

**BERA E-NEWSLETTER 30th October 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 15th November 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. Southend-on-Sea – A city for the future?

We received the council's proposals for the 2050 programme and the following is a brief summary with our comments.

This vision, for the future of Southend-on-Sea, started with various administrations, under the leadership of Nigel Holcroft, Ron Woodley and now John Lamb. These ambitions have now been written down for everybody to have their say. We have to make sure that whatever administration is in power in the future, the ability to drive this forward needs to be entrenched, otherwise the vision will die on the vine before it bears fruit.

During the spring of 2018, Council officers embarked on a major engagement exercise with key local stakeholders to develop a shared and jointly owned ambition for Southend-on-Sea by 2050. Its purpose was to shape a long term vision for the borough, whilst providing a focus on shorter term outcomes, deliverable by the council, its partners and local communities. This ambition aims to articulate not only the visible changes to our environment, but also highlights the more fundamental aspects of people's lives. Essentially, how it would feel to live, work, or visit Southend-on-Sea in the future.

The consultation exercise has been extensive and varied so that the broadest possible range of stakeholders have had the opportunity to contribute. These include facilitated workshops with business leaders, sessions with targeted resident representatives, such as residents associations, community groups, and school children, whose future we are trying to galvanise.

Although at the moment it is not in control of the Council, with an aging and growing population, the need for the NHS to be effective and all-inclusive is vital. Any future plans for Southend-on-Sea and the surrounding towns must also include the NHS. Therefore, there are some fundamental points:

- Should Southend CCG come under the control of the council's public health department which would include all GP surgeries and primary health centres throughout the town?
- Part of the 2050 plans should include the siting of a brand new hospital to service the residents of Castle Point, Rochford, Rayleigh and Southend, with the infrastructure that will enable patients to get to hospital quickly and effectively and should also include teaching facilities, and accommodation for staff.

All the above could be managed by one organisation as a combined local authority with the right infrastructure and the ability to control its own destiny, otherwise we will be swallowed by London.

It is clear that all parties have to work together to transform our current practices to achieve the desired outcomes. Southend-on-Sea's 2050 programme is bold and ambitious. The work will require the Council to transform to ensure that its organisation is fit for purpose in the future. It must have an organisation that includes:

- A clear vision and delivery programme.
- A digital strategy to support the 2050 vision.
- A workforce that is trusted and engaged.
- A Council with an appetite to invest not only in people but the local economy. and accept whatever risk that may arrive.
- A simple and effective governance model in how we deliver services.
- An open minded and unified Council administration that will drive forward the transformation and change.

In conclusion, we cannot and should not forget about today's problems, especially around housing, policing, street scene, highways and pavements, adult social care, safeguarding children, poor development and insufficient social housing and you

have to make sure you have the right organisation and the right people in the right positions to carry out the ambitions of the people of this town.

One thing is for sure. With the debilitating funding cuts from central government, coupled with the prospects of a major recession in the near future, it is imperative for the financial stability of Southend-on-Sea that it develops and maintains its strong economic links to London and continues to develop its own economic base around tourism, culture, retail (not only the high street but our surrounding local shopping areas), small and medium-sized businesses, large businesses, the new business park, and the airport.

Finally we need to ensure our regeneration of the town is sufficiently strong and bold enough that our local residents, with the necessary workplace skills, are sufficiently available to make this happen. Therefore, let's get this right and maybe Southend-on-Sea will have a future. Is this 2050 paper really, truly stating ambitions? If so, let's make sure we have the drive to push this through.

2. New Trees and Shrubs

It would be helpful if members could help look after any new trees and shrubs that are being planted near them. BERA have recently paid to have a large amount planted and they may need some care and attention to get them off to a good start.

3. Following on from the **BERA meeting held last week** we have received a new email for Healthwatch. It is healthwatchsouthend@family-action.org.uk

Jean Broadbent has also sent us this reply to a question asked at the meeting.

Please see below the response from the CCG regarding the question raised on Tuesday evening, by a BERA member. I do hope that this answers the questions satisfactorily but should you have any more queries please don't hesitate to contact me again.

Q: Can a GP continue to take on new patients, is there an upper limit?

In 2003/04, GPs had a maximum list size that they worked within which enabled the system to identify where there were recruitment gaps etc. This has long since been disbanded and there is no longer a defined top limit for individual GP registrations. It is widely considered that a comfortable average list size per WTE GP is around 3,500-5,000, though this is not a nationally defined cap. GPs are welcome to register above this if they choose to and the per WTE GP measure becomes less relevant as the clinical workforce within practices is broadening.

However, none of this removes the right for each contractor to manage their list sizes in order to ensure that they are able to maintain high levels of quality and safety. There are, within the terms of the contract and NHSE primary care policy and

guidance manual, processes that GPs can follow in order to manage their lists where they are becoming difficult to manage.

In the Southend area the CCG are not currently aware that any practices are operating a closed list for new patient registrations.

4. St Augustine's Church – Remembrance Sunday

At 10 am on Sunday 11th November there will be a Parade and Family Eucharist for Remembrance Sunday, concluding with the traditional ceremonies at the Thorpe Bay war memorials at the back of the church at 11 am. All are welcome to attend, including families with children.

And later in November on Sunday 25th at 6:30 pm there will be a cathedral style choral evensong at 6:30 pm.

5. Scope's Local People Programme Get Together Meeting

We received the following from a BERA member who thought it may be of interest:

Scope's Local People Programme - For disabled people aged 12-65 in Southend (with any physical or mental illness, impairment or additional needs) - And unpaid carers of those people. (Including parent-carers of children aged 0-11) - And or close family members

Some Funding Available

Where - The Attic Café - 48 Eastern Esplanade Southend SS1 2ES

10.30 am – 12.30 pm Tuesday 13th November

And then the 4th of December

Buffet / Drinks Provided

Come to our monthly Get Togethers to meet new people, old friends, discuss local issues that are important to you, get involved in designing and delivering projects, help make decisions about where funding should go, or just have a cuppa! A project can be an activity, a campaign, skills training or anything else that supports disabled people and/or carers and that meets the community needs identified at engagement events - Open to the wider community, not just your friends - 2 or more people per project group - Pop in or contact me if you want to find out more...

mark.bromfield@scope.org.uk Telephone 07891 059125

6. Friends of Dolphin Court

Friends of Dolphin Court will be holding a Christmas Fayre on Sat 10th Nov from 10.30am-2.30pm at 178/182 Eastern Esplanade, Thorpe Bay, Southend SS1 3AA (free admission).

There will be a raffle and refreshments.

7. Southend NHW Crime Data (22nd to 28th Oct 2018)

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Southchurch	42/155758/18	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)	25/10/2018 17:45	25/10/2018 17:45	Southchurch Boulevard	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS KICKED THE INFORMANTS FRONT WALL OF VICTIM DRIVEWAY CAUSING 6 BRICKS TO FALL OFF.
Southchurch	42/155871/18	Theft of a motor vehicle	26/10/2018 05:36	25/10/2018 23:20	Daines Way	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS TAKEN THE VICTIMS VEHICLE FROM THE LOCATION AT SOME POINT OVER NIGHT.
Southchurch	42/156125/18	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)	26/10/2018 10:54	25/10/2018 20:00	Hamstel Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN DAMAGED THE VICTIMS RED FORD TRANSIT BY SLASHING THE FRONT TYRES AND SMASHING THE DRIVERS SIDE WINDOW USING A BRICK.
Southchurch	42/155984/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	26/10/2018 10:33	25/10/2018 18:00	Ashurst Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS BLACK MERCEDES CLA BP15VDM

USING A REMOTE ACCESS DEVICE IN ORDER TO STEAL RECENTLY PURCHASED CLOTHING AND THE VICTIMS HP LAP TOP.

Southchurch	42/156998/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	26/10/2018 17:42	25/10/2018 09:00	Daines Way	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ACCESS TO A BLACK PORSCHE CAYENNE WHILST PARKED ON THE DRIVEWAY BY MEANS UNKNOWN. ONCE INSIDE A MESSY SEARCH HAS BEEN MADE AND ITEMS REMOVED FROM WITHIN.
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Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
Thorpe	42/155827/18	Other criminal damage to a dwelling (Under £5,000)	25/10/2018 23:54	25/10/2018 23:54	Woodgrange Drive	Southend-on-Sea	VICTIM HAS THROWN SUSPECT OUT OF THE HOUSE FOLLOWING A VERBAL ARGUMENT. SUSPECT SMASHED A WINDOW TO GET BACK IN AND THEN SHE LEFT BEFORE POLICE ARRIVAL.

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO – filtered
West Shoebury	42/153991/18	Theft of a motor vehicle	22/10/2018 19:19	22/10/2018 16:10	Challacombe	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE STOLEN VICTIMS MOTORBIKE, A RED AND BLACK CPI SUV 125, BY UNKNOWN MEANS.
West Shoebury	42/155616/18	Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	25/10/2018 14:47	23/10/2018 00:00	Teigngrace	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE ATTEMPTED TO GAIN ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS PROPERTY VIA THE FRONT DOOR LEAVING MARKS AND SCRATCHES ON THE FRAME AND DOOR.

8. A word of warning from a BERA member

Yesterday a forceful character called, wanting to interfere with my solar panels insisting all sorts of things need doing to them, whereas the beauty of them is actually they just sit there! However, I felt uncomfortable about his visit, and the way he wanted to draw me out of the house to look under the panels. Also he had the gall to tell me he had already been into the garden and looked for himself.

I don't know if he was genuine or not, but I would never use a firm with this kind of customer approach.

I just wanted to make sure people are aware of this kind of man in the neighbourhood.