

BERA – LATEST NEWS

This is probably our last email before Christmas, although if anything important arises I will keep you informed, so I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Christmas decorations

Unfortunately, we have an electrical fault on the roundabout in The Broadway, meaning we were not able to put the lights up in the tree this year. We have got the silhouettes on the lamp posts and a few baubles in the tree as an experiment. There have been a few enquiries about the lack of the Christmas street fair this year but unfortunately this was run by the shops and they decided not to continue this event.

Police News

Extra police officers will be patrolling during the Christmas build up, but unfortunately only in the high street and town centre, with two officers between 10am and 6pm and six officers on Friday and Saturday nights. They are very much needed due to recent thefts of phones by a man on a bicycle – please remain vigilant when using your phones in public. There have also been ‘fake police officers’ entering people’s homes and demanding victims hand over their bank cards. Always be wary about inviting strangers into your property and always ask for ID.

Planning

Just to add to our concerns about congestion, there are proposals to build a ‘mini town’ near to the A130 with up to 800 homes.

Southend Airport

Further to our message last week, it just shows you how things change, as talks with Cityjet have broken down but Flybe are expanding their routes with 18 new destinations to be announced – watch this space.

Power Cut Advice

UK Power Networks who deliver electricity to homes and businesses across our area have set up a free “Priority Service Register” to enable them to identify vulnerable people quickly in the event of a power cut and get them the help they need. This will not be useful to everyone but if you have an elderly or infirm neighbour, it may be worth checking if they are eligible for this help by registering at:

ukpowernetworks.co.uk/prioritysupport

At this time of the year especially, please be aware of any elderly neighbours and offer a helping hand if you are able to do so.

Events

Below is a link of events taking place in Southend:

<http://www.visitsouthend.co.uk/whats-on/families.aspx>

Updates on Kent Elms and Victoria Avenue

Kent Elms Junction works

Excavations for the carriageway inbound are drawing to a conclusion, with the placement of

the sub base due to be undertaken over the next couple of days as will the concrete pours for the bus bays. Whilst this is happening the combined kerb drainage units and edging will continue to be laid. Once this is complete the carriageway base layers will then be laid, this is programmed to be w/c 19th. Drainage pipes and manholes are also currently being installed on the inbound A127 along with ducting for our modified signal arrangement. We will also be moving to the south western side of the junction to begin excavations for the new carriageway and drainage systems from this week.

All of this will be undertaken with the standard lane closures on both the inbound and outbound carriageway.

The site will be tidied up and made safe on the 21st December with all unnecessary TM removed from site to ensure the junction is as tidy and safe as possible during the Christmas shut down. The site will become active again on the 9th January.

Victoria Avenue Junction works

The mobile lane closures will be finished by end of this week bringing to an end the de-cluttering work this side of Christmas. East Street will be totally complete once the re-surfacing works are finished on the night of the 12th December. There will be no further works on Victoria Avenue until the 9th January.