

## E-Newsletter – 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

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Dear Member,

Once again, we have a situation where the current administration of the council has by its deeds (in my opinion) put at risk all our parks and open spaces where covenants exist to protect our amenities.

I have concerns that if the council carries on with this approach it will leave our properties at risk of overdevelopment. It seems that once again, BERA are the only organization that is willing to step up to the plate in protecting where we live.

Please see the email below that I have sent to the council and I am currently awaiting their reply. I will, of course, keep you updated.

Regards Ron

Chair

*Dear*

*Thank you for your email, however if you are going to quote the legal position is sound then I suggest that you publish that advice.*

*As to the covenants, "no buildings other than buildings for the following purpose may be erected on the land"*

- 1. On the portion of the land set aside for the use as a recreation and pleasure ground and for storm water storage lakes:*

- a. Sports pavilions shelters and conveniences including a pavilion for the sale of non-alcoholic refreshments; and
  - b. For the housing of pumping machinery for dealing with the water from the lakes.
2. On that portion of the land reserved for use as a car park:
- c) Attendants office
  - d) A shelter and cloak rooms and conveniences.

*The first schedule of the covenants goes on to state, In the event of the corporation desiring to erect on the land conveniences to which the public (key point, the public) will have direct access from Canterbury Avenue (now Lifstan Way) plans of such conveniences showing their proposed positions shall be submitted to the Company for their approval which approval shall not however be unreasonably withheld.*

*Therefore it can be clearly seen from the above that no buildings other than for use which the public can access can be built. The public will not be able to access the sub-station that the corporation has built without seeking permission to do so. Either from the Southend Estates Company (which still exists) or from the public as no consultation has taken place. I would also question that there is no need for planning permission as for the corporation to build on corporation land without the knowledge of the public is at least questionable.*

*Once again, your term that there has been no disposal of public land is again questionable as the land is no longer available because of the building cannot be accessed by the public. The council has taken that right away and therefore the council has disposed of the land.*

*I disagree with your comment that a cabinet member or cabinet will consider the proposal to dispose of public land as it was through the councils highways department that the cabinet member of the administration and through that cabinet member gave permission to your department to dispose of public land illegally, without consultation with neighbouring properties, without considering the covenants on the land, without further consultation with the wider public and the consequences to the home owners of Thorpe Ward and beyond of their protection from overdevelopment. The council contractor did not consult with the neighbouring residents, but stated the work being carried out (which is not engaging) and after the fact that the contract was awarded by the council.*

*I also disagree with your statement the councils' engineers should have been fully aware of the protection of open spaces and the covenants as this came up during the rebuilding of the car-park which could not be extended because of the covenant issue.*

*I can only assume that the council and the administration through your department have no respect to the rights of local residents and their protection not only of public open space but of their properties where covenants are currently established. (i.e if the council will not abide by the covenants, then developers will ride ruff shot through any others)*

*As you will see from above, I believe the administration and the department are putting at risk all parks and public open space within the city. I will not idly stand by and let the council walk over residents' rights.*

*I am copying into this email to the leader of the council for him to qualify the conservative administrations' view of upholding the covenants and protecting the city's parks and open spaces and confirming that this sub-station will be removed at the earliest opportunity.*

Regards  
Ron Woodley, Thorpe Ward  
Chair, Burges Estate Residents Association

## 1) Information Corner



### **BERA Coffee Morning**

Where: **Thorpe Bay Methodist Church** (corner of The Broadway and Johnstone Road)  
When: **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **Temporary Road Closure - Fermoy Road – 08:00 on the 16th of April 2024 until 17:00 on 14th of May 2024 - Gas replacement works**

The Effect of the order will be to prohibit any vehicle from; - These works will be done in two phases.

#### Phase 1

Entering and Exiting Fermoy Road at its junction with The Broadway to outside No51 Fermoy Road.

#### Phase 2

Entering and Exiting Fermoy Road at its junction with The Broadway to its junction with Parkanaur Avenue.

The closure is scheduled to commence from 08:00 on the 16th of April 2024 until 17:00 on 14th of May 2024.

The alternative route will be via;

Phase 1 – The Broadway, Johnstone Road, Tyrone Road & visa versa.

Phase 2 – Parkanaur Avenue, Johnstone Road, The Broadway & visa versa.

The closure is required for the safety of the public and workforce whilst Gas replacement works takes place. Access for emergency vehicles, residents and pedestrians will be maintained at all times during the closure.



**THORPE BAY**  
**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**  
***FLOWER AND***  
***MECRAFT SHOW***

**AT ST AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH HALL**

**JOHNSTONE ROAD THORPE BAY**

**SATURDAY: 6<sup>th</sup> APRIL**

**AT 2.15pm**

**Admission £1 Members free**



## **2) National Corner**

### **Police fail to catch any car thieves in 100 neighbourhoods**

Police failed to catch any criminals who stole a car in more than 100 neighbourhoods across England and Wales last year, according to analysis by the Observer. A further 558 neighbourhoods with an average of at least one vehicle crime a week saw less than 2 per cent solved, with a suspect caught and charged, according to figures published on data.police.uk, a site for open data on crime and policing.

### **Child antidepressant prescriptions pass 400,000 a year**

Nearly 500,000 antidepressant prescriptions are being given out to children each year, despite guidelines that say they should be used only in the most severe cases. Prescriptions for under-18s in England have increased 44 per cent since 2015, according to data presented to parliament last week, rising from 312,000 in 2015/16 to 448,515 in 2022/23.

### **Digital landline switchover delayed**

Plans to replace traditional landlines with digital alternatives have reportedly been delayed due to concerns about emergency alarm outages. BT and Virgin Media have paused their rollout of digital phone lines amid fears the technology update could put elderly people at risk.

### **Minimum wage rise**

The minimum wage, known as the National Living Wage, is increasing by more than £1 for the first time. The main wage rate is rising from £10.42 to £11.44 an hour and will apply to workers over 21 rather than over 23.

### **Energy bills lowest for two years under new price cap**

Energy prices have now fallen to their lowest level for two years under regulator Ofgem's latest price cap, with the annual bill for a household using a typical amount of gas and electricity dropping by £238 to £1,690. Experts say people should maintain energy saving habits, such as four-minute showers, because bills remain expensive.

### **Sewage spills**

Sewage was dumped into rivers, lakes and on beaches designated 'safe to bathe in' 86 times a day on average in 2023, analysis has suggested. There were 31,373 sewage spills over the course of the year, lasting a total of 228,098 hours, according to official storm overflow figures.

### **Fly-tipping**

Around 3,000 instances of fly-tipping are reported each day in England – costing local authorities up to £58 million each year, the LGA has said. Cllr Darren Rodwell, environment spokesperson for the LGA, said: “Fly-tipping is inexcusable. It is not only an eyesore for residents, but a serious public health risk, creating pollution and attracting rats and other vermin.”

### **Record rainfall**

1,695.9mm of rainfall fell between October 2022 and March 2024 in provision figures

released by the Met Office. This constitutes the highest amount of rainfall in an 18-month period since 1836 when the organisation started collecting this data.

## **Rise in autism assessments**

The rise in demand for autism assessments and ADHD treatments in England has overtaken the NHS's capacity to meet it, a report from the Nuffield Trust has warned. The report revealed that since 2019, there has been a 400 per cent rise in people waiting to see an autism specialist and a 51 per cent increase in prescriptions for ADHD medication. It warned a "radical rethink" was needed for the NHS to keep up with demand.

## **Increase in driving theory test fraud**

Reports of learner drivers cheating on theory tests have tripled in three years, according to new data from the Driving Standards Agency. The data shows more than 1,600 incidents of cheating were reported by theory test centres in 2022-2023 compared with 568 in 2020-2021.

## **Greenhouse gas emissions**

According to the Carbon Majors Database, a mere 57 oil, gas, coal and cement producers are directly linked to 80 per cent of the world's greenhouse gas emissions since the 2016 Paris climate agreement.

## **Pothole reporting**

There has been an increasing number of people reporting highways defects to their local authorities, according to figures. There has been a number of apps created which are designed to make the process easier for local residents.

## **Prostate cancer cases set to double**

Prostate cancer cases are expected to double worldwide between 2020 and 2040, according to the Institute of Cancer Research. The researchers estimated that there were 56,780 prostate cancer cases in Britain in 2020, which would rise to 75,066 cases by 2040 if incidence rates stayed the same — a 32 per cent increase.

## **Rail strikes**

Proposed rail strikes on the London Underground have been cancelled after a deal was reached between ASLEF and Transport for London. However, strike action has continued over much of the rest of the rail network, with drivers from Avanti West Coast, East Midlands Railway, West Midlands Trains, London Northwestern Railway and CrossCountry all striking today.

## **3) Crime Report 25<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024**

Ward	<b>Southchurch</b>
Crime Reference Number	42/51194/24
Offence Description	Theft of a motor vehicle
Reported Date and Time	31/03/2024 09:26
Committed Date (From)	30/03/2024 10:00

Street partial postcode **LADRAM ROAD SS1 3**  
 Offence Details (MO)  
 SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS USED MEANS UNKNOWN TO REMOVE VICTIMS  
 SECURE UNATTENDED WHITE RANGE ROVER EVOKE VRM LO18\*\*\* FROM  
 DRIVEWAY OF VICTIMS HOME ADDRESS.

Ward **Thorpe**  
 Crime Reference Number 42/49321/24  
 Offence Description Interference with a motor vehicle  
 Reported Date and Time 27/03/2024 18:13  
 Committed Date (From) 26/03/2024 01:58

Street partial postcode **THE BROADWAY SS1 3**  
 Offence Details (MO)  
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE GAINED ACCESS INTO VICTIMS SILVER BMW  
 BY MEANS UNKNOWN AND RIFLED THROUGH GLOVE COMPARTMENT AND  
 ARM REST. NO PROPERTY STOLEN OR DAMAGED.

Ward **West Shoebury**  
 Crime Reference Number 42/48286/24  
 Offence Description Theft of a motor vehicle  
 Reported Date and Time 25/03/2024 22:42  
 Committed Date (From) 25/03/2024 22:25

Street partial postcode **ARMAGH ROAD SS3 9**  
 Offence Details (MO)  
 SUSPECTS UNKNOWN HAVE STOLEN THE VICTIMS WHITE TRIUMPH STREET  
 TRIPLE INDEX NJ10\*\*\* BY UNKNOWN MEANS.

Ward **West Shoebury**  
 Crime Reference Number 42/50749/24  
 Offence Description Theft of a motor vehicle  
 Reported Date and Time 29/03/2024 08:30  
 Committed Date (From) 28/03/2024 22:00

Street partial postcode **BISHOPSTEIGNTON SS3 8**  
 Offence Details (MO)  
 SUSPECT UNKNOWN BY MEANS UNKNOWN HAS STOLEN THE VICTIMS  
 GREY JAGUAR E PACE INDEX GU18\*\*\*.

Ward **West Shoebury**  
 Crime Reference Number 42/51365/24  
 Offence Description Theft or Unauthorised Taking of a Pedal Cycle  
 Reported Date and Time 31/03/2024 15:13  
 Committed Date (From) 31/03/2024 15:00

Street partial postcode **DELAWARE CRESCENT SS3 9**  
 Offence Details (MO)  
 SUSPECT UNKNOWN REMOVED THE VICTIMS INSECURE PEDAL CYCLE  
 FROM OUTSIDE HOME ADDRESS.

## 4) Scam Alert

### **Beware social media hacking on the rise**

Action Fraud has issued a warning after 22,530 people reported that their social media accounts had been hacked in 2023. Fraudsters can access your online accounts in a variety of ways.

### **What is identity fraud?**

Identity fraud is the use of a stolen identity to obtain goods or services by deception. A victim can be left feeling extremely vulnerable, especially as the first you learn of ID fraud could be when you get a bill or invoice for something you haven't ordered, or when you have letters from debt collectors for debts that aren't yours.

## 5) List of Applications Registered Week Ending 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Application Number: 24/00498/CLP  
Officer: Tinotenda Mangwanda  
Erect single storey outbuilding  
**28 Arlington Road Southend-on-sea Essex**

**Ward: Southchurch**

Application Number: 24/00512/FULH  
Officer: James Benn  
Hip to gable roof extensions with dormer and balcony to rear to form habitable accommodation in loftspace, erect single storey front, rear and side extensions  
**69 Parkanaur Avenue Thorpe Bay Essex**

**Ward: Thorpe**

## 6) List of Decisions Issued Week Ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

APPLN. NO: 24/00122/NON  
Officer: Gabriella Fairley  
INSTALL 2NO. ROOFLIGHTS TO FRONT OF ANNEX (NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO PLANNING PERMISSION 20/00504/FUL DATED 16.05.2020)  
**90 SHOEBURY ROAD THORPE BAY ESSEX**  
Decision: Allow Non Material Amendment

**Ward. Southchurch**

APPLN. NO: 24/00152/FULH  
Officer: Gabriella Fairley  
ERECT PART SINGLE/PART TWO STOREY REAR EXTENSION, FIRST FLOOR FRONT EXTENSION AND EXTEND EXISTING VEHICLE CROSSOVER ONTO SOUTHCHURCH BOULEVARD (AMENDED PROPOSAL)  
**176 SOUTHCHURCH BOULEVARD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**  
Decision: Grant Conditional Permission

**Ward. Southchurch**

APPLN. NO: 24/00362/NON  
Officer: Abbie Greenwood

**Ward. Southchurch**

REMOVAL OF WINDOW TO REAR ELEVATION AT GROUND FLOOR LEVEL AND REMOVAL OF REQUIREMENT FOR OPENING HEIGHT OF 1.7M FROM FLOOR LEVEL TO WINDOW ON SIDE ELEVATION IN UNDERCROFT (NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT OF PLANNING PERMISSION 23/01181/FUL DATED 13/09/2023 )

**771 - 773 SOUTHCHURCH ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Refuse Non Material Amendment

APPLN. NO: 24/00367/NON

**Ward. Southchurch**

Officer: Hayley Thompson

REPLACE PLAN NUMBER P1000 REV A WITH 24-008-PP-01 AND 24-008-PP-02 - ALTERATIONS TO GLAZING AND ROOF WINDOWS (NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO PLANNING PERMISSION 22/01103/FULH DATED 29/07/2022 - INSTALL TWO DORMERS TO FRONT ELEVATION AND ERECT A SINGLE STOREY REAR AND SIDE EXTENSION)

**32 HAMSTEL ROAD SOUTHEND-ON-SEA ESSEX**

Decision: Allow Non Material Amendment

APPLN. NO: 24/00167/FUL

**Ward. Thorpe**

Officer: Scott Davison

CHANGE OF USE FROM GUEST HOUSE (CLASS C1) TO SINGLE FAMILY DWELLINGHOUSE (CLASS C3), ERECT SECOND FLOOR BALCONY TO EXISTING FRONT DORMER WITH WOODEN BALUSTRADE (PART-RETROSPECTIVE)

**THE BAY GUEST HOUSE 187 EASTERN ESPLANADE SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**

Decision: Refuse Permission

APPLN. NO: 24/00183/CLP

**Ward. West Shoebury**

Officer: Tinotenda Mangwanda

HIP TO GABLE ROOF EXTENSION TO FORM HABITABLE ACCOMMODATION IN LOFT, WITH DORMER TO REAR, ROOFLIGHT TO FRONT AND ALTERATION TO SOIL AND VENT PIPE (SVP) (CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT - PROPOSED)

**1 ULSTER AVENUE SHOEBURYNES SOUTHEND-ON-SEA**

Decision: Refuse Lawful Development Certificate

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