

# TDC Update – Manningtree – June 2017

## **SCHEME TO CONVERT FORMER BANK INTO HOMES REJECTED**

A scheme to convert a former bank in Manningtree High Street into eight new homes has been rejected.

The Grade II Listed building was last used by NatWest in November 2015 before it closed down.

The plans submitted by Edwards Roundwood Restorations are to create seven new flats across three floors as well as another two-storey house on the back edge of the pavement.

Tendring District Council's (TDC)'s Planning Committee heard last night that the proposal was a chance to renovate and repair the listed building and also remove extensions which had been added to the site.

The application involves changing most of the interior of the building which is currently offices.

The building is also in the town's Conservation Area.

Gary Guiver, TDC's Planning Manager, said that it was a balance between supporting the restoration of the listed property against the loss of a commercial employment site in the town centre.

"The Council has a duty to fully consider the opportunity to preserve and enhance the listed building," he said.

"However, there is also a general presumption against the loss of commercial floor space and employment in town centres – it is very much a balancing act."

Councillors heard that the scheme only provided two parking spaces for all the new homes and were concerned about the problems that would cause in the area.

There are also planning permissions granted for 1,100 new homes in the area and it was felt that it was important to retain premises within the town centre for the facilities that would be required by new residents.

Manningtree Town Council, Lawford Parish Council and Mistley Parish Council all opposed the proposal.

TDC also received 47 letters of objection from residents.

The committee decided to refuse planning permission on the grounds of the loss of employment potential; loss of a commercial premises in the town centre and a lack of car parking provision.

There also decided that the site had not been properly marketed.

The committee also refused permission for listed building consent to carry out the internal alterations.

## **BEACH PATROL HELPS AVOID MARINE CRIME WAVE**

Holidaymakers and residents in Tendring can rest assured this summer that its Beach Patrol will have their boats and lifesaving equipment safely protected by a new scheme to deter marine theft.

Initiated by Tendring District Council (TDC) and Seaxe Investigation and Training Consultants, the scheme involves marking vital marine vessels along the Tendring coastline belonging to the Beach Patrol.

These include jet-skis and rigid inflatable boats which will be identified with a forensic marking solution called SelectaDNA.

It is also used to mark other marine items at risk of being stolen such as outboard engines, trailers, fuel tanks, and navigation systems.

SelectaDNA is a unique formula of synthetic DNA, UV tracer and microdots that can be easily applied to any item without damaging or devaluing it. Warning signs and stickers are displayed to deter theft.

The craft is then registered on a secure, national Police-approved database to a specific owner.

If the worst happens and the vessel is stolen and later recovered, police can reunite it with the real owner quickly and easily via the unique forensic signature in the solution.

Marine theft usually peaks during summer months when there are more rich pickings on show for would-be thieves.

Nick Turner, TDC's Cabinet Member for Commercialisation, Seafronts and Parking, said: "Every year thousands of visitors come to our resorts at Clacton, Frinton, Walton, Dovercourt and Brightlingsea (and not Manningtree it seems) and we employ a team of beach patrollers dedicated to keeping the seafront areas as enjoyable and safe as possible.

"This is only possible if we have all our vital equipment at hand, for immediate use when needed.

"The use of SelectaDNA will help us ensure that our boats and equipment will be ready to deal with the 1,000 plus incidents we are likely to encounter by the end of the season."

Police Forces throughout the UK regularly advise boat owners to secure their vessels properly, paying particular attention to outboard engines, the most commonly stolen marine item.

## **BESIDE THE SEASIDE HITS CLACTON THIS WEEKEND**

Final preparations are in place for the first Beside the Seaside Festival to be held in Tendring this weekend.

The event is being staged on and around Clacton's West Beach on Sunday (June 18) with plenty on offer for all ages and tastes.

It all kicks off at 11am and goes on through to 6pm - with activities on the beach and on the upper and lower promenades.

There will be a main stage with live music from the likes of The Voice's finalist Lydia Lucy, The Hit List, The Spiderz and Indigo 90, who appeared last year at the Clacton Sea and Beach Festival.

Also performing on the stage will be Raz, Denial Twist and Dilute to Taste.

In between the acts on the main stage there will be performances on the Lower promenade from Brazilarte - a Capoeira Band - walk-about pirates from Circo Rum Baba and Giant Puppets from Clare Fitzgerald.

Up above on the Upper Promenade the entertainment begins at 11am with the Witham and Rivenhall Air Training Corps Marching Band, followed by the local Royalties Twirling Team.

Acoustic music is then brought to the festival by Essex Rocks and will feature Leyline Pass, Luke Fisher and Sparrowhawk, who will perform throughout the day.

Tendring District Council (TDC) has worked with The Harwich Festival team to provide this event which takes over from the successful Sea and Beach Festival which was put on for the past two years.

On the East Beach there will be a range of traditional sports and leisure activities for all the family brought to you by TDC's Leisure Services. These will include family yoga, a seaside dash, tug of war and sack race.

And on Palace Beach there will be entertainment for children with a sand sculpting/sandcastle competition from 12 noon to 3pm; face painting; kite flying and storytelling.

A second Beside the Seaside Festival will be staged in Harwich on August 13.

Tanya Ferguson, TDC's Cabinet Member for Tourism and Events thanked the Harwich Festival team for all its hard work in pulling together such a fun, family programme.

"The weather looks set fair and I am sure that the crowds will flock to the seafront for a great day," she said.

"It is Father's Day on Sunday and I am sure the whole family can turn out for some fun in the sun with some great entertainment laid on."

## **DEVELOPMENT BLUEPRINT CLEARS MAJOR HURDLE**

A development blueprint which will guide where homes are built and job opportunities created in Tendring over the next 17 years and beyond has cleared a major hurdle.

The District's Local Plan is closing in on the stage where it can go out for final consultation before being tested in front of a Government inspector.

Tendring District Council's (TDC) Local Plan Committee last night unanimously accepted the document should proceed to the next stage.

While some said that they did not agree with every single thing in it, they felt it was ready to be put before the Full Council for a decision on Thursday evening.

TDC Leader Neil Stock, who is also Cabinet Member for Planning and Regeneration as well as Chairman of the Local Plan Committee, said that it is a living document.

"After many, many months what we have before us is the end goal," he said.

"We have been trying to get the Local Plan in place and there will be tweaks and changes along the way but we are now almost there.

"We need this document in place as soon as possible. A lot of hard work has gone into this by officers and this committee; members of the public have given us their views and we have come to a conclusion.

"By the end of the week, and if the Local Plan goes through at Full Council with the majority of Councillors supporting it, we will have a document that will carry some considerable weight."

It includes the possibility of a Garden Community on the Tendring Colchester border which could provide up to 9,000 new homes.

Cllr Stock said that the Garden Community initiative is the ideal way forward for getting the necessary infrastructure – roads network, schools, and health facilities – in place to support the new properties and their residents.

Members of the Local Plan Committee heard that the number of new homes built in Tendring over the past financial year had hit a 20-year high.

A total of 658 homes were completed, the most since the 1990s and that is expected to continue for the next few years.

TDC now has a 5.1 year housing land supply and can demonstrate that it can achieve its requirement of 11,000 homes between 2013 and 2033.

The Council's Cabinet endorsed the content of the Draft Local Plan at its meeting and it will now be presented to the Full Council on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> June.

## Manningtree Town Council

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| <i>16/01845/FUL<br/>Approval - Full<br/>07.06.2017<br/>Delegated<br/>Decision</i> | <i>East of England<br/>Co-operative<br/>Society</i> | <i>Variation of condition 1 of<br/>planning application<br/>15/00613/FUL,<br/>temporary siting of the<br/>portakabin is required for<br/>a further 18 months.</i> | <i>Riverside Health Centre<br/>Station Road<br/>Manningtree<br/>Essex<br/>CO11 1AA</i> |
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01 The development hereby permitted shall be carried out in accordance with the following approved plans, drawing numbers 10/635/2, OPPTBC and the submitted document titled 'Riverside Health Centre Office'.

Reason - For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

02 The period of this permission shall expire on 06 December 2018, at which date the portakabin hereby permitted shall be removed.

Reason - An exceptional extension of temporary planning permission is only acceptable having regard to the on-going community health needs for the facility and to allow further time for a scheme of permanent accommodation to come forward.

### **General Information:**

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

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

- **Thursday 14 September**
- **Thursday 7 December**

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

Alan Coley & Carlo Guglielmi