

## E-Newsletter – 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

[www.bera.co.uk](http://www.bera.co.uk)



© Andrew Armstrong Photography

### **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 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 10.00am to midday**

Our next coffee morning is 16<sup>th</sup> November and please join us 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.

#### **Empty Homes**

If any resident is aware of any empty homes in the ward, please let Ron know at [ronwoodley@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ronwoodley@hotmail.co.uk), and he will report this to the council to see if the property can be brought back into use. Thank you.

## **Disabled crossing point in The Broadway**

We have been informed by the Traffic and Highways department at the council that they are doing a couple of checks, following the completion of the TRO process. So just to complete the process they also undertook a Road Safety Audit on the design.

There were no issues or changes to the proposed works but it did highlight a recommendation to check that the street lighting was sufficient around it, which they will do later in the day.

Therefore, they hope to be able to start works very early in November.

## **Keeping parks tidy and wildlife safe during pumpkin season**

Southend-on-Sea City Council is pleased to see residents enjoying pumpkin-themed activities and ask everyone to be responsible when getting rid of pumpkins.

Recently, there has been a rise in old pumpkins disposed of in Southend parks and green spaces. This not only makes these places less attractive for people, but it is also not good for the animals that live there. Animals like hedgehogs are likely to eat old pumpkins and it could make them sick.

Here are some smart ways to dispose of old pumpkins:

- Use the weekly food waste collection service
- Compost your pumpkin at home
- Find fun recipes online to use the parts that can still be eaten

Residents can order a new food caddy and food waste liners free of charge via the council's website and they will be delivered to your doorstep.

## **2) Scam Alerts**

We have been contacted by a member as one of his bank accounts was recently scammed. He never gave out any of his personal details to anybody over the phone or on the internet.

However, prior to him being scammed he received an email from his bank, Lloyds, bank to ask if he could confirm his correct telephone number, as an additional one had been applied to his account which they were not aware of. This request came through on the bank's own formal heading. He replied and confirmed his telephone number.

A week later he got four text messages telling him that he had registered for Mobile Banking which was not the case. He contacted the bank and the account was immediately frozen and he was told he would have to go into the branch to sort this out, which he did.

The bank informed him that nine payments of around £800 had been withdrawn and there were further payments requested that would have cleared that particular account out £12,000 in total. He explained to the bank that he had never given any details out or spoken to anybody about this account apart from confirming his telephone number with them directly, or so he thought.

It would appear that the scammers had been phishing Lloyds business at the time and his conversation had allowed them somehow to infiltrate the system to gain access to accounts.

Fortunately for the member the bank refunded the account. But the lesson is very simple. Do not accept any requests of any nature. If you get one take it into the bank and deal with it face to face.

### **3) Crime Report 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

Ward **Southchurch**  
Crime Reference Number 42/188277/23  
Offence Description Residential Burglary of a Home (Dwelling)  
Reported Date and Time 19/10/2023 17:08  
Committed Date (From) 19/10/2023  
Street partial postcode **MAPLIN WAY NORTH SS1 3**  
Offence Details (MO)  
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ACCESS TO THE VICTIMS PROPERTY, CONDUCTED A MESSY SEARCH AND STOLEN 500 GBP FROM THE WARDROBE.

Ward **Southchurch**  
Crime Reference Number 42/188413/23  
Offence Description Theft from the person of another  
Reported Date and Time 20/10/2023 09:41  
Committed Date (From) 19/10/2023 15:20  
Street partial postcode **HAMSTEL ROAD SS2 4**  
Offence Details (MO)  
SUSPECTS UNKNOWN X 4 WEARING BALACLAVA'S HAVE APPROACHED AND SURROUNDED THE VICTIM AND STOLEN HIS EARPHONES FROM HIS PERSON SHOUTING THANK YOU FOR YOUR EARPHONES LEAVING THE VICTIM ALARMED AND DISTRESSED.

Ward **Southchurch**  
Crime Reference Number 42/188602/23  
Offence Description Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle  
Reported Date and Time 20/10/2023 15:48  
Committed Date (From) 20/10/2023 15:30  
Street partial postcode **SOUTHCHURCH ROAD SS1 2**  
Offence Details (MO)  
SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS REMOVED THE VICTIMS UNSECURED PEDAL CYCLE.

Ward **Southchurch**  
Crime Reference Number 42/189144/23  
Offence Description Other criminal damage to a residence (Under £5,000)  
Reported Date and Time 21/10/2023 11:31  
Committed Date (From) 19/10/2023  
Street partial postcode **WICK CHASE SS2 4**  
Offence Details (MO)  
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS BY UNKNOWN MEANS CRACKED THE LARGE PANE OF GLASS IN THE VICTIMS LIVING ROOM WINDOW. NOTHING WAS SEEN OR HEARD.

Ward **Thorpe**  
Crime Reference Number 42/187041/23  
Offence Description Theft if not classified elsewhere  
Reported Date and Time 11/10/2023 12:46  
Committed Date (From) 18/09/2023 23:00  
Street partial postcode **BURGES ROAD SS1 3**  
Offence Details (MO)  
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS STOLEN THE VICTIMS IPAD FROM AN UNKNOWN LOCATION AND BY MEANS UNKNOWN.

Ward **Thorpe**  
Crime Reference Number 42/187186/23  
Offence Description Theft of a motor vehicle  
Reported Date and Time 18/10/2023 07:23  
Committed Date (From) 17/10/2023 19:00  
Street partial postcode **VICTORIA ROAD SS1 2**  
Offence Details (MO)  
SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE STOLEN A VEHICLE A BLACK FORD FOCUS INDEX: SN15RRO BY MEANS UNKNOWN.

## **4) Information Corner**

### **Plan for UK to host thousands of Gaza refugees drawn up by charities**

A plan setting out how Britain could provide refuge to thousands of Palestinians from Gaza has been drawn up by a coalition of charities and groups. The organisations are urging the Government to introduce an emergency family reunion scheme modelled on the initiative for Ukrainians and carry out a medical evacuation for people in need of specialist care.

### **Conservatives stop using hotels in election battlegrounds for migrants**

The Government is to stop using 100 hotels for migrants as Prime Minister Rishi Sunak makes a series of announcements on immigration. Contracts will be terminated with hotels in a host of areas that will be key election battleground seats.

## **Recycling standardisation**

Recycling is to be standardised from 2026 with councils collecting the same materials and food waste collected at least once a week. Councils will all collect the same glass, metal, plastic and card, food waste and garden waste under government plans to encourage recycling. The LGA said it was pleased the Government had “decided not to significantly reduce the flexibilities in how councils collect waste from people’s homes”.

## **Higher energy bills forecast for households**

Analysis by Cornwall Insight have found that households could face higher energy bills next year. They found that prices would rise from an average of £96.64 per megawatt-hour (MWh) so far this year to £129/MWh next year because of higher gas prices due to the war in Ukraine.

## **Building on flood plains**

Campaigners are warning that since 2013, more than 10 per cent of all new homes in England have been built on land at highest risk of flooding. National planning guidelines say that building on flood plains “should be avoided” because of the risk to the developments and of exacerbating flooding elsewhere in the area.

## **Four day week**

The Government have published new guidance telling councils that are currently running four day a week working patterns to end these immediately. Cllr Pete Marland, Chair of the LGA’s Resources board, said: “More than nine in 10 councils are experiencing staff recruitment and retention difficulties across a diverse range of skills, professions and occupations. It is councils who know what works best for their community, workforce and in their wider labour market conditions. They should be free to pilot innovative solutions to address local challenges and deliver crucial services to their residents. Local voters should be the ones making a judgment on whether local council leaders have made good choices and delivered value for local taxpayers.”

## **NHS waiting lists**

A report by the Health Foundation has found that NHS waits could exceed eight million by the summer. Their analysis found that despite monthly referrals being at pre-pandemic levels, the number of treatments does not yet exceed the number of referrals.

## **5) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Application Number: 23/01620/FULH

**Ward: Southchurch**

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Raise roof of existing garage and extend to side to form cart lodge and storage shed, erect single storey granny annex to rear ancillary to dwellinghouse

**26 Branscombe Square Thorpe Bay Essex**

Application Number: 23/01634/CLE  
Officer: Oliver Hart

**Ward: Southchurch**

Use as car parking on land adjacent to New Wick Farm (certificate of lawful development - proposed)

**New Wick Farm Wakering Road Southend-on-sea**

Application Number: 23/01653/CLP  
Officer: Tinotenda Mangwanda

**Ward: Thorpe**

Hip to gable loft conversion with rear dormer to form habitable accommodation (Lawful development certificate - proposed)

**117 Lifstan Way Southend-on-sea Essex**

Application Number: 23/01662/FUL  
Officer: Gabriella Fairley

**Ward: Thorpe**

Replace existing beach hut

**Beach Hut 224 Thorpe Esplanade Thorpe Bay**

Application Number: 23/01641/FULH  
Officer: Jennifer Doherty

**Ward: West Shoebury**

Erect first floor front/side extension over existing garage and alterations to elevations

**28 Swallowcliffe Shoeburyness Southend-on-sea**

## **6) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2023**

APPLN. NO: 23/01361/CLP  
Officer: Jennifer Doherty

**Ward. Thorpe**

HIP TO GABLE LOFT CONVERSION WITH REAR DORMER TO FORM HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION, ROOFLIGHTS TO FRONT AND REAR (CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT - PROPOSED)

**44 ACACIA DRIVE THORPE BAY ESSEX**

Decision: Grant Lawful Dev Certificate (Proposed)

APPLN. NO: 23/01404/FULH  
Officer: Gabriella Fairley

**Ward. Thorpe**

ERECT SINGLE STOREY REAR INFILL EXTENSION, EXTEND EXISTING GARAGE TO FRONT AND CONVERT REAR INTO HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION, FORM PITCHED ROOF ON EXISTING FLAT ROOF DORMER TO FRONT AND ALTER ELEVATIONS

**40 DUNGANNON DRIVE THORPE BAY 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 -