

1. **Grass Verge Borders**

The Council should have started trimming back the grass verges across the area. Once finished, it would be great if as many of us as possible could look after the verges outside our own homes, and maybe our neighbours, as they won't be done again for another three years. BERA did look into paying for this work to be carried out yearly but the quote we received from the Council was for over £5,000 a year and the committee didn't feel this was what BERA should be spending money on.

2. **Southchurch Park**

We have been notified that new lamp columns and LED lights were due to start being installed last week in Southchurch Park and should soon be finalised.

3. **Police**

In a recent survey of 5,000 people carried out by the police, 75% of people who responded were prepared to contribute an extra £10 per year if that meant more police on our streets.

4. **Nottingham Knockers** have been about in the area again. Be wary of opening the door, especially at night, and politely decline to buy any goods. This is also the time to be extra vigilant when you are out and about. Don't leave anything of value on show in your car and keep a tight hand on your handbags and wallets.

5. Work has started on ground clearing at **Thorpe Bay Station**. This is for 20 new secure cycle stands, which are very much needed, and will hopefully reduce the number of cars going to the station.

6. The consultation document for Southend Hospital is now out. A copy of the document is available by phoning 01245 398118, emailing [meccg.stpconsultation@nhs.net](mailto:meccg.stpconsultation@nhs.net) or writing to:

Consultation Team  
Mid and South Essex STP  
Wren House  
Colchester Road  
Chelmsford  
Essex  
CM2 5PF

If you are concerned about what is planned for our hospital then we urge you to please make your views known either by emailing or writing to the email or address given. Alternatively you can complete an online survey by going to [www.surveygizmo.eu/s3/90059489/NHS-Mid-and-South-Essex-STP](http://www.surveygizmo.eu/s3/90059489/NHS-Mid-and-South-Essex-STP). NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT.

7. The next **BERA sponsored coffee morning** will be taking place on 18<sup>th</sup> January at The Methodist Church on the corner of Johnstone and The Broadway from 10am to 12 midday. Make a note in your diaries and come along for a chat and a coffee.

## **8. Planned changes to parking restrictions in Tyrone Road and Colbert Avenue**

A number of members have raised concerns as to parking restrictions in and around Thorpe Ward. In some instances there isn't much we can do because what has been proposed is not part of the council's parking policy. However, we have had a few successes. To try and ease the parking problem at the junction of Parkanaur Avenue and Johnstone Road, officers are looking to bring in a parking scheme in that part of Johnstone to help people working in the nursery with their parking difficulties. It is hoped that this may ease the problem in Parkanaur Avenue.

Secondly, in Fermoy Road, between Marcus Avenue and St Augustine's Avenue, where the parking restrictions were removed on one side of the road, this has led to a problem where vehicles are now parking over the road sign indicating vehicles to go slow. Officers are now considering whether to put some form of restriction back, so that cars will not be allowed to park over the road markings.

Thirdly, residents in Ambleside Drive have indicated sight-line problems where vehicles were parking right up to the road junctions in the roads leading into Ambleside Drive. Therefore, junction protections will be put in place to make it safer.

Fourthly, officers, at our request, have been monitoring Colbert Avenue, Fermoy Road, Johnstone Road and Tyrone Road. With Colbert, the proposal is on the north side, to have summertime parking restrictions in line with the side roads from the seafront. On the south side of Colbert Avenue, to increase slightly the junction protections, to improve the sight lines for vehicles entering from the side roads into Colbert Avenue. For Fermoy, Tyrone and Johnstone, officers are recommending that the restrictions be amended back to 11am to 12 midday, to coincide with all the other roads south of the railway line. Patients attending the doctors surgery who have been struggling to get to the surgery because of parking will then be able to park in newly created parking bays, which will allow parking for 1 hour and no return in 4, plus patients with blue badges, of course, will be able to park at any time for up to 3 hours.

Officers feel that these amendments will hopefully mean an end to the daily transfer of cars from one road to the next, as all roads will now have the same time restriction, but allowing greater access to the doctors surgery for patients.