

E-Newsletter – 7th April 2023

www.bera.co.uk



© Andrew Armstrong Photography

1) Information Corner



BERA Coffee Morning

The next coffee morning will be on **Thursday 20th April 2023** 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.



New Park Shelter

After pressure from BERA and Cllrs Woodley and Stafford, a new shelter is being erected in Southchurch Park to replace the one that was removed.

Council to debut new CCTV van this bank holiday Monday

With a bank holiday weekend approaching and warmer weather predicted, Southend-on-Sea City Council is set to debut its new CCTV van on Bank Holiday Monday (10 April).

The new mobile CCTV unit is owned and operated by the council's CCTV Control Room and was completely funded by a government grant secured by Essex Police on behalf of the council.

The van is equipped with four external digital cameras plus one dome camera on top. The van will also be a part of the Townlink radio network and offer the same service as the CCTV control room which includes zoom and pan capabilities that produce high quality digital images, which has obvious benefits when identifying people for prosecution purposes.

Southend-on-Sea was an early adopter of CCTV and the technology went through a £2.2m upgrade in 2021. An extra 41 digital cameras placed in new areas alongside the 165 existing cameras across the whole city.

Plans set for a fun and safe Easter weekend in Southend-on-Sea

As the Easter weekend approaches, visitors to Southend-on-Sea are being urged to have fun and be respectful.

Southend-on-Sea City Council is working alongside partners to ensure everyone who spends time in our City, stays safe and well. Plans have been in place for several weeks now, as the spring break approaches.

We are urging people to;

- Drive sensibly and park safely
- Dispose of litter properly or take it home
- Avoid drinking too much alcohol
- Be 'beach safe'
- Be respectful to uniformed staff who are there to help you

The public will see a visible presence of council teams and contractors, with the council's community safety officers, Business Improvement District (BID) Rangers, beach welfare officers, pier and foreshore staff, parking marshals, parking enforcement officers, as well as other agencies on duty.

This group is supported by the council's team of CCTV operatives who play a vital role in highlighting suspicious behaviour, any potential flashpoints, thereby protecting the city's residents and visitors. For the first time, the council's CCTV van will be operating along the seafront keeping a close eye on everyone's safety and wellbeing.

Any motorcycles arriving at the seafront on Easter Monday will be directed to Eastern Esplanade car park (formerly known as Gas Works car park). Marine Parade will be open to through traffic, but parking is suspended along this area on Easter Monday for the safety of pedestrians.

Stricter rules are also now in place meaning barbecues are not permitted anywhere on the beach or seafront area, and personal watercraft, such as jet skis, are subject to new controls. These are both due to ongoing concerns about public safety.

Please plan your visit. For more information on car parks and charges, visit the car parking page on SCC website. There are now a number of ways you can pay for parking, alongside the machines in place.

We have the RingGo and Mobon parking apps, which once downloaded, allows you to select your location and pay for parking as you go. If you decide to spend more time in the City, you can easily extend your parking without returning to your car.

For visitors who know they'll be returning, there is also the Southend Pass, which for £10 per month, offers three hours of parking every day in each parking zone. For more information and to download the Southend Parking app, please visit SCC website.

You can also take the train into Southend-on-Sea via the Greater Anglia and c2c lines. Check their website for further information on any service alterations:

Beach safety

The Council offers the following advice to help ensure a visit to the beach is remembered for all the right reasons.

Supervise children and vulnerable adults at all times. There is safety in numbers. Wear jelly shoes or other sensible footwear on the beach and in the sea. Like with all seafronts, hidden dangers such as sharp shells and rocks may be hidden under the sand or water.

Don't climb the rocks: Several areas of our seafront have rocks, including our seafront lagoon at Three Shells Beach. Please do not climb them.

Observe signs and flags: Be aware of your surroundings and the times of the tides. There is a link to tide timetables on our website: [Mooring application and tide tables – Southend-on-Sea City Council](#). Heed warning signs and flags: they could save your life!

2) National Corner

Council tax, water and mobile bills rise for millions

Rises in a host of essential bills are now taking effect, adding pressure to household budgets, but the lowest earners are also receiving better pay. The start of April marks the point at which council tax, water bills and some mobile costs rise, while nearly two million people will receive £10.42 an hour from now, a 92p rise and the biggest cash increase in the 24-year history of the minimum wage.

Sewage entered rivers and seas on average 825 times a day last year

Water companies released raw sewage into rivers and seas in England for more than 1.75 million hours last year. The data shows there were an average of 825 sewage spills into waterways per day, down 19 per cent on the previous year, but the Environment Agency put the fall largely down to drier weather and not water company action.

March was England's 'wettest in 40 years'

England has had its wettest March in more than 40 years. Met Office data up to 30 March showed 111.3mm of rain fell during the month, 91 per cent more than the average.

Fare cap increased bus journeys

More people are using bus services since a £2 fare cap was introduced in January, according to a survey by Transport Focus. The study found that 40 per cent of people surveyed said bus journeys were replacing ones they would have made by car. The cap was originally due to expire in March but has been extended until June amid fears that hundreds of services across England could be reduced.

Calls for cash parking options

Councils are being urged to keep cash options for parking payments by Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities Michael Gove, to ensure "no part of society is digitally excluded". A spokesperson for the LGA, said: "It is down to individual councils to make such decisions but some have chosen to look to find more efficient and secure ways of paying for parking, which is common practice in the private sector."

Emergency alert system test

The UK's emergency alert system will see a nationwide test at 3pm on Sunday 23 April, the Government has confirmed. Mobile phones across the country will see a message accompanied by a sound and vibration that will automatically stop after 10 seconds, requiring you to tap "OK" or swipe to remove the notification.

Vaccine for at-risk under fives

Children in England between the ages of six months and four years in high-risk groups will be offered a COVID-19 vaccine for the first time from mid-June. Infants with conditions such as cystic fibrosis, heart problems and compromised immune systems are included, following a recommendation from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation.

Gambling limits for under-25s

Under-25s are set to face limits on the amount they are able to bet under new laws reportedly being lined up by the Government. According to **The Sun**, ministers are planning on consulting on capping bets for online slot games to between £2 and £15, with a £2 limit for under-25s.

3) Crime Report 27th March – 2nd April 2023

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/54751/23
 Offence Description Theft from a motor vehicle
 Reported Date and Time 26/03/2023 18:36
 Committed Date (From) 26/03/2023 18:30
 Street partial postcode **HERA CLOSE SS2 4**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT HAS GOT INTO TAXI AND HAS STOLEN THE DRIVERS MOBILE PHONE FROM THE FRONT SEAT.

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/55425/23
 Offence Description Theft if not classified elsewhere
 Reported Date and Time 28/03/2023 09:03
 Committed Date (From) 15/03/2023 08:40
 Street partial postcode **SOUTHCHURCH BOULEVARD SS2 4**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS REMOVED VICTIMS BLACK JACKET WITH WHITE STRIPES THAT WAS LEFT UNATTENDED.

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/56510/23
 Offence Description Attempted - Robbery (of Personal Property)
 Reported Date and Time 29/03/2023 20:53
 Committed Date (From) 29/03/2023 15:20
 Street partial postcode **BRIGHTON AVENUE SS1 2**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS TRIED TO ROB THE VICTIM FOR HIS PHONE AND AIRPODS.

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/56526/23
 Offence Description Attempted - Robbery (of Personal Property)
 Reported Date and Time 29/03/2023 20:52
 Committed Date (From) 29/03/2023 15:20
 Street partial postcode **BRIGHTON AVENUE SS1 2**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED HAVE PINNED THE VICTIM AGAINST A WALL AND DEMANDED HIS PHONE AND AIRPODS.

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/56755/23
 Offence Description Other criminal damage to a residence (Under £5,000)
 Reported Date and Time 16/01/2023 12:12
 Committed Date (From) 16/01/2023 12:12

Street partial postcode **SOUTHCHURCH RECTORY CHASE SS2 4**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT NAMED KICKED THE VICTIMS DOOR LEAVING TWO MARKS.

Ward **Thorpe**
Crime Reference Number 42/56371/23
Offence Description Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time 29/03/2023 15:39
Committed Date (From) 29/03/2023 14:39
Street partial postcode **MARCUS AVENUE SS1 3**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS CAUSED DAMAGE TO THE VICTIMS GARAGE BY
STANDING ON THE ROOF.

Ward **Thorpe**
Crime Reference Number 42/56889/23
Offence Description Burglary - Residential - Non-Dwelling
Reported Date and Time 30/03/2023 12:32
Committed Date (From) 01/01/2023 23:01
Street partial postcode **EASTERN ESPLANADE SS1 2**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS ENTERED THE VICTIMS GARAGE AND REMOVED
ALL THE FUSES FROM THE VICTIMS VEHICLE, THROWING THEM ON THE
FLOOR AND CONDUCTED A MESSY SEARCH OF THE GARAGE.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/54742/23
Offence Description Attempted Burglary - Residential - Dwelling
Reported Date and Time 22/03/2023 10:46
Committed Date (From) 21/03/2023 01:16
Street partial postcode **DREWSTEIGTON SS3 8**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS ATTEMPTED TO GAIN ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS
GARAGE AND THEN WHEN NOT SUCCESSFUL, MOVED TO THE FRONT DOOR
OF THE HOUSE BUT WAS PUT OFF BY THE CAMERA AND THEN DECIDED TO
LEAVE.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/56643/23
Offence Description Theft from a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time 30/03/2023 07:16
Committed Date (From) 29/03/2023 18:00
Street partial postcode **WEST ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAVE STOLEN BOTH THE FRONT AND THE REAR
INDEX PLATES FROM THE VICTIMS FORD FIESTA, BY MEANS UNKNOWN.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/56935/23
Offence Description Burglary - Business And Community

Reported Date and Time 19/03/2023 21:41
Committed Date (From) 19/03/2023
Street partial postcode **WEST ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECTS UNIDENTIFIED HAVE JUMPED THE COUNTER AT CO OP TAKING 50 GBP WORTH OF VAPES CIGARETTES AND TABACCO PRODUCTS.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/57175/23
Offence Description Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time 30/03/2023 18:53
Committed Date (From) 30/03/2023 15:30
Street partial postcode **NESS ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS DRIVEN OVER THE VICTIMS ADVERTISING SIGN CAUSING DAMAGE. VALUE OF SIGN GBP 200.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/57464/23
Offence Description Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle
Reported Date and Time 31/03/2023 08:41
Committed Date (From) 29/03/2023 19:06
Street partial postcode **NORTH SHOEBURY ROAD SS3 8**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS STOLEN THE VICTIMS BICYCLE BY UNSCREWING THE RACK AND RIDING THE BICYCLE AWAY.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/58018/23
Offence Description Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time 31/03/2023 21:59
Committed Date (From) 31/03/2023 19:30
Street partial postcode **DELAWARE ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS KICKED THE PASSENGER DOOR OF THE VICTIMS BLACK BMW CAUSING DAMAGE.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/58536/23
Offence Description Theft from a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time 01/04/2023 15:56
Committed Date (From) 29/03/2023
Street partial postcode **VINCENT MEWS SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS REMOVED THE FRONT NUMBER PLATE FROM THE VICTIMS BRONZE TOYOTA YARIS WITHOUT PERMISSION.

4) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 6th April 2023

Application Number: 23/00459/CLP **Ward: Southchurch**
Officer: Gabriella Fairley
Single storey rear extension (certificate of lawful development - proposed)
7 Wansfell Gardens Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/00473/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**
Officer: Jennifer Doherty
Hip to gable roof extension to rear with dormers to front and side to form habitable accommodation in the loftspace, erect single storey side and rear extension and layout patio to rear
47 The Broadway Thorpe Bay Southend-On-Sea

Application Number: 23/00461/FULH **Ward: West Shoebury**
Officer: Jennifer Doherty
Erect single storey rear extension
10 Wambrook Shoeburyness Southend-on-sea

5) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 2nd April 2023

APPLN. NO: 23/00005/FULH **Ward. Thorpe**
Officer: Kara Elliott
ERECT SINGLE STOREY SIDE AND REAR EXTENSION, REPLACE EXISTING PUMP HOUSE TO REAR, ERECT NEW ADDITIONAL OUTBUILDING AND ERECT PERGOLA SEATING AREA TO REAR (AMENDED PROPOSAL)
63 MARCUS AVENUE THORPE BAY ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/00142/FULH **Ward. West Shoebury**
Officer: Jennifer Doherty
ERECT SINGLE STOREY DETACHED OUTBUILDING IN REAR GARDEN
14 LODWICK SHOEBURYNESS SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
Decision: Grant Conditional

APPLN. NO: 23/00170/FUL **Ward. West Shoebury**
Officer: Abbie Greenwood
CHANGE OF USE OF GROUND FLOOR FROM RESIDENTIAL INSTITUTION (CLASS C2) TO TEMPORARY USE AS VACCINATION CENTRE AND OTHER MEDICAL SERVICES (CLASS E(E)) FOR A TEMPORARY PERIOD OF 5 YEARS
NORTON PLACE 162 NESS ROAD SHOEBURYNESS
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/00206/FULH **Ward. West Shoebury**
Officer: Gabriella Fairley
ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND ALTER SIDE ELEVATION

87 BISHOPSTEIGNTON SHOEBURYNESS ESSEX

Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

The information we provide is intended to be for the exclusive use of our members to whom it is addressed and is confidential and must not be passed onto any third party. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or other use of the contents of this information is prohibited. If you have received this email in error, please notify us immediately by contacting BERA.

- END -