



SHOTGATE PARISH COUNCIL NEWSLETTER SPRING 2015

Dear Resident,

This newsletter covers a number of issues that have been considered and/or resolved within the Parish recently.

This will be the last newsletter before the election of a new Parish Council in May.

1. Public Transport - Buses

For general enquiries including requests for services or other issues contact Passenger.Transport@essex.gov.uk
Queries relating to printed or electronic timetables publictransport@essex.gov.uk
Their complaints process is being updated and can be found using this link. Incidents should be reported to bus operators (commercial or ECC services) in the first instance and a link to their contact details can be found on the same page. <http://www.essexhighways.org/Transport-and-Roads/Getting-Around/Bus/Comments.aspx>

Both bus operators whose routes traverse Shotgate have obtained different vehicles. N.I.B.S have sometimes on route 225 ex TfL buses having been converted to Essex County Council schools standard for use on School Contract work.

First Essex Buses on routes 25, 25A and 251 sometimes use 2014 registered buses to assist and try and avoid reliability - lateness problems. They still are using some "golden oldie" T registered buses though First Essex Buses have installed in January 2015 new ticket machines that read into the real time ticketing information system which gives an accurate indication of journey running. Regrettably no black columns or screens currently in Shotgate/Wickford.

As mentioned in the Winter 2014 Newsletter, First Essex Buses introduced an amended timetable although it commenced on 5th January 2015. The situation has not improved, resulting in the three lady parishioners still collecting data re lateness of school-day Southend bound buses at school times, and have been in touch directly with First at Basildon.

The Parish Transport Representative will raise the issue again at the next Transport Partnership Meeting (new name) at Basildon on 4th March 2015.

2. Allotments

The Parish Council has been advised that plots are available at Runwell Allotments (Opposite The Quart Pot in Runwell Road). The contact is Linda Payne 01268 732033.

3. Shotgate Park

Funding towards a proposed ornamental archway, at the entrance of Shotgate Park from Southend Road has been offered by Essex County Council. It is scheduled to be installed end of March/April, 2015. The Parish Council would like to thank Cllr. David Finch, the Leader of Essex County Council for making the funding possible.

4. Election – 2015

The General Election is on 7th May 2015 for electorate to the Parish Council. If you would like to be considered and would like to have a more active interest and say in how Shotgate is improved and have time to attend one evening meeting a month (except in August), with occasional other small meetings or working parties, please contact elections@basildon.gov.uk. Or Diana Chatfield on 01268 294352 or Paul Burkinshaw at Basildon Borough Council who can provide the nomination papers and details on how to apply and eligibility. We understand that the deadline for returned nomination papers is 9th April, 2015 at 4.00 p.m. please do not delay contacting Basildon Borough Council if you are interested in applying to be a Parish Councillor.

Please note that the first meeting with the new Shotgate Council will be on Tuesday 12th May at 7.30 p.m. at Shotgate Church Hall and if you are elected as a new Councillor, your attendance will be required at this meeting. If you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk.

5. Vandalism in the Park

Vandalism in Shotgate Park was reported over the last couple of weeks regarding the smashed glass, which is a pity as over quite a period of time since all the upgrades have been installed, the Parish Council has been very pleased to note that up to now we have experienced very little vandalism which indicates to us that residents appreciated what had been provided. 07875003503 or 101.

Thanks must go to all the concerned dog walkers that both reported the incident and made the effort to sweep up the glass.

6. Break-ins at Shotgate Parish

It has been brought to the attention of the Parish Council that there have been several break-ins within the Parish. If residents notice anything suspicious, please contact the Police with your concern.

7. Dog Waste

We have been asked by residents to remind all dog users to utilise the extra dog waste bins that have been provided around the area and give thanks to those that have and do constantly use these facilities.

8. Local Volunteering Opportunity

The Parish Council has been approached by the South West Essex area co-ordinator for Age UK Essex Dementia Connections service, if you would like to volunteer, please contact Donna Miller direct on 01268 204469 or e-mail donna.miller@ageukessex.org.uk

9. Surgeries

For information Cllr. Nigel Le Gresley (Castledon & Crouch), Cllr. David Harrison (Park), Cllr. Alan Ball (Castledon) and Cllr. Peter Holliman (Wickford North) hold a surgery on the first Saturday of each month at the Wickford Community Hall, next to the Library, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. An advert is normally put in all the local newspapers and on Face Book approximately two weeks before each date.

Cllr. Carole Morris - does not hold surgeries, but residents are free to telephone or email her on 01268 457488 carolemorris24@hotmail.com

Cllr. Malcolm Buckley does not hold regular open surgeries but can be reached by residents on 01268 472586 or meet them at a convenient location. Alternatively he can be e-mailed on cldr.malcolm.buckley@essex.gov.uk

Cllr. Michael Mowe – does not hold Surgeries, but is always contactable by telephone 01268 463564, e-mail michael.mowe@members.basildon.gov.uk, or letter. He attends various meetings in his Ward - Shotgate Parish Council, Neighbourhood Police and Neighbourhood Watch meetings as well as other local meetings.

Parish Council Members

Keith Allen (Chairman)	28 Fourth Avenue	Tel: 01268 570099
Peter Vickers	274 Southend Road	Tel: 01268 767703
David Harrison	49 Alicia Avenue	Tel: 01268 734768
Malcolm Hodges	7 Crouchview Close	Tel: 01268 768683
Gerry Fanthorpe	18 Meadowland Road	Tel: 01268 462871
Emma Houghton	29 Longfield Road	Tel: 01268 931732

Clerk to the Council

Mrs. Georgina Bassett
306 Maplin Way North,
Southend-on-Sea, Essex.
SS1 3NZ Tel: 01702 584158

Essex County Councillors

Cllr. Malcolm Buckley
Cllr. Nigel Le Gresley

Basildon Ward Councillors

Cllr. Carole Morris Cllr. Michael Mowe
Cllr. Peter Holliman – Wickford North

Neighbourhood Policing 07875003503 or 101

Remember, the Parish Council is here for residents, please do contact any of the above for information or any ideas/suggestions you may have to improve the Parish and/or attend the meetings to speak at the open sessions at the beginning of the meeting, thank you.

Suggestions/comments from residents for improvements or future projects within Shotgate Parish would be appreciated.

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