

E-Newsletter – 22nd September 2023

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Dear Member,

Once again, BERA with its planning expertise, has successfully objected and planning officers have refused the planned development on the old Lloyds bank site.

We just wanted to keep you informed,

Regards

Ron

1) Information Corner



Save the Date!!

Who: **BERA**

What: **Coffee Morning**

Where: **Thorpe Bay Methodist Church** (corner of The Broadway and Johnstone Road).

When: **Thursday 19th October 2023 at 10.00am to midday**

Thank you to all who attended yesterdays' coffee morning. Please join us in October for engaging chats and laughter, accompanied by free tea, coffee, homemade cakes and biscuits. We will be bringing stretchy keychains and other devices to keep you safe.

Bring along a friend and we look forward to welcoming you once again.



Scam Alert – Please be aware

We have been contacted by a member who received a phone call last Friday (15th) from a young girl called Daisy who said that Southend Council were offering a free service in this area for changing fuse boxes which need to be updated. This was a Southend Fire and Safety report connected with energy.

She said they were working in the area as a result of a bad fire in Leigh, which was caused by a faulty fuse box. They tried to arrange the appointment for the Monday (18th) and said that a line manager would call the member back to let her know the electricians' name. The number they called from was 07843 192649. A lady called Andrea from the Energy Care Team said a man called Lester Rosen would be calling at the members house on Monday 18th at 2.30pm.

The member was questioned as to whether she had relatives who lived near by and also how old she was.

The members son looked up the Energy Care Team and Southend Fire and Safety and could not find any information on these two businesses and this has now been reported to the Council and the Police.

As you can see, some scams are becoming very convincing. Please be aware and always speak to your family and friend before agreeing to any work and allowing anyone into your home.

Violent crime and ASB fall following Operation Union deployments

The operation to combat high-harm crime in Southend has led to a significant drop in violence and anti-social behaviour during the summer.

Operation Union saw officers complete more than 40,000 hours of high-visibility patrols along the seafront and surrounding areas between April and September. During this period, they made 77 arrests and completed 322 stop and searches, with 45% leading to the discovery of illegal items including drugs, weapons and stolen goods.

Of the 77 arrested, 26 people were charged with offences, two were cautioned, eight community resolutions were issued, and another 31 were released under investigation or on bail.

There was a 24% drop in incidents of violence against the person and a 55% fall in anti-social behaviour.

Operation Union was established in 2021 after the increased footfall in Southend post-lockdown led to instances of trouble.

Officers have worked closely with Southend-on-Sea City Council, the British Transport Police, the c2c railway and seafront businesses and security teams to keep the city safe.

This year, 26 officers were on patrol per day in the Union zone during peak season and the team benefited from the use of a second OpenGate weapons detection system that was donated by seafront traders.

A large gathering of youths in the city in August saw unruly behaviour but there were no incidents of serious violence across the summer.

When intelligence indicated there were people intent on coming to Southend to cause trouble, dispersal orders were put in place and people were turned away at the station.

Officers have also been enforcing the terms of the Public Space Protection Order (PSPO) that has seen significant quantities of alcohol and nitrous oxide seized from people on the streets.

Devolution deal in development for Greater Essex

More funding and more local decision making to strengthen the local economy could come to Southend-on-Sea and Greater Essex.

Southend-on-Sea City Council along with Essex County Council, Thurrock Council, and the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, have agreed to work toward a level 2 devolution deal - which if agreed, would involve creating a new Greater Essex Combined Authority.

A deal would mean better funding and local decision making in areas such as the economy, skills, transport, and support for businesses.

The combined authority would be a new institution in which Essex County Council, Southend-on-Sea City Council and Thurrock Council, working closely with the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, will take collective decisions on the powers and budgets that Government devolves to Greater Essex.

It would not be a merger of the three councils. Each authority will remain independent, as would the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner. The deal would also not involve a directly elected mayor.

The combined authority would incorporate the former role of the Local Enterprise Partnership, following the Government's decision to disband these and bring them under local democratic oversight.

City, district and borough councils in Essex would also have a voice under the combined authority to ensure that local needs continue to be reflected in all decision-making.

The three authorities, alongside the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner, have confirmed they will enter into negotiations with the Government with the aim of agreeing a devolution deal in time for the Government's Autumn Budget Statement on 22 November.

The Government published a framework for level 2 deals in the Levelling Up White Paper. The details of the Greater Essex deal will be finalised in negotiations with the Government over the coming weeks. Essex, Southend-on-Sea and Thurrock Councils will then undertake full public consultations on it.

2) National Corner

COVID-19 boosters for over-65s as hospital cases rise

People aged 65 and over in England are being urged to have a top-up booster vaccine against COVID-19 at a time when more people are coming into hospitals with the virus. The rollout has been brought forward as a precaution against a highly-mutated new variant called BA.2.86.

Doctor's strike

More patients than ever before will be put at risk when consultants and junior doctors begin the "biggest walkout the NHS has ever seen", the NHS Confederation has warned. The latest round of industrial action in England would force hospitals to cancel a higher number of appointments and operations than ever before.

Hotel cost for housing migrants

The cost of housing migrants in hotels has risen to £8 million per day. There were 50,546 migrants being housed in hotels last month, up by 10,000 since December, according to a Home Office update.

Surprise fall in inflation

In August, core inflation was 6.2 per cent in the 12 months to August 2023, down from 6.9 per cent in July. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development said UK inflation would average 7.2 per cent in 2023. It said this would be the highest rate in the G7 group of major economies.

Sunak suggests he will delay switch to electric vehicles

Prime Minister Rishi Sunak is preparing to announce a delay on the ban on the sales of new petrol and diesel cars and phasing out gas boilers. He said the Government was committed to reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050 but in a "more proportionate way".

Online Safety Bill

The Online Safety Bill, designed to protect children online and combat illegal and harmful material, was approved by the House of Lords on Tuesday and will become law once it receives royal assent. Campaigners have called on tech companies to act quickly on their new obligations.

Opinion: Seaside towns key to solving housing crisis

In an opinion piece, Adam Hawksbee, the deputy director of the thinktank Onward

says that the rise of hybrid working means people are looking for attractive family homes and welcoming towns in which to put down roots. Former industrial sites around the coast could, with some government investment and co-ordination, become prime real estate and a new wave of coastal homes would bring welcome investment to areas that badly need it, he writes.

A Level reforms

The A-level system in England could be reformed with a new style of British baccalaureate in which children would study more subjects after the age of 16, it has been reported. The proposals include English and maths becoming compulsory up until the age of 18.

Interest rates frozen

The Bank of England has left its interest rate unchanged at 5.25 per cent due to falling levels of inflation. The decision brings to an end the longest successive period of "tightening" in recent Bank of England history.

3) Crime Report 11th to 17th September 2023

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/164378/23
Offence Description	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time	09/09/2023 21:30
Committed Date (From)	09/09/2023 21:28
Street partial postcode	HAMSTEL ROAD SS2 4
Offence Details (MO)	SUSPECT NAMED HAS KICKED THE VICTIMS CAR AND CAUSED A SMALL DENT.

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/164736/23
Offence Description	Other criminal damage to a vehicle (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time	08/09/2023 18:13
Committed Date (From)	08/09/2023 00:01
Street partial postcode	OAKLEIGH AVENUE SS1 2
Offence Details (MO)	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS SMASHED THE WINDOW ON VICTIMS WHITE VAUXHALL ASTRA BY MEANS UNKNOWN.

Ward	Southchurch
Crime Reference Number	42/164752/23
Offence Description	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)
Reported Date and Time	09/09/2023 16:27
Committed Date (From)	09/09/2023 16:20
Street partial postcode	CHINCHILLA ROAD SS1 2
Offence Details (MO)	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS JUMPED OVER THE VICTIMS FENCE LANDING ON A BENCH CAUSING IT TO BREAK.

Ward **Southchurch**
 Crime Reference Number 42/165880/23
 Offence Description Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)
 Reported Date and Time 11/09/2023 18:40
 Committed Date (From) 11/09/2023 18:40
 Street partial postcode **GARON PARK SS2 4**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE ENTERED THE LOCATION AND DAMAGED THE GREEN WITH ONE ON AN ELECTRIC SCOOTER.

Ward **Thorpe**
 Crime Reference Number 42/163861/23
 Offence Description Theft of a motor vehicle
 Reported Date and Time 12/09/2023 12:28
 Committed Date (From) 11/09/2023 02:00
 Street partial postcode **WOODGRANGE DRIVE SS1 3**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN REMOVED THE VICTIMS VEHICLE A SILVER MERCEDES A CLASS, INDEX NUMBER FT60 BDE, BY MEANS UNKNOWN FROM THE DRIVEWAY OF THE VICTIMS PROPERTY WHERE IT WAS PARKED OVERNIGHT.

Ward **West Shoebury**
 Crime Reference Number 42/165144/23
 Offence Description Unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle (does not include 'driving or being carried knowing motor vehicle has been taken ')
 Reported Date and Time 14/09/2023 00:01
 Committed Date (From) 14/09/2023 00:01
 Street partial postcode **BUNTERS AVENUE SS3 9**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT HAS TAKEN VICTIMS VEHICLE A SILVER VAUXHALL ASTRA WITHOUT CONSENT. RECOVERED.

Ward **West Shoebury**
 Crime Reference Number 42/166497/23
 Offence Description Theft from a motor vehicle
 Reported Date and Time 16/09/2023 08:16
 Committed Date (From) 15/09/2023 19:00
 Street partial postcode **LEITRIM AVENUE SS3 9**
 Offence Details (MO)
 SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS CONDUCTED A MESSY SEARCH OF THE VICTIMS GREY AUDI SQ7 AND STOLEN THE VEHICLE MANUAL BY ENTERING THE UNLOCKED PASSENGER DOOR.

4) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 22nd September 2023

Application Number: 23/01437/FULH **Ward: Southchurch**
Officer: Gabriella Fairley
Erect single storey side/rear extension and first floor side extension, erect porch to front, extend garage to front and convert rear part of garage into habitable accommodation (Amended Proposal)
184 Barnstaple Road Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01482/TPO **Ward: Southchurch**
Officer: Abbie Greenwood
Prune two Fagus sylvatica (Common Beech) Reduce height of remaining foliage area by 1.5m and lightly reshape to initiate rebalancing works All final pruning cuts to be at a suitable branch union (Application for works to trees subject to a Tree Preservation Order)
Southchurch Lawn Wakering Road Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 23/01439/FUL **Ward: Thorpe**
Officer: Abbie Greenwood
Raise and alter roof, erect single storey extension to rear, alter elevations and create self-contained unit for use as Class E (Financial and professional services)
127 The Broadway Thorpe Bay Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 23/01447/FULH **Ward: Thorpe**
Officer: Jennifer Doherty
Hip to gable roof extension with dormer to rear to form habitable accommodation in loftspace, erect single storey side extension
44 Acacia Drive Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01455/AD **Ward: Thorpe**
Officer: Gabriella Fairley
Application for approval of details pursuant to condition 05 (Details of hard and soft Landscaping) of planning permission 19/02231/FUL dated 20.01.2020
9 Thorpe Bay Gardens Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 23/01486/CLP **Ward: Thorpe**
Officer: Gabriella Fairley
Dormer to rear to form habitable accommodation in loft space (Lawful Development Certificate - Proposed)
52 Kensington Road Southend-on-sea Essex

5) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 17th September 2023

APPLN. NO: 23/01169/FULH **Ward. Southchurch**
Officer: Kara Elliott

ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION
27 VAUGHAN AVENUE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX
Decision: Withdrawn

APPLN. NO: 23/01181/FUL **Ward. Southchurch**
Officer: Abbie Greenwood
CHANGE OF USE AND CONVERT EXISTING RETAIL UNIT, OFFICE SPACE AND
ANCILLARY WORKSHOP AT REAR INTO ONE COMMERCIAL UNIT TO FRONT
PART OF GROUND FLOOR, FOUR SELF-CONTAINED FLATS ON GROUND AND
FIRST FLOOR LEVELS, ONE MEWS HOUSE AT REAR, ERECT TWO STOREY
REAR EXTENSION AND ALTERATIONS TO ELEVATIONS
771 - 773 SOUTHCHURCH ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/01248/FULH **Ward. Southchurch**
Officer: James Benn
ERECT DORMER TO REAR AND INSTALL ROOFLIGHT TO FRONT TO FORM
HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN LOFTSPACE
14 HERA CLOSE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

APPLN. NO: 23/00782/FUL **Ward. Thorpe**
Officer: Oliver Hart
ERECT TWO ADDITIONAL FLOORS TO BUILDING AND THREE STOREY SIDE
AND REAR EXTENSION, FORM PENTHOUSE APARTMENT WITH ROOF
TERRACES TO TOP TWO FLOORS AND CONVERT FIRST AND SECOND
FLOORS INTO EIGHT SELF CONTAINED FLATS WITH BALCONIES
122 THE BROADWAY THORPE BAY SOUTHEND-ON-SEA
Decision: Refuse Permission

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