog Control Orders (Prescribed Offences and Penalties, etc) Regulations 2006
- Dog Control Orders (Guidance on Sections 55 to 67 of the Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005) DEFRA 2006
- Local Environmental Enforcement (Guidance on the use of fixed penalty notices) DEFRA 2007
- Dog Fouling and the Law (A Guide for the Public) ENCAMS 2006

This page is intentionally left blank