

TDC Update – Manningtree – April 2017

WORK TOGETHER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR TENDRING COMMUNITY

Tendring Councillors must continue to work closely together to make a difference for their community and the lives of residents.

That was the clear message from Tendring District Council (TDC) Leader Neil Stock as he warned that there are still further challenging financial times ahead.

Cllr Stock celebrated the considerable successes achieved over the past 12 months and outlined the priorities for the following year.

In his annual statement to Full Council he said the authority liked to be dynamic and at the cutting edge showing community leadership.

He said TDC would continue to work with partners to address the difficult issues they all face and he was proud of the considerable progress being made.

“Community leadership is all about strengthening the community, removing any obstacles so that together we can improve public services for all,” he said.

“No one individual can bring new business to the District, build new roads or equip children for the future. Now more than ever we must do these things together, as one Council and as one Tendring.

“Through working together we can achieve so much more for residents within our District. Despite whatever political differences we may all have, I am sure we are all here to make a difference to our community and the lives of residents within Tendring.”

TDC has made savings since 2011/12 which have reduced its annual spend by more than £12 million each and every year. A further £5 million still has to be found over the next three years.

Against that backdrop Cllr Stock highlighted a number of projects and success which included developing the tourism economy; embarking on a £5 million cliff stabilisation scheme from Clacton to Holland-on-Sea; seeing the start of the regeneration of Jaywick Sands and work on North Essex Garden Communities which is beginning to take shape.

He pointed to the development of the Local Plan which he said needs to be agreed “swiftly and without delay”; the success achieved with partners at the Tendring Community Safety Hub which has seen significant reductions in anti-social behaviour, theft and burglary; development of skills and education and the Council’s own Career Track programme.

Cllr Stock thanked all Councillors on all sides as well as staff for the hard work they do for residents.

He identified some of the key priorities – health, education and community safety – as well as the delivery of services. However, some of these services may have to stop completely going forward.

“This Council has always been at its best when facing its most challenging circumstances,” he added.

“If we continue to think big, be resolute in the face of adversity and never stop believing in what we are doing, then I have no doubt that this Council will continue to go from strength to strength.”

White Hart PH - LETTER TO COUNCILLOR ALAN COLEY

Dear Councillor

You raised this site with us last year. As explained I visited the site but did not consider that further formal action was required. Although its unhelpful that the pub is closed and boarded up that does not necessarily breach planning controls where overall the condition is not untidy enough to warrant formal action. The Head of Planning Services has now agreed my recommendation that the case be closed. I will look at the site whilst in Manningtree to see if there are changes and if matters alter please contact me or another team member to investigate further. The local resident who also raised this matter is being briefed.

The Council still has an outstanding planning application 14/01863/FUL to determine as to the future of the pub. This has been delayed in reaching a decision due to the lack of information from the applicant as to the past use of the property. I understand we are likely to be able to take a decision shortly.

Sincerely

Chris

Chris Stathers

Enforcement Team leader

Tendring District Council

Council Offices

Weeley

(Information) VILLAGE SCHEME FOR 67 HOMES THROWN OUT

A developer's controversial plans to build 67 new homes on agricultural land in Mistley have been thrown out.

Hollins Strategic Land LLP and Grasmere Assets Essex Ltd put in an outline application for the site - which includes the formation of an access – on a plot at the back of New Road.

The site is outside, but next to, the existing development boundary for the village and inside the Manningtree and Mistley Conservation Area.

The proposal includes retaining 41 per cent of the 2.93 hectares as green infrastructure with a comprehensive landscaping scheme to recognise the rural nature of the area.

Tendring District Council (TDC) had to consider that it is now close to achieving its five year supply of housing land and therefore the pressure to approve applications contrary to the Local Plan is much less than last year.

It gives the Council the opportunity to resist unnecessary and unwanted development as there is only a relatively limited shortfall.

The site at the back of New Road also forms part of the existing green gap and there are outstanding objections over surface water drainage.

A TDC spokesman said that the adverse impacts of this scheme would significantly outweigh the benefits of up to 67 new properties.

“The applicant submitted a flood risk assessment which was considered by Essex County Council as the authority on sustainable drainage,” he added.

“It has raised objections to planning permission being granted on a number of grounds and there are concerns that the development will lead to increased flood risk elsewhere.”

Mistley Parish Council opposed the scheme and TDC also received 162 letters of objection from neighbouring residents.

A proposal for a residential development of 73 properties on the same site was rejected in 2015.

NEW LIFTING SERVICE GETS OFF THE GROUND

A new service to help lift residents who have fallen in their homes in Tendring has got off the ground.

The service, which is operated by Tendring District Council's (TDC) Careline, is for its own customers who have fallen but are uninjured.

TDC set funding aside to pay for the scheme around a year ago and the initiative was in response to waiting times for an ambulance for not urgent responses regularly exceeding more than four hours.

The money would cover the costs of the service for the next three years and is at no extra cost to the users, over and above their normal charge for Careline.

It has taken longer than expected to recruit the staff needed to operate the service which got underway on Monday. Three Careline customers were assisted yesterday (Tuesday).

More staff are being recruited to ensure that the scheme can be run 24 hours a day, seven days a week and 365 days a year.

In the meantime, and to ensure the lifting service went live, Tendring Careline has entered into a partnership agreement with Colchester Helpline (operated by Colchester Borough Council), who already have a lifting team.

Nigel Brown, TDC's Communications Manager, said that the Council is pleased that this new service is now being offered.

"We have reached the stage where if a Tendring Careline customer has had a fall then our colleagues at Colchester Helpline will be called and they will respond," he said.

"For the most part they will be accompanied by a Tendring Careline responder, to help carry out the lift.

"Although they are travelling extra distances, they will still be able to respond more quickly than a non-emergency ambulance."

The procedure is that if a Careline service user has had a fall they press their pendant and will be connected to the control centre, anytime day or night.

The Careline operator will assess the situation in terms of immediate needs and summon the appropriate response. If the person is uninjured, but unable to get back on their feet then a lifting responder will be despatched with immediate effect. This will only happen if it is appropriate.

If there is any doubt about the suitability of carrying out a lift then an ambulance will be called.

The lifting responder will have the mechanical lifting aid that allows the faller to get back on to their feet with the minimal amount of manual handling. Once the person is back on their feet and has been made comfortable, the control centre will be notified for any appropriate further action – such as notifying next of kin or arranging an appointment with GP.

Anyone wanting more information, should contact Claire Ellington, Service Development Manager at cellington@tendringdc.gov.uk

If they want to apply for a job as a lifter go to TDC's website www.tendringdc.gov.uk

15/00876/OUT Approval - Outline 13.04.2017 Committee Decision	Rose Builders (Properties) Ltd	The erection of 360 houses (including Lawford Enterprise Trust Housing), with associated garages on 22.76ha with two vehicular access points, site roads, pedestrian and cycle routes, a new primary school access with off-road pickup and drop-off parking, a community building with public access toilets, a junior camping field, village green, public open space, structural landscaping and playground.	Land East of Bromley Road Lawford Essex CO11 2HS
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VITAL HELP FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS TRAVELLING BY TAXIS IN TENDRING

Wheelchair users in Tendring that rely on taxis have received a vital boost that will make their journeys and lives easier.

Tendring District Council's (TDC) Licensing and Registration Committee decided last night to fully enact new equality measures for the first time.

It means that taxis and private hire vehicles that are able to carry passengers seated in their wheelchair will become designated wheelchair accessible vehicles.

From the date that the designation starts, it will be illegal for a taxi driver to refuse to carry a passenger in a designated vehicle just because they are a wheelchair user.

They will also not be able to charge extra for the journey, or charge extra for giving assistance to enter and exit the vehicle. And under the provisions a driver could be prosecuted and fined up to £1,000.

Mark Cossens, Chairman of TDC's Licensing and Registration Committee, said that the Council supports vulnerable people wherever possible.

"The committee has given its wholehearted backing to implement these new equality measures in Tendring," he added.

"For many wheelchair users, especially those in rural areas, licensed taxis are often their lifeline to the outside world and they need to feel confident that they can rely on them.

“They need to know that their journey is not going to cost extra just because they are in a wheelchair and also that the driver will give them reasonable assistance to help them in and out of the taxi.”

Cllr Cossens said that he expects the new rules – which come under section 165 and 167 of the Equality Act 2010 - will take a little while to bed in.

“We will need to work closely with our taxi and private hire trades so that a list of designated wheelchair accessible vehicles can be compiled and published and easily accessed by the public.

“We have already started that process and I feel sure that the taxi and private hire trades in Tendring will work with us to help protect vulnerable members of our society and will continue to provide an excellent service for their passengers.”

Any drivers who feel that they are not able to comply with the new rules can apply for a specific medical exemption for themselves, or can appeal to the Magistrates Court against the designation of their vehicle.

Cllr Cossens added that he hopes that there won't be many that need to go down that route.

STILL TIME TO SIGN UP FOR LIFESAVING EQUIPMENT TRAINING

There is still time for people to sign up for training on new lifesaving equipment provided at Clacton Town Hall.

The defibrillator machine has been installed on the outside of the building - and can be used by anyone in the area of Station Road.

The machine has been provided by the Holland and Clacton First Responders and paid for by Clacton Carnival Association (CCA) from the carnival street procession.

The initiative came about after CCA was keen to have the equipment installed in a central location in the town.

Free heartstart training is to be given to anyone who would like it, especially those living or working in the vicinity of the Town Hall, and it gets underway next week.

Sessions will be held in the Essex Hall in the Town Hall every morning from Monday April 24 through to Friday April 28 from 10am to 12noon.

Heartstart is a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training course and is a British Heart Foundation campaign.

Training includes how to recognise when a person is in cardiac arrest; how to perform CPR; how to use the defibrillator; how to place an unconscious person in the recovery position, how to help someone who is choking and how to deal with a serious bleed.

To book a place on the training sessions contact Lizzie Ridout on 01255 686340 or

BOUNDARY COMMISSION LAUNCHES PUBLIC CONSULTATION FOR TENDRING

A public consultation on draft recommendations for new electoral arrangements for Tendring District Council (TDC) has been launched.

The consultation, run by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) opens 14 March 2017 and closes on 8 May 2017.

The draft recommendations propose that 48 district councillors should be elected to TDC in future and the recommendations also propose new electoral ward boundaries across the District.

Once the LGBCE has considered all the responses to the consultation it will then publish the final recommendations in July 2017.

Subject to parliamentary scrutiny, the new electoral arrangements are scheduled to come into effect at the District elections in 2019.

Paul Honeywood, TDC's Cabinet Member for Housing, and also Chair of TDC's Electoral Review Working Party welcomed the consultation.

"The Working Party will consider the proposals put forward by the LGBCE and put together a response but in the meantime I would urge as many residents as possible take time to look at the proposals as they affect the entire District," he said.

"The Commission has stated that it has an open mind about amending the scheme so it is important that ideas are submitted if they are to be considered."

The Commission's report on its draft recommendations can be found at www.lgbce.org.uk

Interactive maps of the proposals are also posted on the Commission's consultation portal at: <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk>

The portal also allows visitors to submit comments and alternative proposals

General Information:

If anyone witnesses any fly tipping occurring please contact TDC's Waste Management Team on 01255 686768.

Dates for this year's Tendring Highways Panel meetings are:-

- **Thursday 8 June**
- **Thursday 14 September**
- **Thursday 7 December**

All meetings are held in the Council Chamber at Weeley, commencing at 5pm.

Alan Coley & Carlo Guglielmi

