

**Bergholt Road play area**

The £90k being raised by local dentist Stephen Pitt of the Dental Studio on Bergholt Road and the group of residents is now close to reaching the target to enable the play area to be completely refreshed and refurbished.

The project started several years ago and involved local children in deciding the design of the future play area.

Myland Community Council is underwriting the project as they are helping to apply for grants on behalf of the group.

*Scott and Martin also sit on the group.*

**Bergholt Road pot holes**

Pot holes are reappearing on Bergholt Road and at our request, as Essex County Council say they are not yet deep enough for repair, are monitoring these monthly.

The whole of Bergholt Road is also now on a monthly inspection cycle due to the age of the road and heavy use it undertakes.

We will keep the pressure on to keep this road in good order.

**SIR BOB SAVES YOU MONEY UP TO 30% OFF YOUR FUEL BILL**

Colchester Borough Council have agreed to support MP Sir Bob Russell's call for an energy co-operative.

If you would like to "switch and save with the Council's scheme then go to <http://colchester.gov.uk/bigcommunityswitch> to register your interest. If you do not have Internet access then visit the Council's Customer Service or The Library.

Sir Bob told Focus: "I am very aware of the severe consequences of the high charges for gas and electricity so, recommended this initiative for Colchester residents to help ease some of these costs. I have switched, Why don't you?"



**Braiswick matters** MARCH 2013

Your Mile End Liberal Democrat Team working all year

**Cllr Martin Goss - Cllr Scott Greenhill - Cllr Anne Turrell - Sir Bob Russell MP**

**School for the future?**



SPECIAL REPORT BY COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANNE

In 2012 Essex County Council purchased a field adjacent to Apprentice Drive, Fernlea and behind some of the houses in Braiswick. which in future could possibly become a primary school. Birth rates and an increase in projected future requirements for school places show we may have an issue in future years in the area.

All locals schools are undergoing expansion, but the time will come when we may need a new school in our area as current schools can expand no further. Queen Boudica, North School and Heathlands are all undergoing current expansion at the moment.

There is no guarantee this school will be built for many years, if ever, but Essex County Council have made provision for it in their land bank.

**We will certainly resist any moves to build homes on this site in future years should Essex decide to sell the site on.**

If a school is ever formerly proposed we will ensure the matter is properly communicated and fully scrutinized ensuring everyone is fully involved in any consultation as to whether the proposal even stacks up.

More news as and if we hear anything but we wanted to ensure the local community is aware of who owns the field now.

**New pathway on Bergholt Rd**

By Councillor Martin Goss

There have been some dubious goings on whereby Essex County Council approved tarmac being added by Mersea Homes to a bit of muddy path up near the 4 bungalows which were built a few years ago opposite Tufnell Way.

The pathway as far as we can tell is unregistered land and the pathway currently leads nowhere apart from to a fence where the proposed Mersea Homes development will be.

ECC tell us this area is zoned for improved pedestrian access and a cycleway.

ECC have also started the adoption process.....something which normally takes years!

Frankly the whole thing stinks more than the expense account of Lord Hanningfield!

It gives the impression the Mersea Homes planning application has been approval and that the developer owns the land. They have neither currently!

Rest assured we have challenged this disgusting and dubious behaviour of ECC at the highest level and are considering a complaint to the local Government Onbudsman.

Follow your Mile End Team at: Martin Goss #ColchesterBoy1 [www.mileendlibdems.org](http://www.mileendlibdems.org)

**It matters to us what you think...**

We need to know your problems/comments on local issues. Please write them down in the space provided below:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

We may write to you from time to time to keep you informed on issues we think you may find of interest. Please let us know if you do not wish to be contacted for this purpose.  
 Please return to : Cllr Anne Turrell, FREEPOST NAT 6287, Colchester CO1 2BR

**YOUR MILE END TEAM**

**Cllr Martin Goss**  
 Tel: 617972  
 Email: [cldr.martin.goss@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.martin.goss@colchester.gov.uk)

**Cllr Scott Greenhill**  
 Tel: 07973 370114  
 Email: [cldr.scott.greenhill@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.scott.greenhill@colchester.gov.uk)

**Cllr Anne Turrell**  
 Tel: 752418  
 Email: [cldr.anne.turrell@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:cldr.anne.turrell@colchester.gov.uk)

**Sir Bob Russell MP**  
 Tel: 506600  
 Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Road  
 Colchester CO1 2DE  
 Email: [info@bobrussell.org.uk](mailto:info@bobrussell.org.uk)

Published and promoted by Mile End Liberal Democrats, Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Road, Colchester CO1 2DE. Printed by Colchester Liberal Democrats, Magdalen Hall, Wimpole Road, Colchester CO1 2DE. The Lib Dems and their elected representatives may use the information you provide to contact you about issues you may find of interest. Some of these contacts may be automated. You can opt out of some or all contacts at any time by contacting us.

# UPDATES

## **Bakers Lane update**

Resurfacing work has been undertaken again on Bakers Lane and Spring Lane, arguably one of the worst roads in Colchester for pot holes. We are also informed longer term works will happen in the future to improve this road surface further. Many residents have contacted us about damage to their cars along this well used route.

Essex County Council are the authority responsible for roads and compensation for any damage which may occur.

Contact us for further information should you need advice on vehicle damage.

## **SPEED WATCH**

A small group of residents from Mile End and Braiswick have got together to form Speed Watch in our area. Training has been undertaken and a couple of key sites have been flagged for speed watch checks to take place. Braiswick, the road, is one of those areas. A risk assessment has been undertaken and the road is approved.

If you would like to get involved in Speed Watch please contact Martin Goss for more details.

## **Dogs mess in Fan Ave play park – New Braiswick Park**

It is good to see the Phase 3 Play park on Fan avenue finally open and in use. Although it turned into a saga fit for only a best selling novel, it is finally part of our community.

It is disappointing to see though that somehow dogs are being allowed into the park and fouling occurs near or on the Astro turf.

This area is a dog free zone and anyone caught allowing their dog to foul can receive a fine.

# 20 MPH Zone Tufnell Way?

Tufnell Way is the only road, due to its historic nature without a 20 MPH on New Braiswick Park. Under the Localism Act 2011, local residents can ask for a road or development to be considered as a 20 MPH by Essex County Council. Currently the way Essex has written their policy for such requests, it is almost certain they get rejected.

This whole policy is being looked at and we have asked for Tufnell Way to be considered for a 20 MPH zone.

Essex Police have undertaken some speed checks on Tufnell Way and given out either speeding tickets, the offer of a speed awareness course or some words of advice. These checks will continue to help reinforce the need to stick to the correct speed limits.

## **Phase 4 Open Space – New Braiswick Park**

Work has begun on the Phase 4 open space, which for those who are not sure where it happens to be right at the rear of the development, right at the end of Axial Drive/Apprentice Drive, where the old builders compound used to be.

Hopefully this open space will be open for later in the year. It is quite an impressive and comprehensive plan with a meadow, space to play football, areas to exercise the dog, a natural play park with a maze and plenty of planting with trees. It will also include litterbins and dog waste bins.

## **Pavement Parking**

Parking across Mile End has been highlighted, particularly on new housing developments where people regularly block the pavement. If you are unsure if a vehicle is causing an obstruction, the rule of thumb is quite clear. If a disabled person in a wheelchair or parent/grandparent with a pram is unable to get past a vehicle which is obstructing the pavement and they are forced into the road, then this is possible grounds for the police to visit and speak to the vehicle owner.

The police have been doing quite a bit of work across Colchester on Pavement parking and have carried out visits to different areas.

If you feel a crime is being committed then please call the police on 101 giving details of the incident.

## **SPRING LANE BRIDGE**

Work is due to start on the Spring Lane bridge replacement later this Spring or early summer according to Essex County Council. If you recall, the bridge was due to be replaced in 2012, but for some reason ECC didn't go ahead.

The work had a project plan which spanned 6 months which seems an awfully long time for the bridge replacement.

We will keep you informed of progress as we receive further information.

## **OVERGROWN LAND NEAR KEEPERS GREEN**

Following complaints about the overgrown land near Keepers Green, Colchester Council have agreed to clean up the land and improve the general upkeep of the area. The work should commence shortly and we hope to see some improvements to our local environment.

## **Pedestrian Refuge – Tufnell Way**

Negotiations continue between Persimmon Homes and Essex County Council over the provision of a pedestrian refuge (traffic island with a bollard in the middle!) to improve crossing facilities for those wishing to cross Tufnell Way.

A legal agreement is being changed to ensure funding is provided by Persimmon.

We are keeping pressure on all parties to get this matter concluded.

## **Drainage in Bakers Lane**

*Several drains have been reported in Bakers Lane as being blocked. We have asked Essex County Council to get these drains unblocked and to take better care of all drains in our area.*

## **Footpath by Braiswick Golf Club**

*The public right of way which goes behind the Braiswick Golf club appears to be in a less than satisfactory state for use by local walkers. We have asked Essex County Council to take a look at the badly flooded and muddy footpath so it is actually usable by local residents.*

*A new dog waste bin has been added to the footpath recently which hopefully will improve the dog mess issue along the footpath.*

*Myland Community Council footpath group requested the dog bin installation and we also fully supported the application for a new dog waste bin.*

## **Food Waste Recycling and flats plastic recycling**

**Colchester Council will shortly start to roll-out food waste recycling to every household in Colchester. This will allow any food leftovers to be put out with the weekly waste collections. This has been trialled successfully across 7000 homes in Colchester and following the council winning a grant from central Government this can now call the whole of Colchester.**

**Flats will also be able to start recycling plastic later this year as well.**

**Watch out for more news as the detailed roll-out plans become clear.**

**Remember if you need more plastic recycling sacks or a green container to recycle your cans and glass bottles, please email [Waste@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:Waste@colchester.gov.uk)**