

E-Newsletter – 9th September 2022

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The sad passing of Her Majesty The Queen

Book of Condolence - Civic Centre - Hours of availability

The book of condolence at the Civic centre will be open as follows:

- Monday to Friday – 10.00am to 7.00pm
- Saturday and Sunday – 10.00am to 2.00pm.

Southend to gather for the official proclamation for the accession of King Charles III

Crowds are expected to gather in Southend-on-Sea City Centre on Monday for the official proclamation for the accession of King Charles III.

Following the sad death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on Thursday 8 September, His Majesty King Charles III will accede to the throne. It is the duty of The Worshipful The Mayor of Southend, Cllr Kevin Robinson, to announce the King's accession with a formal proclamation to the public.

This is due to take place in Southend City Centre, at Victoria Plaza at the head of Southend High Street, and the proclamation will be given at 11am on Monday 12 September.

The proclamation of accession is a tradition dating back hundreds of years, as a formal method of sharing the news that a monarch has died, and an heir has acceded the throne.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the ceremony, with musical support from the Southend Band.

Any floral tributes from members of the public can be laid by the fountain outside the Civic Centre in Victoria Avenue, or in Leigh Library Gardens.

A Book of Condolence has been opened at the Civic Centre, and will be available to members of the public, every day, between 10am and 7pm, and Saturday and Sunday between 10am and 2pm. The online Royal Book of Condolence can be accessed via the council website.

There is also a book of condolence at the Leigh Community Centre and at the reception of Shoebury Library, open Monday to Friday, during normal office hours.

As part of the national accession ceremony, flags will at full mast from 11am on Saturday 10 September to mark the proclamation of accession of His Majesty King Charles III. The flags will return to half mast at 1pm on Sunday 11 September for the funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

1) Information Corner



BERA Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Thursday 15th September at 10.00am to midday at Thorpe Bay Methodist Church** (corner of The Broadway and Johnstone Road). We will be bringing along panic and personal alarms, contactless debit card blocking pouches, no cold caller stickers and the car key signal blocking pouches, which are free to members.

All welcome to come for a chat, tea and cake and bring a friend. We look forward to seeing you.

Southchurch Park Lake Safety Rail

Following on from my message in last weeks newsletter, if you have not yet emailed the councillors concerned you may wish to use the below as an indication of what to write:

Dear Councillors,

I would like to appeal to you to think about the safety of our children when they visit our local park – Southchurch Park – and the enjoyment they get. Children are drawn

to water and love to watch the ducks and their ducklings and the swans are a great attraction especially when their signets appear. Feeding the ducks has been a joy to children over decades and they should be able to continue this old tradition but safely. There is a slope from the path down to the bank of the lake, the need for a good and strong safety rail to be constructed around the edge of the lake must be an urgent and necessary task for the Council to undertake immediately. Keep our children safe.

Regards,

Arriva bus strikes in Essex called off after 'improved pay offer' accepted

A union has said strikes planned by Arriva bus drivers in Essex have been called off after an 'improved pay offer'.

Unite, a union representing the drivers, had previously said Arriva bus drivers based at depots in Colchester, Harlow and Southend would be striking after a "pay cut presented as rise".

Traffic and Highways

New team to carry out minor road repairs at no cost to council

A new minor repairs team, whose aim will be to find and repair potholes and minor road defects across the City, are about to hit the streets as part of our drive to improve the local road network.

Marlborough Ltd have successfully secured a three-year extension with the Council as part of a contractual agreement, and the Council's Highways service has successfully negotiated the contract to include the new, additional benefit of a minor repairs gang at no additional cost to the council.

Footway resurfacing works planned for Thorpe Ward:

Lifstan Way (Eastern Esplanade to Northumberland Crescent)

There are no current carriageway resurfacing works.

Full list of how energy firms will pay the £400 rebate

Millions of households are due to receive a £400 energy bill discount from next month.

The discount will be paid between October and March next year. The discount will be automatic and will be made up of six instalments, starting from October.

Those on credit meters and smart prepayment meters will be paid the £400 discount automatically over a six month period. However, it's up to your energy firm to decide whether they give out the discount as a cash payment or as a bill credit.

British Gas, Bulb, E.ON, E.ON Next, EDF Energy, Scottish Power, Shell Energy, SSE and Ovo, Octopus Energy, Utilita and Utility Warehouse have all now confirmed how they'll pay their combined customers.

Here's all you need to know.

British Gas

- **Credited to bank account**

Those who pay by direct debit will be expected to pay their bills as normal each month. They will then receive the £400 discount as direct payments into their bank account, spread over a six month period.

Those with bills of less than the monthly refund will get the money refunded and the remaining amount added to their account.

Bulb

- **Direct debit reduction**

Bulb customers will receive the discount automatically and their direct debits will be adjusted accordingly.

Those on smart prepayment meters will have the amount credited to their electricity account.

E.ON and E.ON Next

- **Direct debit reduction**

Those who pay by direct debit that are on a fixed energy tariff will see the rebate amount deducted from their monthly payment amounts.

If a customer's payments are less than £66/67, the firm will reduce payments to £0 and add the extra as an account credit.

Customers on the standard variable tariff that pay by direct debit will see the rebate added as a credit on to their account each month. Any excess credit will be carried over to the following month.

Those on smart prepayment meters will also receive the payment as a split credit to their gas and electricity meters.

EDF

- **Credited to bank account**

Customers who pay by monthly direct debit will pay their bill as normal. They will then receive the discount in cash directly into their bank account after a successful bill payment is made.

Non-direct debit payers will see the energy rebate automatically credited to their energy account in the first week of each month.

Those on smart prepayment meters will receive the discount automatically through a credit on their device.

Scottish Power

- **Credited to bank account**

Customers will be expected to pay their bills as normal and then receive the cash discount back as a payment into their bank account.

Shell Energy

- **Direct debit reduction**

Customers will see the six discounts deducted from their bills before their direct debit is taken.

Non-direct debit payers will see the discount appear on their bill as an extra payment, so they'll also owe less than they normally would.

Smart prepayment meter customers will receive the monthly payment direct to their meters as a credit.

SSE and Ovo Energy

- **Credited to bank account**

Both SSE and Ovo Energy customers will see the £400 discount instalments credited to their bank account after a successful direct debit payment has gone through.

Those on smart prepayment meters will see the discount instalments credited to their electricity meter.

Octopus Energy

- **Direct debit reduction**

Octopus electricity customers will get an automatic monthly credit of £66 in October and November and then £67 between December and March. The credit should automatically reduce customer monthly payments.

If a customer's direct debit payment is less than £67, the firm will look to apply a payment holiday (reducing certain direct debits to £0) and credit their account with the remaining amount.

For smart prepayment customers, the discount will be added directly onto their meter as a credit.

Utilita

- **Direct debit reduction**

The six payments worth £66-67 will be automatically added as a credit to your account. That means the cash will reduce your overall bill.

Those on smart prepayment meters will be credited automatically.

Those on traditional prepayment meters will get the discount in voucher form.

Utility Warehouse

• Direct debit reduction

Customers on fixed energy tariffs and the standard variable tariff will see the discount come off their bill.

Customer direct debits will be adjusted before each monthly bill to reflect that the customer has received the discount.

Customers on smart prepayment meters will receive the discount remotely through a credit on their device.

2) National Corner

England bus fares to see £2 cap for three months

Bus journeys in England will be capped at £2 from January to March next year in a bid to ease the rising cost of living, the Government has said. The £60 million plan could see some passengers save more than £3 per single bus ticket, according to the Department for Transport, with Transport Secretary Grant Shapps saying the move will provide "direct help" to thousands of households.

Road maintenance costs

The LGA says a number of councils are experiencing a 22 per cent rise in the cost of repairing a pothole, relaying a road surface and other maintenance costs. A £400 million reduction to local roads maintenance budgets has also put councils under pressure. LGA Transport spokesperson Cllr David Renard was interviewed on GB News and said more funding is needed: "Given the increasing costs of both materials, energy and inflation, this places an additional pressure on local councils when they're already very short of resources to carry out other statutory duties."

Christmas lights switch-ons cancelled due to huge energy bills

Town centres across the country could shine less brightly this Christmas as councils face higher energy bills during the cost of living crisis. Annual celebrations to switch on high street illuminations are organised by local councils and often feature entertainment, family activities and markets, but with energy bills increasing, councils are having to justify the cost in the face of severe economic pressure.

Booster campaign underway

The NHS's autumn COVID-19 booster campaign has begun, with people who are housebound or care home residents and staff the first to receive their booster. The new dose is a bivalent vaccine, developed to offer protection against both the original strain and the Omicron variant. Around 1.6 million people will be eligible for their booster, with four million more people who are at the highest risk able to book their booster through the National Booking Service next week (12th).

More ‘banking hubs’ to open to tackle branch closures

More shared “banking hubs” are to open across the UK to help communities hit by branch and ATM closures get continued access to cash. The additional 13 hubs announced today take the overall number planned to 25.

Energy bills freeze to be announced

Liz Truss, the new Prime Minister, will announce a freeze to energy bills, it has been reported. Bills are expected to be capped at £2,500 and the freeze would apply to households and businesses. Energy market analysts said the policy could cost the Government around £150 billion.

Fire Brigade Union to ballot for strikes over pay dispute

The Fire Brigades Union (FBU) has said 32,500 of its members across the UK are to vote on whether to go on strike in a dispute over pay. The ballot is expected to be held in five weeks' time.

3) Temporary Road Closure

Temporary Prohibition of Traffic, Waiting, Loading & Unloading – Southend 10K Event – Sunday 18th September 2022

To facilitate holding the Southend 10K event on 18th September 2022, the Order comes into force on Sunday 18th September and will continue in operation until the conclusion of the event.

The effect of this Order is to introduce (road names and extents affected are stated in Table 1 to this notice; junctions affected are stated in Table 2 to this notice):

- a. Prohibition of traffic along the Principal Event Route.
- b. Prohibition of vehicles waiting, loading and unloading on the Principal Event Route.

The prohibitions or restrictions will apply only during such time and to such extent as indicated by traffic signs. The diversions and the traffic management controls being applied will be as instructed on-street. Exemptions are provided in the Order for emergency vehicles, official event vehicles and pedestrians. Any vehicle in contravention of any restriction/prohibition imposed by this Notice may be issued with a penalty charge notice and removed or relocated.

Table 1 - Principal Event Route

Road Name	Eastern Esplanade
Extent	From outside No.74 to meet Thorpe Esplanade
Road Name	Lifstan Way
Extent	From the junction Eastern Esplanade to the junction with Northumberland Crescent
Road Name	Shaftesbury Avenue
Extent	From adjacent to the rear of No.25 Lifstan Way to adjacent to the rear of No.26 Lifstan Way
Road Name	Thorpe Esplanade

Extent	From the meeting point of Eastern Esplanade to meet Shoebury Common Road
Road Name	Thorpe Hall Avenue
Extent	From the junction with Gloucester Terrace to Thorpe Esplanade Roundabout
Road Name	Ness Road
Extent	From the meeting point of Shoebury Common Road to outside No.2 Church Road
Road Name	New Barge Pier Road
Extent	From the junction with Ness Road to the access road of Gunners Park Car Park

Table 2 - Principal Event Route

Road Name	Eastern Esplanade
Junction/s affected	Camper Road, Chester Avenue, Chelsea Avenue, Elizabeth Road, Bryant Avenue, Plasnewydd
Road Name	Thorpe Esplanade
Junction/s affected	Warwick Road, Clieveden Road, Walton Road, Lynton Road, Burges Terrace, The Broadway, St Augustines Avenue, Maplin Way
Road Name	Ness Road
Junction/s affected	Waterford Road, Freemantle

4) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 29th August to 4th September 2022

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/229492/22
 Offence Description Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)
 Reported Date and Time 03/09/2022 08:19
 Committed Date (From) 02/09/2022
 Street partial postcode **GARON PARK SS2 4**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED HAVE CAUSED DAMAGE TO THE GREEN OF THE GOLF COURSE USING METAL RODS TO DIG IT UP.

Ward **Thorpe**
 Crime Reference Number 42/226889/22
 Offence Description Attempted Burglary - Residential - Non-Dwelling
 Reported Date and Time 30/08/2022 13:52
 Committed Date (From) 27/08/2022 00:01
 Street partial postcode **THORPE ESPLANADE SS1 3**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ATTEMPTED TO BREAK INTO THE VICTIMS BEACH HUT BY USING A CROWBAR TO JEMMY THE ROLLER DOORS. THE SUSPECTS HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO GAIN ENTRY TO THE BEACH HUT BUT THE DOOR IS A COMPLETE WRITE OFF.

Ward **Thorpe**
Crime Reference Number 42/229982/22
Offence Description Attempted - Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time 13/08/2022 16:17
Committed Date (From) 13/08/2022
Street partial postcode **THORPE ESPLANADE SS1 3**
Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE THROWN A CAN AT THE VICTIMS VEHICLE AFTER HE BEEPED THEM FOR WALKING OUT IN FRONT OF HIM AS HE WAS DRIVING.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/226585/22
Offence Description Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time 30/08/2022 13:53
Committed Date (From) 28/08/2022
Street partial postcode **TOWERFIELD ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ENTRY TO THE SITE, CLIMBED ON TO THE ROOF AND CAUSED DAMAGE TO THREE ROOF LIGHTS. SUSPECTS HAVE ALSO SMASHED THREE CCTV CAMERAS WITH UNKNOWN OBJECTS.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/229573/22
Offence Description Theft of a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time 03/09/2022 01:53
Committed Date (From) 03/09/2022 01:36
Street partial postcode **LODWICK SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT UNKNOWN GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIM GREY RANGE ROVER, INDEX 2PHG, BY UNKNOWN MEANS AND STOLE IT FROM THE DRIVEWAY.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/229596/22
Offence Description Attempted Burglary - Residential - Non-Dwelling
Reported Date and Time 03/09/2022 13:25
Committed Date (From) 02/09/2022
Street partial postcode **SHOEBURY COMMON ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE TRIED TO GAIN ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS BEACH HUT BY FORCING THE DOOR FRAME, CAUSING DAMAGE.

5) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 4th September 2022

APPLN. NO: 22/01273/FUL

Ward. Southchurch

Officer: Kara Elliott

DEMOLISH EXISTING DWELLING AND ERECT REPLACEMENT DWELLINGHOUSE WITH PITCHED ROOFS TO FRONT AND REAR ELEVATIONS, FLAT ROOF DORMERS TO FRONT AND SIDE ELEVATIONS, JULIET BALCONIES TO FRONT AND REAR ELEVATIONS (PART RETROSPECTIVE)

19 LADRAM WAY THORPE BAY ESSEX

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 22/01409/FULH

Ward. Thorpe

Officer: Hayley Thompson

FORM NEW CANOPY TO FRONT AND SIDE

154 BURGESS ROAD THORPE BAY ESSEX

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 22/01412/FULH

Ward. Thorpe

Officer: Robert Lilburn

RAISE RIDGE HEIGHT, FORM HIPPED TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION WITH DORMER TO REAR AND JULIETTE BALCONIES TO FORM HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN THE LOFTSPACE, ERECT SINGLE STOREY SIDE/REAR EXTENSION (AMENDED PROPOSAL)

565 WOODGRANGE DRIVE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX

Decision: Refuse Permission

APPLN. NO: 22/01664/PA3COU

Ward. Thorpe

Officer: Abbie Greenwood

CHANGE OF USE TO FIRST FLOOR OFFICE SPACE (CLASS E) TO FORM 2 SELF-CONTAINED FLATS (CLASS C3), ALTER EXISTING GROUND FLOOR SHOP FRONT TO FORM ENTRANCE AND STAIRCASE TO ACCESS FLATS (PRIOR APPROVAL)

140 - 142 THE BROADWAY THORPE BAY ESSEX

Decision: Withdrawn

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