

TDC Update – Manningtree – September 2018

AIRSHOW DELIVERS FOR 250,000 FLIGHT FANS

Clacton's 27th annual Airshow lived up to expectation for an estimated 250,000 flight fans that turned up to the two-day spectacular.

Crowds flocked to the coast to help boost the local economy by around £7.5 million over and above what would normally be taken over the bank holiday weekend.

Car parks filled up from early morning and spectators took up their favourite viewing spots ready for the programme to begin at 1pm.

And what better way to kick-off proceedings than an exhilarating display by the Red Arrows, an absolute must at any airshow. They performed their full repertoire above the sea and thrilled their loyal fans, many of whom had travelled from afar to catch a glimpse of their heroes in the sky.

Among other highlights was the RAF Chinook Helicopter, which made a welcome return to the town, for another superb display sequence with their two pilots and two crew on board.

A new addition for this year was the Bremont Great War Display Team – which headed up the previous day's night programme – and they did not disappoint with a variety of aircraft on show.

The Tiger Army Parachute Team dealt admirably with the tricky windy conditions, landing in the sea before being brought ashore to their waiting admirers.

Further turns from the Autogyro, Slingsby T67 Firefly and Bronco Demo Team kept the action flowing and they were backed by the Fireflies Team, Muscle Biplane, P-51 D Mustang and the Norwegian Vampire which brought the event to a close.

Mick Skeels, Tendring District Council's (TDC) Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism, praised all those who made the two days such a success.

“Our amazing team that put the airshow on once again pulled out all the stops to make it a very special event; within weeks they will be working on next year.

“This really is the jewel in the events' crown and long may it continue. It is great to see so many smiling faces enjoying themselves at a free show – something of a rarity in this day and age.”

NEW OFFSHORE WIND FARM MAINTENANCE CENTRE TO SECURE 60 JOBS IN HARWICH

Proposals for a new multi-million-pound offshore wind farm maintenance centre in Tendring have been given the green light – securing around 60 jobs to be brought into the district.

Galopper Wind Farm Ltd applied to Tendring District Council (TDC) to build the Operational and Maintenance Building on Harwich International Port land in Parkeston.

The facility would include a warehouse, office space for staff and an area where offshore technicians can prepare and change before heading into the North Sea to service the wind turbines.

Construction on the 56-turbine Galopper Wind Farm, which is 30km offshore, was completed earlier this year and has been serviced out of temporary facilities in Harwich International Port. It is expected to generate enough electricity to power almost 390,000 homes.

TDC has granted planning permission for the development, and it is understood it has also been given the go-ahead by the Marine Management Organisation.

Building works on the Operations and Maintenance Centre are due to be completed by late 2019.

Zoe Fairley, TDC Cabinet Member for Investment and Growth, said it was fantastic news the project would be going ahead.

“This new centre not only offers a £10million investment in our district, securing 60 permanent jobs and around 120 construction roles, but it is also a catalyst for other businesses to locate in the area which are connected to this industry,” Cllr Fairley said.

“Harwich is recognised as a Centre for Offshore Renewable Energy by organisations such as the South East Local Enterprise Partnership and this development really kick-starts that.”

Sean Chenery, Galopper Operations and Maintenance Manager, said: “This is great news, not just for Galopper Offshore Wind Farm but also Harwich, Tendring and the wider East coast as it secures long-term jobs and a significant investment for the area.

“We have had a tremendous amount of support from both individuals and organisations including Tendring District Council, the Haven Gateway Partnership, local Members of Parliament and our councillors, not to mention nearby businesses who attended our supply chain events. With our O&M base secured, we can now look forward to becoming a fully established member of the community.”

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY AT MANNINGTREE SPORTS CENTRE OPEN DAY

Families had a chance to try the activities on offer at Manningtree Sports Centre, in Lawford, as part of an open day held on the 1st September.

On Saturday, September 1, the Tendring District Council-run centre opened its doors to all for people to see what they could take part in locally.

Dodgeball, climbing and bouncy soft play were among the activities people could try, and 70 people took advantage of the day.

A tombola was also held in aid of the Essex Air Ambulance, which raised £50.

Phil Lewis, duty officer at Manningtree Sports Centre, said it was a great day.

“Those who took part had a fun time, and this was a good way to show people what top facilities they have right on their doorstep,” he added.

POWERS TO FINE ROGUE LANDLORDS APPROVED

Senior councillors have agreed proposals giving Tendring District Council (TDC) powers to fine rogue landlords up to £30,000 if they do not properly maintain their properties.

A new Private Sector Housing Enforcement Policy was approved at a meeting of TDC’s Cabinet.

The policy includes adoption of powers recently brought into law allowing local authorities to issue Civil Penalties to landlords who breach standards around maintenance or licensing. It means councils can issue fines instead of having to prosecute through the courts – a process which can be costly.

A maximum fine of £30,000 can be levied in the most serious cases, though TDC’s policy encourages working with landlords in the first instance – with a penalty charge the last resort.

Paul Honeywood, TDC Cabinet Member for Housing, welcomed the adoption of the new policy at today’s meeting.

“This adopts an option available to help tackle rogue landlords,” Cllr Honeywood said.

“The good thing is if we do have to take action then it is the landlords responsible who have to pick up the bill.

“This strengthens our hand in protecting Tendring residents and making sure everyone has accommodation which is fit for purpose.”

LOCAL BUSINESSES TO FEATURE AT TENDRING JOBS AND CAREERS FAIR

Local businesses will feature prominently at this year’s Tendring Jobs and Careers Fair.

Top firms including Surya Foods and Surya Hotels, Galloper Wind Farm and Red 7 Marine, which is expanding its base in Wrabness, along with the Harwich Haven Authority, are attending and all generously sponsoring the event.

Also attending is The Pier Hotel, Harwich, part of Milsom’s Hotels and Restaurants, along with many other Tendring-wide organisations.

The Tendring Jobs and Careers Fair is organised by Tendring District Council (TDC) in partnership with the Department for Work and Pensions. It takes place on

October 2 between 10am-4pm.

Suki Dulai, Chief Executive Officer at one of the district’s biggest employers – Harwich-based Flying Trade Group – said: “We are delighted to support this fantastic initiative aimed at helping local people find employment and local employers find the people they need to grow their business.

“We employ a large number of people from the local community and are always looking for bright, enthusiastic and talented staff to join our team. Our business covers many categories including building and construction, hotel and leisure, health and beauty, import and exporting, and procurement of ethnic world foods, therefore the range of positions is vast.”

“While our operations extend around the globe, all our businesses are headquartered in the Tendring area – Surya Foods from Harwich, Flying Leisure in

Clacton and Surya Hotels in Colchester – all of whom will be represented at the event.”

A free shuttle bus runs from Harwich and Dovercourt to the event, meaning there is no excuse for Harwich jobseekers not to attend.

Zoe Fairley, TDC Cabinet Member for Investment and Growth, said the event was about the whole of Tendring.

“Although physically held in Clacton, the Jobs and Careers Fair is about helping people right across the district,” Cllr Fairley said.

“Every year the presence of firms from elsewhere in Tendring grows and grows, and I am pleased to see so many Harwich-based companies looking for new employees.

“This is a real indicator of how businesses in the area are looking to expand, and how Harwich and north Tendring is growing economically.

“But to push that growth forward we need people to fill those jobs – so come down to the fair and see what new career awaits you.”

Businesses without a stand at the fair are invited to advertise, free of charge, any vacancies they have on the event’s Jobs Board. Those wishing to do so need to contact the organisers by emailing business.advice@tendringdc.gov.uk – a template will then be sent to them which needs to be completed and returned by Friday, September 21,

For more information visit www.tendringdc.gov.uk/jobsfair or find the event Facebook page @tendringjobsandcareersfair – which also details some current vacancies.

A free shuttle bus will also run to the event from Jaywick Sands.

The Tendring Jobs and Careers Fair is sponsored by Affinity Water, Electric Center, Galloper Wind Farm, Harwich Haven Authority, Horizon Construction, Hughes Electrical, Surya Foods, Surya Hotels, Red7Marine and Rose Builders

YOUR CHANCE TO REVIEW PROPOSED POLLING ARRANGEMENTS

Proposals on where polling districts – and polling stations – are located during elections in Tendring have been published for people to review.

Following changes by the Local Government Boundary Commission for England, Tendring District Council (TDC) is reducing next May from 60 councillors in 35 wards to 48 members representing 32 wards.

As a result, TDC’s Electoral Services team has looked at the most appropriate places for people to cast their votes during elections, and how the new wards should be split up into polling districts.

Whilst many polling places have remained the same, it has been necessary to introduce some new premises and discontinue using some existing ones.

People had their say on initial proposals during a consultation over the summer, and now they are being given the chance to review the proposed recommendations which were backed during the first stage of feedback.

From Monday, September 17, until October 15, people can give their feedback on where they vote.

To see the recommendations visit www.tendringdc.gov.uk/pollingreview from September 17 or view a hard copy at Clacton Town Hall or TDC’s offices in Weeley between 9am-3pm on weekdays. Responses can be submitted by post to Polling Review, Leadership Support, Town Hall, Station Road, Clacton-on-Sea, Essex CO15 1SE, by e-mail to pollingreview@tendringdc.gov.uk or by completing the online form.

Ian Davidson, Returning Officer and TDC Chief Executive, said people should review the proposals.

“It is important that voting is accessible to all,” he said.

“I urge everyone to have a look at these proposals and see where they will be voting – subject to any changes following this review – from December.”

The council will publish its final recommendations on November 5.

CHECK OF COUNCIL TENANTS RESULTS IN PROPERTIES BEING RE-ALLOCATED

Nine council homes have been re-allocated to people on Tendring District Council’s waiting list following a tenancy audit.

More than 1,200 properties have been visited in the past year, checking that homes were not abandoned or being sub-let.

Following these checks nine homes were identified as breaching tenancy rules and have now gone on to help reduce the waiting list.

Tenancy fraud could include subletting, leaving a property empty, or providing false information – and potentially denies someone who is entitled to a home.

Under the Prevention of Social Housing Fraud Act 2013 it is a criminal offence to sub-let all or part of a council property, without the council’s permission.

Tendring District Council (TDC) will take appropriate action to ensure its homes are only occupied by those with legal right to be there, and during the checks tenants are asked to provide photo identification to make sure the correct person is living there.

If TDC suspects a tenant has breached their tenancy, but the tenant refuses access or to cooperate, it can take appropriate legal action to enforce this.

The council will continue to review council tenants to identify any incorrectly allocated homes.

Paul Honeywood, TDC Cabinet Member for Housing, said he was pleased with the outcome of the tenancy audit.

“While nine homes may not sound like a lot, that equates to nine families who can now move into the property they have been waiting for, potentially leaving inappropriate or temporary accommodation,” Cllr Honeywood said.

“It is also reassuring that of 1,200 homes checked only nine revealed any issues, which gives me confidence that our allocation system is working very well.

“I would remind tenants of their responsibility to tell us of any changes in their circumstances and of the rules which are in place around sub-letting. I would also ask anyone who has any concerns, and thinks tenancy fraud may be being committed, to let us know.”

If you think an address should be looked into by the Fraud Team contact fraud.hotline@tendringdc.gov.uk or call 01255 686544/686208. Alternatively you can use the Anti Social Behaviour hotline at housingasb@tendringdc.gov.uk or call 01255 686359. All information will be treated in confidence and you can remain anonymous.

BUSINESS BREAKFAST HELPS TENDRING FIRMS LOOK TO FUTURE GROWTH

More than 30 local firms attended a business breakfast event run by Tendring District Council's Regeneration team on Tuesday, September 4.

Marketing expert Karen Ainley, from Mosaic Publicity, was keynote speaker at the event held at The Waterfront in Dovercourt.

She explained to the 40 delegates who attended that many firms had seen their client engagement increase post-GDPR regulations – and told them that the new rules should be seen as an opportunity rather than a challenge.

Karen also highlighted ways in which firms could benefit from marketing themselves using relatively cheap new technologies.

Businesses also heard from Richard Bayley, managing director of North Essex Garden Communities, who spoke about the opportunities the garden community project could present beyond the creation of new homes.

Those attending also had the chance to network at the breakfast.

Event organiser Christian Bone, Economic Development Officer at Tendring District Council (TDC), said the breakfast was just one way the authority was working to drive business growth in the area.

"We want to see Tendring businesses thrive and develop, and TDC has a key role to play in this," Christian said.

"The council wants to help firms connect together to create opportunities for joint working and business growth, as well as helping develop their skills by learning from speakers such as Karen and Richard."

To find out more about the Regeneration Team, hear about future events, or see how the team can help local business in the district contact

business.advice@tendringdc.gov.uk

LOCAL PLAN - UPDATE

After the Inspector's response to the last submission of the draft Local Plan, meetings have been held with the joint District Working Groups (Tendring/Colchester/Braintree) and Tendring Members received an update on the evening of the 19th September.

Basically, the work on the plan goes ahead and the Garden Community Sustainability questions will be addressed by the joint group. In fact much of this work has already been done.

There was a delay in agreeing the way forward, as Colchester Borough Council has given these important decisions to a 10-councillor working group. Initially this group was unable to reach an agreement and was unable to even elect a Chairman.

Fortunately, the option to jointly carry on towards the Garden Community Project has now been agreed by all three authorities. The additional delay in submission of the plan is estimated to be three to four months.

The land supply for Tendring District therefore remains in excess of the five year minimum and the agreed annual number of new dwellings remains the same.

General Information:

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

Alan Coley & Carlo Guglielmi