

E-Newsletter – 12th April 2024

www.bera.co.uk



© Andrew Armstrong Photography

1) Information Corner



BERA Coffee Morning

Where: **Thorpe Bay Methodist Church** (corner of The Broadway and Johnstone Road)
When: **Thursday 18th April 2024 at 10.00am to midday**

Our next coffee morning is on Thursday 18th April, so please join us again for engaging chats and laughter, accompanied by free tea, coffee, and homemade cakes.

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

Make sure you are voter ready

Residents who want to have their say at the local and Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner elections on 2 May elections must ensure they are registered to vote by midnight on Tuesday 16 April. It only takes five minutes to register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Electors who want to vote at a polling station will also need to remember to take an accepted form of photo ID with them. Accepted forms of photo ID include a UK, European Economic Area (EEA) or Commonwealth passport or driver's licence, and

some concessionary travel passes, such as an older person's bus pass or an Oyster 60+ card. Voters will be able to use expired ID if they are still recognisable from the photo.

Electors who do not have one of the accepted forms of photo ID will be able to apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate online at www.voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk/ or by completing a paper form.

The full list of accepted photo ID is available on the Electoral Commission's website, along with more information about the new requirement and details of how to apply for the free ID, at electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID.

Residents who do not have an accepted form of photo ID and need help applying for a Voter Authority Certificate can contact the electoral services team on 01702 215010 or by emailing elections@southend.gov.uk.

We are reminding residents of the deadlines for this year's local and PFCC elections are as follows:

Register to vote by midnight on Tuesday 16 April 2024

Apply for a postal vote by 5pm on Wednesday 17 April 2024

Apply for a proxy vote by 5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024

Apply for a free Voter Authority Certificate by 5pm on Wednesday 24 April 2024

Major Works 14th to 21st April 2024

Address	THE BROADWAY
Start	04/03/2024
End	28/05/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001280674
L.A.Ref	140362
Works Status	IN PROGRESS
Highest TM	SOME C/W INCURSION - DELAYS UNLIKELY

Address	FERMOY ROAD
Start	02/04/2024
End	06/05/2024
Works Reference	AZ502-1001280675
L.A.Ref	140363
Works Status	PROPOSED WORKS
Highest TM	SOME C/W INCURSION - DELAYS UNLIKELY

Address	JOHNSTONE ROAD
Start	16/04/2024
End	18/04/2024
Works Reference	JR004--JOHNSTONE-8909
L.A.Ref	141489
Works Status	PROPOSED WORKS
Highest TM	ROAD CLOSURE - DELAYS LIKELY

2) National Corner

Parking charges

Councils have increased parking charges over the last year, according to government figures. Reports suggest that councils received £1.93 billion in fees and fines in the year to April 2023, up from £1.76 billion the previous year.

Council staff pay

Analysis from the Taxpayers Alliance has shown that the number of council executives earning a six-figure salary rose from 2,759 in 2021-2022, to 3,106 last year.

Water investment

The Water Restoration Fund has been set up to allocate funds from fines taken by the Government to local waterways projects. These fines, totalling £11 million taken from water companies for environmental breaches, will mainly be available for charities, local projects, farmers and landowners via an application process to improve areas where pollution has occurred.

More than 7 million adults struggling to pay bills

Over 7 million UK adults are still struggling to pay bills, a survey from the Financial Conduct Authority suggests. The number has fallen from last year, but many households still feel "heavily burdened". The survey suggested one in nine adults had missed a bill or credit payment in the six months to January 2024.

Farmers warn of food crisis

Swathes of the country were under flood warnings on Wednesday as farmers warned of a food production "crisis" after months of heavy rain and repeated storms. Vast areas of agricultural land have been saturated since the autumn and in many cases are still under water, with arable farmers unable to plant crops and losing those that were already in the ground.

Fly tipping

The number of fixed penalty notices issued in relation to fly tipping offences has dropped by 25 per cent coupled with a 17 per cent decrease in court fines, according to government statistics. The LGA is calling for a review of sentencing guidelines to allow councils to issue bigger fines for the most serious offences.

Potholes

Campaigners have warned of a growing decline in the condition of local roads and have called for increased levels of funding for councils to tackle the issue. Analysis last year by the LGA of OECD figures found that spending on local roads had halved between 2006 and 2019.

Tobacco legislation

The Government is set to introduce new legislation to the Commons to raise the smoking age and ban the sale of single use vapes next Tuesday. Under the proposed plans, the smoking age would be raised each year until it applied to the whole population, while disposable vapes would be banned outright.

Spring Covid booster jab booking service to open

From Monday, the NHS will take bookings from people in England eligible for a free spring Covid booster vaccine. Those eligible include everyone aged 75 or older by 30 June 2024, people in care homes for older adults and anyone immunosuppressed who is aged six months or older.

3) Crime Report 1st to 7th April 2024

Ward **Southchurch**
Crime Reference Number 42/51683/24
Offence Description Theft of a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time 01/04/2024 08:40
Committed Date (From) 01/04/2024 00:30
Street partial postcode **SOUTHCHURCH BOULEVARD SS2 4**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS USED MEANS UNKNOWN TO REMOVE VICTIMS
SECURE UNATTENDED MOTOR VEHICLE, ORANGE TOYOTA HILUX VRM
A19***, FROM DRIVEWAY OF VICTIMS HOME ADDRESS.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/52560/24
Offence Description Attempted - Other criminal damage, other (Under
£5,000)
Reported Date and Time 02/04/2024 20:00
Committed Date (From) 02/04/2024 20:00
Street partial postcode **WEST ROAD SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED FOUR HOODED SUSPECTS HAVE BEEN SEEN TO
HAVE THROWN ITEMS AT THE VICTIMS CAR CAUSING NO DAMAGE.

Ward **West Shoebury**
Crime Reference Number 42/54669/24
Offence Description Theft in a dwelling other than from automatic
machine or meter
Reported Date and Time 05/04/2024 04:16
Committed Date (From) 05/04/2024 04:15
Street partial postcode **AVON WAY SS3 9**
Offence Details (MO)
SUSPECT UNIDENTIFIED HAS STOLEN THE VICTIM BANK CARD AND
WITHDRAWN OVER 300.00GBP WITHOUT THEIR CONSENT.

4) Scam Alert

Investment scammers pocketed £13m a week

Criminal gangs flogging bogus investments and 'get-rich-quick' schemes stole an average of £13m a week in the past four years, according to Action Fraud data revealed by a Freedom of Information request.

It is a horrifyingly profitable crime, and victims can lose their lifetime savings.

Keep your tablet secure

Which? research has discovered that some tablet manufacturers support their devices with vital security updates for as little as two years, while others support theirs for five or more.

Tablets are computers. And, just like computers, they are vulnerable to security attacks.

Santander customers lost £7.3m to purchase scams

Santander has reported that purchase scam claims were up by a third in 2023 compared to 2022.

A purchase scam is when a product you pay for turns out to be fake or non-existent. The scammer is seeking to dupe you into handing over your personal and financial details, and the scam may result in loss of money immediately or even months later when you may be retargeted by the scammer.

5) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 12th April 2024

Application Number: 24/00508/FULH

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Gabriella Fairley

Erect single storey rear extension for use as residential annex subsidiary to main dwellinghouse, erect single storey side/rear extension

31 Willingale Way Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 24/00557/FULH

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Erect single storey rear extension with roof lantern

12 Burlescombe Road Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 24/00554/AD

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Abbie Greenwood

Application for approval of details pursuant to condition 03 (sports facility impact mitigation scheme), 06 (tree protection measures), 07 (hard and soft landscaping), 19 (construction method statement) of planning permission 23/01892/BC4 dated 31/01/2024

Lifstan Boys Club Lifstan Way Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 24/00573/CLP

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Gabriella Fairley

First floor part extension with juliette balcony (Lawful development certificate - proposed)

24 Cherrybrook Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 24/00609/ROT

Ward: Southchurch

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Install 11m medium wooden pole

742 Southchurch Road Southend-on-sea Essex

Application Number: 24/00520/FULH

Ward: Thorpe

Officer: Scott Davison

Install dormer to front with juliette balcony, erect single storey rear extension, erect first floor rear extension and form front porch with balcony over

38 Thorpe Hall Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 24/00529/FUL

Ward: Thorpe

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Extend existing vehicle crossover onto Plas Newydd Close

12 Plas Newydd Close Thorpe Bay Essex

Application Number: 24/00593/ROT

Ward: Thorpe

Officer: Hayley Thompson

Install 10m light wooden pole

Land Corner Of Chelsea Avenue Adjacent To 104 Shaftesbury Avenue Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 24/00525/FULH

Ward: West Shoebury

Officer: Kara Elliott

Erect single storey rear extension, two storey front extension and alter side elevation

35A West Road Shoeburyness Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 24/00553/FULH

Ward: West Shoebury

Officer: Scott Davison

Erect part single/part two storey rear extension at basement level, erect first floor side extension and single storey front extension, alter elevations

24 Lodwick Shoeburyness Southend-on-sea

Application Number: 24/00571/CLP

Ward: West Shoebury

Officer: Tinotenda Mangwanda

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

10 Armagh Road Shoeburyness Essex

6) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 7th April 2024

APPLN. NO: 24/00135/BC4

Ward. West Shoebury

Officer: Abbie Greenwood

INSTALL NEW 3G ARTIFICIAL GRASS PITCH (AGP) WITH PERIMETER FENCING, HARDSTANDING AREAS, STORAGE CONTAINER, FLOODLIGHTS AND ACCESS PATHWAY

SHOEBURYNESSE HIGH SCHOOL CAULFIELD ROAD SHOEBURYNESSE

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 -