



Join the Great British **September Clean**

**PRITTLE BROOK COMMUNITY GROUP GREAT BRITISH SEPTEMBER CLEAN EVENT**

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September 9.30-11.30 am. Meet at entrance to Prittle Brook Greenway at Springfield Drive. For further details please contact: Meg Davidson , Prittle Brook Community Group Co-ordinator  
Tel. no. 01702 618146  
E-mail: [megdavidson2017@outlook.com](mailto:megdavidson2017@outlook.com)



*Cllrs Helen Boyd & Meg Davidson*

**WORK CONTINUES ON IMPROVING THE PAVEMENTS AROUND YOUR AREA.....**



**If you are concerned about the condition of pavements near you, please contact us**

**YOUR CONSERVATIVE TEAM IN BLENHEIM PARK**

Councillor Helen Boyd  
Tel: 01702 212363  
Email: [cllrboyd@southend.gov.uk](mailto:cllrboyd@southend.gov.uk)  
@helenboydblenheim  
Mrs Judith Suttling  
Ward Chairman  
Tel: 07857 632 937  
Email: [Judith.suttling@sky.com](mailto:Judith.suttling@sky.com)

Sir David Amess MP for Southend West  
House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA  
David is holding Ward surgeries on the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month from 10am-1pm. To book a slot, please phone 0207 219 3452 or email [amessd@parliament.uk](mailto:amessd@parliament.uk)  
Appointments will be made on a first come first served basis.

**News From Blenheim Park**

**02-2020**

**intouch**



**Editor: Helen Boyd**

Southend West Conservative Association Iveagh Hall, 67 Leigh Road, Leigh-on-Sea SS9 1JW Tel no. 01702 472391

**Helen Boyd writes.....**

I hope everyone continues to be well in these strange times!

Always bearing in mind the guidelines, I have been as active as possible on behalf of my family and the residents in the last months.

All kinds of queries have come to me via email and telephone during the pandemic, including planning matters, missed waste collections, parking and, depressingly as usual, litter!

I have regularly walked the ward, reporting problems as necessary, and, to be fair, Council Officers have mostly responded well. They have promised to have the speed lights in Mountdale Gardens up and running in time for the schools reopening in September.

Schools must reopen for the general well-being of our young people, and I know that our educational establishments are putting in place all the safety measures possible to keep the pupils and staff virus-free. Guidance is provided from the Council team, and I am happy to help if there are any issues.

Our Council meetings have been online, and I can foresee much more online working in the future, where it is appropriate. Very tiring staring at a screen for any length of time though, and I miss personal interaction, but this is the 'new normal' (!?)



*Cllr Helen Boyd working on Ward issues remotely*

**COUNCIL RESPONDS TO CORONAVIRUS CHALLENGES.....**

**Cllr Meg Davidson (Deputy Group Leader) writes:.....**

"At the start of lockdown, the Council, together with NHS colleagues, focussed on Covid-19 issues and maintaining essential services. Other work was put on hold. Now, the focus is on recovery and planning for life after coronavirus. For the time being, very few staff are working at the Civic Centre: working from home is the "new normal" for councillors and council staff alike. We have been mastering the technology for virtual meetings via the internet. It can feel a bit "clunky" and I suspect that most of us still prefer face to face meetings, but at least we are able to conduct essential Council business."



**WORD FROM WESTMINSTER.....**

Now that Parliament has returned, there will be proper scrutiny of the issues which residents have been contacting me about, for example, health, travel, employment and schooling. I would like to reassure everyone that they can rely on me to hold Ministers to account for their decisions, particularly in response to issues resulting from the Coronavirus pandemic.

I congratulate all students on their examination results but agree with those who are dissatisfied with the way the process was handled. I realise how stressful it would have been for many students, but I do hope that they will now be able to achieve their chosen goals. If anyone remains dissatisfied with how they have been graded, please do contact me.

As the battle against the virus continues, a number of schemes have been extended, for example postponing evictions and continuing furlough. These of course have been worrying times for everyone and I will continue to press for acceptable answers to problems that are drawn to my attention.

I, like everyone else, want us all to return to a normal way of living, much time has already been lost in lockdown. We must be fully prepared for what lies ahead this autumn and winter. I am in constant contact with our Hospital and health providers. It is essential that people who need treatment seek assistance.



*Sir David Amess MP*

**VJ DAY CELEBRATION VIDEO**

If you missed the video celebrating VJ Day, you still have the opportunity to view it on YouTube

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyEp9LxO1vc&list=PL6nTs4NlclS7tneEPiscPfeWk8AWgU99-)

[v=HyEp9LxO1vc&list=PL6nTs4NlclS7tneEPiscPfeWk8AWgU99-](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HyEp9LxO1vc&list=PL6nTs4NlclS7tneEPiscPfeWk8AWgU99-)

**THANK YOU NHS!**

We all owe a huge debt of gratitude to our NHS workers; doctors, nurses, paramedics, ambulance drivers, porters, cleaners and all the other key workers who have risked their own lives to save the lives of others and also their efforts to reduce the spread of the coronavirus.



*This giant rainbow was made and installed by three local companies to thank all the staff at Southend Hospital*

**COMING TO A STREET NEAR YOU.....**

Lots of pavements and roads are being dug up at the moment. Much of this relates to a 3 year project to install fibre optic cables in every street in Southend. CityFibre, in partnership with Vodafone UK, is investing £30m to provide homes and businesses throughout the Borough with access to top quality, ultrafast internet connections.

**MORE FUNDING FOR CYCLEWAYS**

We welcome the Government announcement of new funding for cycleways. We should, however, avoid knee jerk reactions to spend quickly and reduce road capacity for vehicles, as keeping the transport network open will be essential for the town's economic recovery. Instead, we should take a more considered approach. We already have some excellent dedicated cycleways, it is joining these up in a permanent way that will be safer and benefit all in the longer term.

**LOSS OF EASYJET....**

The loss of Easyjet from the airport evokes mixed feelings as many of us enjoyed the convenience of flights to and from our local area. Our sympathies are with the redundant staff.

Night flights continue to be a problem for many of you, but the airport, struggling to survive at this point, is operating within its legal limits.

Together with local MP, Sir David Amess, Conservative councillors are continuing their efforts to secure a change to the Section 106 Agreement to stop all cargo flights at night.

