

BERA E-NEWSLETTER 13th February 2020 – www.bera.co.uk
(printable version of Newsletter is available soon on website if needed)

Reminders:

New Which subscription logon details:
Email or Username: burgesestate
Password: Bera2020

“Which Garden” - log on to Which as usual, but pick the “House and Garden” option at the top. Then pick “Garden” and you will find reviews for all types of gardening tools and accessories.

If any of you have taken photos locally that you would like displayed on the BERA website, please send them by email to: photos@bera.co.uk.

BERA Coffee Morning -The next BERA sponsored coffee morning will be on Thursday 27th February 2020 at The Methodist Church on the corner of Johnstone Road and The Broadway from 10am to midday (unless we advise you otherwise it is always on the 3rd Thursday of the month).

Please come along for free tea/coffee and biscuits and bring a friend. We will be bringing along panic and personal alarms, no cold caller letterbox stickers, contactless debit card blocking pouches, and will take orders for the car key signal blocking pouches.

BERA Membership is now due for renewal

BERA renewals are now due for January to December 2020 and the cost this year is again £10 per household.

Renewals can be done by either:

- * online on the homepage at www.bera.co.uk and pay by bank transfer or
- * by printing off a membership form, also on the homepage, and returning it with your payment (cash or cheque made payable to Burges Estate Resident Association) to Ron Woodley, 91 Tyrone Road or Mike Stafford, 85 Maplin Way.

We would be very grateful if you could return your renewals before the end of February.

1) Information Corner

Edward James Newitt Booklet

We hope that you enjoyed reading the booklet and if you have any ideas for the next one, about the people or development of the area including Bournes Green and Shoeburyness, please let us know.

Highways and footways pilot

Ron has been asked to be a pilot for the highways and footways and so please look around the area and contact Ron if you see any potholes and trip hazards on the pavements.

Trading Standards Investigation of Simply Plumbing Ltd

A resident received a brochure with the Gas Safe Logo through their letter box on the 06 Feb 2020, from Simply Plumbing.

When the resident checked the Gas Safe register, they could not locate this company so they contacted a Brand Enforcement Administrator at the Gas Safe Register, who advised him that they are currently looking into this company and all information is being passed to Trading Standard to investigate. The resident was advised that as the business is not Gas Safe Registered, they should not be displaying the Gas Safe Logo.

Please be aware and as always, if you are unsure if a company is genuine, check with your family, friends and neighbours.

The latest Fraud Report Alert issued by Essex Police

You may have seen in the news this week that there has been a nationwide increased police response to courier fraud resulting in numerous arrests.

<https://www.essex.police.uk/news/essex/news/news/2020/january/two-arrested-for-five-essex-courier-frauds-where-men-posed-as-bank-workers/>

REMEMBER:

The police and your bank will **NEVER** ask for your full password, bank details or PIN numbers.

They will **NEVER** ask for you to transfer or hand any money over to them.

Common Example of Courier Fraud:

- You receive a phone call out of the blue claiming to be from the police or your bank

- They give you a plausible reason for calling – i.e. there has been fraudulent activity on your account, or they are investigating corrupt bank staff.
- They ask you for your PIN number.
- They advise that they will send a “courier” to collect your bank card.
- They now have everything they need to be able to access your bank account and money.

There are of course variations of this scam. You may be asked to leave your bank cards on the doorstep to be collected overnight. Alternatively, the caller may ask you to go into the bank, withdraw a large amount of cash, and this will be collected from you and used as ‘evidence’.

Remember, if something doesn’t seem right, **STOP. THINK. PROTECT.**

- **Stop.** Hang up the phone.
- **Think.** Would the police or the bank *really* be asking you to do this?
- **Protect.** Contact the bank or police back on a trusted number, preferably from a different phone to the one you were called on. Talk to friends or family to get their opinion.

If you or someone you know is vulnerable and has been a victim of fraud, please call Essex Police on 101.

Report fraud or attempted fraud by contacting Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk or call 0300 123 2040.

Storm Dennis approaches

The Met Office has issued five days of weather warnings as Storm Dennis arrives in the UK. Yellow warnings for wind and rain cover large parts of the country this weekend.

Fly-tipping: Organised crime behind 'large rise'

Large-scale fly-tipping - defined as tipper lorry load or more in size - has more than doubled in six years, according to analysis by the BBC.

Call for bigger fly-tipping fines

Only 5 per cent of court-imposed fines for fly-tipping offences in England in the past six years were above £1000 and only a sixth of them above £500. This is despite fly-tipping incidents soaring by 50 per cent over the same period, up from 714,637 in 2012/13 to 1,072,431 in 2018/19. The Local Government Association (LGA) says tougher sentences are needed to deter fly-tipping, which is costing councils £58 million a year to

clear up. Only two people have been given the maximum £50,000 fine by the courts since the Government introduced new guidelines in 2014.

Councils took action on nearly half a million incidents in 2018/19 – up by nearly 75,000 in six years. Successful prosecutions are at their highest level since 2011/12, while fixed penalty notices - issued for smaller cases – and seizure of vehicles are also at record highs.

The LGA wants to work with the Government on reviewing sentencing guidelines and ensuring councils have the funding needed to investigate incidents. Meanwhile, the District Councils Network (DCN) has warned of a 'fly-tipping farm-aggession', with the number of incidents on agricultural spots increasing by two-thirds in the past seven years - from 888 in 2012/13 to 1,473 in 2018/19.

While the majority of fly-tips seen by district councils are on public highways, council land, footpaths and alleyways, the DCN says that farm land is a growing target. It too, is calling for the courts to issue bigger fines for more serious offences.

Councils across the country are being forced to build more homes

We have been told to build 1300 more homes over the next 20 years and here is a few comments from other Councils. It seems that looking at their comments, they are having similar problems.

Epsom and Ewell Borough Council

Too many homes are being asked for. The target is for 685 per year in the future whereas over the past 15 years only 210 per year have been built. It is not possible to build so fast.

King's Lynn and West Norfolk

We have had the number of houses 'needed' reduced, yet it is still too many. Large developments in inappropriate areas are becoming the norm. We have unfinished estates with unsold houses, yet more are in planning. We are not building the right type of houses either. Four of five bedroom houses have no effect on our housing list or homelessness.

North Somerset Council

An Inspector rejected the Joint Spatial Plan and told the West of England that they needed to build more. This housebuilding threat will not solve the housing crisis.

Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

Solihull are expected to build around 1,000 homes per year. This is around 25 per cent more than we have been able to deliver, and has doubled our target. It should be a case of what we build not just how many.

Central Bedfordshire Council

In Central Bedfordshire, we not only have ridiculous overall housing targets, but in one area which has the most serious need for social housing, we could be building 98 per cent of homes as full market value properties: as few as 62 of 3,100 homes

would be 'affordable'. Critically for residents, the social housing need here does not seem to have even been addressed. When you consider that this land is in the Green Belt, you realise just how reckless this is. It is an example of the sort of thing that happens when we are subject to ridiculous targets, dictated by central government.

Sevenoaks District Council

I am very pleased with my council standing up to Government over our local plan; 93 per cent of Sevenoaks District is Green Belt.

Wealdon District Council

The Wealdon plan has failed inspection as it did not allocate all of the required housing. I have studied the projected population figures for our area and we are required to build thousands more homes that we can even fill.

South Oxfordshire

33,000 homes is seven towns the size of Henley; it is one new home for every two existing homes in the district. Two-thirds of these are to be delivered between 2011 and 2034. Nine years into this experiment, we have experienced seven undesirable consequences of forced buildings' growth.

2) List Of Applications Registered Week Ending 7 February 2020

APPLN. NO: 20/00191/FULH Ward. **Southchurch**
Officer: Kara Elliott Date Valid. 4 February 2020 Area BORO
**ERECT PART SINGLE/TWO STOREY SIDE EXTENSION, TWO STOREY REAR
EXTENSION ALTER ELEVATIONS
2 COPTFOLD CLOSE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

APPLN. NO: 19/02314/FULH Ward. **Thorpe**
Officer: Abbie Greenwood Date Valid. 6 February 2020 Area BORO
**ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION WITH ROOF LANTERN
14 KENSINGTON ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

APPLN. NO: 20/00151/FUL Ward. **Thorpe**
Officer: Robert Lilburn Date Valid. 30 January 2020 Area BORO
**ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSIONS TO REAR OF 23-25 MARCUS
AVENUE
WITH ALTERATIONS TO SIDE ELEVATIONS (AMENDED PROPOSAL)
23 - 25 MARCUS AVENUE THORPE BAY ESSEX**

APPLN. NO: 20/00183/CLP Ward. **Thorpe**
Officer: Hayley Thompson Date Valid. 4 February 2020 Area BORO
**HIPPED TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION AND EXTEND EXISTING DORMER TO
REAR
(LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATE - PROPOSED)**

170 LIFSTAN WAY SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX

APPLN. NO: 20/00186/FULH

Ward. **West Shoebury**

Officer: Spyros Mouratidis Date Valid. 4 February 2020 Area BORO

ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION

30 LINTON ROAD SHOEBURYNESSE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

3) Southend NHW Crime Report - 3rd to 9th February 2020

| Ward | Reference | Offence Type | Reported Date | Committed From | Street | Town | MO |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| Southchurch | 42/19414/20 | Aggravated vehicle taking | 05/02/20 20 07:52 | 29/12/20 19 00:00 | Hamstel Road | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT HAS BEEN PURSUED BY OFFICERS ON A STOLEN BIKE WHICH HE HAS THEN CRASHED AND DRIVEN DANGEROUSLY. |
| Southchurch | 42/19921/20 | Theft from the person of another | 05/02/20 20 20:30 | 05/02/20 20 20:30 | Hamstel Road | Southend-on-Sea | THREE SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE COME UP TO VICTIM. ONE SUSPECT HAS RIDDEN HIS BIKE INTO HIM, TWO SUSPECTS HAVE CHASED VICTIM AND START HITTING HIM. WHILST SUSPECTS WERE HITTING HIM, VICTIMS HEADPHONES HAVE FALLEN TO THE FLOOR AND THEY'VE PICKED THEM UP. |
| Southchurch | 42/20725/20 | Theft if not classified elsewhere | 07/02/20 20 09:52 | 06/01/20 20 00:00 | Steyning Avenue | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN REPLACING THE ROOF ON THE NEIGHBOURS HOME. IN THE PROCESS OF DOING THIS, OVERNIGHT THEY HAVE REMOVED OVER 40 TILES OF THE VICTIMS ROOF AND THROWN THEM IN THE SKIP WHICH WAS REMOVED. THEY HAVE THEN PLACED A RED SHEET OF UNKNOWN SUBSTANCE OVER THE AREA. THE DAMAGE IS QUITE SIGNIFICANT TO THE VICTIMS ROOF. HE WAS NEVER CONSULTED OR HAD HIS PERMISSION GIVEN FOR THIS TO HAPPEN. |

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|-------------|-----------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Southchurch | 42/21397 /20 | Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000) | 08/02/20 20 12:24 | 02/02/20 20 11:00 | Wansfell Gardens | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS SCRATCHED THE SIDE OF THE VICTIMS VEHICLE, NISSAN MICRA, CAUSING DAMAGE BY MEANS UNKNOWN. |
| Southchurch | 42/21976 /20 | Theft from a motor vehicle | 09/02/20 20 11:46 | 08/02/20 20 18:00 | Hamstel Road | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ACCESS TO THE VICTIMS VEHICLE, A BLACK MERCEDES A CLASS, VIA UNKNOWN MEANS AND HAS REMOVED ITEMS FROM INSIDE THE VEHICLE. |
| Thorpe | 42/19216 /20 | Theft if not classified elsewhere | 21/01/20 20 13:48 | 29/12/20 19 14:00 | Woodgrange Drive | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ATTACHED A DEVICE OVER THE CASH DISPENSER ON THE ATM, PREVENTING CASH BEING DISPENSED TO THE CUSTOMER. WHEN SUSPECT RETURNS TO THE ATM, HE REMOVES THE DEVICE AND THE CASH WHICH WAS INTERCEPTED. |
| Thorpe | 42/19432 /20 | Theft from a motor vehicle | 04/02/20 20 09:31 | 28/01/20 20 19:00 | Shaftesbury Avenue | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED THE CATALYTIC CONVERTER FROM VICTIMS VEHICLE, TOYOTA PRIUS GREY HYBRID, BY MEANS UNKNOWN. |
| Thorpe | 42/19897 /20 | Interference with a motor vehicle | 05/02/20 20 20:26 | 05/02/20 20 20:15 | Thorpe Bay Gardens | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE DRILLED HOLES INTO THE VICTIMS WHITE FORD CONNECT VAN ON THREE PANELS NEAR THE LOCKS. DAMAGE CAUSED, NO ITEMS STOLEN. |
| Thorpe | 42/19969 /20 | Interference with a motor vehicle | 06/02/20 20 01:01 | 05/02/20 20 16:00 | Northumberland Crescent | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS CAUSED A HOLE IN THE VICTIMS VEHICLE IN ORDER TO GAIN ENTRY. NOTHING HAS BEEN TAKEN AS THE VEHICLE WAS EMPTY. |
| Thorpe | 42/20018 /20 | Interference with a | 06/02/20 20 07:42 | 05/02/20 20 00:00 | The Broadway | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS BY MEANS |

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|------------------|-----------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---|
| | | motor vehicle | | | | | UNKNOWN TRIED TO GAIN ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS WHITE FORD TRANSIT. |
| West Shoebury | 42/20957 /20 | Other criminal damage to a building other than a dwelling (Under £5,000) | 03/02/20 20 19:05 | 03/02/20 20 00:00 | Delaware Road | Southend- on-Sea | SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED BUT CAPTURED ON CCTV HAVE CAUSED DAMAGE SMASHING A WINDOW AT LOCATION. |