

**BERA E-NEWSLETTER 20th November 2018 – www.bera.co.uk
(printable version of Newsletter is available soon on website if needed)**

Reminders:

The next BERA sponsored coffee morning will be on Thursday 20th December 2018 at The Methodist Church on the corner of Johnstone Road and The Broadway from 10am to 12 midday.

We will be bringing alarms/signs in case any of you want to buy them. The costs are:

PIR sensor alarm £7.38 (the white one)

Defender shock/contact alarm £9.94 (the grey one)

Garage and shed signs £1.19 each

We also have free panic and personal alarms and car key signal blocking pouches available for BERA members.

Which subscription logon details:

Username: burgesestate

Password: BERAResidents

1. Christmas Lights

The Christmas tree and lamp post lights have now gone up in The Broadway, all paid for by you, through your membership to BERA. We hope you have noticed them and agree that they look very nice.

2. Snow Wardens

If you live in the borough and wish to register as a Snow Warden you can do so by calling Veolia on 0203 567 6955 or email uk.southend-on-sea@veolia.com.

3. Subject: Re: Zumba and Fitsteps classes

Vicky Belot has asked us to let you all know that she runs a Zumba class on Monday evening from 7-8pm at Friars Primary School Shoeburyness and the cost is £5 pay as you go. She also runs a Fitsteps class which is a bit more unique - No partner is required and it is based on strictly come dancing. This class runs on a Wednesday evening from 7-7:45pm at Shoebury and Thorpe Bay Baptist church and again the cost is £5 pay as you go. Vicky is a fully qualified fitness instructor and personal trainer and also ex- professional dancer of Moulin Rouge Paris.

For further information contact Vicky Belot by email: belot_vicky@yahoo.co.uk

4. Odd man at the door/RogueTree service companies

We have been advised by a BERA member that they had a knock on the door from a young man asking to use their printer. They said no, and noticed he then went to try next door. He was young, early twenties, white, reasonably well dressed.

BE CAREFUL WHO YOU LET INTO YOUR HOUSE.

We have also been advised by BERA members that rogue tree service companies have been operating again in our area, knocking on doors, and then escorting their customers to the cash machine once finished! Always get a quote from a reputable organisation, rather than accepting a quote from someone at the door.

BE AWARE, BE WARNED, BE SAFE

5. Planting of 900 shrubs, paid for by BERA

We have received this notification from the Council.

“Good afternoon, just to confirm that the shrubs are now in at the Nursery and we plan to start planting w/c 26th November”

6. How to report rough sleepers

Below is a link to StreetLink, suitable for reporting any reports of rough sleepers, which can be found on the Council's Web site. This enables the correct support services to be notified immediately and will enable some Outreach support to become available to individual rough sleepers. This is part of the proportionate response to engagement in the first instance. It also saves time, as often individual officers will not be in a position to immediately respond or forward to other services.

It requires a resident to 'sign up' but is a more effective way of reporting this type of issue.

<https://www.streetlink.org.uk/>

7. Southend RNLI Annual Crew Dinner

For the opportunity to honour and dine with the Southend Lifeboat Crew, there will be an Annual Crew Dinner taking place on Saturday 9th February 2019 at The Cliffs Pavilion, Southend with the bar opening at 6pm with the call for Dinner at 7.15pm.

The cost will be £37 per person, which will include a 3 course meal. Entertainment, an Auction and a Raffle will also be available.

For tickets and further information, please visit www.lifeboatcrewinner.co.uk or contact them on info@lifeboatcrewinner.co.uk or call on 01702 714213.

Proceeds will go to the Southend RNLI station.

8. Southend-on-Sea crime information for August/September:

| | August 2018 | September 2018 |
|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| All crime | 295 | 273 |
| Anti-social behaviour | 73 | 51 |
| Bicycle theft | 9 | 6 |
| Burglary | 29 | 14 |
| Criminal damage and arson | 17 | 27 |
| Drugs | 3 | 1 |
| Other crime | 3 | 2 |
| Other theft | 20 | 20 |
| Possession of weapons | 3 | 3 |
| Public order | 24 | 15 |
| Robbery | 2 | 0 |
| Shoplifting | 6 | 10 |
| Theft from the person | 4 | 0 |
| Vehicle crime | 34 | 34 |
| Violence and sexual offences | 68 | 90 |

9. Southend NHW Crime Data (12th to 18th November 2018)

There were no reported crimes for Thorpe Ward.

| Ward | Reference | Offence Type | Reported Date | Committed From | Street | Town | MO |
|---------------|--------------|---|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Southchurch | 42/167603/18 | Theft from a motor vehicle | 16/11/2018 18:31 | 15/11/2018 19:00 | Hamstel Road | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ENTRY INTO PARKED SECURE GREY VOLVO MOTOR VEHICLE BY MEANS UNKNOWN AND REMOVED PROPERTY FROM INSIDE. |
| West Shoebury | 42/166185/18 | Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000) | 13/11/2018 23:21 | 13/11/2018 00:00 | Jena Close | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT NAMED HAS THROWN A GLASS A CUP AND A DINNER PLATE ONTO THE KITCHEN FLOOR CAUSING THEM TO SMASH. |
| West Shoebury | 42/166371/18 | Theft if not classified elsewhere | 13/11/2018 20:47 | 13/11/2018 20:30 | St Andrews Road | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED HAVE FOLLOWED THE VICTIM FROM THE STATION AND HAVE TAKEN THE VICTIMS IPHONE 7 PLUS, WITHOUT THE USE OR THREAT OF FORCE. |

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|
| West Shoebury | 42/166295/18 | Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000) | 14/11/2018 09:38 | 13/11/2018 00:00 | Delaware Crescent | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECTS UNKNOWN BY MEANS UNKNOWN HAVE BROKEN THE BACK BEDROOM OUTER UNIT OF THE WINDOW TO VICTIMS GROUND FLAT. |
| West Shoebury | 42/166884/18 | Burglary - Residential - Dwelling | 15/11/2018 11:58 | 14/11/2018 00:00 | Ness Road | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GONE TO THE VICTIMS ADDRESS AND PUSHED PAST HIM TO GAIN ENTRANCE AND HAS THEN REMOVED THE VICTIMS CAR KEYS AND HOUSE KEYS AFTER A VERBAL ARGUMENT AND LEFT THE PROPERTY. THE SUSPECT HAS ALSO SENT THE VICTIM MESSAGES THREATENING TO DAMAGE HIS CAR. |
| West Shoebury | 42/166715/18 | Burglary - Residential - Dwelling | 15/11/2018 04:32 | 15/11/2018 04:22 | Ness Road | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAVE ENTERED ADDRESS AFTER USING A JEMMY TO FORCE THE BATHROOM WINDOW AND HAVE THREATENED |

VICTIM WITH THE
CROWBAR BEFORE
TAKING BA
SAMURAI SWORD
AND FLEEING THE
PREMISES.

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|--|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| West Shoebury | 42/167096/18 | Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000) | 15/11/2018 20:13 | 15/11/2018 18:00 | Richmond Avenue | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS THROWN BRICK AT REAR DOOR SMASHING THE OUTER PANE. |
| West Shoebury | 42/167997/18 | Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000) | 17/11/2018 14:08 | 16/11/2018 22:15 | Saxon Gardens | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS CAUSED DAMAGE TO THE VICTIM WHITE FIAT 500 BY MEANS OF KICKING IT. |
| West Shoebury | 42/168538/18 | Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000) | 18/11/2018 14:09 | 16/11/2018 19:30 | Saxon Gardens | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS DAMAGED THE VICTIMS WORK VAN BY SMASHING THE DRIVERS SIDE WING MIRROR WITH AN UNKNOWN TOOL. |
| West Shoebury | 42/168791/18 | Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000) | 18/11/2018 21:00 | 18/11/2018 21:00 | Jena Close | Southend-on-Sea | SUSPECT NAMED HAS RIPPED THE DOORS OFF A WARDROBE THAT BELONGS TO THE VICTIM. |

10. Essex Community Messaging - Paying for Policing – We need your opinion

Do you want to see an improved Police Service in Essex? And are you willing to pay more Council Tax to provide it? Those are the questions being asked by Roger Hirst, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex.

Essex residents are being asked to fill in a survey so Mr Hirst can see what the county's opinion is on increasing resources for Essex Police.

He also wants to know what they think about the policing priorities for Essex.

Funding for Essex Police comes from two sources – central Government and local Council Tax. Taking these two funding sources into account, Essex Police receives the second lowest funding per resident of any police force in the country and has one of the lowest Council Tax precepts for policing. Next year we are also expecting significant additional costs from increases in police officer pay, higher insurance costs and changes to police officer pensions. There will also be costs as a result of extending the police's Airwave radio system due to delays in the roll out of the National Emergency Services Communication Programme.

Roger Hirst, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex, said: "I want to provide the best possible policing service, which is what the people of Essex rightly deserve. Increasing investment will help the Chief Constable deliver this. I am working hard to lobby the Government but we cannot yet know the scale of any increase in central Government funding. I can of course raise the policing precept. Before I do that I want to know what people think."

Last year, Mr Hirst carried out a similar survey which received more than 5,000 responses. Approximately two thirds of the people who answered (65 per cent) said they would be prepared to see the police element of local Council Tax increased by more than two per cent so more money could be made available for policing in Essex. More than half were prepared to pay up to £20 more per year.

Mr Hirst said: "In light of the results from last year's survey, I raised the policing element of the Council Tax by up to £12, or £1 a month, for a Band D property. This increase, as part of the £450 million in police funding secured nationally from the Government last year, allowed Essex Police to recruit 150 more frontline officers, bringing the total amount of Essex Police officers to at least 3,000. These additional officers are being recruited and trained and will be arriving in local communities by February 2019."

He added: "Whilst filling the survey I would also like people to give their views on the

policing priorities for Essex. I want to make sure that they reflect the needs of the communities that Essex Police serves.”

People can fill in the survey online via this link

<http://www.essex.pfcc.police.uk/policing-precept-survey-2018>

Hard copies are also available on request. Please contact the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner on 01245 291600 if you would like a copy or you can email pfcc@essex.pnn.police.uk. You can also write to PFCC for Essex, Kelvedon Park, London Road, Rivenhall, Witham, Essex, CM8 3HB.

The survey went live on Tuesday, November 6 and will close at midnight on Tuesday, November 27.

The Band D Council Tax for policing in Essex for 2018/19 is £169.02 per year.

This is not a referendum, it is an opportunity to gauge opinions so those views can be taken into account as part of the decision making process. The survey only reflects the policing element of the Council Tax precept and not the precept relating to Essex County Fire and Rescue Service.

BERA Chairman's comment:

There is no doubt that funding for the police from central government has been reduced to a level that is inappropriate. The Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) for Essex basically has to beg for money from residents, to enable him to have the right number of police officers to support residents, and to cope with what seems to be the ever-increasing criminal acts taking place. Personally, I am willing to pay more on my council tax. However, as Southend-on-Sea has the largest population in Essex, coupled with, it seems, the highest crime rates, more officers are needed here than probably anywhere else in Essex. The 12 officers that were allocated to Southend from last year's increase in the precept were welcome, but that is not enough if we take into consideration holidays, sick leave and shift patterns, as it will probably mean only 2 extra officers per shift will be available at any one time. There is no doubt that there is a serious funding shortage, and I applaud the PFCC in his efforts to attract more funding in an effort to supply more officers. But, and there is always a but, we need to know how many additional officers this extra money would achieve for Southend-on-Sea to make us, as residents, feel that it is money well spent.

11. Thank you

We would like to take this opportunity to thank residents who regularly update us on pothole and footway problems locally. Please keep us informed by emailing ronwoodley@hotmail.co.uk of any new occurrences. Let's make our area as free from potholes and dangerous footways as possible.