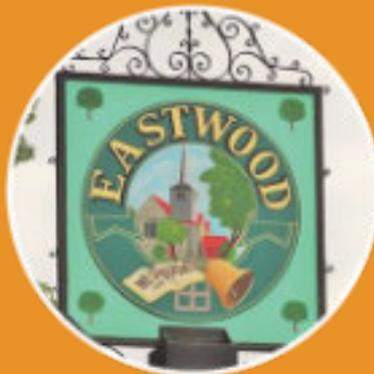


Eastwood Park FOCUS



Brought to you by the
Liberal Democrats

Autumn

WORKING FOR YOU IN EASTWOOD PARK ALL YEAR ROUND! 2020

SUCCESS! 66-FOOT 5G MAST AT ROCHFORD CORNER REJECTED!

Thanks to swift action by Cllr Paul Collins, LibDem campaigner Rob McMullan and local residents, all working together, shocking plans by a telecommunications firm to erect a 20-metre (66ft) 5G pole on the green at Rochford Corner, have been thrown out by the planners.

"This is the right decision!" says Cllr Collins. "That giant mast plus 3 bulky connection boxes at ground level would be completely out of place."

"As soon as we saw the plans we sent a leaflet to local households then met with many residents – all socially distanced! – at Rochford Corner, while local people organized a petition," explains Rob McMullan. "Their signatures, and the many letters of objection, made sure Council Officers knew how strongly Eastwood felt about this plan."



 Working together for Eastwood Park

More new trees for Eastwood Park

In the summer, we reported work in local parks, with new saplings in Eastwood & Oakwood Parks – part of Southend Council's ambitious tree planting programme to help improve our environment. We also highlighted new benches in Cherry Orchard Park, courtesy of the Park's "Friends" and a grant from Veolia. "Now Eastwood Park has more new trees, and what stunning trees they will be!" reports Cllr Paul Collins. "Three young Silver Poplar trees have been planted near the saplings, and three Japanese Crab Apple trees on the path from Rayleigh Road, that will have glorious white blossom."



Cllr Collins and the Dawn Redwood Tree

Says Paul: "I have been asking specifically for a tree in the Green Circle of the Park's three paths and this is the real star – a Dawn Redwood, a glorious endangered species that, when it matures, will be a strikingly tall Sequoia tree that we will treasure for many years."

"We now need three benches around the bottom of the tree. If anybody wants to donate a bench with a plaque (memorial or otherwise) please contact me."

"I'm pleased to be part of the change of direction in Southend, where we're planting more trees that we need."

MORE NEWS ON OAKWOOD PARK – P2

Eastwood Park News: Reporting back for you

★ Pavement repairs in BELGRAVE ROAD ...

Ongoing problems with Belgrave Road pavements are finally on their way to being sorted and made safe, reports Cllr Paul Collins. "The worst areas have been dug out and relaid – a total of 11 sites in all."



Relieved residents have thanked Paul for his efforts to get this started and say "it's much, much better."

But LibDem Cllr Collins accepts there is still more to do: "The pavements are already so much safer but it's still patchy. We'll keep up the pressure to have the job completed."

... Meanwhile, in GROVEWOOD AVENUE:

Cllr Paul Collins met with residents asking for help to sort out problems with a building site in Grovewood Avenue, including lorries turning into Grovewood Close, damage to corners, pavements, drop curbs & overall site management. "In this instance Building Control Regulation is being dealt with by a private company, not the Council," notes Paul. "I recommend anyone concerned about this site email the relevant firm at admin@assurebuildingcontrol.co.uk, quoting planning reference 20/00482/FUL. You are welcome to copy me: CllrCollins@Southend.gov.uk"

★ OAKWOOD PARK'S new litter bins

"Oakwood Park has suffered from litter problems for a long time, but hopefully the end is in sight," reports LibDem campaigner Rob McMullan. "We now have a new large double bin next to the 'swing' park plus four new letterbox style bins spread around the park, including at the Bellhouse Road entrance."

"Other changes have been made, to empty litter bins plus litter picks twice a day. It's also been agreed with the Parksteam that litter picking staff will adjust the time of their afternoon visit and make spot checks."

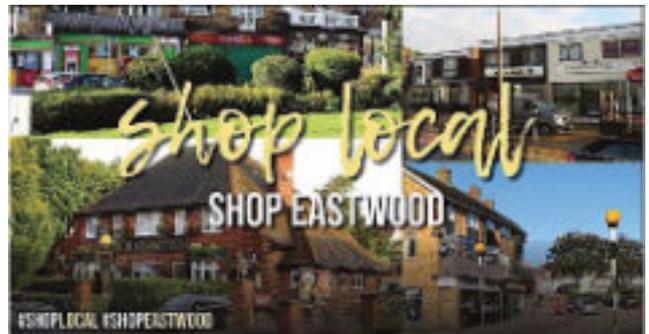


"If you see a problem such as overflowing bins please report it right away on 'MySouthend', <https://mysouthend.gov.uk/portal>", adds Cllr Paul Collins. "These reports go direct to the teams on the ground and are logged on their devices."

Rob McMullan adds: *Oakwood Park's play area is due to have the fence and gates replaced – we hope this will be completed by the end of December. We've also asked for the basket swing to be put back and for the Council to put in an accessible path as well.*

#SHOPLOCAL #SHOPEASTWOOD (photos: Paul Collins)

Southend Council recently updated information for residents to "shop local" – really important right now! But when Eastwood Park Cllr Paul Collins was sent the information, he asked "Where is Eastwood???" He was told that Eastwood didn't have an active trade association for the Council to engage with, so they had no pictures to use. Needless to say, Paul's offer to take high resolution photos of local businesses was accepted and Eastwood now features alongside other local areas!



EASTWOOD PARK LIBERAL DEMOCRAT TEAM

COUNCILLOR: Paul Collins

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📍 Cllr Paul Collins Reports on Eastwood

🌐 <https://twitter.com/Paul4Eastwood>

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**Don't hesitate to get in touch
- we're here to help!**

Eastwood Park Ward Councillor Surgeries

... will come back to Kent Elms Library and The Oakwood as soon as possible

>> **Want to become a member or a supporter (or help deliver FOCUS)?** Join other local people who have signed up as LibDem members or supporters. Please contact Paul Collins or Rob McMullan. You will be welcome!

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