

1. **BERA Social Evening** – we can now confirm the meeting will take place at 8pm on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at St Augustines Church. We have asked the new Chief Executive of Southend Council if she would be able to give a talk on her first few months in charge. We hope you will come along and speak to your Chairman and local councillors about any matters you want to raise.

**2. Keeping our neighbourhood tidy**

Further to our previous newsletter about maintaining overhanging trees and bushes that drop berries onto the pavements, something that we were discussing at the Committee meeting is that it would be a good idea for us all to look after the **grass verges** outside our own homes. If any of you want to mow the verges or straighten the edges you don't need permission to do so.

**3. Lifstan Way shelter**

As you may be aware, the shelter at the bottom of Lifstan Way (on Eastern Esplanade) was set on fire at the beginning of the season. The shelter was being rebuilt, and progress was being made. The progress was slow because they had spotted a potential flaw in the powder coating and wanted to monitor it whilst also progressing the work. It transpires the flaw has deteriorated, and on consultation with the fabricators, it would appear they have suffered a chemical reaction during the powder coating process. To achieve the longevity required, the contractor, at their cost, will dismantle the work completed, and return the frame for stripping and reapplication.

They hope to have the shelter returned and completed before the weather turns, to facilitate decoration.

**4. Contributions by BERA**

Following our recent BERA Committee meeting, it was decided that BERA will be matching the amount raised at the summer Open Garden Event and will be making a donation to The Tram Stop Project.

As members are aware, we hold our meetings in St Augustines Church, and therefore, as agreed at the Committee meeting, we plan to make a donation towards the repair of the church tower clock. We are also speaking to the Council to see whether any funding can be made available for good local projects, as we believe this is one of them.

If any members wish to donate personally they should contact the Reverend Jonathan Collis at The Vicarage, 86 Tyrone Road.

Of course, part of member's subscriptions will also be spent on trees and shrubs to improve the street scene and pay for the Christmas decorations in The Broadway.

5. The **BERA website** is updated regularly and there may be additional information of interest to you on there.